

SAN JUAN COUNTY, COLORADO
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING AGENDA

July 28, 2021

Due to the continuing COVID-19 emergency, San Juan County meetings will be conducted in a hybrid virtual/in-person format. All persons with appointments scheduled on the agenda may meet in person or via zoom. If you have been vaccinated, you are not required to wear a mask. If you have not been vaccinated, we strongly recommend that you wear a mask. We encourage community members to continue to participate via zoom. The information necessary to connect to the public meeting is listed below.

CALL TO ORDER: 6:30 P.M.

BOCC Meeting Minutes for July 14, 2021

APPOINTMENT

- 6:30 P.M. Jeremy Fox, San Miguel Power Association – Red Mountain Electric Reliability Project Update and Road Closures
- 7:00 P.M. Jim Donovan, Emergency Manager – Rescind Fire Ban
- 7:30 P.M. Resolution 2021-05 Colorado Surplus Asset Fund Trust

CORRESPONDENCE

Bonita Peak Mining District Update

OLD BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

- CORE Mountain Liquor License Renewal
- Colorado Surplus Asset Fund Trust
- Redistricting Commission Meeting
- Public Comment
- Commissioner and Staff Reports

Next Regular Meeting – August 11, 2021 8:30 A.M.

Join Zoom Meeting
<https://zoom.us/j/92136473203>

Meeting ID: 921 3647 3203
One tap mobile
+16699006833,,92136473203# US (San Jose)
+12532158782,,92136473203# US (Tacoma)

Dial by your location
+1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose)
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+1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)
+1 646 876 9923 US (New York)
+1 301 715 8592 US (Germantown)
+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

Meeting ID: 921 3647 3203

SAN JUAN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR MEETING WEDNESDAY, JULY 14, 2021
AT 8:30 A.M.

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by Chairman Scott Fetchenhier. Present were Commissioners Ernie Kuhlman and Austin Lashley, and Administrator William Tookey.

Payment of Bills: Commissioner Lashley moved to authorize payment of the warrants as presented. Commissioner Kuhlman seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimous.

Minutes: Commissioner Lashley moved to approve the minutes of June 23, 2021 as presented. Commissioner Kuhlman seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimous.

Christina Cordalis and Elizabeth Salkind of Housing Solutions for the Southwest were present to discuss the CDBG Housing Restoration Grant. Commissioner Lashley moved to authorize San Juan County to continue to be the lead agency to apply for and administer the CDBG grant. Commissioner Kuhlman seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimous.

Klem and Lisa Branner were present to provide the Commissioners with an update from the Silverton Singletrack Society. The Bakers Park Phase I trails have been staked and mapped. The Singletrack Society will be submitting grants for the construction of the trails.

A Public Hearing was held for Kevin Farmer - CannaFarmer dba Silverton, San Juan Cultivation LLC, and San Juan Retail LLC), located at 71463 Highway 550 concerning the following:

- (1) Application for Renewal of a License for a Retail Marijuana Cultivation Facility,
- (2) Application for Renewal of a Retail Marijuana Store License,
- (3) Application for Proposed Modification of Premises,
- (4) Improvement Permit

Upon completion of the public hearing, Commissioner Kuhlman moved to approve the Renewal of a License for a Retail Marijuana Cultivation Facility. Commissioner Lashley seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimous.

Commissioner Kuhlman moved to approve the Renewal of a Retail Marijuana Store License. Commissioner Lashley seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimous.

Commissioner Lashley moved to approve the request of a Modification of Premises. Commissioner Kuhlman seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimous.

Commissioner Lashley moved to approve the Improvement Permit request for the construction of greenhouses. Commissioner Kuhlman seconded the motion. It was noted that the changes to the premises and construction of greenhouses were consistent with CannaFarmer's original proposal. The motion passed unanimous.

County Assessor Kim Buck was present to provide the Commissioners with a Board of Equalization Report.

Public Health Director Becky Joyce was present to provide the Commissioners with her monthly update.

The County Treasurer's Semi-Annual Report was presented to the Commissioners for their review. Commissioner Kuhlman moved to approve the report as submitted. Commissioner Lashley seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimous.

The Opus Hut LLC Liquor License Renewal was presented to the Commissioners. Commissioner Lashley moved to approve the Liquor License Renewal. Commissioner Kuhlman seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimous.

Commissioner Kuhlman noted the passing of Jack Clark Sr.

Having no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 12:14 P.M.

Scott Fetchenhier, Chairman

Ladonna L. Jaramillo, County Clerk



Willy Tookey <admin@sanjuancolorado.us>

San Miguel Power POSTS UPDATE RED MOUNTAIN CLOSURE SCHEDULE FOR AUG & SEPT

2 messages

SJC CO Office of Emergency Managment <pio@sanjuancolorado.us>
 Reply-To: pio@sanjuancolorado.us
 To: administrator@sanjuancolorado.us

Fri, Jul 23, 2021 at 5:29 PM



IMPORTANT NOTICE FROM SAN MIGUEL POWER :

July 23, 2021

HWY 550 ROAD CLOSURES FOR FIRE MITIGATION AND ELECTRICAL RELIABILITY PROJECT ANNOUNCED

San Miguel Power Association (SMPA) will be submitting the following proposed Hwy 550 road closure schedule to CDOT for permitting. This schedule was developed with input from our local community, businesses, emergency management,

and county representation. Please plan your travel accordingly. This vital infrastructure project will greatly reduce the risk of wildfires, improve electrical reliability, and extend the local middle-mile fiber-optic network.

For more information please visit:
<https://www.smpa.com/.../red-mountain-electrical...>

This schedule is subject to weather conditions, or other emergency circumstances.

Mon., Aug 9 CLOSED 8:30 AM - 12 OPEN 12 - 1 PM CLOSED 1 PM - 5:30 PM	Tue., Aug 10 CLOSED 8:30 AM - 12 OPEN 12 - 1 PM CLOSED 1 PM - 5:30 PM	Wed., Aug 11 CLOSED 8:30 AM - 12 OPEN 12 - 1 PM CLOSED 1 PM - 5:30 PM	Thu., Aug 12 CLOSED 8:30 AM - 12 OPEN 12 - 1 PM CLOSED 1 PM - 5:30 PM	Fri., Aug 13 CLOSED 8:30 AM - 12 OPEN 12 - 1 PM CLOSED 1 PM - 4 PM
Mon., Aug 16 CLOSED 8:30 AM - 12 OPEN 12 - 1 PM CLOSED 1 PM - 5:30 PM	Tue., Aug 17 CLOSED 8:30 AM - 12 OPEN 12 - 1 PM CLOSED 1 PM - 5:30 PM	Wed., Aug 18 CLOSED 8:30 AM - 12 OPEN 12 - 1 PM CLOSED 1 PM - 5:30 PM	Thu., Aug 19 CLOSED 8:30 AM - 12 OPEN 12 - 1 PM CLOSED 1 PM - 5:30 PM	Fri., Aug 20 CLOSED 8:30 AM - 12 OPEN 12 - 1 PM CLOSED 1 PM - 4 PM
Mon., Sep 13 CLOSED 8:30 AM - 12 OPEN 12 - 1 PM CLOSED 1 PM - 5:30 PM	Tue., Sep 14 CLOSED 8:30 AM - 12 OPEN 12 - 1 PM CLOSED 1 PM - 5:30 PM	Wed., Sep 15 CLOSED 8:30 AM - 12 OPEN 12 - 1 PM CLOSED 1 PM - 5:30 PM	Thu., Sep 16 CLOSED 8:30 AM - 12 OPEN 12 - 1 PM CLOSED 1 PM - 5:30 PM	Fri., Sep 17 CLOSED 8:30 AM - 12 OPEN 12 - 1 PM CLOSED 1 PM - 4 PM
Mon., Sep 20 CLOSED 8:30 AM - 12 OPEN 12 - 1 PM CLOSED 1 PM - 5:30 PM	Tue., Sep 21 CLOSED 8:30 AM - 12 OPEN 12 - 1 PM CLOSED 1 PM - 5:30 PM	Wed., Sep 22 CLOSED 8:30 AM - 12 OPEN 12 - 1 PM CLOSED 1 PM - 5:30 PM	Thu., Sep 23 CLOSED 8:30 AM - 12 OPEN 12 - 1 PM CLOSED 1 PM - 5:30 PM	Fri., Sep 24 CLOSED 8:30 AM - 12 OPEN 12 - 1 PM CLOSED 1 PM - 5:30 PM

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Please direct all media inquiries to San Juan County Public Information Officer DeAnne Gallegos at (970) 403-9951 or pio@sanjuancolorado.us .

To sign up for the updates from the Office of Emergency Management and San Juan County Public Health, email pio@sanjuancolorado.us to get on the email list. Make sure to sign up for emergency alerts through Nixle for San Juan County.
Text 81433 to 888-777.

Thank you.

DeAnne Gallegos
Public Information Officer
San Juan County Office of Emergency Management
pio@sanjuancolorado.us

San Juan County Colorado [Website](#)



San Juan County CO Office of Emergency Management | PO Box 184, Silverton, CO 81433

Unsubscribe administrator@sanjuancolorado.us

Constant Contact Data Notice

Sent by pio@sanjuancolorado.us powered by



Try email marketing for free today!

SJC CO Office of Emergency Management <pio@sanjuancolorado.us>
Reply-To: pio@sanjuancolorado.us
To: sanjuancounty@frontier.net

Fri, Jul 23, 2021 at 5:29 PM



Town Trustees
Town of Silverton
1360 Greene Street
Silverton, CO 81433
970.387.5522

July 22, 2021

Terry Rhoades
P.O. Box 24
Silverton, CO 81433
970-387-5308
terryr@smpa.com

Re: SMPA Proposed Road Closures

Dear Mr. Rhoades,

We are writing this letter to express our collective concern over the notice and proposed schedule of the highway closures for the Red Mountain Electrical Reliability and Broadband Improvement Project facilitated through San Miguel Power Association. As our representative for District 7, we request that you pass along our concerns and recommendations to the Board of Directors.

First, thank you for responding to the community's distressed ask to postpone the project scheduled for Monday, July 19th when the notice for the closure of Highway 550 was sent out late on Thursday, July 15th. The Town of Silverton had citizens with doctor appointments who were panicked. We had tourists calling and canceling their trips. We had emergency services unprepared for the closure and scrambling to come up with plans. The postponement of this project was a necessary burden on SMPA so that our small town could still function.

After the postponement, when Jeremy Fox from SMPA suggested a Task Force to help plan and coordinate for rescheduling the project, our Town Administrator was under the impression that communities affected would have a say in the new dates. This was not the case. During the Task Force meeting on Wednesday, July 14th, the communities were presented with the new dates starting August 9th. The communities were told at this meeting that these new dates were not flexible. The communities were given space to air their concerns, including suggesting dates after August 15th. The meeting was adjourned with no indication when the group would hear about a decision or have another opportunity to provide input.

On Thursday at 2:30pm, another meeting was announced for Friday, July 23rd at 8am with the same dates that were proposed on the July 14th meeting. It was clear to our Town Administrator, in attendance at both meetings, that SMPA did not listen to the community's input during the first meeting and was now asking for support. We cannot support a project that is conducted with such little thought and consideration for the timing and impact on our community, but we can

work together on a solution. We ask that SMPA take a step back to listen and work with the communities affected.

We, the Trustees of the Town of Silverton, would like to urge SMPA, again, to consider dates after August 15th. Our summer tourism is in full swing, our businesses are thriving, and we are bouncing out of a pandemic. August 15th is when many students in the surrounding states go back to school and tourism traditionally slows down. Resuming the project after August 15th would also allow for adequate time for our citizens to plan around their doctor appointments and our emergency services to prepare.

Please keep the Town of Silverton, its citizens, economy, and safety in mind in your decision to resume the project.

Thank you,



Mayor Shane Fuhrman

Mayor Pro Tem Sallie Barney



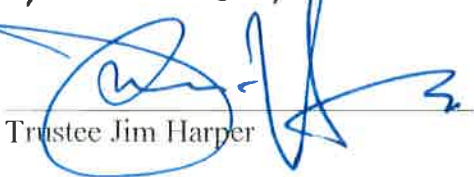
Trustee Molly Barela



Trustee Jordan Bierma



Trustee Jess Wegert



Trustee Jim Harper

Trustee Tyler George

P.O. Box 468
320 Sixth Avenue
Ouray, Colorado 81427



970.325.7211
Fax 970.325.7212
www.ci.ouray.co.us

July 26, 2021

Board of Directors
P.O. Box 24
Silverton, CO 81433
970-387-5308

Re: SMPA Proposed Road Closures

SMPA Board of Directors,

To be clear, the City of Ouray is supportive of San Miguel Power Association (SMPA) and the Red Mountain Electrical Reliability and Broadband Improvement Project. We recognize the importance of replacing the 16.2 mile-long 46kV transmission line, along with the vegetation remediation work to reduce the fire risk. Our concerns are not with the project itself, it is with the direction change in road closures and project timing from what was presented to the City Council on February 18, 2020 by SMPA CEO, Mr. Zaporski. The lack of communication, coordination and concern for our community by the SMPA is apparent.

On behalf of our citizens, business owners and tourists, we want to stress how unacceptable the timing of this project is to the success of our community. The proposed project schedule, outlining complete lane closures, was received on Thursday, July 15 at 5:30 pm with the work to begin on Monday, July 19. While the work to be completed during July 19 to July 30 was halted due to the public outcry, this proves the lack of coordination. Then as of 8:00 am on July 23, 2021, we were told SMPA plans to begin work on August 9, 2021 without regard to our strong opposition to the complete road closures during this time. This is the height of our tourist season and will crush our economy as our businesses are finally rebounding after the COVID-19 closures. Due to this, we had respectfully and reasonably requested the work to be halted until after August 15, 2021, a project push of only one week of the new timeline.

Our Jeep rental businesses will not have access to the Alpine Loop and our tourism corridor access from Arizona, New Mexico and Texas will be completely shuttered during the last weeks of our main tourist season. This is also being scheduled during the Highway 50 and, almost certain, I-70 closure within the Glenwood Canyon, thus making the Western Slope only accessible via Rifle/Rangley in the north or Cortez in the south. Additionally, the U.S. Forest Service has lifted the Stage I Fire Ban based on the additional moisture, thus decreasing the stated immediate need to begin the project on August 9, 2021.

Based on these points, we are again requesting a push of this important project by one week, to after August 15, 2021 to assist with our economy.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Greg Nelson", is written over a white background.

Greg Nelson, Mayor

cc: Governor Polis; Senator Coram; Representative McLaughlin; Town of Silverton Representatives; CDOT Representatives; Ouray County Representatives; San Juan County Representatives; Brad Zaporski, Wiley Freeman, Terry Schuyler, Jeremy Fox and Alex Shelley of SMPA; Ouray County Plaindealer



Willy Tookey <admin@sanjuancolorado.us>

San Juan County announces most current COVID-19 community stats.

2 messages

SJC CO Office of Emergency Management <pio@sanjuancolorado.us>
Reply-To: pio@sanjuancolorado.us
To: administrator@sanjuancolorado.us

Tue, Jul 27, 2021 at 12:46 PM



San Juan County announces most current COVID-19 community stats.

San Juan County COVID-19 Vaccination Status

Every County has a goal of having 75% of their eligible population immunized by 7/1/2021



Silverton, CO: The COVID-19 pandemic may seem like it is in the rearview mirror for San Juan County, but it is still an issue in surrounding counties and regions of the US. The State of Colorado gave every county a goal of 75% vaccination rate by 7/1/21 and San Juan County far exceeded that goal by that date. San Juan County Public Health has managed the pandemic better than most and here are the stats to prove it.

Current vaccination participation rates for San Juan County CO:

- 94.4% of our county residents have received first shot
- 86.1% of our county residents are fully vaccinated
- 8.3% of our county residents are in need of the second dose
- San Juan County is currently number one in the State of Colorado in vaccination participation rate

Current COVID-19 stats:

- 47 known COVID-19 cases to date
 - The last positive case of COVID documented in SJC was in early June.
- 0 deaths related to COVID-19 in SJC
- 2 known outbreaks
- 1349 COVID-19 tests given to date

The Delta Variant is a major concern!

- **Convince vaccine hesitant persons to get vaccinated.**
- **The vaccine is the best defense against new variants**
- **The Delta Variant is 1000 times more contagious than the most common type.**

Disinformation about COVID-19 is a serious problem

- **Get information about the virus from a trusted source such as your doctor or SJC Public Health**

Pfizer, Moderna and Johnson and Johnson are offered at San Juan County Public Health Monday-Friday, 8-4pm by calling 970-387-0242.

Pfizer is two doses 21 days apart, ages 12 and up.

Moderna is two doses 28 days apart, ages 18 and up.

Johnson and Johnson (or J&J) is one dose, ages 18 and up.

All vaccines are free and no documentation necessary.

"We want to remove all barriers for someone wanting the COVID vaccine. The more our Community is vaccinated, the more effective the current vaccinations will be to protect us from COVID-19." Says Becky Joyce Public Health Director

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Text 81433 to 888-777.

Thank you.

DeAnne Gallegos
Public Information Officer
San Juan County Office of Emergency Management
pio@sanjuancolorado.us

San Juan County Colorado [Website](#)



RESOLUTION 2021-05

A RESOLUTION OF THE SAN JUAN COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY
COMMISSIONERS CONCERNING THE COLORADO SURPLUS ASSET FUND
TRUST

WHEREAS, San Juan County (“Participant”) desires to pool its funds with other local government entities by becoming a Participant in the Colorado Surplus Asset Fund Trust (“CSAFE”) and therefore passes the following resolution:

WHEREAS, pursuant to the provisions of C.R.S. Section 24-75-601 and 701, et seq., as amended and C.R.S. 24-75-702, et seq. as amended, any local government entity (including cities, towns, school districts, special districts, hospital districts, counties or political subdivisions of the state, authorities, higher ed) is authorized to pool any moneys in its treasury, which are currently surplus funds and not immediately required to be disbursed, with similar moneys from other local government entities, in order for these entities to take advantage of short-term investments and maximize net interest earnings. CSAFE is formed as a common law trust under the laws of the state of Colorado.

WHEREAS, the governing body of the Participant desires to participate in CSAFE formed in accordance with the aforesaid statutes, in order to pool its surplus funds with other local government entities, it has passed, by majority vote the following resolution:

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY
COMMISSIONERS OF SAN JUAN COUNTY, COLORADO;

That the governing body of the Participant is subject to C.R.S. Section 24-75-601, as amended and C.R.S. Section 24-75-701, et seq., as amended, of the Colorado Revised Statutes and the merits of investing in a trust as permitted by C.R.S. Section 24-75-601, as amended and C.R.S. Section 24-75-701, et seq. as amended, including the trust’s liquidity, risk diversification, flexibility, convenience and cost compared to the alternative direct purchase of comparable investments and finds it is in the best interest of the local government entity and therefore hereby approves and adopts this Resolution, along with other local government entities in the trust for the purpose of pooling surplus funds. The terms of the CSAFE Trust Indenture shall be incorporated herein by this reference and a copy filed with the minutes of the meeting at which warranties, either expressed or implied, are part of this agreement between CSAFE and said governing body of the Participant unless as set forth in the Indenture of Trust, but that CSAFE shall use its best efforts in conjunction with Participant to accomplish these goals.

If the Participant opts in for check writing, it shall be liable for all checks written on its account, authorized or unauthorized. The Participant shall indemnify and hold CSAFE harmless from and against any and all claims, demands, damages, losses, liabilities and expenses (including, without limitation, reasonable attorney fees and court costs at trial or appeal) arising from: (a) any checking activity on a Participants account or (b) any act or omission from CSAFE arising out of CSAFE action or inaction taken pursuant to a request by a Participant. Participants should implement proper security procedures to

safeguard the checks for each account. CSAFE does not guarantee the prevention of fraud or theft from a Participant account.

RESOLVE, further that Deanna Jaramillo (the “Representative”), who is the government official empowered to invest funds of the Participant or his/her successor in function, is hereby authorized and directed to execute the Indenture of Trust and any other documents necessary to establish an account with CSAFE. The Representative is hereby designated the “Treasurer” as that term is defined in the Indenture of Trust and is therefore authorized to invest money from the Participants’ treasury, from time to time, which are not immediately required to be disbursed, by purchasing shares of CSAFE with those available funds and is authorized to redeem, from time to time, part or all of those shares as funds are needed for other purposes certify that the Participant has adopted:

The above Resolution.

The undersigned agree that the authorizations and instructions contained in the trust registration form are to remain in effect until the trust receives written notice of any changes.

READ, PASSED AND ADOPTED this 28th day of July, 2021 by the Board of Commissioners of San Juan County, Colorado.

Scott Fetchenhier, Chairman

Attest:

Austin Lashley

Ladonna L. Jaramillo
Clerk and Recorder

Ernest F. Kuhlman

Bonita Peak Mining District Update

July 2021



COLORADO
Department of Public
Health & Environment



<http://www.epa.gov/superfund/bonita-peak>

Site Announcements

- EPA began work to dewater and open the portal at Terry Tunnel in mid-July. County Road 25 is closed for this work and EPA will announce when it will be reopened, anticipated in mid-August.
- EPA continues to remove improperly stored chemicals and hazardous materials from the Pride of the West Mill building. For updates visit our [removal website](https://response.epa.gov/prideofthewestmill) (<https://response.epa.gov/prideofthewestmill>).



Figure 1: Terry Tunnel

Site Updates

Kohler/Junction Mines

- EPA is continuing work from the 2020 season at the Kohler/Junction Mines to remove sediment from settling ponds located at these mines. This work is expected to wrap up in early August.

Bandora Mine

- EPA has collected geophysical data to evaluate stability and the presence of water. Additional work will follow this summer, including mining influenced water diversion, culvert installation, and potential well installation above the collapsed portal. In a separate effort, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' Restoration of Abandoned Mine Sites (RAMS) program will be conducting additional geophysical work at this location. This work was delayed from 2020.

Gold King Mine

- EPA began drilling a horizontal borehole near the Gold King Mine in July. This borehole will gather geologic data to assist in evaluating options for long term stability and flow control.

BLM/Mighty Monarch and Lackawanna Mill Site

- The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) will perform work at Mighty Monarch and the Lackawanna Mill site in preparation for the transfer of these lands to the Town of Silverton. Once these lands transfer to Silverton, they will be in ongoing "operations and maintenance" as cleanup activities are completed.



Figure 2: Gold King Mine borehole work

USFS/Brooklyn Mine

- Continuing the 2019 IROD work, the U.S. Forest Service's contractor has mobilized and is working the next couple of weeks to complete the run-on control and debris removal. There should be no impact to roads open to the public.

State of Colorado/Campground 7 Site (Eclipse Smelter) and Pride of the West Mine Site

- The State of Colorado will begin site reclamation activities at the Campground 7 (Eclipse Smelter) site in mid to late August 2021. Site work at the Pride of the West Mine site (Cunningham Gulch) is expected to begin in late September pending contractual arrangements.

New on the Web

- [BPMD Update, June 2021 \(PDF\)](#) (2 pp, 1.2 MB)
<https://sempub.epa.gov/src/document/08/100010588>
- [Pride of the West Mill Removal](#)
<https://response.epa.gov/prideofthewestmill>

**CORE MOUNTAIN ENTERPRISES
 PO BOX 654
 Silverton CO 81433**

Fees Due		Waived due to 20B-001
Renewal Fee		
Storage Permit	\$100 X _____	\$
Sidewalk Service Area	\$75.00	\$
Additional Optional Premise Hotel & Restaurant	\$100 X _____	Waived due to 20B-001
Related Facility - Campus Liquor Complex	\$160.00 per facility	Waived due to 20B-001
Amount Due/Paid		\$

Make check payable to: Colorado Department of Revenue. The State may convert your check to a one-time electronic banking transaction. Your bank account may be debited as early as the same day received by the State. If converted, your check will not be returned. If your check is rejected due to insufficient or uncollected funds, the Department may collect the payment amount directly from your banking account electronically.

Retail Liquor or Fermented Malt Beverage License Renewal Application

Please verify & update all information below

Return to city or county licensing authority by due date

Licensee Name CORE MOUNTAIN ENTERPRISES LLC		Doing Business As Name (DBA) CORE MOUNTAIN ENTERPRISES		
Liquor License # 07-64042-0000	License Type Optional Premises (county)	Sales Tax License # 07640420000	Expiration Date 08/01/2021	Due Date 06/17/2021
Business Address 6226 HWY 110 Silverton CO 81433		County San Juan	Phone Number 9707697393	
Mailing Address PO BOX 654 Silverton CO 81433		Email <i>jen@silvertonmountain.com</i>		
Operating Manager <i>Jason Hill</i>	Date of Birth	Home Address <i>All Government Silverton, CO 81433</i>	Phone Number <i>970 767 1575</i>	

- Do you have legal possession of the premises at the street address above? Yes (No)
 Are the premises owned or rented? Owned Rented* *If rented, expiration date of lease
- Are you renewing a storage permit, additional optional premises, sidewalk service area, or related facility? If yes, please see the table in upper right hand corner and include all fees due. Yes (No)
- 3a. Since the date of filing of the last application, has the applicant, including its manager, partners, officer, directors, stockholders, members (LLC), managing members (LLC), or any other person with a 10% or greater financial interest in the applicant, been found in final order of a tax agency to be delinquent in the payment of any state or local taxes, penalties, or interest related to a business? Yes (No)
- 3b. Since the date of filing of the last application, has the applicant, including its manager, partners, officer, directors, stockholders, members (LLC), managing members (LLC), or any other person with a 10% or greater financial interest in the applicant failed to pay any fees or surcharges imposed pursuant to section 44-3-503, C.R.S.? Yes (No)
4. Since the date of filing of the last application, has there been any change in financial interest (new notes, loans, owners, etc.) or organizational structure (addition or deletion of officers, directors, managing members or general partners)? If yes, explain in detail and attach a listing of all liquor businesses in which these new lenders, owners (other than licensed financial institutions), officers, directors, managing members, or general partners are materially interested. Yes (No)
5. Since the date of filing of the last application, has the applicant or any of its agents, owners, managers, partners or lenders (other than licensed financial institutions) been convicted of a crime? If yes, attach a detailed explanation. Yes (No)
6. Since the date of filing of the last application, has the applicant or any of its agents, owners, managers, partners or lenders (other than licensed financial institutions) been denied an alcohol beverage license, had an alcohol beverage license suspended or revoked, or had interest in any entity that had an alcohol beverage license denied, suspended or revoked? If yes, attach a detailed explanation. Yes (No)
7. Does the applicant or any of its agents, owners, managers, partners or lenders (other than licensed financial institutions) have a direct or indirect interest in any other Colorado liquor license, including loans to or from any licensee or interest in a loan to any licensee? If yes, attach a detailed explanation. Yes (No)

Affirmation & Consent

I declare under penalty of perjury in the second degree that this application and all attachments are true, correct and complete to the best of my knowledge.

Type or Print Name of Applicant/Authorized Agent of Business <i>Adriana Scott</i>		Title <i>Manager</i>
Signature <i>[Handwritten Signature]</i>		Date <i>6/30/2021</i>

Report & Approval of City or County Licensing Authority

The foregoing application has been examined and the premises, business conducted and character of the applicant are satisfactory, and we do hereby report that such license, if granted, will comply with the provisions of Title 44, Articles 4 and 3, C.R.S., and Liquor Rules.

Therefore this application is approved.

Local Licensing Authority For		Date
Signature	Title	Attest



Willy Tookey <admin@sanjuancolorado.us>

FW: Redistricting Commission Meeting In Durango

1 message

Laura Lewis Marchino <laura@scan.org>

Tue, Jul 27, 2021 at 1:46 PM

To: "Willy Tookey - San Juan County (admin@sanjuancolorado.us)" <admin@sanjuancolorado.us>

Hi Willy,

I will be attending this meeting. Where do you think San Juan should be in terms of the new boundaries. I am thinking La Plata? I am willing to testify if there is high consensus as to the boundaries. Just let me know.

Laura Lewis Marchino, CEcD**Executive Director***2021 Chair, Economic Development Council of Colorado*

135 Burnett Dr. Unit 1 Durango, CO 81301

970-247-9621 - region9edd.org - 970-759-9327 (cell)

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From: Kermitt Barrett <kermitt@toschandassociates.com>**Sent:** Tuesday, July 27, 2021 1:43 PM**To:** Laura Lewis Marchino <laura@scan.org>**Subject:** Redistricting Commission Meeting In Durango

Laura,

Good afternoon, I wanted to share with the you the latest information about the Colorado Redistricting Commission meeting schedule for Durango.

The commission is scheduled to hear public input on the preliminary State House and Senate maps on **Saturday, August 7th at 1:00pm at the Durango Public Library.**

I hope your schedule still allows you to attend and if you are willing, to testify to the commission.

I have attached the preliminary House and Senate maps for your review. At this juncture, our position is that the preliminary rework of House District 52 is a vast improvement to the current configuration and we would encourage the adoption of the district as it is proposed. (one minor exception might be to include San Juan County/Silverton into House District 52 as opposed to HD 53 as the preliminary map shows.)

If you have any questions, please feel free to reach out.

Have a nice day.

Thank you.

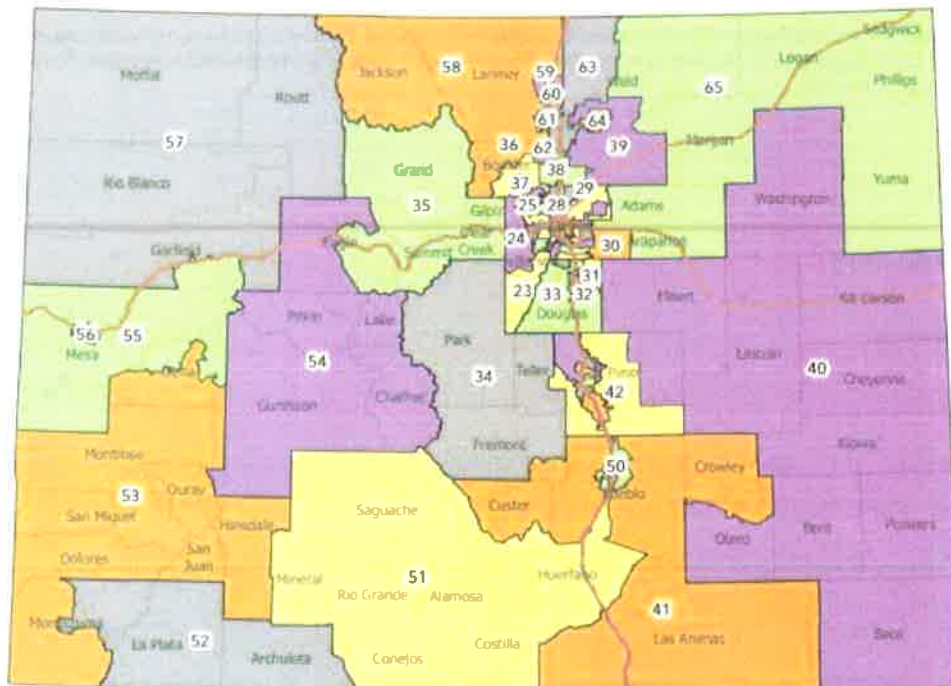
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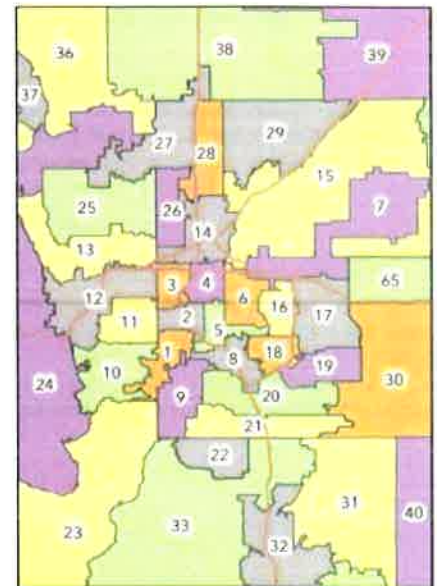
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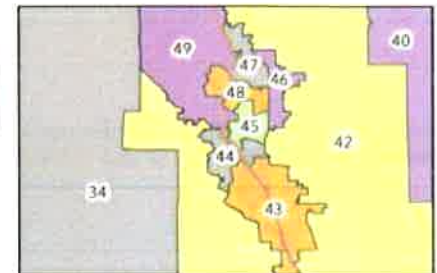
Colorado House Districts Statewide (Preliminary Map)



Denver Metro Area



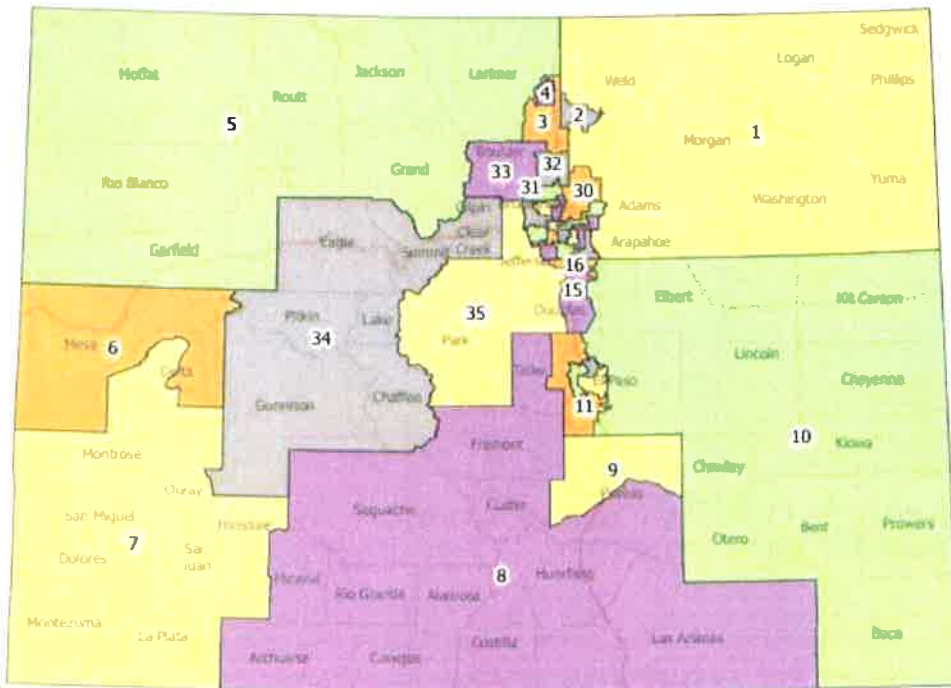
Colorado Springs Metro Area



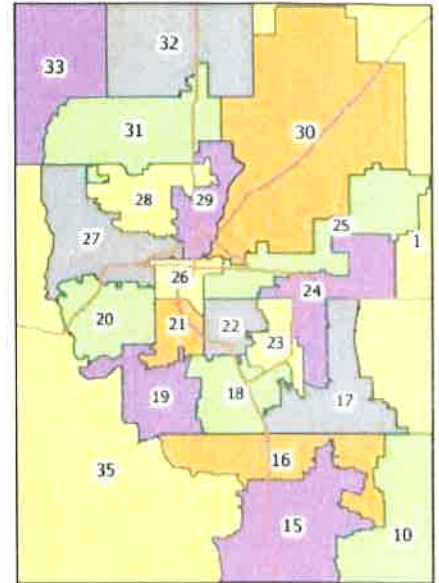
Map prepared by Colorado Independent Redistricting Commissions



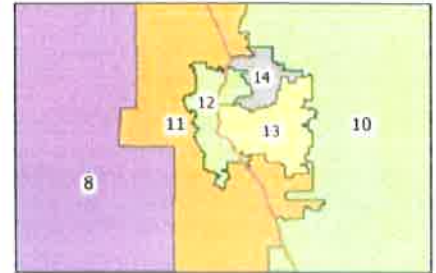
Colorado Senate Districts Statewide (Preliminary Map)



Denver Metro Area



Colorado Springs Metro Area



Map prepared by Colorado Independent Redistricting Commissions



PO Box 250
Silverton, CO 81433
970-387-5522



SAN JUAN COUNTY

PO Box 466
Silverton, CO 81433
970-387-5766

Date: July 26, 2021.

For: July 28 Board of County Commissioners Meeting.

From: Town/County Planning Director.

Regarding: Some of the Planning Department Work During the Past Two Weeks.

County Recent Projects

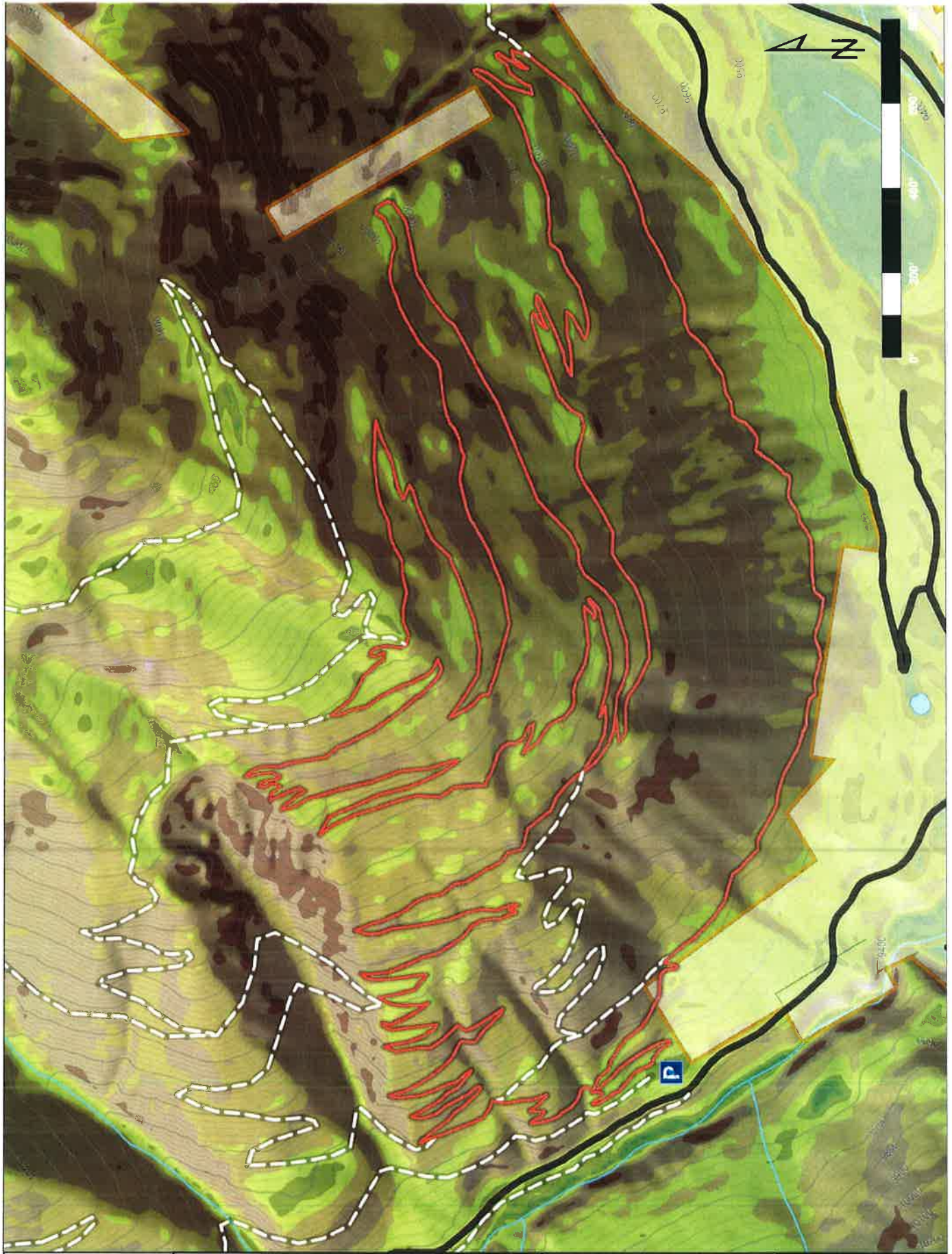
- Review of the County Special Events Permit Application for the second annual Bent Elbow Poker Run scheduled for August 20-22 is being completed. The application is posted on the County website.
- The Planning & Building Departments assigned a street address for an existing new cabin in Minnehaha Basin.
- There are two applications being administratively reviewed by the Planning Department, for two proposed residences, on existing lots in previously approved subdivisions. One is at Twilight Meadows, and the other is below the Mayflower Mill.
- A property owner is applying for a County Land Use Permit to upgrade an existing septic system adjacent to an existing 1970s cabin near Eureka.
- A film crew contacted me to start the County Special Events and Film Event Permit Application process for a proposed OHV film scheduled for July 28.
- The Planning & Building Departments reviewed a recently installed fence and signage near Idaho Gulch. The new land owner is obtaining a survey.
- A land owner who has land on Ophir Pass is completing a County Improvement Permit Application. He has requested an August site visit from the County Historic Impact Review Board. He has submitted packets of historic information for the Board to consider.
- There are several applicants working on unusual County applications: one for new highway signage at Cascade, one for a horseback riding business, one for a commercial hiking outfitter.
- A Building Permit Application is being reviewed for the proposed bed and breakfast structure located between Minnesota Gulch and Gladstone.
- A vacant mining claim for sale at Chattanooga, previously approved for a proposed cabin that never ended up being constructed, continues to generate phone and email inquiries.
- This is the season for government mining reclamation projects, for example some recent activity at sites on the lower portion of Kendall Mountain.
- A solar panel is proposed on an existing home along Highway 550 at the southern County line.
- San Juan Basin Health Department (SJBH) now reviews the septic system when an existing cabin sells. This generates some work for the Planning & Building Departments. Existing septic systems are often not in full compliance with the current SJBH regulations.

Town Recent Projects

- Staff reports and a meeting packet were prepared for the Planning Commission, to review two

Applications on July 20. An application was tabled, for proposed vintage airstream RVs to be placed behind a Greene Street lodging establishment. An application was tabled, for a proposed Planned Unit Development (PUD) eight-unit condominium building on Cement Street.

- Block 63 (7th to 8th Street, between Mineral and Cement Streets) is a “hot spot” of activity this year. There are several homes/duplexes proposed/being constructed in Block 63 which is zoned ED (Economic Development, originally intended for light-industrial uses). An application for a proposed duplex at Block 63 was received last week, designed as a single family home with a long term rental apartment secondary dwelling unit.
- An application is incoming for a proposed residence, within the new Architectural Review Overlay District (AROD), to be located on Greene Street at the corner of Memorial Park.
- Three proposed infrastructure/residence applications are being completed, for three applicants with Lots on the sloped hillsides above Town, at 8th & Snowden, 8th & Bluff, 12th & Bluff.
- AT&T is completing an application for a proposed generator and fuel tank in the Avalanche Hazard Overlay District at the Town-owned cell phone tower site.
- I expect the Town’s Board of Adjustment to convene soon to review 3-4 Town Variance Applications. One involves converting a shed into a house on a non conforming parcel, the second involves a proposal to install tiny homes on wheels (classified as RVs), third involves proposed RVs behind an existing structure, the fourth involves review of a 1980 variance.
- An incomplete application for proposed signage was turned in for a licensed proposed marijuana facility Kind Castle, near 10th & Greene. The proposed signage is minimal compared to what was originally proposed. The site is in the new Architectural Review Overlay District.
- Affordable housing and a lack of long term rental workforce housing is an ongoing Town and County issue, which the Town and County staff has recently been working on.
- Applications for proposed vacation rentals are now subject to the new Town Ordinance that came into effect in May 2021, which lowered the caps in each applicable zoning district from 12 to 8. A new Town Vacation Rental Permit “Waiting List” is being established by the Building & Planning Departments, as described in the Ordinance.
- A Town rezoning application is incoming for a vacant quarter Block of land behind the Blair Street BP zone.
- The Planning Department is working on some proposed updates to Town and County regulations and forms. The new Planning Assistant Clark Thornhill is receiving on the job training, and is already assisting quite a bit with the Planning Department work. A new computer was provided to the Planning Department by the Town, for the Planning Assistant.
- Please contact me with any questions at work cell (970) 946-9408 or “ladair@silverton.co.us”



DRAFT - Bakers Park Phase 1 Design Silverton, Colorado

- TRAIL CORRIDOR - FENCED
- TRAIL CORRIDOR - CONCEPTUAL
- POLES
- PRIVATE LANDS
- BLM LANDS

HASE 1 RAFT

Alignments represented here
 be considered as preliminary
 by change in future iterations.
 Date is processed and refined.
 by IMBA Trail Solutions
 02/07/14
 2.0

BUSINESS

Colorado mountain towns say they can't handle any more tourists amid labor, housing crises

Colorado tourism cheerleaders hasten their transition from destination marketing to management as resort town locals call for more housing and less promotion.

Jason Blevins 6:25 AM MDT on Jul 13, 2021



Visitors to Crested Butte, Colorado patronize restaurants and businesses along Elk Avenue with "Help Wanted" signs posted in the windows and doors on June 19, 2021. (Dean Krakel, Special to The Colorado Sun)

Credibility:  Original Reporting  Sources Cited





The Colorado Sun



Colorado Sun Daily Sun-Up: Solution to hou

🕒 00:00 / 11:16 🕒



Crested Butte has pulled its summer ads as businesses struggle to accommodate crowds. A Telluride councilwoman wants to redirect tourism funding toward housing. The Colorado Tourism Office is without a leader. Chaffee County commissioners rejected a 20,000-person annual music festival.

Angst over tourism is growing as mountain communities emerge from crowd-restricting pandemic closures. Overlapping waves of visitors and new residents are amplifying an unprecedented labor shortage and housing crunch. And with that seasonal distress comes a growing call to silence the statewide promotion of Colorado as a vacation wonderland.

“It’s a carrying capacity issue,” said Geneva Shaunette, a Telluride town council member who wants to redirect \$2 million a year to workforce housing from tourism-campaign spending. “With the drastic situation we are experiencing with housing and a lack of employees we simply cannot handle that many people. We need to ease off the gas of marketing. Telluride already is on the map. The whole ‘Come to Telluride because how great it is,’ we physically can’t handle that anymore. And we have many better and more important things to spend our money on.”

Tourism is in the crosshairs in mountain towns in Colorado while state economic development champions are offering a total of \$10 million to organizers who bring groups and events to the state.

Vacationers are pouring into Colorado resort communities, and overworked and underhoused locals feel the crowds are pushing their valleys beyond



capacity. Resort town tourism leaders, who long ago began transitioning away from pure marketing toward resource-protecting destination stewardship, are adjusting their messages to not just the visitors, but also locals.

And many of the state's 100-plus Destination Marketing Organizations — or DMOs — are finding themselves defending the role of tourism in economies that were created by vacationing visitors.

“Tourism, like any industry, should be evolving, and I think the evolution now is how do we amplify the positive things about tourism and mitigate the negative impacts that come with it. That becomes the new role of the DMMO,” said Lucy Kay, a Colorado tourism industry veteran who directs the Breckenridge Tourism Office, which a few years ago rebranded itself as a destination marketing management organization, or DMMO. “Where do we draw that balance?”

The questions surrounding tourism promotion are not unique to Colorado. Hawaii lawmakers are battling with the state's governor over the future of tourism funding amid complaints of overcrowding. Sedona, Arizona, officials have paused marketing efforts. European destinations are struggling with mass tourism as cruise ships and visitors flock.

And tourism champions, who years ago began taking on a role as destination stewards, are fighting to defend their industry's economic contributions.

Traditional tourism marketing — a scattershot invite to as many

This story first appeared in The Outsider, the premium outdoor newsletter by Jason Blevins.

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TODAY'S UNDERWRITER



visitors as possible — is long gone. Today, marketing efforts target visitors who spend more and arrive during slower periods. And this year, destination marketing groups are spending more time talking with locals and enlisting residents to shape how communities can balance tourism with the lifestyle that makes mountain towns such attractive places to live.

“I believe all of these mountain towns that are being quote-unquote ‘destroyed’ by visitors, they are at a crossroads right now,” said Telluride Tourism boss Michael Martelon. “If they make the right decision, working on sustainability and collaboration, it can make their future forever, and if they make the wrong decision, it will change their future forever.”

Destination marketing to management

The conversations around the role of tourism in hot-spot destinations is not new. Sustainable tourism has been the buzz for several years. But the pandemic-spurred migration toward outdoor recreation in Colorado’s high country, coupled with growing numbers of people moving to mountain towns, has amplified the focus on how destinations market themselves and manage tourists.

Destination marketing organizations have spent the past several years moving toward managing visitor impacts. Ads, social media campaigns and messages have focused on embracing local culture and protecting natural resources — like the state tourism office’s Leave No Trace ads. The idea is to lay out local expectations for visitors before they arrive.

“So people can understand what’s important in these communities,” said Breckenridge’s Kay.



Locals and visitors alike soak in the Ouray Hot Springs pool in Ouray Colorado, Saturday December 29, 2018. (William Woody, Special to The Colorado Sun)

All DMOs across Colorado are talking about how they can better manage both visitors and local resident expectations. They are critical intermediaries between vacationers and residents, Kay said.

“We are in the best position to connect guest expectations, guest reviews and resident sentiments,” said Kay, whose recent Breckenridge work shares information about fire safety and consults locals on better management of the town’s busiest days. “We are finding our new space and seeing how much the pendulum may swing toward management.”

In the private sector, businesses easily link marketing with operations. That is difficult in the public sector, Kay said, where elected leaders, local city staff and lodging-tax supported tourism boards have to work together to support a visitor-based economy.



TODAY'S UNDERWRITER

The Gunnison Crested Butte Tourism Association in 2019 changed its name to the Tourism and Prosperity Partnership as part of an expansion beyond tourism promotion to include broadening the economic base of the region, encouraging sustainable tourism and supporting Gunnison's Western Colorado University.

That focus on valley health and prosperity made it "a no brainer" to kill summer ads and direct funds toward more critical uses, said John Norton, the partnership's executive director and longtime Colorado tourism industry veteran.

"We have the option to spend more in other directions and stay within our mission," Norton said. "All we are doing is recognizing that we are not put on earth to keep building business and building business and stressing people out. This is less of an anti-guest issue than it is a capacity issue. At this time, we are at capacity. We do not need to throw more gasoline on the fire."



Visitors to Crested Butte, Colorado walk along crowded sidewalks on Elk Avenue, the town's mainstreet on June 19, 2021. With the lessening of COVID-19 restrictions and the arrival of summer vacation time, visitors are flocking to this small mountain town in record numbers. (Dean Krakel, Special to The Colorado Sun)

A recent survey of mountain town residents detailing the impact of new residents in high country communities suggested local governments could reallocate marketing and tourism money toward housing.

“Visitors may always anchor the resort economy, but as these communities add year-round residents, tourism may become a less dominant economic driver,” reads the survey commissioned by the Northwest Colorado Council of Governments and the Colorado Association of Ski Towns.

Tweaking the tourism tax in Telluride

Telluride town councilwoman Shaunette wants to cancel her town's lodging tax — which state law says must be directed toward tourism promotion — and install an excise tax on rented homes and hotel rooms that can be used for building affordable housing.

There is a growing concern in Telluride, Shaunette said, about how the Telluride Tourism Board spends \$2 million a year reaching visitors.



“They collect far more money for marketing than we spend on affordable housing,” she said of the lodging tax on roughly 740 short-term rentals and many more hotel rooms in the Telluride and Mountain Village region. “Right now we don’t get to touch that tax money and we don’t get to have influence over how it’s spent. People are upset about that.”

Shaunette, who last month offered a proposal to her fellow town council members that would shift tourism taxes toward housing, said Telluride needs to slow down its marketing “because town is overrun by people.”

State law requires county lodging taxes to be used “only to advertise and market tourism.” In 2018, Colorado legislation that would have allowed county voters to allow lodging taxes for other uses did not pass.

Tourism boosters warn against going dark in the tourism landscape. Other states will pounce and fight for visitors who are considering a trip to Colorado. California Gov. Gavin Newsom, for example, is proposing a \$95 million boost to the state’s tourism industry after revenues from Golden State visitors fell to \$65 billion in 2020, from a record \$145 billion in 2019.

TODAY’S UNDERWRITER

“We are going to compete with that,” said Martelon, the president and CEO of the Telluride Tourism Board for the last decade. “Tourism is not an on-and-off light switch.”



Campers fill up the festival grounds for RIDE Festival 2016 in Telluride. (Provided by RIDE Festival)

Martelon suspended Telluride advertising on March 13, 2020, and ran his first ad in late April. This summer, the community's tourism dollars are focused on messaging to visitors who are already in town, and about flights into the nearby Montrose airport.

A sort of mad professor of tourism numbers, Martelon tracks dozens of metrics collected from area businesses along with geo-locating mobile phone data to measure who, where, when of Telluride's visitors plus how much every vacationer is spending. He draws a distinction between tourism advertising and marketing.

Marketing needs to be redefined, he said. Too often people think it means spending money to get more visitors. It's not about more, Marleton said.

"Marketing is putting the desired message in front of the desired audience. That's consumers who are coming here. Consumers are here. And the lo



who live here,” he said. “That messaging for locals is important. A lot of time the locals need reassurance and training as well.”

Telluride, like many of Colorado resort destinations, does not use ads or marketing to lure daytrippers, who spend a fraction of the amounts spread by overnight visitors from afar. But day tripping tourists arrived in record numbers last year as mostly Colorado residents escaped urban areas. The flood of new visitors — alongside part-time residents moving full-time into their vacation homes — buoyed sales tax revenues for Telluride and Mountain Village, which were down only 5% in 2020 compared with 2019.

So Telluride tourist leaders changed their message to help these newcomers lessen their impacts and “visit right,” Martelon said. The most recent campaigns — focusing on mobile phones within the Telluride area — include messages like “Live Like a Local,” which asks visitors to pick up trash, save water, put out campfires and pick up after their dogs.

The recent messaging represents the Telluride Tourism Board’s yearslong transition from marketing into a role where it helps develop and manage the vacation experience alongside local residents, Martelon said. And that “visit right” message, he said, is “needed now more than ever.”

“People think we are in a new reality right now and we are not. We are in this freaking limbo where we don’t know where reality is actually going to settle in,” Martelon said. “This is not a new reality. This is a mirage. We don’t know how it’s going to end up. No one does.”



Kayakers compete in the GoPro Mountain Games in Vail's Gore Creek on June 13, 2021. The Vail Valley Foundation estimated close to 60,000 spectators and athletes gathered for the four-day event. (Jason Blevins, The Colorado Sun)

Tourism communities need to work with tourism businesses to measure things like the health of the residents, the quality of trails, the traffic on public transportation and the vibrancy of local art and culture, Martelon said. That's on top of typical measurements, like occupancy rates, lodging revenues and room rates.

Tourism and real estate are more than a \$1 billion industry in Telluride and supporting it requires only \$2 million in tourism management, Martelon said. Most of that is spent reaching overnight visitors, which are down to 217,000 through June 2021, according to Martelon's early estimates. That compares to 597,000 in all of 2019.

Now is not the time to "kill the golden goose," said Martelon, who sees a tourism effort eventually reducing overnight visitors to a level where the



Telluride economy relies solely on second-home owners and wealthy residents.

“These are not normal times. We are walking on quicksand and should not be making decisions that threaten our economy,” Martelon said.

“The Rise and Fall of Colorado Tourism”

In May 2020, Colorado lawmakers briefly considered slashing the Colorado Tourism Office’s budget by 87% as the gambling taxes that support tourism marketing in the state collapsed during the early months of the pandemic. Tourism champions across the state rallied to upset a timeworn argument that Colorado sells itself and advertising is unnecessary, ultimately carving out \$15.8 million for tourism promotion in the fiscal year 2021, down from \$18.6 million in fiscal year 2020. The board that governs the Colorado Tourism Office has not finalized the fiscal 2022 budget.

The office spends about \$11 million a year on advertising and marketing, roughly 66% of its budget. Almost all of that goes to MMGY Global, the Colorado Tourism Office’s media partner.

In 2018, the Colorado Tourism Office spent \$8.02 million on ad campaigns. The office’s research shows the state’s national “Come to Life” campaign inspired 2.33 million additional leisure trips to Colorado and an additional \$3.84 billion in spending. The office has supported its ad spending by showing every dollar it invests in tourism marketing returns \$479 in visitor spending, making its ad campaign among the top five most effective state tourism campaigns in the country.

In the last half of 2019, the Colorado Tourism Office spent \$2.1 million on a new winter campaign, dubbed “Wow.” Even though the winter season in Colorado was cut short in March 2020 with pandemic closures, the tourism office said its “Wow” campaign inspired 887,000 winter visits that generated



\$1.73 billion in spending. If COVID-19 had not forced the closure of ski resorts in March, another 107,500 visitors who had seen the campaign were ready to come to Colorado and spend \$206 million, according to tourism office research.

The tourism office is still compiling its 2020 visitation research detailing the impacts of the pandemic on the state's tourist industry. Early reports show that Colorado lost \$10.8 billion in travel spending between January 2020 and May 2021. In 2019, visitors to Colorado spent \$24.2 billion, generating a highest-ever \$1.5 billion in local and state taxes.

Tourism advocates have reams of research showing big returns on investment in tourism campaigns, including a detailed analysis of the last time the state's tourism promotion went dark.

TODAY'S UNDERWRITER

Colorado voters in 1992 rejected a tourism tax and state lawmakers the next year pulled the plug on vacation marketing. When Colorado tourism promotion funding went from \$12 million to zero in a year, the state became a case study showing the value in tourism investment.

Colorado's share of U.S. vacationers fell to 1.6% in 1995, down from 2.7% in 1992. The Colorado tourism industry lost \$1.4 billion in those early years and, as the state's share of American vacationers slipped, the loss grew to more than \$2 billion annually before lawmakers reinstated \$5 million in tourism funding in 2000. It took nearly 20 years for the state to reach that 2.7% mark again.



Breckenridge's closed Main Street on June 22, 2020. (Andy Colwell, Special to The Colorado Sun)

“The Colorado saga provides a cautionary tale for financial decision-makers who, in these difficult economic times and an unprecedented pandemic, are naturally looking at major cutbacks in all areas, including promotion,” reads an April 2020 note by tourism-tracking Longwoods International founder Bill Siegel introducing his 2006 report “The Rise and Fall of Colorado Tourism.” “It clearly illustrates that marketing is an essential net generator of revenue and profits to the organization, not a cost.”

Brady Johnson, the president-elect of Destination Colorado's board who works as head of sales and marketing for the C Lazy U luxury guest ranch, said the success of the state's tourism communities last year was built over decades of promotional work.

“This is not an overnight success story, like out of nowhere an amazing player gets into the NFL. Well they were not an overnight success story. They have been building up to that point for their whole life,” Johnson said. “The w



have been spending on tourism and our brand for the last 20 years is the same. We have an amazing brand and we have built it up over many years and now is not the time to let off the gas.”

The state’s DMOs have spent recent years growing meeting business and driving traffic to so-called shoulder seasons in resort communities. That’s helped create a more year-round tourism business, with groups coming in fall and spring months. Taking out the seasonality in mountain-town tourism traffic helps local businesses keep staff on payrolls for the entire year.

That kind of off-season traffic is a result of statewide tourism promotion spending, Johnson said.

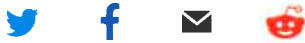
“We have spent lots of money to get people to focus on our state in a positive way ... and give them a year-round ability to enjoy the state,” he said. “It’s a chicken-egg thing. Do these communities exist for the tourists or vice-versa? We need both to be in harmony and it’s a careful balance.”

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Jason Blevins

The Colorado Sun — jason@coloradosun.com

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The Latest

CLIMATE

How water rights work in Colorado — and why severe drought makes them work differently

Parched residents' questions answered, from how much water the Front Range takes from the Western Slope, to how a power dam near Glenwood Springs saves Colorado River fishies

Michael Booth 3 hours ago

OUTDOORS

An abandoned coal mine near Aspen has become a mountain biking park for the masses

Well-heeled owners offer clean up of the Coal Basin mine and perpetual access to a new trail network there. The unusual public-private collaboration could serve as a model for restoring environmental danger zones.

Jason Blevins 4:20 AM MDT



ENVIRONMENT

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New Mexico seeks restoration ideas after 2015 mine spill



Projects would be funded through a proposed \$1 million settlement with defendants

By AP Opinion editor

Thursday, Jul. 22, 2021 10:22 **Updated Thursday, Jul. 22, 2021 4:32**



In 2015, kayakers Dan Steaves, Eric Parker and David Farkas talk with students from a Durango Nature Studies camp about the wastewater from the Gold King Mine spill that turned the Animas River mustard yellow. (Jery McBride/Durango Herald file)



SANTA FE, N.M. – New Mexico officials are looking for ideas for restoration projects to repair damage caused by a 2015 spill that fouled rivers in three western states with a bright-yellow plume of arsenic, lead and other heavy metals.

The state Office of the Natural Resources Trustee said Wednesday that the projects would be funded through a proposed \$1 million settlement with the defendants – Sunnyside Gold Corp. and its parent companies.

The spill released 3 million gallons (11 million liters) of wastewater from the inactive Gold King Mine above Silverton. A crew hired by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency triggered the spill while trying to excavate the mine opening in preparation for a possible cleanup.

The trustee's office said the contamination flowed into the Animas and San Juan rivers and adversely affected New Mexico residents, the agricultural and recreational tourism industries, and natural resources along those waterways.

The state and the defendants in January reached a settlement that includes a payment of \$1 million by the mining defendants to the trustee to implement natural resource restoration projects. Court approval of the settlement is pending.



As for the restoration projects, they must benefit surface water, wildlife, agriculture, outdoor recreation or other industries that rely on a healthy river. The deadline for submitting ideas is Aug. 21.

The trustee's office plans to select the winning projects and publish a final restoration plan by January.

“Communities whose jobs, livelihoods and environment were directly affected by the Gold King Mine release will know best how this funding can be put to good use,” Trustee Maggie Hart Stebbins said in a statement. “We recognize that this funding will not fully repair or restore all the injuries caused by the Gold King Mine release, but it represents a significant first step toward that goal.”

After the spill, the EPA designated the Gold King and 47 other mining sites in the area a Superfund cleanup district. The agency is still reviewing options for a broader cleanup.

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Jul 26, 2021



100 patrons cleared from El Rancho in Durango

Jul 25, 2021



Man stabs himself in neck while in Animas River

Jul 25, 2021