



Blue River Staff Report
September 2023

Town of Blue River
0110 Whispering Pines Circle
Blue River, CO 80424

970-547-0545
michelle@townofblueriver.org
<https://townofblueriver.colorado.gov>



Communications & Happenings

- **Wildfire Mitigation Projects**

- The Town received a \$155,000 grant from Colorado State Forest Service to conduct right-of-way mitigation work on all roads within the Town limits. The project will begin in 2024. Information on the project is attached.
- An in-person presentation was conducted on September 7th. Twenty citizens and staff attended. Another presentation is scheduled via Zoom on September 21st, 6:00 p.m.

- **Broadband**

- Staff has been working with the team from NEO Connect on a grant application with the Colorado Broadband Office. A partnership is being developed with the Town of Breckenridge and Summit County to bring fiber from the ice rink to Hoosier Pass. Blue River is the lead and the point of contact for the grant. The application is for \$7 million and is due at the end of September.
- As of 9/13/23 Allo has agreed to sign on as the ISP (internet service provider) for the project. This is a big deal as they have existing work in the area and a relationship/agreement with Xcel which will be key in our application and construction plan. The agreement and additional partnership will further enhance the grant application.

- **Sherwood & Roads**

- Work continues on the project. As cooperation with property owners continues and Muller Engineering continues their analysis, G & G Services (road contractor) has developed an interim plan for the winter in an effort to mitigate the issues at the intersection. The Contractor will be conducting culvert clearing and winter preparation/touch-ups in September.

Town Statistics

Facebook Page Likes
Town-1,300
Police Department-900
Instagram-1,232 followers
Twitter (X)-75 followers
Threads-84
Residents on Email List-989
Blue River News-1,164

Business Licenses-264

Lodging Registrations-219

Municipal Court September 2023

Total tickets written for August Court: 32
Total on the September Docket: 4
Total September Failure to appear(s): 3
Total September OJW(s): 0

Building Statistics

August 2023

Permits Issued: 33

YTD: 160

Inspections: 83

New Construction 2023: 1

Certificates of Occupancy 2023: 2



End of Month Report: August 2023

Calls for Service

Total number of a calls: 201 Top 10 calls as follows:

Traffic Stop	104
Area Patrol	24
Trespass	8
Motorist Assist	8
Parking Violations	5
Animal Complaints	5
Noise Complaints	4
Criminal Mischief	4
VIN Inspections	3
Motor Vehicle Accident	3

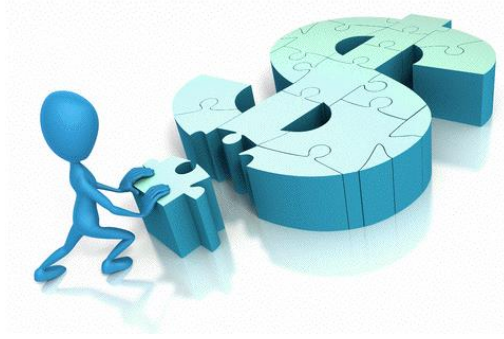
Summary: Traffic enforcement and area patrol remain a priority for the department. Department sponsored traffic studies along Hwy. 9.

Arrests: DUI = 1, misdemeanor = 4.

Current Administrative Focus

- Staffing – A new officer is completing field training.
- Patrol Vehicle– Is being outfitted with equipment to better serve the community and improve officer safety.
- Speed Trailer – Trailer has been placed on Hwy. 9 to capture highway safety data and improve driver awareness.

Report prepared by: Chief,
David Close



Financial Summary Report

Prepared by: Michelle Eddy, Town Manager

Month Ending August 31, 2023

Revenues/Expenditures:

Revenues are tracking ahead of budget by 15.46%. Sales tax is tracking ahead of budget. Building is doing better than expected with many small permits. Other income including interest on investments are ahead of budget. Court is currently tracking behind budget but is picking up momentum as we become fully staffed again. Expenditures are above budget by 3.74%. Utilities continue to increase in expense primarily at Town Hall. Auto repairs are exceeded budget due to unforeseen repairs on the 2015 sedans. The Town is sitting in a good position and staying on track with planned revenues and expenditures.

Reserve Accounts *As of 8/31/2023

Unrestricted

Reserve accounts Alpine Bank:	\$1,378,740.97
First Bank Money Market Checking:	\$5017.85
First Bank Time Savings:	\$95,000.00
CD's Citywide Bank:	\$211,498.41
Colorado Trust:	\$931,993.34
CSAFE:	\$100.00
Illiquid Trust Funds:	\$1,187.42
Total Unrestricted	\$2,623,537.99

Restricted

American Rescue Plan Funds:	\$231,485.23
Conservation Trust:	\$135,097.36
Total Reserves Restricted	\$366,582.59



Town of Blue River

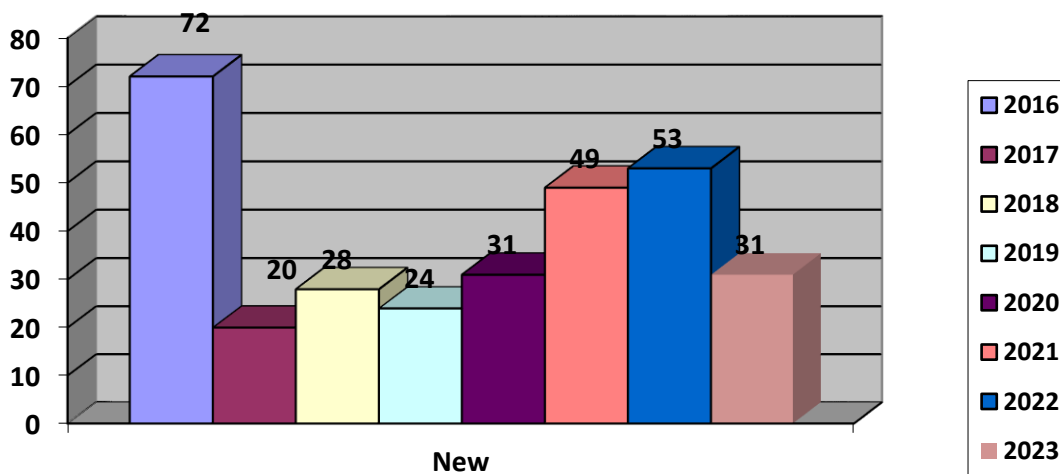
Staff Report
Short-term Rental Update
August 31, 2023
Submitted By: Michelle Eddy, Town Manager

Statistics

Issued by Year

2016	72	*Previous number included previous years prior to Town taking over program
2017	20	
2018	28	
2019	24	
2020	31	
2021	49	
2022	53	
2023	31	

Total Active Licenses as of 8/31/2023: 219



New (never rented before) Licenses by year:

- 2017-20
- 2018-25
- 2019-20
- 2020-25
- 2021-43
- 2022-35
- 2023-23

License turnover (STR one owner to the next):

- 2017-0
- 2018-3
- 2019-4
- 2020-6
- 2021-6
- 2022-18
- 2023-8

Annual Revenue

Year	Sales Tax	Lodging Tax
2016	\$264,757.05	\$123,742.00
2017	\$237,468.92	\$126,585.55
2018	\$286,968.54	\$155,511.07
2019	\$425,616.72	\$166,883.33
2020	\$842,141.13	\$176,339.81
2021	\$844,558.23	\$228,743.34
2022	\$1,002,256.27	\$327,762.62
2023	\$755,629.50	\$209,307.40

Percentage of STRs by Subdivision

*****Please note the percentage of STRS is based on total homes built within each subdivision and NOT buildable lots.***

Subdivision	Built Lot	# STR	%STR **	% Build Out	% Full-Time Res.
96 Sub	37	9	24%	90%	30%
97 Sub	41	12	29%	84%	37%
Aspen View	16	7	44%	80%	13%
Blue Rock Springs	50	13	24%	93%	46%
Bryce Estates	4	1	25%	57%	0%
Clyde Lode	1	0	0%	50%	0%
Coronet	31	10	32%	78%	35%
Crown	67	22	33%	93%	30%
DOT Condo	36	6	14%	100%	31%
DOT Placer	2	0	0%	50%	100%
Golden Crown	5	3	60%	63%	20%
Lakeshore	40	11	28%	93%	23%
Leap Year	21	8	38%	91%	43%
Louise Placer	8	4	50%	73%	13%
McCullough Gulch	3	1	33%	43%	67%
Misc Sec TR7-77 Land	5	0	0%	22%	20%
Mountain View	44	13	27%	96%	34%
New Eldorado Sub	8	4	50%	73%	50%
New Eldorado Townhomes	9	1	11%	100%	56%
Pennsylvania Canyon	2	0	0%	100	0%
Pomeroy	0	0	0%	0%	0%
Rivershore	5	0	0%	63%	0%
Royal	67	16	24%	94%	31%
Sherwood Forest	78	19	24%	90%	24%
Silverheels	4	1	25%	67%	25%
Spillway	20	2	11%	90%	25%
Spruce Valley Ranch	45	0	0%	68%	20%
Sunnyslope	30	12	40%	86%	40%
Timber Creek Estates	71	28	39%	89%	8%
Wilderness	55	15	27%	96%	35%

General Statistics

- Total Percentage of short-term rentals 27%
- “Local” Breckenridge, Dillon, Frisco or Silverthorne addresses with STR License: 24 or 12%

Code Violations 2015-2023

Total Violations:	299
Violations for STR's while licensed as an STR:	139 (46%)
Percentage of Repeat Offenders:	1%

Town of Blue River

Hazard Tree Right-of-Way Mitigation

Project

2024-2027

Purpose:

The Town of Blue River has worked for the last ten years, to encourage residents to create defensible space around their homes. Through the Summit County Wildfire Council grants, 147 homes have been mitigated. An additional 30 homes were mitigated outside of the grant program. The Town has installed 21 cisterns throughout town to provide water resources in case of an emergency. The Colorado State Forest Action Plan identifies the need for proper road construction as well as hazards of narrow roads and densely spaced homes. It is necessary to reduce the risk of uncharacteristic fires. The project will reduce the risk of trees falling and blocking the road. This risk is identified for the Town of Blue River in the Summit County Hazard Mitigation Plan. The project area was selected due to its proximity to a proposed Colorado State Forest Service project. All homes within the project area are served by private wells. By reducing the fire risk, the project is protecting the ground water supply.

In addition to the right of way mitigation, the Town of Blue River will host a one-day chipping event to allow residents the opportunity to bring slash to the Town Park to be chipped. The wood chips will then serve for playground surface.

Goals:

The goal of the project is to enhance the safety of the roads and property through the entire town for emergency and mitigation purposes.

Tentative Schedule:

2024: 96 Sub; Blue Rock Springs; Coronet; Mountain View; Royal; Sherwood Forest; Wilderness

2025: 97 Sub; Aspen View; Crown; Golden Crown; Leap Year; Louise Placer McCullough Gulch; New Eldorado; Silverheels; Sunnyslope;

2026: Bryce Estates; Lakeshore; Rivershore; Spillway; Spruce Valley Ranch; Timber Creek Estates

Process:

The Town will work with Red, White and Blue Fire along with Beetle Kill Tree Service and TSH to identify hazard trees within 5' of road right-of-way on both sides of the road. Once identified, the Town will work with residents for agreement to remove the hazard trees.