



## Blue River Staff Report October 2024

Town of Blue River  
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Blue River, CO 80424

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### **Weed & Seed Program**

- The program was once again a great success. There were seven dumpster loads of weeds collected over the summer. The Town did hire Neils Lunceford to remove weeds from Town Hall and Town Park.

### **Wildfire Projects**

- Right-of-Way Mitigation
  - After outreach to residents within the Phase 1 area, 14 homes have agreed to right-of-way fire mitigation in front of their homes. Red, White and Blue Fire are working to identify trees at those properties and once final approval is received from the residents, Beetle Kill Tree Guys and TSH will conduct the mitigation. Due to timing, work will take place in 2025. The project will be opened up over the winter to any other residents interested in participating.
- Blue River East Fire Mitigation
  - This project has gone out to bid and will be completed in 2025.

### **Roads**

- All road work for the season has been completed. The plowing contract will begin November 1<sup>st</sup>.

### **Short-term Rental Regulations**

- Recently, Summit County added regulations requiring Airbnb and VRBO to remove any listings that don't have a license. As a way to increase compliance with advertisements and reduce the instances of non-compliant rentals, it is recommended the Trustees add the following regulations to short-term rentals
  - Require license numbers to be displayed on all ads.
  - Require Airbnb and VRBO only allow listings from licensed properties.

### **Website/Document Accessibility Progress**

- In accordance with State Law, work continues to bring the Town website and documents into compliance. At this time there are 14 critical/serious issues to be resolved and 19 warning issues to be resolved.

### **Trails/Open Space**

- Town Staff along with staff from Breckenridge and Summit County met with the owners of a lot on Holly Lane concerning an easement connecting from the newly acquired property on Bonanza. The owners are considering providing a small easement that will assist with existing trail connection.

- In addition, the group met with the former owner of the Clyde Lode property to discuss buffering between the trail and the property he retained. A plan to slightly move a small section of the trail into the ditch for approximately, 60-70 feet was agreed to as well as signage. Breckenridge and Summit County trail staff will be installing the necessary signs for the winter. TSH Tree Service will conduct the needed tree mitigation in the ditch and a volunteer and staff trail construction day will be planned next spring/summer.
- Town Manager Michelle Eddy and Trustee Barrie Stimson attended a stakeholder workshop for the Camp Hale-Continental Divide National Monument Southern Tenmile Access Planning. The workshop provided an opportunity to see the results of data collected and results from neighborhood meetings and recommendations. Those in attendance reviewed and prioritized some of the recommendations and provided additional feedback on suggestions. The final plan will be presented in January 2025.

### **Transit-From Deputy Clerk John DeBee**

- Staff attended a Regional Transportation Coordinating Council (RTCC) Conference for the Northwest Region on September 12.
- Conference Summary:
  - Public transportation discussion:
    - Benefits: Reduce traffic and emissions; increase mobility options; non-emergent healthcare travel, improve safety for people and wildlife.
    - Change perception of public travel behavior – promote Bustang, Summit Stage and Front Range transportation.
    - Expand fleet and equip new vehicles.
    - Increase service west to Grand Junction.
    - Apps with real time schedules.
  - Regional/Community Transportation Campaign
    - Listen to the community via surveys, public meetings, ...
    - Advance preparation for language/cultural barriers.
    - Allow time for program to become operational.
  - Mountain Rail Coalition:
    - Selected route Denver, Winter Park, Steamboat and Craig; stops for smaller communities are still being evaluated.
    - Project planning is currently progressing rapidly.
    - Project funding: Grants, sales tax, oil & gas production fee, vehicle tag flat fee.
    - Staff attended the monthly Summit County Transit Authority meeting on September 25.
  - Meeting Summary:
    - Operations
      - Winter schedule to begin November 17.
      - 65 full time drivers including new hires still in training; all with CDL's.
      - Limited work force housing available for those working at least 30 hours/week.
      - Maintenance has challenges with the current fleet.
      - New buses (2 electric and 4 diesel) will be added.
      - Security on the buses and at the Transit centers is still a priority.
    - Planning

- Improving service in Swan Meadow Village and Dillon Valley.
- Additional bilingual drivers.
- Staff retention due to severe winter travel conditions.
- Pilot Micro Transit Program
  - Transportation for residential areas not near public transit.
  - 2023/24 Study sent to selection committee.
  - Contract will be not-to-exceed of 4.5MM
  - Grants are offered by the Federal Government and CDOT.
  - Real time apps will be available for riders.

#### **Upper Blue Planning Commission-Dan Cleary**

- Not much to report from last month's UBPC meeting. There was one continuance of planning case PLN23-075 to the Oct meeting .

**Code Violations logged into Citizen Serve YTD for 2024: 27**

- Advertising Violations: 15
- Dog Violation: 3
- Snow Removal Violation: 1
- Construction Site: 1
- Trash: 6
- Fire Pit: 1

**Code Complaint Calls to Dispatch**

**September Total Code Calls-11**

**Violations attributable to STR: 3**

<b>Complaint</b>	<b>Subdivision</b>	<b>Action</b>
Construction	Aspen View	Unfounded
Animal	Blue Rock Springs	Citation
Parking	Blue Rock Springs	Warning
Noise	Coronet	Warning
Parking	Coronet	Warning
Trash	Crown	Citation
Trash	New Eldorado	Warning
Parking	Sherwood	Warning
Campfire	Timber Creek Estates	Warning
Parking	Timber Creek Estates	Warning
Parking	Timber Creek Estates	Warning

## **Town Statistics**

Facebook Page Likes  
Town-1,300  
Police Department-921  
Instagram-1,263 followers  
Twitter (X)-85 followers  
Threads-206  
Residents on Email List-1,022  
Blue River News-1,202  
TextMyGov-143

**Business Licenses-255**

**Lodging Registrations Issued-223**

## **Municipal Court October**

Total tickets written for September Court: 8  
Total on the October Docket: 4  
Total October Failure to appear(s): 2  
Total October OJW(s): 1

## **Building Statistics**

**September 2024**

**Permits Issued: 24**

**YTD: 171**

**Inspections: 69**

**New Construction 2024: 5**

**Certificates of Occupancy New  
Construction 2024:1**

## **Tarn Permits**

**YTD September 30, 2024**

**Resident Permits: 207**

**Boat Permits: 213**



## End of Month Report: September 2024

### Calls for Service

Total number of a calls: 280

Top 10 calls as follows:

Traffic Stops	169
Motorist Assists	14
Extra Watch Request	13
Code Enforcement	13
Other Agency Backup	9
Animal Complaints	6
Drunk Driver Report	5
Trespass	5
Road Hazard	5
Reckless Driver	5

**Summary:** Safety concerns along Hwy. 9 continue to compile most of the Department's time and focus. Three major motor vehicle accidents involving multiple vehicles and multiple bodily injuries happened in or within proximity to town limits. An increase in bear activity in neighborhoods increased the number of animal complaints and code enforcement issues. Controlled substances were seized in two different cases and submitted to Colorado Bureau of Investigation for analysis.

Arrests: 9 = 8 misdemeanor, 1 felony

Motor Vehicle Crash: 1

DUI: 3

### Citations Issued

Municipal = 25

County = 11

### Current Administrative Focus

- Town Ambassador – The department is helping with recruitment and selection of the new code enforcement position.
- School Bus Stop – Has been completed. Some vandalism has occurred with signage posted in the area.
- Investigations – The department is assisting several other law enforcement agencies with ongoing investigations outside our jurisdiction.

## Financial Summary Report

Prepared by: Michelle Eddy, Town Manager

Month Ending September 30, 2024

### Revenues/Expenditures:

Revenues are ahead of budget for the by 20.72%. Sales tax, lodging tax, building and franchise fees are all tracking ahead of budget. Expenses are tracking below budget by 7.78%.

### Reserve Accounts \*As of 9/30/24

#### Unrestricted

Reserve accounts Alpine Bank:	\$1,460,600.42
Colorado Trust Assigned to Capital:	\$3,537,871.84
Colorado Trust Assigned to Broadband:	\$211,980.74
CSAFE:	\$100.00
Illiquid Trust Funds:	\$1,187.42
<b>Total Unrestricted</b>	<b>\$5,211,740.42</b>

#### Restricted

American Rescue Plan Funds:	\$196,325.69
Conservation Trust:	\$157,148.64
<b>Total Reserves Restricted</b>	<b>\$353,474.33</b>



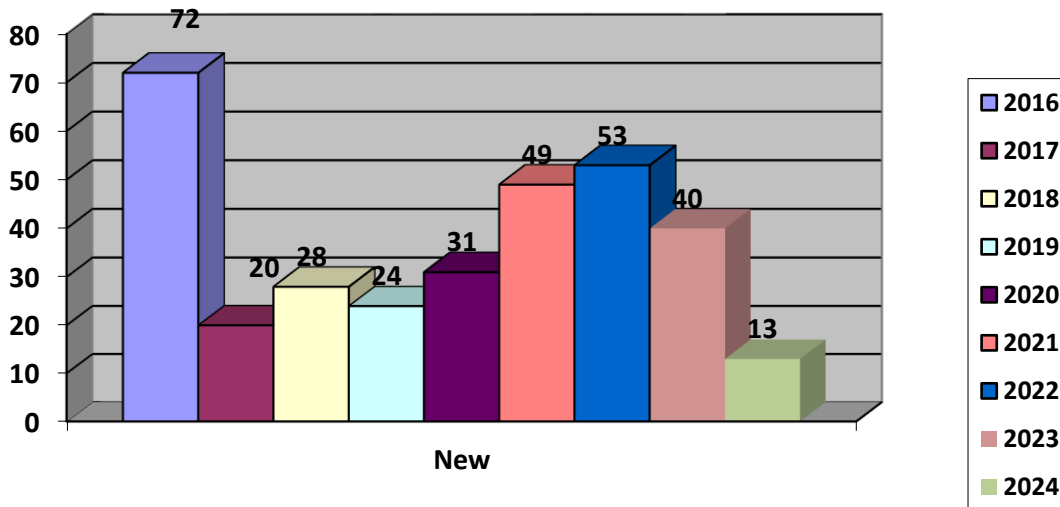


# Town of Blue River

**Staff Report**  
**Short-term Rental Update**  
**August 31, 2024**  
 Submitted By: Michelle Eddy, Town Manager

## Statistics

Total Issued Licenses as of 9/30/2024: 223-28%



## 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	\$996,818.50	\$303,230.72
2024	\$719,453.98	\$256,700.77

## 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	# STR	%STR **	% Build Out	% Full-Time Res.
96 Sub	9	27%	90%	30%
97 Sub	12	29%	84%	37%
Aspen View	7	44%	80%	13%
Blue Rock Springs	13	24%	93%	46%
Bryce Estates	1	25%	57%	0%
Clyde Lode	0	0%	50%	0%
Coronet	10	32%	78%	35%
Crown	23	34%	93%	28%
DOT Condo	5	14%	100%	31%
DOT Placer	0	0%	50%	100%
Golden Crown	3	60%	63%	20%
Lakeshore	13	33%	93%	23%
Leap Year	8	38%	91%	43%
Louise Placer	2	29%	70%	14%
McCullough Gulch	1	33%	43%	67%
Meiser	2	100%	100%	0%
Misc Sec TR7-77 Land	0	0%	22%	40%
Mountain View	13	30%	96%	34%
New Eldorado Sub	4	50%	73%	38%
New Eldorado Townhomes	1	11%	100%	56%
Pennsylvania Canyon	0	0%	100	0%
Pomeroy	0	0%	0%	0%
Rivershore	0	0%	63%	0%
Royal	16	24%	94%	31%
Sherwood Forest	20	26%	94%	23%
Silverheels	1	25%	67%	29%
Spillway	3	15%	90%	25%
Spruce Valley Ranch	0	0%	68%	20%
Sunnyslope	13	43%	86%	33%
Timber Creek Estates	29	41%	89%	7%
Wilderness	14	25%	96%	33%

## **Stage 1 Fire Ban**

On October 8, 2024 the Summit County Board of Commissioners voted to move into Stage I Fire Restrictions for all areas of unincorporated Summit County. To ensure that our restrictions are compatible, and to reduce confusion for citizens and visitors of our area, and because of recent fire activity and local response resource limitations, I am at this time ordering the following Stage 1 Fire Restrictions for the Town of Blue River. The restrictions will begin at 12:01 a.m. Friday, October 11, 2024.

### **What is Prohibited Under Stage 1 Fire Restrictions**

Stage 1 fire restrictions prohibit building, maintaining, attending or using an open fire. An open fire is defined as any outdoor fire, including but not limited to campfires, warming fires, bonfires or controlled burns of any material.

The following activities are also prohibited under Stage 1 fire restrictions:

- Use and/or sale of fireworks
- Use of tracer ammunition
- Use of any projectile containing explosive material, incendiary material or other flammable chemical substance
- Use of recreational explosives, including explosive targets
- Disposal of any burning object outdoors, including any cigarette, cigar or match

### **What is Allowed Under Stage 1 Restrictions**

Fires are allowed in constructed, permanent metal fire pits or fire grates within developed recreation sites, such as campgrounds and picnic areas. All campgrounds on the Dillon Ranger District are already closed for the winter; during Stage 1 fire restrictions, campfires are not allowed within rock fire rings, such as those found at many designated dispersed campsites across the district.

Fires are allowed on private property if contained within a commercially designed and manufactured outdoor fireplace or portable outdoor fireplace (including chimeneas) that is assembled, located and operated in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions and permitted by the local fire districts.

Any such device must also meet the following criteria:

- The device must be equipped with a protective screen that reduces the spread of embers
- The area directly underneath the fire is barren
- The fire is at least 15 feet from any flammable material or structure
- The size of the fire is no larger than 3 feet wide and 2 feet tall

Use of gas, charcoal or wood pellet grills are also allowed under Stage 1 restrictions.

Any of the permitted fire uses and activities must be conducted with the following safety measures in place:

- The fire must be constantly attended by a responsible adult.
- The fire must be extinguished and cool to the touch prior to it being left unattended.
- The supervising adult must have available for immediate use a portable 2A10BC fire extinguisher, five gallons of water or a charged garden hose.

Smoking outdoors is allowed under Stage 1 fire restrictions if the individual is at least three feet away from any natural vegetation or flammable materials. On U.S. Forest Service lands, smoking is only permitted within an enclosed vehicle or building, a developed recreation site or in a barren area free of vegetation.

Operation of a chainsaw is permitted if the operator is equipped with a 2A10BC fire extinguisher available for immediate use. Welding is permitted when the device is at least 15 feet away from any natural vegetation or flammable materials and a 2A10BC fire extinguisher is available for immediate use.

If weather patterns change the local outlook significantly one way or the other, Fire Restrictions will be adjusted accordingly.

Respectfully Submitted,  
*Michelle Eddy*  
Michelle Eddy, MMC/CPM  
Town Manager/Clerk