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Cc: [Patrick Davidson](#)
Subject: Weekly Update 1/31/2025
Date: Thursday, January 30, 2025 4:29:00 PM
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Good afternoon, Mayor, Mayor Pro Tem, and Members of the Board of Trustees. I will be out of the office on Friday, hence why you are receiving this email early. As always, please let me know if you have any questions or concerns.

RAISE Grant Update. With changes at the federal level with executive orders, we have prepared the RAISE Grant [now called the BUILD Grant] on 4 separate occasions, each with differing scopes for the project as well as cost estimates. As you will recall, this was for street improvements or sidewalks in Elizabeth. The Board chose a sidewalk project along HWY 86 for purposes of the grant. The current scope of the Grant will cover the costs of a sidewalk on the north side of HWY 86 from Banner to the bridge. The grant was held up by the White House Office of Management and Budget [OMB] pending a review of all pending grants; was delayed in implementation; was subject to a Court temporary restraining order; and is now subjected to a withdrawn OBM memo. Regardless, the grant has been submitted, and now we wait and see if the OBM, the Courts, the DOT, or who makes an award if any.

Planning Commission Trainings. A question was recently asked regarding what, if any, trainings have been conducted for the benefit of the Planning Commission. I am working with Alex and Dianna to review the Planning Commission Schedule for 2023 and 2024 and hope to have that finalized within the next couple of days. At first review, it appears that the Commission has completed the “Strong Towns” program [4 meetings], referral agency training including fire, schools, public works, EPD, water, CORE Electric, CORE Engineering, Stolfus traffic engineers, and Black Hills Energy [4 meetings]; and the American Planning Association Training Series on roles/responsibilities, managing a meeting, staff reports, comprehensive plans, and zoning/ordinances.

Tentative Calendar Items. I wanted to provide you the dates for you calendar for known and/or anticipated events through the year. Please let me know if there were other items you would like to include or if you have any questions.

Elizabash – June 7 [Elizabeth Stampede June 5-8]

Ice Cream Social - June 11 / July 16 / August 13

Friday Night Markets - June 13 / June 20 / June 27 / July 4 / July 11 / July 18 / July 25 / August 1 / August 8 / August 15

Birthday Bash Movie Night (TBD for one of the following) - September 20 / September 27 / October 4

Elizabeth 5k Walk and Run – September 13

Protectors Event – September 13

Elizabeth Walk and Talk – September 27

Harvest Festival – October 25

Budget Workshops – June 10 / July 19 (Saturday) / July 22 / August 12 / September 23 / November 11 / November 20

Mayor’s Tree Lighting – December 6

Pre-Meeting Workshops – May 27 (discussion of wards) / July 8 (Hillside paving plan, cost estimates, engineering) / July 22 (Wade Park improvements)

Community Development Director. Community Development staff had an opportunity to interview a candidate earlier this week, and the Mayor and Mayor Pro Tem likewise held an interview this week for the position. I will be having a Zoom meeting on Monday with the Mayor and Mayor Pro Tem to receive their feedback on the candidate. I will keep you posted.

Civility in Government. Last Summer and Fall the Colorado Municipal League (CML) focused on civility in government. You would have received in your three-ring binder a power point previously used regarding this matter. Here is the link to the CML website that discusses these matters as well. <https://www.cml.org/home/topics-key-issues/civility-starts-here>. As Corey is working to update the Trustee Manual and the Code of Conduct to reflect potential changes to the 3-minute rule, it might be a good time to see if members of the Board wish to make any other amendments to these documents considering the information from CML.

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Board Retreat – Facilitator. I have been in contact with Todd Leopold regarding the Board’s retreat. Todd has done many of these around the State and is more than happy to help with yours as well. The charge is \$2,000 and covers the following: pre-retreat interviews with Board members; preparing the retreat agenda; facilitating the retreat; providing a follow-up report; and formal presentation to the Board if requested. Because the retreat is tentatively March 8th, I will need to get an answer back to Todd quickly. The Board’s budget for 2025 includes \$1,500 for training, \$1,400 for meals, and \$250 for other, so sufficient funds are available to proceed. I would recommend Todd not only because of cost, but also because of his background and experience in government. Once you have reviewed and considered this opportunity, please let me know how each of you would like to proceed. I would like to get back to Todd next Monday if possible.

Have a great weekend!

Patrick

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