

To: Minturn Town Council
From: Michelle Metteer
Date: November 15, 2023
RE: Town Manager Update



Colorado Tourism Marketing Matching Grant Award – Great job Cindy Krieg!

The Towns of Minturn and Red Cliff were awarded \$30,000 for a 2024 Tourism Marketing Matching Grant. The Towns will be matching \$10K (Minturn) and \$5K (Red Cliff) for a total project spend of \$45,000. The project is a Minturn / Red Cliff Outdoor Recreation Visitor Guide (Minturn will have a larger presence in the guide). This has been a goal that we've been working toward (in a partnership capacity) over the past 2 years, and we finally received funding to do so. Below is more information about the grant program, and here is a link to the grant program page on the OEDIT website - <https://oedit.colorado.gov/tourism-marketing-matching-grant>.

The guide will have both a print and digital component and will include the following:

- Seasonal itineraries
- Information on outdoor activity options for all seasons
- Trails information, including a trailhead directory
- Parking information / directions (and steering visitors toward visiting popular trails during less busy times such as weekdays and/or certain times of day)
- Information on shoulder season activities
- Information regarding the Top of the Rockies Scenic Byway
- Business directory (to include tourism-related businesses such as restaurants, retail, lodging, activities/tour operators)
- Responsible recreation messaging throughout (Leave No Trace, Care for CO, etc.). This will include, but is certainly not limited to:
 - Respecting wildlife
 - Respecting trail closures
 - Doggy poop pick-up
 - Pack it out messaging
 - Education regarding fire safety, river safety, backcountry safety, hunting regulations, legal camping info (and stressing where you cannot camp), etc.

The plan is to have the printed guide in downtown businesses, area hotels, Eagle County airport, and CO welcome centers.

Bulb-Outs Update

Upon initial submittal of Minturn's Main Street Bulb Out plans to CDOT, we received preliminary feedback not to expect any artwork to be approved as part of the request. It is likely the bulb-out work itself will be accepted, with possible modifications, but CDOT does not appear as supportive of street-art as we had hoped.

Eagle County Regional Housing Action Plan

The towns of Avon, Vail and Eagle County were awarded funding to create an Eagle County Regional Housing Action Plan. All municipal managers are participating in this process and currently the RFP for finding a firm to lead the community through the plan creation process has been published and we expect a person/firm to be in place by early January 2024. Here is the press release that was issued upon grant award:

Eagle County Regional Action Plan

The Colorado Department of Local Affairs awarded \$200,000 in grant funds for a regional housing planning effort. The project, titled the Eagle County Regional Housing Action Plan, includes Eagle County and the towns of Vail, Red Cliff, Minturn, Avon, Eagle, and Gypsum. This project will update the 2017 Regional Housing Needs Assessment to determine unmet affordable housing needs in the Eagle River Valley with particular focus on determining housing needs for different income levels. A \$24,000 local match will be funded equally by Eagle County and the towns of Avon and Vail. In addition to updating data on housing needs, the project includes goals to identify opportunities for additional housing development and establish a 10-year strategy for housing development.

Eagle County Hazard Mitigation Plan

I am representing Minturn in the updating of Eagle County's Hazard Mitigation Plan. Minturn's participation is required in order for the town to be eligible for FEMA funds should a hazard in the Minturn area occur. The project is in the early phases and is expected to be utilized by all area organizations in the event of hazard. I have identified Minturn's primary (but not limited) hazards of concern to include wildfire, flood, rock/mudslides/avalanche, and drought.

ECSD Maloit Park Housing Project Fire Flow Work

The town has successfully completed the fire flow water pipeline work for servicing a new housing development in the Maloit Park area. The School District is paying all the costs associated with the fire flow work. This was one of the tasks remaining to be completed prior to bringing Tank 3 (new concrete water tank) online.

Concrete Water Tank Baffling Work

The piping for the interior baffling on tank #3 has been ordered. Once the piping arrives, John Volk, Minturn public works and additional crew will handle the installation. Upon completion of this project, tank #3 will be able to be operational. There will still be limitations (not able to completely fill the tank) due to the Medina waterline service issues, but once the Medina service line is installed in the spring, tank 32 can be taken entirely offline, and tank #3 can run at full capacity.

Medina Service Line Progress

The Minturn water team has met with representatives of the Medina property. We discussed the plan for installing a service line from HWY 24, utilizing the town easements over 3rd party private property to service the two structures on the property. The town will be paying for the installation of the service line. Of question, is the maintenance of the line should issues arise. I, nor Mike Sawyer, have found anything in the original Ordinance and Agreement indicating the town would be responsible for such infrastructure maintenance. I have attached a copy of the Ordinance and Agreement should anyone wish to review.

Phase II Main Street Sidewalk Construction Schedule

Work for Phase II of the Main Street Sidewalks is underway. Survey work and sub utility engineering is almost complete. A copy of the anticipated timeline for construction has been attached. Installation of sidewalks is expected to begin in the spring of 2025.