



TRAVIS ELLIOTT
TOWN MANAGER

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TO: Mayor and Town Council
FROM: Travis Elliott, Town Manager
CC: TOP Staff
DATE: August 19, 2022
RE: Info Update

SEE YOU AT THE RODEO

In case you have been living under a rock, Grand Valley Days is THIS WEEKEND. The fun kicks off tonight at Cottonwood Park with a Rope Show in the fairgrounds and live music in the park. The parade is tomorrow morning, and the rumor is that the Town float is a clear front runner. There is also a car show tomorrow afternoon, the rodeo begins at 4pm, and there is more fun, games, and live music at the park all day on Saturday. For desert and a finale, the Ice Cream Social is on Sunday. For details, visit GVDays.com.

ROCKMAGEDDON SALES TAX NUMBERS ROCKED

We received our latest sales tax numbers from the state last week. These are for transactions that took place in June, and as expected, it was a very strong month for retail sales in Town. Sales tax from products, excluding marijuana, were up over 11% over the same time period last year. However, marijuana sales tax revenues continue to lag. Sales tax from retail marijuana is down 29% YTD, but don't panic. With our strong overall sales tax collections, we are still up about 5% over the same time period in 2021 YTD. We are also trending just ahead of our budget projections for the year.

I understand the Town of DeBeque is seeing a similar decline in marijuana retail sales, and Ray Erku with the Post Independent is planning to do a newspaper article in the near future on this trend.

TID BITS:

- The Grand Valley Methodist Church, in partnership with Garfield-16 Family Resource Center, made news this week for their shoe and backpack give-a-way. They donated over \$3,500 worth of shoes and supplies for students returning to school. Catch the full story, here: [Church Helps Kids at the Start of School Year \(westernslopenow.com\)](http://westernslopenow.com)
- We plan to post our unused fleet at auction next week. This will include an Impala vehicle, a PD Excursion, the four OHV RZR's, and an enclosed trailer.
- Work on the 2023 budget continues. Draft budget meetings concluded this week, and the Town Council will receive a draft 2023 budget at their meeting on September 15th.

- Per the Town Council meeting last night, we will hold a special meeting on Thursday, September 8th to solidify ballot language for various charter amendments in the November election.
- TNT Striping has been in Town this week painting our road “short stripes” (crosswalks, stop bars, etc.) Next up, the “long stripes” and street lines will be painted later this year.
- Our water plant is going through various maintenance. We are replacing filters, new pump drives, etc.
- Proposals for our Downtown Development Plan are due on Wednesday, August 24th.
- We have posted a next review of applications for the Community & Economic Development Director position for Wednesday, September 7th.
- Construction of the Tesla supercharging station at the corner of Cardinal Way and Columbine remains underway. It is expected to be complete and open to the public in approximately 2 months.
- The Town has issued a new business license for a Counseling Center over in the empty space at 175 Columbine Ct.
- As approved by the Town Council, we are prepping to submit two grant applications to the Federal Mineral Lease District’s fall grant cycle – one for a police vehicle and one for a fleet fueling station.
- We are working to get our “new” bus wrapped and in service as quick as possible
- We are working with the Colorado Rural Water Association to complete a utility rate study and Asset Management Plan. The CRWA offers this assistance for free, and it will save what we previously budgeted to do with an engineering firm (\$44,000).
- Upcoming Meetings and Events:
 - (please let us know if you plan to attend so we can track public noticing requirements)*
 - Grand Valley Days will be August 19, 20, and 21st
 - State of the Grand Valley meeting #3 – 6:30 p.m. | September 21st at GV Rec Center