



BLUE RIVER BOARD OF TRUSTEES WORK SESSION

July 02, 2024 at 5:00 PM
0110 Whispering Pines Circle, Blue River, CO

AGENDA

The public is welcome to attend the meeting either in person or via Zoom.

The Zoom link is available on the Town website:

<https://townofblueriver.colorado.gov/board-of-trustees>

Please note that seating at Town Hall is limited.

5:00 PM WORK SESSION:

[Review](#) of Citizen Survey

I. ADJOURN

NEXT MEETING -

Reports from the Town Manager, Mayor and Trustees; Scheduled Meetings and other matters are topics listed on the Regular Trustees Agenda. If time permits at the work session, the Mayor and Trustees may discuss these items. The Board of Trustees may make a Final Decision on any item listed on the agenda, regardless of whether it is listed as an action item.



Town of Blue River Memorandum

TO: Mayor Decicco & Members of the Board of Trustees

FROM: Citizen Advisory Committee

DATE: May 29, 2024

SUBJECT: **Citizen Advisory Committee Survey Report**

Mayor & Board of Trustees

In January 2024, the Citizen Advisory Committee was asked to conduct a survey of the citizens as it relates to the priorities set by the Board of Trustees for the 2024 fiscal year. There were a total of 158 unique validated responses. A summary of the results were provided and each member was assigned a section to evaluate the written responses and provide a summary and recommendation. Below are those reports.

Short Term Rentals

102 Comments were received on the topic of Short Term Rentals in the Citizen Advisory Survey. Comments sorted into five categories based on favorability.

Short Term Rental Comments	#	%
Pro	33	32%
Pro w/ Regulatory Enforcement	24	24%
Neutral	13	13%
More Regulation / Limits / Cap	23	23%
Against	9	9%

32% of comments supported Short Term Rentals, their regulation, and number, as it exists currently, and the continued ability for property owners to utilize their property as they see fit.

24% of comments generally supported current Short Term Rental regulations and numbers, but with improved enforcement of ordinances related to Short Term Rentals and ordinances related to all residents and citizens.

13% of comments did not express an opinion for or against Short Term Rentals or provided comments both for and against Short Term Rentals.

23% of comments indicated a preference for added regulation, permit limits, or a hard cap on the number of permits issued for Short Term Rentals.

9% of comments opposed to Short Term Rentals and believe they should not be allowed in the Town of Blue River.

Summary

All comments received are consistent with data gathered in previous surveys or fielded from residents at meetings. There is general favorability for Short Term Rentals in Blue River, albeit with improved enforcement of existing town ordinance and permit requirements.

The Board might consider methods for communicating directly with Short Term Rental guests regarding their responsibilities and expectations, perhaps a required affidavit hosted on the TOBR website or creating an employee position whose responsibility includes outreach to Short Term renters or responding to violation reports, funded through Short Term Rental-specific tax revenue.

Additionally, concerns among those opposed or seeking limits may be addressed by the Board considering a formal review of Short Term Rentals, documented in a public report that addresses key concerns. Reconciliation with the TOBR Mission Statement, financial analysis, and the recognition of key impacts of Short Term Rentals on the experience of full time residents could help to more clearly distinguish between renter behavior and land use policy.

Trustee Hopkins
Liaison, Citizen Advisory Committee

Goose Pasture Tarn & Trails

As far as the tarn responses are concerned, the overriding theme is the need for enforcement of existing code and rules.

The citizens want staffing from town at the tarn to make sure only residents are accessing it.

They want sufficient and safe parking access.

There were requests for seating and bathroom facilities at the tarn

Many wanted to make sure the tarn will be properly stocked each year.

Finally, as a broader point the respondents want to make sure trail access is maintained and improved in Blue River.

In conclusion, the citizens that responded want appropriate staffing and visibility by the town at the tarn to maintain and confirm only access by actual residents.

Thank you again-Trevor Kraus-Chair

Blue River Roads Comments

Paved	14
Grading	7
Plowing	5
Speed/parking Enforcemnt	7
Easement Rights	6

Areas of Concern from Residents

Junction of Royal & Blue River	
Timber Creek Estates - some cracking	2
Curve on Coronet Hill	

Drainage 97 Circle & culverts	
Louise Placer & Spruce Creed Road	2
Grading Lakeshore Loop	
Spruce Valley Ranch	
Regal & Coronet - curve	2
Spruce Creek	3

See .pdf with highlighted comments.

Former Member & Vice Chair/Now Trustee-Jodie Willey

Blue River Citizen's Survey: Wildfire Component Comments Summary

Here are my observations from reviewing the results. Different readers may find different emphases. I try to present a broad and balanced perspective on my read of the results here, including minority opinions. It is worth reading all the responses, in addition to my comments, to develop a strong sense of the commonalities and, where they exist, differences within the community to inform future decisions on the matter.

- Not to diminish the results below, but a sizable number of respondents indicated confusion on how to interpret and report using the scale described for completing the survey. A number of respondents indicated this confusion and then, to be sure, wrote responses such as these two: "I assume that this was meant to be high, medium and low as the others above - high concern for me" and "I don't know what your choices mean. It's obviously VERY important."
- There is a solid consensus in the responses of the importance of wildfire mitigation resources and activities by individuals, neighbors and the town. Examples of written comments, that were highly varied and reflected more a theme than a consensus on any specific mitigation activity included: fire mitigation incentives, removing trees within 30' of one's residence, protection of homes, cisterns, insurance premiums, activities by forest service.

Not everyone supports tree removal. Three separate residents wrote:

"The forest service has already ruined our view with its slaughter of live trees. NO MORE CUTTING" and "The mitigation efforts seem to be needlessly ugly and perhaps useless. They were never explained adequately." and "Stop cutting all trees. A plan to thin trees might be welcome."

More numerous, others wrote: "I know not everyone likes the fire mitigation but I think it is necessary and needs to be done. Samewith the chipping program." and "All fire mitigation should be a vital part of mountain communities." and "safe zones around homes is essential and continuing slash cleanups"

- Concerns were expressed about the actions of others, such as the risk posed by people throwing lit cigarettes out the window on highway 9, activities of neighbors including renters or campers on trails (presumably) building campfires.
- Finally, my read of the consensus in the comments is that citizens have a favorable view of the town government's and other interested entities (e.g. forest service, Red, White and

Blue, etc.) activities. For example: “The town has done a nice job coordinating the wildfire mitigation efforts. It was a big impact having the logging trucks on Spruce Creek road but they did operate within the designated hours and did not speed.”

In closing and on behalf of my fellow BRCAC members and the town’s elected trustees, wildfire risks and risk mitigation are on the minds of our fellow citizens in the town and they consider it to be a very important concern. This is captured in a number of comments, such as this one for example: “Very important with where we live. The current programs we stand behind and hope that they continue to make our town more fire safe. I hope that we continue with the chipping program in the future. The trees marked along the street we hope are removed (*sic*).”

-Stephen D. Kucera, Ph. D.

Safety & Code Enforcement

1. 40% of the responses addressed Highway 9 as their largest safety concern (No Surprise). Specifically speed was mentioned consistently and the need to reduce the speed limit to be more in keeping with a residential area. The need for wider shoulders and safer crossing options or adjustments to bus stops to reduce need for pedestrians to cross the highway.
2. 40% thought that Blue River was "safe" or were complementing the police or didn't understand the question.
3. Remainder were comments that were so off the mark that they weren't relevant to the question. For example there were several comments about trash cans being left out over night.

In summary most respondents were concerned about the highway and the hazards related to speed and operation of vehicles on the road.

hope this helps

Bruce

Constant Contact Survey Results

Campaign Name: Untitled Survey Page Created 2024/02/19, 11:35:20 AM MST

Survey Starts: 588

Survey Submits: 187

Export Date: 03/19/2024 02:58 PM

OPEN QUESTION

Blue River Address

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

187 Response(s)

OPEN QUESTION

Email

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

187 Response(s)

MULTIPLE CHOICE

1. Roads (maintenance, rights and easements)

Answer Choice	0%	100%	Number of Responses	Responses Ratio
High			109	59%
Medium			57	30%
Low			18	9%
Total Responses			184	100%

OPEN QUESTION

Comments

What does "Roads" mean? Before the Town spends any time/money on "roads" it MUST determine the legal rights and right-of-way boundaries on existing roads. Continued creeping of road maintenance summer/winter is causing damage to private property.

BOT incumbents & candidates at the 3/7/24 Forum all agreed to "site-specific" management guidelines that address diverse neighborhoods & environmental characteristics." Instead of bureaucracy, property owners & contractor(s) should make decisions.

As long as the pot holes and ruts are not as deep as the Grand Canyon that rattle my car to pieces I am happy. The snow removal is not as efficient as it has been in the past.

91 Response(s)

MULTIPLE CHOICE

2. Short-term Rentals

Answer Choice	0%	100%	Number of Responses	Responses Ratio
High			66	36%
Medium			58	31%
Low			59	32%
Total Responses			183	100%

OPEN QUESTION

Comments

Before making any STR decisions based on "the court of public opinion", the Town needs to objectively define the issues/concerns and focus on a path forward that follows the Mission Statement "... conserving our natural residential environment."

Many voting residents live here because of what is in the Mission Statement. STRs have contributed significantly to the erosion of the M.S. Instead of community-damaging Town government STR policies, follow community-caring policies, i.e. fewer STRs.

I am not a fan of STR...I like our nice quiet local neighborhood. The STR put a lot of wear on our resources. There should be a limit on nights occupancy per year and it needs to be managed.

107 Response(s)

MULTIPLE CHOICE

3. Tarn Management and Use Trails

Answer Choice	0%	100%	Number of Responses	Responses Ratio
High			99	53%
Medium			66	35%
Low			19	10%
Total Responses			184	100%

OPEN QUESTION

Comments

Topic is vague/nebulous. The Town doesn't own the water surface nor shoreline. Before spending time/money on this or anything related to open space/trails, engage landowners and informed neighbors, and not focus on "the court of public opinion".

I agree with the "Blue River Open Space & Trails Master Plan" recommendation: "...Goose Pasture Tarn is a relatively undisturbed wetland/riparian complex... and is important wildlife/waterfowl habitat. Do not encourage use nor future trail development..."

I like to be able to enjoy our trails and natural resources our neighborhood offers. I would like to see a safe corridor for us to get to town. Someone is going to get killed riding their bike on the highway. Tarn for locals only. Winter parking

90 Response(s)

MULTIPLE CHOICE

4. Safety Enhancement and Plans

Answer Choice	0%	100%	Number of Responses	Responses Ratio
High			51	28%
Medium			85	47%
Low			44	24%
Total Responses			180	100%

OPEN QUESTION

Comments

What does this mean? "Safety" is a high priority in anything/everything the Town does. Without a clear understanding of specific "enhancements" or "plans", the topic is too vague/nebulous to rate and give comment. Take it off the list.

Keep in mind that the best safety plans honor the environment plus honor the current infrastructure, i.e. emergency vehicles can safely travel on the current roads. Drivers of other vehicles can easily find a pull-out to allow for emergency vehicles.

I am not really sure what this means. People fined for pushing snow out onto road, trash cans management. They should not be put out the night before.

67 Response(s)

MULTIPLE CHOICE

5. Code Enforcement

Answer Choice	0%	100%	Number of Responses	Responses Ratio
High			60	33%
Medium			77	42%
Low			44	24%
Total Responses			181	100%

OPEN QUESTION

Comments

Town must adhere to rules, regulations, policy, and guidelines defined by law and the Land Use Code. Not enforcing the law is a dereliction of duties. Like "Safety", this topic is a stand-alone function and need not be on the priority list.

The Town is famous for not enforcing code. Town government is famous for including provisions in the code documents that the Town has no intention of enforcing. Existing code is enforced for some but not others. Enforce code equally for all.

Generally good presents is noted with police making rounds in the neighborhood. I do notice a lot of aggressive drivers passing inappropriately on the highway.

55 Response(s)

MULTIPLE CHOICE

6. Wildfire Mitigation

Answer Choice	0%	100%	Number of Responses	Responses Ratio
Answer 1			102	64%
Answer 2			36	22%
Answer 3			20	12%

OPEN QUESTION

Comments

"Mitigation" means lessening the impact caused by wildlife. Without a clear understanding of specific "mitigation", the topic is too vague/nebulous to rate and give comment. It is a part of the "Safety" topic and need not be on the priority list.

Town government appears to justify illegal/unauthorized tree removal & wetland willows as "wildfire mitigation." Factors, such as nearness to waterways, should be considered acceptable mitigation practices. Implement acceptable mitigation practices.

Fire pits should not be allowed, especially at rental properties. Cars should be ticketed for parking on roads - this is hazardous for fire trucks. I like the fire mitigation incentives provided tree management companies.

87 Response(s)

OPEN QUESTION

7. Please note any other priority you would like to see the Town address.

The "Survey" is poorly drafted. It does not tie in with the Town Mission Statement and does not give info on type of respondents; landowners, renters (long and short-term), full and part-time residents, visitors, etc. Topics listed are vague and nebulous, leading to too much interpretation of the issue. Many topics are actually components of the Safety topic, which is obviously a high priority. Hire a consultant to conduct an appropriate "survey" which will give meaningful actionable results.

--All policies & practices need to be connected to the Mission Statement, which is currently not happening.

--There is no mention of the environment in these BOT priorities. FYI- On a 2019 Citizen Survey, 85.4% of the respondents marked "yes" to supporting "conservation efforts and policy development." Respondents were in favor of conserving the natural day and night environment.

--Promote best stewardship practices that align with the Mission Statement: enhancing the quality of life for all.

The town needs to have a professional put a survey together, or at a minimum give the CAC ample opportunity to craft a thoughtful survey. This survey doesn't warrant response because it just appears to be looking to rank priorities. The question about wildfire makes no sense because it doesn't even list high vs low. Please do better.

101 Response(s)

Roads

4. Comments
Would love to have Sherwood Forest and down to blue river road paved. Would help drainage issues and is a popular neighborhood walking street which is not ideal during mud season.
More regular grading, plowing, and speed enforcement would be great. In our neck of the woods (the junction of Royal and Blue River) people feel that they're out of sight so they regularly speed around the curve. Would love for that to stop.
I wish the street plowed to the asphalt
Roads in Timber Creek Estates are in fair to good shape still with some minor deterioration in some spots. Might need another round of general crack repairs soon.
I realize the weather provides challenges and believe Blue River currently does a good job maintaining the roads.
No more easements. People already speed on Blue River Rds. If any wider, vehicles would speed more which is a huge safety concern and air quality will decline from road dust. Rd has already expanded due to maintenance past current easement of lot
The maintenance guys have been doing a great job with what they are up against.
curve on Coronet hill is always a concern. especially in winter when the snow is high and it is a blind corner.
Some ongoing drainage issues on 97 Circle
The culverts need to be addressed around my property.
Paving the roads.
Need to pave to save \$ in the long run
As long as the pot holes and ruts are not as deep as the Grand Canyon that rattle my car to pieces I am happy. The snow removal is not as efficient as it has been in the past.
The new road maintenance contractor did a much better job than Wheeler did.
Continued road management is very important. I don't see any need change what is currently being done.
Avoiding chain up station
Keeping roads safe
Louise Placer Road and Spruce Creek road are both in poor condition. We paid over \$6000 to fill and grade Louise Placer Road after putting power in the road to our house and over two years the city has neglected this road.
Underground utilities should be included
Many roads are deteriorating.
If you make the roads too nice everyone will bitch about people speeding. Things are good.
What does "Roads" mean? Before the Town spends any time/money on "roads" it MUST determine the legal rights and right-of-way boundaries on existing roads. Continued creeping of road maintenance summer/winter is causing damage to private property.

The plowing should be way better and more active on whomever determines when to plow. We don't need any surveys or engineers to decide that certain portions of roads should be paved to make them better. Use logic and don't reinvent the wheel.
Grading on Lakeshore Loop
Pave the roads please, if not paving; please maintain, enforce no parking on roads.
would like to have roads re surfaced asap at beginning of summer and again late July early August
Snow plowing maintenance this year has been terrible
I would like to see us move to more paved roads
Increased traffic is having its impact but i give the public works team fair to good grades on keeping up.
Plowing, lighting and other measures on Hwy 9- if it is within the state maintenance, to please advocate for more services. Also, to ask Blue River Police what they see as priorities as they are on all the roads and know the issues well.
Speeding had been the main concern on our roads. The periodic crack sealing is next but will not be done for 1-2 more years.
We appreciate timely plowing and warm weather grading of our Country Road. So thank you for that! We also want to protect the Tarn area and the roadway just north of the switchbacks.
Blue River needs to join the 21st century and PAVE THE DAMN ROADS. We replaced outhouses with toilets, we should replace dirt with blacktop.
Spruce Valley Ranch address
Snow plowing critically important.
improve plowing services paving of more town streets
It is good to stay on top of plowing in the winter and maintenance in the summer for the safety of our community. BOT incumbents & candidates at the 3/7/24 Forum all agreed to "site-specific" management guidelines that address diverse neighborhoods & environmental characteristics. Instead of bureaucracy, property owners & contractor(s) should make decisions.
Road condition of Louise Placer is below the standard of most of the BR roads.
I know the last big storm was a mess but I'm confused how the heavy machinery was so delayed and couldn't do what it was supposed to do.
I think you need to make some of the bus stops larger, maybe put in turn arounds, and even have an actual covered area to wait.
Continue with current plans wildfire mitigation effort along right of ways is very important to me.
Maybe more paved roads
Roads with inclines turn to washboard a couple of days after being graded and remain that way until the next grading. Increase frequency of grading roads with steep inclines.
My road is maintained well and I drive an off road vehicle around town that can handle issues

We want the town to issue bonds to pave roads.
We live on a curve where many cars get stuck in snow constantly (Regal and Coronet).
Very much appreciate the timely and high quality snow removal
Imagining paving roads will come following installation of water pipes. Understand that sewer is in place, but curious if water will follow in the next few years.
Blue river does a pretty good job on the roads as far as I'm concerned. Very good about plowing, summer gets some major potholes, but understandable for a dirt road with a lot of traffic and rain. I do get a major pond in front of my driveway
Highway 9 is a nightmare these days. I always nervous when turning onto blue river road that I will get hit from behind. The bus stops and how people have to walk on the road to get to them is very dangerous. we need sidewalks or something. The street where I live is good in my area but I know others down the street have alot of problems. I would love to see the streets paved and the power lines buried.
Wagon road needs paving to save the city miner and get us out of the mud
For the most part, the roads are fine.
The roads are a priority for the residents both summer and winter. The consistency at which the roads are carried for is also important.
If there is anything effecting the current road placement affecting home owners land it needs to be addressed.
I am happy about the town staying on top plowing of 97 circle after ot snows!
NA as ToBR doesn't maintain SVR roads - do appreciate the snow plowing and would like to see a plan to have plowing contractor have resources to plow all areas in a timely manner
Safety of driving, especially on hwy9.
We need a bike path or bike lane to town
Why is the bottom of blue river road near the lift station a constant construction site/ Stan Miller's boulder and dirt storage area. All of the trucks and traffic are ugly and mess up the roads. The dirt stored everywhere is unsightly and unsafe
I would love to see more grading done. The snowplowing is fine, in my opinion.
I live on a corner of Spruce Creek where almost no one stops at the stop sign. It's a high traffic area where cars are always sliding off the road in winter because they barely slow down to make the turn (even with the flashing stop sign).
My problem with easements, my front yard has grass to the road. Contractors or whom ever use the excuse of the 10' easement so they can park their car on my lawn in front of my house. The word easement is used too liberal.

Average to poor job done on our roads in both the winter and summer. In the summer the roads should be graded correctly to direct water flow off the roads and reduce pot holes. This is done by bringing in roadbase and crowning the roads then creati

I think the work being done on Spruce Creek rd has significantly improved. Our roads are rural in nature and will always be an issue. I think we have spent enough time with the engineers and should work with the road contractor going forward.

Maintenance is a very high priority over easements

Fundamental function of government.

Fine. Please don't disturb what is there

road maintenance is always an issue. the washboard roads, the run off issues and of course the hill curve on Coronet

Note: The snowplow operator could be more considerate with how and where he plows through Timber Creek Estates, giving little regard to where he piles the snow and even allowing it to cascade down onto homes from the upper road around our house.

It is important that the Town keeps perfecting rights and easements to ensure the Town has the 100% ability to maintain the roadways.

A little more pothole maintenance would be great but generally I don't have a problem with how our town roads are managed.

Paving Starlit lane

Maintenance is important. Easements are a low priority.

They are doing a great job.

A top priority for any government is roads and property owners rights.

Assuming Hwy 9 is under this heading. I know dealing with CDOT is a pain as they do not respond to ANYONE. But speeding and traffic volume is my highest priority. Not to mention the chain up stations! Keep hammering...don't let up!

Only road maintenance

Needs to be graded more often. Would be wonderful if entrance off 9 was paved until road started up.

Keeping access during the winter and maintenance in the summer is very important for the safety of our community.

would love to see the speed limit reduced to 40 on our stretch of Hwy 9

What is the planned maintenance period for each street? Annual or some other? Does it depend on the road surface?

Roads in BR take beating with the harsh winters. HWY9 needs better surfacing and could use better shoulders. Would be nice to see more of the roads into the developments be paved versus gravel. Can a plan be developed to do so many roads each year?

Snow removal has been terrible. Blocking driveways of people who live here full time has been awful
Snow plowing is a high priority
Because our roads not paved is full of potholes and hold water most the time and I understand the city wants to pave it, but we have property owners that donâ€™t want it that way, so anyway wish you could be fixed.
No one will ever love the roads. I think the contractor is doing a good job - perhaps with some attention in the spring pothole season short of a full regrading. Need to render them safe for emergency services and save me money on wheel alignments.
Winter road conditions are always well-cared for. Summer road conditions especially on Spruce Creek Road are heavily impacted by the trailhead access and speeding (creating washboard).
Snow removal, safety and maintenance is a high priority for us.
Happy with the townâ€™s maintenance. Seems better than several years ago.
Living right off the highway, we'd love to see the speed limit reduced. It is getting more and more dangerous to pull out onto the highway.
I think the Town should plow down to the asphalt instead of letting thick layers of ice to form

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I live on a corner of Spruce Creek where almost no one stops at the stop sign. It's a high traffic area where cars are always sliding off the road in winter because they barely slow down to make the turn (even with the flashing stop sign).
My problem with easements, my front yard has grass to the road. Contractors or whom ever use the excuse of the 10' easement so they can park their car on my lawn in front of my house. The word easement is used too liberal.
Average to poor job done on our roads in both the winter and summer. In the summer the roads should be graded correctly to direct water flow off the roads and reduce pot holes. This is done by bringing in roadbase and crowning the roads then creati

I think the work being done on Spruce Creek rd has significantly improved. Our roads are rural in nature and will always be an issue. I think we have spent enough time with the engineers and should work with the road contractor going forward.

Maintenance is a very high priority over easements

Fundamental function of government.

Fine. Please don't disturb what is there

road maintenance is always an issue. the washboard roads, the run off issues and of course the hill curve on Coronet

Note: The snowplow operator could be more considerate with how and where he plows through Timber Creek Estates, giving little regard to where he piles the snow and even allowing it to cascade down onto homes from the upper road around our house.

It is important that the Town keeps perfecting rights and easements to ensure the Town has the 100% ability to maintain the roadways.

A little more pothole maintenance would be great but generally I don't have a problem with how our town roads are managed.

Paving Starlit lane

Maintenance is important. Easements are a low priority.

They are doing a great job.

A top priority for any government is roads and property owners rights.

Assuming Hwy 9 is under this heading. I know dealing with CDOT is a pain as they do not respond to ANYONE. But speeding and traffic volume is my highest priority. Not to mention the chain up stations! Keep hammering...don't let up!

Only road maintenance

Needs to be graded more often. Would be wonderful if entrance off 9 was paved until road started up.

Keeping access during the winter and maintenance in the summer is very important for the safety of our community.

would love to see the speed limit reduced to 40 on our stretch of Hwy 9

What is the planned maintenance period for each street? Annual or some other? Does it depend on the road surface?

Roads in BR take beating with the harsh winters. HWY9 needs better surfacing and could use better shoulders. Would be nice to see more of the roads into the developments be paved versus gravel. Can a plan be developed to do so many roads each year?

Snow removal has been terrible. Blocking driveways of people who live here full time has been awful

Snow plowing is a high priority

Because our roads not paved is full of potholes and hold water most the time and I understand the city wants to pave it, but we have property owners that don't want it that way, so anyway wish you could be fixed.

No one will ever love the roads. I think the contractor is doing a good job - perhaps with some attention in the spring pothole season short of a full regrading. Need to render them safe for emergency services and save me money on wheel alignments.

Winter road conditions are always well-cared for. Summer road conditions especially on Spruce Creek Road are heavily impacted by the trailhead access and speeding (creating washboard).

Snow removal, safety and maintenance is a high priority for us.

Happy with the town's maintenance. Seems better than several years ago.

Living right off the highway, we'd love to see the speed limit reduced. It is getting more and more dangerous to pull out onto the highway.

I think the Town should plow down to the asphalt instead of letting thick layers of ice to form

Short Term Rental

6. Comments
Get rid of them.
Continue to charge higher taxes on rentals until we see rental rates plateau. Give back to full time residents and improve other items in this survey.
Would be in support of more regulation of STRs as they continue to take over the neighborhood.
34% of the homes in TCE are STRs as of 2022. No official complaints received, no crime except speeding by contractors and some renters. No violations for parking, RVs/Trailers, trash, firepits, etc. Need to treat STRs just like full time homeowners.
I believe itâ€™s good for the economy and gives us an advantage over the town of Breckenridge
If Short-term rentals follow the rules, then no problem. capacity limits do need to be adhered to.
As long as trash is dealt with properly, STR has not been much of an issue to me or anyone I talk to. need to make sure town ordinances are enforced. Ie parking in street, bright outdoor lights.
Short term rental Code enforcement is the top priority. We are seeing these short term rentals taking over the neighborhoods with overcrowding litter and speeding vehicles. Is there still a hotline to call for short term rental code complaints?
Maintain policies as is please.
Not happy with the amount of STRs around us. We have issues with the one right behind us. People not caring around neighbors, using the hot tub late at night and being loud when we are sleeping, etcâ€™! STRs need to be limited!!!!
I am not a fan of STRâ€™ I like our nice quiet local neighborhood. The STR put a lot of wear on our resources. There should be a limit on nights occupancy per year and it needs to be managed.
Please regulate these. As I've mentioned in prior surveys, it's unsettling to have a new group of strangers next to your home every few days.
Iâ€™d like to see ST rentals Capped @ 30%.

We should set the example on how to live in harmony w STRs, not everyone has lived here for 20 years+ lets set the best practice

More governance on care of the rentals. I don't want to see restrictions on how many, however we need require each owner to provide standardized rules. For example, I see renters waling on other properties like they are hiking in the woods.

There is no sense of community in Timber Creek Estates because of all the STR's. I am a full time resident and there are only about 10 other full timers in our neighborhood.

Limit number of licenses, control/limit growth. When I moved in not a single house did short term rental now 4 of 8 homes rent short term

They have already killed our neighborhood.

TOO many already. Most STR do not respect neighborhood or SPEED limits

Homeowner that does not rent.

Short term rentals are extremely valuable to our community. They keep our property values higher and also help to lower our tax bills.

Renters need strict trash discipline. Maybe fining a landowner if a bear gets into their trash?

Before making any STR decisions based on "the court of public opinion", the Town needs to objectively define the issues/concerns and focus on a path forward that follows the Mission Statement "conserving our natural residential environment."

Rentals bring a lot of car and foot traffic to our area and our trails. The town may benefit from tax dollars, but with short term rentals there is the added expenses of road and trail maintenance, law enforcement for private property, etc.

No STR in neighborhoods. Too much noise and tourists can be very inconsiderate of residents with their parties and loud vehicles. Neighborhoods should be residents only. Keep tourists in Breckenridge
It's nice to have options to STR

STRs are almost equal in number to resident housing (per the ToBR Budget narrative). Has anyone even asked what the impact of this shift from residences to commercial use has on our environment and community (and the ToBR Mission Statement)?

Difficulties with maintenance/ lighting issues with absent owners or managers who do not address external property.

We want neighborhoods. Limits to #s of rental units, frequency of turnover, parking, noise, to be set so that we enjoy our home.

I think this issue is now in control, much more so than a few years ago.

Number of short term rentals, adherence to HOA, town and county ordinances are key concerns. How to hold absentee owners and irresponsible renters accountable are big issues.

Existing town rules governing STRs just needs to be better enforced in the small pockets where violations occur, not infringing on property rights of our citizens by restricting or burdening them with unjustified costs or increased taxation
No more short term rentals!
We are very concerned with the potential changes to the taxation rate of real estate used as STR. Quadrupling our rates would be devastating. We hope Blue River benefits from the licensing and lodging taxes our (and others) STR generates.
Enforce existing regulations such as leaving trash cans out. Nobody including police want to enforce rules against these commercial biz, so set enforcement priority.
I'm not trying to be difficult but I honestly don't understand what the issue to be addressed is for this one.
Not allowed
No interest in renting property.
good source of income for the town
I would like to see the codes on the books enforced. They are plenty to keep things good.
Many voting residents live here because of what is in the Mission Statement. STRs have contributed significantly to the erosion of the M.S. Instead of community-damaging Town government STR policies, follow community-caring policies, i.e. fewer STRs.
There is nowhere in town to buy a bottle of water. I'd hate to see the regular maintenance, repairs, town staff, emergency services and town budget without the impact of STR tax collections.
Short-term rental opportunities help to preserve home values. However, no short term rental guests should be able to use the Tarn under any circumstances or the Tarn will be overflowing with people.
Doesn't seem like an issue
I don't want too many STR's because it impacts the feel of a quiet neighborhood.
these are fine as long as parking on the road isn't allowed.
Many STRs are advertising for more bedrooms than what they are being assessed for, allowing for more people in the rental house, which equals more water usage. We should be monitoring STRs for the # bedrooms advertised versus # bedrooms on record
Maintaining the right to STR my home is of the utmost importance. I only rent for a few days a year but the ability to do so is a huge factor in both my long term ownership prospects and property value. The town should not restrict STR rentals.

We would like to see the rules and regulations allowing short-term rentals remain in place.
Too many short-term rentals all around us. I moved here hoping to have a sense of community and I am not comfortable with different people renting every weekend. That is why we didn't buy in Breckenridge. I would expect some, we are surrounded. What
We have a lot of knuckleheads blocking the roads this winter because they did not have 4 wheel drive vehicles and weren't thinking as they tried chaining up in the middle of the road or just sitting in the road. Never seen it this bad before.
We don't rent our home, but feel that people should be able to if they wish
Would love to see less permits given out. We are losing our small town feel.
Do not impose further restrictions on STR's
Have not considered renting out my property but new property assessments may force me to do so
If code enforcement was not an option, this would be medium. I feel most of the challenges with STRs can be solved through better enforcement.
I do short term rentals and it is very important to me
We are probably not wanting to do this ourselves, but want it regulated for our neighbours so that we it doesn't get out of control
Short term rentals are taking away from the neighborhood feel. Not to mention all of the locals I know that cannot find housing. Not sure what the answer is...
Please stop turning our community into a commercial enterprise. It sucks. I'm all for limits on STRs.
I think it's good to limit capacity to the number of bedrooms. But I also think it's good to allow short term rentals.
We rent our home on a short term basis and would not like to see any more restrictions on such rentals. Short term renting provides tourists with a place to stay at a reasonable price where they can cook their own meals and wash their own clothes.
Definitely needs to have a cap like the towns and county near Blue River.
We have had short term renters come into our yard take our sleds and use them in our yard.
If people can't afford their homes with out renting then they shouldn't own them.
Trash from short term entails is always a problem with wildlife getting into it
Police should write tickets to everyone who leaves trash out overnight. Nonody wants to write these citations and it needs to be done continuously.
Full time resident and not planning to rent.

Homeowners should be able to use their properties how they see fit, including renting them long term or short term. Either way it is just people sleeping in a house which is the purpose of housing. It limits opportunities for people and taxes for BR
Preserve property rights for owners to use the property under the same terms as when they purchased.
Restrictions lower property values translate to lower tax revenue. Completely anti-American
The changes to the Ordinance regarding STRs urged by those who wish to reduce STRs appear to have had the opposite effect. It appears more owners now do STRs than before, not less, perhaps out of fear of a cap and the minimum 10-day use mandate.
Wish there were fewer rentals so more locals can buy up here.
We live here full time and short term rentals are not good. Renters do not respect private property. Plus the do not respect the leash law.
If we want to have a community and not a hotel district all short-term rentals should be eliminated.
STRs are essential to property values and provide many jobs for Blue River residents
What is difference between short term and long term rentals? I have observed over 25years owners of long term rentals have multiple short term rentals in their property, but don't report it. They have more cars around. These renters trash the river.
More enforcement on occupancy limits needs to happen. Verifying Septic and well permits with applications is a major issue. I think 28% STR's limit per subdivision would be a better fit for keeping a balance.
I have short term rentals in both Breckenridge and Blue River and have seen the negative impact that regulations imposed in Breck have on property values. Blue River is a small community that does not need regulations, forcing houses to sit empty.
There is no enforcement or cap, my subdivision is now over 50% short term rental with no concern from board of trustees.
What exactly are you asking here??
Any policy that would allow more rentals in our residential communities.
Protect personal property rights
For the most part they don't bother me. other than the cars that get stuck and sometimes too many cars at a rental. outside lights can also be a problem if the renter does not turn them off at night
Concerned that while Breckenridge pushes their agenda to limit short term rentals, it will end up pushing more rentals into Blue River - and especially into Timber Creek Estates, causing neighborhood disruption

While Short Rental is part of the community, it also needs to be limited so as avoid become mostly short rental area and no different than Breckenridge.

I feel that limits should be placed on the number of short-term rentals in each subdivision/neighborhood.

This is by default a high priority for any mountain community. I believe that a lot of enforcement issues need to start with resident reporting & this should be more promoted and encouraged by the town.

I have encountered many short term renters whose vehicles are not equipped for our roads. Many vehicles have been stuck on Spruce Creek Road and they cannot navigate the hill (2 wheel drive and/or no snow tires).

Please limit these! Nothing worse than a new group of strangers showing up weekly next to a \$2MM home! The explosion of STRs drove me out of Peak 7 ~ Iâ€™d hate to have the same here.

It would be nice if the short term rentals in our area would stop using the park for overnight/overflow parking.

I donâ€™t understand the question

I know this is a hot-button issue, but we personally don't have any issues with the properties that short-term rent in our area. We feel that enforcing the laws on the books is a sufficient recourse for anyone that has problems.

Disappointing the current board was not pro active with the issue

Too many

I think the regulations and taxes are good right now.

I am ok with current policy; however, I am interested if there is a movement towards change so I can understand how it might affect us.

Reward the good ones and fine the bad ones.

Not a renter so this is not relevant. However, renters need to be aware of the BR/County regulations and make sure they abide by them. We do get annoyed when Renters continually use our driveway as a turn-around because the DW where staying is poor

Enforce what is in the books for STRs and keep out of home owners business and finances

Without the ability to rent my home, short-term, I would not be able to afford to own it or live there. Itâ€™s a great opportunity to have a second home in the mountains and yet make it affordable.

Out of Control. Walk any street in Blue River and you can always spot the STR. These owners are simply not good neighbors. Microtrash, unmaintained driveways in Winters, simply abysmal landscaping in the summer with yards loaded with noxious weeds

Short-term rentals are not a concern. Surrounding neighbors are respectful and organized. It is understandable that communicating about wildlife (biggest issue with trash) is difficult and must be the responsibility of the homeowner/property manager.

We seem to be the only neighborhood that is almost all STR. Noise, lights, constant traffic into the wrong houses, cars getting stuck all over the neighborhood....

We want to stay aware of any changes that may impact our property. As an owner and a short term renter we don't want to hurt either group of individuals.

We need to remember that we live and chose to live next to the busiest ski area in the country. STRs put money in the owners pockets which is not a bad thing. Treat everyone with dignity and respect. And remember living here is a privilege.

I would appreciate STR regulations to stay as is, with no new restrictions.

With current values affordability may be limited without ability to rent, yet the characteristics of the neighborhood just would seem better without renting.

I'd rather have fewer short-term rentals. I fully support STR being classified as a business-- which is what they are.

Too many STR

Tarn Management

8. Comments
Is the Tarn going to be stocked this summer.
Would love a gazebo or an area to picnic. Would also be great to easier connect tarn access with blue river road.
In support of regulating non-resident access.
The tarn should be developed for additional uses for residents.
Need better parking, access and marking of trails with signs prohibiting trespassing onto private property in TCE.
Iâ€™m looking forward to enjoying to the tarn after the completion of the dam project. I think Blue River has some of the best trails in the area.
Very important to our community.
The generosity of the private property owners who allow recreation the way they do is paramount to the soul of Blue River the tarn is an awesome resource for residents.
Be nice to see some infrastructure down there at the tarn for the locals to use this amenity better.
I like to be able to enjoy our trails and natural resources our neighborhood offers. I would like to see a safe corridor for us to get to town. Someone is going to get killed riding their bike on the highway. Tarn for locals only. Winter parking
Please do more research on who is providing trout to restock the tarn and not to repeat the gill lice or other issues that were encountered before.
Keep up the efforts to link the various trails within the town.
I think the shoreline on the east side of the tarn should remain private and only accessible to owners of property in Spruce Valley Ranch
Excited to see the Tarn re-open.
It would be nice to see some improvements.
More signs at the tarn to let people know it is private.
Will be very good to get the level and use of the tarn back to normal. We are full time residents with canoe use on the tarn several times a week.
The tarn gets abused by nonlocals and short term renters. Fishing debris is left behind making the shore dangerous.
Can't wait for the Tarn to re-open. I don't know the answer to enforcing trespassing there, but happy to sit with you guys and talk it over. Complicated issue.
Topic is vague/nebulous. The Town doesnâ€™t own the water surface nor shoreline. Before spending time/money on this or anything related to open space/trails, engage landowners and informed neighbors, and not focus on â€œthe court of public opinionâ€.
Would like to see the Tarn stocked again

Not that important to me. I prefer the tarn be natural without man made improvements
The Tarn is a huge asset for Blue River
Glad that the Tarn is back up to normal levels and looking forward to seeing it being used
will need to see what happens once reopened.
Truly looking forward to enjoying the tarn- haven't previously had the opportunity as we moved here 3 yrs ago. Unable to speak to this issue as of now- hoping it's great!
Not sure as we have been residents only past 3 years while tarn closed. Looking forward to enjoying it this summer.
Give us the tarn back! It's a huge plus for our family, time to open it back up or TOB should pay us for the inconvenience and loss of use.
It will be a welcome change to get our use of the Tarn back again. We are anxious to see the improvements and welcome strict user policy and enforcement.
Really anxious to get use of the TARN back for fishing and boating. Would love to see improvements in parking and possible restroom!
Fish stocking program most important. Donations to the program from residents should be encouraged.
SVR is private property - tarn.
would be good to invest a little in the park area ie, seating and cover areas. Trails are essential and should be maintained
I would like a trailhead map for our community
I agree with the "Blue River Open Space & Trails Master Plan" recommendation: "Goose Pasture Tarn is a relatively undisturbed wetland/riparian complex" and is important wildlife/waterfowl habitat. Do not encourage use nor future trail development!
Will be so good to have use again this year. We are active with our canoe many mornings.
After the latest tarn project, what else is left to plan for?
we can't park at the end of our neighborhood and walk to the Tarn. It's one of the nicest trails out there and we are threatened w getting a ticket. There's at least 5 spots that should have parking so we can enjoy.
The Tarn should be reserved for Blue River Residents ONLY.
Love the trails and can't wait to recreate at the Tarn again
Looking forward to using the tarn and I'd use trails if I knew where they were.
Hopefully will see improvements at the tarn edge, like restroom and better parking.
It will be very busy here when it reopens!
Looking forward to using the Tarn again. Good time to make adjustments/enhancements to the area
Sadly I haven't gotten to use it yet because I moved in in 2020
It really concerns me that there are "unplanned" or "unmanaged" trails around where we live and can't use them since they go through private property. There isn't enough parking by the Pennsylvania Creek Trailhead.

Critical to maintain our natural resources
What a gem! Would be terrific to figure out good walking trail into Breck. Know thereâ€™s a mountain bike pathâ€¦!
Haven't been able to use it yet, but was one of the reasons that we bought in Blue River in 21. We are very excited to start using it when it opens, but like that it will be hopefully well regulated so that not everyone is on it
We enjoy fishing & paddling... Do we know if it will be possible to re-stock fish in the Tarn since the construction has been completed? If nobody is, I would personally be willing to start a kickstarter/donation fund for those interested.
I am very excited to get tarn access again! we've missed it so much!
What a great perk for residents! Please enforce the rules and keep non-residents AND SHORT-TERM RENTERS out!
I think we should have trailhead parking both summer and winter that gives access to Indiana Creek. Iâ€™ve been towed by Spruce Valley Ranch when parked in winter, when no plowing was needed, and impeding no road travel and in no visibility to any hous
The tarn and the trails are a benefit to Blue River.
With the tarn reopening it will challenging to keep usage to just TOBR residence only. That also includes NO STR PEOPLE using it.
With the limited parking it becomes difficult. TOBR RESIDENCE LOOK AFTER THAT AREA OTHERS DONâ€™T. we need code enforceme.
I would like to see the tarn monitored more so nonresidents are not able to use it.
now that Tarn is now going to reopen, a re-education of rules for its use may be necessary - not in favor of ToBR creating a trail around the Tarn
would like to see better enforcement of dogs off leash and picking up after your dog
Keeping the Tarn to Blue River owners only is a high priority.
The trails we have are an asset and access to them should be protected. Why keep making it more difficult to use trails and areas and closing access. What is the benefit of living in the mountains if you canâ€™t park or play anywhere.
Make it the best it can be for owners
where can i park to take my dogs to the tarn, or the blue river trail? i have been parking at the end of blue river road for 20 years, but was told recently i can't.
Looking forward to the opening.
Would be nice to have a boathouse/picnic area and signage to keep outsiders out. Trails should not cross private land.

Seems on track to me
This will be the first summer we are able to take advantage of the Tarn. Iâ€™m looking forward to enjoying it!
Why wasn't the Tarn opened at the end of the summer when the work was complete?
The tarn has been closed for multiple years, this would be difficult to gauge at this time.
Realistically, how much "management" has ToBR ever provided for this? I've never seen evidence of "trail management" and the Tarn has been closed for 3 years now. How much trail system is actually in the town of Blue River vs forest service land?
Stock the Tarn
The Tarn is a great asset to the citizens of Blue River. I would like to see Trails incorporated at the Tarn as well as picnic areas and potentially a port a potty. enforcement of use will remain a priority due to limited parking
Needs clarity, communication and enforcement
It is time to begin implementation of the trails plan and begin perfecting easements for trail usage.
I would LOVE to see some trails around the tarn. This could easily become the best part of our town. Although any development might also come with more enforcement issues to keep tourists out.
Excited to finally having it opened back up this summer!
Looking forward to the Dam repairs being completed.
I donâ€™t know what you mean by Use Trails or what you are proposing for tarn management.
The Tarn is a great shared resource and we've missed it while the dam work has been going on. I served on the Trail Committee and while I know our powers are limited to improve trails, I hope the group continues to pursue easements and partnerships.
Mgmt of the tarn could be quite difficult and time consuming, that's why I rated it as medium.
Tarn has been closed for 3 years
No data to make a comment
I love that residents are the only ones able to use the tarns. I would love a map available to owners to show the trailheads in our community.
Interested in knowing progress towards adding trails, especially connecting into Breckenridge. I noticed that many communities nearby have paved paths connecting each other. Walking or riding a bike along route 9 appears dangerous.
I'd like to see a gated system installed where a transponder opens the gate for those who have proper rights to the TARN. Otherwise, it is up to the local Police to monitor and they have better things to do than police the TARN.
Keep the Tarn only for residence

It would be great to have a connected bike in Hite system, and I realize there's a lot of issues with private ownership and public ownership and right away and things like that but it sure would be nice to have something that was especially meant for

I like in the Tarn neighborhood. Don't see a problem other than the town threatening me with trespassing? Really? on land owned by the Theobalds and ToB officially finished with the dam project?

The town does a good job of monitoring the use of the tarn.

We love the Tarn and have had limited use over the last few years. It would be great to have full access this year!

I am very interested in Tarn management and helping the tarn get back to its full ecological potential. I have a degree in freshwater ecosystems and I would love to volunteer time, ideas or help in anyway to aid in this process.
wesleyklong@gmail.com

Would love the Tarn to more of a community place. Ice skating in the winter would be fun!

Hope there can be some fish stocking. It will be important to continue close monitoring. Will car/boat stickers be needed?

I would love to have better access to trails and tarn. I fully support using tax resources to make trails accessible from all neighborhoods. Currently I have to walk on 9 to get to any accessible trails.

Wildfire Mitigation

14. Comments
I don't understand question 6. What is the answer 1,2 or 3?
Why are there 3 answers to choose from? TCE is working to become Fire Wise participants, to lower insurance rates, a protect our homes. TCE continues with its 25% incentive plan reimbursements to homeowners added to the counties 50% and ToBR \$100.
I'm not sure what you mean?
Homeowners and insurance companies should know what is best. Problem is education to reduce wildfires. Aren't a majority of wildfires caused by humans?
Important, but it should be at the homeowner level, not the national forest level. We messed that up generations ago.
I assume that this was meant to be high, medium and low as the others above - high concern for me
I'm not sure if this question came across clear? The answers are answer. 12 and three I don't know how to respond.
High priority ; I'm not sure what one, two, and three mean. The
Protection of homes and natural forest is most important.
Fire pits should not be allowed, especially at rental properties. Cars should be ticketed for parking on roads - this is hazardous for fire trucks. I like the fire mitigation incentives provided tree management companies.
I think that it is wise to consistently work on fire mitigation projects and possibly plan and practice emergency evacuations
This is important but needs to consider private property rights.
NA
High concern
Yes we're still in the forest transition geography and need to continue to work to mitigate this risk.
High priority. We have already done our fire mitigation around our house and others need to do the same. Concern of fire from cigarettes thrown out of car windows driving on highway 9.

I wish all the trees in the neighborhoods got cut down instead of the mountainsides.
“Mitigation” means lessening the impact caused by wildlife. Without a clear understanding of specific “mitigation”, the topic is too vague/nebulous to rate and give comment. It is a part of the “Safety” topic and need not be on the priority list.
I do t see any choices this is not a question and bad for the survey itself
?
Potential fuel for a fire; There is a property on Coronet adjacent to my property that has an excess of stacked wood. I believe it is in excess of the amount allowed in our ordinance.
High importance
what are the "answers"?
Good job on fuel mitigation
??? Unsure of what the 3 "Answers" entail. We have had fire mitigation, appreciated the Fire Dept consultation, and landscape with all due diligence.
But the renters in the adjacent duplex can have a campfire and
Doing everything we can, but not everyone doing so.
?? I suppose answer 1 is meant to be "high".
Timber Creek Estates reimbursed all homeowners 50% of the cost of mitigation and the Fire Marshall and County see TCE as the best example of proactive mitigation. We spent significant monies that we wish all of Blue rRiver homeowners would consider.
I know not everyone likes the fire mitigation but I think it is necessary and needs to be done. Same with the chipping program.
All fire mitigation should be a vital part of mountain communities.
high
safe zonesr around homes is essential and continuing slash cleanups
It is good to stay on top of this before there is a disaster.
Town government appears to justify illegal/unauthorized tree removal & wetland willows as “wildfire mitigation.” Factors, such as nearness to waterways, should be considered acceptable mitigation practices. Implement acceptable mitigation practices.
???
Annual plans seem to fit the needs.

In addition to hazardous fuels reduction, water cisterns should be implemented throughout the Town of Blue River.
Seems like the Town has been good with this issue
Good to sponsor fire mitigation. Maybe the town could recommend which houses are considered a danger...
Assuming answer 1 = high priority.
The forest service has already ruined our view with its slaughter of live trees. NO MORE CUTTING
We need more cisterns in neighborhoods, both to fight an actual fire and also to help with homeowner's insurance premiums.
Camp Fire 2013 regulation
Not sure what these choices mean
Have worked with Red White Blue to assess what I can do to protect my property and othersâ€™ should there be a wildfire in our area. Very helpful!
Well if the green wood burns then we all burn. Only issue is the beetle kill.
Liked that the city help do the bond for mitigation at our house, we feel much safer for it
We live in Colorado Springs and rent full-time to local tenants... having several weekends for disposal of branches/trees could be useful. Or more reseven more reources, list of willing companies who are available/paid to haul downed trees.
BIG TIME! we have done what we can for our yard and house, but others do not do anything.
Not sure what to put here!
Iâ€™m assuming this was supposed to read â€œhigh, medium, lowâ€ like the other questions so I picked â€œanswer 1â€ indicating â€œhigh priorityâ€
Not sure what answer 1-3 means. We need to continue to mitigate wildfire.
Very important with where we live. The current programs we stand behind and hope that they continue to make our town more fire safe. I hope that we continue with the chipping program in the future. The trees marked along the street we hope are remov.

Start the discussion and planning to underground utilities to harden that infrastructure.
insurance companies are making this a top priority for all mountain communities, and we all need to be very pro-active in wildfire mitigation and hope there are grants to be provided to help accomplish..
Wide fires are a concern and people driving highway 9 throughout cigarette butts.
The fire breaks are a good idea. I took advantage of the fire mitigation on my property, unfortunately my neighbors did not because they don't live there- just rent it out
Is there some way to still have a beautiful forested surroundings and have less fire risk? Perhaps under ground power would be the ideal solution
Wildfire mitigation must be a high priority for Blue Rive. It isn't clear what the "Answers" pertain to.
WE have used it.
Stop cutting all trees. A plan to thin trees might be welcome.
I don't understand the options. But of course, fire mitigation is high priority. Probably the highest priority for me.
Most of us have been doing wildfire mitigation since the "Beetle Kill" came through years ago. I think the grants are helpful for some residents. Grant money should not be used for nearly clear cutting view corridors on lots.
The mitigation efforts seem to be needlessly ugly and perhaps useless They were never explained adequately
No concern , as the forest service has been clear cutting the valley.
"answer 1; answer 2, answer 3"?? What?
Wildfire mitigation is a nice idea, but the reality is short of clear cutting the entire valley, nothing will stop a wildfire. I don't think ToBR has anywhere near the resources that project would entail, nor d
All good. I worry about the short term rentals obeying the rules or even reading the rules. ATVs destroying the roads and noise pollution. Lights glowing in a carnival atmosphere. Short term doesn't mean Lind term awareness.
This is a concern. I appreciate that the town and forest service continue to review and look at ways to mitigate the concern
The campers up Pennsylvania Creek make me nervous, due to the careless way fires are maintained. I've seen campsites with a burning fire when nobody was there.
Trying to cite "high" or answer 1? Beyond road safety, this is the other largest safety issue, is being address anywhere the town can.

Medium.
I don't know what your choices mean. It's obviously VERY important.
Thank you for asking.
I don't know what you are asking
Town can not control the environment which community is in, nor forest service and summit county.
If your answer is to clear cut then why live in this environment..
Okay
Always good to keep on top of
Is there a link to home insurance cost? As that has increased substantially since the fires north of us a couple of years ago.
See comments above.
High. Do something about the owners that refuse to cut down trees within 30 feet of their dwelling and affect their neighbors
Wildfire mitigation is high priority
I would hope that the insurance companies would take care of that by surveying the homes and making sure they're within a required distance along with Blue River fire department
Mitigation efforts having success. I don't see the STRs participating in our neighborhood however.
The town has done a nice job coordinating the wildfire mitigation efforts. It was a big impact having the logging trucks on Spruce Creek road but they did operate within the designated hours and did not speed.
Always a priority.
?
We have participated in the fire mitigation on our lot. This an important topic.

12. Comments-Code Enforcement

There are a few widely-known pet owners that let their dogs roam off leash. We literally saw one of them almost get hit by the UPS truck. Another friend's dog got hit within the past few months. Bad for animal safety and dog-aggressive leashed pets.

Always need enforcement to be maintained to the highest standards.

If the codes are readily available, then Codes should be adhered to. If there is a consistent repeat offender, then let the law take care of it

Don't care. Speeding is my only concern there.

The laws/rules do not matter if they are not enforced.

Generally good presents is noted with police making rounds in the neighborhood. I do notice a lot of aggressive drivers passing inappropriately on the highway.

How are the short term rental codes being enforced, ie: amount of people within each unit.

What's fair/enforced for one should be fair/enforced for another.

Seems to work based on my perspective

Especially use of fire pits.

enforcing the law is a dereliction of duties. Like "Safety", this topic is a stand-alone function and need not be on the priority list.

Enforcement of town codes and ordinances is essential- otherwise why have them?

Speeding seems important to keep to a minimum

Major concern that STR enforcement relies on neighbor complaints. I can make an STR complaint every day but won't. Why do residents need to be schoolyard snitches to a Board of Trustees policy?

of the community. Seems many who use their property for income generation fail to keep up the exterior yards.

Is this question related to short term rentals or other issues?

It depends a great deal on which codes.

Illegal parking on residential streets.

its a small community and neighbours tend to take care

I think occupancy limits should be enforced more strictly. We adhere to them and other homes in the community don't. That gives all of us that rent a bad reputation. It is not ok to do reactionary, additional regulations if you are not enforcing.

The Town is famous for not enforcing code. Town government is famous for including provisions in the code documents that the Town has no intention of enforcing. Existing code is enforced for some but not others. Enforce code equally for all.
Hwy speed still to high. Work with CDOT to reduce. Even Hartsel has a lower limit than BR!
I see the numbers in the EOY summary but have never seen a code issues directly.
Major code violations or code violations that affect neighbors (trash, abandoned cars, fencing etc.) should be dealt with in a timely manner.
Unleashed dogs are a problem, especially on trails and with encounters with Moose.
Get after the folks who just let their dogs run and don't clean up after them
Mainly for STRs. I heard from local realtors that Blue River is the hot spot to sell homes for STRs due to lack of restrictions and enforcement. Seeing 10 cars parked at a 3BR house is disturbing

Particularly related to fire danger

Rules don't work unless they are enforced. If the STRs would keep the noise down and the trash picked up there wouldn't be any problems.

I wouldn't mind seeing more leash laws enforcement as I am constantly having to chase dogs out of my yard and away from my dog that does not get along with other dogs.

Painting colors that aren't approved and the list goes on. It would be nice to keep consistency in the town.

We have the codes but NO monitoring!

Proliferations of following should be curtailed: unpermitted sheds, long term RV parking, landscaping with concrete jersey barriers.

Especially when the Tarn opens. A lot of nonresidents have used it in the past and it would be nice to have less nonresidents use it.

Too many berms on Hwy 9

We need more code enforcement. Very seldom do we ever see police car. Ever since Officer Ameid left it is hard to see a police car.

resident and are thereby in violation of State Law and infringing upon the down state water rights of CA, AZ and NV.

Enforce, but be reasonable

Wash machines and old refrigerators are left out in the yard.

More STR enforcement. Parking, Occupancy limits. Most code enforcement seems on track.

Have no idea

No enforcement for short term regulations

this should address most "short term rental" concerns.

dark sky initiatives continue to be an issue with neighbors that don't comply and leave bright lights on all night. I love that dogs can be off leash but they can also cause an issue when owner is not in control of them. Trash is an ongoing issue

Would appreciate more town police visibility

This will always be a tricky area, in that it can require a significant amount of staff time and is hard to have a full-time person just going around doing this. That really only leaves the town to be able to react when something specific comes up.

parking.

Codes and laws are meaningless unless enforced

0 enforcement in place

I think occupancy limits should be enforced more strictly. We adhere to them and other homes in the community don't. That gives all of us that rent a bad reputation. It is not ok to do reactionary, additional regulations if you are not enforcing.

would be reasonable, they park on the street. It seems that on multiple occasions they will interfere with plow operations

Stay on neighbors to enforce dark sky please!

All codes should be enforced.

One of the things that bothers me about code enforcement is the charging for everything we do it seems like it's out of hand

I'm told that residents must make complaints. and sign it. No one ever asked me to be part of your enforcement. If the town cannot enforce codes with fees based staffing, they shouldn't have the codes. I don't want to be the schoolyard snitch.

The town does a good job of patrolling. Speeding on the highway is inevitable and it is a shame the wildlife is who suffers.

Joke!

Safety Plans

10. Comments
Not aware of any unsafe situations, yet, however ,significant risk will occur if the CDOT by[ass lane is approved and installed. Trucks will overcrowd the lane, with no enforcement on time allowances, which will cause blocking of traffic flow.
Road ways need to be as safe as possible with the challenges of weather and traffic. Additional signs and possibility lights could alert people of dangerous conditions and blind spots.
Education and communication are key not spending spending spending of money
Safety Shmafety. If you want to save our houses, cut down the trees in the neighborhoods, not the ones up on the hillsides.
This ties into the roads maintenance and easements. Walking on Route 9 to get to bus stops is quite dangerous!
I am not really sure what this means. People fined for pushing snow out onto road, trash cans management. They should not be put out the night before.
Need more details.
Egress from Hwy 9 to Spruce Creek road is a disaster. With so many STRâ€™s that use this road weâ€™re going to have more fatalities here. Also need to get the speed limit on Hwy 9 below 50 MPH. Every other town on Hwy 9 has a lower speed limit (Alma, F
Need to know more about these plans.
Safety shmafety.
What does this mean? â€œSafetyâ€ is a high priority in anything/everything the Town does. Without a clear understanding of specific â€œenhancementsâ€ or â€œplansâ€, the topic is too vague/nebulous to rate and give comment. Take it off the list.
Shed and junk storage on properties, as well as excess stacked wood creates a fire hazard and needs to be addressed.
Blue River feels safe

Happy with PD. Love the speed enforcement.
Would like to see more lights and guardrails on Hwy 9.
Not sure what this question entails
Unsure of all plans but high priorities on road safety on Hwy 9, visibility with high snow banks as one exits side streets”- and placement of any lanes or chain hook-up locations.
Safety should always be a high priority for everyone!
Too broad of a goal, so easy to waste resources playing around.
putting police along the highway does not discourage speeding. ower speed limits and widening shoulders would be a better choice
I feel very safe in Blue River
Keep in mind that the best safety plans honor the environment plus honor the current infrastructure, i.e. emergency vehicles can safely travel on the current roads. Drivers of other vehicles can easily find a pull-out to allow for emergency vehicles.
Egress from HWY 9 to Spruce Creed Road is still a disaster. We need to work with CDOT to get a deceleration lane approved. During the summer there are more than 500 hikers a day that use this road to access Spruce Creek trail system and they
I don't have any issues with this.
People drive very aggressively on Hwy 9. Iâ€™ve been passed multiple time driving in the snow. I saw a car pass the school bus that was stopped one morning.
More Police Patrols and traffic enforcement especially around the intersection of Wagon Rd and HWY 9.
I feel safe in our community. Reduce speed on Hwy 9 through town and ticket people passing on a double yellow line
Safety is always important and one of the few real jobs of government.
Highway 9 is getting rough to turn onto because of the heavier traffic it seems to be experiencing.
Critical to all communities
Seems current policies are effectual.

Highway 9 access for people walking to bus stops, bus stops lights that are brighter. Bus drivers often don't see you there until they are really close. Turning lanes on highway 9 for major roads (blue river road)
We obviously need to be concerned about fires and snow storms and need to make sure we are doing as much as possible to minimize those risks.
Safety along hwy 9 is a priority. The clearing of snow for two cars passing on streets and all signs being visible throughout the entire winter. Knocking down snow banks for visibility. More police presence on the town streets. Cars off streets night
Way too broad-based to be a priority. Find a specific topic for your focus.
safety is always a key issue especially with more and more traffic using HWY 9 as I-70 has so many closures and issues
Safety is high but what are the plans and needs?
We need a bike lane. We have a bus stop, but we can't safely walk to it from our house, so we have to drive. Kinda defeats the purpose of taking the bus.
Yesterday, I saw a family trying to walk from the bus stop with their skis on highway 9
Not enough speed enforcement on town roads. To much enforcement on Hwy 9. Too much like Alma with Hwy speed enforcement and does little for subdivision lot owners
i heard the blue river bus stop might be moved to blue river road at the mailbox turnaround. i think this is a great idea, as i worry about my son crossing the highway.
Chain up area will decrease safety in our community
What are try
Seems on track to me
Don't know what this encompasses
Hard to gauge as I've only seen one incident where high way 9 traffic (south and north) was diverted through my neighborhood with no direction from c dot or Blue River
this is a rural community - "safety" in what context?
Mitigation is good.
not sure what plans are being considered

All for safety, but feel the town is somewhat limited on much more that can be done. Over feel we are address current concerns around town.

Being that we live along the highway, it's my biggest concern. There's a lot of kids, pedestrians, and bikers mixed with trucks/tourists/commuters/drunk drivers/road rage. We see it daily. Getting CDOT to acknowledge this is absolutely essential.

This starts with a fewer strangers in our town and a greater residential police presence.

Response time to calls is important.

Radar enforcement of 15mph is not important.

It's unsafe to walk to the bus stops in Blue River. I have observed tourists walking on Hwy 9 with ski-boots on! And in the summer it's a dangerous bike ride to town. We need a big enough shoulder for a bike lane, and plow it in the winter.

NA

I don't know what you mean

Speeding is an issue everywhere it seems. Enforcement is nice but I hope we can find other ways to discourage speeding and manage parking issues, esp at the Spruce Creek Trailhead up from our house.

Not sure what's involved with this category.

Blue River is a very safe community

See question 3

Stay on CDOT to reduce speed limits please!

Need to make sure fire mitigation plans are established. Good work on HWY9 this past year to clear, create fire break. Need back-up plans if a fire does develop in BR and how to evacuate (not too many directions/choices to take due to the valley)

Tell the P&Z to keep Blue River beautiful by approving only colors that blend into the forest and NO MORE WHITE HOUSES!

Not quite sure what safety issues there are, as I feel perfectly safe in Blue River

more speed enforcement

Not sure what this would include. I am glad they are not building out the chain-up station with lights, etc.

Does this mean a safe place to walk near the highway? Does this mean being able to drive out on route 9 without fear of dying?

I don't want a chain up station across from town hall.

Other Comments

15. 7. Please note any other priority you would like to see the Town address.
Bike path from town hall to Breck??
PLEASE take out the 2 way stop at the 3 way intersection!! It's confusing to out of towners and frustrating to residents. One stop sign would work much better, at Royal/Regal, and letting Blue River Road flow both ways.
I am concerned about the proposed chain up station near the town hall. The pollution (gas,diesel, antifreeze, battery acid; and hydraulic fluid) running off and leaching into the groundwater that Timber Creek Estates uses. I also am concerned about the impact on the wetlands around the proposed location of the chain up/ down stations
We should move to increase speed limit to 25 mph in TCE given the paved roads, and install speed humps. Need a Mail Box station so residents don't have to drive to Breck (maybe add an extension to the chain-down lane past the sign.)
I feel like the communication is great. I'm impressed with the city management. I recently had a problem with the website and Michelle Eddy responded by phone and email in a extremely timely manner. Keep up the great work.
Term limited be consistent. 2 terms means no gray areas. Hasn't one of the Candidates served as Mayor for 2 terms?
I understand it is very difficult to police the tarn, but people ignore the current signage. If it were a little more stern and obvious, people wouldn't have the excuse "I didn't know." Also, a porta-potty or 2 is an easy decision.
465 Coronet Drive
I would like to see more of a police presence with more drive-bys through our neighborhoods. I would like to see speed enforcement on the side roads not just on Highway nine.
PO Box 8661 48 Nugget Lane City water access
Enforce dog leash law
Enforcement on highway 9 in summer near tarn when people stop for moose. Very very dangerous. Also moose crossing signs should be posted so people drive slower. Dark sky night enforcement. Trail head parking management. Town of blue river passes for cars? Management of speeding on local small roads. Barking dogs need to be ticketed.
NA
Preventing the CDOT chain up/ chain down is a high priority for those in Timber Creek Estates.
0112 Blue Rock Dr PO Box 7554
We still need a good long term solution for Spruce Creek Road. Again many accidents and fall offs of this road by NON-Residents that effect residential traffic.
Upgrade the failing power grid, bring reliable cellular service all throughout town
Any chance of the rec path coming through Blue River? There continues to be a safety factor for runners and bikers on highway 9. Also, I have seen many individuals walking along highway 9 to get to and from the Summit Stage bus stops. The bus is a fantastic amenity to our town and I use it for pleasure as well as work transportation.
Life's great here. Keep the bears out of the trash and the gapers out of the tarn, mission accomplished!
91 Lakecrest dr
The "Survey" is poorly drafted. It does not tie in with the Town Mission Statement and does not give info on type of respondents; landowners, renters (long and short-term), full and part-time residents, visitors, etc. Topics listed are vague and nebulous, leading to too much interpretation of the issue. Many topics are actually components of the Safety topic, which is obviously a high priority. Hire a consultant to conduct an appropriate "survey" which will give meaningful actionable results.
better wifi internet access
Would like to see city water and sewer service
104 Creekside Drive Paved roads Bike paths into Breckenridge
Better compliance through to the Board of Trustees on role definitions under governing state statutes.

We love Blue River's verdant valley, wildlife, safe neighborhoods and responsive town government. Matters such as the proposed chain-up lane location, and highway 9 lighting/ speed/ maintenance & guardrails that impact us significantly but are within State jurisdiction require that the Town serve as advocate for its citizens as well as a conduit of communication so citizens can be in the know, and aid in advocacy.

133 Indiana Creek Rd, Box 8302
Blue River

US Post Office drop station where everyone could get their mail without driving to Breckenridge. Reject CDOT chain station construction. Increase number of police and issue fines for both Full time resident and STR violations of town codes. Town management is doing great with communications and transparency, but need total cell phone coverage and fiber optics.

What is the position of the Town of Blue River on the STR real estate classification change (to "lodging") proposed in the CO Legislature?

53 Mariposa Place
PO Box 2111

Set backs to poverties is excessive and needs to be looked at.

--All policies & practices need to be connected to the Mission Statement, which is currently not happening.
--There is no mention of the environment in these BOT priorities. FYI- On a 2019 Citizen Survey, 85.4% of the respondents marked "yes" to supporting "conservation efforts and policy development." Respondents were in favor of conserving the natural day and night environment.
--Promote best stewardship practices that align with the Mission Statement: enhancing the quality of life for all.

Thanks for all the time that Council spends keeping BR running. It is greatly appreciated!!

Is the snowfall trigger for plowing clear to the contractor? Is it 4" after midnight (2" before and 2" after = no plowing) or once we get 4" in a 24hr period. It seems inconsistent.

I think parking near trail heads is my number one concern. There's a good 5 or so spots that we can't access because there's no parking on town streets. How hard is it to bring in some diggers and clear out a few parking spots. What's the point of us living near a trail if we can't use it? My girlfriend was almost ticketed last time taking the dogs out. The cop said that the plows had to turn around there. The plows had already moved all the snow. What is the excuse going to be in summer?

Unleashed dogs are a problem, especially on trails and with encounters with Moose. It's a liability for the Town and a leash code should be enforced.

Would like to see a multi-use trail built connecting Breck to Blue River - property values would climb along with tax revenue. Could be as easy as widening rte 9 with federal/state bike grants??

Tarn management, since there should be improvements after all this time. Some good rules and maybe enforcement.

Lower the mill rate and raise STR taxes. Use this to fund improvements like fiber, a rec path, and more bus service to improve the amenities offered by the town while keeping property taxes low for homeowners.

The number one thing we believe is missing to make Blue River more desirable for us is a bike path connecting Blue River to Breckenridge. We realize there is a mountain bike path, but it is not easily accessible for most bikes. A cement path that follows Highway 9 would be most appreciated. With all the wonderful bike paths in Summit County, this leg of it is sorely missing. Thank you for the consideration.

I wish for the government to do the minimal it was meant to do: infrastructure and policing.

Blue River trail map. I want to know where I can hike and what is private property.

We need the bike trails from the ice rink to Blue River maintained and cleared of debris.

Moose "habitat management so they also have a good place to live close to people

We are seeing more off leash dogs and less poop cleanup. Not sure what we can do about it though.

23 Snowy Ct., Blue River

Plans for water system.

Get rid of that pole next to calle de plata the one everyone hits and dies maybe relocate that pole or bury the electrical underground!

Yes it's been a while since a fatality but it happens once again mark my words.

None, thanks!
bike path to town
Just the STRs
Dog leash enforcement
Chain law enforcement for semi trucks more strictly enforced. The shit show on Hoosier Pass when thereâ€™s a snow storm is ridiculous
The TOBR needs an employee that looks after codes and keeps a consistency within the town. This would include STR, trash, signage, tarn usage, road issues, painting and remodeling without approval, drainage issues and keeping a true pulse on the the community by being engaged with our residents. We have worked very hard to come up with these codes, and there is no enforcement for any of it. If true relationships were built with CDOT then I believe improvements could be made through Blue River.
Neighbor disputes regarding obnoxious pets and outdoor lighting
Reduce the town taxes on electric and nat gas, please.
890 Indiana Creek Rd
Hate not having a mailbox and having to rent one in Breckenridge. Not sure why that is?
133 MOUNTAIN VIEW DR
The failing power grid is bound to cause further problems in the future, whether that be fires or even more outages than we already have. It just seems like an accident waiting to happen.
Cdot needs to work on Hwy 9 due to huge amount of traffic and horrible conditions of roadway
Overhead power and internet cables being buried instead of on poles prone to outages.
291 Tarnwood Drive
Paving roads should be on our list for those neighborhoods that desire the upgrade
755 Whispering Pines Circle
755 Whispering Pines Circle
464 WILDERNESS DR.
Fast driving
Do we require special use permits for heavy loads traveling on Blue River roads to unincorporated summit county?
Thank you for taking time to hear our thoughts. I love this town and am proud to be a part of such a wonderful community.
Better parking availability at McCullough Gulch and road improvements to Monte Cristo
Listening and representing citizens concerns.
Blue River is rustic. It is not Breckenridge and should never never try to mirror that insanity. Do not ruin what we have!!!
Traffic volume on hwy 9 and Cdot expending \$0 to handle the increase
It would be nice to have additional speed limit signs along Hwy 9. Lots of summer visitors drive 30 mph going into town.
The town needs to have a professional put a survey together, or at a minimum give the CAC ample opportunity to craft a thoughtful survey. This survey doesn't warrant response because it just appears to be looking to rank priorities. The question about wildfire makes no sense because it doesn't even list high vs low. Please do better.
Please continue with legal and vocal opposition to the proposed chain up stations right at our TOBR entrance. Never have we seen these chain ups be built on such a busy local highway with low visibility right in front of a residential area and on wetlands. This is against all logic and sensibility without regard to residents' health, safety, environment and property values.
Bike lanes into Breckenridge.
80 Grey Squirrel Ln, Blue river, CO, 80424
Internet and cell phone reception.
The amount of human waste at Spruce Creek trailhead is out of control. In the summer, you can walk 15 feet in any direction at the trailhead and find poop and toilet paper. The Forest Service/county/whoever needs to be pushed to do better in managing the overuse of this land- an outhouse would be a great start. Penn Gulch is becoming a close 2nd- weâ€™ve hiked out trash bags and extinguished fires multiple times. Bottom line: I believe relationships with CDOT/FS/Summit County are the key issues.
Adding bike lanes into Breckenridge.

No
Iâ€™d like to see the police patrolling our residential streets vs only giving out tickets on Highway 9.
We need a bike lane and hiking trail to SAFELY get to town without driving a car!
NA
I am not sure what you will learn from these general questions and answers
Accountability from town
PO Box 8023
Extension of the Rec path
Thank you for all you do! :)
104 Davis Court
I think traffic in BR is up substantially as more individuals and trucks come from Denver. Road is not designed to handle all the traffic as it is designed. The "bridge" crossing over the BR at Casa de Plata is constantly full of pot holes. A plan should be developed to Repair/Replace this in due time that will still allow traffic flow (build extension to west, then work old). Would Love to see Breck-BR Rec Path installed. We would bike to town!
I love the quantness and uniqueness of BR. Letâ€™s keep it that way
Reply to these surveys! I've completed every single one but i have never seen any summary or data back. Never. I've even asked Trustees about results and heard nothing. C'mon! we are a small town. If you really love feedback, leash up your dog and walk neighborhoods. Jump in with an officer (code or Law Enforcement) while on patrol and talk to us. This is my last survey until i see accountability for providing results back.
The trailhead traffic, congestion, impact, speeding, dust and litter on Spruce Creek Road is a huge stressor every summer. It is understandable that the trailhead is not in the town's jurisdiction, but the access part of the road is. Please help us with a solution for visitors to this area.
241 97 Circle
Just trail access-- would be great to have a north/south trail that connects breck to the pass.
Water and sewer
None at this time.
Please work to restock the Tarn, itâ€™s a great family fishing spot!



Town of Blue River Memorandum

TO: Mayor Decicco & Members of the Board of Trustees
FROM: Citizen Advisory Committee
DATE: May 29, 2024
SUBJECT: **Citizen Advisory Committee Survey Report**

Mayor & Board of Trustees

The following information was requested at the June Board of Trustees meeting concerning the demographics of the responses.

Total Responses: 187

Unique Email Addresses: 157

**Note there were 30 times where the same email address was used to respond. This may be from one respondent answering multiple times or multiple people in the same household using the same email address. There were 17 incidents where the same email was used to answer multiple times by full-time residents and 13 times for second homeowners.*

Full-time Residents overall: 49%

92/187

Second Homeowners: 51%

95/187