



Town of New Castle
450 W. Main Street
PO Box 90
New Castle, CO 81647

Administration Department
Phone: (970) 984-2311
Fax: (970) 984-2716
www.newcastlecolorado.org

Agenda

New Castle Town Council Regular Meeting

Tuesday, June 18, 2024, 7:00 PM

Virtual Meetings are subject to internet and technical capabilities.

To join by computer, smart phone or tablet:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/7096588400>

If you prefer to telephone in:

Please call: 1-346-248-7799

Meeting ID: 709 658 8400

Follow the prompts as directed. Be sure to set your phone to mute until called on

Call to Order

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call

Meeting Notice

Conflicts of Interest

Agenda Changes

Citizen Comments on Items not on the Agenda

-Comments are limited to three minutes-

Consultant Reports

Consultant Attorney

Consultant Engineer

Items for Consideration

- A. Proclamation Recognizing July as Parks and Recreation Month**
- B. Presentation: Lief Sackett – Colorado River Fire Rescue (CRFR)**
- C. Presentation: Amy Moyer – Shoshone Water Rights Project**
- D. Discussion: PTA Playground Equipment Grant**

Consent Agenda

Items on the consent agenda are routine and non-controversial and will be approved by one motion. There will be no separate discussion of these items unless a council member or citizen requests it, in which case the item will be removed from the consent agenda.

[May 21, 2024 Minutes](#)

[June 4, 2024 Minutes](#)

Staff Reports

Town Administrator

Town Clerk

Town Treasurer

Town Planner

Public Works Director

Commission Reports

Planning & Zoning Commission

Historic Preservation Commission

Climate and Environment Commission

Senior Program

RFTA

AGNC

GCE

EAB

Detox

Council Comments

Items for Future Council Agenda

Adjourn



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Memorandum

To: Mayor & Council
From: David Reynolds
Re: Agenda Item: Parks and Recreation Month Proclamation
Date: 06/18/24

Purpose:

The purpose of this agenda item is to recognize National Parks and Recreation month. Along with a Town Proclamation honoring Parks and Rec month, Town Council will have the opportunity to meet with staff members to hear the latest news from our Parks and Recreation Departments.



Town of New Castle, State of Colorado

Proclamation

WHEREAS parks and recreation programs are an integral part of communities throughout this country, including New Castle; and

WHEREAS our parks and recreation are vitally important to establishing and maintaining the quality of life in our communities, ensuring the health of all citizens, and contributing to the economic and environmental well-being of a community and region; and

WHEREAS parks and recreation programs build healthy, active communities that aid in the prevention of chronic disease, provide therapeutic recreation services for those who are mentally or physically disabled, and also improve the mental and emotional health of all citizens; and

WHEREAS parks and recreation programs increase a community's economic prosperity through increased property values, expansion of the local tax base, increased tourism, the attraction and retention of businesses, and crime reduction; and

WHEREAS parks and recreation areas are fundamental to the environmental well-being of our community; and

WHEREAS parks and natural recreation areas improve water quality, protect groundwater, prevent flooding, improve the quality of the air we breathe, provide vegetative buffers to development, and produce habitat for wildlife; and

WHEREAS our parks and natural recreation areas ensure the ecological beauty of our community and provide a place for children and adults to connect with nature and recreate outdoors; and

WHEREAS the U.S. House of Representatives has designated July as Parks and Recreation Month; and

WHEREAS New Castle recognizes the benefits derived from parks and recreation resources

NOW THEREFORE, I, Grady Hazelton, Mayor Pro Tem of New Castle do hereby proclaim that July is recognized as Park and Recreation Month in the Town of New Castle.

Let this Proclamation be entered into the officials of the Town.

Grady Hazelton, Mayor Pro Tem

ATTEST:

Mindy Andis, Town Clerk



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Memorandum

To: Mayor & Council

From: David Reynolds

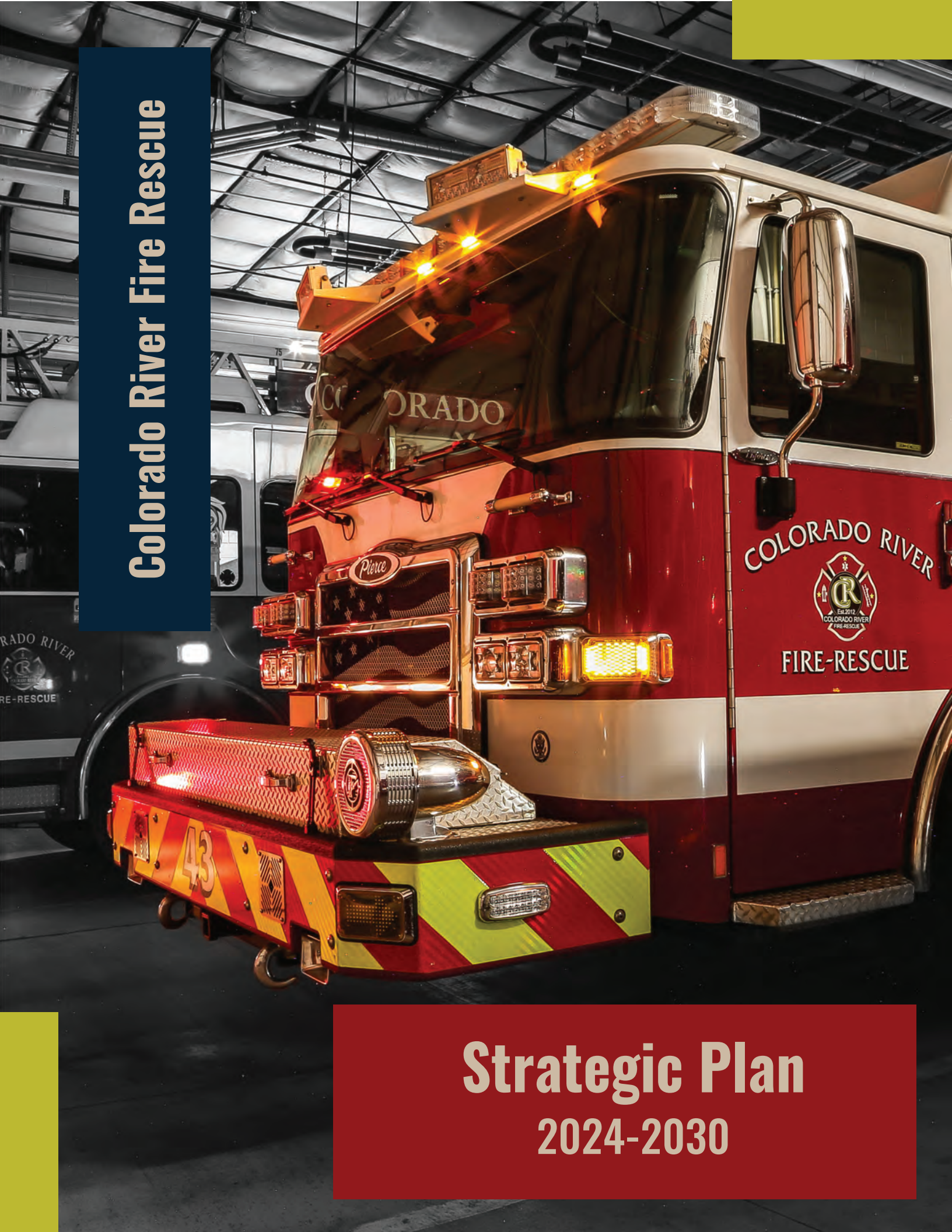
Re: Agenda Item: Presentation from Colorado River Fire Rescue

Date: 06/18/24

Purpose:

The purpose of this agenda item is to allow time for Fire Chief Leif Sackett to update Town Council on Colorado River Fire Rescue's most current strategic plan and activities within CRFR as they might affect New Castle.

Colorado River Fire Rescue



Strategic Plan
2024-2030



Colorado River Fire Rescue

1850 Railroad Avenue • Rifle, Colorado 81650
Telephone: (970) 625-1243 • Fax: (970) 625-2963 • www.crrfr.us

May 14, 2024

Members of Colorado River Fire Rescue and the Communities of Rifle, Silt, and New Castle:

We are excited to share our efforts in developing a new strategic plan for Colorado River Fire Rescue (CRFR). Our commitment to serving and protecting our communities led us to embark on this journey, and we are thrilled to present our vision for the future.

Our newly crafted Mission Statement is at the heart of our strategic planning process: “We are Ready; We Protect Life, Home, and Property.” This concise statement encapsulates our unwavering dedication to preserving the lives and assets of our community members. Our Mission Statement serves as our guiding principle, reminding us of the essential purpose behind every action we take.

Integral to our Mission Statement are our core values of Integrity, Professionalism, Courage, and Compassion. These values are not merely words on paper but are deeply ingrained in the fabric of our organization. They serve as the bedrock upon which our strategic plan is built, shaping our priorities and actions as we strive to deliver high-quality service to you.

Throughout the process of crafting our strategic plan, these values have served as our North Star, guiding us in every decision we make. Integrity ensures that our actions are transparent, accountable, and ethical. Professionalism drives us to continuously improve our skills and practices to serve our communities better. Courage empowers us to face challenges head-on, embracing innovation and change to adapt to evolving needs. Compassion reminds us to approach every situation with empathy and understanding, recognizing the human element in every interaction.

Our strategic plan reflects these values and our commitment to excellence in every aspect of our service delivery. It outlines clear goals and objectives to enhance our capabilities, improve response times, and ensure the safety and well-being of CRFR responders and our community members. We are dedicated to continuous improvement, and this plan serves as a roadmap for achieving our shared vision of a safer, more resilient community.

We invite you to join us in implementing our new strategic plan. Together, we can strengthen the effectiveness of CRFR, assuring that our communities receive the highest level of protection and care. Your input and support are crucial as we work to create a safer, more resilient environment for all.

Thank you for your ongoing trust and partnerships in safeguarding our communities,

Sincerely,

Alan Lambert
Board President

Leif Sackett
Fire Chief

Mission Statement:

“We are Ready; We Protect Life, Home, and Property.”



Executive Summary

Strategic planning is a critical process for any organization, and its significance is amplified for entities like Colorado River Fire Rescue (CRFR). As a front-line agency dealing with emergencies and potentially life-threatening situations, the strategic planning process allows CRFR to operate effectively, respond to changes in the environment, and continuously improve the services to meet community needs.

In its simplest form, strategic planning is about setting long-term goals, identifying the best approach to achieve those goals, and understanding the resources required. It's a roadmap that guides organizations from where they are now to where they want to be.

For CRFR, the first step of the strategic planning process is Environmental Scanning. This involves a comprehensive analysis of internal and external factors that can impact the organization. Internally, CRFR considered the skills, capabilities, and limitations of personnel and equipment. Externally, the department assessed factors such as the local geography, population density, weather patterns, and potential hazards. This step helps CRFR understand the landscape they are operating in and identify any opportunities or threats that might arise.

The second step, strategy formulation, involves developing specific strategies to achieve the organization's goals based on the insights garnered from the environmental scan. For CRFR, this included strategies to improve response times, enhance training programs, or upgrade equipment. The key at this stage was to create strategies that are actionable, measurable, and aligned with the organization's mission, goals, and objectives.

Next comes strategy implementation. This is where the plans are put into action. For CRFR, this could mean deploying new equipment, implementing new training protocols, or initiating community awareness programs. This step requires careful project management to ensure that the strategies are implemented as planned and that all team members understand their roles and responsibilities.

The final step in the strategic planning process is evaluation and control. This involves monitoring the implementation of the strategies and assessing the effectiveness in achieving the organization's goals. For CRFR, this could involve regular reviews of response times, incident reports, and community feedback. If a strategy is not working as expected, adjustments can be made based on these reviews.

In conclusion, strategic planning is more than just a managerial tool for CRFR. It is a vital process that enables the organization to continuously improve services, respond effectively to changes in the environment, and ultimately, better serve and protect the communities. As a leader in the fire service, it is important to understand and utilize this process to ensure the ongoing success and growth of the department that serves the communities.



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Mission & Values



Mission

The organizational mission of Colorado River Fire Rescue (CRFR) serves as its guiding light, articulating the department's purpose and reason for existence. It is a declaration of what the department provides, whether that be services, products, or a combination of both. For CRFR, this typically involves emergency response services, fire prevention education, and community safety initiatives.



The mission statement also defines the unique purpose which sets CRFR apart from other departments of its type. This reflects a commitment to a particular standard of service, the approach to emergency management, and a focus on specific community needs. By clearly stating this unique purpose, the mission helps distinguish CRFR from other fire rescue departments, enhancing its identity and reputation.

Moreover, the mission describes what the department is now and what it wants to become. This dual focus on the present and future ensures that CRFR remains grounded in its current capabilities and responsibilities while striving for continuous improvement and growth.

In determining the revised mission, all these factors were considered. The revised mission needed to accurately reflect the services provided by CRFR, identify its purpose, and capture its current state and future aspirations. It was developed through a process of consultation and reflection, involving input from department members, stakeholders, and reflection on the wider community. The result is a mission statement that encapsulates the essence of CRFR, guiding its operations and driving its strategic direction.

The Mission Statement of Colorado River Fire Rescue is:

We are Ready; We Protect Life, Home, and Property.



Values

Values play a crucial role in a fire service organization like Colorado River Fire Rescue (CRFR). They serve as the ethical compass that guides all actions and decisions within the organization. As first responders, members of CRFR often find themselves in situations where they must make rapid decisions under high-pressure conditions. In such scenarios, having clear and shared values can help ensure consistency and integrity in their actions.

Values also contribute to the development of organizational culture. They define what is considered important within the organization and set expectations for behavior. Well-defined values encourage an outcome of courage, dedication, and collaboration within a fire service organization.

Furthermore, values help in building trust and fostering strong relationships within an organization and the communities served. By demonstrating a commitment to values CRFR can earn trust and confidence throughout the district. This is especially important for fire service organizations, as the effectiveness depends on the cooperation and support of community members.

Finally, values can act as a source of motivation and pride for the members of an organization. Upholding values give members a sense of purpose and fulfillment, boosting morale and job satisfaction. Values not only guide behavior but also enhance the overall performance and effectiveness of a fire service organization.



The Values of Colorado River Fire Rescue are:





Goals & Objectives

Strategic Goals

Strategic goals are broad, long-term objectives that an organization seeks to accomplish. These open-ended statements represent the overarching outcomes CRFR aims to achieve in support of its mission and vision. Unlike tactical or operational goals, strategic goals are not typically quantified, or time specified. Instead, they provide general direction for our organization's efforts and serve as a guide for decision-making. They paint a picture of what the organization wants to achieve over an extended period, often several years or more.

The importance of strategic goals cannot be overstated. They set the course for CRFR's future, providing a sense of direction and purpose. They help align the efforts of all members of the department, ensuring that everyone is working towards the same end. Strategic goals also form the basis for strategic planning, informing the development of strategies, programs, and policies. Without clear strategic goals, CRFR may struggle to make progress or achieve its desired impact. Thus, strategic goals play a crucial role in driving the department's success and sustainability.

The Strategic Goals of Colorado River Fire Rescue are:



Respond to all calls in a manner that provides the best possible outcomes.



Reduce the overall risk of the district both in terms of property and life safety.



Build and maintain a strong relationship with the communities, their residents, and other partners in the district.



Ensure the department is fully prepared to respond to calls and/or requests for support both within and outside the district.



Increase the effectiveness of core operational efforts with supporting functions.



Strategic Objectives

Strategic objectives are the concrete end results that CRFR aims to achieve through its planned activities. They translate the broad strategic goals into specific, actionable targets, providing a clear path for implementation. Unlike strategic goals, strategic objectives are usually time-bound and expressed using action verbs, describing what needs to be accomplished and by when.

The achievement of strategic objectives is crucial as it leads to the fulfillment of the mission.

Each objective represents a step towards realizing the department's overarching vision and purpose. By setting and pursuing strategic objectives, CRFR can ensure that its efforts are focused and aligned, driving progress towards the desired end state.

The importance of strategic objectives lies in their role as a bridge between strategy and execution. They provide clarity and direction, helping all members of the team understand what they need to do and when. Strategic objectives also serve as a basis for performance measurement, allowing organizations to track progress, identify areas for improvement, and make necessary adjustments. Without these well-defined strategic objectives, an organization may struggle to implement its strategies effectively or achieve its mission.

The strategic objectives of Colorado River Fire Rescue (with related goals) are:

Goal #1: Respond to all calls in a manner that provides the best possible outcomes.
1. Identify EMS activations and alerts for cardiac, trauma, stroke, and sepsis 90 percent of the time.
2. Be in the 90th percentile of NFPA 1710 travel time standards.
3. Be in the 90th percentile of NFPA 1710 turnout time standards.
4. Ensure an effective response force responds to all incidents per NFPA 1710, at the 90th percentile.
5. Ensure 90 percent citizen satisfaction with our service delivery.

Goal #2: Reduce the overall risk of the district both in terms of property and life safety.

1. Decrease the exposure of Wildland Urban Interface (WUI) in high-risk areas by 25% across the district.
2. Ensure 90% percent compliance of adopted International Fire Code.
3. Provide education and equipment to increase bystander interventions.
4. Decrease repeat utilization of EMS for chronic conditions by 50%.

Goal #3: Build and maintain a strong relationship with the communities, their residents, and other partners in the district.

1. Develop and publish an annual report for CRFR.
2. Ensure 80% of the public understand and know the capabilities of CRFR.
3. Establish partnerships that achieve synergy.
4. Recruit 80% of new members from within a 100-mile radius of the district.

Goal #4: Ensure the department is fully prepared to respond to calls and/or requests for support both within and outside the district.

1. Ensure 95% of response personnel meet fire and EMS standards established by CRFR.
2. Ensure front line apparatus have less than a 10% annual downtime.
3. Maintain a Workers Compensation Experience Modification at 1 or lower.
4. Maintain 80% utilization of budgeted training and educational benefits.
5. Hire/promote 90% of full-time positions from within CRFR.
6. Maintain a continuous local, state, and national wildland response capability.

Goal #5: Increase the effectiveness of core operational efforts with supporting functions.

1. Support member wellbeing and safety congruent with industry best practices.

2. Maintain 90% employee retention.

3. Sustain supported technology platforms.

4. Maintain communication interoperability with area responders.

5. Maintain defined classes of supplies at 90% or above.



Environmental Scanning

Colorado River Fire Rescue (CRFR) conducted a robust environmental scanning process as part of its strategic planning efforts. This method involved a comprehensive analysis of both internal and external factors that can impact the organization, thereby enabling the department to make informed decisions and take proactive measures.

In its external environmental scanning, CRFR used the STEEP model, which considers Societal, Technological, Economic, Environmental, and Political factors.

From a societal perspective, CRFR assessed the needs and expectations of the overall community, considering demographic trends and societal values. Technological factors involved evaluating emerging technologies that could improve the organization's response capabilities and operational efficiency. Economic factors such as taxes and other funding sources across Colorado were considered. Environmental factors included geographical considerations, weather patterns, and potential natural hazards. Finally, political factors involved changes in regulations and governmental policies that could impact fire department operations.

Internally, CRFR conducted an analysis of the department's organizational structure, culture, and resources. The culture within the organization impacts how team members interact, make decisions, and approach work. The organizational structure affects communication lines, decision-making processes, and overall operational efficiency. The resource analysis determines

how well the department does in areas such as human resources, finance/budget, operations, apparatus, capital structures, and information systems, among others.

By systematically analyzing these internal and external factors, CRFR was able to identify opportunities for improvement, anticipate potential threats, and develop strategic plans that align with the department’s mission and vision. This comprehensive environmental scanning process forms a critical part of CRFR’s strategic planning, enabling the department to better serve and protect the community.



The identified External Factors for Colorado River Fire Rescue (with annotations for Opportunities or Threats) are:

• Shortage of qualified paramedics CO/National labor market (T)
• Cancer concerns within the fire service (T)
• Apparatus purchase timeframes (T)
• Reduced property tax valuations (T)
• Inflation (T)
• Local/Regional/State/National Grant Funds (T)
• Surprise Billing (T)
• Recession (T)
• Communication/Language Barriers (T)
• Volunteer service is low (T)
• Education level (O)
• Population (O)
• Structure Gear (O)
• Artificial Intelligence (O)
• Oil and Gas Production (O)
• Street/Highway/Road Quality (T)
• Weather conditions drought/flooding/wildfire/runoff (T)
• Effects of wildland fire (O)
• Regional political shift (O)
• State collective bargaining (O)
• Competition for people (T)
• Competition for resources (O)
• Revenue for EMS (O)

The identified Internal Factors for Colorado River Fire Rescue (with annotations for Strengths or Weaknesses) are:

• Capital Replacement Plan (S)
• Following through with the replacement of capital (W)
• IT System moving to cloud-based (S)
• Funding to meet future needs, 2021 voter-approved mill increase (S)
• Divisions/Chain of Command (S)
• Staffing of stations (W)
• The Board of Directors represents the community and staff (S)
• Quality of our personnel (S)
• Capital Structures (W)
• Age of some apparatus (W)
• Community Outreach (W)
• Training (S)
• Facility updates (W)
• Policy/SOG/SOP (W)
• Competitive Wages (S)
• Training grounds (W)
• Drone Capacity (W)
• Staff at all levels wear many hats (W)

Once Colorado River Fire Rescue identified the strategic factors, the next step required prioritization to identify the factors which had the most significance. This was done using the External Factors Analysis Summary (EFAS) and Internal Factors Analysis Summary (IFAS) tables.

The EFAS table helped CRFR to categorize and evaluate the importance of each identified external strategic factor. These factors, drawn from the STEEP model analysis, include societal expectations, technological advancements, economic conditions, environmental factors, and political regulations. Each identified factor was assigned a weight based on its relative importance, with a total of all weights adding up to 1.00.

The IFAS table functions similarly but focused on internal strategic factors. These factors, including elements of culture, organizational structure, and resources, were also assigned weights according to the determination of significance in achieving the organization's objectives.

After the prioritization of strategic factors using the EFAS and IFAS tables, Colorado River Fire Rescue proceeded to consolidate these into a single SFAS (Strategic Factors Analysis Summary) table. This holistic table then formed the basis for the final SWOT (Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, Threats) analysis.

The SFAS table, essentially, is a synopsis of the strategic factors identified in the EFAS and IFAS tables. It includes the most significant internal and external factors that can influence the organization's future. Each factor from the EFAS and IFAS tables is given a weight based on its importance, and a rating based on CRFR's response to it. The weighted scores are then calculated.

In creating the SFAS table, CRFR started by selecting the most impactful factors from the EFAS and IFAS tables. This selection was based on the weights and ratings of the factors. The selected factors were then organized into four categories: Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, and Threats, with strengths and weaknesses representing internal factors, and opportunities and threats representing external factors.

Each factor in the SFAS table was then assigned a new weight, rating, and score, like the EFAS and IFAS process. The final step involved summing up the scores for each category, which provided a quantitative representation of CRFR's strategic position.

The SFAS table thus became a concise and comprehensive representation of the strategic factors affecting CRFR. It formed the basis for the final SWOT analysis, where strengths and opportunities were leveraged, and strategies were developed to address weaknesses and mitigate threats. This ensured that CRFR's strategic planning was well-informed, robust, and

adaptive to both internal and external environments.

The final refined SWOT for Colorado Fire Rescue is:

Strengths	Weaknesses
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Quality of Personnel• Future Funding	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Policies/SOPs/SOGs• Station Staffing• Succession Planning• Culture/QOL/Job Satisfaction
Opportunities	Threats
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Population Growth• Alternate Revenue Streams• EMS Abuse	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Qualified Applicant Shortages• Decreased Government Funds• Cancer



Strategy Formulation

The strategy formulation process used by Colorado River Fire Rescue was a comprehensive and methodical approach that considered various key categories of strategic planning. These included competitive strategies, directional strategies, and functional strategies.

Competitive Strategies

Considering the competition among different fire departments for resources and recruits, CRFR considered competitive strategies to position itself as a preferred choice. This potentially involved offering attractive benefits and career development opportunities to attract and retain quality personnel. Additionally, CRFR worked to efficiently manage their resources and continually seek additional funding sources, as indicated in its final strategies and implementation plan.

Directional Strategies

Directional strategies helped CRFR determine whether they needed to grow, maintain, or reduce their operations and/or capabilities. The strategic options considered areas of growth, such as expanding their services in response to community needs. CRFR also identified areas where they could maintain their current operations and existing staffing levels. In cases where reduction was necessary, CRFR considered ways to cut costs to ensure financial sustainability.

Functional Strategies

Functional strategies involved the different functions within the department, such as training, human resources, logistics, and IT. CRFR's strategic plan considered its commitment to providing ongoing training and professional development for their staff. The HR strategy focused on attracting, retaining, and developing top talent. Logistically, the department continued to work to ensure efficient resource allocation and response times. In terms of IT, the department desired to use technology to improve operational efficiency and response capabilities.

In conclusion, CRFR's strategy formulation process was a comprehensive approach that considered various strategic categories. The department's focus on competitive, directional, and functional strategies allowed it to effectively respond to external pressures, align operations with its mission, and ensure each departmental function contributes towards the overall objectives.



The developed strategy packages considered for Colorado River Fire Rescue are:

Strategy Package #1
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Replace station 61.
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Increase capability by staffing to 13 per shift.
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Implement health-related job performance standards to reduce cancer exposure to members.
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Promote fire prevention educational efforts.
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Increase training capabilities by adding a training captain position.

Strategy Package #2
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Replace station 61.
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Increase capital replacement funding for apparatus, equipment, and station upgrades.
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Grow in capability by implementing a community paramedic program to reduce the risk to life and property.
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Leverage technology to increase responder capabilities.

Strategy Package #3
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Replace station 61.
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Expand capabilities by providing resources to increase responder mental and physical wellness.
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Increase employee retention by offering superior benefits packages to members when compared to similar agencies.
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Enhance training to implement minimum standards for common fire and EMS tasks.

Strategy Package #4

- **Replace station 61.**
- **Expand capability by increasing the number of regionally hosted training courses held at CRFR.**
- **Implement cancer prevention measures in all aspects of the organization to contribute to the long-term well-being of responders.**
- **Increase public interaction through enhanced use of diversified media platforms.**



Strategic Choice



A decision matrix was used by the department to determine the best package of individual strategies. The process involved evaluating each strategy package against specific criteria, such as cost, feasibility, and acceptance by membership.



The strategic options were then ranked based on total weighted scores. The option with the highest score was considered the most favorable as it met the defined criteria to the greatest extent.

By using a decision matrix, CRFR was able to systematically evaluate and compare the different strategic options, ensuring that the final adopted strategies aligned with its budget, operational capabilities, and member preferences. It ultimately informed CRFR's decision to combine the elements of various strategy packages and determined to pursue a list of appropriate strategies.

Strategies for Colorado River Fire Rescue:

Upgrade, replace, and/or modernize stations to meet current industry standards



Transform staffing levels to meet the service and workload demands of the district.



Reduce cancer and other health risks to personnel.



Grow community risk reduction efforts to decrease the risk to life and property.



Increase the training capabilities of the organization.



Increase member recruitment and retention.



Design and implement an aggressive marketing strategy to brand CRFR locally, statewide, and nationally.



Ensure personnel are equipped with response-ready apparatus and equipment.





Strategy Implementation

The strategy implementation process was the stage where Colorado River Fire Rescue translated the chosen strategies into actionable steps. This involved the identification of programs, allocation of budgets, and the development of policies.

Identification of Programs

Initially, CRFR identified the specific programs that would help achieve the strategic objectives. For instance, if one of the strategies was to improve personnel skills, a corresponding program could be regular training and development workshops. Each strategic goal potentially had one or more programs associated with it.

Allocation of Budgets

Once the programs had been identified, CRFR allocated budgets to each. This involved continuous work with the Board of Directors to determine the financial resources required for each program and ensured alignment with the department's overall budget. The cost-effectiveness of each program was also considered during budget allocation. This step ensured that the department has the necessary funds, or needs to seek supplemental funds and grants, to successfully implement its strategies.

Development of Policies

In parallel with program identification and budget allocation, CRFR will develop policies that support the strategic goals. These policies provide a framework for actions that guide the behaviors and decisions of personnel. The revision/development of these policies are essential for maintaining consistency, setting expectations, and ensuring compliance with regulations. For example, if a strategy involves enhancing operational efficiency, a policy might be developed that outlines standard procedures for equipment usage and maintenance.

As part of the strategic implementation process, Colorado River Fire Rescue developed an action plan for each strategy. These action plans serve as a roadmap that details the specific tasks required for implementation, the timeframe for completion, and the party responsible for each task.

The first step in building an action plan was to break down each strategy into specific tasks. These tasks were the individual actions that needed to be taken to achieve the strategic objectives. For instance, if the strategy is to improve personnel skills, a related task might be to organize a training workshop.



Each task was assigned a specific timeframe for completion. This provided a schedule for implementation and helped ensure that progress would be made in a timely manner. Timeframes can range from short-term (weeks or months) to long-term (years), depending on the complexity and scope of the task.

Responsibility for each task was assigned to a specific party or parties. This could be an individual, a team, or a department within CRFR. Assigning responsibility ensures accountability and clarifies who oversees executing each task.

The implementation plan for Colorado River Fire Rescue Strategies includes (note: the information regarding the specific names with assigned responsibility for tasks has been omitted in this public document):

Strategy: Upgrade, replace, and/or modernize stations to meet current industry standards.	
Station 61 Replacement	
Create a station modernization committee	Q1 FY24
Reach out to departments for ideas	Q2 FY24
Send individuals to design conference	Q2 FY24
Identify/pursue grant and funding opportunities	Q4 FY24
Identify the architect/engineer	Q4 FY24
Finalize Station Location	Q4 FY 24/Q1 FY 25
Determine the Feasibility of moving Admin/Wildland to a central location.	Q1 FY 25
Determine Building Usage, Public Safety vs. Fire only	Q1 FY 25
Finalize Station plans	Q1/Q2 FY25
Submit Requests for Qualifications to contractors	Q2 FY25
Identify contractor	Q3 FY25
Break ground on new Station 61	Q1 FY26
Station 61 Ribbon Cutting	Q4 FY27
Station Modernization	
Create a station modernization committee	Q1 FY24
Reach out to departments for ideas	Q2 FY24
Identify deficiencies in existing stations	Q3 FY24

Retro Fit Station 61	Q1 FY24
Cancer Prevention Upgrades to Stations	Q1 FY 24
Identify/pursue grant and funding opportunities	Q4 FY24
Identify Station Locations/Feasibility Study	Q4 FY 24
Identify station upgrade methodology	Q3 FY24

Strategy: Transform staffing levels to meet the service and workload demands of the district.

General Staffing

Add positions required to return staffing to pre-financial hardship levels	Q1 FY24
Complete Standard of Cover (SOC)	Q3 FY24
Create a timeline on staffing levels based on SOC	Q1 FY25
Streamline Organizational Chart to reflect organizational needs	Q1 FY25
Staffing Feasibility Study	Q4 FY 24/Q1 FY 25
District Growth Study	Q4 FY 24/Q1 FY 25
Board Approval for funding of feasibility studies	Q4 FY 24/Q1 FY 25

Wildland Division Staffing

Identify and pursue grants to support fuel tech staffing	Q1 FY24
Engage stakeholders for additional personal	Q2 FY24
Add staffing for year-round mitigation and initial attack capabilities	Q2 FY25
Add additional engine lead	Q1 FY25

Strategy: Reduce cancer and other health risks to personnel.

Cancer Prevention

Develop and implement a cancer prevention policy	Q3 FY24
Purchase extrication gear/PPE for all members	Q3 FY24
Maintain and enhance preventative cancer screening	Q1 FY24
Equip apparatus with clean cab features	Q2 FY24
Retrofit stations to support hot, warm, and cold zones	Q3/4 FY26
Promote a healthy lifestyle	Q1 FY24

Strategy: Grow public education, community risk reduction, and prevention efforts to decrease the risk to life and property.

Public Education

Develop and implement a commercial property inspection/preplan.	Q1 FY25
Conduct community CPR once a month	Q1 FY24
Work with schools to identify the needs of the district and the students	Ongoing
Conduct Public Safety Announcements	Ongoing
Research and identify community risk reduction assessment.	Q3 FY25
Mobile Integrated Health (MIH)	
Research systems and structures	Q2 FY26
Identify potential payor sources	Q3 FY26
Develop MIH Job Description	Q4 FY26
Hire MIH Staffing	Q1 FY27

Implement Program	Q3 FY27
Provide training in MIH to crews	Q2 FY27
Wildfire Mitigation	
Create Chipping Program	Q1 FY25
Participate in building zoning and planning when in the WUI	Ongoing

Strategy: Increasing the training capabilities of the organization.	
Training	
Complete a training needs assessment	Q1 FY25
Conduct at least one regional training annually	Q3 FY24
Conduct biannual training with first-responder agencies	Ongoing
Plan and participate in community training exercises	Ongoing
Develop an annual skill proficiency program	Q1 FY25
Ensure full-time members meet ISO requirements	Ongoing
Annual emphasis on operational high-risk, low-frequency events	Q4 FY24
Succession Planning	
Evaluate task books for efficiency	Q1 FY25
Develop Standard Evaluation Guides for all positions	Q2 FY25
Increase engagement in higher education	Ongoing
Enhance opportunities for administrative development	Q1 FY27
Credential Fire Officers	Q3 FY27

Develop a plan to emphasize soft skills	Q4 FY24
---	---------

Strategy: Increase member recruitment and retention.	
Recruitment	
Gain access to high schools for recruiting	Ongoing
Recruit a total of 20 Vol/PTE members	Q3 FY26
Develop and implement a program to enhance recruitment within the community.	Q1 FY26
Retention	
Maintain a competitive benefits package compared to similar departments	Q3 FY25
Conduct a wage survey	Q3 FY25
Implement cultural surveys	Annual
Develop a retention plan	Q4 FY24

Strategy: Design and implement an aggressive marketing strategy to brand CRFR locally, statewide, and nationally.	
Recruitment	
Identify and implement PIO/marketing plan	Q1 FY25
Pursue feasibility of hiring marketing agency to assist in outreach	Q2 FY26

Strategy: Ensure personnel are equipped with response-ready apparatus and equipment.	
Equipment	
Follow the established capital replacement plan	Q1 FY24

Ensure NFPA compliance with PPE	Ongoing
Purchase ballistic PPE	Q3 FY24
Apparatus	
Follow the established apparatus capital replacement plan	Q1 FY24
Sign purchase agreement for new water tender	Q1 FY24
Submit RFP for new fire engine	Q2 FY24
Sign purchase agreement for new fire engine	Q1 FY25
Submit RFP for new ladder truck	Q1 FY25
Sign purchase agreement for new ladder truck	Q1 FY26



Evaluation & Control



The final step of the strategic planning process is Evaluation and Control. This step is an ongoing process throughout the execution of the strategic plan. It involves tracking the progress of the implemented strategies, assessing the effectiveness, and making necessary adjustments to keep the plan on track.



Evaluation

Evaluation entails gathering information related to success or issues with implementation. This involves both quantitative and qualitative data.

Quantitative data includes key performance indicators (KPIs) such as response times, training completion rates, or budget adherence. Qualitative data, on the other hand, comes from personnel feedback, community responses, or stakeholder reviews.

Methods for gathering this information include surveys, audits, regular reporting, performance

metrics, and feedback sessions. For instance, Colorado River Fire Rescue may conduct a survey among its personnel to assess the effectiveness of a new training program or use performance metrics to measure improvements in response times.



Control

Control refers to the measures taken to adjust the strategic plan and keep it on track. Based on the information gathered through evaluation, CRFR might find that some strategies are not working as expected or that external circumstances have changed, requiring adjustments to the plan.

Control measures may involve recalibrating goals, adjusting budgets, revising policies, or altering programs. For example, if a particular strategy is over-budget but yielding good results, CRFR might decide to allocate more funds to it. Conversely, if a strategy is not delivering the desired outcomes, it may be modified or replaced.

In conclusion, the Evaluation and Control Stage is a crucial part of the strategic planning process and cannot be overlooked. It ensures that the strategic plan remains relevant and effective, enabling CRFR to continually improve its operations and better serve the communities.





Acknowledgements

Colorado River Fire Rescue wishes to formally acknowledge and express appreciation for the significant contributions made by our stakeholders and team members during the strategic planning process.

Alan Lambert – Board Chair/President

Addy Bristol – Board Vice-President

Richard Miller – Board Secretary

Adria Milton- Baker – Board Treasurer

Paige Haderlie – Board Director

Leif Sackett

Zach Pigati

Orrin Moon

Scott Van Slyke

P.J. Tillman

John Gredig

Sierra Carroll

Kevin Alvey

Randy Hill

Bill Smith

Jerrod Merriam

Eric Langner

Matt Mollenkamp

Matt Messner

Joe Koronkiewicz

Kevin Carlson

Grant Stewart

Cody Lister

Tim Nix

Additionally, the department extends its gratitude to Eric Savickas of Convergent Impact, LLC, for his professional facilitation and invaluable assistance in the formulation of our strategic plan.



Town of New Castle

450 W. Main Street
PO Box 90
New Castle, CO 81647

Administration Department

Phone: (970) 984-2311

Fax: (970) 984-2716

www.newcastlecolorado.org

Memorandum

To: Mayor & Council
From: David Reynolds
Re: Agenda Item: Shoshone Water Rights Presentation
Date: 06/18/24

Purpose:

The purpose of this agenda item is to allow time for Amy Moyer from the Colorado River District to present information pertaining to Shoshone Water Rights Preservation. As Director of Strategic Partnerships for the Colorado River District, Amy has been actively involved in educating area leaders on the importance of preserving Shoshone Water Rights for the continued benefit of the Colorado River Valley. Amy will discuss the history of the Shoshone Water Rights and update the Council on the pending sale of water rights, how a sale might affect our region, and what area stack holders are doing to try to protect these water rights for continued uses in our area.



COLORADO RIVER DISTRICT

PROTECTING WESTERN COLORADO WATER SINCE 1937

MEMORANDUM

TO: MEMBERS OF THE TOWN COUNCIL, TOWN OF NEW CASTLE

FROM: ANDY MUELLER, GENERAL MANAGER
ZANE KESSLER, DIRECTOR OF GOVERNMENT RELATIONS
AMY MOYER, DIRECTOR OF STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIPS

SUBJECT: SHOSHONE WATER RIGHTS PRESERVATION UPDATE

DATE: JUNE 12, 2024

I. SHOSHONE PERMANENCY PROJECT SUMMARY

The Shoshone Hydro Plant, a unique run of the river hydroelectric power plant, sits alongside the Colorado River in Glenwood Canyon, about eight miles east of Glenwood Springs. Owned by the Public Service Company of Colorado (PSCo), a subsidiary of Xcel Energy, it produces 15 megawatts of electricity, enough power to serve approximately 15,000 customers. Importantly, Shoshone also holds a senior (1902), nonconsumptive water right on the Colorado River, returning the flows it uses to the river after a short trip through the hydropower plant's penstocks and turbines. The Shoshone call provides critical water supplies that drive the recreational economies supported by rafters, kayakers, and anglers from Eagle to Mesa County. Shoshone's flows also provide critical habitat to four fish listed under the Endangered Species Act, and water security and quality to our Western Slope agriculture and many of our cities who utilize the mainstem of the Colorado for drinking water supplies and wastewater discharge.

For more than 20 years, the Colorado River District and 19 other western Colorado governments and water entities, including the City of Glenwood Springs and Summit, Grand, Eagle, Garfield, and Mesa Counties and many of the other municipalities and major water organizations therein, have been working together to find a way to permanently preserve the Shoshone flows. In fact, the 2013 Colorado River Cooperative Agreement between Denver Water and 17 West Slope governments/water user organizations expressly recognizes the importance of – and memorialized the need to provide permanent protection of – the Shoshone flows.

We are now on the cusp of the unprecedented alignment of multiple factors that presents a real opportunity to finalize this long-standing goal. On December 19, 2023, Xcel Energy and the Colorado River District signed a Purchase & Sale Agreement (PSA) to transfer ownership of the historic Shoshone water rights to the River District for \$99 million. The historic agreement marks



a first step towards permanent protection of the historic flows and the resulting economic benefits provided by the Shoshone water rights.

Permanent protection of the Shoshone Flows will secure multiple benefits to the Colorado River water users on the West Slope and across the state such as:

Water Quality Improvements: Communities large and small along the Colorado River mainstem benefit from the enhanced water quality Shoshone flows provide, diluting salinity and sediment in source drinking water for towns like New Castle, Silt, Rifle, Parachute, Battlement Mesa, and De Beque. Without the higher flows of clean and cold headwater-sourced supplies provided by the Shoshone call, a higher concentration of salinity and other water quality constituents creates increased costs for municipal drinking and wastewater treatment.

Agricultural Benefits: Shoshone flows support Colorado's \$11.9 billion agricultural economy in a number of important ways. Water security for Western Slope agriculture is intimately linked to the Upper Colorado Endangered Fish Recovery Program where continued cooperative water management allows for continued development of water resources while maintaining Endangered Species Act (ESA) compliance. According to Colorado's Division of Water Resources, without Shoshone flows, the downstream Cameo call would be longer and deeper each year (up to 2,260 cfs vs. 1,950 cfs), triggering less opportunity for upstream agricultural diversions, a greater frequency of April calls, and an insufficient replacement of supplies for some West Slope augmentation plans. Furthermore, the historical flow regime that the Shoshone call ensures in the Colorado River creates higher water quality for irrigators up and down the mainstem which brings greater agricultural production.

Recreation Economy: Shoshone flows benefit Colorado communities both upstream and downstream of the call. Colorado's robust recreational economy relies heavily on the Colorado River mainstem, with Shoshone flows strengthening the state's iconic river recreation industry throughout Grand, Summit, Eagle, Garfield, and Mesa counties. River recreation in Colorado contributes \$14.6 billion annually to the state's GDP, with nearly \$4 billion coming directly from the Colorado River basin on the Western Slope. As temperatures rise and streams diminish, Shoshone permanency provides security for this economic industry, protecting the recreational fishery and boating that sustain local businesses and attract water-based recreators.

According to the Shoshone Outfitter Partnership, the Colorado River through Glenwood Canyon experiences over 70,000 commercial customer trips and an estimated 80,000 private boaters who launch from the Grizzly Creek and Shoshone boat ramps. River recreation sustains local businesses and the middle Colorado's recreation- and tourism-based economies. Achieving Shoshone permanency provides certainty and security for outfitters, the hospitality industry, and all local businesses that rely on resident and non-resident tourists and qualified employees. In 2022, the Colorado River Outfitters



Association estimated that commercial river rafting through Glenwood Canyon created an economic impact of \$23.5 million.¹

Ecosystem Benefits and Endangered Species Act Compliance: Over 250 miles of the Colorado River mainstem directly benefit when Shoshone water rights are being administered, preserving aquatic habitat that would otherwise be diminished by the decrease in flows. These flows also sustain a thriving fish population in Glenwood Canyon – currently undergoing evaluation for potential gold medal water designation.

Additionally, the Colorado River downstream of Rifle is habitat for four fish listed under the Endangered Species Act. Without the exercise of the Shoshone call, the stretch of the Colorado River known as the 15-Mile Reach in and around Grand Junction would have significantly less flow during large periods of the year, especially in dry years, when Shoshone can contribute half of the flow in the 15-Mile Reach. All Colorado River water users rely upon the benefits of the Shoshone flows as a bedrock for the success of the Upper Colorado River Endangered Fish Recovery Program and continued compliance with the Endangered Species Act (ESA), which provides compliance protections for over 1,250 projects in Colorado.

Maintaining Stream Flow Through Upper Colorado River Wild & Scenic Alternative Management Plan River Sections: The Shoshone water rights command higher flows and associated lower water temperatures through key segments with recreational fishing and wildlife habitat identified as Outstandingly Remarkable Values (ORVs) of the Upper Colorado River. The Upper Colorado River Wild & Scenic Stakeholder Group’s Alternative Management Plan lists the Shoshone water right as one of four long-term protection measures for the streamflow influenced ORVs – thus providing a critical role in removing the burdens of a potential federal Wild and Scenic designation on the Colorado River from Kremmling to No Name.

II. PURCHASE AND SALE AGREEMENT

The Purchase and Sale Agreement (“PSA”) contemplates the conveyance of the Shoshone water rights from the Public Service Company of Colorado (PSCo) to the Colorado River District. As defined in the PSA, the “Shoshone Water Rights” to be acquired by the Colorado River District include both the senior Shoshone Power Plant water right in the amount of 1,250 cfs with an appropriation date of January 7, 1902, and the junior Shoshone Power Plant water right in the amount of 158 cfs with an appropriation date of May 15, 1929. The purchase price for the Shoshone water rights is \$98,500,000, with an additional \$500,000 payment for PSCo’s transaction costs for a total deal cost of \$99,000,000.

To close the transaction and authorize the expenditure of public funds for the acquisition of the Shoshone water rights, the PSA contains four closing conditions that must be met by December

¹ Commercial Rafting Use Report 1988-2022: <https://www.croa.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/06/2022-CROA-Commercial-Rafting-Use-Report.pdf>



31, 2027, unless that deadline is extended by mutual agreement. The four closing conditions described in the PSA are as follows:

1. **Negotiation of an instream flow agreement with the CWCB.** The PSA contemplates that the River District and PSCo will negotiate with the CWCB for an agreement that authorizes the CWCB to use the Shoshone water rights for instream purposes when the rights are not being used for hydropower generation.
2. **A change of water right decree.** The PSA provides that the parties anticipate being co-applicants with the CWCB in the filing of an application for adjudication of a change of water right decree to allow the Shoshone water rights to be used by the CWCB for instream flow purposes in accordance with the terms of the instream flow agreement.
3. **Approval by the Colorado Public Utilities Commission.** The PSA contemplates that PSCo will petition the Colorado Public Utilities Commission (PUC) to approve the sale of the Shoshone water rights and the disposition of proceeds.
4. **Secured funding.** The PSA requires the River District to secure funding for the negotiated purchase price prior to the commencement of the PUC process.

III. FUNDING STRATEGY

Local Funding: The funding strategy relies on a diverse partnership of local, state, and federal funding sources. The broad-based, growing West Slope coalition of over 20 entities proposes to contribute \$35 to \$40 million, \$20 million of which has already been approved and committed by the River District's Board of Directors.

Recognizing the importance of Shoshone permanency to current and future water security on Colorado's Western Slope, local partners are taking action to formalize their own financial commitments to this project. As of the date of this memo, 19 water entities and local governments have formally committed over \$14 million with ongoing conversations with remaining coalition partners. The following table includes local commitments to-date:

Local Funding Commitments (as of 06/10/2024)	
Garfield County	\$3 million
Eagle County	\$2 million
City of Glenwood Springs	\$2 million
Ute Water Conservancy District	\$2 million
Eagle River Water and Sanitation District and Upper Eagle Regional Water Authority	\$1 million
Grand County	\$1 million
City of Grand Junction	\$1 million



Mesa County	\$1 million
Clifton Water District	\$250,000
Grand Valley Irrigation Company	\$250,000
Basalt Water Conservancy District	\$100,000
Grand Valley Water Users Association	\$100,000
Orchard Mesa Irrigation District	\$100,000
City of Rifle	\$100,000
Snowmass Water & Sanitation District	\$100,000
Mesa County Irrigation District	\$50,000
Palisade Irrigation District	\$50,000
West Divide Water Conservancy District	\$50,000
Total:	\$14.15M

State: On January 29, 2024, the Colorado Water Conservation Board (CWCB) voted unanimously to recommend a \$20 million investment in support of the Shoshone Water Rights Preservation effort. The Colorado General Assembly formally approved the \$20 million contribution through the 2024 Water Projects Bill (HB24-1435) with broad bipartisan support. The funding commitment represents a key milestone in the campaign to permanently protect the historic, non-consumptive Shoshone water rights on the upper Colorado River for future generations, an outcome long sought by over 20 Western Slope water entities and local governments.

Federal: In recognition of the critical importance of the Shoshone flows to the continued success of the Upper Colorado River Endangered Fish Species Recovery Program and other benefits to federal interests, we have initiated discussions with the Bureau of Reclamation to contribute the remaining \$40 - \$49 million of the acquisition costs through funding made available as part of the Inflation Reduction Act. The Inflation Reduction Act provides \$4 billion in drought mitigation funding to support actions that deliver:

- (i) Compensation for temporary or multiyear voluntary reductions in diversion of water or consumptive water use; and
- (ii) Voluntary system conservation projects that achieve verifiable reductions in use of or demand for water supplies or provide environmental benefits in the Lower Basin or Upper Basin of the Colorado River; and
- (iii) Ecosystem and habitat restoration projects that address issues directly caused by drought in a river basin or inland water body.

This funding must be committed by September 30, 2026. The Shoshone water rights acquisition is in strong alignment with funding category (iii) given the measurable benefits, particularly evident in drought years, to the Colorado River ecosystem and critical habitat, which is important to meeting recovery requirements to maintain ESA compliance.



The \$99 million PSA to acquire the Shoshone water rights is no small price tag, but the one-time investment to protect Colorado River flows in perpetuity is a durable solution with priceless benefits for generations of water users to come. Under current water use demands in Colorado, the absence of the Shoshone call would mean that, in a dry-year such as 2012, 41,000 acre-feet of water would no longer flow through the critical 15-Mile Reach section of the Colorado River. Under increased future demands in a similar dry-year conditions like 2012, the protected amount increases to approximately 86,000 acre-feet. The Shoshone call impact is most realized in dry years but is also seen under wet-years and average-year hydrology contributing approximately 3,000 – 27,000 AF.



SHOSHONE

WATER RIGHT PRESERVATION



The Shoshone Water Right commands essential flows upstream and downstream of Glenwood Canyon on the Upper Colorado River. Credit: Antonia Hadjimichael/Cornell University.

SENIOR WEST SLOPE WATER RIGHTS

In Colorado, the right to divert and use water is governed by a legal priority system of water rights administered by the State of Colorado. Water is scarce in the arid West, more with climate change-induced aridification. The priority system is a means of rationing water when river flows subside after spring runoff. Shoshone holds the most senior, major water right on the mainstem Colorado River. This non-consumptive 1902 water right for 1,250 cubic feet per second makes the plant incredibly valuable to Western Colorado. This water right commands the flow of the Colorado River, making it essential for both upstream and downstream ecological and economic benefits in the face of ongoing drought.

THE SHOSHONE HYDRO PLANT IN COLORADO WATER HISTORY

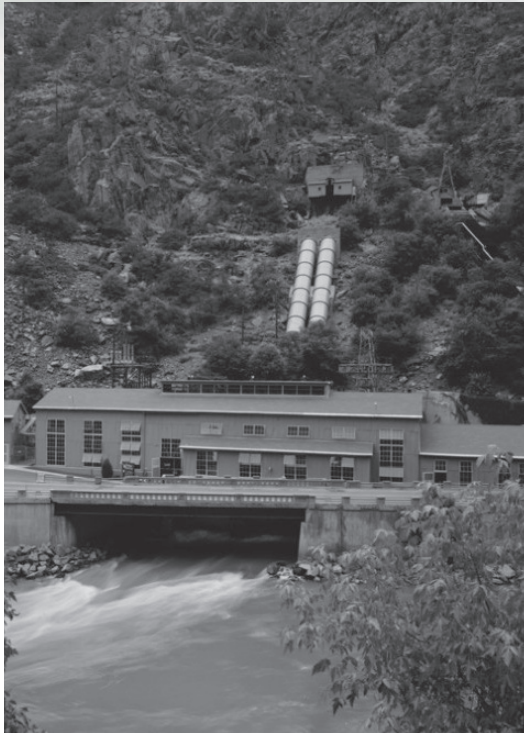
In 1902, 20 years after Glenwood Springs was first settled and about 14 years after the railroads reached the new town, the Colorado Power & Irrigation Company organized to furnish electrical power to various western Colorado towns. The selected position for a hydroelectric plant was at Shoshone Falls, eight miles east of Glenwood Springs in Glenwood Canyon.



Credit: Library of Congress.

When Central Colorado Power Company incorporated in 1906, construction of the plant began. A major engineering feat for its time, the Shoshone Hydropower Plant's construction employed up to 1,500 workers for two and a half years, and to this day operates from the run of the river rather than an upstream reservoir. Since its creation, the Shoshone Hydro Plant has been owned by the Colorado Power Company and the Public Service Company of Colorado, eventually absorbed by Xcel Energy.

WWW.KEEPSHOSHONEFLOWING.ORG



Credit: Library of Congress.

SHOSHONE HYDRO PLANT: HOW IT WORKS

The Shoshone Hydro Plant consists of four elements: a diversion dam, a 2.3-mile tunnel drilled through the north wall of Glenwood Canyon, a power plant with two turbines, and transmission lines.

The diversion dam is located at the Hanging Lake exit off Interstate 70. The dam directs water into a 2.3-mile tunnel drilled through the north wall of Glenwood Canyon. The tunnel is approximately 13 feet tall and 16-feet, 8-inches wide. The tunnel terminates at the hydro plant, 165 feet above the turbines. Water falls down two penstocks and the power created by the weight of the water falling turns two turbines, which in turn power two generators, producing up to 15 megawatts of electricity. The electricity benefits consumers across Western Colorado.

The water emerges from the plant unconsumed and ready to support the environment, recreation, and municipal uses. The famed Shoshone boat ramp is located right at the plant for this very reason, and remains a popular destination for recreational boaters.

A COMMAND OF THE RIVER TODAY & IN A HOTTER, DRIER FUTURE

The seniority of Shoshone's water right brings exceptional value for West Slope communities and water users. Without these flows, river levels would be lower, temperatures higher, and other interests upstream could take more water out of the natural river basin. Bolstered by Shoshone flows, the Colorado River supports a robust \$14.6 billion water-based recreational economy in Colorado from Grand County westward for rafters, kayakers, and anglers – both commercial and private.



Shoshone flows are also essential for maintaining both upstream and downstream environments for native fish and wildlife, including Colorado's four listed threatened and endangered fish: the humpback chub, the bonytail chub, the Colorado pikeminnow, and the razorback sucker - occupying critical habitat in the 15-Mile Reach near Grand Junction. Shoshone's senior water rights act as a bedrock for the success of the Upper Colorado Endangered Fish Recovery Program and continued, streamlined compliance with the Endangered Species Act (ESA). The consistent flow regime also helps sustain local agricultural producers and Colorado's \$11.9 billion agricultural economy through increased flows and higher water quality and provides water quality benefits for West Slope communities that rely on the Colorado River for drinking water.

WWW.KEEPSHOSHONEFLOWING.ORG



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Tuesday, June 11, 2024

CONTACT:

Garfield County, Renelle Lott – 970.366.2275
Colorado River District, Lindsay DeFrates –
970.456.8973

Garfield County commits \$3 million to Shoshone Water Right Preservation

Local and state sources have now pledged \$54.15 million of the \$99 million needed to permanently protect the Shoshone water rights.

Garfield County, Colorado — On June 10, the Garfield County Board of County Commissioners voted unanimously to approve a commitment of \$3 million to support the purchase and permanent protection of the water rights associated with the Shoshone Hydroelectric Power Plant. The flows provided by these senior, non-consumptive water rights are essential for maintaining agricultural and recreational economies, and for providing municipal water resources in Garfield County.

The total purchase price for the water rights is \$99 million. The Colorado River Water Conservation District has secured commitments of over \$14 million from 19 Western Slope partners, with Garfield County (\$3 million), the City of Glenwood Springs (\$2 million), Eagle County (\$2 million), and the Ute Water Conservancy District (\$2 million) pledging large contributions, among others.

The commissioners plan to dedicate the county's Conservation Trust Fund allocation, among other funding sources, toward the water right purchase. They noted the flow is vital to local economic development and sustainability.

The county pledged the funds to boost the dedicated, visionary efforts by the Colorado River District on behalf of a growing coalition of communities and agencies in western Colorado to preserve Western Slope water rights into the future.

"I've been working on this for more than 16 years, and I hope and pray that it becomes a reality," said **Commissioner Mike Samson**. "We still have a long way to go, but what a blessing this will be for the Western Slope, as well as other regions down the river. If more is needed from us, we'll talk again ... it's the importance of water, which is the lifeblood of the West."

Located in Glenwood Canyon on the Colorado River, the Shoshone Hydroelectric Plant holds senior, nonconsumptive water rights which date back to 1902. These water rights provide vital water supplies to the river, while generating enough electricity to serve roughly 15,000 homes (15 megawatts). The Colorado River flows for approximately 80 river miles in Garfield County, from Glenwood Canyon to the Mesa County line.



“I’m comfortable at the \$3 million level. It’s right here in the heart of Garfield County,” said **Commissioner Tom Jankovsky** in expressing his support. “It’s recreation, it’s agriculture, oil and gas, it’s domestic water – it is the building block of our economy.”

“The Shoshone call provides critical water supplies that drive the recreational economies supported by rafters, kayakers, and anglers from Eagle to Mesa County,” the River District’s memo to the board notes. “Shoshone’s flows also provide critical habitat to four fish listed under the Endangered Species Act, and water security and quality to our Western Slope agriculture and many of our cities who utilize the mainstem of the Colorado for drinking water supplies and wastewater discharge.”

“This is a 50- to 100-year issue. We need to make a step now and think long term,” expressed **Commissioner John Martin**. “We are very committed to preserving the Shoshone water diversion right, which protects the Western Slope like no other action in history.”

“The county’s leadership and significant investment in protecting these critical water rights will go a long way to ensure the future of water security for communities throughout Garfield County,” said **Colorado River District General Manager Andy Mueller**. “The counties on the West Slope act as anchor points for managing natural resources, and their support for this project demonstrates its importance to the future of the people and the economies they represent.”

Last December, the Colorado River District, on behalf of a growing coalition of West Slope water entities and local governments, signed a purchase and sale agreement with Xcel Energy to secure and protect the Shoshone water rights for the price of \$99 million.

Since then, 19 West Slope water entities and local governments, including Garfield County, have contributed \$14.15 million in local funding. In addition to the \$20 million appropriated by the state through the Colorado Water Conservation Board Projects Bill (HB24-1435), and the \$20 million from the Colorado River District’s Community Funding Partnership program, \$54.15 million has been raised so far.

The broad-based Shoshone Water Right Preservation Coalition is working with local, state, and federal sources to secure funds for the remainder of the \$99 million purchase price. At the same time, the Colorado River District continues to negotiate an instream flow agreement in partnership with the state to ensure that the water will continue to flow regardless of the status of power production at the Shoshone Hydroelectric Plant in Glenwood Canyon.

A durable solution and multi-generational investment, Shoshone permanency will provide priceless benefits for water users on both sides of the divide. More information about the Shoshone Water Right Preservation Campaign & Coalition can be found at: www.KeepShoshoneFlowing.org.



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Friday, May 17, 2024

CONTACT:

City of Glenwood Springs, Bryana Starbuck -
970.384.6441
Colorado River District, Lindsay DeFrates -
970.456.8973

City of Glenwood Springs pledges \$2 million for Shoshone Water Right Preservation campaign.

Fundraising effort tops \$50 million and exceeds halfway mark towards total purchase price.

Glenwood Springs, Colorado — During a regular public meeting on Thursday, May 16th, the Glenwood Springs City Council voted unanimously to contribute \$2 million to the Shoshone Water Right Preservation campaign. These senior water rights, currently used for hydroelectric power production at the Shoshone Power Plant, are essential for maintaining the flows of the Colorado River through Glenwood Canyon.

Last December, the Colorado River District, on behalf of a growing coalition of West Slope water entities and local governments, signed a purchase and sale agreement with Xcel Energy to secure and protect the Shoshone water rights for a price of \$99 million.

The City of Glenwood’s \$2 million contribution pushes the total amount raised so far to over \$50 million, just over half the total cost. The Colorado River District will continue to work with local, state, and federal partners to secure the remainder of the purchase price before the deal closes in 2027.

“This forward-thinking investment in the permanent protection of the Shoshone rights is a legacy investment for Glenwood because the health of our rivers is directly tied to the heart of our community, quality of life for our residents, and our local economy,” said Glenwood Springs Mayor Ingrid Wussow. “We are incredibly appreciative of the dedication of all partners who have worked to advance this opportunity for our community today and for generations to come.”

According to the Shoshone Outfitter Partnership, the Colorado River through Glenwood Canyon experiences over 70,000 commercial customer trips and an estimated 80,000 private boaters who launch from the Grizzly Creek and Shoshone boat ramps. River recreation drives the summer economy of the City of Glenwood Springs, which sustains local businesses and a foundational tax base for the city through its recreation- and tourism-based economy. Achieving Shoshone permanency provides certainty and security for outfitters, the hospitality industry, and all local businesses that rely on resident and nonresident tourists and qualified employees. In 2022, the

Colorado River Outfitters Association estimated that commercial river rafting through Glenwood Canyon created an economic impact of \$23.5 million.

West Slope partner organizations have now contributed \$10.05 million in local funding. Last December, the Colorado River District's Community Funding Partnership grant program committed \$20 million, and the Colorado General Assembly recently appropriated another \$20 million through the Colorado Water Conservation Board Projects Bill (HB24-1435).

"We thank the City of Glenwood Springs for their strong leadership and support in securing the future of the Colorado River," says Andy Mueller, Colorado River District General Manager. "With the City's contribution, our growing West Slope coalition has secured \$50 million, over half of the purchase price, in less than five months. These funding commitments serve as examples of the decisive mentality needed to support long-lasting solutions for future generations."

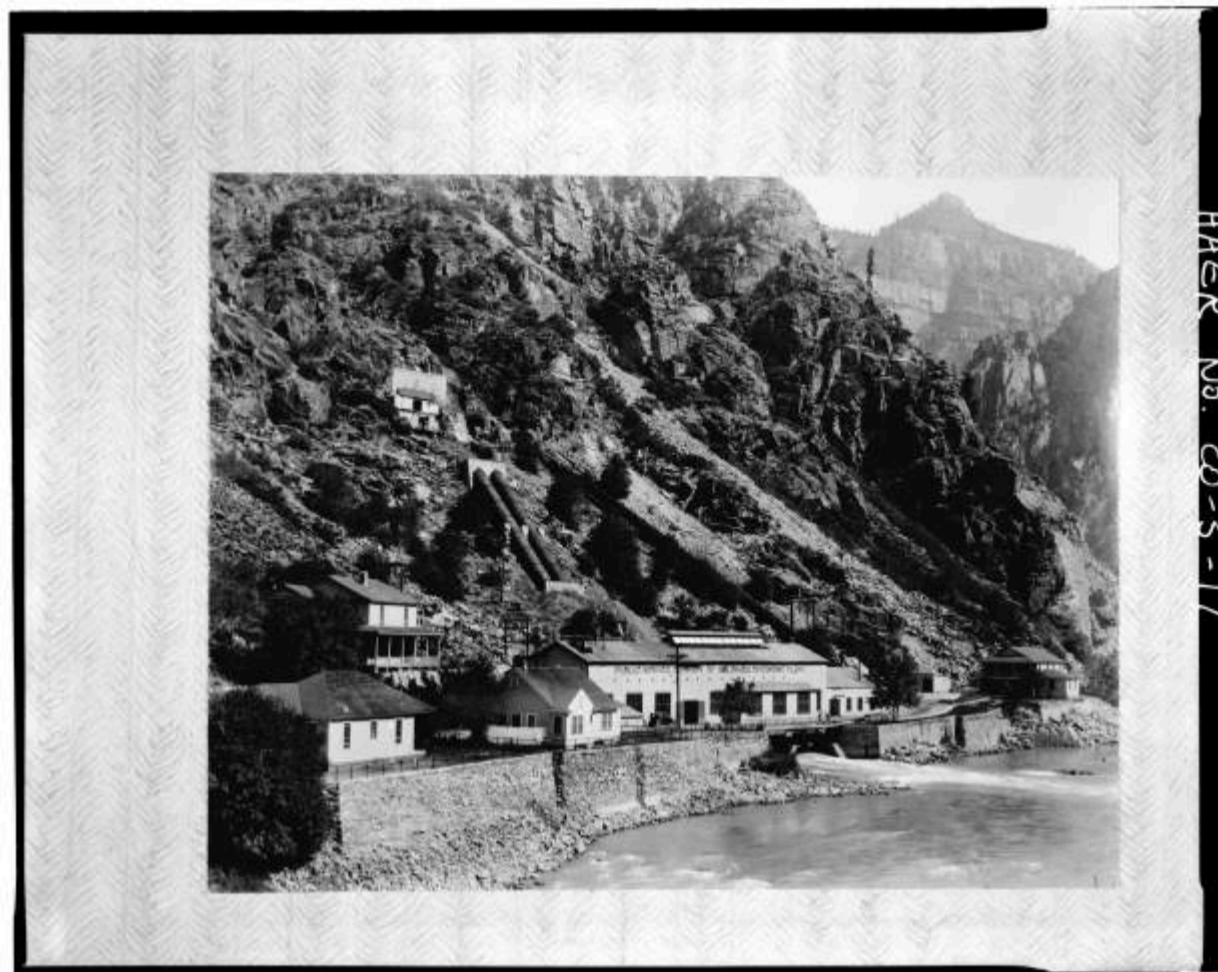
A durable solution and multi-generational investment, Shoshone permanency will provide priceless benefits for water users on both sides of the divide. More information about the Shoshone Water Right Preservation Campaign & Coalition can be found at: www.KeepShoshoneFlowing.org.

###

City of Rifle commits \$100,000 to the Shoshone Water Rights Purchase

News [FOLLOW NEWS](#) | Mar 10, 2024

Katherine Tomanek [FOLLOW](#)
ktomanek@postindependent.com



This photocopy of a 1935 photograph of the Shoshone Hydroelectric Plant in Glenwood Canyon underlines the importance of the water rights.
Library of Congress |

The Rifle City Council listened to a funding request from a Colorado River District representative during their Wednesday regular session.

“We are asking that the City of Rifle consider a funding request for \$100,000,” Amy Moyer said, Director of Strategic Partnerships for the Colorado River District.

The Colorado River District, as Moyer explained, is asking for the money because they’re trying to purchase the Shoshone Water Rights.

The Shoshone Hydro Power Plant sits in Glenwood Canyon and is owned by the Public Service Company of Colorado, a subsidiary of Xcel Energy. It produces 15 megawatts of hydro power, which is enough to power around 15,000 homes.

“To operate the plant, water is diverted from the Colorado River near the Hanging Lake tunnel, it travels around two and half miles through a tunnel, drops through the penstocks, and is immediately returned to the river,” Moyer explained.

The historic Shoshone Water Rights, Moyer continued, are extremely important, especially to those in the Western Slope of Colorado.

“They’re among the largest non-consumptive water rights on the Colorado River, the first being the senior water right that was appropriated in 1902, that carries 1,250 cubic feet per second (cfs), and the second water right that’s associated with the Shoshone Hydro Power Plant, that’s an additional 158 cfs, so that’s a total of 1408 cfs,” Moyer said.

Non-consumptive means that this water is diverted from the Colorado River, but is then put back, ensuring that any water used can then be beneficial later on in its journey downriver.

“It also means that the river operates year-round,” Moyer said.

Moyer explained the district’s reasoning for wanting to go forward with purchase now:



She added that they have historic funding opportunities on both the state and federal side that make a purchase price for the magnitude of the water rights a real opportunity for the Western Slope. Other reasons for the purchase happening now are seeing impacts of a hotter and dryer future, and the stability of Western Slope in terms of communities that draw on the water.

“Preserving the Shoshone Water Rights is incredibly important to our recreation economy. River recreation contributes \$14.6 billion to the state’s GDP,” Moyer said about the multiple benefits to Colorado and the Western Slope if they attain these rights.

Other benefits of this 250 mile stretch would be for the agriculture, water quality and environment of the Colorado River, which includes four species of endangered fish.

Moyer said that Public Service Company of Colorado and the Colorado River District signed a purchase and sale agreement to transfer ownership of the historic Shoshone Water Rights to the Colorado River District on Dec, 19, 2023, for a purchase price of \$98.5 million.

There are four parts to the agreement. One of those parts is securing funding for that purchase price.

“We’re working with our west slope coalition partners to secure \$10 to \$20 million of that purchase price. The Colorado River District has already committed \$20 million. At the end of January, the state of Colorado, through the Colorado Water Conservation Board, also committed \$20 million to the purchase price,” Moyer said. “All of that is aimed at setting us up for success to request \$49 million from the federal government.”

The Colorado River District is requesting these funds in advance to be put into an escrow account, which wouldn’t be used unless they did all that was asked of them in the purchase agreement between the district and the Public Service Company of Colorado.

“If, for any reason, the purchase and sale agreement was terminated, the funds, with interest, would be returned to all of the coalition partners and public entities,” Moyer said.

The Colorado River District doesn’t need these funds until the end of 2027, but they’re working on these funding commitments now because they believe it’s important to their ask of federal funding.

The city council authorized staff to sign a letter committing \$100,000 to the purchase of the Shoshone Water Rights. This would be in the budget for 2025.

“I just want everyone to realize how historic this Shoshone Water Rights Purchase is and how it can totally save the western slope in case something ever happened to Xcel or that power plant. So I’m glad they came in and I’m glad we’re partnering with them,” council member Clint Hostettler said in their closing comments for the meeting.

More Like This, Tap A Topic [colorado-river-district](#) [community](#) [rifle](#) [shoshone-water-rights](#) [xcel-energy](#)

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COLORADO

**Colorado Water
Conservation Board**

Department of Natural Resources

Colorado Water Conservation Board Approves Funding for Continued Shoshone Preservation Efforts

January 29, 2024—The Colorado Water Conservation Board (CWCB) has voted to recommend \$20 million in funding to the Colorado River District as part of the annual Water Projects Bill contributing to a larger funding effort to secure Shoshone permanence and foster water security on the Colorado River.

“The CWCB Board considered this funding application very carefully. This is a significant step towards maintaining historic flows on the Colorado River,” said Lauren Ris, CWCB Director. “As an agency, we will continue to do our due diligence in this process, with the hope that these efforts can benefit the environment and give West Slope water users more certainty.”

The decision follows a special workshop held on January 25, and a final vote during CWCB’s January Board Meeting. On [December 19, 2023](#), the Colorado River Water Conservation District and Public Service Company signed an agreement that would allow the River District to purchase the water rights associated with the Shoshone power plant. The River District is also planning to seek funds from the Bureau of Reclamation and others.

In the coming months to years, CWCB will work with the River District to negotiate an instream flow agreement. If approved, the two entities would then seek a change in water right decree through Colorado Water Court. The CWCB’s Instream Flow Program secures instream flow water rights to protect streamflow to preserve the natural environment of streams and lakes where fish and other species live. The integrity of this long-standing program depends on a thorough review, so it’s critical CWCB staff follow public processes.

“We also greatly appreciate the hard work and dedication of CWCB staff in this effort and their positive recommendation of funding to the Board,” said Andy Mueller, Colorado River District General Manager. “We consider the state an integral partner in protecting Shoshone’s flows in perpetuity, and the \$20 million funding milestone brings this generational investment in Colorado water security one step closer to the finish line.”

“If completed, Shoshone water right preservation would help maintain flows on the Colorado River, and support the system as a whole,” said Dan Gibbs, Executive Director of the Colorado Department of Natural Resources. “Securing this water right and negotiating an instream flow use agreement could mean supporting healthy agriculture, providing clean drinking water, fostering healthy environments, and more. We look forward to working with the Colorado River District and Xcel Energy as this process enters the next phases of evaluation and approval.”

###



SHOSHONE

WATER RIGHT PRESERVATION

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Tuesday, December 19, 2023

CONTACT:

Xcel Energy, Tyler Bryant - 813.951.4169

GBSM, Sam Stookesberry - 303.981.8332

CRD, Lindsay DeFrates - 970.456.8973

Historic Agreement Reached to Advance Colorado Water Security

Shoshone Water Right Preservation Campaign kicks-off with Purchase & Sale Agreement to permanently protect flows in the Upper Colorado River.

Glenwood Springs, CO — This afternoon, Xcel Energy and the Colorado River District signed a Purchase & Sale Agreement (PSA) to transfer ownership of the historic Shoshone water rights to the River District for \$98.5 million. The agreement marks a first step towards permanent protection of the most senior, non-consumptive water right on the Colorado River, a project with a 20-year history of support from 19 western Colorado governments and water entities.

“This announcement is a critical first step in preserving the water rights that flow through our Shoshone Hydro Plant turbines on the Colorado River,” said Robert Kenney, president of Xcel Energy – Colorado. “This is an important agreement for the 1.6 million electric customers and communities we serve statewide by allowing us to continue generating clean electricity as part of our commitment to be good stewards of the Colorado River and all who rely on it.”

Leadership from Xcel Energy and the River District celebrated this milestone alongside a broad base of Shoshone Water Right Preservation campaign partners at the Hotel Colorado. Remarks from county commissioners, local and state elected officials, as well as environmental and recreation-based interests followed the official signing of the agreement.

“On behalf of the Colorado River District and the headwaters communities in Eagle County, we thank Xcel Energy for being a committed partner to the West Slope, our economy, and our environment,” said Colorado River District Board President and Eagle County Commissioner Kathy Chandler-Henry.

With the PSA signed, the Shoshone Water Right Preservation Coalition – a diverse and growing partnership of stakeholders – now begins a multi-year effort to secure funding for the purchase and to add an ‘instream flow’ benefit to the historic Shoshone water rights in water court. With its command of 1,408 cfs (or up to 1.02-million-acre feet of water per year) on the Colorado mainstem and benefits both upstream and downstream of Glenwood Canyon, Coalition members see Shoshone permanency as a generational investment in water security for Colorado's environment, economy, and communities across the state.

“We now look forward to working alongside the State of Colorado, the Bureau of Reclamation, the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, and Colorado water users, all of whom will be integral partners in this effort’s success,” Commissioner Chandler-Henry added.

Central to the statewide benefit of the Shoshone water right is the vital role it plays in Endangered Species Act (ESA) compliance. Over 1,250 Colorado water projects on both sides of the divide rely on the Upper Colorado River Endangered Fish Recovery Program to maintain ESA compliance and continued operation. In dry years, Shoshone calls between 41,000 and 86,000-acre-feet (AF) of water downstream from the Shoshone Hydropower Plant, bolstering needed cold-water flows in the Grand Valley’s 15-Mile Reach – critical habitat for Colorado’s four native fish listed under the Endangered Species Act.

The consistent flow regime also helps sustain local agricultural producers and Colorado’s \$11.9 billion agricultural economy through increased flows and higher water quality. It also provides water quality benefits for West Slope communities that rely on the Colorado River for drinking water, and drives the state’s \$14.6 billion water-based recreation economy along the Colorado River.

“Protection of Shoshone’s flows presents a unique opportunity to protect the long-term viability of the Colorado River and the communities across the state that depend on it, many of which I represent,” said state Senator Dylan Roberts (SD-8). “There is still a lot of work to be done, but today is incredibly exciting. Taking action on behalf of current and future water users is absolutely worth it and should be a top priority.”

"Agriculture, recreation, and the environment all benefit from Shoshone’s flows. But it’s important to remember that the drinking water supplies for many of the communities in my district come directly from the Colorado River,” said State Representative Elizabeth Velasco (HD-57). “Towns like New Castle, Silt, Rifle, and others all benefit from the flows that Shoshone provides. Higher, consistent stream flows provide clean drinking water for thousands of people in my district and reduce the cost of water treatment for rural communities."

“Colorado has an opportunity with Shoshone permanency to take durable, decisive action on water security for the sake of our productive agriculture and our hard-working farmers and ranchers here in the Grand Valley,” stated Mesa County Commissioner Bobbie Daniel.

After today’s official kickoff, the Shoshone Water Right Preservation Campaign moves forward with in-depth public engagement planned across Colorado. Both West Slope and Front Range residents are encouraged to stay tuned in the coming year as local events are announced. Learn more at www.KeepShoshoneFlowing.org.

###


Shoshone Water Rights Preservation

*Amy Moyer
Director of Strategic Partnerships,
Colorado River District*



SHOSHONE
WATER RIGHT PRESERVATION





**The Colorado River District
was formed in 1937 to protect
West Slope water users AND
to safeguard for Colorado all
waters of the Colorado River
to which the state is entitled.**

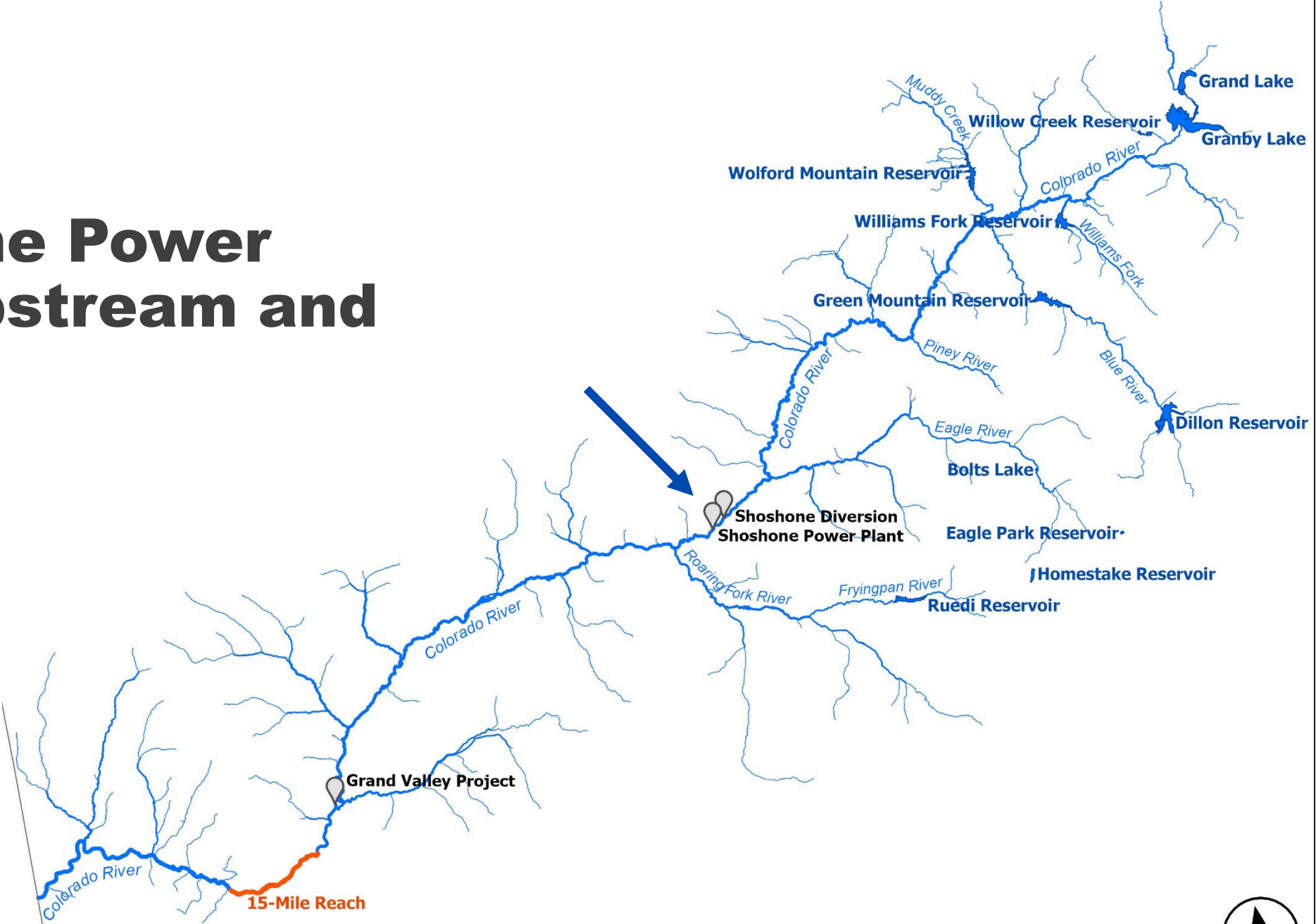


ABOUT SHOSHONE WATER RIGHTS

- Large and very senior non-consumptive right on the Colorado River – 1250 cfs under a 1902 right & 158 cfs under a 1929
- The full Shoshone call can command 1,408 cubic feet per second, or up to 1.02 MAF per year
- Benefits on the West Slope from the Headwaters to the State Line and Statewide.



Shoshone Power Plant Upstream and Down



Utah Colorado



Multiple Benefits for Colorado and the West Slope

Clean Drinking Water

Agriculture



Environment

Recreation Economy



Shoshone Water Right Preservation Coalition

**Summit County – Grand County – Eagle County
Garfield County – Mesa County**

- Clifton Water District
- Clinton Ditch and Reservoir Company
- Colorado River District
- Eagle Park Reservoir Company
- Basalt Water Conservancy District
- Eagle River Water and Sanitation District
- City of Glenwood Springs
- City of Grand Junction
- Grand Valley Irrigation Company
- Grand Valley Water Users Association
- Mesa County Irrigation District
- Middle Park Water Conservancy District
- Orchard Mesa Irrigation District
- Palisade Irrigation District
- City of Rifle
- Snowmass Water & Sanitation District
- Upper Eagle Regional Water Authority
- Ute Water Conservancy District
- West Divide Water Conservancy District



WWW.KEEPSHOSHONEFLOWING.ORG

TIMELINE



Negotiating an Instream Flow Agreement between seller, CRD, and CWCB



Successful completion of a change case



Ongoing fundraising with support from local, state and federal partners



Approval from Colorado's Public Utility Commission



Anticipated Closing in 2027

On December 19, 2023, the Colorado River District executed a Purchase & Sale Agreement with Public Service Company of Colorado (A subsidiary of Xcel Energy) for \$99 million.





**\$20M –
Colorado River
District**



**\$20M – State of
Colorado**



**\$14.15M – 19
Local Partners**

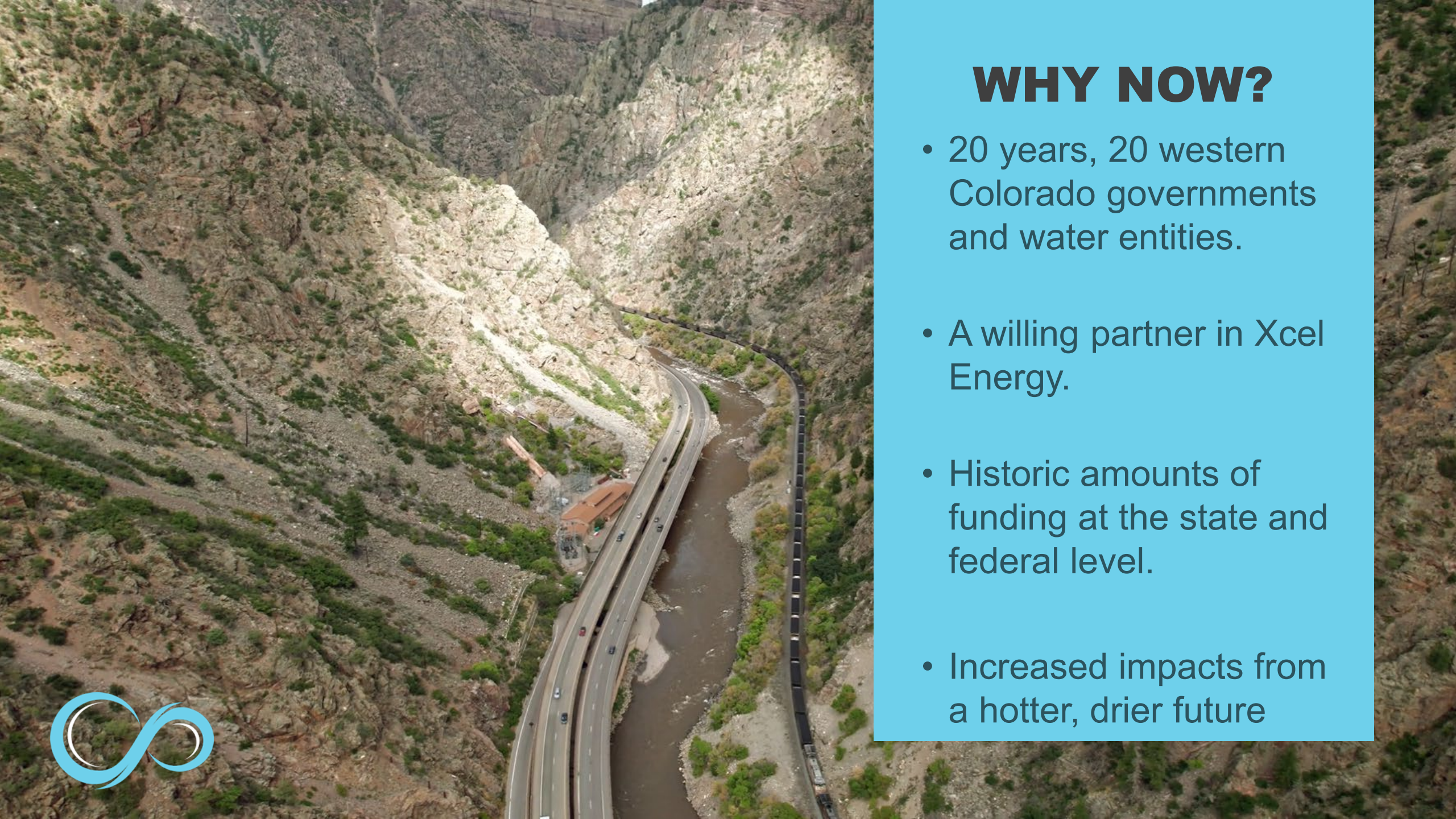
**\$54.15
million
Secured**



Middle River Contributions

Garfield County	\$3 million
City of Glenwood Springs	\$2 million
Basalt Water Conservancy District	\$100,000
City of Rifle	\$100,000
Snowmass Water & Sanitation District	\$100,000
West Divide Water Conservancy District	\$50,000
Total	\$5.35M





WHY NOW?

- 20 years, 20 western Colorado governments and water entities.
- A willing partner in Xcel Energy.
- Historic amounts of funding at the state and federal level.
- Increased impacts from a hotter, drier future



SHOSHONE
WATER RIGHT PRESERVATION



WWW.KEEPSHOSHONEFLOWING.ORG

Get Involved



@KeepShoshoneFlowing



@KeepShoshoneFlowing



@ShoshoneFlows

**Sign up for the
newsletter**





Town of New Castle
450 W. Main Street
PO Box 90
New Castle, CO 81647

Administration Department
Phone: (970) 984-2311
Fax: (970) 984-2716
www.newcastlecolorado.org

Memorandum

To: Mayor & Council
From: David Reynolds
Re: Agenda Item: Playground Equipment Partnership
Date: 06/18/24

Purpose:

The purpose of this agenda item is to allow time for Kathryn Senior Elementary School PTAC members Kelsey Volmer and Amy Villacci to present a grant partnership idea to the Town Council. Working with KSE teachers, PTAC members have identified a real need for ADA Accessible Playground Equipment at KSE. PTAC members have received blessing from the school district to pursue this project and have been tasked with the job of finding the funding and organizing the project. PTAC members have identified the total project cost as \$200,000 and have done an outstanding job of privately fund raising \$50,000 toward the project. With significant grant match money now in hand the PTAC is now exploring grant options for this project.

Due to certain rules and limitations around GOCO and FLMD grants, the PTAC would like to explore grant partnership possibilities with the town. Staff and PTAC members will discuss the factors that drive the PTAC to seek Town assistance. Staff will also discuss the possible benefits to Town residents who may appreciate the use of accessible playground equipment.



**Kathryn Senor Elementary School
Accessible and Inclusive Playground Addition
Grant Partnership Proposal**

Packet Contents:

- Letter of Support from Garfield RE-2 School District
- Project Nuts and Bolts
- Current Playground photos
- Examples of accessible equipment and PIP surfacing
- Playground Site Plan
- Playground Aerial View



Garfield School District No. Re-2

Heather Grumley, Superintendent
Lisa Pierce, Assistant Superintendent

Board of Directors
Britton Fletchall, President
Fathom Jensen, Vice President
Tony May, Board Member
Chance Jenkins, Treasurer
Cassie Haskell, Secretary

May 28, 2024

Dear Members of the City Council,

I enthusiastically support Kathryn Senor Elementary School's efforts to secure grant funding for new, inclusive playground equipment. This initiative is a vital investment in our children's well-being and an essential step towards ensuring all students have equal access to recreational opportunities.

Kathryn Senor Elementary opened its doors in 1997 and has provided an excellent educational environment for the children of New Castle for over two decades. However, the playground facilities have seen minimal upgrades since their initial installation. As a result, the current playground is outdated and no longer meets the diverse needs of our student population.

The need for a new playground has become even more pressing with the recent adoption of a new Significant Support Needs (SSN) program at this school. This program serves students with various physical, cognitive, and sensory disabilities, requiring specialized equipment to facilitate their safe and enjoyable participation in playground activities. Unfortunately, our existing playground lacks the necessary features to accommodate these students, limiting their ability to engage with their peers and enjoy the benefits of outdoor play.

The impact of an inclusive playground on this community cannot be overstated, as the playground also serves the general public when school is not in session. The proximity of the playground to other parks, soccer fields, and trail systems would provide the town with a unique opportunity to offer a recreational complex open and accessible to all. It would promote physical activity, social interaction, and emotional well-being for all children.

I wholeheartedly support Kathryn Senor Elementary School's mission to secure funding for this project and urge you to consider the profound positive impact this new playground will have on our students and community. Investing in an inclusive playground is an investment in the future of all our children, ensuring they have the opportunity to grow, learn, and play together.

Thank you for your consideration.

Project Nuts and Bolts

What: We (KSE PTAC and Garfield RE-2 School District) are seeking a partnership with the Town of New Castle to apply for grants to build an accessible and inclusive playground addition for Kathryn Senor Elementary School.

Who:

- Parent Teacher Action Committee (PTAC) at KSE
- Garfield RE-2 School District
- Staff, students and parents at KSE
- Star Playgrounds

Why:

- This playground sits in the center of a New Castle residential neighborhood and is fully open to all members of the community outside of school hours and all summer long. This would provide not only the school, but the entire community with a safe and accessible space for children to play.
- Our current playground is inaccessible to individuals with mobility challenges due to the nature of the surfacing surrounding the equipment (pea gravel) and the nature of the equipment itself. We propose the addition of a fully accessible surface (poured in place rubber surfacing) and new, ADA compliant playground equipment that would allow children of all abilities to integrate and play together in a safe and engaging environment.
- This past year, KSE started a new Significant Support Needs (SSN) program that will increase the number of children enrolled at the school who would require these modifications. KSE is excited to offer this program and have the capabilities to teach all children. In the past, these students have been directed to other schools in order to best meet their needs. Unfortunately, the district is not able to provide funding for these necessary playground upgrades.
- There is no playground like this (with rubber surfacing and a focus on accessibility) anywhere in New Castle.
- This is the original playground that was built with the school in 1997.

Project Details:

- Resurfacing a portion of the playground with poured-in-place (PIP) rubber surfacing for accessibility and safety (The playground is currently filled with pea gravel. Pea gravel is not ADA accessible.)
- Removing outdated and broken equipment.
- Providing new, modern, and accessible playground equipment.
- Because of the large size of this playground, this project would renovate a large portion, but not the entire playground. Some of the old equipment that is still in good condition would stay (swings, balance beams, monkey bars). *See attached site plan for a better idea of which area we are hoping to place the rubber surfacing and new equipment.

Location of Project:

- Kathryn Senor Elementary School at 101 Alder Ave. (rear playground on the Northeast side of the school)
- Located in the heart of Castle Valley, walking distance to residential neighborhoods
- Close proximity to ViX Ranch Park, dog park and soccer fields.

Timeline:

- Grant submission – August/September 2024
- Grants awarded and Budget finalized – December 2024
- Equipment ordered – Winter 2024/Spring 2025
- Building commences – Spring/Summer 2025

Funding:

- Total project budget: \$200,000
- PTAC has been fundraising for the past two years and has secured ~\$50,000 through a combination of cash and in-kind donations
- To cover the remaining \$150,000 needed to complete the project, we have identified two viable grant options:
 - Great Outdoors Colorado Community Impact Grant
 - Garfield County Federal Mineral Lease District Joint Grant

How can the Town of New Castle help?

Partnership Proposal - We are asking that the Town of New Castle partner with Garfield RE-2 school district so that we can apply for these grants. Neither of these grants allow the district to apply alone, but by partnering with the Town we would be eligible applicants. We have researched and vetted numerous grant options, and these are the best fit for our purpose. Below we have detailed what the Town and District responsibilities would be within this partnership.

GOCO Community Impact Grant**Town responsibilities:**

1. Fill the role of primary applicant
2. Provide a point of contact
3. Signed resolution

District responsibilities:

1. Fill the role of Fiscal Agent
2. Write the grant
3. Provide a project manager
4. Provide matching funds
5. Front total project cost prior to reimbursement

How can the Town of New Castle help? (Continued)

GCFMLD Partnership Grant

Town responsibilities:

1. Fill the role of joint applicant
2. Complete the Attestation form

District responsibilities:

1. Fill the role of Fiscal Agent
2. Write the grant
3. Provide a project manager
4. Provide matching funds
5. Front total project cost prior to reimbursement

Current Playground Photos:



Examples of New Accessible Equipment

(Actual equipment will vary depending on amount awarded and current sale catalog.)



Examples of New Accessible Equipment

(Actual equipment will vary depending on amount awarded and current sale catalog.)

Kathryn Senor ES Playground Ideas Standalone Play



Unity Rockr



PlayCubes 8.0SL



Unity Spinnr



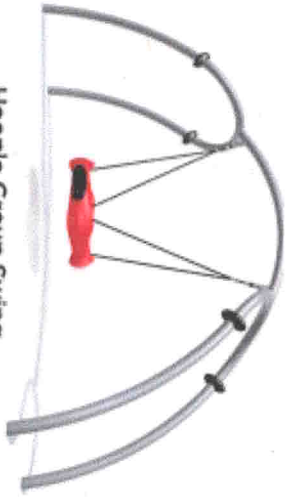
Accessible Whirl



Spinami Spinner



Unity Slide Climber



Hoopla Group Swing

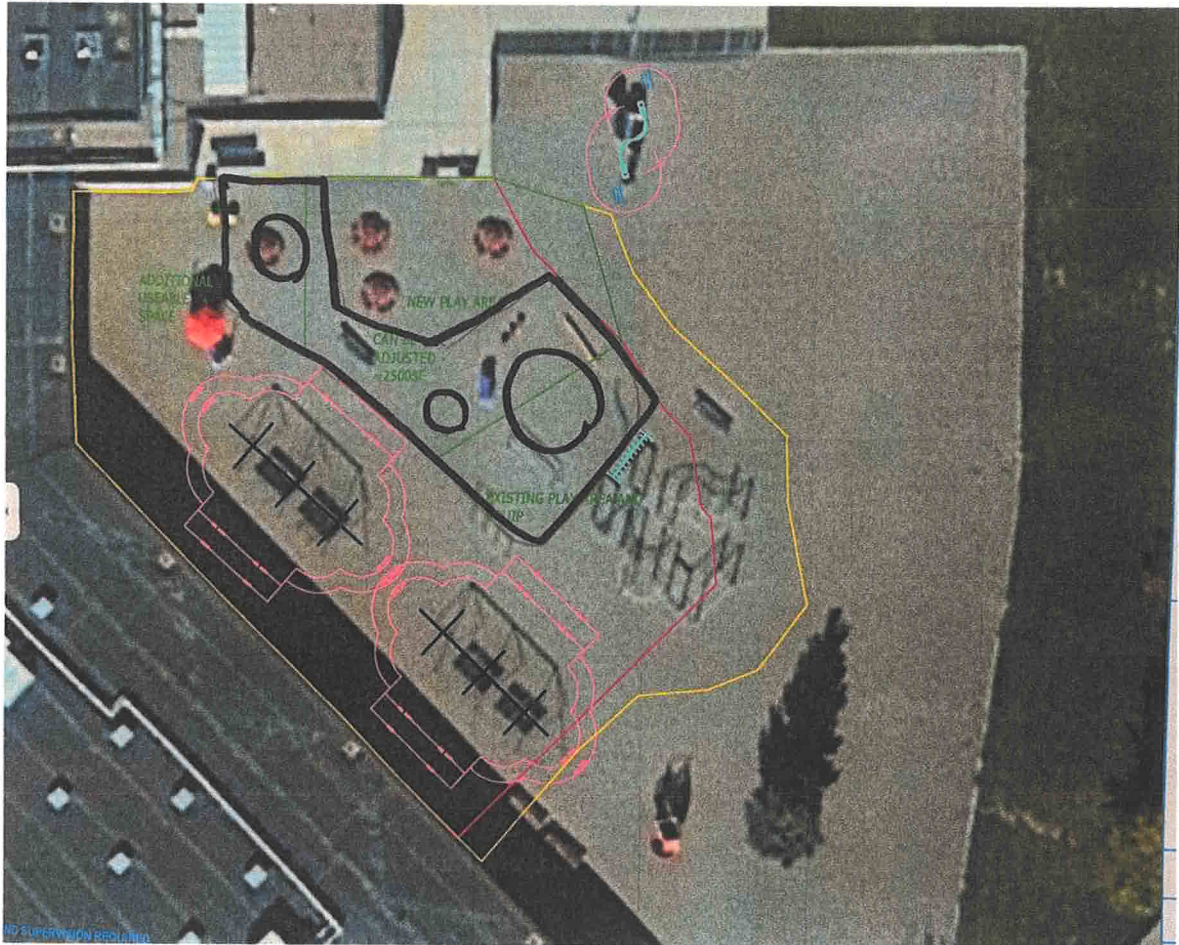
Examples of the poured in place (PIP) rubber surfacing

(Actual equipment will vary depending on amount awarded and current sale catalog.)



Playground Site Plan

Accessible surfacing (poured in place rubber) and accessible equipment to be placed in area outlined in black. New playground area is approximately 2500 sq ft.



Playground Arial View

Showing proximity of KSE playground to VIX Park and KSE Soccer fields



Kathryn Senior
Elementary
School
Accessible
Playground
Addition

Grant Partnership
Proposal

June 18th, 2024



Project Leadership

- Parent Teacher Action Committee (PTAC) at KSE
- Garfield RE-2 School District
- Staff, students, and parents at KSE
- Star Playgrounds



Project Summary

- Provide an accessible and inclusive playground addition at KSE
 - Resurface a portion of the playground with poured-in-place (PIP) rubber surface for accessibility and safety
 - Remove outdated and broken equipment
 - Provide modern, accessible equipment options



Examples of New Equipment



Kathryn Senor ES Playground Ideas

Standalone Play



Cozy Cocoon



Unity RockR



Accessible Whirl



PlayCubes 8.0SL



Unity SpinR



Hoopla Group Swing



Spinami Spinner



Unity Slide Climber

Why This Project Matters

- Provides the town with an accessible playground
- New Significant Support Needs Program at KSE
- The playground has not gotten an update for over 25 years
- The school district supports this vision but does not have the funds to carry it out

Location



- Kathryn Senior Elementary School is located at 101 Alder Ave.
 - Located in the heart of Castle Valley, walking distance to residential neighborhoods
 - Close proximity to VIX Ranch Park, dog park, and soccer fields

Timeline

- Project timeline:
 - Grant submission - August/September 2024
 - Budget finalized contingent on funding - December 2024
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Funding

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How Can the Town of New Castle Help?

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GCFMLD Partnership Grant

Town responsibilities:

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2. Complete the Attestation form

District responsibilities:

1. Fill the role of Fiscal Agent
2. Write the grant
3. Provide a project manager
4. Provide matching funds
5. Front total project cost prior to reimbursement

Questions?

Thank you for
your time!

1 **New Castle Town Council Regular Meeting**
2 **Tuesday May 21, 2024, 7:00 PM**
3

4 **Call to Order**

5 Mayor Art Riddile called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.
6

7 **Pledge of Allegiance**
8

9 **Roll Call**

10 Present Councilor Mariscal
11 Councilor Carey
12 Councilor Hazelton
13 Mayor A. Riddile
14 Councilor Copeland
15 Councilor Leland
16 Councilor G Riddile

17
18 Absent None
19

20 Also present at the meeting were Town Clerk Mindy Andis, Town Treasurer Viktoriya
21 Ehlers, Assistant Town Attorney Haley Carmer, Town Planner Paul Smith, and members of
22 the public.
23

24 **Meeting Notice**

25 Clerk Andis verified that her office gave notice of the meeting in accordance with
26 resolution TC 2024-1.
27

28 **Conflicts of Interest**

29 Councilor G. Riddile he would be recusing himself from item E. The discussion regarding
30 the sale of the 6th Street lot.
31

32 **Agenda Changes**

33 Town Clerk Mindy Andis said item A could be removed from the agenda.
34

35 **Citizen Comments on Items not on the Agenda**

36 There were no Citizen Comments.
37

38 **Consultant Reports**

39 Consultant Attorney –present for agenda items only.
40 Consultant Engineer – not present
41

42 **Items for Consideration**
43

44 ~~**Executive Session for a conference with the Town Attorney for the purpose of**~~
45 ~~**receiving legal advice on specific legal questions under CRS Section 24-6-**~~

1 ~~402(4)(b) Water Rights.~~

2
3 **Presentation: Jake Staton – Colorado Parks and Wildlife – Bear’s**

4 Colorado Parks and Wildlife Officer Jake Staton reviewed his presentation with the council
5 (Exhibit A).

6 Officer Staton said last year was a good year for the bears where there was plenty of food
7 for them to eat. Because it was a good year for the bear cubs, they were able to survive
8 and make it through the winter. The prediction for is this year could be a bad year with
9 more bears and with more available food.

10 Officer Staton has asked developers to have a bear proof trash enclosure for apartment
11 complex.

12 Councilor Hazelton asked if the bear population has grown since the spring bear hunt has
13 been eliminated. Officer Staton said yes. The population continues to grow.

14 Councilor Hazelton asked if Officer Staton can foresee any kind of changes towards
15 hunting to help with the management of bears to help eliminate the problems. Officer
16 Staton said hunting is the major management of helping with the bear population.

17 Councilor Carey asked what the best way would be to contact CPW for wildlife issues.

18 Officer Staton said to call the CPW office in Canyon Creek.

19 **Presentation: Jenny Lindsay – Great Expectations**

20 Great Expectations Jenny Lindsay, Interim Executive Director, reviewed her presentation
21 with the council. (Exhibit B) Ms. Lindsay said Great Expectations serves families from
22 Aspen to Parachute. They served 14 families in New Castle in 2023. Ms. Lindsay thanked
23 the Town of New Castle and the Town Council for their support in the program.

24 Mayor A. Riddile asked how Great Expectations identify families in need. Ms. Lindsay said
25 most of the families are referred to them by Women Health providers. Great Expectations
26 has created a seamless process for the referrals.

27 Councilor G. Riddile asked how Great Expectations track data for success. Ms. Lindsay said
28 two of the programs are nationally tracked. The data is collected by the national offices.

29 Mayor A. Riddile asked if Great Expectations have a presence in the school system. Ms.
30 Lindsay said yes. They work very closely with the Resource Center.

31
32 **Consider Resolution TC 2024-14, A Resolution of the New Castle Town Council**
33 **Recommending Approval of a Conditional Use Permit for Utility Transmission**
34 **Line and Towers on Property Located in the Industrial Zone District**

35 Planner Paul Smith reviewed his staff report with the council.

36
37 **I. Background:**

38 *The applicant proposes rebuilding the New Castle portion of the 69 kilovolt (kV)*
39 *transmission line (Transmission Line 6584) located along the Grand Hogback between*
40 *Mitchell Creek to Rifle Ute substations (~25 miles). According to the project narrative,*
41 *Transmission Line 6584 was originally constructed between the 1940s through the 1960s*
42 *and has reached the end of its serviceable life. New power lines and poles will be installed*
43 *and the easement expanded all to improve the integrity and resiliency of the power grid.*

1 The applicant's proposed utility transmission line and tower use is eligible for conditional
2 use review because it is not listed as a permitted or prohibited use under Section
3 17.52.050. Also, because the transmission line existed prior to the effective date of
4 Municipal Code Title 17, the following procedural requirements are necessary before work
5 commences:

6 1) In accordance with Municipal Code Section 17.84.080, "Any use that legally existed
7 prior to the effective date of Title 17 shall continue as an approved conditional use upon
8 written request of the owner." To date, no written request for a conditional use permit
9 has been made. The current application shall serve as the request.

10
11 2) In accordance with Section 17.84.070, "No approved conditional use may be
12 altered, structurally enlarged, (...) or expanded in ground area unless the site plan is
13 amended and approved in accordance with the procedures applicable to approval of a
14 conditional use". In addition to #1 above, the application proposes several alterations as
15 part of the conditional use approval:

16
17 i. The existing transmission line easement will be enlarged from approximately
18 40ft to a standard of 60ft to improve the powerline alignment and meet
19 industry safety requirements.

20
21 ii. Existing poles and cables will be upgraded. Taller poles, allowing for longer
22 powerline span, will reduce the total pole count from 20 to 18. Steel
23 monopoles will replace the existing wood poles. Existing wood poles,
24 averaging 40ft in height, will be replaced by rusted steel averaging 80ft in
25 height. The Applicant has included a new site plan for the proposed rebuild.

26
27 iii. The easement terrain will be modified with vegetation management and
28 grading.

29
30 On May 3rd, 2024, the Planning and Zoning Commission approved resolution PZ 2024-3
31 recommending conditional approval of the Xcel power line replacement project. As a
32 conditional use application, Town Council is required within sixty (60) days from the date
33 of the Planning Commission's written decision, or within such time as is mutually agreed
34 by Council and the applicant, to approve the application, with or without conditions, or
35 deny the application.

36
37 **II. Application Requirements:**

38 The purpose of this conditional use review is to determine if the nature of the
39 proposed use is appropriate to the location and character of the New Castle Industrial
40 Zone.

41 1) Site Plan:

42 a. Adjacent land uses and location of adjacent structures;
43

1 Adjacent land uses include storage (Intermountain, Gabossi), low hazard industrial
2 (National Propane, Bramco Bld.), factory use (Blue Barrel cabinetry shop, Granite Shop),
3 business (All Dogs and Cats), and open space (Breslin Park).

4
5 b. Boundary and size of lot;

6
7 The project spans numerous lots and parcels in the county. Within New Castle, the
8 application proposes widening easements to 60ft across 10 lots. Temporary access roads
9 will use existing egress points for ground access for construction and pulling/tensioning
10 sites. Private easement agreements are being negotiated with private landowners
11 affected.

12
13 c. Building location, height and setbacks;

14
15 All utility infrastructure will lie within easement boundaries. Although transmission
16 poles are exempt from building height restrictions per Section 17.72.040 of the Code, the
17 packet summarizes the height variation between existing poles and replacements in Table
18 2-2. Heights and locations of each pole are provided in the Site Plan.

19
20 d. Off-street parking and loading areas;

21
22 Temporary access routes off Colorado River Road (County Road 335) will allow for
23 construction vehicles and equipment to access pole locations and tensioning stations.
24 Temporary tensioning stations will be situated at the far west Town boundary. The
25 application does not currently comment on offsite delivery/loading/storage of materials or
26 daily construction parking. However, the Applicant has verbally committed to providing a
27 construction management plan prior to issuance of a conditional use certificate.

28
29 e. Points of ingress and egress;

30
31 Except for various access road driveways, the replacement work will be conducted in the
32 updated utility easement. County Road 335 will serve as the primary access to each lot.
33 Nine poles will be placed by helicopter assist and coordinated with the FAA. A Health and
34 Safety Plan has also been provided per the request of Colorado River Fire Rescue (CRFR).

35
36 f. Service and refuse areas;

37
38 The application omits plans for waste/sanitation management and staging of materials
39 and equipment existing poles. The applicant will provide a construction management plan
40 prior to construction.

41
42 g. Signs and exterior lighting;

1 Permanent signage and exterior lighting are not anticipated with the project. However,
2 temporary traffic control signs along County Road 335 can be expected during the
3 replacement process. Traffic control plans are subject to a ROW permit as regulated by
4 the Public Works Department.

5
6 h. Fencing, landscaping and screening;

7
8 Fence screening is required for lots operating fabrication, repair, or storage facilities.
9 Additionally, property lines adjacent to public parks shall have tree and shrub screening.
10 Neither case obtains with the current application, hence, no fencing or landscape
11 screening is proposed.

12
13 i. Compliance with performance standards;

14
15 Performance Standards are a commitment from the Applicant to minimize potential
16 nuisances. The applicant has signed the Performance Standards. P&Z moreover agreed
17 to exempt the Applicant from standards related to excessive noise subject to Condition
18 #13 below.

19
20 j. Anticipated utility requirements;

21
22 The project creates no additional demand for water, sewer, or electricity.

23
24 2) Development Timeline:

25
26 The applicant provided an anticipated schedule of development. Project construction
27 located in New Castle, Segment 2, is anticipated to begin in Spring 2025, pending permit
28 approvals. Materials would be delivered to the site approximately January 2025. If that
29 schedule is tracking, construction and restoration activities are expected to be completed
30 by late Fall 2025 and restoring service on Segment 2 of the transmission line by January
31 2026.

32
33 **III. Approval Criteria:**

34 A decision on a conditional use application shall be made based on the following criteria:

35
36 1) Is eligible for conditional review under § 17.72.040;

37
38 Staff Comment – The application is eligible for conditional review subject to sections
39 17.84.070 & 17.84.080 as discussed above.

40
41 2) Is generally compatible with adjacent land uses;

42 **Staff Comment** – The existing transmission line pre-dates New Castle’s industrial zone
43 by several decades (platted in 2000). The utility’s consistency with other industrial uses

1 in the area has generally been taken as a given. Nevertheless, consistency with
2 surrounding uses has been a priority with the Applicant. The transmission line
3 replacements will retain the same general appearance as the existing conductors.
4 Replacement poles will remain brown though made of rusted steel rather than wood.
5 Easements will be widened, following the general path of the existing easement, which will
6 make minimal difference to the look of the landscape. Notably, new poles will significantly
7 exceed the height of existing poles. Typically, this would be considered incompatible with
8 adjacent land uses. However, heights for transmission towers are excluded from height
9 considerations per Section 17.84.040.

10
11 3) Meets all requirements of § 17.84.020, is in compliance with Title 17 of the Code,
12 and minimizes potential adverse impact of the conditional use on adjacent properties and
13 traffic flow;

14
15 **Staff Comment** – The application demonstrates compliance with Section 17.84.020 as
16 overviewed in Section II above. The Applicant should also satisfy all recommendations
17 specified in the referral comments submitted by the Town engineer and Colorado River
18 Fire Rescue.

19
20 4) Is consistent with the comprehensive plan and

21
22 **Staff Comment** – The Comprehensive Plan provides guidance on impacts to the natural
23 environment (Goals EN 1-2). Other than pole material and height, the transmission line
24 project should retain the general appearance of the existing lines. Furthermore, though
25 short-term impacts to the environment will be necessary during the replacement process,
26 compliance with the Town Engineer’s recommendations should help keep those impacts to
27 a minimum.

28
29 5) The Town has the capacity to serve the proposed use with water, sewer, and fire
30 and police protection.

31
32 **Staff Comment** – The replacement project will not have any new impacts on water,
33 sewer, and police protection. The Applicant has provided a health and safety plan which
34 overviews fire mitigation and life safety strategies.

35
36 **IV. Staff Recommendations:**

37 Staff recommends approval of Resolution 2024-14 with the following conditions:

- 38
39 1. No construction shall begin until a conditional use certificate has been issued by the
40 Town Planner subject to Section 17.84.040.
41 2. No construction shall begin on a parcel until Applicant has obtained new or revised
42 easements from all Property owners of that parcel. Applicant shall provide recorded copies
43 of all such easement agreements to the Town either (1) at the pre-construction meeting

1 called for in Condition #5, below, or (2) later when obtained but prior to construction on
2 an individual parcel for which the easement was granted. Notwithstanding the foregoing,
3 Applicant shall provide easement agreements for all parcels that require helicopter
4 operations for installation of power poles prior to the commencement of helicopter activity
5 on any of said parcels.
6

7 3. Prior to issuance of the conditional use certificate, the Applicant shall demonstrate
8 conformance with recommendations provided by the Town Engineer and CRFR.
9

10 4. Prior to the issuance of a conditional use certificate, a construction management
11 plan shall be provided for review and approval by Town staff. A construction management
12 plan shall include, but is not be limited to, the identification of off-site storage & delivery
13 locations, any contractor off-site parking, refuse management, and bathroom locations.
14

15 5. The applicant shall conduct a pre-construction meeting with Town staff and relevant
16 agencies at least 14 days prior to the beginning of construction.
17

18 6. The applicant shall apply for any right-of-way permits through the Town's Public
19 Works Department.
20

21 7. Easement adjustments shall be consistent with the site plan, as approved by Town
22 Council. Each easement agreement shall include an exhibit showing the location of the
23 easement across the subject property.
24

25 8. Applicant shall comply with all applicable building and municipal code requirements,
26 including all signage permitting, and county licensing requirements.
27

28 9. No approved conditional use may be altered, structurally enlarged, expanded in
29 parking area or expanded in ground area unless the site plan is amended and approved in
30 accordance with the procedures applicable to approval of a conditional use as set out in §
31 17.84.070 of the Code.
32

33 10. In the event the Town receives any complaints about the use of the site or observes
34 or becomes aware of any violations of the conditional use approval, the Applicant and/or
35 owner may be summoned before the Town Council in a public meeting to show cause why
36 the permit should not be revoked, suspended, or additional conditions imposed. Such
37 show-cause hearing shall be open to the public and the applicant or owner may present
38 testimony or offer other evidence on its behalf.
39

40 11. All representations of the Applicant in written and verbal presentations submitted to
41 the Town or made at public hearings before the Planning Commission or Town Council
42 shall be considered part of the application and binding on the Applicant.
43

1 12. *The Applicant shall reimburse the Town for any and all expenses incurred by the*
2 *Town regarding this approval, including without limitation all costs incurred by the Town’s*
3 *outside consultants such as legal and engineering costs.*

4
5 13. *Applicant shall be exempt from the Town’s performance standards concerning noise*
6 *for all construction and maintenance activity that requires use of a machine or other*
7 *equipment that, as designed, may emit noise in excess of Town standards, provided that*
8 *all such activities comply with any local, state, or federal requirements for use of the*
9 *machine or equipment in question. Specifically, use of helicopters in connection with the*
10 *Proposed Use shall comply with all applicable FAA standards and requirements.*

11
12 **V. Application Exhibits:**

- 13
- 14 A. *Land Development Application*
- 15 B. *CRFR Referral – Kurt Lundin, January 23, 2024*
- 16 C. *Town Engineer Referral – Jeff Simonson, January 24, 2024*
- 17 D. *Public Notice*
- 18 E. *Notarized Affidavit of Notice*
- 19 F. *Signed Performance Standards*
- 20 G. *Health and Safety Plan*
- 21 H. *XCEL Proposed Conditions to Resolution – Version 1*
- 22 I. *XCEL Proposed Conditions to Resolution – Version 2*
- 23

24 Xcel Energy Representative Cory Miller reviewed his presentation with the council (Exhibit
25 C). In the presentation Mr. Miller explained what the project would be.

26 Mr. Miller said the project is a rebuild of the transmission line. The line extents from a
27 substation in the City of Glenwood Springs (Mitchelle Creek Substation) to outside of City
28 of Rifle (Ute Substation). The transmission line is also known as the 6584-transmission
29 circuit. The project will be divided into two phases. The first phase connects with the
30 town’s substation on the western town boundary and extends to the Rifle substation.
31 Then, the second phase will extend to the east through the Town of New Castle to the
32 substation in Glenwood Springs. The line is being rebuilt due to wildfire mitigation which
33 Xcel Energy has negotiated with the State of Colorado to rebuild several aging
34 transmission lines throughout the state. The poles will be fire hardened with steel
35 materials and bring the lines to current standards.

36 Mr. Miller said the existing easement where the transmission lines sit has varying right of
37 way widths. The range is between 30 feet to 50. The transmission lines occupy the middle
38 or centerline of the easement. When the project is completed, Xcel is negotiating with
39 private landowners to increase the width to 60 feet. There are several reasons for the
40 increase such as fire mitigation to allow for proper fire buffer distances to be maintained.
41 The increase also helps with maintenance of the lines.

42 Mr. Miller said the pole height currently an average of 40 feet. The poles would increase to
43 an average of 80 feet in height. The reason for the height adjustment is to consider the

1 terrain. In addition, the poles will be equipped with a shield wire for static protection from
2 lighting strikes, for the shield wire to operate properly the poles has to be a certain
3 height. The current line doesn't have the technology for protection. Also, built into the
4 static wire has fiber communication built into it.

5 Mr. Miller said the construction is scheduled for the third quarter of 2024. The construction
6 of the first phase is currently anticipated to be in the middle of the phase around the Silt
7 area, then work east towards New Castle. The current estimate for the construction work
8 within New Castle would be at the end of 2024 or the beginning of 2025. The anticipation
9 is to have the entire line rebuilt by the end of 2025.

10 Mr. Miller said Xcel Energy did host a series of meetings to inform the community
11 regarding the line replacement project in Rifle, Glenwood Springs and Parachute. Notices
12 were also sent out to property owners within 300-350 feet of the project.

13 Councilor Hazelton said his concern was sinkholes in the mountain. Currently there is a
14 sinkhole that has been open for a year and that was listed as the number one priority to
15 be fixed because of the danger. What are the considerations for possible sinkholes
16 through the line. Mr. Miller said Xcel Energy has been in communication with the Bureau
17 of Reclamation (BOR) regarding the current sinkhole. Xcel Energy's understanding is the
18 BOR will start to fill the sinkhole in late summer of 2024. The BOR has requested an
19 outage from Xcel Energy for BOR to work on the sinkhole. There are several transmission
20 lines that interconnect with the substations, so if Xcel Energy needs to take down a line
21 for some reason, the substations can stay energized and there would not be a disruption
22 in service.

23 Mayor A. Riddile said digging on the old mine could create a sinkhole. Mr. Miller said Xcel
24 Energy's engineer does a study of the geotechnical of the soils to be able to spot
25 situations such as sinkholes. There is a lot of studying that goes into the pole replacement
26 projects prior to the design and installation of the poles.

27 Mayor A. Riddile asked if there were poles already replaces a few years ago. Mr. Miller
28 said there could have been due to a defect in the pole. The poles would be replaced on as
29 needed bases. They would have been replaced with a temporary pole.

30 Mayor A. Riddile asked since the easements are increasing by 30 feet. The property owner
31 wouldn't be able to build in the easement. Mr. Miller said structures would not be able to
32 be built within the easement.

33 Councilor Copland asked if there would be any power outages dure the replacement. Mr.
34 Miller said no there would not be outages during the project.

35 Councilor Carey asked what the proposed future use of the easements. Mr. Miller said it is
36 to construct, maintain and operate the transmission lines above ground electricity only.

37
38 Assistant Attorney Haley Carmer said in the Resolution TC2024-14 lists all of the
39 conditions and it also includes the specific list of the use in section 2a. Use of the Property
40 for the construction, operation, and maintenance of an electric transmission line and
41 related poles, towers, facilities, and equipment.

42
43 **MOTION: Mayor A. Riddile made a motion to approve Resolution TC 2024-14, A**

1 **Resolution of the New Castle Town Council Recommending Approval of a**
2 **Conditional Use Permit for Utility Transmission Line and Towers on Property**
3 **Located in the Industrial Zone District. Councilor Mariscal seconded the motion**
4 **and it passed unanimously.**

5
6 **Consider Ordinance TC2024-2, Authorizing the Sale of Real Property Owned by**
7 **the Town (Second Reading)**

8 Councilor G. Riddile left at 8:10pm

9
10 **MOTION: Mayor A. Riddile made a motion to approve Ordinance TC2024-2,**
11 **Ordinance TC2024-2, Authorizing the Sale of Real Property Owned by the Town**
12 **(Second Reading). Councilor Mariscal seconded the motion and it passed on a**
13 **roll call vote. Councilor Mariscal: yes; Councilor Carey: yes; Councilor Hazelton:**
14 **yes; Mayor A. Riddile: yes; Councilor Copeland: yes; Councilor Leland: yes.**

15
16 Councilor G. Riddile returned at 8:12pm

17
18 Recess the Town Council Meeting, Convene the Local Liquor Licensing Authority
19 **MOTION: Councilor Hazelton made a motion to recess the Town Council**
20 **Meeting and Convene the Local Liquor Licensing Authority. Mayor A.**
21 **Riddile seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.**

22
23 **Consider Resolution TC 2024-13 - a Resolution of the New Castle Town Council**
24 **Approving an Application from Colorado Drifters, LLC, DBA: Colorado**
25 **Drifters/Down Valley Brewing Company for a Brew Pub Liquor License**

26 Town Clerk Mindy Andis said Colorado Drifters, LLC has applied for a brew pub
27 liquor license for their business located at 589 W. Main Street, New Castle.

28 Pursuant to state liquor law, the application has been sent to the state and it is
29 under concurrent review with Liquor Enforcement. If the Authority chooses to
30 approve the application, Colorado Drifters, LLC will be able to serve spirituous
31 liquor as well as beer and wine. Brew Pub license requires that sandwiches and
32 light snacks be available for consumption on the premises during business hours.
33 The applicant applied for the license on April 17, 2024. All necessary
34 documentation and fees have been submitted, and the hearing was properly
35 noticed. Staff recommends that Council approve Resolution TC-2024-13,
36 approving an application from Colorado Drifters, LLC for a Brew Pub Liquor
37 License. Adopting this recommendation would be consistent with the requirements
38 of the State Liquor Code. Adopting this recommendation would allow Colorado
39 Drifters, LLC to serve malt, vinous and spirituous liquors for on-premises
40 consumption and Town sales tax would be collected on sales of these beverages.

1 Mayor A. Riddile opened the public hear at 8:25pm. There were no public comments and
2 the public hear hearing was closed at 8:26pm.

3
4 Councilor Hazelton said his concern was the back of the building being licensed for alcohol
5 service and there would not be any kind of monitoring by bartenders or servers. He would
6 like to have the map amended to only include from the corner of the building to the alley,
7 which would include the food trucks in front of the building and not include the back. Also,
8 the concern is the control of over serving or underage serving. Mr. Joe Hemelt, owner,
9 said the back would be completely inaccessible until they are ready to open the back yard
10 have staff to work in the backyard.

11 Councilor Leland asked if there would be fencing. Mr. Hemelt said yes, there would be
12 temporary fencing put up.

13
14 Attorney Carmer said the condition could read: The Town Council approves the Application
15 subject to the condition that no alcohol shall be served on the southern one-third of the
16 licensed premises shown on the diagram included in the Application until the Town
17 Administrator confirms that said area has been adequately secured with fencing or
18 otherwise and that Applicant has sufficient staff to monitor and serve the area.

19 **MOTION: Councilor G. Riddile made a motion to approve Consider Resolution TC**
20 **2024-13 - a Resolution of the New Castle Town Council Approving an Application**
21 **from Colorado Drifters, LLC, DBA: Colorado Drifters/Down Valley Brewing**
22 **Company for a Brew Pub Liquor License with the condition. Councilor Hazelton**
23 **seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.**

24
25 **Consider Reduction of Liquor License Fee for Drifters/Down Valley Brewing**
26 **Company.**

27 Mr. Hemelt said he is asking for the liquor license fee to be waived. He has paid \$1,950.00
28 state license fee and the town's fee is \$750.00.

29 Attorney Carmer said the town would not be able to do anything with the state fees. With
30 respect to the local fees, there are application fees and license fees. The state statue
31 allows for the local authority to rebate the local license fees. The rebate would be for the
32 \$750.00 license fee.

33 Councilor Hazelton asked Clerk Andis if the license fee have been waived before for other
34 applicants. Clerk Andis said no.

35 Attorney Carmer said the fee would be rebated for 2024 license fee and not a general
36 rebate of license fees for the future.

37
38 **MOTION: Councilor G. Riddile made a motion to approve a rebate for the full**
39 **liquor license fee for Drifters/Down Valley Brewing Company. Councilor Carey**
40 **seconded the motion and it passed 5 to 2 on a roll call vote. Councilor G. Riddile:**
41 **yes; Councilor Mariscal: yes; Councilor Leland: yes; Councilor Carey: yes;**
42 **Councilor Hazelton: no; Councilor Copeland: no; Mayor A. Riddile: yes.**

43
44 Adjourn the Local Liquor Licensing Authority, Reconvene the Town Council Meeting

1 **MOTION: Mayor A. Riddile made a motion to recess the Local Liquor**
2 **Licensing Authority and Convene the Town Council Meeting. Councilor**
3 **Hazelton seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.**

4
5 **Executive Session for a conference with the Town Attorney for the purpose of**
6 **receiving legal advice on specific legal questions under CRS Section 24-6-**
7 **402(4)(b) regarding pending litigation against CVR Investors, Inc**

8
9 **Motion: Councilor Leland made a Motion at 8:24p.m. to go into Executive Session**
10 **for a conference with the Town Attorney for the purpose of receiving legal advice**
11 **on specific legal questions under C.R.S. 24-6-402(4)(b) regarding pending**
12 **litigation against CVR Investors, Inc. Councilor Hazelton seconded the motion**
13 **and it passed unanimously.**

14
15 Executive session concluded.

16 At the end of the executive session, Mayor A. Riddile made the following statement:

17 "The time is now 8:45p.m. and the executive session has been concluded. The
18 participants in the executive sessions were: Councilor Carey, Councilors Copeland,
19 Councilor Leland, Councilor G. Riddile, Councilor Mariscal. Councilor Hazelton, Mayor A.
20 Riddile, Town Clerk Andis, Assistant Town Attorney Haley, Town Planner Paul Smith and
21 Town Treasurer Viktoria Ehlers. For the record, if any person who participated in the
22 executive session believes that any substantial discussion of any matters not included in
23 the motion to go into the executive session occurred during the executive session, or that
24 any improper action occurred during the executive session in violation of the Open
25 Meetings Law, I would ask that you state your concerns for the record."

26 No concerns were stated.

27
28 **Consider Approval of Settlement Agreement with CVR Investors, Inc.**

29 Attorney Carmer explained that there is a settlement agreement with CVR Investors, Inc.
30 before the council. CVR Investors, Inc. is the entity who filed a lawsuit against the town in
31 2022 from the denial of a land use application in Castle Valley Ranch for Filing 11. In the
32 settlement agreement has all of the exhibits attached to it. The purpose of the agreement
33 is to resolve the lawsuit. The first component is to have a public hearing before the town
34 council to reopen the PUD application for Filing 11 with a different proposal site plan with
35 single family homes in 58 lots. The general concept of the filing is exhibit 1 of the
36 settlement agreement. The council could consider the amended application and the public
37 hearing. The public hearing for public comment would go to town council only. Then,
38 following the public hearing based on the criteria for the approval of a PUD in Title 13 of
39 the town code prior to the current code pursuant to the settlement agreement. Some of the
40 standards in Title 14 which would be the old version of the current code of Title 16 and Title
41 17. Which would be applicable to Filing 11 when it comes before the town council and
42 future Filing 12 which CVR Investors may present at a later date. Filing 12 would also be
43 considered under Title 13 and Title 14 instead of the current Title 16 and Title 17. Some of
44 the exceptions are in the Public Works Standards Manual. Those exceptions are identified

1 in section 5 of the agreement. There is also a dispute resolution process identified in the
2 agreement. Specific disputes with section 5 of the agreement or addressing the
3 Comprehensive Plan, there would be a process in place on how to keep the disputes
4 streamlined. The last component is the agreement with SGM which is also part of the
5 settlement agreement. The town would waive any conflict because SGM is the town's
6 engineer as well as the engineer for CVR Investors. If the agreement is approved, then
7 the appeal would be stayed until Filing 11 application is approved, then the lawsuit would
8 be dismissed. Then, CVR Investors would proceed with the next PUD application.
9 Councilor G. Riddile asked if the agreement does get approved, is the town allowed to
10 inform the town residences the agreement has been approved. Attorney Carmer said yes,
11 since the agreement is a public document.
12 Councilor G. Riddile suggested creating a press release to inform New Castle residences
13 and the press release should come from Town Administrator Dave Reynolds.
14 Attorney Carmer said there is one amendment to the agreement. The amendment is in
15 section 3(b) CVR Investors has 21 days from the date of the agreement for CVR Investors
16 to submit materials for Filing 11 to go for the public hearing. The proposal is to change
17 the 21 days to 60 days for CVR Investors to submit materials for Filing 11.

18
19 **MOTION: Mayor A. Riddile made a motion to approve the Settlement Agreement**
20 **with CVR Investors, Inc. Councilor Hazelton seconded the motion and it passed 4**
21 **to 3 on a roll call vote. Councilor Copeland: yes; Mayor A. Riddile: yes; Councilor**
22 **Mariscal: yes; Councilor Hazelton: no; Councilor G. Riddile: no; Councilor Carey:**
23 **no; Councilor Leland: yes.**

24
25 **Consent Agenda**
26 May 7, 2024 Minutes

27
28 **MOTION: Mayor A. Riddile made a motion to approve the consent agenda.**
29 **Councilor Hazelton seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.**

30
31 **Staff Reports**

32 **Town Administrator** – not present

33 **Town Clerk** – Clerk Andis said Administrative Assistant Michelle Huster has been doing a
34 good job and learning lots. Assistant Huster signed up to attend her first year of week-
35 long Clerk Institute in July. Clerk Andis said Deputy Clerk Remi Bordelon, Assistant
36 Rochelle Firth and Clerk Andis attended an ADA Compliance refresher course for the
37 town's website. The website needs to be ADA compliant by 2025 they are working hard on
38 working on the website. Clerk Andis said the month of May was the first month for the
39 new meter reading for utility billing, so far so good. Assistant Huster as part of her
40 training she has been working Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) for the office and for
41 herself. Clerk Andis asked the council if they were looking at placing something on the
42 November Ballot. Clerk Andis had received a letter from the County Clerk's office inquiring
43 about ballot items. The council agreed there would not be anything for the November
44 ballot. Clerk Andis reminded the council about the CML Conference is June 18-21, 2024, in

1 Loveland. Clerk Andis said the clerk's office is going into their second month of working 10
2 hours, 4-day work week. It has worked out well and the staff is like the change. Clerk
3 Andis said she had received word that there will a senior motor parade coming through
4 town, Wednesday, May 22, 2024, around 6:30pm. The parade will start in Silt then come
5 through town. Clerk Andis said Mayor A. Riddile had called stating the Coal Ridge Boys
6 Baseball team had made it to state and would be coming through town with a police
7 escort on Thursday, May 23, 2024, on their way to Denver around noon. Clerk Andis said
8 9 staff members and Councilor Copeland had attended Tips training on Monday, May 20,
9 2024. Clerk Andis said May 13, 2024, was the first court day with both the new town
10 prosecutor and new municipal judge and the court day ran smoothly. Clerk Andis
11 reminded the council to bring their code books into the clerk's office for updates.

12 **Town Treasurer** – Treasurer Ehlers said Finance Assistant Josie Wood had completed her
13 first payroll period on her own and Treasurer Ehlers is training Assistant Wood on
14 reconciliation of bank accounts. Treasurer Ehlers said in a couple of weeks she will start
15 cross training Assistant Wood on Accounts Payable (AP). Treasurer Ehlers said the town is
16 entering the renewal for 2025 for the property and casualty insurance. Treasurer Ehlers
17 said the town has received the backfill for property taxes.

18 **Town Planner** – Planner Smith said R2 land use application is in process and will be
19 going in front of P&Z on June 26, 2024, as a public hearing. Planner Smith said he has
20 recently met with the Coal Seam developer. They will be submitting a combined
21 application with a public hearing. Councilor Carey asked if the decision for a combined
22 application was a staff decision. Planner Smith said no, the request was made with P&Z
23 and P&Z allowed for the combined application. Coal Seam would then come to council as a
24 final application.

25 **Public Works Director** – not present

26 **Commission Reports**

27 **Planning & Zoning Commission** – nothing to report

28 **Historic Preservation Commission** – Councilor Hazelton said Mari Riddile and Richard
29 Fletcher were sworn in. There was discussion of possibly doing another historic survey or
30 possible talking with downtown owners to get more interest into the historic preservation.

31 **Climate and Environment Commission** – Councilor Leland said there was a lot of
32 discussion around the bag fee and what the commission could do with the money.
33 Administrator Reynolds will meet with the commission to discuss further the plan for the
34 money.

35 **Senior Program** – Clerk Andis said the board is continuing working on a survey to go to
36 the senior population for the senior programs and if there is more that can be done to
37 help the seniors.

38 **RAFTA** – Mayor. A. Riddile said they talked about code enforcement for people
39 encroaching on the Rio Grande Trail.

40 **AGNC** – Councilor Hazelton said he is still waiting on more information on the grant
41 process for the grant from Senator Lauren Bobert's office. AGNC has reopened for a
42 second mini grant opportunity since there was money still available. He reached out to
43 Assistant Firth to apply for the second grant.

44 **GCE** – Councilor Leland said they had their annual workshop strategy meeting. GCE
45 reviewed the commissions goals. There was a suggestion for the town to look into
46

1 purchasing an EV to the fleet. The 6 towns and Garfield County who are part of GCE could
2 go in together and do a group purchase for a discount.

3 **EAB** - nothing to report

4 **Detox** – Councilor Mariscal said the ribbon cutting will be Thursday, May 23, 2024, from
5 3:30pm to 5:00pm.

6 **Council Comments**

7 Councilor Hazelton congratulated Clerk Andis for being on the Internation Code
8 Council Clerk Honor Roll. Councilor Hazelton explained he respects and
9 understands where people are coming from regarding the fees for Drifters. He
10 said he has concerns for business in the past who have not had the same
11 opportunity.

12 Councilor Leland said he believes Johnson Construction has done a good job
13 with the construction at the 4-way intersection to keep the traffic moving.

14 Councilor Copeland said the Historical Society is having their annual potluck
15 fund raiser Saturday, June 8, 2024, 5:00pm – 7:00pm at the River Center. The
16 Historical Society wanted to thank the Town of New Castle for all of the help
17 given to them for the museum.

18
19 **Items for Future Council Agenda**

20 Nothing to add

21

22 **MOTION: Mayor A. Riddile made a motion to adjourn. Councilor Carey**
23 **seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.**

24

25 The meeting adjourned at 9:16p.m.

26

27 Respectfully submitted,

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Mayor A. Riddile

Town Clerk Mindy Andis, CMC

1
2 **New Castle Town Council Regular Meeting**
3 **Tuesday, June 4, 2024, 7:00 PM**

4 **Call to Order**

5 Mayor Art Riddile called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

6
7 **Pledge of Allegiance**

8 **Roll Call**

9 Present Councilor Mariscal
10 Councilor Carey
11 Councilor Hazelton
12 Mayor A. Riddile
13 Councilor Copeland
14 Councilor Leland (ZOOM)
15 Councilor G Riddile
16
17 Absent none

18
19 Also present at the meeting were Town Clerk Mindy Andis, Town Treasurer Viktoriya Ehlers,
20 Administrator Reynolds, and members of the public.
21

22 **Meeting Notice**

23 Clerk Andis verified that her office gave notice of the meeting in accordance with resolution TC
24 2024-1.
25

26 **Conflicts of Interest**

27 There were no conflicts of interest

28 **Agenda Changes**

29 There were no agenda changes

30 **Citizen Comments on Items not on the Agenda**

31 There were no Citizen Comments

32 **Consultant Reports**

33 Consultant Attorney – not present

34 Consultant Engineer – not present

35 **Items for Consideration**

36 **Consider a Letter of Interest from Nancy Barnes for Appointment to Seat on Climate**
37 **and Environment Commission**

38 Nancy Barnes, New Castle resident, explained to the council for her interest for being on Climate
39 and Environment Commission (CEC). She said she feels deeply committed to sustainability and
40 environmental stewardship. She is eager to contribute to the community's efforts to address
41 climate change and support the principles of the U.S. Mayors Climate Protection Agreement. She
42 said she would like to serve her community by educating and engaging the residents and
43 businesses about sustainable practices and the importance of reducing the carbon footprint.

44 **Motion: Mayor A. Riddile made a motion to appoint Nancy Barnes to the Climate and**
45 **Environment Commission. Councilor Carey seconded the motion and it passed**
46 **unanimously.**
47

48 Recess the Town Council Meeting, Convene as the Local Liquor Licensing Authority

49 **MOTION: Councilor Hazelton made a motion to recess the Town Council**
50 **Meeting and Convene the Local Liquor Licensing Authority. Councilor Mariscal**
51 **seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.**

52 **Consider an Application from the New Castle Chamber of Commerce for a Special Event**
53 **Liquor License for their Block Party Event on June 28, 2024**

54 Clerk Mindy Andis said her office had received the special event liquor license on May 3, 2024.
55 The event is for the Chamber of Commerce Block Party. The event will be held on June 28, 2024,
56 from 5:30pm to 9:00pm. The license is from 9:00am – 11:00pm which would give the Chamber
57 of Commerce enough time to set up and tear down. Staff is recommending the last call to be
58 half an hour before the end of the event. New Castle Chamber of Commerce has legal possession
59 of the intended premises through a rental agreement. The event includes one food truck, The Rolling
60 Fork has been approved by Garfield County Health Department. Scott Owens, Siobahn Milholm, Scott
61 Gauldin and Amanda Gauldin are ServSafe certified and will oversee alcohol service. If the Authority's
62 consensus is to approve the attached application for a special event liquor permit for the Town of
63 New Castle, the Clerk's Office staff recommends that Authority consider the following conditions:

- 64 • That a 100% ID check be conducted because only individuals that meet the eligible drinking
65 age of 21 should be served alcohol.
- 66 • That 'last call' for service of alcoholic beverages be a half-hour prior to the end of the event to
67 allow patrons to finish their beverages before leaving the venue.

68
69 The Clerk's Office staff recommends approval of the application.
70

71 **MOTION: Councilor G. Riddile made a motion to approve a Special Event Liquor**
72 **License from the New Castle Chamber of Commerce for their Block Party Event on June**
73 **28, 2024. Councilor Mariscal seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.**
74

75 Adjourn the Local Liquor Licensing Authority, Reconvene the Town Council Meeting
76

77 **MOTION: Councilor Hazelton made a motion to recess the Local Liquor**
78 **Licensing Authority and Convene the Town Council Meeting. Councilor G.**
79 **Riddile seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.**

80 **Consider Tap Fee Agreement for Drifters/Down Valley Brewing**

81 Town Administrator Reynolds said during a regular town council meeting held on May 7, 2024,
82 town staff discussed the new location for Drifters Coffee at the old Texaco and reviewed the EQR
83 requirements for the brewery portion of the business as well as the restaurant (coffee shop)
84 portion of the business. Staff presented recommendations for how to adjust the EQR count by
85 allowing for a seasonal count of outdoor seating as well as adjustments for the specialized type

86 of brewing process that Drifters intends to use. Administrator Reynolds reviewed the fees that
87 have been waived for building permits, mechanical permit, plumbing permit and plan review.
88 After discussion with the council, the council agreed to waive the 3 percent interest to a 0
89 percent interest and waive the cost for the second water meter.

90 **MOTION: Mayor A. Riddile made a motion to approve Tap Fee Agreement for**
91 **Drifters/Down Valley Brewing. Amending the agreement to have a 0 percent interest**
92 **and waiving the cost of the second meter. Councilor Carey seconded the motion and it**
93 **passed 6/1.**

94 **Consider Grants to Outside Agencies**

95 Administrative Assistant Rochelle Firth said she was the person who worked on the grants to
96 outside agencies. Admin Asst. Firth had reached out to various organizations that had applied for
97 the town's grant program previously. She said that each year the town distributed \$18k to
98 organizations that support the residents of New Castle. The grants were done in two rounds, one
99 in late spring, and one in late fall.

100 Admin. Asst Firth said there were three non-profits that requested funding, and there were no
101 new applicants, and that all of them received funding from other entities, other than the town.
102 Admin. Asst. Firth described each non-profit, what services they provided and how much they
103 had requested, as well as the staff suggestions for awards.
104

105 **Council directed staff to increase Advocate Safehouse from \$1,000 to \$2,000.00 and**
106 **increase Lift-Up from \$2,500 to \$5,000.00.**

107 **Consider a Motion to Cancel or Reschedule the July 2, 2024, Regular Council** 108 **Meeting**

109 Administrator Reynolds stated staff has been scheduling council agenda items around July 4,
110 2024 date. Therefore, canceling the meeting would not cause any issues.

111 **MOTION: Councilor Carey made a motion to Cancel July 2, 2024, Regular Town Council**
112 **Meeting. Councilor Mariscal seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.**

113 **Consent Agenda**

114 Items on the consent agenda are routine and non-controversial and will be approved by one
115 motion. There will be no separate discussion of these items unless a council member or citizen
116 requests it, in which case the item will be removed from the consent agenda.
117

118
119 May Bills \$765,816.84
120

121 **MOTION: Councilor Hazelton made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda.**
122 **Councilor Mariscal seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.**
123

124 **Staff Reports**

125 Town Administrator – Administrator Reynolds said he would like to meet with Councilor G.
126 Riddile and Council Copeland for a Capital Committee meeting. The meeting would be to review
127 the current projects and the money the town received for the round-about project. Get an

128 understanding of what the second half of the year would look like. Administrator Reynolds said
129 the 6th Street lot is closing Wednesday, June 5, 2024, at 10am. Administrator Reynolds said on
130 Tuesday, June 11, 2024, from 5:30pm – 7:00pm will be the open house for the round-about
131 landscaping project and what the plans look like for the landscaping. The open house will be at
132 the Community Center. Administrator Reynolds said Thursday, June 13, 2024, town staff will be
133 hosting BINGO for the Chamber of Commerce. Doors open at 6pm. The theme for the BINGO is
134 Redneck Bard Yard. There will be prizes to be given away. Staff will also be doing the concession
135 stand. By making the concessions the money that is raised will be for the town. Staff would like
136 to use the money raised to go towards the employee Christmas party. Administrator Reynolds
137 said staff have been in contact with a company who travels around the state doing casino
138 parties. Staff would like to switch up the Christmas party and have a casino night. Councilor G.
139 Riddile said he would like to have the Christmas party at the Lakota Rec Center. Then, there
140 would be nothing for staff to do. Administrator Reynolds said on Friday, July 12, 2024, from 3pm
141 -5pm is the Ice Cream Social. Currently there are 16 organizations to have a table set up to
142 speak and interact with the community and have ice cream. Administrator Reynolds reminded
143 the council of the CML Conference is June 18-June 21, 2024, in Loveland. He will not be at the
144 next council meeting since he will be at conference. He will try to ZOOM into the meeting.
145 Administrator Reynolds said the PD Bike Rodeo was on Saturday, June 1, 2024, and was a great
146 success. Administrator Reynolds said there was some confusion with the Memorial Day
147 ceremony at the cemetery. He was in contact with the Boy Scout leaders at the last minute and
148 was told there would be no ceremony. Councilor Carey said John Harcourt and her son did the
149 flag ceremony and she officiated. Administrator Reynolds said the council had received an
150 invitation to the Historical Society annual potluck dinner. The potluck is Saturday, June 8, 2024,
151 from 5pm – 7pm. Administrator Reynolds said there is a weekly update from CDOT for the
152 round-about project that residents can sign up for. Administrator Reynolds said Paula Stepp with
153 the Colorado River Watershed has announced she is leaving. Staff is working with Ms. Stepp on
154 the Wildfire Mitigation Collaborative. Administrative Reynolds said the window replacement
155 project is underway. His office and Asst. Firth's office have been relocated to the council
156 chambers room for the duration of the project. Administrator Reynolds said staff is off for the
157 July 4th holiday, he is asking council if staff could have Friday, July 5th off as a paid holiday. The
158 council agreed. Administrator Reynolds said Asst. Firth and himself have been brainstorming
159 about the outgoing grants and how they are for non-profits. The thought of going into the 2025
160 budget season is to see how the town could help the downtown businesses if there is money
161 available. He would like to have a work session with council to discuss ideas on how to help.
162

163 Town Clerk – Clerk Andis she said she had nothing to report.
164

165 Town Treasurer – Treasurer Viktoriya Ehlers said the town had received addition bags for the
166 first quart of 2024. Treasurer Ehlers said there will be a sealed bid for three town vehicles which
167 staff will be able to bid on. Any vehicles that were not bid on will go out to the public for bid.
168 Treasurer Ehlers reviewed the first quarter financials with the council.
169

170 Town Planner – not present

171 Public Works Director – not present

172 **Commission Reports**

173 Planning & Zoning Commission – have not met

Town Council Meeting
Tuesday, June 4, 2024

174 Historic Preservation Commission – have not met
175 Climate and Environment Commission – have not met
176 Senior Program – have not met
177 RFTA – have not met
178 AGNC – Asst. Firth said AGNC had money left over from their grant cycle, so they opened for
179 another round of first come first serve. The town applied for another grant for a new flashing
180 cross walk signs for 7th Street and a speed limit flashing sign on Castle Valley Boulevard. The
181 town had applied in the first round and received grant for \$5,000 for concrete chess table and
182 ping pong table to go into the towns pocket parks with the order the company gave the town
183 \$3,000 cornhole set to put into another park.
184 GCE – Councilor Leland said CLEER had sent out a quarterly report on the town’s energy use on
185 the town’s public buildings.
186 EAB – unable to attend
187 Detox – Councilor Mariscal said Detox had the ribbon cutting and the open house.

188 **Council Comments**

189 Councilor Mariscal said she will be at the CML conference will try to ZOOM into the meeting. She
190 would like to meet with Administrator Reynolds to have the round-about updates translated into
191 Spanish. Administrator Reynolds said CDOT already offers the Spanish version. Administrator
192 Reynolds offered to show Councilor Mariscal where to go for the Spanish version.
193 Councilor Hazelton said to expect more comments and conversions regarding the green bridge
194 project. Administrator Reynolds said CDOT have been meeting with property owners regarding
195 the project. CDOT is still in the planning stages of the project as far as how much property they
196 will need and what to do with the old bridge. Councilor Hazelton said there are more questions
197 than there are answers. Councilor Hazelton asked if the town’s trash service allows for an
198 additional container for yard waste. Administrator Reynolds said not anymore. The residents
199 would need to make a special pick up with Mountain Waste and Recycling.
200 Mayor A. Riddile said he will be out of town from June 13, 2024- June 19, 2024. He also
201 acknowledges how great the turnout was for the bike rodeo.
202

203 **Items for Future Council Agenda**

204 Councilor G. Riddile said the council should consider a lawn conversion program.
205 Councilor G. Riddile said the council should review the land use application process for Additional
206 Dwelling Unit (ADU). Possibly simplifying the process to have it as an administrative review
207 instead of a Condition Use Permit (CUP).

208 **MOTION: Mayor A. Riddile made a motion to adjourn. Councilor Hazelton**
209 **seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.**

210
211 The meeting adjourned at 8:46p.m.

212
213 Respectfully submitted,

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Mayor A. Riddile

Town Council Meeting
Tuesday, June 4, 2024

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220
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224

Town Clerk Mindy Andis, CMC

DRAFT

Town Council Meeting
Tuesday, June 4, 2024