

To: City Council

From: Nathan Cherpeski,
City Manager

Subject: Friday Update

Date: July 8, 2011



Calendar

Date	Time	Event	Location	Additional Information
July 6, 2011	6:00 p.m.	Joint work session with Planning Commission	Council Chambers	*
July 18, 2011	6:00 p.m.	Special Meeting, Evaluation of City Manager	Council Chambers	
July 27, 2011	6:00 p.m.	Special Meeting, Evaluation of City Clerk	Council Chambers	
August 1, 2011	7:00 p.m.	Candidate Orientation	Council Chambers	Anyone interested in running for City Council is encouraged to attend
August 3, 2011	6:00 p.m.	Budget - Initial Presentation	Council Chambers	*
August 17, 2011	6:00 p.m.	Budget - Director to staff regarding outside agency funding	Council Chambers	*
August 24, 2011	7:00 p.m.	Budget - session with Department Heads	Council Chambers	*
August 31, 2011	6:00 p.m.	Budget - continued discussion as needed	Council Chambers	*
September 14, 2011	6:00 p.m.	Budget - continued discussion as needed	Council Chambers	*
September 14, 2011	4:30 p.m.	City Services Fair	Cole Park	Come learn more about the services the City offers.

* Work sessions are informal Council meetings for the purpose of discussion among Council members. No action is taken. The public is invited to attend, but public comment is generally not received unless otherwise noted.

City Manager

Construction continues on the new building and progress is being made. We anticipate being able to occupy the fire station by the end of this month. This slipped a little due to a delay on the bathroom tile and stucco. They anticipate beginning sheet rock in the City hall portion of the new building next week. Site work will also continue for the next couple of weeks. We should have access back to the rear entrance of City Hall about the time we open the fire station.

Staff met with representatives from Early Iron, Summer Fest, and ALMA with a sound consultant they contacted about improving the audio in Cole Park to be timed with our electrical improvements. They citizens indicated a willingness to raise the necessary funding for this addition to the park.

The outside agency funding applications are available on the City's web site and are due at the end of this month.

I have also had contact with representatives from AT&T regarding their desire to provide a temporary fix to some of the coverage issues that have arisen from their acquisition of All-Tel. They are looking at several options including a temporary tower (about 60 feet tall) next to the Craft Water tower. I will let you know more details as they arise. They hope to have a permanent fix in place by the end of the year.

The fireworks were a great success and special thanks should be given to San Luis Valley Federal Bank for once again providing the show.

Also from the latest CML newsletter congrats to Councilor Romero's daughter Allyssa for placing 3rd at the 5K fun run.

Fun Run results

Congratulations to the winners of the Annual CML Fun Run & Walk! The top three male finishers were Kevin Bommer, CML legislative advocacy manager; Shane Hale, Grand Lake town manager; and John Ferguson, Ouray councilmember. Top female finishers were Cindy LaVanchy of Firestone; Nan Anderson, Anderson Hallas Architects; and **Allyssa Romero of Alamosa.**

Runners and walkers thank the Vail Recreation District for a great morning!

Police Department

Officers have been working the past few weeks to increase education enforcement of bicycle violations. There was also an article submitted to the “Valley Courier” educating the community on our efforts and on bicycle laws. Officers coordinated and participated in the traffic control at the event.

Public Works

The golf course back nine irrigation project has progressed well to date. All piping has been installed and we are waiting for the pond level to be reduced a little more before we can install the pump station building. We hope to have this system in operation by early August. The remaining pipe work in the streets should be starting the week of July 18th. We will be starting on the work on State and Cascade Avenues before we move to 4th Street. We intend to keep at least one lane open on State (from 1st to Cascade) using flaggers to minimize the long detours that would otherwise be necessary. If we do have to completely close the road we will do our best to keep the closure as brief as possible.

Overlays on 4th and on State will follow completion of the pipe installation and is expected to take place late August. The reconstruction of Ross Avenue from Main to 6th should begin within the next two weeks with the plant mix seal coat on Market to follow in early to mid-August.

City Clerk

November 1 is the City’s regular election. Three Council positions are to be considered at this election:

- At Large (Currently held by Josef Lucero)
- Ward 1 (Currently held by Greg Gillaspie)
- Ward 3 (Currently held by Charlie Griego)

This will again be conducted as a coordinated mail ballot election. Council will be asked to approve an Intergovernmental Agreement with Alamosa County outlining the shared responsibilities during the election, and to adopt a Resolution adopting Title I to make participation possible.

A candidate orientation session has been scheduled August 1, 2011 at 7:00 p.m. in Council Chambers. This session will cover the petition process and financial reporting obligations of candidates, as well as provide an overview of the role of Councilor. Anyone considering running for office is highly encouraged to attend.

Petitions may be circulated August 2 through 22, 2011. Candidates are required to be a US citizen, at least 21 years of age, and a qualified elector of the City of Alamosa for at least one year prior to the election date. Candidates for a Ward position must reside within that ward.

Parks/Recreation/Library

Upcoming Special Events:

- Alamosa Fly-In and Air Show – July 16, Bergman Field
- Early Iron Festival - September 2-4, Cole Park

Cole Park Skatepark:

In recent days, some confusion has arisen as to the disposition of the playground equipment that is located on and near the site for the new skatepark. Staff from the very beginning has stated that the equipment would need to be moved to accommodate this new recreation opportunity. In our application to GOCO last August, staff included the following: “Referencing the Site Prep attachment, staff will be busy removing several pieces of equipment in early spring to include three swings, monkey bars, two slides, chain link fence, trailers, and two sets of newer playground equipment. The newer equipment will be relocated to another shady area in the northwest part of Cole Park.” Because of this need to relocate our playgrounds, staff invited park users to provide feedback on the optimal location for these playgrounds. To encourage survey participation last October, those responding by October 31 were entered into a drawing for one adult annual Rec Center membership (\$200 value). Print surveys were included in the October water bill and a link on the AFRC website sent interested participants to the online version at Survey Monkey. Though survey participants were free to recommend other locations in Cole Park, the two primary sites listed on the survey were based on previous desires made known to staff that users wanted the playground equipment to remain in a central location in Cole Park. Summaries of the two surveys:

- 2 to 1 for the area south of the west pavilion.
- People who took part in the survey:
 - Online – 63
 - Paper – 112
 - Total – 175
 - People who made a selection and chose either #1 or #2:
 - Area #1 (dirt) – 46
 - Area #2 (grass) – 97
 - Total – 143

Notice of the survey was listed in the October 22 Friday Update and October Department Report. The results were reviewed by the Rec Advisory Board at their November meeting and publicized in the November Department Report.

ADULT PROGRAMS

Softball

The men's league concluded play last night with Southwest Liquor/Team Elevation winning the Championship game in the bottom of the final inning. Tournament schedules for the other leagues are as follows:

Co-ed -- starts July 18

Leisure -- concludes July 11

Women - starts July 19

YOUTH PROGRAMS

Summer Reading Program

“Here's How to Be A World Traveler @ Your Library”

The Summer Reading Program is quickly coming to an end and so far it has been a huge success in the way of attendance. All programs are free and are held on Wednesdays at 10:30 AM (unless otherwise noted) at the north pavilion in Cole Park off of 1st Street. Questions, please Call 589-6592. The remaining programs are:

July 13 Juggler (Miles Eddy)

July 20 Sand Castle Building - Bring your own buckets and shovels

July 27 Musician (Sue Schnitzer-Levin)

(Program Guests and schedule subject to change)

Youth Pottery

A few spots remain for the last youth pottery session starting July 11th at the AFRC. Classes are on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday from 8:00am to 9:30am for two weeks. Program fee is \$48 and includes all materials. Check www.AlamosaRec.org or the AFRC front desk for more information.

Gymnastics

Tumble Bugs Gymnastics returns this August to the AFRC. The class works with the little guys and gals (ages 3 to 5) to introduce the basics in tumbling, balance, and more! Class runs Monday through Thursday from 8:00 AM - 9:00

AM at the Alamosa Family Recreation Center multi-purpose gymnasium. The scheduled class dates are August 1st - August 11th and the program fee is \$25. Intermediate Gymnastics will follow on the same dates from 9:00 AM – 10:15 AM and costs \$30. A limited number of spots are available. Sign up at the AFRC or online at www.AlamosaRec.org.

Swimming

The final two-week summer session for youth swimming is scheduled for July 18-28 at Adams State Plachy Hall Swimming Pool. ASC Swimming Coach Daniel France will be leading the program with registration administered through Alamosa Parks and Recreation. The session consists of eight 30 minute lessons with a low instructor to pupil ratio no greater than 5 to 1. The times available for each session regardless of ability are 9:00 - 9:30AM, 9:35 – 10:05AM, and 10:10 - 10:40AM Monday through Thursday mornings with a maximum of 25 spots available per time slot. Kids ages 4 and up as of June 1st, 2011 are eligible and the cost for each two week session is \$35.00/child. Of the 75 slots available for the final session, only 12 remain and the 9 o'clock slots are already full.

A mandatory skills assessment will take place Saturday (July 16) at the Plachy Hall Pool to place kids into appropriate levels (Please see www.AlamosaRec.org to see how the levels are differentiated.) Again all levels will be accommodated during each time slot so families are free to choose which time works best for them. The skills assessment schedule is as follows: All kids who register for the 9AM time slot should report to the pool ready to swim from 9 – 9:45AM Saturday, July 16th. 9:35AM registered participants should be ready to swim 10-10:45AM on Saturday and 10:10AM registered swimmers will be assessed from 11-11:45AM. Registration is available at the Alamosa Family Recreation Center or at www.AlamosaRec.org. Contact ASC Swimming Coach Daniel France at 719 587-8262 or City of Alamosa Community Activities Manager Andy Rice at 719 589-2105 for more information.