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Town Manager Report 9.26.2023

Board of Trustees & Staff are sometimes asked: *'What has the Town done for locals?'*

It takes a Team of dedicated people to operate a town, not one person – democracy, not dictatorship.

The Team of Dedicated People Working for this Town are:

The Leadership & Commitment of the Board of Trustees
The Expertise & Dedication of Staff
The Hard Work & Energy of Planning Commission & TAB
The Compassion & Caring of the Business Community and Residents.

This Team has worked very hard over the last few years on many Town infrastructure improvements.

To accomplish these very large, expensive infrastructure projects, Staff has worked hard to find grant funding to offset the costs. Without this funding, many of these projects could not be accomplished because the Town does not have enough money.

The grant funding has also assisted with purchasing needed equipment to help maintain the infrastructure of the Town.

The Board of Trustees and Staff have worked very hard over the last five years to be awarded **over \$12 million dollars in grant funding to accomplish much-needed projects and equipment the Town could not afford without this funding.**

WOW! Teamwork is amazing!

Additional work comes with funding & completing infrastructure projects. Extra hard work has taken place by the Trustees and the Staff. Much has been accomplished, and of course, there is always much more to do!

All this has also taken place during two years of the COVID pandemic. The Town has pulled through by supporting each other and our business community.

Below is a list of the Major Projects that have taken place in the last five years – it is not a complete list and does not include the daily maintenance work that occurs.

An Example of Town Infrastructure Improvements for the Town Citizens in the last five years:

- Town Constructed a new Community Clinic with 100% grant funding \$5 million dollars – Town owns the building and is leasing to Community Hospital to provide health care to Palisade citizens. A fantastic private/public partnership!
- Restored the historic community gym, opening up the bleachers and bringing to current building codes for the safety of town citizens.
- Removal of abandoned condemned building, including asbestos.
- Built fiber into Town for citizens to have high-speed internet at competitive market prices.
- Built sidewalks and tractor/bike lanes on Highway 6 for the safety of citizens and safe crosswalks for students to Taylor Elementary School.
- Grant funded \$1.8 million dollars of multi-use paths on Elberta – construction 2024 – 2025
- Sidewalks on south Highway 6 to Palisade High School – construction for 2024
- Town Master Comprehensive Plan completed 2023
- New Troyer Sewer Lift Station
- Sewer Study for future Waste-water/Sewer management for Town.
- Hydraulic Model Study to improve aged water line system in Town.
- New Fire Fighter SCBA equipment – grant funded
- 2 new ambulances – grant funded – for residents to have 24-hour EMS
- Pedestrian bridges on Elberta – construction 2024-2025
- Remodel swimming pool locker rooms
- New street leaf vacuum – pick up residents' leaves
- New street sweeper – operated weekly throughout Town.
- Noxious weed removal of tamarisk & russian olive in Riverbend Park – continuous....
- Continuous planting of trees in parks to replace the aging trees that will be gone in 10 years.
- New bus stops, benches & shade structures for residents who ride GVT
- New parklets downtown for businesses, keep them open and supported during the COVID pandemic – safer than the old ones, for residents and guests in parklets, protective structures from vehicles. Grant funded.
- New public restrooms in Veterans Memorial Park
- New painted pickleball courts in Peach Bowl Park
- New benches and lighting in parks and plaza for citizens
- New brush tender for local fires
- New 420 backhoe to repair water leaks in Town & assist with multiple other projects.
- New playground in Riverbend Park

- New playground in Veterans Memorial Park Fall 2023 construction
- Repair of potholes in Town, new paving at railroad crossings, chip seal, crack seal....
- Purchased Main Street parking lot with grant funding for local businesses, residents & visitors
- Town operated Sunday Market for the benefit of the local businesses – has won multiple awards in the last few years, including USA Today's Top 3 Farmers Market in the Country.
- Repair and maintenance of Watershed and Cabin Reservoir Dam.
- 2 - Class A water operators – 1st time in over 20 years.
- USDA grant & loan contract completed to finance the design & construction of Sewer Consolidation to meet EPA & State of Colorado standards – a project that the Town has needed to do for over 15 years.
- Partnership with Mesa County on the Palisade Plunge Trail, assisted grant writing & planning.
- So Much More.....

This list represents the great projects that have been accomplished by the Town Government in the last five years by an amazing team of many people working together who care about Palisade.

This list does not include the continuous day-to-day operations of a Town Government that takes a **team of specialized, trained Staff to accomplish:**

- Cemetery Services
- Court
- Policing
- EMS Fire & Ambulance Services
- Planning Developments
- Legal Support
- Engineering
- New Business License
- Water Distribution & Water Treatment Plant
- Sewer Distribution & Sewer Treatment Plant
- Waste-Management/ Trash Service
- Park Maintenance
- Pool Maintenance
- Community Center
- Event Support: Bluegrass, Lavendarfest, Peachfest, Winefest, Art Festival, Old Fashioned Christmas, Tour de Vineyards, High School Homecoming, 4th of July Parade, Peachfest Parade, Ice Cream Social, Trick or Treat Street & Sunday Market
- Land Use Applications, Planning & Building Permits
- Communication & work with the entire Mesa County Government amongst all Departments & Board of Trustees

Amazing Amount of High-Quality Work, Compassion, and Success for a small Town!!!!