



Public Works Update

January 13, 2026

1. After more than five years of planning, design, and construction, the Motor Control Center (MCC) and emergency generator work at the water and wastewater treatment facilities is nearing completion. The work is substantially complete and commissioning and final testing and inspections are in process. The load test required 1.5 hours on building load and 2 hours on a load bank at full load and it performed very well. The generator at the water treatment plant is a 1-megawatt unit that has a maximum output of 960-kilowatts with degradation. We are proud of the Water/Wastewater Director's persistence in seeing this extremely important project through to completion!
2. The lead service waterline investigation work for 2025 is complete and no additional lead service lines were found. As a result, the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE) should be able to categorize the city's system as statistically non-lead.
3. With the recent opening of the Bad Alibi Distillery, and as a condition of approval of the project, the Wastewater Department has completed baseline testing of the discharge effluent and found that all parameters are within acceptable limits. Testing will continue on a quarterly basis moving forward. The purpose of the testing is to ensure the operation has appropriate measures in place for industrial discharge treatment to prevent introduction of pollutants into the municipal wastewater system that could interfere with the operation of the system or contaminate the resulting sludge.
4. The Building Department has attended meetings with the new owner and structural engineer of the former Golden Cavy building. The engineer has completed an evaluation and submitted structural plans to ensure the building is structurally safe. He has also recommended demolishing a portion of the existing building on the southwest corner. A new roof has been installed on the front part of the building this past summer and the remainder of the roof will be installed following other structural framing work. The goal is to make the building structurally sound and weather tight before beginning other work on the interior.
5. For the month of December, the Building Department issued 36 new permits with 21 of those within Craig city limits and 15 in Moffat County. A total of 80 inspections were completed with 31 of those in city limits and 49 in the county. \$11,781 was collected in permit fees with \$1,868 associated with permits in the city and \$9,913 for permits in the county. The building valuations totaled \$1,265,300 with \$61,800 for projects within city limits and \$1,203,500 for projects in the county. Please note the county valuations are higher due to an airplane hangar project valued at \$220,000 and new residential construction valued at \$950,000.

6. During the month of December there were 2 street cut permits issued, bringing the year-to-date total to 57.
7. Two open houses were held on December 11 for staff to get input from the general community and stakeholders on Short-Term Rentals (STR). This outreach is a result of direction requested by city council at a workshop held in January 2025. Approximately twenty-five people attended the open houses and there was spirited discussion amongst the participants. The intent of the open houses was to provide a comfortable venue for those interested to learn more about short-term rentals, share experiences, and provide input on potential regulations for a short-term rental program. In addition, a survey was launched and received nearly forty responses. As part of the survey staff solicited interest from community members to participate in a focus group that will meet in January and February to dig deeper into regulations associated with a short-term rental program. The first focus group meeting has been scheduled for January 22, and a follow-up meeting is tentatively scheduled for early February. Pending outcomes from those meetings it is staff's intent to bring a draft ordinance and regulations to the Planning & Zoning Commission in late February followed by presenting it to City Council for adoption.
8. The Community Development Department and legal team are working to bring a Vacant Property Registration Code ordinance to council for consideration. The intent of the ordinance is to set forth maintenance requirements and penalties for abandoned or vacant properties that are neglected and in disrepair. The ordinance, and its underlying administrative requirements, are under review by staff and when finalized it will be presented at a future council meeting.
9. Building Department staff are continuing to work to migrate Right-of-Way (ROW) permits and eventually building permit applications to SmartGov. We have run into some issues that have delayed rolling out the ROW permit to the public but are still targeting the month of January or early February to make this transition.
10. The property manager of the Remington Apartments (where a building fire occurred in May 2025) reported that abatement work was completed in the building during December. The manager maintains commitment to move forward with demolishing the structure later this winter or in the spring when weather allows.
11. Initial deliverables have been received for the Road Master Plan which evaluates the pavement condition of all city streets and assigns each one a Pavement Condition Index (PCI) score which is a numerical measurement of the condition of the street pavement. Preliminary information we have received indicates the city's streets are generally in good condition. Staff are reviewing the information and coordinating with the consultant before finalizing the report. The final report and its findings will be presented to City Council at a future meeting.
12. Staff held meetings with Moffat County representatives to continue discussions on a partnership to build the new sidewalk that will connect City Park to the Boys and Girls Club. Baseline Engineering has been retained to serve as the project engineer through final design. An existing conditions and topographic survey were completed. With input from Moffat County the engineer is

working to develop a final concept plan that will explore the benefits of routing a portion of the sidewalk onto Moffat County property. The project has been given the name “US40 East Sidewalk Improvements” as the sidewalk will be serving a much larger area than only the Boys & Girls Club.

13. Despite not having much snow so far this winter the Road & Bridge Department is keeping busy. They have taken advantage of the slow season and are using staff to work on other long deferred projects such as reorganizing the parts room and hose room. The chipper machine has been sent to Idaho for maintenance. For the first time in many years the street sweeping team swept roads for two weeks during the month of December.
14. Stormwater samples have been collected at the outfall of the Woodbury drainage area to analyze the runoff water for pollutants. This was suggested by the downstream property owner and staff agreed it would be an effective way to establish a baseline for water quality before moving forward with a capital project later this year to clear the receiving ditch and restore the public drainage system.
15. A meeting was held with DOLA’s northwest regional manager to discuss the viability of two projects to pursue Energy Impact Assistance Funding in 2026. Those projects are the A-Trunk Sewer Line and Comprehensive (Master) Plan. At this time, it is unclear if, and when, DOLA will move forward with announcing its next call for applications.
16. The Public Works Director along with the Water/Wastewater, Road & Bridge/Solid Waste, and Building Official Directors held meetings with Pinnacol Assurance to provide information on each operation, safety controls, and risk exposures. This was done in conjunction with Human Resources’ effort to look at opportunities to reduce the city’s Experience Modification Rate (EMR or Mod).
17. The Public Works Director has commenced a project to purge and digitize historical Public Works files that have been kept in a downstairs filing room.
18. The Public Works Director attended an all-day webinar on Colorado Water Rights and Regulations.
19. Tis the season for business development and consultants and suppliers were eager to meet with the Public Works Director to discuss potential work in the coming new year.
20. Employee evaluations were completed.