

Craig Economic Development Manager Reporting – January to March 2023

Brownfields Assessment Grant

1-19-23: Conducted the Phase II environmental assessments at the former Spicy Basil and 406 Yampa Ave. properties. Also conducted the Phase I environmental assessments at the 785 Russell St. and 1st and Woodbury Drive properties.

2-2-23: Conducted a core team meeting with City Staff and Ayres and Associates to discuss the progress of the first round of Brownfield's grant funding for environmental assessments, and plan for the next round of funding, (Fall of 2023) for the remediation grants.

Golden Cavy / Spicy Basil

1-19-23: Conducted the Phase II environmental assessment for the former Spicy Basil property. Asbestos was found to be present in the popcorn ceiling tiles. Still working on getting permission to conduct the Phase II assessment at the former Golden Cavy property.

Economic Development Advisory Committee

1-23-23: First EDAC meeting of 2023 was held. Peter Brixius gave an update to the Committee on the City's housing initiative and discussed the 8th St. redevelopment project. The Committee also approved recommending Marketing Alliance, Inc. to the City Council as the vendor in which to design and construct the new economic development website. The goal is to have the website complete by the first week in April. Christine Rambo, the Project Manager for the Northwest Colorado Development Council, (NWCDC), also gave an update regarding the DOLA Roadmaps plan that was created for the Northwest Regional partners, which will be instrumental in pursuing and securing grant dollars.

2-27-23: The Committee was presented with the 2022 Economic Development Annual Report. A few edits were recommended before taking to the City Council. The Focus Media Group article was presented in digital form, with the print version expected to be presented at the March meeting. (Just waiting on the shipment of the magazine to arrive) and the OEDIT Business Come to Life Ad was shown in print form. The new URL, homepage and secondary draft pages of the website were also reviewed by the Committee. The EDAC discussed putting together a Business Plan Competition for new businesses and start-ups. A sub-committee was formed, with their first meeting to be held on March 15th. The goal is to kick off the competition in the Fall of 2023. A draft list of 2023 Economic Development goals were also discussed. Shannon will combine and break those down into short and long term goals for the Committee to decide on at the March meeting. The EDAC will also conduct a joint meeting with some of the Chamber of Commerce, DBA and LMD Board members in March to ensure that similar goals and priorities are not being duplicated.

3-27-23: The March EDAC meeting will be held.

Economic Development Website

1-23-23: Marketing Alliance was approved and recommended to City Council as the vendor in which to design and construct the new Economic Development website.

1-24-23: City Council approved the EDAC's recommendation to select Marketing Alliance.

2-6-23: David Petr, the CEO of Marketing Alliance travelled to and toured key sites in Craig and met with stakeholders, businesses and EDAC members to gain a better understand of the Craig community. Members of Marketing Alliance's team will travel back to Craig at least twice (preferably in the Summer and Fall) to take photos, videos and testimonials of our assets, businesses and amenities to include in the new website.

EDCC:

January: Was nominated and elected to serve as a Regional Representative of Northwest Colorado for the Economic Development Council of Colorado's Board of Directors. Will serve on both their membership and communications committees.

CURA

No CURA meetings have been held in 2023 thus far. One of the EDAC's goals for 2023 is to better market the CURA in the community.

NWCDC

1-19-23: Attended the January NWCDC meeting.

2-1-23: Attended the Workforce Alignment work group meeting.

2-8-23: Attended the Value-Added Ag and Food Processing work group meeting.

2-14-23: Attended the Small Business/Entrepreneurial work group meeting.

2-26-23: Attended the February NWCDC meeting.

3-16-23: Will attend the March NWCDC meeting.

Rural Transit Authority (RTA)

11-22-22: Fehr & Peers was approved by City Council as the vendor selected to conduct a regional transit feasibility study in conjunction with Steamboat Springs and Routt Co.

2-17-23: Conducted our first RTA kick off meeting with Steamboat Springs and Routt Co.

3-6-23: Conducted our second RTA meeting. Working on establishing stakeholders in each community in which to schedule meetings with. Jason Miller with Fehr & Peers will be in Craig and Routt County at the end of March to conduct these in person meetings.

3-24-23: Next RTA monthly project team meeting scheduled.

Business Grant Program

There are four projects that were approved in 2022, The Luttrell Barn, The Community Budget Center, Loadout Liquors and Chapman's Automotive that were granted extensions in which to complete their projects in the Spring and Summer of 2023 due to weather related issues. All are on track to complete their projects by the new agreed to extension date.

Additional Notes

1-13-23: Attended the EDCC Board retreat in Westminster, CO

2-8-23: Met with USDA local and regional reps. To discuss upcoming funding opportunities.

2-10-23: Attended the February EDCC Board of Directors meeting.

2-13-23: Attended the EDCC communications committee meeting.

2-16-23: Attended the EDCC membership committee meeting.

2-26-23 & 2-17-23: Attended housing public outreach meetings at the Warehouse and MRH to help promote the 8th St. redevelopment project.

2-28-23: Attended the S3 Convening at the Carpenter Ranch.

3-9-23: Toured Mountain Pine Manufacturing facility to see the new Scragg Mill operation.

3-10-23: Attended the March EDCC Board of Directors meeting.

3-15-23: Will attend the EDCC's Virtual Series discussing the water issues in CO.

3-16-23: Will attend the EDCC membership committee meeting.

3-20-23: Will attend the EDCC communication committee meeting.

January – March: Continue to attend monthly AGNC, NWCDC, LMD, EDCC, Regional Transit Authority, Chamber Board and Whittle the Wood Planning meetings.