

# the MAYOR'S



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# CORNER

JANUARY 2020 / ISSUE 2



## MEET THE MAYOR

Mayor Jarrod Ogden was elected Craig's 43rd mayor in April of 2019. He previously served on the Craig City Council from 2013 to 2019. Mayor Ogden would like to extend a happy and prosperous New Year to the Craig community and is looking forward to further serving you in 2020.

## 2020 BUDGET STRATEGY & OBJECTIVES

Fiscal year 2019's budget execution and positive projection of activities and achievements will continue into 2020 and with proper planning and delivery of expectations, may be considered one of the City's most pivotal budget cycles in recent history. The daunting nature of the economic storm clouds on our horizon are in a word, foreboding. The construct of the 2020 budget has been both aggressive and deliberate in the formation of its goals and outcomes. Many of the capital projects are intended to further a much longer-term economic vision for the City of Craig.

The 2020 Budget is a compilation of effort that reflects a vision of the City as they represent the Citizens of Craig. The budget not only addresses the City's financial stability regarding the management of projected revenues and expenses, it also addresses the completion of projects that are essential to maintaining our infrastructure and service delivery to the community. These expenditures have been reviewed by the oversight of the Mayor and City Council through a process of deliberation and evaluation.

The 2020 Budget also addresses current and prior council commitments made to the community and its voters in many areas. The 2020 outcomes include investments in economic development, city amenity improvements for the health of its citizens, businesses and entrepreneurs and sound and secure management of the city's reserves as stipulated by the State of Colorado. Some of the areas of focus and investment for 2020 include:

Yampa Avenue Sidewalk Improvements/Downtown - \$200,000\*  
Museum of Northwest Colorado Funding for 2020 - \$300,000

### OTHER DEPARTMENT EXPENSES & CAPITAL EXPENDITURES

General Fund R&B Overlay and Stormwater Improvement - \$330,000  
General Fund P&R Diversion Whitewater Park Engineering - \$125,000  
General Fund P&R Wave Pool Improvements - \$180,000  
Skatepark Planning & Construction - \$400,000

### ENTERPRISE FUNDS

Water Fund Barclay Tank Repairs - \$170,000  
Wastewater Fund Collection System Enhancement - \$50,000  
Wastewater Fund Collection System Improvements - \$400,000  
Wastewater Fund Sludge Line Replacement - \$1,100,000\*

\*Grant funding available

## 2020 BUDGET STRATEGY & OBJECTIVES CONT'D

The 2020 Budget is intended to achieve a fiscal spending road map that will provide funding for the tactical and strategic initiatives required to maintain and improve our infrastructure and advance our economic development efforts.

As we look to develop a data driven economy to help us target our precious financial investments more effectively, further plan development will be incorporated into these efforts that include:

- Regional Housing Assessment Study to assist in identifying how best to target developers' efforts to satisfy workforce housing, senior housing, resident campus housing needs. Also discovering the need for ownership vs. rental housing and the migratory impact to our housing stock
- Ongoing development of business tracking that incorporates an understanding of trends among our small businesses and needed support to overcome some of the impediments to growth.
- Digital and Social Marketing efforts to target a location neutral workforce as well as attraction to key events and sites in the Craig area.
- Opportunity Zone Prospectus and marketing plan approach.

As a community, we need to be effectively gathering and disseminating information in real-time to prevent missing key opportunities for business growth and development. We hope to also plan our activities in a way that will improve the attractiveness of our City to our residents and visitors. Our mindset must be poised to ensure that every dollar spent corrects real problems and furthers our economic future.

[CLICK THE LINK BELOW TO VIEW THE CITY OF CRAIG 2020 MUNICIPAL BUDGET IN FULL.](http://www.ci.craig.co.us/Document%20Center/Department/Financial%20Documents/Budgets/2020%20Annual%20Budget%20Booklet.pdf)

<http://www.ci.craig.co.us/Document%20Center/Department/Financial%20Documents/Budgets/2020%20Annual%20Budget%20Booklet.pdf>

# Beautification & Revitalization OF CRAIG AND THE BUSINESS COMMUNITY

The greatest economic impact is the strengthening of locally-owned businesses, which keeps more dollars in the local economy. This has been the theme of the recently formed Economic Development Committee (EDC), made up of Committee Chair, Andrea Camp, Tony Bohrer and Chris Nichols.

One of the first programs proposed by the EDC and approved by the Craig City Council was the launch of a local business development grant program in 2019 which provided funding for 11 businesses within our community. The funding was used primarily for building façade enhancements, landscaping and for capital purchases and improvements. Priority for these grant awards were evaluated based on investments that would support employment growth and new business development. Grants were also prioritized based on site enhancements that pursued architectural improvements for a business location that drew their inspiration from the Yampa Avenue Façade Improvement Guideline and Concepts plan developed in 2014. The Yampa Avenue plan was a partnership between the City of Craig and the University Technical Assistance program at the Colorado Center for Community Development.

In 2019 the Business Grant Program expended \$79,723 comprising the 11 awarded grants. The total investment made by these businesses to complete their various projects was \$267,329. The grants could be seen as helping to leverage over 3 times more investment into the various improvements and expanded services resulting from the program.

**PICTURED:  
SITE IMPROVEMENTS  
SEEN AT CRAIG PHYSICAL  
THERAPY LOCATED IN  
DOWNTOWN CRAIG.**



## PICTURED BELOW: SITE IMPROVEMENTS AT 518 YAMPA



The EDC has again recommended \$85,000 be budgeted in 2020 to support this grant program with initial applications being accepted as early as March 1st with an application deadline of September 15th. The City Council has recently adopted the 2020 budget to include this recommendation.

If you would like to begin working on your application, you may contact Melanie Kilpatrick at (970) 826-2016 or you can pull the grant information and application from the City web address listed below -

[http://www.ci.craig.co.us/residents/economic\\_development.php](http://www.ci.craig.co.us/residents/economic_development.php)

## CRAIG'S NEW DOG PARK

You and your best friend have a great place to hang out and run free thanks to the Humane Society of Moffat County's (HSMC) grant funding which helped to make this dog park possible. At the intersection of Jeffcoat Drive and Williams Lane you'll find this 1.5 acre oasis situated on City of Craig property and appropriated for you and your pet to enjoy. Rules of the park are posted, pet waste disposal stations in place and seating for pet owners provided. This project was truly a partnership of the city and humane society working together to create a very fine dog park location. Mayor Ogden and the City Council were committed to making this land available upon adequate public review and input, after which the site gained public and council acceptance.

This established dog park location provides the right amenities for use which include adequate parking, open space and generally peaceful surroundings. The park has a few punch-list items yet to be completed, like additional signage and pathway development from the parking lot to the front gate of the dog park. Once winter passes, the City and HSMC representative Steven Hilley have indicated they have every intention of putting the finishing touches on this new development. Shout-out to Steve and the humane society for their diligent efforts to keep this project alive.



PICTURED: NEW DOG PARK LOCATED AT THE  
INTERSECTION OF JEFFCOAT DRIVE & WILLIAMS LANE

# NOTICE

## CHLORAMINE CONVERSION



In late February 2020 the water supplied by the City of Craig will be treated with monochloramine. With this change, our customers will receive drinking water with improved taste and odor that meets or surpasses stringent standards set by the United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA).

If you have any questions about this topic or any other water quality issue, please contact Water & Wastewater Director, Mark Sollenberger:

P: (970) 824-6340

E: [msol@ci.craig.co.us](mailto:msol@ci.craig.co.us)

W: [ci.craig.co.us](http://ci.craig.co.us)

### ARE CHLORAMINES NEW?

No. Many cities in the U.S. and Canada have used chloramines for decades.

### ARE CHLORAMINES SAFE?

Yes. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) accepts chloramines as a disinfectant and as a way to avoid formation of known carcinogens in the trihalomethane family of compounds. Chloraminated water is safe for bathing, drinking, cooking and all uses we have for potable water every day. However, there are two groups of people who need to take special care with chloraminated water: kidney dialysis patients and fish owners.

### WHAT ARE TRIHALOMETHANES (THMs)?

THMs are some of the chemical compounds that are formed when chlorine mixes with naturally occurring organics in water. The USEPA has determined some THMs to be carcinogens (cancer-causing agents) for people.

### IF CHLORAMINES ARE HARMFUL TO FISH, HOW CAN PEOPLE SAFELY DRINK THE WATER?

Chloraminated water is no different than chlorinated water for all of the normal uses we have for potable water, including drinking. The digestive process neutralizes the chloramines before they reach the bloodstream. However, fish absorb chloramines directly into their bloodstreams through their gills, which can be fatal.

### CAN YOU SAFELY WASH A WOUND WITH CHLORAMINATED WATER?

Yes. It is safe to use chloraminated water in cleansing an open wound because virtually no water actually enters the bloodstream that way.

### CAN CHILDREN AND PREGNANT WOMEN DRINK CHLORAMINATED WATER?

Yes. Everyone can drink water that contains chloramines.

### CAN YOU SAFELY WATER PLANTS, VEGETABLES OR FRUIT AND NUT TREES?

Yes. The small amount of chloramines in the water supply will have no effect on plants of any type.

### IMPORTANT INFO FOR FISH OWNERS:

We know your pets' safety is always a top priority, so it's important that fish owners are knowledgeable about this upcoming change to Craig's water. While the conversion will further protect Craig's health, it will also change the way you care for your fish, amphibians and reptiles.

Chloramines must be removed from any water to be used for fish tanks or ponds. Chloramines are toxic to saltwater and freshwater fish, reptiles, turtles and amphibians, and must be removed.

You may not have had to remove chlorine from your aquarium water because it dissipates rapidly on its own. This is not the case with chloramines and specific steps must be taken for their removal.

Chloramines can be removed from the water by using a water conditioner specifically designed to remove chloramines or by using a granular activated carbon filter. Your pet supplier should be able to provide any further guidance you may need on these products.



### IMPORTANT INFO FOR DIALYSIS PATIENTS:

Kidney dialysis patients can safely drink, cook, and bathe in water disinfected with monochloramines because the digestive process neutralizes monochloramine before it enters the bloodstream. However, monochloramine is harmful if it directly enters the bloodstream. Therefore, like chlorine, monochloramine must be removed from water to be used in kidney dialysis machines. If not removed, monochloramine can cause life-threatening hemolytic anemia in kidney dialysis patients.

Water purification standards addressing chlorine and monochloramine are already in place within the kidney dialysis industry. These standards, set forth by the Association for the Advancement of Medical Instrumentation, require tests for both chlorine and monochloramine to ensure these chemicals have been removed from the water before it is used in the dialysis machine.

All kidney dialysis patients, even those who receive their treatments from a trained relative or caregiver at home, must be under the care of a kidney dialysis center. All centers in Craig, as well as hospitals with acute dialysis facilities, have been informed about the addition of monochloramine.