

March 10, 2020

### Legislation Updates

- SB 109 (<https://leg.colorado.gov/bills/sb20-109>) aims to tax all short term rentals at the commercial property tax rate of 29%. It is currently 7%. On February 11, the Senate Finance Committee postponed the bill indefinitely.
- SB 138 (<https://legiscan.com/CO/text/SB138/2020>) would extend the number of years that construction litigation lawsuits could be filed from current law of 6 years to 10 years and alter the tolling process that determines the amount of time that a lawsuit can be extended. In February, the Judiciary Committee referred it back to the full Senate, where it has been laid over following the second reading.
- HB 1089 (<https://legiscan.com/CO/text/HB1089/2020>) concerns clarification that the prohibition on an employer terminating an employee for the employee's lawful off-duty activities extends to activities that are lawful under state law even if those activities are not lawful under federal law. In February, it failed to pass in the House Committee on Business Affairs and Labor and was postponed indefinitely.
- HB 1093 (<https://leg.colorado.gov/bills/hb20-1093>) grants a board of county commissioners the authority to license and regulate any business within the county, including short-term lodging rentals. It was sent unamended to the full Senate.

### La Plata County Land Use Code Updates

- The BOCC and La Plata Planning Commission are working with staff as staff members write a new Land Use Code.
- Administrative Staff have held a series of workshops to present the Draft Table of Contents to the public to get input/questions.
- Draft Table of Contents is here:  
[http://lpcds.org/UserFiles/Servers/Server\\_1323669/File/Government/Departments/Planning/LUC\\_documents/2020\\_0213\\_updated%20TOC.pdf](http://lpcds.org/UserFiles/Servers/Server_1323669/File/Government/Departments/Planning/LUC_documents/2020_0213_updated%20TOC.pdf)
- Public Comment Portal is here: <http://lpcds.org/cms/One.aspx?portalId=1942050&pageId=16479093>
- Also, county staff is proposing a Level of Service (LOS) rating for gravel county roads of either “acceptable” or “unacceptable”. Acceptable would mean a minimum of 20’ wide and not exceeding 400 average daily trips (ADT).
- A joint work session between the BOCC and PC to discuss LOS is on March 12th at 6 pm in the BOCC Board Room.

### Durango City Staff Hiring Update

- Durango is in the process of hiring a new city manager. See the city manager profile here:  
<https://www.durangogov.org/DocumentCenter/View/16592/Durango-City-Manager-Profile>
- A first review of resumes was March 6, 2020.

### Durango Plastic Bag Ban

- On 3/2/20, Durango City Councilors expressed strong support for the drafting of an ordinance banning the use of plastic bags. The issue will be further discussed in a study session on April 7.

### Urban Renewal Authority Update

- On 2/25/20, La Plata County Board of County Commissioners passed a resolution in support of the formation of the Urban Renewal Authority (URA) in Durango.
- Durango City Council is set to hold a public hearing and consider the resolution to form the URA on March 17th. If the resolution passes, on March 18 staff will send notice to DOLA to officially establish the URA.

### LPC Financial Report

- Sales tax collections in La Plata County for January show an increase of 18.60% in comparison to the same period in 2018. Year to date, sales taxes show an increase of 1,342,233 or 8.81% as compared to the same period in 2018.
- Year to date, county lodger’s tax shows an increase of 65,742 or 22.34% over the same period in 2018.

### Projects Approved in La Plata County

On February 27th, the La Plata County Planning Commission approved a Conceptual Development Plan for 39 manufactured home lots and one lot for the existing home to be developed in two phases. The project is located at 857 CR 221 on 19.92 acres.

## Volunteer Opportunities

- The LPC county commissioners are seeking alternate members to serve on the Long Term Finance Committee. Experience relevant to assisting in preserving the county's fiscal soundness, and some knowledge of its government and background, are preferred. Applicants must be residents of the county. An online application and position description is here: <http://co.laplata.co.us/cms/one.aspx?pageId=1633876>
- The Durango City Council is seeking volunteers interested in serving on the Creative Economy Commission, the Durango Local Licensing Authority, and the Land Use and Development Code Board of Adjustment. Applications are due by 4:30 p.m. Wednesday, March 18. Applications are online here: <https://www.durangogov.org/1094/Application>

## 2020 Census Update

- Letters are being mailed to households during the week of March 12. The questionnaire holds 10 questions, which can be answered online. More information is at <https://2020census.gov>

## La Plata County Commissioners Election Information

- Charly Minkler (I), District 3 candidate: [www.minklerforcommissioner.com](http://www.minklerforcommissioner.com)
  - Total raised \$1,225
- Matt Salka (D), District 3 candidate: <https://www.mattsalka.com/>
  - Total raised \$1,203
- Marsha Porter-Norton (D), District 2 candidate: <https://www.marshaporternorton.com/>
  - Total raised \$12,239.00
- Jack Turner (I), District 2 candidate: <https://electjackturner.com/>
  - Total raised \$3,157

## Bayfield Municipal Election

- The regular Municipal Election for the Town of Bayfield will be held on April 7, 2020 between 7:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m. at the Bayfield Town Hall, 1199 Bayfield Parkway.
- The purpose of the election is to fill the Mayor and three Trustee seats.
- The candidate for Mayor is Ashleigh Tarkington. The candidates for Trustee are: David Black, Kristin Dallison, Lori Zazzaro and Aaron Wamsley. The three Trustee candidates receiving the highest number of votes shall be elected for four year terms.

## Ignacio Municipal Election

- The regular Municipal Election for the Town of Ignacio will be held on April 7, 2020 at the Ignacio Town Hall.
- Five candidates are vying for three open seats including three incumbent town trustees.
- The three incumbents are Alison deKay, Sandra Maez and Edward Box III. The other two candidates are Chris May and Mandy Brown.

## Meetings attended February 11 - March 10

2/11 - 10 am BOCC Business Agenda	2/25 - 10 am BOCC Business Agenda
2/11 - 4 pm Durango Council Study Session	2/25 - 4 pm Durango Council Study Session
2/12 - 8:30 BOCC Discussion Time CANCELLED	2/25 - 6 pm LPC Land Use Code Workshop
2/13 - 6 pm LPC Planning Commission Work Session	2/26 - 8:30 am BOCC Discussion Time
2/18 - 10 am BOCC Planning Agenda CANCELLED	2/27 - 6 pm LPC Planning Commission
2/18 - 6pm LPC Land Use Code Workshop	3/2 - 6:30 pm Durango City Council Meeting
2/18 - 6:30 pm Durango City Council Meeting	3/3 - 10 am BOCC Planning Agenda CANCELLED
2/19 - 8:30 am BOCC Discussion Time	3/4 - 8:30 am BOCC Discussion Time
2/20 - 6 pm BOCC/Plan Comm Joint Work Session	3/4 - 6 pm LPC Land Use Code Workshop
2/21 - 4 pm COGCC Rulemaking Stakeholder Meeting	3/5 - 11 am DAAR Gov't Affairs Meeting
2/24 - 6 pm Durango Planning Commission	3/5 - 6 pm LPC Land Use Code Workshop
	3/10 - 9:15 am LAC Meeting