

County Oil & Gas Regulations

- The La Plata County Board of County Commissioners is preparing for the creation of new oil and gas regulations (Chapter 90) in the Land Use Code.
- Staff is planning a process that includes presentation of the Table of contents, technical work groups, public meetings, and work sessions with the BOCC and the Planning Commission.
- At 2 pm on April 13, the Colorado Oil and Gas Conservation Commission will hold a joint work session with the BOCC for a deep dive into SB 181, which replaces 16 existing statutes, reallocates authority, rejects preemption of local government regulations and fundamentally changed the mission of the COGCC.

Durango City Election

- Olivier Bosmans and Jessica Buell were elected to the City Council, replacing Chris Bettin and Dean Brookie.
- Melissa Youssef retained her seat on City Council.
- New councilors will be sworn in on April 20.
- Ballot Issue 1A, raising the Lodgers Tax to 5.25%, passed. It becomes effective on June 1, 2021.

Durango Financial Update

- Sales tax in January was up 4.8% for the month.
- Lodgers tax was down -26.1% for the month of January.
- See the Monthly Sales Tax Snapshot here:
<https://www.durangogov.org/DocumentCenter/View/19756/January-2021-Sales-Tax-Snapshot-PDF>

La Plata County Financial Update

- Sales tax collections for January show an increase of \$71,789 or 4.61% in comparison to the same period in 2019. Year to date, Sales tax has increased \$2,344,429 or 14.14% over the same period in 2019.
- Lodger’s tax collections for Quarter 3 show an increase of \$69,543 or 40.87% from the same period in 2019. Year to date for 2020 is an increase of 60,262 or 16.74%, over the same period in 2019.

Volunteer Opportunities

- The Board of County Commissioners is seeking La Plata County residents who wish to serve in an advisory role on any of the volunteer boards and commissions listed below. Applications are due by 5 pm on Wednesday April 14. Applications are here: https://www.co.laplata.co.us/how_do_i/apply_for/boards__commissions.php
 - Durango Hills Road Improvement District Advisory Committee
 - Ignacio Community Library District Board
 - Multi-Event Center Commission
 - Southwest Region 9 Workforce Board
 - Undesirable Plant & Rodent Advisory Commission

Durango Building Permits

	SF New/Remodel/Add	Comm New/Remodel	Plumbing/Mechanical	Other
January	8	3	8	8

Bayfield Building Permits

	SF New/Remodel/Add	Comm New/Remodel	Plumbing/Mechanical	Other
January	0	0	0	1
February	1	0	0	0
March	0	0	0	0

Ignacio Building Permits

	SF New/Remodel/Add	Comm New/Remodel	Plumbing/Mechanical	Other
January	1	0	0	0
February	1	0	0	2
March	0	0	0	1

LPC Projects Approved

- On March 16, the BOCC approved The Timbers at Edgemont Highlands Phase 3D Final Plat, a subdivision for 25 single family lots and 12.07 acres of open space on 38.054 acres on the east side of Edgemont Highlands.
- On March 11, the LPC Planning Commission approved a Preliminary Development Plan to resubdivide Area D of Glacier Cliff lots 13 to 17 to create 2 additional lots, 7 lots total.
- On March 11, the LPC Planning Commission approved a Sketch Plan for 13 duplexes resulting in 26 total units built in several phases on 3.2 acres on Tacoma Dr.
- On March 25, the LPC Planning Commission approved a Sketch Plan to construct a 4,000sq.ft structure for use in association with the existing commercial business known as the Fun Center.
- On March 25, the LPC Planning Commission approved a Sketch Plan for a proposal to subdivide 35.82 acres into 6 single family lots ranging between 4 to 8 acres in size on CR 516 just outside of Bayfield.
- On April 8, the LPC Planning Commission approved a Sketch Plan for an approximately 6,800sq.ft. marijuana cultivation facility located on US 550 S within the Florida Mesa Planning District. No retail sales or distribution is proposed on site.

Durango Projects Approved

- On March 16, the Durango City Council approved a request from Jake Lavin for a Preliminary Development Plan for a 2.4 acre property located along the western portion of Rosemary Lane. The proposal is for a 16-unit single family residential development. All 16 homes will include the potential for integrated Accessory Dwelling Units.
- On March 22, the Durango Planning Commission approved a Conceptual Development Plan approval for a commercial building and tiny home community at Mild 2 Wild on the north side of Durango.
- On March 22, the Durango Planning Commission approved the Mountain Trace II and Timber Trails Preliminary Development Plan. The Mountain Trace II development will include 18 townhomes located in 3 buildings along the south and west side of Metz Lane, adjacent and connected to the existing Mountain Trace 1 development. Timber Trails will be 23 single family homes built to the north and east side of Metz Lane.
- On March 22, the Durango Planning Commission approved a proposal for a subdivision for the Best Western Inn & Suites on Hwy 160 West. The owner, Scott Brunvand, has applied to subdivide the lot into two separate lots. Of the new lots, one would contain what is now the lodging portion of the property and the other would contain the restaurant.

Meetings attended March 9 - April 13

3/9 - 10 am BOCC Business Meeting	3/24 - 2 pm BOCC Work Session
3/9 - 3:30 pm Durango Council Study Session	3/25 - 3 pm Joint Durango/BOCC Work Session
3/10 - 8:30 am BOCC Discussion Time	3/25 - 6 pm LPC Planning Commission
3/11 - 6 pm LPC Planning Commission	3/30 - 10 am BOCC Work Session
3/16 - 10 am BOCC Special Business Meeting	3/31- 8:30 am BOCC Discussion Time
3/16 - 6:30 pm Durango City Council Meeting	4/5 - 4:30 pm Durango SALTFAB
3/17 - 8:30 am BOCC Discussion Time	4/6 - 10 am BOCC Planning Meeting
3/18 - 6 pm Joint Planning Commission CANCELLED	4/6 - 6:30 pm Durango City Council Meeting
3/22 - 6 pm Durango Planning Commission	4/7 - 8:30 am BOCC Discussion Time
3/23 - 10 am BOCC Business Meeting	4/8 - 6 pm LPC Planning Commission
3/23- 4 pm Durango Council Study Session	4/13 - 9 am LAC Meeting
3/24 - 8:30 am BOCC Discussion Time	

Colorado Legislation Highlights

- HB21-1232 - <https://leg.colorado.gov/bills/hb21-1232> Concerning the establishment of a standardized health benefit plan to be offered in Colorado was assigned to Health and Insurance.
- HB21-1207 - <https://leg.colorado.gov/bills/hb21-1207> Concerning the overpayment of workers' compensation benefits was referred to the Senate Business, Labor, & Technology Committee.
- HB21-1198 - <https://leg.colorado.gov/bills/hb21-1198> Concerning health-care billing requirements for indigent patients receiving services not reimbursed through the Colorado indigent care program, and, in connection therewith, establishing procedures before initiating collections proceedings against a patient was assigned to Health & Insurance for a hearing April 21.
- HB21-1189 - <https://leg.colorado.gov/bills/hb21-1189> Concerning additional public health protections in relation to the emission of air toxics was referred to the House Finance Committee for a hearing April 19.
- HB21-1134 - <https://leg.colorado.gov/bills/hb21-1134> Concerning facilitating the reporting of tenants' rent payment information to consumer reporting agencies at the tenants' request was assigned to House Appropriations.
- HB21-1117 - <https://leg.colorado.gov/bills/hb21-1117> Concerning the ability of local governments to promote the development of new affordable housing units pursuant to their existing authority to regulate land use within their territorial boundaries was sent to the Senate State, Veterans, & Military Affairs Committee for a hearing April 20.
- HB21-1109 - <https://leg.colorado.gov/bills/hb21-1109> Concerning the broadband deployment board, and, in connection therewith, modifying the composition of the board, requiring the board to develop a request for proposal process for deploying broadband into critically unserved areas in the state, and requiring the board to give additional consideration to proposed projects that would include discounted service for low-income households was sent to the Senate Business, Labor, & Technology Committee.
- HB21-1061 - <https://leg.colorado.gov/bills/hb21-1061> Concerning the definition of residential land for the purpose of property tax classification passed the Senate on Third Reading.
- HB21-1052 - <https://leg.colorado.gov/bills/hb21-1052> Concerning the inclusion of pumped hydroelectric energy generation in the definition of "eligible energy resources" for purposes of meeting Colorado's renewable energy standard was sent to the Senate Committee of the Whole where it passed on third reading.
- HB21-1028 - <https://leg.colorado.gov/bills/hb21-1028> Concerning the preparation by the division of housing within the department of local affairs of an annual public report that provides information on money administered by the state to promote the provision of affordable housing was sent to the House Appropriations.
- HB21-1008 - <https://leg.colorado.gov/bills/hb21-1008> Concerning increased options for financing forest health projects, and, in connection therewith, financing wildfire mitigation treatment was sent to the Senate Agriculture and Natural Resources Committee for a hearing April 15.
- SB21-108 - <https://leg.colorado.gov/bills/sb21-108> Concerning gas pipeline safety, and, in connection therewith, increasing and clarifying the rule-making and enforcement authority of the public utilities commission was sent to the Senate Transportation & Energy Committee.
- SB21-87 - <https://leg.colorado.gov/bills/sb21-087> Concerning agricultural workers' rights was referred amended to Appropriations.
- SB21-85 - <https://leg.colorado.gov/bills/sb21-085> Concerning actuarial reviews of proposed legislation that may impose a new health benefit mandate on health benefit plans was referred amended to Appropriations.
- SB21-70 - <https://leg.colorado.gov/bills/sb21-070> The bill authorizes a board of county commissioners to require the registration of businesses in the unincorporated portions of the county. It was signed by the Governor.
- SB21-54 - <https://leg.colorado.gov/bills/sb21-054> Concerning transfers from the general fund to cash funds to be used to address wildland fires, and, in connection therewith, making an appropriation was signed by the Governor.
- SB21-33 - <https://leg.colorado.gov/bills/sb21-033> Concerning the adoption of statutory changes related to conservation easements that were recommended by the conservation easement working group convened in accordance with House Bill 19-1264 was assigned to the Senate Finance Committee for a hearing on April 14.
- SB21-20 - <https://leg.colorado.gov/bills/sb21-020> Concerning the valuation of property related to renewable energy for purposes of the property tax passed the House on Third Reading.