

Durango Financial Update

- Sales tax collections for the month of December were up 3.9% and up .05% year to date.
- Lodgers tax was down -18.9% for December and down -30.4% year to date.
- View the monthly snapshot here:
<https://www.durangogov.org/DocumentCenter/View/19510/December-2020-Sales-Tax-Snapshot-PDF>

Durango Strategic Plan

- City staff unveiled the 2021 Strategic Plan at the Durango City Council meeting March 2nd. The document lays out goals, strategies and desired outcomes with some time frames. Some of the goals listed include:
 - Implementing La Posta Partnership with stakeholders including La Plata County, La Plata Economic Development Alliance and property owner;
 - Developing a 10-year financial forecast for all funds to promote sound financial health;
 - Appropriating resources to ensure there is adequate city staff to focus on ways to increase affordable and workforce housing inventory through a variety of mechanisms that include land and or infrastructure acquisition (or bank), changes to code, and public-private incentives.
- City Manager Jose Madrigal noted the strategic plan is a starting off point and, once adopted, will be adjusted every year. A Study session is on March 9 at 3:30 pm and a final draft will be considered by City Council later this month.

Durango City Council Election

- The Neighbors in Need Alliance (NINA) candidate forum will be held at 6:30 p.m. March 11. More information and registration is available at <http://interfaithallianceco.org/durango>.
- The League of Women Voters of La Plata County candidate forum is scheduled for 7 to 8:30 p.m. March 22. More information is at www.lwvlaplata.org.
- Seven people are running for three out of five seats on Durango City Council in the April 6 election.
 - Incumbent Melissa Youssef - <http://www.melissayoussef.com/>
 - Olivier Bosmans - <https://www.facebook.com/Olivier-for-City-Council-354289888990465/>
 - Jessika Buell - <https://jessikafordurango.com/>
 - Seth Furtney - <https://www.sethforcouncil.com/>
 - Lisa McCorry - <https://lisamccorry4durango.com/>
 - Harrison Wendt - <https://www.harrison4durango.com/>

LPEA Election

- LPEA members interested in running for a seat on the La Plata Electric Association (LPEA) Board of Directors now have access to the 2021 Board Director Candidate Packets at: <http://www.lpea.coop/board-director-candidate-information>.
- Directors are elected for three-year terms. Incumbent directors up for re-election are Kirsten Skeeahan (District 1 – Archuleta County), Kohler McInnis (District 2 – South and West La Plata County), Britt Bassett (District 3 – City of Durango), and Tim Wheeler (District 4 – North and East La Plata County).
- Prospective candidates must return all completed materials by 1 p.m. on Monday, May 3, 2021 for consideration.
- To be eligible to run for the LPEA Board of Directors, candidates must:
 - be a member of LPEA for at least one year immediately prior to becoming a director;
 - be a bona fide resident of the district you plan to represent for at least 120 days prior to becoming a director and;
 - not be employed by, or have a spouse or child employed by, LPEA in any position.
- The official ballot will be mailed to LPEA members in mid-May. Election results will be announced during a partial, virtual Annual Meeting on June 17, 2021.

Durango - La Plata County Airport

- Passenger traffic recovery at the Durango La Plata County Airport (DRO) continues to outpace the US average. Director of Aviation Tony Vicari said passenger traffic recovery at DRO has hovered between 50-60% of pre-pandemic levels for the past three months.
- American Airlines recently announced that it will establish seasonal service between Los Angeles International Airport (LAX) and DRO with one daily nonstop flight June 3 – August 16, 2021.

- Delta Airlines will operate one daily nonstop flight between Durango and Salt Lake beginning May 12. Beginning May 26, 2021, flight frequency will be increased to two daily departures and arrivals seven days per week.

LPC Projects Approved

- On Feb 16, 2021 the Board of County Commissioners approved the Paxton Preliminary Plat Subdivision and Class I Additional Dwelling Unit, a proposal for a 2 lot subdivision near Elmore's Corner and an additional dwelling unit.
- On Feb 18, the Joint Planning Commission approved a sketch plan for Elevation Park Phase 2 Subdivision and Phases 1 & 2 Multifamily. This is a Sketch Plan for a proposed subdivision of 12 single-family lots and 72 multi-family dwellings on 10.78 ac within Phase II and 14 multi-family dwellings on 0.749 ac within Phase I.

Durango Projects Approved

- On Feb 16, the Durango City Council approved the 150 E. 33rd Street Preliminary Minor Subdivision & 3215 E. 2nd Avenue Preliminary Minor Subdivision, creating 6 parcels in total.
- On Feb 22, the Durango Planning Commission approved the Rosemary Lane Preliminary Development Plan (157 Rosemary Lane), which will include 16 single family lots and ADU's on all properties.

Colorado Legislation Highlights

- 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 the House Business Affairs & Labor committee for a hearing on March 18.
- 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 House Transportation & Local Government Committee for a hearing Mar 10.
- 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 House Finance Committee for a hearing Mar 11.
- HB21-1093 - <https://leg.colorado.gov/bills/hb21-1093> Concerning available relief for plaintiffs who prevail in a class action under the "Colorado Consumer Protection Act" was assigned to the House Business Affairs and Labor Committee for a hearing Mar 18.
- HB21-1076 - <https://leg.colorado.gov/bills/hb21-1076> Concerning carpooling service internet applications, and, in connection therewith, requiring that application owners or operators register with the department of transportation was sent to the House Transportation & Local Government Committee for a hearing Mar 9.
- HB21-1061 - <https://leg.colorado.gov/bills/hb21-1061> Concerning the definition of residential land for the purpose of property tax classification passed the House on third reading.
- HB21-1048 - <https://leg.colorado.gov/bills/hb21-1048> Concerning a requirement that retail establishments accept United States currency for purchases was sent to the House Business Affairs and Labor Committee for a hearing Mar 18.
- HB21-1046 - <https://leg.colorado.gov/bills/hb21-1046> Concerning the use of a water right obtained through a mutual ditch corporation was sent to the House Agriculture, Livestock, & Water Committee for a hearing Mar 15.
- HB21-1044 - <https://leg.colorado.gov/bills/hb21-1044> Concerning allowing a manufacturer of vinous liquors to maintain licensed premises consisting of multiple noncontiguous locations was assigned to the House Finance Committee.
- 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 Transportation & Local Government Committee for a hearing on Mar 10.
- HB21-1026 - <https://leg.colorado.gov/bills/hb21-1026> Concerning the ability of foreign protected series organizations to do business in Colorado was assigned to Business Affairs & Labor for a hearing Mar 11.
- HB21 - 1027 - <https://leg.colorado.gov/bills/hb21-1027> Concerning the authorization for certain alcohol license holders to offer alcohol beverages for consumption off the licensed premises was sent to the Committee on Finance.
- 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 House Committee of the Whole.

- SB21-133 - <https://leg.colorado.gov/bills/sb21-133> Concerning alcohol beverages donated for the purpose of a special event held at a club licensed to sell alcohol beverages by the drink to club members for consumption on the club premises was assigned to Business, Labor, & Technology.
- SB21-125 - <https://leg.colorado.gov/bills/sb21-125> Concerning the submission of alternate proposals to rules being considered by the air quality control commission was assigned to Transportation & Energy for a hearing Mar 9.
- SB21-111 - <https://leg.colorado.gov/bills/sb21-111> Concerning the creation of a program to support entrepreneurs in the marijuana industry. It was passed on third reading in the House.
- 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.
- SB21-82 - <https://leg.colorado.gov/bills/sb21-082> Concerning authorization for certain alcohol beverage license holders to hold festivals for alcohol beverage retail activity. It was referred to the Senate Finance Committee for a hearing Mar 8.
- 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 passed the Senate and was referred to the House.
- SB21-60 - <https://leg.colorado.gov/bills/sb21-060> Concerning broadband deployment was assigned to Business, Labor, & Technology.
- 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 passed the House on third reading.
- SB21-35 - <https://leg.colorado.gov/bills/sb21-035> Concerning restrictions on certain practices by third-party food delivery services was assigned to Business, Labor, & Technology.
- 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 Senate Finance Committee for a hearing Mar. 8.
- SB21-05 - <https://leg.colorado.gov/bills/sb21-005> Concerning exemptions from Public Health orders requiring businesses to close was sent to State, Veterans, & Military Affairs for a hearing on Mar 9.

Meetings attended February 9 - March 9

2/9 - 10 am BOCC Business meeting	2/22 - 6 pm Durango Planning Commission
2/9 - 3 pm BOCC Work Session	2/23 - 10 am BOCC Business meeting
2/9 - 4 pm Durango Council Study Session	2/23 - 2 pm BOCC Work Session
2/10 - 8:30 am BOCC Discussion Time	2/24 - 8:30 am BOCC Discussion Time
2/11 - 6 pm LPC Planning Commission	2/25 - 6 pm LPC Planning Commission
2/16 - 10 am BOCC Planning Agenda	3/1 - 4:30 pm Durango SLTFAB
2/16 - 6:30 pm Durango City Council Meeting	3/2 - 6:30 pm Durango City Council Meeting
2/17 - 8:30 am BOCC Discussion Time	3/3 - 8:30 am BOCC Discussion Time
2/18 - 6 pm Joint Planning Commission	3/4 - 8:30 am Eggs N Issues
2/19 - 10:30 am BOCC Work Session	3/9 - 9 am LAC Meeting