

2020-05-12 LAC Report

Notebook: 2020 Reports & Updates

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Author: Joan Fauteaux

Legislative Advisory Coalition Update for May 12, 2020

La Plata County Land Use Code Updates

- The draft Land Use Code was presented to the community for review on Monday and a series of facilitated public sessions to discuss the new code and its contents will follow.
- On May 28, at 6pm the La Plata County Planning Commission and Board of County Commissioners will discuss the draft land use code release, public review and input schedule, and other topics.

Durango Financial Update

- Durango Interim Manager Amber Blake told City Council they were predicting and preparing for a 30% decline in sales tax, plus other revenue shortfalls. However, the initial numbers show a 20% reduction scenario.
- Starting May 7, the city implemented a one day per week furlough for most employees through 2020 as a cost saving measure.

La Plata County Financial Update

- Sales tax collections for March show an increase of 129,830 or 10.14% in comparison to the same period in 2019.
- Highway User's tax payments for February 2020 are down by -18.66% compared to the same period in 2019. Year to date, Highway Users Tax is down by 128,033 or -18.76% over the same period in 2019.
- County officials say the county is in a good position financially to weather the effects of COVID19.

URA Update

- The City of Durango approved a resolution on May 5th forming an Urban Renewal Authority and appointed commissioners to serve on the URA. The commissioners and terms are:

1. Mayor Dean Brookie - Four (4) year
2. Mayor Pro Tempore Kim Baxter - Five (5) year
3. Council Member Barbara Noseworthy - Five (5) year
4. Council Member Melissa Youssef - Four (4) year
5. Council Member Chris Bettin - Three (3) year
6. LP County Representative Mike Segrest - Three (3) year
7. Board of Education Director Andrea Parmenter - Two (2) year
8. Special District Appointee John Mahoney - Two (2) year
9. Mayoral Appointee Carrie Woodson - One (1) year

COVID19 Business Related Update

- SJBPH asks that local businesses and worksites complete steps in order to meet self-certification requirements:
 - Review the guidance document issued by the state that provides requirements for specific business categories found here and implement the requirements:
<https://tinyurl.com/ybl945ht>
 - Complete SJBPH's self-certification form before opening:
<https://forms.laplata.co.us/Forms/BusinessCert>
- Durango regulations governing on-site parking requirements will be temporarily relaxed to help facilitate outdoor business transactions. An Order signed by Interim City Manager Amber Blake allows businesses to use up to 25 percent of their required on-site parking spaces for seating, merchandise display and conducting transactions.
- Durango has temporarily relaxed regulations governing signage, such as banners, teardrop banners and sandwich boards. The City is waiving the requirement to register temporary signs, allowing two additional temporary signs per business, and allowing them to be displayed even if it exceeds the typical two-week limit.
- Blake also signed into order the deferral of sales tax payments to help mitigate the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on businesses that qualify within city limits. The City is accepting applications for the deferral of payments due during the period when the Emergency Declaration is in effect.
 - [Sales Tax deferral application](#) (PDF)
 - [Signed order from the Interim City Manager](#) (PDF)
- Gov. Jared Polis said Friday, May 8, 2020 he's hoping that restaurants can be open by Memorial Day (May 25), if not sooner. During the news conference, Polis said he's hoping guidelines will be in place by May 22 or 23, which will give the state about

three weeks of data from the "safer at home" order and whether it's safe. That will give restaurant owners about a week to prepare to open.

- Polis also saluted innovative businesses that have found ways to work during the pandemic, and a new website that provides tips for businesses on how to do more telecommuting. The website is [CanDoColorado](http://CanDoColorado.com).

LPEA Update

- LPEA will now host a virtual meeting on Saturday May 16th at 10:30 a.m. solely for the purpose of electing and seating new directors. The remainder of the Annual Meeting will be postponed until later this year when it can be held in person. For more details, and for access instructions, visit lpea.coop/annual-meeting.

La Plata County Projects Approved

- On April 21, the BOCC approved Sunrise Durango LLC Class II, a proposal for office/warehouse (8,630 SF), equipment storage (15,000 SF) and RV/self storage (10,800 SF) on 2.54 acres located at 29444 Hwy 160.
- On April 21, the BOCC approved Windsong Conceptual Development Plan, a proposal for 39 manufactured home lots and one lot for the existing home to be developed in two phases, located at 857 CR 221 on 19.92 acres.
- On May 5, the BOCC approved Pinon Acres 2 Subdivision Preliminary Plat, a proposed subdivision of a 1.95 acre lot in the Florida Mesa District classified as Local Commercial located at 29639 E US Hwy 160.
- On May 5, the BOCC approved Oak Meadow Preliminary Plat, a subdivision of a 67.56 acre lot into a 35.153 acre and 32.408 acre lot located at 6828 CR 228.
- On May 5, the BOCC approved Engineer Village Phase IV, Aspen Ridge Estates Preliminary Plat, a proposal to subdivide two parcels totaling 23 acres into 15 lots comprising 12 single family lots, and the remaining three lots will be reserved for development.

Durango Projects Approved

- On April 27, Durango Planning Commission approved Espero Apartments Major Site Plan Review. The project, located at 1051 Avenida Del Sol, proposes the development of 40 Permanent Supportive Housing units on the City's Social Service Campus. The project will be funded by low-income tax credits and rental subsidies will be used to serve persons experiencing homelessness and disabilities.
- On April 27, Durango Planning Commission approved Southfork Storage Expansion PD Preliminary Plan & Conditional Use Permit. The project, located at 28481 Hwy 160 proposes to add 48,000 sf additional structured storage to the existing Southfork Storage facility at 28481 Hwy 160 E. In the Grandview area.

Meetings attended April 14 - May 12

4/14 - 10 am BOCC Business Agenda	4/28 - 1:30 pm BOCC Study Session
4/14 - 4 pm Durango Council Study Session	4/28 - 4 pm Durango Council Study Session
4/15 - 8:30 am BOCC Discussion Time	4/29 - 9 am BOCC Discussion Time
4/16 - 6 pm Joint Planning Commission	4/30 - 11 am DAAR Govt Affairs Meeting
4/21 - 10 am BOCC Planning Agenda	4/30 - 3 pm Durango Council / BOCC Joint Work Session
4/21 - 6:30 pm City Council Meeting	5/5 - 10 am BOCC Planning Agenda
4/22 - 8:30 am BOCC Discussion Time	5/5 - 11 am BOCC Business Agenda
4/23 - 6 pm LPC Planning Commission CANCELLED	5/5 - 6:30 pm Durango City Council Meeting
4/27 - 6pm Durango Planning Commission	5/12 - 9:15 am LAC Meeting
4/28 - 10 am BOCC Business Agenda	