



Updates from the Water Quality & Quantity Committee - QQ

Clarifications are currently being made to this newsletter. Please check back soon to view the full report.

Colorado Demand Management Framework.

The Colorado Water Conservation Board recently released a [draft Demand Management Framework](#). This document outlines issues and possible paths forward in developing a demand management program in Colorado to meet Colorado River Compact obligations through temporary, voluntary, and compensated reductions in consumptive water use. QQ is still reviewing this framework but wanted to share with you all for feedback and input as well.

Feedback should be emailed to Torie Jarvis - QQWater@nwccog.org

NWCCOG continues to be committed to a long-term vision for water supply on the western slope of Colorado. This is as critical as ever given that Climate Change scientists predict that clean water availability may be the critically most impacted resource in the future. Between 2001 and 2018, 74% of the world's natural disasters were water related - including droughts and floods. When disasters hit, they can leave the water sources depleted or contaminated. The stewardship of water quality and quantity is essential both globally and locally in our own communities. For more information about our programs go to our website at <https://www.nwccog.org/programs/water-quality-quantity/>.

NWCCOG provides \$150,000 in EDA CARES Act funding to the Region's Counties for COVID Recovery and Resiliency Efforts

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The NWCCOG Economic Development District was awarded a \$400,000 EDA CARES Act grant from the U.S. Economic Development Administration on 7/1/2020 to assist our region in COVID recovery and resiliency efforts. NWCCOG awarded a total of \$150,000 of this grant directly to the 5 counties of Region 12 (\$30,000 each) to help support each counties' unique recovery and resiliency efforts. Each county will use their \$30,000 for their own unique projects for COVID relief and recovery, as follows:

Eagle County: Eagle County Vista Project

The Eagle County Vista Project is a community vision and strategy project that invites community members to help identify solutions to challenges created by COVID-19, and design a future for Eagle County with health, equity, and resilience in mind. To date, the county has made presentations to local community partners, recruited for members of the Stewardship Team, developed an engagement strategy toolkit, worked on an integration strategy with the Eagle County Comprehensive Plan, and coordinated

resources to support outreach into the Latinx community.

Grand County: Economic Workflow and Resiliency Effort

Grand County will use the funds to build the capacity of their Work in Grand initiative, a partnership of regional business and industry leaders working together to help tackle one of the greatest economic hurdles to economic sustainability and resiliency: access to a reliable talent supply chain. This funding will be used to enhance the WIG platform established before the pandemic hit by assisting the longevity of the local workforce find equitable jobs, housing, and other resources in the county and will help connect businesses to employees. Over the last six months, WIG has developed an Industry Lead Partnership in the area of Tourism and Hospitality, and has convened this group monthly to discuss talent supply needs and solutions.

Jackson County: Establishment of a Public Health Department

Jackson County was lacking a public health department in the years leading up to the pandemic. Once COVID hit, it was glaringly obvious they needed one. Jackson County has hired a public health nurse, and has been able to offer testing and vaccinations. The county public health board, made up of the 3 commissioners, are meeting monthly to provide updates on current COVID-19 case numbers, vaccination efforts and numbers, current dial status and what that means for Jackson County, happenings at the school related to health, the future of their new public health program, and visions moving forward. A collaborative relationship has been formed between the Board of Public Health and its advisors, which has allowed for effective policy implementation for their community.

Pitkin County: Visitor Communication Plan for the Winter

Pitkin County will use the funds to build a collective, comprehensive visitor and guest communication plan to ensure a successful, safe and open winter. The county has formed a working group comprised of the Aspen Chamber, Basalt Chamber, GoSnowmass, Pitkin County Public Health, Aspen Skiing Company, and the City of Aspen to develop and implement this communications plan recognizing that the collective community's path for an economic recovery and resiliency relies on ensuring that the county and all the communities within are safe to visit, and businesses are able to remain open all year round. The communications plan has included the development of the Healthy Winters Campaign which included six posters as marketing and messaging across the entire community, to visitors, tourism as well as at the ski area.

Summit County: Toolkit for Economic Recovery and Resiliency

Summit County will use the funds for a variety of tools including business training programs and support workshops, talent development projects, COVID economic impact studies, messaging, and cooperative efforts with Summit County and other organizations to coordinate economic recovery and resiliency efforts into the future. Cooperation between Summit County, the Summit Chamber, Summit Prosperity Initiative, and the business and non-profit communities, has been instrumental as they've navigated the changes to the COVID dial and the related restrictions. These groups have been working together to communicate the changes to the stakeholders and to develop strategies for the various business sectors to reopen.

We've Launched!
Our new website is up and running -- check it out. Get to know us better.

NWCCOG.ORG

Next Council Meeting - Thursday, May 27, 2021

Full Council & EDD Board Meeting

Location: Zoom Conference Call, On-site location TBD

Time: 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM

Primary Agenda Items: Review/Acceptance of 2020 Audit