

AGENDA
THE REGULAR TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 17th, 2024 AT 6:30 P.M.
CASTLE VALLEY TOWN BUILDING - 2 CASTLE VALLEY DRIVE

This meeting will be a hybrid meeting held electronically by Zoom and also in person at the anchor site the Town Building.
If you have comments or concerns for the Council please attend or email them prior to the Meeting:
townclerk@castlevaleyutah.com or call 259-9828 M-W 9AM-1PM. Thank you!

PLEASE NOTE: ** HOW TO JOIN THE ZOOM CONFERENCE CALL**

Meeting ID: 660 541 0108 Passcode: 84532

Option 1 Dial-in phone number (US): (253) 215-8782 follow prompts.

Option 2 Join the online meeting (must have computer speakers and microphone):

<https://zoom.us/j/6605410108?pwd=Q05sYm5qQ0lpNIY5TVp2bTU5VnZjQT09>

Regular Town Meeting

Call to order and Roll Call

1. Open Public Comment

2. Approval of Minutes:

Community Development Block Grant Public Hearing and Regular Town Council Meeting December 20th, 2023.

3. Executive Reports:

*Water Agent and Water Committee Report - John Groo/ CM O'Brien

*Road Department Report- Dorje Honer

*Planning & Land Use Commission- Colleen Thompson

*Community Renewable Energy Act-CM Gibson

*Fire District-M Duncan /Chief Drake- Community Wildfire Protection Plan -Castle Valley Fire Commission will be holding a public hearing on the Plan February 8th at 6:00 PM.

*Treasurer's Report -CM Hill

4. Correspondence: TBA

5. Administrative Matters & Procedures: Town letters, PLUC Commission and PLUC Clerk positions.

NEW BUSINESS

6. Discussion and Possible Action re: Nomination to the Boundary Commission.

7. Discussion and Possible Action re: Community Development Block Grant Town contribution.

8. Discussion and Possible Action re: Review of CIB project lists.

9. Discussion and Possible Action re: Review of proposed amendments regarding earth disturbances in Ordinances 85-3 and 95-6.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS- None

10. Closed Meeting (If necessary)

11. Payment of the bills.

ADJOURNMENT

For Meeting Packets go to: <https://www.utah.gov/pmn/index.html> Government: select "Cities"

Entity: select "Castle Valley" Body: select "Town of Castle Valley" Select this meeting and click on "Download attachments"

**TOWN OF CASTLE VALLEY COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT PUBLIC
HEARING AND REGULAR TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 20th, 2023, AT 6:30 P.M.**

CASTLE VALLEY TOWN BUILDING- 2 CASTLE VALLEY DRIVE

this was a Hybrid Meeting held on Zoom and at the anchor site 2 Castle Valley Drive, Castle Valley, Utah.

Present: Mayor Jazmine Duncan, Council Members Pamela Gibson, Harry Holland, and Robert O'Brien.

Town Clerk: Jocelyn Buck

City Attorney: Laurie Simonson

Other Officials: Roads Manager Dorje Honer, Water Agent John Groo, Building Permit Agent Colleen Thompson, Fire Chief Ron Drake.

Public: Pam Hackley, Bill Rau, Norman and Peggy Llewellyn, Chris, and Robin Steinman.

Absent: Council Member Tory Hill

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT (CDBG) PUBLIC HEARING:

Mayor Duncan opened the public hearing for the CDBG program at 6:32 PM, Buck called role.

Mayor Duncan stated that the purpose of the public hearing is to provide citizens with pertinent information about the Community Development Block Grant program and to allow for discussion of possible applications for the 2024 funding cycle. It was explained that the grant money must be spent on projects benefiting primarily low and moderate-income persons. The Southeastern Utah AIG, of which the Town of Castle Valley is a member, is expecting to receive approximately \$907,269.00 in this new program year. All eligible activities that can be accomplished under this program are identified in the CDBG Application Policies and Procedures Manual and interested persons can review it at any time. Mayor Duncan read several of the eligible activities listed including examples, such as Construction of public works and facilities, e.g., water and sewer lines, fire stations, acquisition of real property, provision of public services such as food banks or homeless shelters. Mayor Duncan indicated that in the past the Town of Castle Valley has received two CIB grants and multiple Recreation District Grants. In 2023 the Town received a \$39600.00 CDBG grant for the Placer Creek planning study, the Engineering portion of the Upper Eighty crossing. The Town is developing a capital investment plan as part of the regional "Consolidated Plan." This list shows which projects the Town has identified as being needed in the community.

Mayor Duncan asked to hear from anyone with questions, comments, or suggestions during the hearing and to please identify themselves by name before they speak.

Pam Hackley addressed the Mayor, Town Council, and other folks on Zoom she was speaking on behalf of herself and Bob Lippman they own Lots 365 and 366 in the Upper Eighty. We just wanted to reiterate our support for the Town's efforts to fix Upper Eighty crossings at Placer Creek; they have been an ongoing maintenance nightmare for the Town and access issues for the residents up here. It is important for the residents that live up here to be able to access their homes in a pretty timely way, sometimes we are cut off when the creek floods and washes out the roads. More importantly as a larger Town issue is that we need to have access not only to the Upper Eighty but the Town in general does for emergencies services if this piece of the Town is cut off emergencies services can get here to take care of fire, injury, illness or any other disaster. Also knowing that the road out through the green gate by Jane's home is a possibly doable as an emergency exit to the Loop Road and having the crossings to the Upper eighty active and sound is very important to us and the Town. She appreciates the Town taking all the time and effort to get the engineering studies on these roads 'crossings. Thank you for your continued support. And a final note Susie Gustafson couldn't be on the call, and she wanted to add her support for fixing of the crossings as well.

Bill Rau 211 Shafer Lane wanted to reiterate what Pam Hackley has said. The engineering study was clear for a hard crossing and he would definitely endorse using the grant application for that purpose, it is an important public safety issue for the Town as a whole and it also leads to one of the evacuate routes from the Town and it is important for the citizens that live in that area to have access like the rest of us do. He supports the application for that purpose.

Chris and Robin Steinman Lot 352 He agreed with what was previously said. He stated they pay taxes and have a legal right to have access to their home and particularly wanted to emphasize the safety concerns and emergency access if they need help. There is an option to go out through the green gate, it is not an ideal option, that road is pretty rough and slow going. It would be a lot faster for emergency vehicles to take the pavement up the road and through the crossings. They agree the engineering made a lot of sense and we should go forward with the improvement to both crossings.

Mayor Duncan then asked if there were any other suggestions.

Mayor Duncan adjourned the CDBG Public Hearing at 6:40 PM.

Regular Town Meeting

M Duncan opened the Meeting at 6:40 PM

Regular Town Meeting

1. Open Public Comment-None

2. Approval of Minutes:

Regular Town Council Meeting November 15th, 2023.

CM Gibson motioned to approve the minutes from the Regular Town Council Meeting November 15, 2023; CM O'Brien seconded motion passed unanimously. CM Holland abstained.

3. Executive Reports:

*Water Agent and Water Committee Report - John Groo- no Committee meeting this month. Groo and CM Holland discussed how all the previous water studies will be incorporated into the current Water Study work. CM O'Brien added that in researching regional watershed protections he found out that the County protects the State designated protection zones so why can't the County protect our sole source aquifer. The County engineer agreed in theory. Groo asked if Grand County was aware we have an EPA designation. CM O'Brien added that the County land use ordinance states they have protection for the Moab aquifer and other State protection zones. The CV LDS Meeting House has State protection zone around their well.

*Road Department Report- Dorje Honer - no questions.

*Planning & Land Use Commission- Colleen Thompson nothing to report see Item#6.

*Community Renewable Energy Act-CM Gibson nothing to report.

*Fire District-Chief Drake- nothing to report.

4. Correspondence: None

5. Administrative Matters & Procedures: As another year comes to an end M Duncan thanked Jocelyn Buck, Dorje Honer, Mike Souza, Colleen Thompson, Janet Gregory and Warren Egbert for all their work keeping the Town running. She also announced the Town has just received its International Dark Sky Community designation. She thanked Jocelyn, Colleen, Harry, Faylene Roth and Tania Kincaid for all their work to get this designation. No Town letters except for Item 12. Buck gave a Grant update, we have been reimbursed the \$1300 from the NWMN grant the County received for our 3 well transducers, and we received \$9000.00 from the CIB for half of our portion of the remaining cost for the Water Budget Study. We have also received from CDBG reimbursement of \$14775.00 the first invoice from Jones DeMille. There will potentially be a Special Meeting 1.23.2024 for the RFP sealed bid opening. Buck asked for help to find a company to make us a new Town Website as our current contract ends in April. Simonson asked what the Town's budget would be for a website. Leadville had researched options and, in the end, went with Civic Plus, they specialize in municipal governments. Our website needs to be ADA compliant. The PLUC Clerk position is still open.

NEW BUSINESS

6. Discussion and Possible Action re: Approval of Conditional Use Permits and Business Licenses. CM Gibson motioned to approve the Conditional Use Permits and Business Licenses. CM Holland seconded motion passed unanimously. M Duncan thanked Thompson for her work getting the renewals processed.

7. Discussion and Possible Action re: Community Development Block Grant projects.

M Duncan reiterated some of the comments made in the Public Hearing and asked the Council for their input on what projects we should pursue with the CDBG. Both CM Gibson and Holland agreed that after having the Placer Creek Crossing engineering study done the Town should continue with the construction phase and apply to the CDBG for funding. That was Council's general consensus.

CM Gibson motioned to apply to the CDBG for funding for the construction of the Placer Creek Low Water Crossings, CM Holland seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

M Duncan continued the engineering company Jones DeMille will help us with putting the RFP out to bid in January and the bid opening will be at that Special Meeting January 23rd.

8. Discussion and Possible Action re: Nomination to the Recreation Special Services District.

CM Gibson motioned to re-nominate Robert Hollahan to the Recreation Special Services District, CM Holland seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

M Duncan asked that the Council receive a quarterly update from Hollahan.

9. Discussion and Possible Action re: 2024 Meeting Schedule PLUC changes.

M Duncan reported the PLUC has voted to change their Meeting night to the first Thursday of the month.

CM Gibson motioned to approve the changes to the 2024 Meeting Schedule PLUC, CM Holland seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

10. Discussion and Possible Action re: Employee 2024 COLA 3.2% increase.

M Duncan had discussed this increase with CM Hill already to make sure it is within the Town's Budget. The 3.2 % is the 2024 Social Security increase which serves as a national guideline.

CM Gibson motioned to approve the Employee 2024 COLA 3.2% increase, CM O'Brien seconded, and the motion passed unanimously

11. Discussion and Possible Action re: Approval of Town Building and Lot Rental Agreement.

Council requested the Agreement and Indemnity Release be sent to the Town's Insurance provider for feedback. Item dropped until that is done.

12. Discussion and Possible Action re: Letter to the Post Office asking them to install more and do the maintenance needed on the parcel boxes.

CM Gibson motioned to approve the letter to the Post Office, CM O'Brien seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS- None

13. Closed Meeting (If necessary)

14. Payment of the bills.

CM Gibson motioned to pay the bills; CM O'Brien seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

CM Gibson motioned to adjourn, CM O'Brien seconded, motion passed unanimously.

M Duncan adjourned the Meeting at 7:15 PM

Approved:

Attested:

Jazmine Duncan, Mayor

Jocelyn Buck, Town Clerk

Town of Castle Valley
Road Department
Monthly Report December 2023

Dorje Honer
Jan. 14, 2023

ROAD MAINTENANCE

- Various potholes at lane intersections with Castle Valley Drive partially filled.
- Various minor drainage fixes on Southern/West Roads (South of Buchanan).

PROJECTS

- Most Roadwork projects are on hold until the ground has thawed.
- Grading will begin in the spring as weather permits.
- Burn pile sorted and prepped for spring burn.
- Castle Valley Drive
 - We will be cold patching areas along the side of CVD as weather permits.

MATERIALS

- Some material (Gravel/Roadbase) will continue to be spread on silty/muddy areas over the coming months.
- Large material in the easement is planned to be recovered for large washout incidents.
- We have received the majority of our yearly allotment of material.

REQUISITIONS

- Tire replacements for the backhoe.
- Various White Dump truck fixes/improvements.

ACQUISITIONS

- 17 Tons of Cold-Patch for Castle Valley Drive fixes.

EQUIPMENT

- NOTE: Unlisted are operational, but may have issues.
- Grader
 - Various leaks were fixed.
 - Basic Maintenance and seasonal prep completed.
- Mower
 - Limited-Time Functionality (Hydraulic Oil Heat/leaks)
 - Hydraulic Oil Cooling System Required. (In progress).
 - Potential power steering leaks found, fixes planned.
- Loader
 - Seal replacement work In Progress.
 - Non-Operable (Under Repair)

FACILITIES

- The majority of shop organization is complete.

TRAINING

- Nothing to report at this time

BUDGET

- We are currently within our budget for the year.

INCIDENTS & ACCIDENTS

- Nothing to report at this time.

WORK SCHEDULE

- The road crew works a flexible schedule (usually Mondays & Tuesdays) based upon: resources available, prioritization of work, weather conditions, and the private schedule of its employees. The road crew currently does not work on Sundays except for emergencies.

Town of Castle Valley
Road Work - Employee Summary
Between 12/1/2023 and 12/31/2023

EMPLOYEE: 004 / Mike Souza

Drainage Maintenance Total Hours: 9		
Equipment Maintenance Total Hours: 2		
Material Processing Total Hours: 12		
Mike Souza Total	23	\$460.00

EMPLOYEE: 012 / Dorje Honer

Grading Total Hours: 2		
Drainage Maintenance Total Hours: 2		
Reclamation Total Hours: 7.5		
Materials Hauling Total Hours: 6		
Dorje Honer Total	17.5	\$437.50

EMPLOYEE: 013 / Dorje Honer

Drainage Review Total Hours: 1.5		
Town Meeting Total Hours: 7		
Administration Total Hours: 8.5		
Dorje Honer Total	17	\$340.00
Report Total	57.5	\$1,237.50

Town of Castle Valley (Road Dept.)
ROAD CONDITIONS INSPECTION REPORT

Date: 01/04/24 Inspected By: Dorje Honer

ROAD	TRAVEL SURFACE				CROWN	SHOULDER DITCHES	SPILL AWAYS	FORDS / RILLS	EASEMENT EMBANKMENTS	*CUL-DE-SACS	SIGNAGE	**POPULATION DENSITY	UTILITY ISSUES	EASEMENT ISSUES	WINTER MANTANENCE	TOTAL SCORE	PRIORITYZATION
	GRADE - PITCH	WASHBOARD	POT HOLES	ROCKS - MUD													
Upper 80	2	2	2	2	3	3	3	2	2	3	2	2	2	2	2	2	64
CVD Connector	2	2	2	2	3	4	3	4	2	2	3	2	3	4	4	4	54
Castle Valley Dr.																	20
Round Mtn. Access	2	2	3	2	4	2	5	3	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	51
Taylor	5	2	3	2	3	2	3	1	3	3	2	2	3	3	5	5	70
Keogh	5	2	3	2	3	3	5	1	2	2	2	2	3	4	4	4	65
E. Holvoak	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	1	2	2	2	2	3	3	2	2	49
W. Holvoak	4	2	2	3	3	2	1	2	2	2	2	2	4	4	4	N	57
E. Pope	2	2	2	2	3	3	2	1	1	1	1	2	2	3	3	3	51
W. Pope	4	2	2	4	4	3	2	1	1	2	3	2	2	3	3	3	55
E. Miller	2	2	3	2	3	2	2	1	2	3	2	2	3	3	3	3	51
W. Miller	4	3	3	4	4	3	2	1	3	1	3	2	3	3	4	N	60
E. Shafer	2	2	3	3	4	2	1	1	2	4	2	2	3	3	4	R	54
Shafer (Fire House)	2	2	2	2	3	2	1	1	2	2	2	2	2	3	3	3	41
W. Shafer	4	3	3	4	4	3	2	1	2	4	3	2	3	3	3	3	65
E. Buchanan	2	2	2	2	4	2	3	1	1	4	3	2	3	3	4	R	52
Hooley	2	2	2	2	2	2	3	2	2	2	3	2	3	3	Y	2	47
W. Buchanan	3	2	2	4	4	2	3	2	2	3	3	2	3	4	N	P	61
E. Pace	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	3	3	2	N	49
W. Pace	3	2	2	3	2	3	2	2	2	3	4	2	3	3	4	N	60
E. Bailey	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	3	3	2	2	2	2	Y	46
W. Bailey	4	2	2	4	4	3	3	2	2	3	2	2	2	2	2	R	58
E. Lazaris	2	2	3	2	4	2	3	2	2	2	2	2	3	2	2	Y	57
W. Lazaris	3	2	2	4	4	2	3	2	2	2	2	2	3	4	4	N	55
E. Rim Shadow	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	3	3	2	Y	49
R.S Irrigation Rd.	4	2	3	3	2	2	4	3	2	2	2	2	5	2	5	2	48
W. Rim Shadow	3	2	2	4	3	2	3	2	2	3	2	3	3	3	3	3	55
E. Chamisra	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	Y	48
W. Chamisra	3	2	2	4	4	3	2	2	2	3	2	2	3	3	3	N	53
Amber	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	5	2	N	55
Meadow	2	2	2	3	3	2	2	2	3	2	2	2	2	2	2	N	47
Cliffview Drive	4	2	2	4	4	3	1	2	2	3	2	2	3	3	4	N	59
Homestead Road	2	2	2	3	3	2	2	2	2	4	2	2	3	3	3	Y/N	58
Castle Creek Drive	2	2	3	2	2	2	2	2	2	3	2	2	2	2	2	P	49
Rimrock	2	2	3	2	3	2	2	2	2	3	2	2	2	2	2	N	54
Fire Cliff	2	2	3	2	3	2	2	2	2	3	2	2	2	3	4	N	56
Mail Box Area	2	2	3	2	2	2	1	2	2	2	2	2	2	3	2	N	38
Mail Box Shortcut	2	4	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	3	2	N	39

SCORING: (Good = 1, OK = 2, Needs Improvement = 3, Bad = 4, X-Bad = 5)

*(C=Complete, N=No, P=Partial, R=Rough, W=Wrong Location)

**(Sparse = 1, Low = 2, Moderate = 3, High = 4, X-High = 5)

Town of Castle Valley (Road Dept.)
ROAD CONDITIONS INSPECTION REPORT

ROAD	NOTES
Upper 80	Road corner Lot #352 is out of easement, needs realigned/reclaimed. Exposed Phoneline (Lot #359) at 3rd Ford (Westside). Misc signage needed.
CVD Connector	Shoulder ditch at driveway Lot #352 needs recut. Culverts need spillways recut. Misc signage needed.
Castle Valley Dr.	Cracks need sealed & edges need patched. Misc signage needed.
Round Mtn. Access	Town has no easements "Recorded" for road or cul-de-sac turnabout.
Taylor	Cul-de-sac area has issues (steep hillside) & possible encroachments. Spillways need recut.
Keogh	No cul-de-sac turnabout area "Recorded". Potential cul-de-sac has issues (steep hillside). 1st hill embankment boulders (fall hazard) need removed. Shoulder ditch deposits.
E. Holyoak	Fence (Lot# 306) in Northside of cul-de-sac. Phone Pedestal #3137 (Lot #308) in Southside of cul-de-sac. Relocate encroachments. Low spot (lot #310).
W. Holyoak	No cul-de-sac turnabout area "Recorded". Potential cul-de-sac area is impractical (steep hillside & ravine). Relocate cul-de-sac easement. Hill needs roadbase (#315/#298).
E. Pope	Cul-de-sac area has issues (arroyo). Fence (Lot #276) in Eastside of cul-de-sac. Relocate fence.
W. Pope	Cul-de-sac area has issues (hillside).
E. Miller	Fence (Lot #238) in Eastside of cul-de-sac. Fence (Lot #239) in Southside of cul-de-sac. Relocate encroachments. Low spots (Lots #229, #231, #244, #245).
W. Miller	Cul-de-sac has issues (hillside & ravine).
E. Shafer	Low spots (Lots #190, #196).
Shafer (Fire House)	Need 24" (min.) culvert under road corner at catchment pond.
W. Shafer	No cul-de-sac turnabout area :Recorded". Potential cul-de-sac area has issues (hillside).
E. Buchanan	
Hooley	
W. Buchanan	Cul-de-sac area has issues (hillside & ravine).
E. Pace	Phone Pedestal #3-2-8 (Lot #113) in Southside of cul-de-sac. Fence & trees (Lot #109) in Northside of cul-de-sac. Relocate encroachments. Need to extend culverts:(36"X60' @ Lot #113) & (36"X10' @ Lot #108).
W. Pace	Cul-de-sac area is impractical (steep hillside & ravine). Relocate cul-de-sac easement.
E. Bailey	
W. Bailey	Cul-de-sac area is impractical (steep hillside & ravine). Relocate cul-de-sac.
E. Lazaris	Power Pole #077500 & Phone Pedestal #2-3-1 (Lot # 54) in Southside of cul-de-sac. Fence & trees (Lot #52) Northside of in cul-de-sac. Relocate encroachments.
W. Lazaris	Cul-de-sac has issues (hillside).
E. Rim Shadow	Fence (Lot #33) in Southside of cul-de-sac.
R S Irrigation Rd.	Extremely overgrown, needs cleared & grubbed.
W. Rim Shadow	Cul-de-sac area has issues (hillside & ravine).
E. Chamisa	Phone Pedestal #1-9-1 & fence (Lot #11) in Southside of cul-de-sac. Relocate encroachments.
W. Chamisa	Cul-de-sac area has issues (hillside & ravine). Rock outcrops in shoulder ditch need chipped away.
Amber	Power Pole #062102 & fences & signs (Lot# 421 & Lot #424) in Northside of the cul-de-sac. Relocate encroachments or cul-de-sac.
Meadow	Fence (Lot #416) in Northside of road easement. Remove fence.
Cliffview Drive	Cul-de-sac has issues (hillside & ravine).
Homestead Road	Power Pole #016000 (Lot# 383) in West side of "Southend" cul-de-sac. Relocate pole. Fence & tree (Lot #374) in Northside of the "Northend" cul-de-sac. Relocate cul-de-sac easement. Fence (Lot #388) in eastside of road easement. Remove fence.
Castle Creek Drive	
Rimrock	Power Pole #061601 & fences (Lot# 432) & fences (Lot #433 & Lot #434) & tree (Lot #435) in Northside of cul-de-sac. Relocate cul-de-sac easement.
Fire Cliff	Existing road >50' out of easement. Trees & canal & ravine (Lot #443) in Westside of cul-de-sac area. Relocate road & cul-de-sac easements.
Mail Box Area	
Mail Box Shortcut	

Report to TC on 1/4/2024 PLUC meeting

1. Ryan Anderson was re-appointed as PLUC chairman
2. Julie Baird resigned from PLUC effective the end of this meeting. PLUC is now looking for another member as well as a PLUC Clerk.
3. Proposed Land Disturbance Activity amendments to 85-3 and 95-6 were presented and discussed. Updated proposal is to be emailed to Town Council in time for them to review before next meeting. [Update: documents were sent to Town Council and PLUC on January 10.]

—submitted by Colleen Thompson

January 12, 2024

To: Bureau of Land Management
Federal Aviation Administration
Fish and Wildlife Service
Town of Castle Valley, Utah
Canyonlands Field Institute
Castle Valley Farms

Helicopter Flights Becoming More Common in Castle Valley

On Nov. 22, 2023, a group of BASE jumpers chartered a helicopter (yellow N35CR) to take them to the top of Parriott Mesa on the east side of Castle Valley. The helicopter landed to the south, near the Loop Road, on Castle Valley Farms property, picked up the jumpers, and dropped them off on top of Parriott Mesa at the south end. At least two trips were made. From the top of Parriott Mesa, the jumpers parachuted into Castle Valley, landing on Castle Valley Farms property. On Nov 26, similar events occurred: a different helicopter (black Airbus Eurocopter) flew several BASE jumpers to the top of Castle Rock (also on the east side of Castle Valley), dropped the group off on top, and they parachuted into Castle Valley (see attached photographs).

Helicopters were audible for a large part of those days. For example, on Nov. 23, between 3:00 p.m. and 4:00 p.m., helicopters were audible 32.8% of the hour. The average sound level of helicopters 5090 feet away was 49.1 decibels (dBA), and the maximum sound level was 61.5 dBA. An increase of 6 dBA represents a doubling of sound level (see attached). Other human sounds audible during the hour included jet aircraft (average sound level 35.5 dBA) and vehicles (average sound level 34.2 dBA). The average sound level of helicopters was 4.8 times louder than jet aircraft and 5.6 times louder than vehicles. Although vehicles were audible more of the hour than helicopters (49.2% compared to 32.8%), helicopters were nearly 15 decibels louder than vehicles (5.6 times louder).

In February of 2023, sound level measurements were made for 10-14 days at three locations in Castle Valley (Buchanan Lane, Firecliff Lane, and Pope Lane). The average sound level for the 3:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. hour at those locations was 32.0 dBA. The average sound level for the 3:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. hour on November 23, 2023, was 44.5 dBA, 4.3 times higher than the average sound level in Castle Valley, due primarily to helicopter flights.

BASE jumping from Parriott Mesa has been ongoing for several years, but usually those jumpers have climbed to the top of the mesa. Chartering a helicopter to take BASE jumpers to the top of a high point so they can jump off, is relatively new in Castle Valley. Helicopters were audible during all four days of the 2023 Thanksgiving weekend.

The Town of Castle Valley, where measurements of the helicopter noise were made, has ordinances limiting the amount of time a “nuisance” activity can be audible. For example, barking dogs cannot be audible more than 10 minutes of any hour, or 16.7% of that hour. However, the town is not able to control the sounds of helicopters, despite the impact on its residents. The Federal Aviation Administration is responsible for managing aircraft activity and aircraft noise. The Bureau of Land Management is responsible for managing uses on the lands and resources under its jurisdiction.

Human residents of Castle Creek valley are not the only species impacted by helicopter flights and BASE jumping in the valley. A pair of Golden Eagles are year-round residents of the valley, nesting at several different nest sites in the valley. There are at least five different nests in the north end of the valley, and this pair of eagles tend to annually alternate use of these different nests. No one knows exactly why eagles alternate use of different nests, but some speculate that some years between use are needed to minimize the accumulation of parasites at any one nest (parasites from prey remains at the nest). These birds are often observed perching near the nests, and in late December and early January begin to visit different nests, adding nesting material to several nests, before selecting a nest for the year. Two of the known nests are located at the south end of Parriott Mesa, and both are just below the top of the Mesa where BASE jumpers jump. These nests are also near where a helicopter was observed landing to drop off BASE jumpers. Golden Eagles tend to be tolerant of activities below nests, such as vehicles along the Loop Road and normal ranching activity in the valley. However, activities above the nest are generally detrimental. Since living in the valley (18 years), I have seen a pair of eagles attempt to nest at these nests at the south end of Parriott Mesa three times. None of these three nesting attempts were successful. BASE jumping activities could be part of the reason for these nesting failures as other nesting attempts at other nests in the valley have been successful. Golden Eagles are a federally protected species, and efforts to ensure successful nesting should be undertaken. These efforts could include restrictions on BASE jumping and helicopter flights near nest sites.

The purpose of this letter is to inform management agencies (BLM, FAA, and FWS), Castle Valley residents, the Town government, and major landowners (Castle Valley Farms, Canyonlands Field Institute) of the sound levels of these helicopter flights and of the potential negative impacts of this activity on valley residents and Golden Eagles. When BASE jumpers climb to their jump point, it is a relatively quiet activity. However, when helicopters are used to transport the jumpers, sound levels can be very high, and negative impacts can occur to valley residents as well as wildlife sensitive to loud sounds.

I encourage the Town of Castle Valley and the residents of the valley to initiate discussions with the BLM, FAA, and FWS to address these activities. A brief explanation of sound levels and acoustic metrics is attached, and I can provide documentation of the acoustic information

described above. I have worked for over 25 years measuring and studying natural and non-natural sounds in rural and wildland areas, and the impacts of those sounds, primarily aircraft, on people and wildlife. Sightseeing aircraft and helicopters in the Castle Creek valley have the potential to significantly change the quiet nature of this valley, and to negatively impact some wildlife species such as Golden Eagles. I look forward to meeting with management agencies to discuss these issues and how negative impacts can be minimized. Please contact me at your earliest convenience.

Sincerely,

Skip Ambrose
Western Bioacoustics, Inc.
443 Firecliff Lane
HC 64 Box 2205
Castle Valley, UT 84532

Telephone: 435-220-0129
Email: skip@alaskasounds.com

Photographs

Nov. 22, 2023 Helicopter N35CR

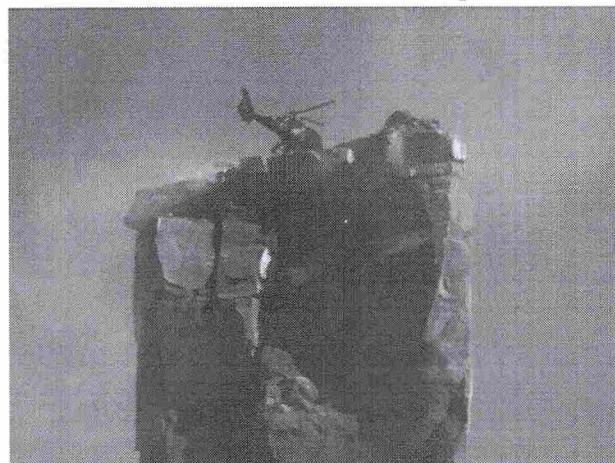


After takeoff from Castle Valley Farms.

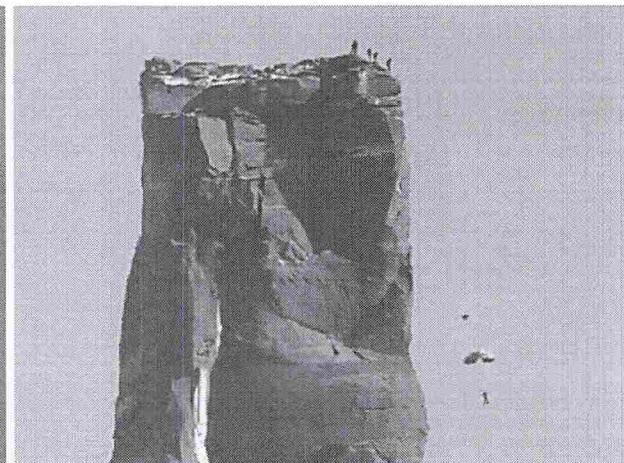


Above summit of Castle Rock.

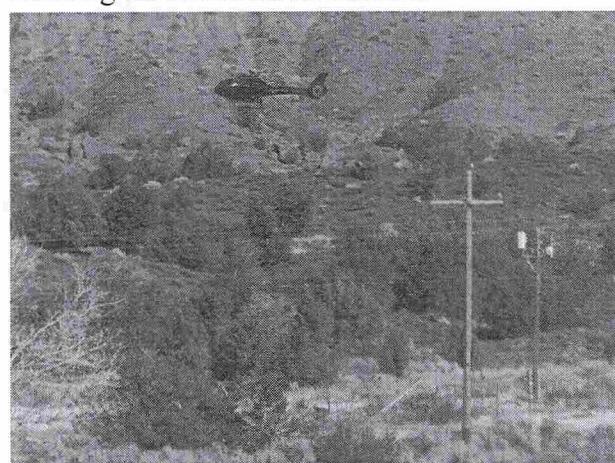
Nov. 26, 2023 black Airbus Eurocopter



Landing on Castle Rock summit.



BASE jumpers.



Flying low near the base of Castle Rock.

Sound Level Measurements

Decibels

The decibel is a logarithmic value used to describe the amplitude of sound pressure levels. The decibel provides the possibility of representing a large span of signal levels in a simple manner as opposed to using the basic unit Pascal, the metric equivalent of pounds per square inch. The difference between the sound pressure for near silence versus a loud sound is a factor of 1:1,000,000 or more, therefore it is less cumbersome to use a small range of equivalent values, for example, 0 dB to 100 dB. Since acoustic data are logarithmic, these data cannot be summed or averaged using standard arithmetic. They must be converted back to their original sound pressure values before being arithmetically manipulated, and then reconverted to the decibel scale. An increase of 6 dB is a doubling of sound pressure level; hence, a sound of 50 dBA is about 3.2 times louder than a sound of 40 dBA, and a sound of 50 dBA is about 100 times greater than a sound of 10 dBA.



TRAIL TO TOMORROW

Preserve • Promote • Prosper

A Place-Based Tourism and Economic
Diversification Plan for Grand County

Join the Conversation

*Share Your Valuable Insights on
Moab's Economy!*

To achieve greater harmony between local economic realities and what residents prioritize, Grand County is creating the Trail to Tomorrow Strategic Plan to manage tourism to benefit the community while continuing to develop a diverse economy over the next five years.

With a commitment to hearing all voices, this planning process is intended to enhance local quality of life as well as the experience of those who visit, work or do business here, while safeguarding the magnificent environment and unique culture of Grand County.

Participants will be invited to share insights into the benefits and impacts of Grand County's tourism economy, explore characteristics of preferred visitors, and consider opportunities to advance Grand County's economy.

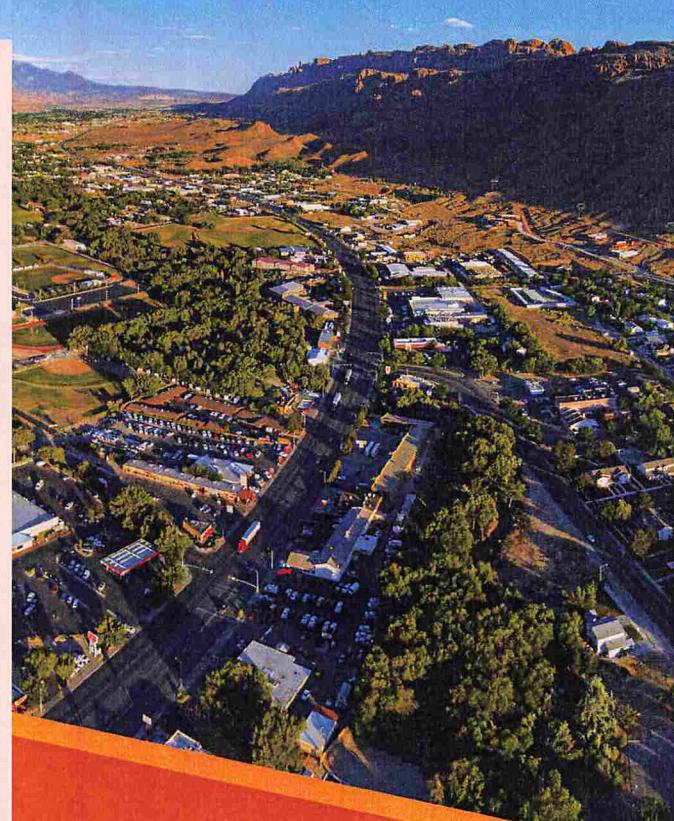
To register scan the QR code on the right or visit:



grandcountyconnects.com/trail-to-tomorrow

Other ways to participate: Grand County Business Sentiment Study

Do you own, manage or work at a business in Grand County? If so, you are invited to take the Trail to Tomorrow Business Survey. Use this QR code to answer two simple questions and share your email, and you'll be emailed a copy of the survey.



Community Forums

Grand Center - 182 N 500 W

January 17

4:30pm - 6:30pm

January 18

11:00am-1:00pm

May 22

4:30pm - 6:30pm

May 23

11:00am-1:00pm

**ENTITY
2-5 Year List**

I ESTIMATED TOTAL PROJECT COST

Grand County	Half Mile Colorado River Pathway Phase B	\$4,334,000.00
Moab City	Center Street Gym Renovations	\$500,000.00
Castle Valley Town	Update 1988 Drainage Study & Recommendations	\$35,000.00
Grand County for Road Dept	Rim Village Drainage Mitigation Project	\$2,800,000.00
Grand County for Canyonlands Airport	Installation of CCTV Security System	\$75,000.00
Moab City, Grand Co., San Juan Co., Grand Water & Sewer Service Agency, USGS	Ground Water Study & Mathematical Modeling	\$300,000.00
Spanish Valley Water & Sewer	Sewer Main Line Upgrade for USU property	\$500,000.00
USU, Moab City, Grand County School District	Votech Center for Adults and College, Combined with the High School's New Facility (Technical Science & Art Center)	\$5,000,000.00
Grand County MBA	Boulder Avenue Storm Drainage South Sewer Trunk Line	\$800,000.00
Moab City	Moab Golf Course Irrigation System Improvements	\$5,000,000.00
Moab City	USU, Mill Creek Drive and Spanish Valley intersection Improvements (Phase 2)	\$1,500,000.00
Moab City	Wastewater Reclamation Plant Outfall Line replace/re-align	\$3,000,000.00
Moab City	Public Works Administration Building	\$1,500,000.00
Moab City	Moab City Hall Renovations	\$1,000,000.00
Moab Valley Fire Protection District	New Tactical Tender Fire Truck	\$1,000,000.00
Thompson Springs Water District	Phase 2 Development	\$400,000.00
Grand County MBA	New Airport Terminal	\$25,000,000.00
Grand County	Half Mile Colorado River Pathway Phase A	\$2,510,000.00
Moab City	Center Street Gym Renovations	\$500,000.00
GWSSA	Irrigation system upgrades	\$500,000.00
Moab City	Waste Water Reclamation Plant Outfall line	\$1,500,000.00
Grand County Road Department	Access Road to Klondike Landfill	\$500,000.00
Castle Valley Fire District	Fire Protection Water	\$175,000.00
Spanish Valley Water & Sewer	Phase 2 Culinary Water System Improvements	\$4,200,000.00
Moab City	Public Works Facility	\$9,500,000.00

Year List	Project Description	Project Details	Total Project Cost	Funding Sources (List Entities)	Allocated From Other Funding Sources	Requested Amount	Submission Trimester (Per Deadline)		On File (Y/N)
							Q1	Q2	
Thompson Springs	Reservoir feasibility study	Feasibility study for new reservoir	\$50,000.00			\$50,000.00	June 2023	July 2023	Y
Thompson Springs	Digital water meters upgrade	Digital water meter upgrades	\$50,000.00			\$50,000.00	June 2023	July 2023	Y
Thompson Springs	Old school/municipality building remodel	Construction ADA, code, and updates to building	\$250,000.00			\$250,000.00	October 2023	November 2023	Y
Grand County MBA	Thompson fire station upgrade	Construction upgrades to older building including ADA and Code	\$300,000.00			\$300,000.00	October 2023	November 2023	Y
Grand Water SSA/Grand County MBA	Water infrastructure project	Water efficiency & conservation improvements				\$2,300,000.00	February 2024	March 2024	Y
Grand County MBA	Spanish valley Dr. multi-use pathway	Spanish Valley pedestrian & bicycle path	\$400,000.00	LOCAL	\$459,000.00	\$859,000.00	October 2023	November 2023	Y
Town of Castle Valley	Placer creek low water crossing construction	Construction project to regrade a low water crossing and mitigate flood damage					February 2024	March 2024	Y
Moab Valley Fire Protection District	Fire vehicle purchase	Medium duty rescue truck	\$475,000.00	LOCAL	\$25,000.00	\$500,000.00	June 2023	July 2023	Y
Town of Castle Valley	Equipment purchase for roads	Road grader for road maintenance	\$90,000.00			\$90,000.00	February 2024	March 2024	Y
Town of Castle Valley	Feasibility Study	Water balance study	\$50,000.00			\$50,000.00	February 2024	March 2024	Y
Moab Valley Fire Protection District	Remodel fire station 1 (for living quarters)	Construction project to add additional living units for firefighters	\$20,000.00	OTHER	\$280,000.00	\$300,000.00	February 2024	March 2024	Y
Moab City	Culinary water storage tank- 1.5 mil gallons	Construction of additional culinary water tanks holding 1-5 ML gallons	\$500,000.00	DRINKING WATER	\$2,500,000.00	\$3,000,000.00	October 2023	November 2023	Y
Grand County MBA	Realign Spanish Valley Dr & Millcreek Dr	Roads construction to realign roads that are often causing congested traffic	\$1,000,000.00	LOCAL	\$5,500,000.00	\$6,500,000.00	February 2024	March 2024	Y

Entity	Project Description	Project Details	Budget	Entity Type	Spent	Remaining Budget	Completion Date	Y/N
Grand County	Office space & other facility upgrades	Construction/infrastructure project to upgrade current county and city offices	\$6,000,000.00	LOCAL	\$6,000,000.00	\$12,000,000.00	February 2024	Y
Moab City	Wastewater reclamation plant outfall line	Construction project to upgrade wastewater outfall line	\$500,000.00	LOCAL	\$500,000.00	\$1,000,000.00	February 2024	Y
Grand County MBA	Boulder Avenue conveyance system	Construction of a conveyance system	\$1,000,000.00	LOCAL	\$1,500,000.00	\$2,500,000.00	February 2024	Y
SOLID WASTE SSD/GRAND COUNTY MBA	Moab landfill above ground truck scales and water installation	Construction projects to install scales and add water to landfill site	\$400,000.00			\$400,000.00	October 2023	Y
Grand County MBA	SD pond SVD/Vista Grande	Stormwater Mitigation	\$325,000.00	LOCAL	\$3,525,000.00	\$650,000.00	February 2024	Y
Grand County MBA	SD conveyance Mesa RD	Work to re-route and divert rain and flood waters	\$162,500.00	LOCAL	\$162,500.00	\$325,000.00	February 2024	Y
Grand County	Solar power project	Construction of solar panels	\$52,500.00	FAA	\$420,000.00	\$472,500.00	October 2023	Y
Grand County	Airport hardstand/apron expansion	Infrastructure project to expand hardscape & apron at airport	\$52,500.00	FAA	\$420,000.00	\$472,500.00	October 2023	Y
Castle Valley Fire Department	Castle Valley Fire Station & interagency regional center	Construction of regional fire center				\$750,000.00	February 2024	Y
Solid Waste SSD/Grand County MBA	Klondike Landfill Capital Equipment Upgrades	New modular Office with electricity (currently a shed that has blown down more than once)	\$1,500,000.00			\$1,500,000.00	February 2024	Y
Grand County Airport	Snow removal equipment building	Construction of snow equipment building	\$1,500,000.00			\$1,500,000.00	October 2023	Y
Moab City	USU Mill Creek Dr & Spanish Valley Dr. intersection improvements (phase 2)	Roads construction project to create better traffic flow	\$3,000,000.00			\$3,000,000.00	February 2024	Y
Grand County Rec SSD	Replace existing wall w/ larger wall for ballfield irrigation	Construction project to expand wall for irrigation	\$3,000,000.00			\$3,000,000.00	February 2024	Y
Canyonlands healthcare SSD	Parking & landscaping for long term care center expansion	Construction of parking lot and landscaping for long term care facility	\$3,000,000.00			\$3,000,000.00	February 2024	Y
Solid Waste SSD/Grand County MBA	Infrastructure improvements to recycle center	Infrastructure to improve recycle center	\$3,000,000.00			\$3,000,000.00	October 2023	Y

Solid Waste SSD/Grand County MBA	Improvements to Access Road to Klondike Landfill	Roads construction to better access Klondike landfill	\$250,000.00			\$250,000.00	October 2023	Y
Grand County	Pickleball courts/playground	Construction of pickleball courts	\$250,000.00			\$250,000.00	October 2023	Y
Grand County	Feasibility study	Infrastructure feasibility study	\$50,000.00			\$50,000.00	June 2023	Y
Grand County MBA	Airport parking lot	Construction of airport parking	\$560,000.00	FAA	\$5,040,000.00	\$5,600,000.00	October 2023	Y
Canyonlands Healthcare SSD	Planning grant	Maps development planning grant	\$50,000.00			\$50,000.00	June 2023	Y
Moab City	Planning grant	Moab Master plan planning grant	\$50,000.00			\$50,000.00	June 2023	Y

Town of Castle Valley

1/16/2024 1:01 PM

Register: 1300 · General Accounts Unrestricted:Zions Operating

From 12/23/2023 through 01/19/2024

Sorted by: Date, Type, Number/Ref

Date	Number	Payee	Account	Memo	Payment	C	Deposit	Balance
12/26/2023	9853	Void	5100 · Administration:...	VOID:		X		21,294.58
12/26/2023	9869	Void	5100 · Administration:...	VOID:		X		21,294.58
12/26/2023	9870	Rocky Mountain Po...	2000 · Accounts Payable		73.76			21,220.82
12/26/2023	9877	Rocky Mountain Po...	2000 · Accounts Payable	VOID:		X		21,220.82
12/28/2023			-split-	Deposit	<i>Cup/Lic</i>	X	240.00	21,460.82
12/28/2023			-split-	Deposit		X	90.00	21,550.82
12/28/2023			5500 · Roads:5530 · R...	Deposit <i>Fire District Diesel</i>		X	829.80	22,380.62
12/31/2023			5100 · Administration:...	Service Charge	3.00	X		22,377.62
12/31/2023	eft	Zions Bank Liabilities	-split-	87-0483404 F...	1,107.62			21,270.00
12/31/2023	9871	Colleen R Thompson	-split-		600.05			20,669.95
12/31/2023	9872	Dorje Honer	-split-		813.33			19,856.62
12/31/2023	9873	Janet M Gregory	-split-		266.17			19,590.45
12/31/2023	9874	Jasmine A Duncan	-split-		907.50			18,682.95
12/31/2023	9875	Jocelyn F. Buck	-split-		1,901.94			16,781.01
12/31/2023	9876	Mike Souza *	-split-		531.02			16,249.99
01/01/2024	9879	Emery Telcom	2000 · Accounts Payable		174.23			16,075.76
01/01/2024	9880	Kilgore Companies L...	2000 · Accounts Payable	<i>Roadbase Cold patch</i>	3,182.69			12,893.07
01/01/2024	9881	Napa Auto Parts	2000 · Accounts Payable	<i>Rds Sups</i>	106.41			12,786.66
01/01/2024	9882	Rhinehart Oil	2000 · Accounts Payable	<i>Diesel</i>	1,305.38			11,481.28
01/01/2024	9883	Rocky Mountain Po...	2000 · Accounts Payable		27.57			11,453.71
01/01/2024	9884	Solid Waste Special ...	2000 · Accounts Payable		30.00			11,423.71
01/01/2024	9885	Times Independent	2000 · Accounts Payable	<i>PH / RFP</i>	380.89			11,042.82
01/03/2024	9877	Void	5100 · Administration:...	RMP agian	1.00			11,041.82
01/03/2024	9878	Zions Bank	2000 · Accounts Payable		42.01			10,999.81
01/03/2024	9886	Zions Bank	2000 · Accounts Payable		42.01			10,957.80