

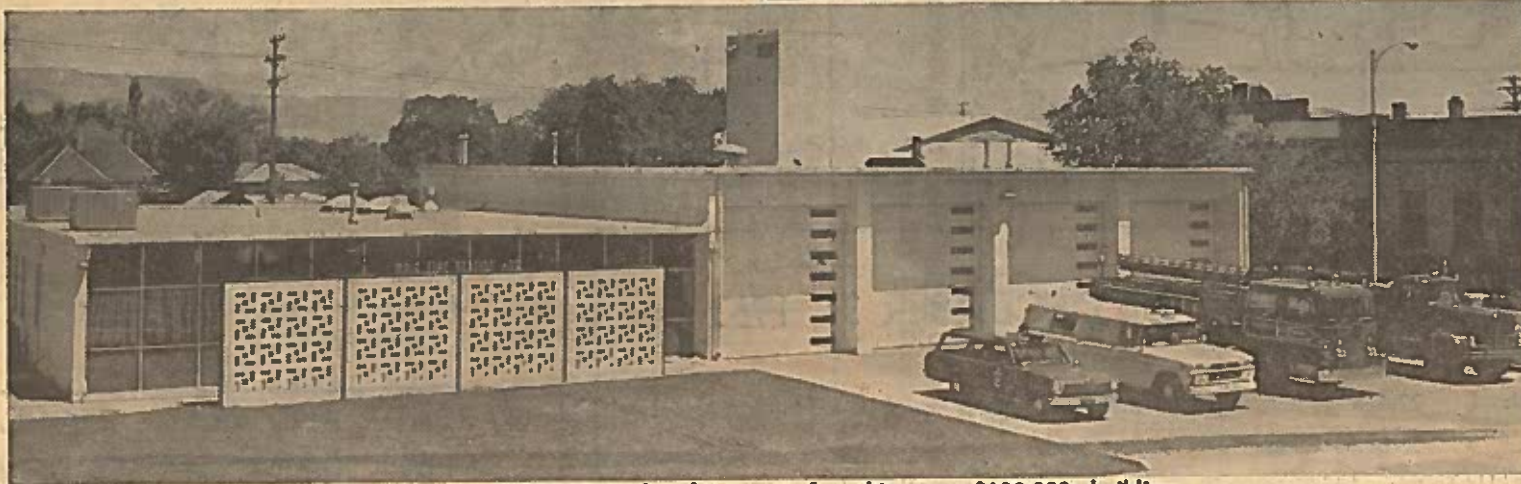
SALES TAX PROPOSED TO MATCH

PROGRESS

TO DATE . . .



City Of Grand Junction ANNUAL REPORT For 1964



Accumulated financing saved \$33,000 in bond interest for this new \$130,000 building

**FIRST
INCORPORATED
1881**



**HOME RULE
CHARTER
1909**

Employee System Keeps Service At High Level

About half of the total City budget is spent for employee salaries. As of January 1, 1964 there were 200 permanent employees authorized in the City organization. The total payroll in 1963, including part-time employees, amounted to \$1,061,042.

With personnel comprising such an important segment of City spending, every effort is made to select and keep employees who are capable and well trained in their various jobs. In 1963 Mrs. Helen Tomlinson, City Clerk, who also serves as Personnel Director, attended a week-long school at the University of Chicago where personnel administration and pay plans and schedules were emphasized.

"CITY LIGHTS"

The monthly Newsletter for all City employees was instituted in early 1963 and later given the name of "City Lights." The regular publication provides an opportunity to get information on City affairs and policies into the homes of each employee as well as to share personal notes.

Persons interested in City employment should contact the Personnel Office in City Hall at any time during working hours, Monday through Friday. All prospective employees are thoroughly screened and tested according to the vacancy to be filled. Final appointments are made by department heads of the various departments subject to the approval of the City Manager.

1963 Service Pin Awards

OVER 10 YEARS

Lawrence Cady
Leo Falsone
George West
Adolph Novotny

OVER 5 YEARS

Don Warner
James E. Stocktor
Kenneth Daily
Dale Tucker
Eugene Smith
John Mancuso
Cecil Campbell
H. L. Stoddart
Tom Boatright
H. M. Ferguson
L. G. Hicks
Sharon Billings
Jas. D. Vancil
Robert Harvey
Holly Kruger

OVER 25 YEARS

Frank Kreps

OVER 20 YEARS

A. H. Gavin

OVER 15 YEARS

Wm. E. Hart

Frank Jimenez

Ray Bean

Fred Landry

Gottlieb Heinrich

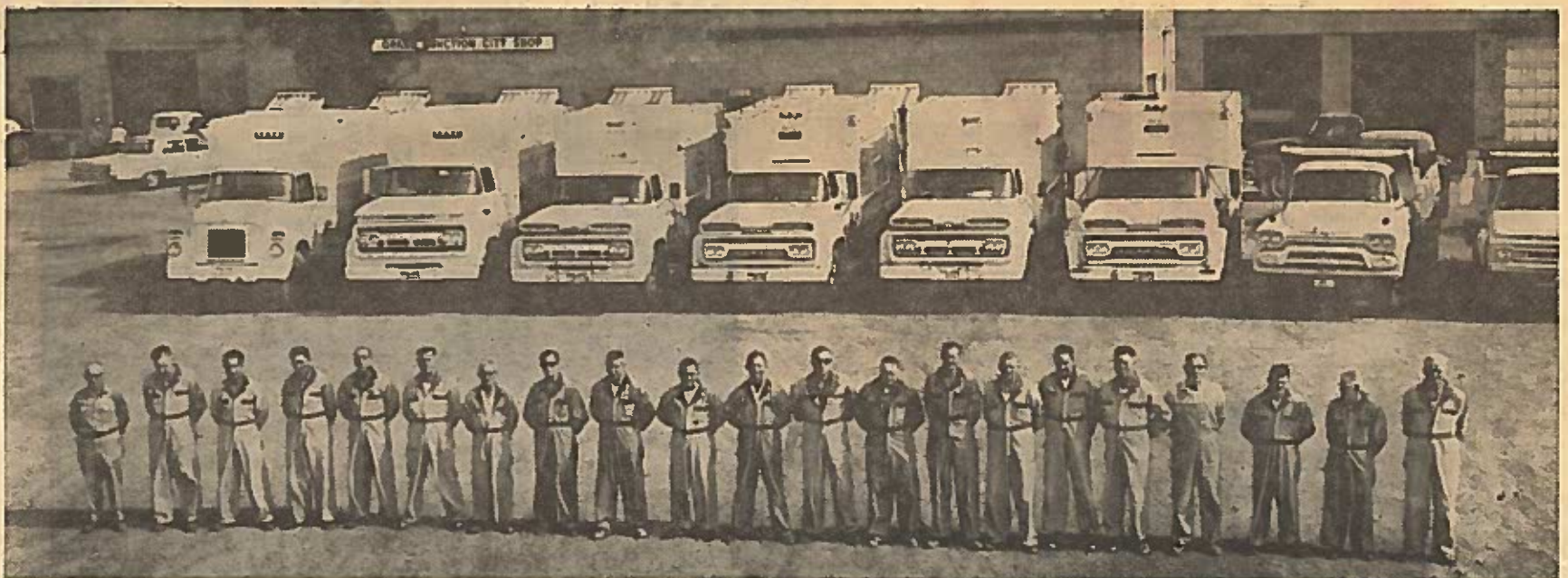
Earl Williams

Councilmen

OVER 5 YEARS

Harry Colescott

Herbert M. Wright



CITY STATISTICS AS OF DECEMBER 31, 1963

POPULATION: 22,416 (1960 Census of 18,694 plus actual count of annexation population)
AREA: 3,189.53 acres: 4.984 square miles
ASSESSED VALUATION: \$35,224,010.00 (Does not include annexations during 1963)
WATER SYSTEM CAPACITY: 38,500 persons
NOW SERVING: 33,000 persons*
SEWER SYSTEM CAPACITY: 30,000 persons
NOW SERVING: 22,528 persons*
 (*Including those inside and outside City Limits)
PAVED STREETS: 88.65 miles; 887 blocks**
UNPAVED STREETS: 9.75 miles; 107 blocks**
 (**Average of 11 blocks per mile)
PARKS: 7 parks, covering 142 acres
EMPLOYEES: 200 (full-time, only)
SOURCE: Mesa County Assessor; U.S. Census, 1960; City Utility, Public Works, Parks and Personnel Records.

The Sanitation Division provides weekly or more frequent garbage and trash service. The 21 employees man five mechanized packer trucks to pre-compact refuse for burying daily in a sanitary land fill.

GARBAGE AND TRASH REGULATIONS HELP KEEP CHARGES DOWN

Please do your part by observing the following rules for City Sanitation Service:

- **Containers** should be small enough for one man to lift. Standard 26-gallon galvanized cans with lids are recommended. 55-gallon drums will NOT be emptied.
- **Wrap garbage**, after draining, in several thicknesses of paper, not just a paper bag.
- **Bundle twigs** on less than two inches in diameter in three-foot lengths or less. Large limbs are removed by separate crews on irregular schedules.
- **Empty your ashpit** into standard containers. Ashes will be taken only when cold. Special arrangements for ashpit cleaning may be made for an additional charge.
- **Call 243-2633** for additional sanitation information.

Cooperation Key To Biggest Tax Dollar Value

ANNUAL REPORT

This report is prepared annually to inform Grand Junction citizens about their city government so that they may take a more active part in its future. It has cost approximately .10c per person to prepare and distribute in order to inform Grand Junction citizens about City operations involving over \$2,000,000.00 per year. It also provides a current picture of City operations to help inform potential industrial leaders. More copies available at City Hall at no extra charge.

Full-time City officials (all appointed) who have assisted in the preparation of this report include:

- Joe M. Lacy City Manager
- Helen C. Tomlinson City Clerk
- William Manchester Finance Director
- Don Warner Development Director
- Davis C. Hickman City Engineer
- Alvin Wing Operations Director
- Karl M. Johnson Police Chief
- Frank E. Kreps Fire Chief
- Ralph Stocker Parks Director
- Paul Swoboda Recreation Director
- Robert E. Hamilton Librarian

The completion of the new Mesa County jail connected to the Municipal Police building marked another step in cooperative use of local tax dollars to the mutual benefit of County and City taxpayers alike. This new facility, the first of its type in Colorado, will mean annual savings of thousands of dollars in police and jail operating costs for both the City and the County budgets.

Grand Junction and Mesa County learned the value of such cooperation earlier with the joint City-County Health Department which now assumes the full administration and enforcement of health regulations in the City as well as the County. The City's portion of the County health budget in 1964 will be \$10,000.

AIRPORT FACTOR

The joining of the City and County for the development and operation of Walker Field oc-

curred in 1957. This joint use and financing made possible the development of the airfield. Airport modernization has been a major factor in attracting the new electronics industry as well as tourist business to this area, particularly during the ski season.

Similar cooperation for over 20 years has paid off in fire protection (See page 9) and during the last four years in park and stadium improvement. (See page 10).

Future cooperative efforts are continually being studied by elected and appointed officials alike. Electronic data processing is a "natural" for all four taxing bodies. The School District and the College have need for such equipment to teach its operations while the City and the County can put it to good use in billing for utilities and tax assessment processes.

LIBRARY "NATURAL"

One of the most obvious savings to local taxpayers while improving needed facilities is the possibility of a City - County Library to replace the separate City and County functions. The County Library which is now leased could be put to commercial use while the City Library building might be remodeled into a City - County office annex, eliminating the need for expensive new building construction in the near future.

GOOD BUSINESS

It is "good business" to make joint use of local tax supported facilities. It should be a source of pride to all Grand Junction and Mesa County residents that their elected officials choose to take the efficient way of holding going costs to a minimum by trying to work out new concepts, thus pioneering close cooperation in local government in Colorado.

CITIZEN BOARDS ADVISE CITY COUNCIL

PLANNING & ZONING COMMISSION

- Robert G. Baker
11700 N. 17th Street
- David B. Palo
Elec. Bldg.
- Richard L. Stranger
659 Rood Ave.
- Mrs. Robt. Russell
11721 N. 20th Street
- Harry Colescott
533 W. Colo.
- Mrs. Grace Smith
565 Cedar
- Ray A. Meacham
263 Main Street

RECREATION BOARD

- Mrs. William L. Reed
320 Cedar Ct.
- Keith G. Mumby
2241 N. 21st Street
- Augie Reyes
426 Noland
- Clinton Smith, Chairman
565 Cedar
- Ed VanderTook
2410 Texas Avenue
- Miss Ruth Slomer
1315 Mesa
- Robert B. Evans
1112 Elm Ave.

CONTRACTORS' LICENSING BOARD

- Robert F. Hightower, Chairman
929 Main Street
- Davis C. Hickman
City Engineer
- H. E. Anderson
2371 H Road
- Henry Blaylock
631-26 Road
- Clifford Robison
11921 Chipeta Avenue
- James E. Stockton
Building Inspector
- Don Warner
Development Director

AIRPORT BOARD

- County Commissioners
- Arthur Jens
11202 Grand Avenue
- Roe Saunders
Fruita, Colo.
- Henry Tupper
Collbran, Colo.
- City Councilmen:
- C. E. McCormick
747 Rood Avenue
- Ray A. Meacham
236 Main Street
- Herbert M. Wright
936 North Avenue

LIBRARY BOARD

- Fred C. Hottes, Chairman
357 Orchard Avenue
- Miss Beth Forcum
DeMerschman Gardens
- Mrs. Russell Hall
11940 North 8th Street
- Patrick A. Gormley
% Mesa Federal
- Charles H. Love
11602 Orchard Avenue

PARK IMPROVEMENT ADVISORY BOARD

- M. A. Cornelison
1101 3rd Avenue
- Robert B. Evans
1112 Elm Ave.
- Arthur Jens
11202 Grand Avenue
- Wm. A. Medesy
1120 North Avenue

BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT: APPEALS

- Warren L. Turner, Chairman
1460 E. Sherwood Dr.
- Geo. E. Randolph
1725 No. 7th Street
- Anthony M. Mastrovick
510 N. 18th Street
- E. H. Settle
318 Mayfair Dr.

ALTERNATES:

- Harry O. Colescott
533 W. Colo. Ave.
- Charles H. Love
11602 Orchard Ave.
- Warren D. Lowe
11428 Grand Ave.
- Robert B. Evans
1112 Elm Ave.

CITY SERVICES ARE FOR YOU

EMERGENCIES

- Police Aid 242-2522
(Including Dog Control)
- Fire Calls 242-1234
- Department Business 242-2900
- Rescue Calls 242-2900
- Water Breaks 243-2633
- After Hours 242-2522
- Sewer Stoppage 243-2633
- After Hours 242-2522

- Water Bills
- Purchasing
- Planning and Zoning
- Annexation
- Sewer Information
- Dead Animals
- City Licenses

ALL OTHER BUSINESS—243-2633

- Trash and Garbage
- Parks and Tree Care
- Council Meetings
- Municipal Court
- Personnel
- Cemeteries
- Weed Control
- Streets and Sidewalks
- Recreation
- Engineering
- Building Permits
- Airport
- Auditorium Reservation
- Improvement Districts

Or for information on other matters of City business.



C. E. McCORMICK
(Council President)
747 Rood Avenue
McCormick
Enterprises
Council District D
Term Expires:
May 1, 1965



WARREN D. LOWE
1428 Grand Avenue
Wesco Electric Co.
Council District E
Term Expires:
May 1, 1965



HERBERT M. WRIGHT
448 Bookcliff Drive
Home Gas &
Appliance
Councilman at Large
Term Expires:
May 1, 1965



ROBERT B. EVANS
1112 Elm Ave.
Retired
Councilman At Large
Term Expires:
May 1, 1965

1963 Election

Three incumbent councilmen running unopposed were re-elected for four-year terms and a proposal for "Pay TV" was defeated by a 3 to 1 margin at the April 2, 1963, regular City election. A total of 2,055 votes were cast by the 3,681 registered voters.

Councilman Art Hadden, one of the newly re-elected councilmen, resigned in October because of moving outside the City. Robert B. Evans, retired railroad enginehouse foreman, was named to fill the vacancy by a council committee until the next City election in April, 1965.



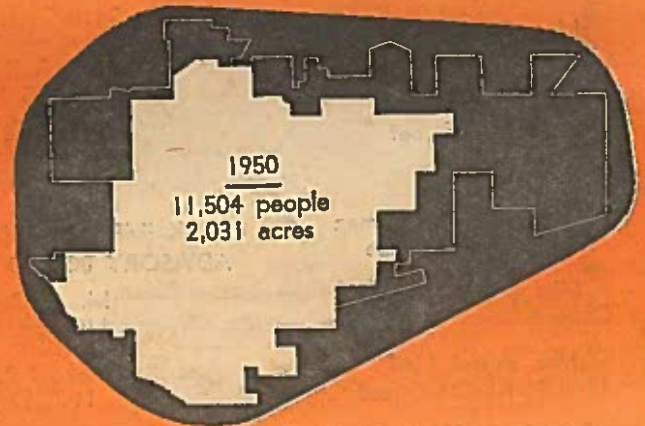
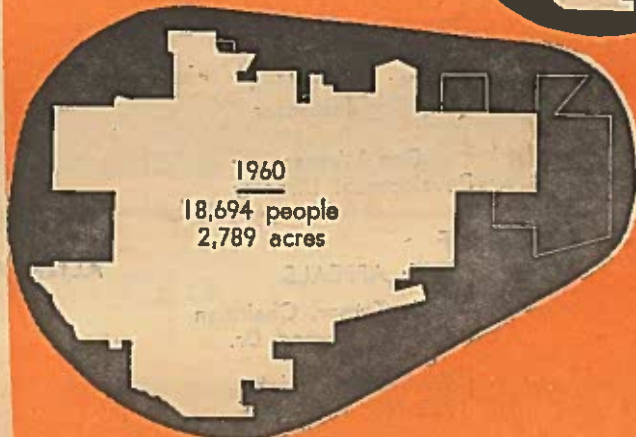
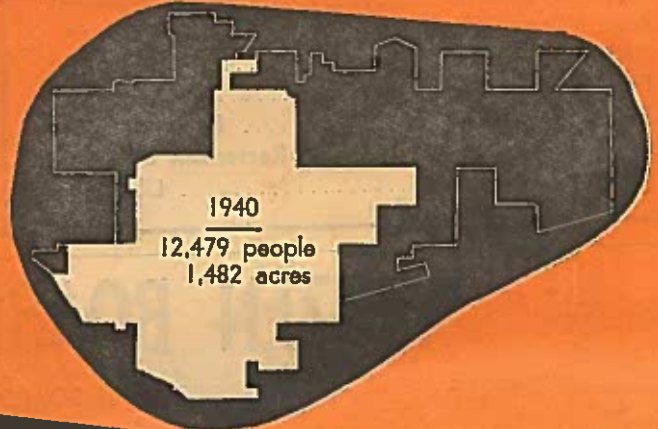
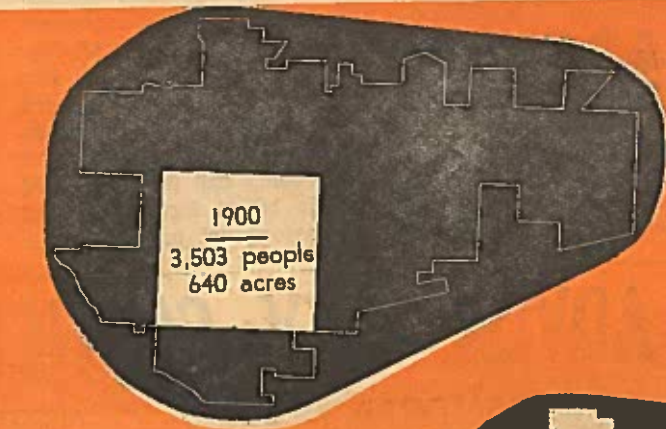
HARRY O. COLESCOTT
533 West Colo. Ave.
State Port of Entry
Council District A
Term Expires:
May 1, 1965



RAY A. MEACHAM
2000 North 4th St.
American Furniture
Co.
Council District B
Term Expires:
May 1, 1967



CHARLES M. LOVE
1602 Orchard Ave.
Rancher
Council District C
Term Expires:
May 1, 1967



GRAND
JUNCTION

GROWTH
1881-1964



JOE M. LACY
City Manager
Appointed
Feb. 15, 1960
Indefinite Term



HELEN C. TOMLINSON
City Clerk
Appointed
Oct. 22, 1926
Indefinite Term

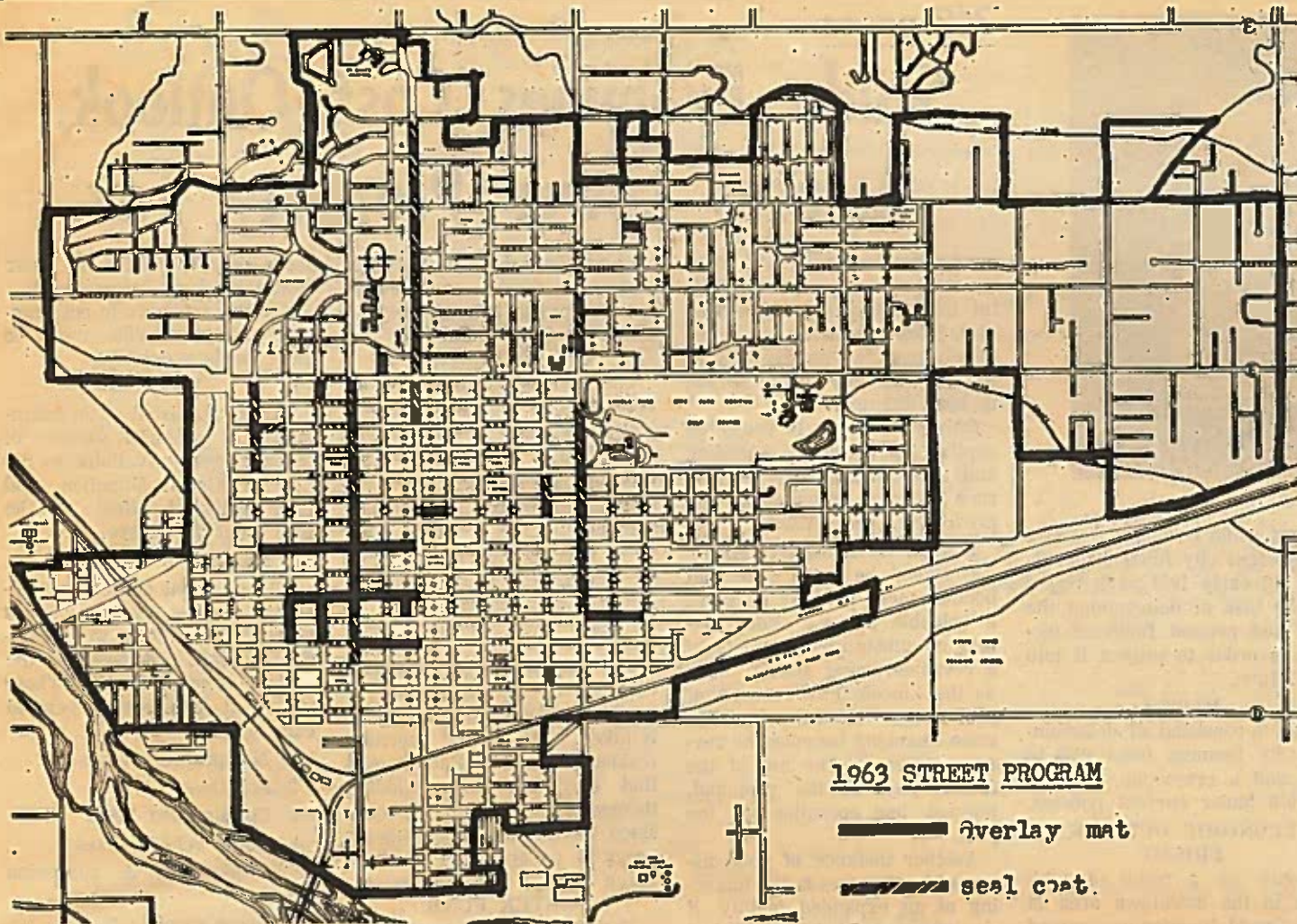


GERALD ASHBY
City Attorney
Appointed
Sept. 1, 1956
Indefinite Term

Council Meetings

Regular City Council meetings are held at 7:30 p.m. in the City Hall at 5th St., and Rood Ave. on the first and third Wednesdays of each month. All citizens are welcome to attend.

Persons wishing to bring a matter to Council's attention may be heard early in the meeting by contacting the Manager's office prior to 3 p.m. on Council day for agenda scheduling, or later in the meeting by simply attending the meeting.



New Plan Cuts Costs, Provides Better Service

A top-level reorganization in the Public Works and Utilities Department was made in 1953 in order to better place authority and responsibility. The City Engineer position was moved into supervisory control of both departments and the positions of Public Works Director and Utilities Director were eliminated.

Davis C. Hickman, City Engineer since early 1963, was named to fill the position of City Engineer. Al Wing, former Utilities Supervisor, was named to the newly-created Operations Director position under the City Engineer.

Under the new arrangement Mr. Hickman is in charge of all Utilities and Public Works functions and directs them from his office in the City Hall. The Operations Director supervises the detailed functions from his office at the City Shops.

RADIO CONTROL

Radio communications were added to the key line department vehicles in 1963. This is the first time that equipment other than the police and fire operations have had the use of such equipment.

AIRPORT IMPROVED

Improvements at Walker Field airport continue through the cooperative efforts of Mesa County and the City of Grand Junction. Taxiways along the main runway were constructed by County crews and equipment early in 1963.

A master plan for the overall development of Walker Field is now being drawn by consulting engineers hired by the Airport Board.

The initial capital improvements program for the airport calls for the expenditure of about \$100,000 a year in capital improvements, at least until 1970.

Street Upkeep Major Budget Item

The application of new street surfaces by overlaying "Gilsapave" was begun on full scale in 1963 after experimental usage of this local product for the previous two years. Approximately 45,000 square yards of streets were overlaid (see map above) at an average cost of less than 40 cents per square yard.

The material works very satisfactorily and can be applied without special equipment. By using this method and City labor and equipment, the base and shape of existing streets can be well preserved at an extremely reasonable cost.

SEALCOAT SAVES

Sealcoat applications of rubberized asphalt and crushed

rock chips were applied to many other streets. This application, while less expensive than the Gilsapave overlay, can only be used where cracking and seepage through the basic asphalt street has not already occurred. The regular application of this surface helps preserve streets for a longer period of time at a most reasonable cost.

Two center islands on Main Street between 12th and 14th Streets were removed because of serious deterioration and seepage of water into the ground water table. At the same time the water line in these two blocks was also replaced.

STORM DRAINAGE

The lack of storm sewer in the vicinity of Orchard and

Bunting Avenues and 12th and 16th Streets was largely responsible for storm flooding damage in this area. Some years ago a proposal for an assessable storm sewer district was defeated for lack of petition signatures. The area is scheduled to receive a storm sewer to be installed by City forces and equipment in 1964.

Other capital improvements scheduled for 1964 include the widening and rebuilding of College Place from North Avenue to Elm Avenue, \$9,000; the widening and rebuilding of 12th Street from Belford to Gunnison Avenues, \$26,200; the relocation of Mesa County ditch from the Lincoln Park area to a new alignment south of the

railroad tracks, \$11,000; improved storm drainage west of 1st Street at North Avenue as a part of the Lilac Park project, \$3,500.

In addition to these improvements, some twenty blocks of streets will be overlaid and a number of paved alleys reconstructed. The annual program of curb, gutter and sidewalk repair and replacement will continue with sidewalk repair limited to areas previously included in sidewalk repair districts.



Winter presents its own challenge to street crews.



Autumn provides a different kind of "litter."

360 pages

Study Examines Cost Outlook, Assures Lower Property Tax



WHERE WE'VE BEEN AND WHERE WE'RE GOING

During the fall budget time in 1963 the City Council was forced to raise the City mill levy from 17.5 mills to 21.5 mills to meet minimum demands for City operations in 1964. This 4-mill increase brought the City mill levy to its highest total since 1951 when the levy was 25.5 mills.

During this same budget period Mesa County, School District 51, and the Grand Junction Drainage District all found it necessary to raise their tax levies for operating purposes. This meant a total increase for taxes to be paid in 1964 by property owners in the City of Grand Junction of from 76.92 mills to 86.3 mills, or a 12 per cent increase in the mill levy over the previous year.

ASSESSED VALUE DROP

The main cause of the problem was a drop, on paper, of the assessed valuation to which the mill levy was applied to supply general fund tax revenue. The drop was due to the automatic devaluation of buildings made every five years, regardless of their actual value. A lower assessment rate on merchandise inventories also figured in the lower total.

Even the addition to the tax rolls of the largest annexation in the city's history could not overcome the assessment drop. The result was a teeter-totter effect forcing the mill levy up to off-set the lower assessed value to raise the same money.

MORE DEMANDS

During lengthy budget discussion sessions with the City Council in the fall of 1963, representatives of the business community and the Board of Realtors were unable to suggest any other budget cuts in excess of the \$129,835 ordered cut from the preliminary budget by the City Council. In fact, additional expenditures in the form of tourist and industrial promotion to be financed by a room tax were requested.

In light of the foregoing, there is no question but what City taxpayers desire a lowering of the property tax levy. However, it is also equally apparent that the public in general is not willing to accept a lower level of municipal services to such a degree that a sizable property

tax cut could be effected within the present city financial structure. In early 1963 work began on the task of determining the past and present financial picture in order to project it into the future.

PART I

Part I consisted of determining City finances from 1950 to 1964 and a projection of these to 1970 under current policies.

ECONOMIC OUTLOOK BRIGHT

Partly as a result of work done in the downtown area in 1962, Grand Junction was named an All-America City that year and retail and commercial facilities have continued to expand in other shopping areas, such as North Avenue. 1963 saw a surge in new retail facilities not only downtown but elsewhere, with the new Gibson store and the Teller Arms Shopping Center near the Veterans' Administration Hospital.

"ACCUMULATED SURPLUS" INADEQUATE

During the past fifteen years it has been a standard practice to accumulate unappropriated surplus amounts of money in the General Fund, gradually amounting to large amounts of money which were periodically used to finance some capital improvements on a sporadic schedule. Since this has not been a specifically planned procedure, the amount of money so accumulated has not been sufficient to keep up with the continued demand for improvements.

This practice is contrary to the state statute concerning local government budgeting which calls for a recognition of all unappropriated surplus funds each year in the budget. Since 1960 all carry-over has been recognized and rebudgeted each year as accumulated funds for capital improvements such as the new central fire station on a planned basis.

"PAY-AS-YOU-GO" SAVES

The City Police Building was built in 1957 at a cost of \$240,000. Bonds voted on this building will be finally paid in 1972 at which time over \$62,000 in bond interest will have been paid, in addition to the original cost of the building.

In contrast, the new City Fire Headquarters building was built in 1963 with money saved

over a three-year period toward the start of a pay-as-you-go capital improvements program. This \$130,000 building was completely paid for the day it went into service thus saving \$33,000 in bond interest.

Only with carefully projected capital improvement spending and accumulated revenues can such economy in municipal improvements be realized.

BONDS WISE SOMETIMES

It should be noted here that bond-financed projects do serve a valuable purpose under certain circumstances. Projects of a revenue-raising nature such as the Lincoln Park swimming pool are a "natural" for bond issue financing because the revenue raised by the use of the facility pays off the principal, interest and operation of the pool.

Another instance of good usage of bond issues is the financing of an expanded facility if an arrangement is established whereby the payment of bond principal, interest and annual operation is no greater than continued operation of an existing inadequate facility. An example of this might be a new City-County Library concept to replace the existing separate City and County Libraries.

NOT ENOUGH MONEY

It is apparent that the present revenue sources are not sufficient to meet the demands for expenditures to 1970. Present revenue sources have not been even sufficient during the past two years to meet municipal service demands, therefore requiring the heavy usage of carry-over revenues to meet the minimum budget during 1963 and 1964.

MILL LEVY RISE?

If property taxes, the only adjustable source of revenue at present, were increased, it would mean a sharply increased mill levy again in 1965, climbing steadily to a total of 30.6 mills in 1970. If the property tax is used to meet budget demands, the annual mill levy would increase as shown below from the present 21.5 mills.

1965	.....	25.9 mills
1966	.....	28.1 mills
1967	.....	28.6 mills
1968	.....	29.3 mills
1969	.....	29.9 mills
1970	.....	30.6 mills

Property tax revenue in Grand Junction's General Fund was generally less than 50 per cent of the total revenue of this fund from 1958 to 1963 when accumulated funds either as unappropriated surplus or planned capital improvement capital on a pay-as-you-go basis helped make up a substantial portion of the fund. However, with the depletion of carry-over funds during 1963 and 1964 when the mill

levy was held down by usage of carryover funds, such funds are no longer able to help finance the General Fund.

CUT EXPENSES?

The obvious alternative to increasing revenues to meet projected demands is to decrease expenditures. Although every effort is continually made to step up efficiency, a drop in expenditures for personal services and operating expenses cannot be made in sufficient amounts to materially affect the expenditure demand as projected.

The only source of expenditure left to decrease then is capital outlay. If this approach is taken, then Grand Junction residents and City Fathers will find they are only "kidding themselves" about economy since the capital improvements program as projected must be taken care of sooner or later.

WATER FUND

The picture in the water fund shows a slight deficit during the next six years reaching its worst point in 1966 when revenues would be \$33,170 short of projected expenditures. However minor changes in fee schedules such as flat rate charges for free water users and installation of annexation water mains on an improvement district basis would adequately make up the difference.

Copies of both parts of the study are available in both the City and County Libraries for all who wish to study them and the basic data on which the proposals are based.

OTHER FUNDS

Other funds such as sewer, sanitation (trash), airport, library and cemeteries appear to be in good shape until 1970. Swimming pool funds need attention if needed improvements are to be provided in the next few years, but this can be done with moderate swimming fee adjustments.

GENERAL FUND TROUBLE

In all areas of activity, except the General Fund, the picture is a healthy one, and one which anticipates future capital improvements on an efficient basis providing needed replacement or construction at a time when it is needed and economically justified.

However, the General Fund revenue must be reckoned with if the property tax is not to be increased or if it is to be lowered. It is clear that there are three basic alternatives open to the citizens of Grand Junction:

I: Try to meet growth demands with increased property tax.

II: Put off meeting growth

needs only to catch up later with extra bond interest cost.

III: Use sales tax to cut property tax and provide money to meet needs regularly.

PART II

Part II consisted of an examination of potential sources of revenue legally available to the City of Grand Junction and their potential effect on the City financial picture.

REVENUE SOURCES

All additional sources of municipal revenue used by various cities in Colorado as well as nationally were considered in the early portion of Part II. These taxes fall into seven general categories:

1. Non-property taxes
2. Poll taxes
3. Consumption taxes
4. Motor vehicle taxes
5. Amusement & admission taxes
6. Gross receipts taxes
7. Sales taxes

A study of the nature and effects of these taxes indicates that either the City of Grand Junction already uses some of them, that the potential yield from them is not adequate to do the job facing the City at the present time, or that the legal authority does not exist for the City of Grand Junction to use them.

SALES TAX ANSWER

It was clear that there is but one obvious alternative legally available at the present time to the City government in Grand Junction that has the capability of both property tax reduction and enough additional revenue to meet demands for capital improvements primarily on a pay-as-you-go basis. This is a one per cent municipal sales tax.

Since cities all over America have found the use of the sales tax the only answer to continuing growth costs in the last few years, a special effort was made to determine the effect of sales taxes in the eight other Colorado cities which already collect them.

OTHER COLORADO CITIES

Personal visits were made to each of these cities to interview city officials, chamber of commerce officers, and to talk with individual businessmen to see just what effect the sales tax has had in their communities. The eight Colorado Cities now using a city sales tax have found these things in common:

For one thing, the tax provided a broad enough base so that all who use and enjoy urban facilities assist in paying for them.

Retail business was not adversely affected in any of the cities because of the sales tax.

City-Rural Fire Service Benefits Large Area

For over twenty years the City has provided manpower and housing for fire equipment for the Grand Junction Rural Fire District. The District provides three pieces of equipment and makes an annual cash payment to the City for this protection under contractual agreement.

The District comprises about 40 square miles of area surrounding the City of Grand Junction. Its boundaries are roughly Whitewater on the south, 23 Road on the west, the Highline Canal on the north, and the Clifton area on the east.

NEW CONTRACT

In 1963 a new arrangement for cash payment to the City was agreed upon. The payment from the District to the City will amount to \$16,600 and it will be used to help defray the \$199,700 fire budget for 1964.

In future years the District property tax levy will gradually increase to more closely match that paid by the City resident for fire protection. The District and City equipment are used in-

terchangeably inside or outside of the City as a part of the cooperative arrangement.

Fire calls in the rural area have out-numbered those in the City area during the last five years (see table at right). However rescue calls inside the City normally exceed those in the Rural Fire District area.

NEW FIRE HEADQUARTERS

On August 28th the Fire Department moved into the new Headquarters Fire Station at 330 South 6th Street. This building cost \$130,000.

Funds for construction of the building were accumulated over the three years prior to its construction, thus eliminating a need for a bond issue. The saving in bond interest by using this means was \$33,000.

FUTURE GROWTH

The new station is designed to be connected by an "administrative bridge" with the new police building built in 1957. In this manner both the police building and the fire station are designed to expand for future use with a minimum of additional cost.

The new 1000-gallons-per minute pumper (right) delivered in February, 1964 cost \$25,500. It has a projected 15-year life. The 1942 model 750-gallon-per-minute pumper it replaced will be used in reserve.

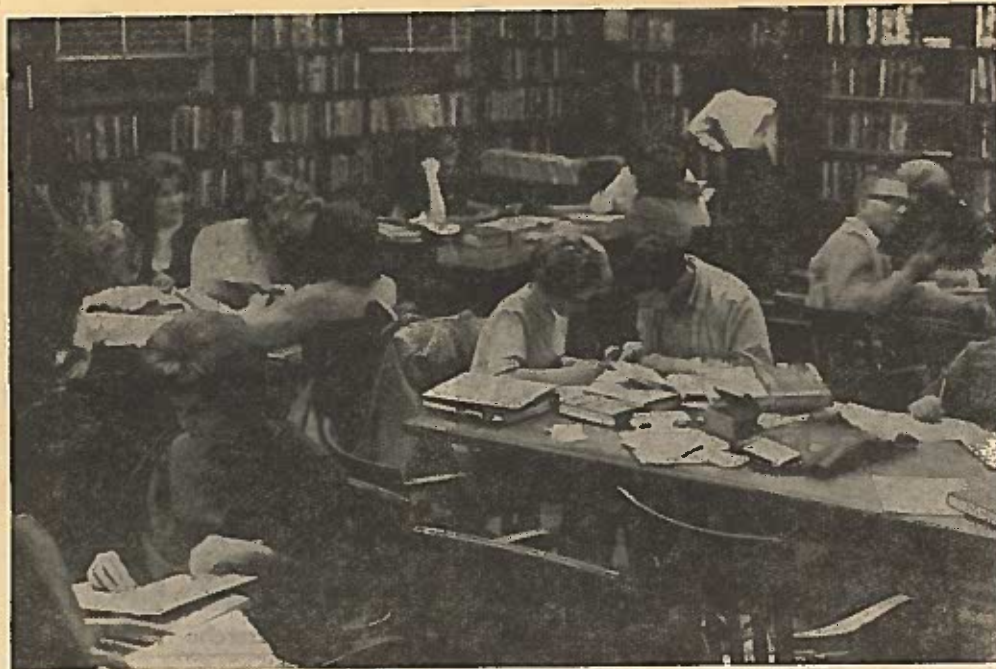


RESCUE CALLS DOWN

	1959	1960	1961	1962	1963
Fire, City	163	127	167	159	159
Fire, Rural	200	157	157	160	167
Rescue, Total	418	419	429	652	577
All Other Calls	89	78	106	93	122
Estimated Loss*	\$24,132	\$53,653	\$222,297	\$34,585	\$131,874
Loss Per Capita*	\$1.06	\$2.75	\$11.40	\$1.68	\$6.22

*Inside City Only

Only one large loss fire, involving damage to The Daily Sentinel in the amount of \$100,000 occurred in 1963.



High School researchers find things more crowded every year.

CIRCULATION	1959	1960	1961	1962	1963
Adult & Teen					
Fiction	42,755	40,269	44,585	46,582	51,807
Non-Fiction	31,433	33,855	37,623	36,073	43,638
Other (clipping, pictures, records, maps, interlibrary loans)	11,472	15,965	14,852	5,863	1,276
Total Adult	85,660	909,089	97,060	88,518	96,721
Juvenile					
Fiction	31,911	28,617	29,051	27,011	34,325
Non-Fiction	5,831	5,311	5,278	5,480	6,773
Other	201				
Total Juvenile	37,943	33,928	34,329	32,491	41,098
TOTAL CIRCULATION	123,603	124,017	131,389	121,009	137,819
CARDS ISSUED					
Adult (including teen)	1,815	2,322	2,332	2,576	2,805
Juvenile	886	681	743	694	740
Total	2,701	3,003	3,075	3,270	3,545

Library Use Grows At Faster Rate, Space Is Problem

The total circulation at the Grand Junction City Library at 5th and White Avenue increased 11.5 per cent in 1963 over that in 1962. Library Board members have been forced to consider renting additional storage space which has become severely limited in the 27-year-old building.

The Library Board has requested permission from the County Commissioners to use the old County jail adjacent to the City Library for temporary storage. It is proposed that this space be shared with the local Mesa County Museum group which proposes to store valuable historical artifacts in the building until a future museum can be constructed.

NEW BOOKS

Approximately 3,500 books were added to the Library collection at a total cost of \$10,000 during 1963. Total registrations of Library users increased by 300 during the year.

The circulation area of the Library was rearranged to allow greater access to the book stacks. A new florescent fixture was placed in the hallway, thus balancing the hallway lighting with the two adjoining rooms, the 'teen room and the reference room.

In late March the Library installed approximately 75 feet of

double faced shelving on the second floor of the stacks. At the current rate of growth of both circulation and volumes added, the space in the Library will be totally filled in late 1965.

Consideration of microfilming of periodicals and other bulky items is underway as a means of making more space available for book storage. However such a move would make additional space available to serve Library growth needs only for an additional year or two.

Further consideration of a cooperative approach to a new City-County Library, possibly including a museum wing, is due for more study in 1964.



Kids enjoy special library programs.

Play Equipment, New Signs Highlight Park Improvement

Space age playground equipment, the first in Western Colorado, was installed in Melrose Park near Orchard Avenue and 27th Street with the cooperation of the Park Improvement Fund and the Grand Junction Lions Club. The equipment, which cost \$5,200, featured a 30-foot simulated space ship as a focal point with six other pieces of equipment surrounding it.

The installation was the first of a series of playground equipment on varying themes to fully equip all of the City's parks. A grouping of equipment with a "story book" theme was scheduled for Sherwood Park in 1964. All such installations are made only with assistance from the Park Improvement Funds, private individuals, and service club organizations along with the City budget.

PARK SIGNS

The City's first park signs were installed in early 1964. The signs were made by special Colorado National Monument employees with material and labor paid for by the City. Total

cost of the signs for all City parks and the Library was approximately \$1,100.

The City owns and maintains Lincoln Park stadiums which are used primarily by School District 51 and Mesa College. Availability of these facilities relieves both the School District and the College of the responsibility of providing major stadiums for their own use.

STADIUM RENTAL

A field fee of 10 cents per paid ticket is charged to all spectators to help off-set the costs of maintaining the stadiums. An annual flat rate rental charge of \$2,000 is charged the School District and \$1,000 to the College for "stadium rental."

This money is placed into the Park Improvement Fund which, in turn, assists in development of recreational facilities in the Greater Grand Junction Area as well as the stadiums themselves.

COPPERATION PAYS

Improvements in recent years financed by this manner

have been new tennis courts at Grand Junction High school, the new lighting system at Lincoln Park football stadium, playground equipment, and a new scoreboard at Lincoln baseball stadium. All such improvements are made with the help of donations from private individuals and organizations.

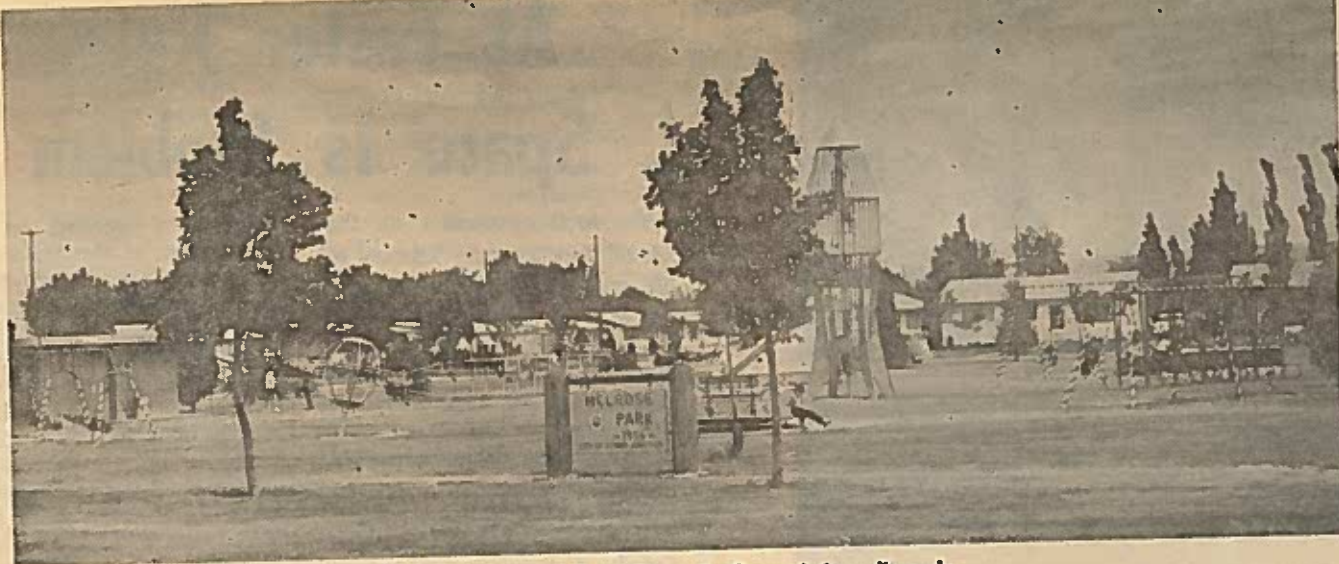
Contributors to the Park Improvement Fund in recent years include: Grand Junction Lions Club, the Walker Foundation, the Business and Professional Women's Club, Fairmount Community Club Mrs. Clyde Biggs, Grand Junction Education Association, and the Grand Junction Junior Women's Club.

TAXES UNDER HALF

The 1964 budget for the Parks & Recreation department totals \$277,000. The total amount includes all of the funds for cemeteries, Park Improvement Fund, and the swimming pools. Because of these and other revenue sources, only 44 per cent of the total Parks and Recreation budget comes from tax revenues.



New signs for all parks.



Similar playground equipment planned for all parks.



Exercise is fun!



Active relaxation: a step to good health.

Recreation Programs Draw More Than Ever Before

The seventeen City - sponsored recreation activities in 1963 showed an increase of 16 per cent participation over 1962. The total recreation budget of \$31,964, was only 12 per cent higher than the 1962 expenditure and \$17,500, was collected in revenue by the department leaving \$14,464 to be supported by the City's general fund.

Programs conducted during 1963 included:

Golden Age Club, met on 51 Monday nights with a total attendance of 6,622.

Junior and Adult Rifle Clubs,

met 86 nights with a total attendance of 1,046.

High School Teen dances were held ten times with a total attendance of 2,745.

The Grand Junction Teen Club (formerly Latin Teens) held 26 meetings with a total attendance of 1,290.

Junior tennis lessons totaled 113 with a total participation of 2,105.

Learn - to - swim program held 1,109 classes during thirty-one days and had a total attendance of 22,916.

Baseball programs for boys

ages 15 - 17 attracted a total of 1,350 participations in 45 games.

Softball games were held on 45 nights with 250 games played. A total participation of 22,802 was logged.

Model airplane club held 54 meetings with a total attendance of 1,521.

Flag football games were held on Sunday afternoons with a total of 33 games drawing 900 participants.

Archery club met 81 nights with a total participation of 1,462.

COLORADO CITIES USING SALES TAX

Denver	1948
Pueblo	1956
Englewood	1962
Durango	1962
Alamosa	1963
Littleton	1963
Gunnison	1963
Aurora	1964
Boulder	1964

It was also evident that the one per cent sales tax rate is not burdensome on low income families, particularly if a major portion of the new revenue is used to replace property taxes.

The collection and administration of the tax is much simpler for the merchant and the taxpayer alike if it is tailored as closely as possible to the state tax and perhaps collected for the city by the state.

Careful financial planning makes possible a guaranteed property tax cut along with provisions for a ceiling on the lower city mill levy.

Outside-city shoppers are not subject to the full tax as it affects city residents since outside-city deliveries are exempt from sales taxes, and no use tax provision is applied to the suburbanite household.

In short, the result was that the community improvements made possible by the sales tax were felt to be far more important by residents in those cities and their suburban areas than having to pay a few pennies more with their retail purchases.

Boulder voters passed a 1 per cent city sales tax by a 1,400 vote margin on June 2, 1964 — so now there are 9 Colorado Cities using this tax.

COUNTY-WIDE BEST, BUT...

An obvious question arises at this point: if the sales tax has had such a desirable total effect in other Colorado cities, why is it not used on a county-wide or even a state-wide basis to help finance local government and ease the property tax burden?

The answer is all too clear. Only the State of Colorado itself and Home Rule cities within the state have the legal authority to levy and collect such a tax. This is a provision of the State Constitution which has been tested by numerous court cases. Although attempts to amend the constitution were defeated in 1958 and 1960, another effort may be made in 1964.

While it would certainly help the local property tax picture if school districts could replace

some property levies with other taxes, such is not constitutionally possible. Only home rule cities continue to have the authority to use a municipal sales tax.

REVENUE YIELD

Detailed studies on the possible revenue potential of a one per cent sales tax in Grand Junction shows that in 1965 a net total of \$450,000 could be expected. A study of state sales tax revenue collected in Mesa County showed this picture indicating that a projection of the overall trend line would probably yield an annual increase of 4 per cent each year over the previous year's collections.

FAMILY SPENDING

The effect the tax would have on household budgets of families with various incomes was given a great deal of consideration assuming that at least half of the money would be used to replace property taxes. Three income groups were selected, representing 69 per cent of all Grand Junction families.

FAMILY A

(\$3,500 Income)

Less property tax:	\$27.79
More sales tax:	22.05
SAVINGS:	\$5.74

FAMILY B

(\$7,000 Income)

Less property tax:	\$44.14
More sales tax:	41.30
SAVINGS:	\$2.84

FAMILY C

(\$10,000 Income)

Less property tax:	\$62.13
More sales tax:	60.00
SAVINGS:	\$2.13

LOW INCOME BENEFIT

It is notable that the lowest income family could expect the highest dollar saving, provided that a large portion of the new sales tax revenue were used to reduce property taxes.

It simply amounts to paying a few pennies more in sales tax with all consumer purchases instead of paying each month with the house payment or mortgaged property or once a year in a check to the county treasurer.

CUT PROPERTY TAX

The initial proposal is for \$230,000 or 52 per cent of the new revenue to be used to cut City property taxes by 31 per cent and guarantee that they stay cut until at least 1970. If a state-wide sales tax for cities and counties is passed as proposed in November, all of that revenue could be used for further property tax replacement.

TAX CUT ATTRACTS INDUSTRY

Every growing community wants more industry to help provide more jobs and prosperity. One of the most effective means of attracting industry is to lower property taxes and still provide needed facilities whenever they are demanded.

SCHOOLS COLLEGE AND COUNTY TAXES

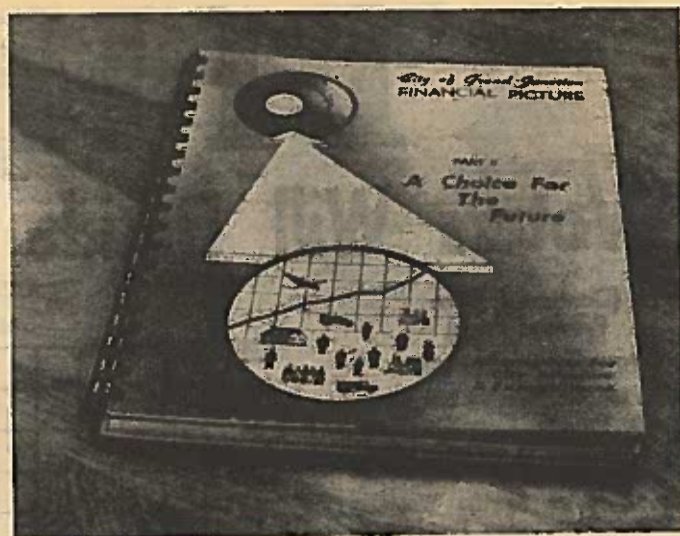
Would a cut in the City tax levy really mean a lower tax bill or would the schools, college or county simply pick up the difference? Projections made by school, college and county officials show that, even though the school levy may go up slightly next year, the overall levy would stay around 80 to 82 mills until 1970, instead of the 86 mills it is today, if City improvements can be financed by new revenue.

STREETS

Such things as street widening and replacement must be faced in coming years. Installation of pavement, curb, gutter, and sidewalks along arterial streets such as First Street are only possible if there is sufficient General Fund money to keep property assessments low enough to make them practical.

STREET LIGHTS & SIGNALS

Traffic signals must be installed as continued growth in and outside of the City occurs. Inadequate street lights are an invitation to traffic accidents and prowlers. New installations such as these provide over ten times the light at only a 20 per cent increase in operating costs.



PARKS

As cities grow, parks become more important to a well-rounded community program. Parks are for the use of all people who live in this area whether they be property owners, renters, suburbanites or just visitors.

Thanks to the cooperative Park Improvement Fund, local tax dollars have worked together with donations from the Grand Junction Lions and other civic-minded groups and individuals to provide new tennis courts, football stadium lights and playground equipment. Over \$33,000 has been saved in this way since 1960, but major improvements take more money than this fund can provide. Other park facilities, such as the Zoo, are badly in need of attention.

GOLF COURSE

The nine-hole municipal golf course in Lincoln Park is one of the busiest courses in western Colorado but an ever-increasing number of players makes adequate upkeep an ever-increasing problem. Without additional funds the relocation of the course is out of the question.

DITCH RELOCATION

Other demands on the City budget have been made by growing urbanization. Here is the Mesa County ditch which skirted the municipal golf course in Lincoln Park until spring of 1964. The ditch was relocated to be entirely south of the railroad tracks in a new concrete bed. Although many agencies cooperated on the project, three-fourths of the cost, over \$11,000, came from the City budget even though the new ditch lies outside the City and is used only for agriculture.

AIRPORT

Walker Field, where air traffic is second only to Denver's Stapleton Field, in Colorado, has been a major factor in attracting new industry to the Grand Valley. The new control tower was completed in 1961 at a cost of over \$315,000.

Even though the Federal Aviation Agency paid half of the cost, taxpayers of Mesa County and Grand Junction had to raise the balance of the money. And now the need for longer runways, taxiways and other improvements faces the city and county.

LIBRARY

At the City Library anyone may have a library card regardless of whether he lives inside or outside of the City limits. At the Mesa County Public Library, the same policy is in effect. However, neither library is adequate to serve the demands of the urban community.

This seems particularly a shame when the money now spent on each installation separately, would easily provide the annual costs of operating a new City-County facility and yet, without an additional source of revenue to help finance a new building, the City and County Library budgets must continue to go their separate ways in attempting to provide library service.

AUDITORIUM

Lincoln Park Auditorium, which has served the community so faithfully for many years, now costs more for its annual fire insurance premium than the total of all of the usage fees during any year. A closer look confirms what many people have suspected for a number of years — that the facility will not last much longer for any purpose.

Perhaps an over-all plan and study would point the way toward a multi-purpose structure for recreation and convention use, such as the International Center at the Broadmoor Hotel; maybe the new concrete dome ice rink in Provo, Utah would provide an answer for a multi-purpose structure in Grand Junction and Mesa County.

In any case one thing is sure — nothing will come of efforts to plan an effective multi-purpose complex unless some way is found to pay for it.

IMPROVEMENT MONEY

With a 1 per cent sales tax, over \$184,000 each year would be used to finance such capital improvements as these to benefit all residents, both inside and outside the City, whether they are renters or property owners.

(Continued on Following Page)

THE FINANC

Voters Will Decide Future City Taxes, Improvements

(Continued From Previous Page)

TOURIST PROMOTION

The tourist industry has jumped into the No. 1 spot in Western Colorado in recent years. A great deal of the credit for this must go to the Western Colorado Promotion Booth presented during the last three years at Los Angeles, San Francisco, Dallas, Denver, and Chicago. The City and the County have both put thousands of dollars into this program, along with funds from private business.

The sales tax study shows that at least \$15,000 a year could be put into this promotional program from the new revenue to attract more visitors to western Colorado during the winter ski season and the warm weather sight - seeing, fishing, and hunting seasons.

PARKING PROGRAM

Another proposal of the study is to speed up the cooperative public and private parking program to provide more off-street parking free to customers. In 1963 the City Council entered an agreement with a downtown Parking Corporation whereby the City would purchase parking lots with parking meter revenue after the Corporation had purchased the sites initially at no cost to the taxpayers.

The long - range goal of the program is to eliminate off-street parking meters and to put such lots into public ownership so that parking will be assured.

Sales tax revenue could replace more parking meter money from the Shopping Park meters and step up this cooperative program by \$8,000 a year.

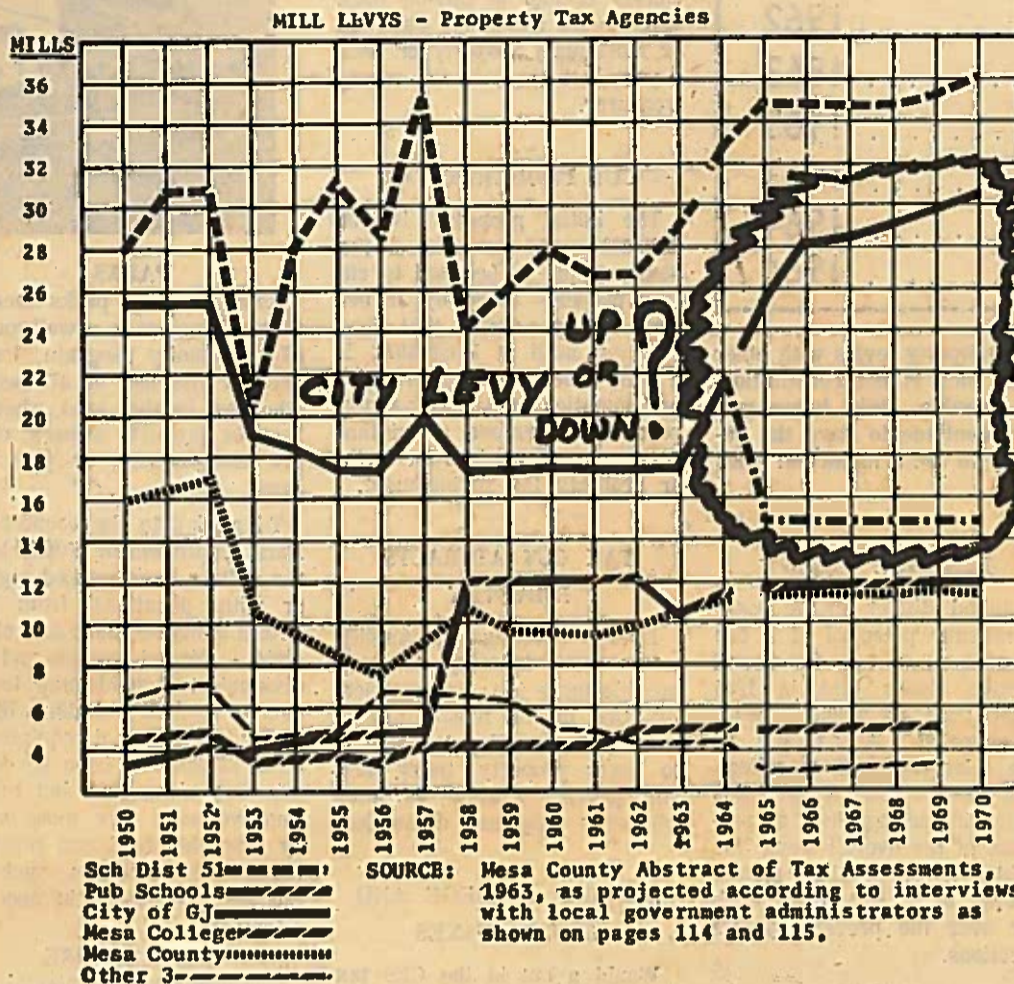
"NUISANCE" TAXES

A number of out - dated taxes and fees are no longer needed and actually cost as much to collect as they produce. These include licenses for ice and coal haulers, annual charges for hotels and motels, and special charges for movie theaters and bowling alleys.

Such types of business and occupational taxes now place an unfair burden on certain businesses. These amount to approximately \$6,000 per year and could be eliminated if the revenue they now raise could be made up from sales tax.

WHO PAYS

But wait a minute, if the city families mentioned above are going to about break even with the new sales tax, where is all this extra money coming from? It would come from retail purchases in the city by fringe area shoppers who realize that they too benefit by these improvements and therefore help to pay for them. And a major share would come from tourists and



visitors who would have paid over \$117,000 in sales taxes in 1963 had the ordinance been in effect.

MID-1964 STARTING DATE IMPORTANT

All revenue and projection estimates in this study, particularly those concerned with a guaranteed mill levy ceiling until 1970, assume a mid-1964 starting date for collection. Such a starting point is important for 3 reasons:

1. "Cushion Revenue" for Projected Expenditures Compared

to Revenues from 1965 to 1970.

2. Test of Estimates made in this Study as to both Expenditures and Revenues During the Period from July, 1964 until April, 1965.

3. Operating Revenues if "NO" Vote Results in April, 1965 Election thus Immediately Stopping the Sales Tax Collection.

1957 SALES TAX

Seven years ago the City Council put the question of a sales tax to a vote of the people without any assurance of a low-

er property tax and without a clear cut plan for the use of the money. It failed to pass by 542 votes. Because of this, your city councilmen have indicated that the question should again be voted on at some point in the program, even though Council has authority to pass such measures on its own action.

Therefore the proposal calls for the entire question to be put to a vote of the people at the next regular City election in April of 1965.

BLUE PRINT FOR ACTION

Further consideration by the City Council and the public - at - large may yield modifications of these initial proposals, but they do present a blueprint for action for the people of Grand Junction to stabilize the financial future of their City government and the urban center of Mesa County.

The people of Grand Junction have demonstrated their ability to help themselves through a downtown street rebuilding program without any outside financial assistance and resulting in a new Shopping Park that is the envy of downtown centers all over the nation.

Businessmen have proven their faith in the agricultural future of the area by raising over \$100,000 to save the sugar beet industry when it was threatened by the closing of the Holly Sugar plant in Delta in 1961. Here was another instance of the merchant and the farmer working together for the overall good of the Western Slope economy.

The County Commissioners and the City Council proved their sincere wish to economize by building the first City-County jail in Colorado, operated on a cooperative basis, and have thus saved thousands of dollars for all city and county taxpayers.

These efforts and others typifying the spirit of the citizens of Mesa County and Grand Junction won the coveted All-America City award for the community in 1963.

IT'S UP TO YOU

This is a summary of the long-range financial picture for the City of Grand Junction. However, the destiny of your community rests with you. Don't miss this opportunity to be heard on these proposals and shape the future of your City.

CITY BONDED DEBT-DEC. 31, 1963

(General Obligation Bonds Only)

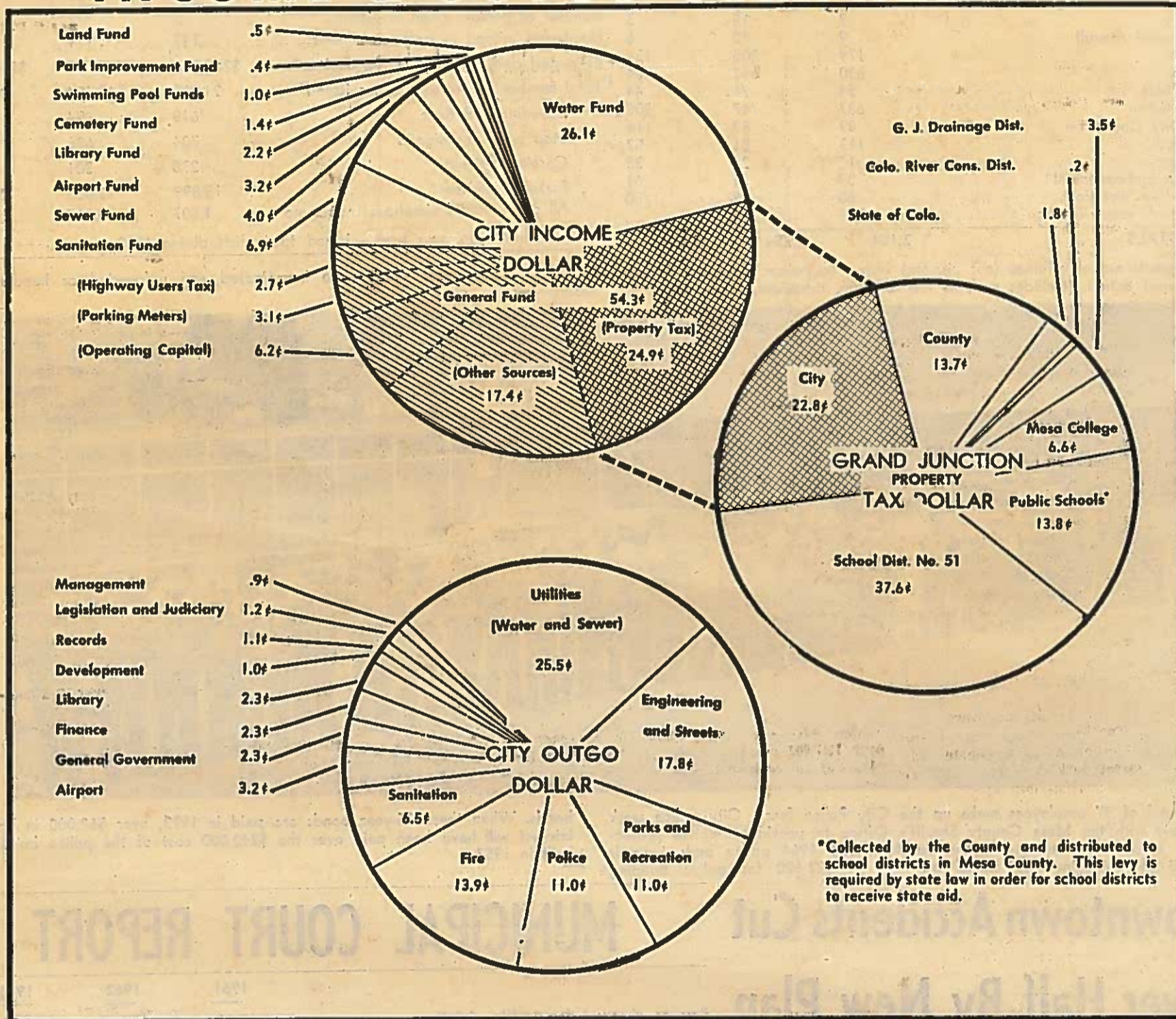
Year	Sewer Bonds (1)	Police Bldg. Bonds (2)	Lincoln Pk. Pool Bonds (3)	Water Bonds (4)	Total Bonds
1964	42,910.00	22,620.00	6,750.00	212,375.00	284,655.00
1965	42,875.00	22,080.00	6,575.00	218,275.00	289,805.00
1966	42,810.00	22,525.00	6,400.00	223,900.00	295,635.00
1967	42,715.00	21,945.00	7,200.00	219,625.00	291,495.00
1968	42,590.00	22,370.00	7,960.00	215,012.00	287,932.00
1969	37,510.00	18,815.00	7,720.00	210,400.00	274,445.00
1970	36,490.00	18,305.00	7,480.00	34,787.00	98,062.00
1971	35,470.00	17,795.00	7,240.00	Paid	60,505.00
1972	32,480.00	18,270.00	Paid		50,740.00
1973	Paid	Paid			Paid
Totals	355,850.00	184,735.00	57,325.00	1,335,375.00	1,933,285.00

NOTES

1. \$460,000 issue for 15 years, March, 1957, for construction of south side sewer plant and remodeling of west side plant.
2. \$240,000 issue for 15 years, March, 1957, for construction of new police building and jail.
3. \$80,000 issue for 15 years, April, 1956, for construction of Lincoln Park Swimming pool.
4. Two different issues for general enlargement and improvement of water system. \$395,000 in 1948 and \$1,500,000 in 1955.

SPECIAL PICTURE

INCOME & OUTGO COMPARISON



NOTE: Apparent variances between outgo and income, either higher or lower, are due to funds carried over from previous year or remaining in the fund on Dec. 31, 1963 and carried over into the fiscal

year. This applies to percentages in chart above as well as to dollar amounts in table below.

1963 REVENUE & EXPENSES

REVENUE FUNDS

General Fund	\$1,343,737.14
Property Tax	(617,329.47)
Highway Users Fund	(65,601.97)
Parking Meters	(76,502.39)
Operating Capital	(153,609.72)
Other Sources	(430,693.59)
Water Fund	646,044.47
Sanitation Fund	169,775.38
Sewer Fund	100,082.45
Airport Fund	80,281.75
Library Fund	54,384.69
Cemetery Fund	33,596.48
Swimming Pool Funds	23,569.12
Park Improvement Fund	11,024.36
Land Fund	11,445.81
TOTAL	\$2,473,941.65*

*Balance of \$392,555.44 carried over into 1964 accounts.

DEPARTMENT EXPENSES

Utilities (Water & Sewer)	\$ 559,613.88
Engineering & Streets	390,238.20
Parks & Recreation	241,150.82
Police	240,449.42
Fire	304,454.80
Sanitation	142,436.71
Airport	69,330.96
General Government	49,700.17
Finance	52,567.57
Library	49,423.08
Development	21,607.28
Records	23,753.65
Legislation & Judiciary	26,397.55
Management	20,350.70
TOTAL	\$2,191,474.79

Crime, Accidents Drop In 1963

CRIMINAL OFFENSES, 3-YEAR RECORD

	1961	1962	1963
Murder	0	1	0
Rape	1	2	0
Robbery	3	15	3
Aggravated Assault	9	10	6
Burglary	179	205	136
Larceny	630	618	554
Auto Theft	54	76	44
Drunkenness	637	747	505
Disorderly Conduct	89	89	114
Vagrancy	113	81	57
Forgery	17	26	33
Fraud & Embezzlement	37	51	61
Liquor Law Violations	60	18	50
All Other except Traffic	325	314	
TOTALS	2,154	2,253	1,591

CITY TRAFFIC RECORD

	1961	1962	1963
Total number vehicle accidents	831	905	876
Number of persons killed in traffic	2	2	0
Numbered injured in traffic accidents	143	179	166
Estimated damage from traffic accidents	\$205,258	\$245,783	\$234,768
Total number traffic summonses issued*	21,482	19,124	24,064
Speeding violations	618	674	1111
Stop signs and signals	704	626	676
Careless Driving	238	301	329
Parking violations	15,899	13,856	20,379
All other traffic violations by summons	1,507	3,667	1,578

*Includes 1,905 warning tickets issued to tourists during 1962.

* Represents actual offenses (not persons) known to police: does not include 728 non-traffic offenses which were investigated and unfounded or handled by on-the-spot action. (Includes such as lost children, runaways, family arguments, rubbish burning, etc.)



A total of 37 employees make up the City Police force. City police work closely with the Mesa County Sheriff's Office to provide effective protection both in and around Grand Junction. The 1964 police budget totals \$275,039, including the annual payment of \$22,620 for police building

bonds. When these 15-year bonds are paid in 1972, over \$62,000 in bond interest will have been paid over the \$240,000 cost of the police building built in 1957.

Downtown Accidents Cut Over Half By New Plan

The Shopping Park on four blocks of Main Street and the changed traffic pattern in the downtown area have accounted for a drop by more than half of accidents in 1963, as compared with 1961. 1962 figures do not provide a comparison because of the construction during that year.

Accident records in the twenty-four blocks of streets which were rebuilt under the Operation Foresight construction in 1962 show that there was a total of 181 vehicle accidents in this area in 1961. In 1963 there were only 89 accidents on the same streets.

In the Shopping Park itself, accidents in 1963 were about one-fifth of those which occurred in 1961 when a total of 61 accidents were reported. In 1963 only 12 accidents in these four blocks.

FIVE TIMES SAFER

The research which led to the institution of the Shopping Park indicated that the curved street should be safer for five different reasons. As accident records indicate, the new concept is not only five ways safer but also five times safer.



BUSINESS UP

Retail business in Grand Junction jumped by more than 4 million dollars according to state sales tax figures for 1963 compared to 1962. This is a greater jump in one year than the total of the previous three years' increase.

MUNICIPAL COURT REPORT

	1961	1962	1963
Persons charged for traffic violations	17,881	14,644	21,294
Found guilty as charged	16,783*	13,817*	20,154*
Persons charged for non-traffic violations	860	1,005	889
Found guilty as charged	788	927	771
Jury trials during the year	21	12	20
Court trails for traffic violations	820	961	1,045
Court trails for non-traffic violations	826	1,083	855

*Includes those persons appearing before Traffic Violations Bureau and paying fine without court hearing.

Special booklet explaining the
Citizen's Rights in Municipal Court

available FREE at court offices

in Police Building, 6th Street at Ute Ave.