

# Grand Junction, Colorado



**CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS ...**  
**FRONT ROW:** Gene Kinsey, Mayor, Cindy Enos-Martinez. **BACK ROW:** Jack Scott, Janet Terry, Earl Payne, Jim Spehar, Reford C. Theobald.

## City Council ...

Grand Junction has a Council-Manager form of government. Council appoints the City Manager, City Attorney, and Municipal Judge. The City Council sets policies, while the City Manager handles the day-to-day operations of city government and carries out policy. Residents elect seven Council members to serve four-year terms. Five Council members must reside in their district, while two members are elected at-large and may reside in any district.

Council meets on the first and third Wednesday of each month at 7:30 p.m. A workshop session is held on the Monday preceding the Council meeting at 7:00 p.m. Meetings are taking place at Two Rivers Convention Center during the reconstruction of City Hall.

## History ...

Grand Junction was incorporated into a municipality in 1882. In 1909, Grand Junction became a Charter city. Residents amended the City Charter in 1921 and adopted the city-manager form of government.

## Growth ...

In 1885, the population of Grand Junction was 500. The surrounding area was primarily agricultural, and even then, Grand Junction served as a regional hub for transportation and trade. Uranium mining and milling contributed to growth in the 1940's and 50's, followed by oil shale development in the late 1970's. In 1982, Exxon closed down their oil shale development project, and economic growth in the area faltered. The area slowly recovered over the next 10 years, and an economic rebound began around 1995.

## To The Citizens of Grand Junction ...

The start of a new year holds exciting promise for the future of the City of Grand Junction. Much of my enthusiasm centers around our greatest resource, the people who make up our city.

People are the main ingredient to the success of any city. Here in Grand Junction, we are fortunate to have people who care deeply about our quality of life, and are willing to put their time and effort into maintaining and improving that quality.

Many citizens serve on volunteer boards and commissions, and are very involved in the life of their community. There is a remarkable level of citizen activity in Grand Junction. Residents participate in civic activities, parents are involved in schools, and individuals and the business community are generous in their charitable giving of resources, time and talent.

I encourage all of you to get involved in the life of your city. Grand Junction's City Council is truly a citizens' government and we welcome your participation. And throughout the community there are numerous organizations and groups that would benefit from your involvement. Citizens working hand-in-hand will make a difference in our city, for ourselves and future generations.

Sincerely,  
Gene Kinsey, Mayor

## Growing Pains ...

The City of Grand Junction has seen the most explosive growth in its history in the last 10 years, as has the rest of Colorado. The census population of 1990 lists 29,000 city residents, while only nine years later figures for 1999 indicate over 40,000 residents in city limits. The population of unincorporated Mesa County was also growing, and in 1994, the county population topped the 100,000 mark, thereby attracting the attention of national chain retailers and franchise operators.

City policies do not encourage or discourage growth. Private industry determines when and where growth occurs. The City's role is to ensure development meets all zoning requirements as well as the City's Growth Plan, adopted in 1996. The City Council and Community Development Department are working on a rewrite of the Zoning and Development Code that will implement the Growth Plan.

The City Council believes that the fundamental value of the community is the preservation of the high quality of life of the Grand Valley. Quality of life is our greatest asset. It includes a strong and healthy economy, safe neighborhoods, parks, recreational opportunities, community facilities, open space, trails, adequate roads, traffic management, clean air, clean water, a visually pleasant city and an appreciation of our natural environment.

According to Grand Junction Mayor Gene Kinsey, "The City Council is concerned about the quality of life, and wants to balance the needs of all segments of the community, including existing residents and the development community, so the quality of life is maintained and enhanced."

# Boards and Commissions ...

Grand Junction citizens give hundreds of hours of community service each year by serving on city appointed boards and commissions. They give generously of their time and talents to make Grand Junction a great city. Current boards and their members (as of September 1999) are:

## AIRPORT AUTHORITY

7 member board  
4 year terms  
Terms expire in May for City appointments

The Airport Authority is charged with setting policy and overseeing the operations of the Airport ensuring compliance with its By-Laws, with the State of Colorado Public Airport Authority Law and with FAA Regulations. The Board meets at 5:15 p.m. the third Tuesday of each month at Walker Field Airport with additional committee meetings as needed.

Gary R. Morris	Miles McCormack
Craig Springer	Steve Ammentorp
Robert McCormick	Kenneth Sublett
Mike Sutherland	

## BUILDING AND FIRE CODE BOARD OF APPEALS

5 member board  
3 year terms, at least 1 term to expire each year  
Terms expire in July

The function of this board is to make special exceptions to the terms of the building code, formulate suggested amendments to the building code for consideration by BOCC; adopt substantive rules and regulations based on the provisions of the building code; may also hear appeals by any person aggrieved by his inability to obtain a building permit or by any officer, department, board, or bureau of the county affected by the granting or refusal of a building permit. The Board meets as needed at the County Administration building at 750 Main St.

Robert Hilgenfeld	Robert Reinertsen
Greg Robson	Marc Mauer
Patti Chamberlain	Greg Motz, alternate
Tom Kirkpatrick, alternate	

## COMMISSION ON ARTS AND CULTURE

9 member board  
3 year terms  
Terms expire in February

The mission of the Commission on Arts and Culture is to enhance local arts and cultural opportunities and development, encourage cooperation and collaboration among arts organizations, provide information to area artists and arts agencies and establish community arts priorities. The Commission meets the 4th Wednesday of each month at 4:00 p.m. at the Parks & Recreation offices at 1340 Gunnison.

Bill Whaley	Karen Lee Kiefer
Bill Reidy	LeRoy Donegan
Priscilla Rupp	Jeanne Killgore
Peter Ivanov	Beth Buys
Seth Brown	

## DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

9 member board  
4 year terms  
Terms expire in June

The DDA's primary purpose is to facilitate the reinvestment in and the redevelopment of downtown Grand Junction. The function of the Board of Directors is to establish policy and direct the Authority in its efforts. The meetings are held the 1st and 3rd Fridays of each month at 7:30 a.m. at the Reed Building, 350 Main St.

Doug Simons	Mary Crumbaker
E. Chris Launer	Teresa Kareus
Bruce Bengt	Bruce Hill
Mark Hermundstad	Becky Brehmer
Gene Kinsey	

## GRAND JUNCTION FORESTRY BOARD

5 member board  
3 year staggered terms  
Terms expire in November

The Board acts as a reviewing body for the purpose of determining professional qualification and competence to engage in the business of cutting, trimming, pruning, spraying or removing trees by giving written, oral and practical license examinations. The Board also makes recommendations to the City Council for the adoption of rules and regulations pertaining to the tree service business in the City, and it may hear complaints from citizens relating to the tree service business. The Board meets the 1st Monday of each month at 8:00 a.m. at the Parks shops at 1400 Gunnison Ave.

Terry Hamm	Mitch Elliott
Vince Urbina	David R. Hoefler
Stephen Gerow	

## GRAND JUNCTION PLANNING COMMISSION

7 member board, 2 alternates  
4 year terms  
Terms expire in October

The Planning Commission hears and decides certain planning and zoning related issues and will make recommendations to the City Council on similar matters. The Commission holds public hearings on the 2nd Tuesday of each month at 7:00 p.m. and holds workshops as needed. The Commission will meet temporarily at Two Rivers until the completion of the new City Hall.

John Elmer	Paul Coleman
Jeffrey Driscoll	Terri Binder
Mark Fenn	Nick Prinster
Joe Grout	

## HISTORIC PRESERVATION BOARD

5 to 7 member board  
3 year terms  
Terms expire in December

The Historic Preservation Board is responsible for recommending designation of historic resources to City Council for listing on the City Register of Historic Sites, Structures and Districts. The Board also reviews proposed alterations to designated sites as necessary and generally promotes historic preservation in the Grand Junction community. The Board meets the 1st Monday of the month at 4:30 p.m. at the Reed Building, 350 Main St.

Ed Chamberlin	Philip Born
William C. Jones	Steve Schulte
Pat Gormley	Barbara Creasman
David P. Bailey	

## HOUSING AUTHORITY

7 members  
5 year terms  
Terms expire in October

The Housing Authority helps to provide safe and sanitary dwelling accommodations as resources permit at rents which persons of low income can afford. The Housing Authority meets the 4th Monday of each month at 11:00 a.m. at Norwest Bank, 2808 North Avenue.

Marius Gabe DeGabriele	Kathleen Belgard
Kristen Dillon	Gi Hamrick
Janet Terry	

## PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD

7 member board  
3 year staggered terms  
Terms expire in June

The Board assists in the planning of recreation activities, and it helps to promote a long range program for the development of the City's park system. The Board meets the 3rd Thursday of each month at 12:00 noon in the Parks and Recreation Office at Lincoln Park, 1340 Gunnison Ave.

Bob Cron	Karen Madsen
Tilman Bishop	Jamie Hamilton
Lena Elliot	Nora Hughes
R.T. Mantlo	

## RIVERFRONT COMMISSION

11 member commission  
3 year terms  
Terms expire in July

The Riverfront Commission is charged with planning, advocating and implementing a multifaceted program to redevelop and reclaim the riverfront within the City and County. The meetings are held on the 3rd Tuesday of each month at 7:30 p.m. at the Reed Building, 350 Main Street.

Mark Gardner	Russ Walker
John Heideman	Lenna Watson
Paul Nelson	Jeanette Main-Goecke
Judy Kennedy	Dustin Dunbar
Paul Jones	William Findlay
Patrick Kennedy	

## URBAN TRAILS COMMITTEE

7 to 11 members  
3 year terms  
Terms expire in June

The purpose of this Board is to promote and facilitate trail design and construction within the City of Grand Junction, and to plan for integration with trails in areas which will be annexed. The Committee meets the 2nd Tuesday of each month at 7:30 p.m. the Reed Building, 350 Main Street.

Birgit Bostelman	Jamie Lummis
Robert Traylor	Gerry Tucker
Ken Scissors	John Paxson
William Findlay	

## PLANNING COMMISSION BOARD OF APPEALS

5 member board, 2 alternates  
3 year terms  
Terms expire in October

The Board of Appeals hears and decides appeals of administrative decisions, appeals for variances of the bulk requirements and non-conforming uses, and requests for exceptions to the side or rear setback requirements pursuant to the Zoning and Development Code. The Board also makes recommendations to the Planning Commission for amendments to the Zoning and Development Code. The Board meets on the 2nd Wednesday of the month at 8:00 a.m. The Board is meeting at Two Rivers until the completion of the new City Hall.

John Elmer	Pam Hong
Paul Dribble	Jim Nall
William E. Putnam	

## VISITOR AND CONVENTION BUREAU BOARD OF DIRECTORS

9 member board  
3 year staggered terms  
Terms expire in December

The mission of the Visitor and Convention Bureau is to market Grand Junction in external markets resulting in a positive economic impact of visitor dollars to the City of Grand Junction. The Board advises the VCB staff on policies and marketing directions. The VCB Board meets the 2nd Tuesday of each month at 3:00 p.m. at the Visitor Center, 740 Horizon Drive.

Jamee Simons	Ken Smith
Brad Higginbotham	Robin Kleinschnitz
Daniel S. Sharp	Bill Mears
Wade Haerle	Alan Friedman
Peggy Page, Ex-officio	

# 1999 Highlights ...

The City and County signed the Persigo Sewer Agreement in 1999. The Persigo Agreement stands as an innovative document that outlines the boundaries of an urban growth area, determines who will control future growth within that area, and signals a new cooperation between City and County over growth issues.

Significant changes to several City streets marked 1999. The two-year Unawep Avenue reconstruction project was completed in January, providing a three-lane road section and a much-improved streetscape on Orchard Mesa. Drivers learned to negotiate the City's first roundabout at 12th and Horizon Drive in the spring of the year. Shortly afterward, Twelfth Street was closed to traffic for reconstruction from Bonita Avenue to the roundabout. As soon as that street project was completed, 27 1/2 Road was closed for a similar reconstruction.

Fifth Street received a facelift from the bridge over the Colorado River north to Main Street in the summer of 1999. The work includes landscape and streetscape improvements, lighting and traffic signals, and new sidewalks.

## City Council also ...

- Negotiated environmental safeguards and approved a permit for the TransColorado Gas Transmission Company to bury part of their 280-mile-long natural gas pipeline across City property on the Grand Mesa.
- Approved Community Development Block Grants in the amount of \$469,000 in federal funds. Projects funded for 1998 included funding for renovations to eight group homes by Mesa Developmental Services; funding for the Catholic Outreach Homeless Day Center; transitional housing for the mentally ill at Colorado West Mental Health, funding for the Salvation Army's Hope House, and Elm Avenue sidewalk and street reconstruction.
- Passed a tobacco ordinance to regulate use and possession of tobacco products for minors under the age of 18, and to regulate their display and sale to minors.
- Conducted the City's first mail-in ballot election, and saw voter participation rise to 46 percent.
- Began a series of public meetings to revise the Zoning and Development Code to implement the recommendations of the Growth Plan.
- Approved the issuance of \$2 million in bonds for the Downtown Development Association to help finance several downtown projects, including a renovation of Two Rivers Convention Center, a new hotel, and additional parking.

# POLICE

We have been, and continue to be, a community in transition. This process will continue into the next five to ten years as the population grows and divergent interests become part of our community. Meeting those divergent needs and being responsive to the needs of our citizens will be part of our focus for the future.

Issues such as traffic volume, congestion and driver courtesy were the catalyst for the creation of the Traffic Unit. Addressing these issues and working with traffic engineers for the safe and orderly flow of traffic will continue to be part of the future efforts of the Police Department.

Mobile Data Computers (M.D.C.'s) have been installed and activated in all the marked patrol units of the Grand Junction Police Department. These computers currently give our officers the ability to conduct their own on-line searches of the Colorado Crime Information Center and the National Crime Information Center databases for wanted subjects and stolen property.

We will continue our emphasis on working with neighborhoods and citizens in a problem-oriented and community-oriented approach to solving crime and quality of life issues so that our visitors, families and children can feel safe and secure in their schools, homes and places of work.



Photo by Steven Maxwell



Photo by Christopher Tomlinson

Photo by Christopher Tomlinson

# PARKS

Canyon View Park, the most exciting park development in the City in the past 75 years, was dedicated in July of 1997. The 110 acre park was constructed at a cost of over \$9 million, with no debt incurred. Money for its construction came from the City's 10-year capital improvement budget, the Colorado Lottery, and donations from the Boettcher Foundation, Mesa County Lottery funds, and donations from civic organizations and individuals.

Recent additions to the park include a new baseball field and three more soccer fields. City Council recently voted to incorporate the Urruty handball court into the southwest corner of the property, recognizing its importance to the Basque cultural heritage of the Grand Valley.

The parks department has oversight for 52 park facilities. An ongoing project involves upgrading existing parks and improving handicap access and safety. Plans call for new playground equipment, landscaping improvements and basketball courts in many locations. The City has budgeted \$150,000 for general park improvements in 2000, and \$175,000 each year for the next nine years.

Groundbreaking will begin in October of 1999 for Eagle Rim Park, located on Orchard Mesa just north of the middle school. Construction on this \$2.25 million neighborhood park overlooking the Colorado River will continue into 2001.



*Photo Courtesy of C.J. Parks & Recreation Dept.*



*Photo Courtesy of C.J. Parks & Recreation Dept.*



*Photo by Christopher Tamrison*



Photo by Colorado Photo Design

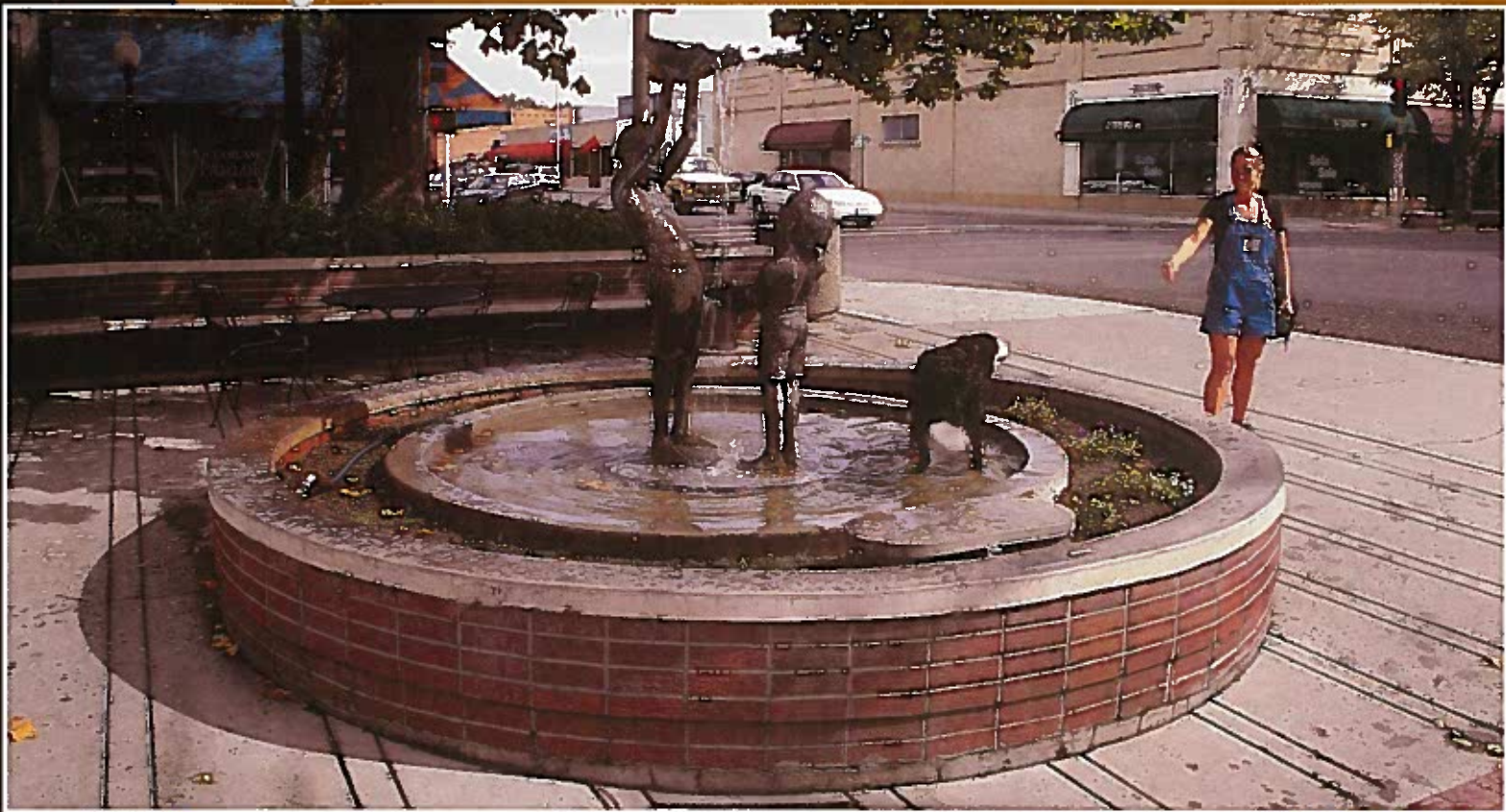


Photo by Christopher Tomlinson

## STREETS

Maintaining City streets requires a large investment in manpower and resources. All streets are evaluated and each street in the city receives major maintenance at least once every ten years. The maintenance program includes patching, seal coating, and asphalt overlays.

Street reconstruction projects are a major part of the City's capital improvement planning. Traffic studies and research help City Council decide where changes are needed to improve safety and help with congestion and traffic flow. Storm drainage has become increasingly important as the City continues to grow and develop.

City inspectors regularly examine neighborhoods for deteriorating or damaged sidewalks, curbs and gutters. Sidewalks are ground down to eliminate tripping hazards or replaced as needed, with handicap accessible curbs installed at corners. Special emphasis is placed on providing sidewalk improvements to school walking routes.

## SPRING CLEAN-UP

This is one of the most popular programs for residents, and one of the longest running. The first spring clean-up campaigns were conducted in the City using horse-drawn wagons to pick up debris as early as 1909.

The purpose of the program is to eliminate debris from around homes to promote a cleaner city. Each spring, public works crews collect the debris at no charge to City residents, who put the material on the curb or street. Crews will pick up any material the landfill will accept.

## FALL LEAF PICK-UP

Each fall City residents are asked to rake their leaves to the gutter in front of their property, where crews collect them. This popular service keeps our neighborhoods looking neat and keeps leaves from plugging storm drains. Local farmers and the Western Colorado Botanical Society recycle the leaves to prolong the life of the landfill.



Photo courtesy of Grand Junction Fire Department

## FIRE SERVICES

Grand Junction Fire Department protects 70,000 people living in an area of 91 square miles. It operates out of four stations and has 67 full-time employees and five part-time reserve firefighters.

The Department provides a variety of education, enforcement and emergency services to the residents of the City of Grand Junction and a surrounding fire district. Being one of the largest paid departments between Denver and Salt Lake City, the GJFD is virtually a self-sufficient organization providing a variety of services.

Along with fire suppression, the Grand Junction Fire Department provides Advanced Life Support personnel and equipment at each of the four stations. Approximately 75% of all calls are emergency medical in nature. Fire fighters are also trained in hazardous materials and technical rescue.

The Grand Junction Fire Department also provides a number of prevention programs. Fire inspectors review new construction plans and enforce the Uniform Fire Code. Fire Investigators investigate every fire to determine cause and origin. The Public Information/Public Education Officer coordinates safety education, functions as the liaison to the media, and provides information to the public regarding fire department functions.

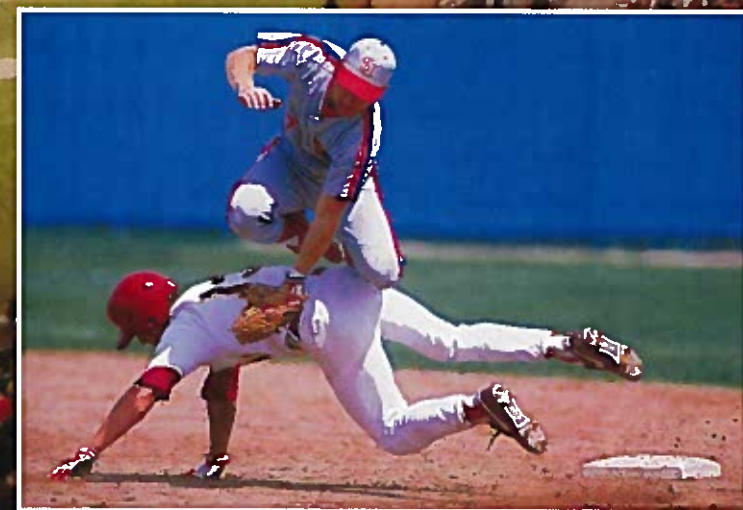


Photo by Christopher Jamieson



## TRASH PICK-UP

The City provides weekly trash pick-up for many residents and businesses. Three years ago the City moved to an automated trash system. The new trash trucks have a lift that empties the trash containers, thereby saving on manpower and injuries to employees. The City also offers a very popular curbside recycling service for newspapers, aluminum, glass and plastic.

## WATER

Water is a precious resource in the arid west. The City's abundant water supply comes from the Grand Mesa through a series of pipelines from Kannah Creek and the North Fork of Kannah Creek. Flowlines transport water over 20 miles of desert to the water treatment plant on Orchard Mesa. The water is treated there and distributed to citizens by three 24-inch pipelines crossing the Colorado River. The water treatment plant received the 1998 Water Fluoridation Award for Excellence from the State of Colorado.

## SEWER

The Persigo Wastewater Treatment facility was put into operation in 1984 to provide a regional plant for sewage treatment. The City of Grand Junction and Mesa County jointly make decisions on the boundaries of the 201 sewer system. The plant received the Environmental Protection Agency's Operations and Maintenance Award for Excellence in 1995.



Photo by Precision Visual Communications

# City Hall

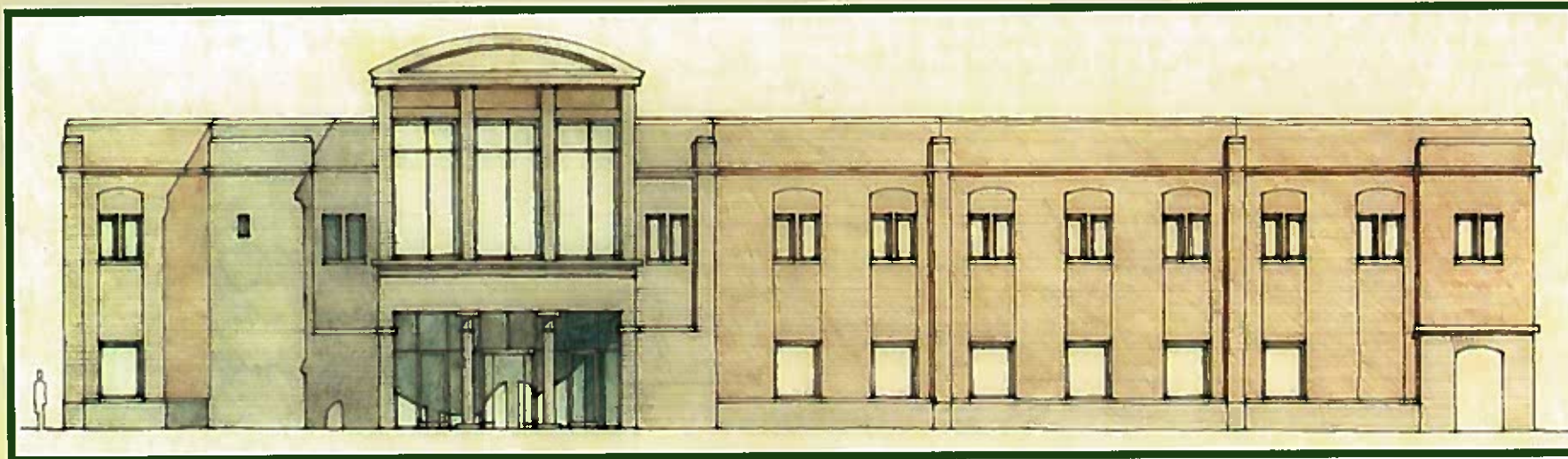


Photo by Terry Brown



Photo by Kristin Winn

If you have been near Fifth and Rood recently, you will see the new \$6.9 million City Hall beginning to take shape. This two-story building with its brick facade will house state-of-the-art City Council chambers, Municipal Court, and offices. City Council wished to remain in the downtown location, and the new 46,200 square foot building should take us well into the 21st century with the ability for a future third-floor expansion. Completion is expected in early fall of 2000.

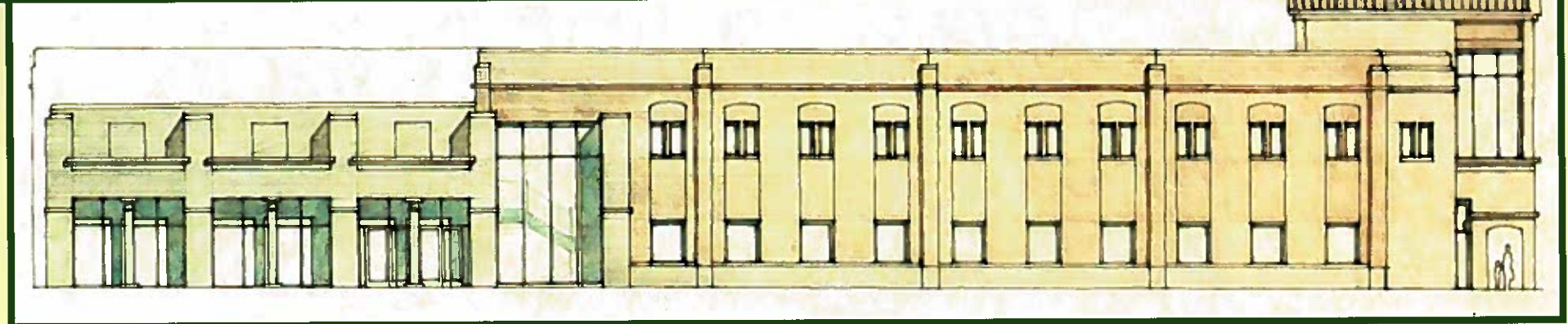


## ◀ South View

Artist's rendering of the new City Hall building as viewed from Rood Avenue.

## ▶ West View

Artist's rendering of the new City Hall building as viewed from Fifth Street.

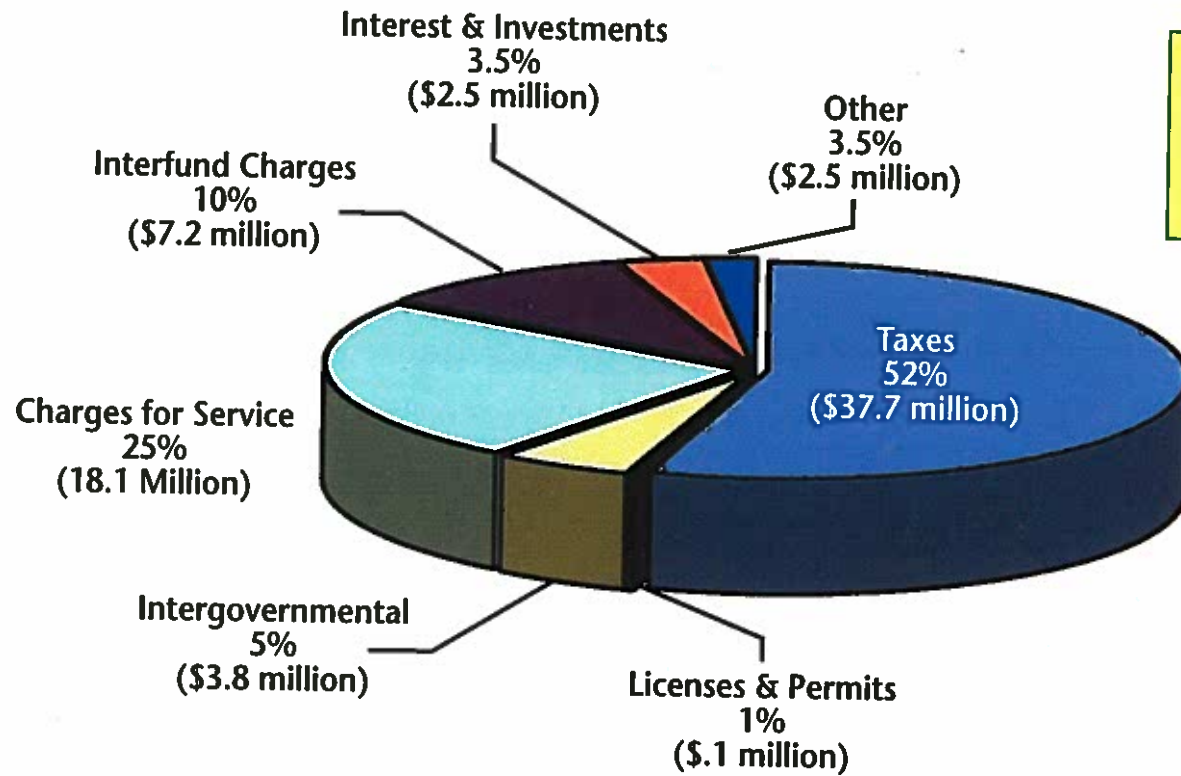


Mythe Design Co.

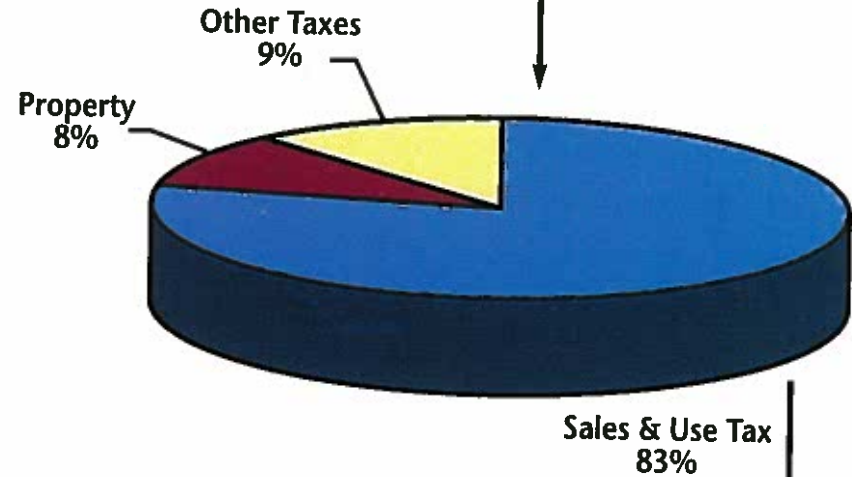


# 2000 Budget

## WHERE THE MONEY COMES FROM ...

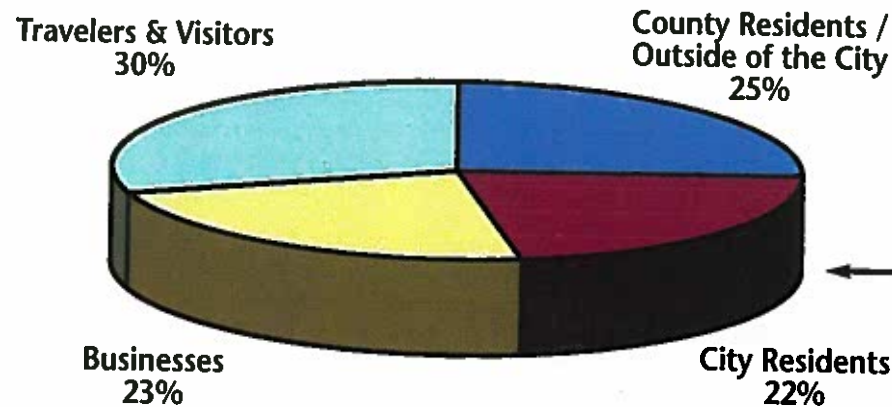


The main source of revenue the City will use for operations in 2000 is generated from taxes. Of the \$37.7 million in tax revenue collected, 83% will be in the form of sales and use tax with only 22% of that amount being paid by Grand Junction residents.



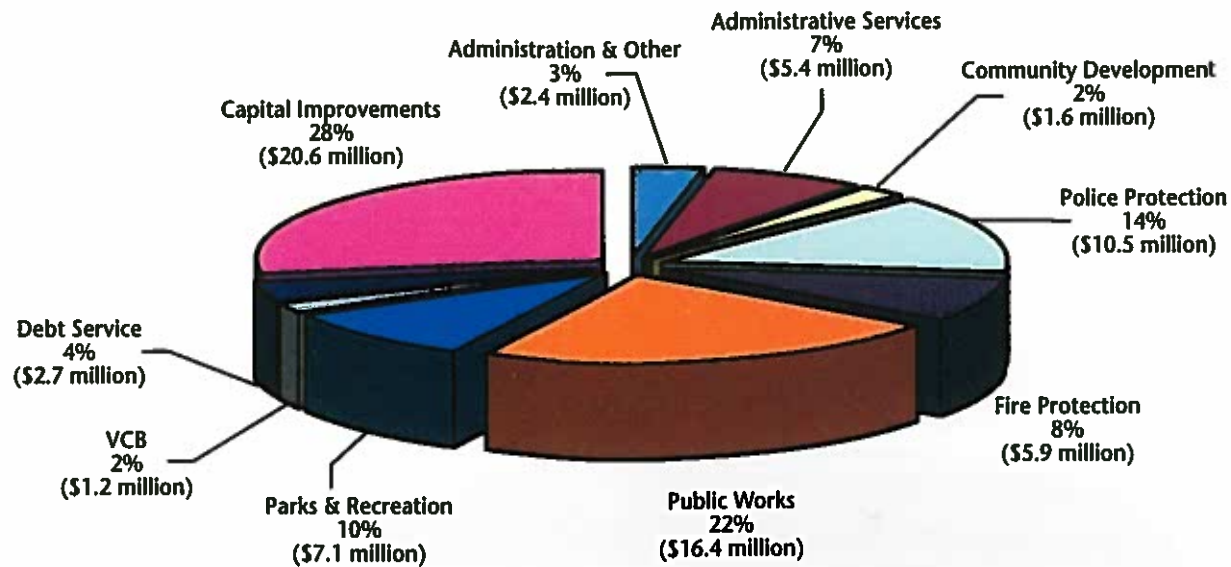
The City of Grand Junction receives less than 1/10th of the property tax paid by homeowners

The City of Grand Junction expects to receive approximately \$31 million in sales and use tax revenue in the year 2000. Because of the City's position as a regional economic center, the citizens of Grand Junction are expected to pay only 22% of this amount, about \$6.8 million.



# WHERE THE MONEY GOES...

Capital improvements of streets, parks and other infrastructure continue to be the major category of expenditure accounting for 27% of the total budget for 2000.



Grand Junction is fortunate to have a healthy economy and increasing sales tax revenue growth. In 1988, the City Council implemented with City voter approval an extra three-quarter cent sales tax increase earmarked for capital improvements. In the 2000 and 2001 budget, that sales tax amounts to \$15 million that goes directly toward making our City a safer, more attractive place to live with better roads, more parks and recreational facilities, and improved storm drainage.

We are spending on average 20% of our total City budget on capital improvements, which is much higher than most cities. In 1999, we spent \$21.8 million, in 2000, we will spend \$20.6 million and in 2001, our capital improvement projects will amount to \$12.6 million. Sixty percent of that amount is earmarked for public works projects to improve streets, drainage, sidewalks, curbs and gutters. An additional \$14 million in general fund resources will be transferred to the Capital fund over the next 10 years to support these important projects.

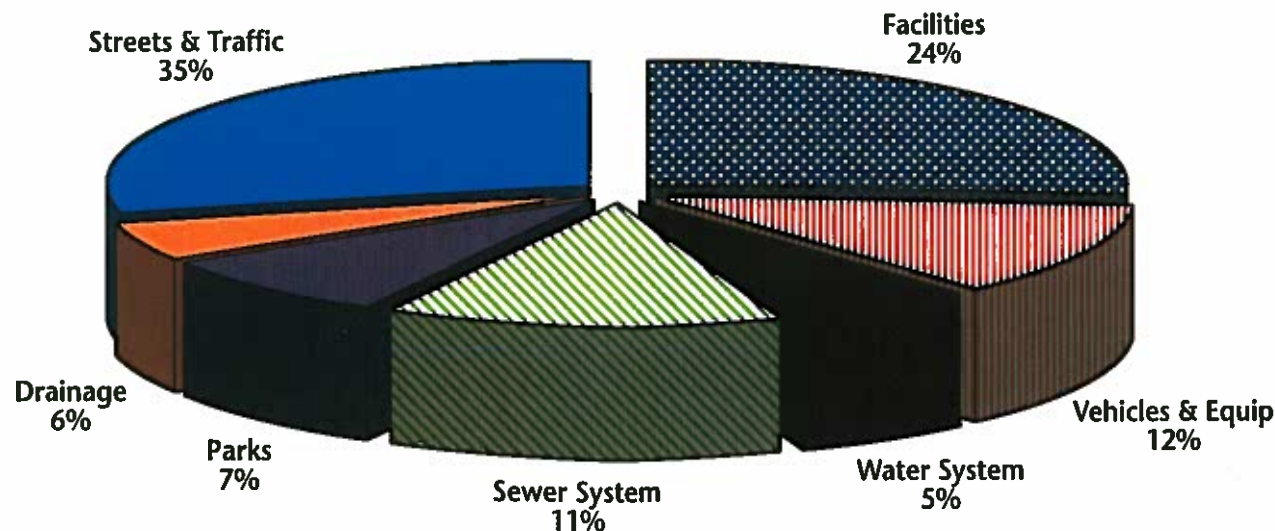
Our Capital Improvement Plan is part of a ten-year budget. We anticipate spending \$175 million on capital in the next ten years. In the year 2000, we will concentrate on facility improvements on a new City Hall and a remodel of Two Rivers Convention Center in addition to major street improvements.

Our sales tax growth, coupled with other general government revenues is expected to exceed our Tabor growth limitations by approximately \$1.1 million in 1999 and slightly more in the year 2000. We anticipate that new construction in 1999 will allow our sales tax growth to reach 8% without exceeding the Tabor revenue limits in 2001 except for a small property tax refund. Refunds reduce the amount of revenue available for capital spending, and make it more difficult to address long-term issues such as storm drainage.

Looking into the future, the long-term plans for capital spending include a joint project with Mesa County for a total redesign of the 29 Road corridor. 29 Road is identified in several traffic studies as the logical additional north/south corridor through the city. This project includes street improvements that will begin next year, a viaduct across the railroad tracks in 2009, reconstruction of F Road to I-70 in 2010, and an I-70 interchange in 2011.

# CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS...

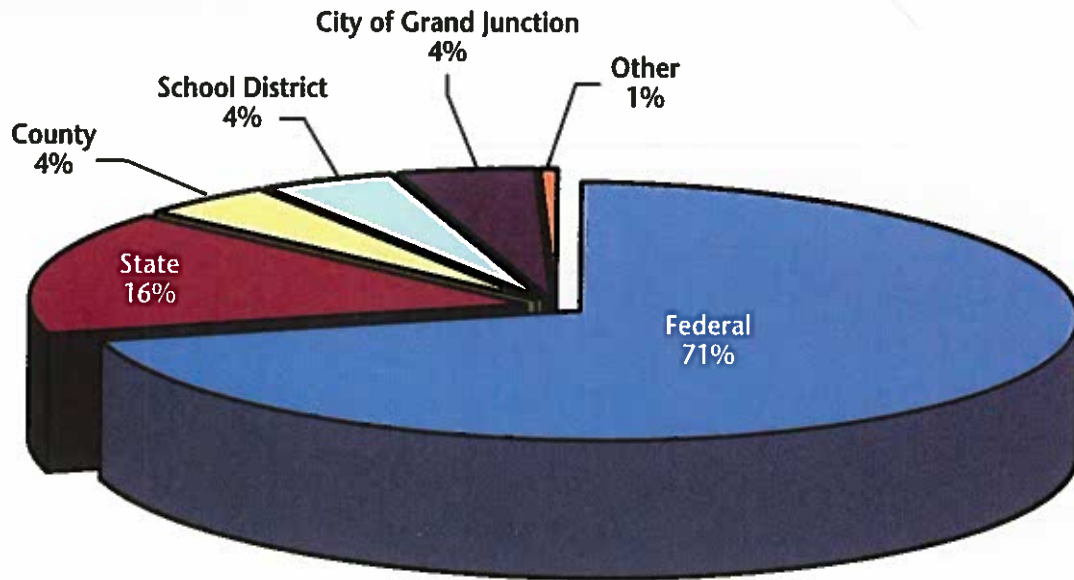
The City of Grand Junction will spend approximately \$21 million in capital improvements in 2000.



## MAJOR IMPROVEMENTS PROPOSED IN 2000 & 2001:

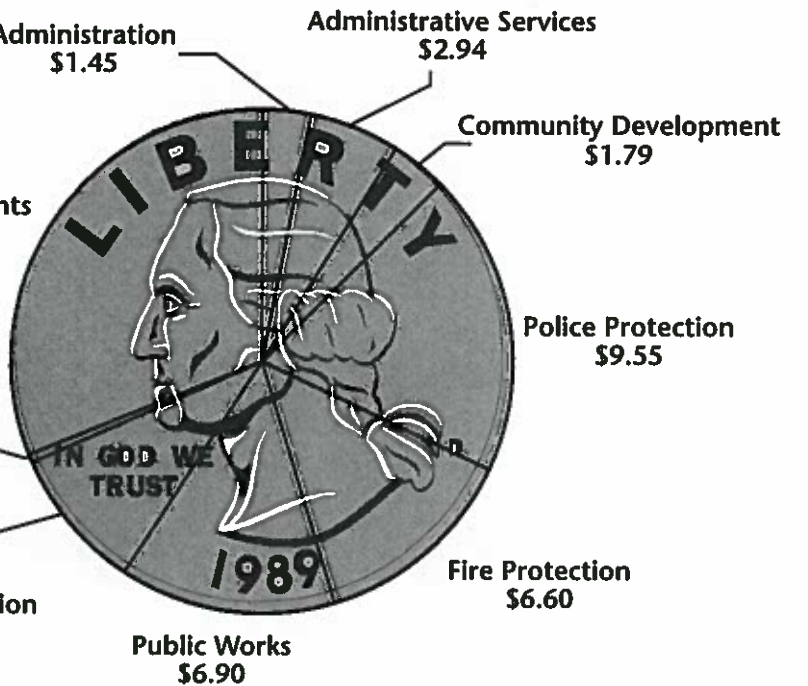
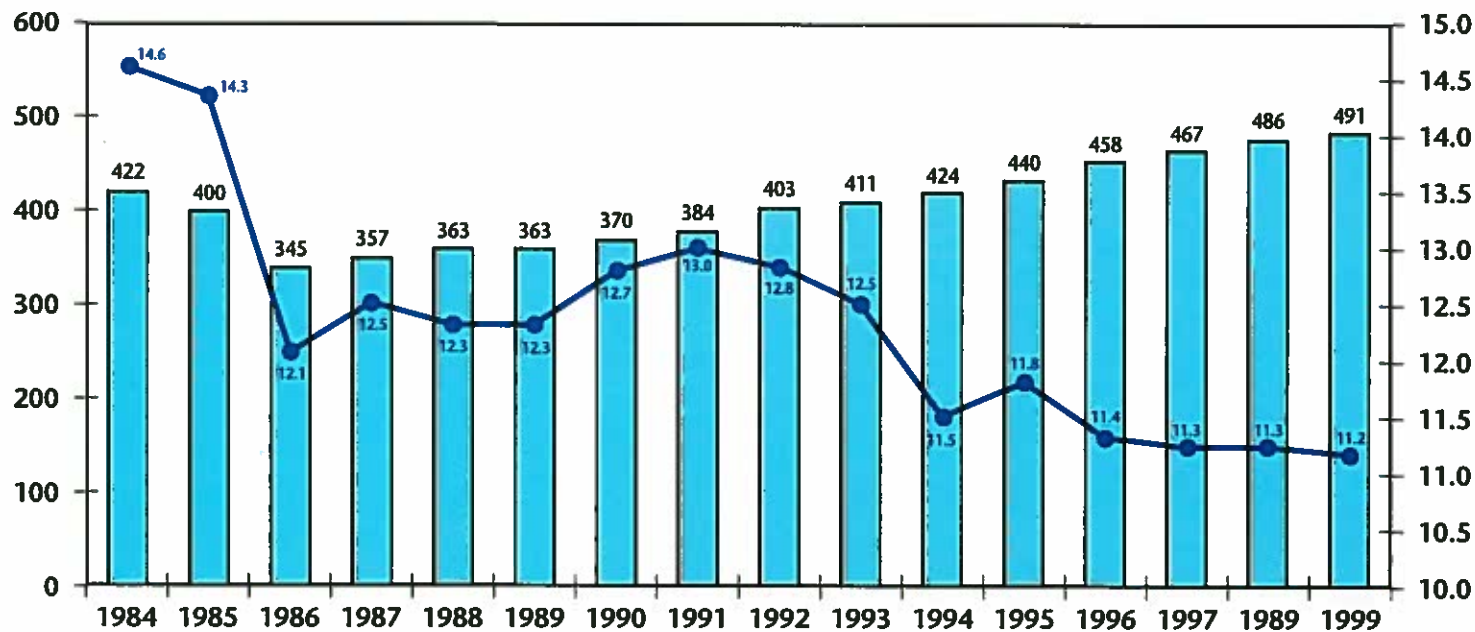
	2000	2001
• City Hall Reconstruction.....	\$4,045,506	
• Contract Street Maintenance.....	1,191,000	\$1,600,000
• 24 Road, F Road to I-70.....	1,050,000	
• Two Rivers Expansion.....	750,000	2,250,000
• Eagle Rim Park.....	857,630	
• 29 Road, I-70B to F Road.....	500,000	500,000
• Horizon Drive, 12th Street to G Road.....	500,000	
• 27.5 Road, F Road to G Road.....	750,000	
• 25 Road, Hwy. 6 & 50 to F Road.....	150,000	1,225,000
• 24 Road Pedestrian and Bicycle Path.....	490,446	

# YOUR TAX DOLLAR ...



Approximately 30% of the average person's wages (or 18 minutes of every hour) are required to pay taxes of one type or another. The City of Grand Junction receives less than *FIVE CENTS* of every \$1 in taxes paid by residents.

# CITY STAFFING ...



The average homeowner will pay \$593 in annual taxes received by the City, or \$49 per month in support of all tax supported general government services provided by the City of Grand Junction.

The current staffing level of approximately 11 full-time employees per 1,000 city residents is at a 15-year low.



Photo by Christopher Tomlinson



## COMMUNICATING WITH CITIZENS

Communicating with citizens is an important role of local government. There are many tools that the City uses to provide information to citizens, and new technologies provide exciting new tools. Some of these include:

**CityDIAL** - An automated Direct Information Access Line that citizens may call 24-hours a day to hear recorded messages on nearly 300 different topics. CityDIAL listings are found in the government listings of your local phone book, or you can pick up a copy at City Hall. Call 244-1500 to find out more.

**City newsletter** - Grand Junction citizens receive a four-page bi-monthly newsletter with news and information about their City and services.

**Televised City Council and Planning Commission meetings** - These meetings are televised live on TCI Cable, Channel 12. The Council meeting is on the first and third Wednesday of each month at 7:30 p.m. Planning Commission meetings are held the second Tuesday of each month at 7:00 p.m. A second meeting is sometimes added on the third Tuesday of the month if needed. The new City Hall presently under construction will include improved facilities and design for televising these meetings.

**Media** - The City maintains good working relationships with all local media, and relies on the media to help distribute information on city events and services of interest and concern to the public. The media plays an important role in helping us communicate with citizens.



Photo by Christopher Tomlinson

### **Website - [www.grand-jefferson.net/city](http://www.grand-jefferson.net/city)**

The City has recently added information to the Visitor and Convention Bureau website. We expect our web presence to grow substantially in the coming years, as more of our citizens gain access to the Internet. We view it as another communications tool to reach citizens, provide information, and streamline local government functions.

**Parks and Recreation brochure** - The Parks and Recreation Department publishes an Activity Guide three times yearly, providing information on recreation classes, special events, and leagues. The City distributes the brochure through the Daily Sentinel to subscribers and by mail to non-subscribers.



Photo by Christopher Topilman

## COURTS

Municipal Court handles traffic violations and matters of general ordinance, violations such as nuisances, sign code violations, animal control, zoning violations, criminal cases, theft, vandalism, and trespass. Court is meeting on Monday mornings at 7:00 a.m. at Two Rivers Convention Center, and on alternate Thursdays for trials. Court will move back to the City Hall location when the new building is completed in the fall of 2000, and the schedule may change.

Teen Court was established in the fall of 1998 to handle offenses committed by teens such as school infractions or theft, assault and vandalism. Teens who agree to have their cases heard in teen court have already pled guilty and are sentenced by a jury of their peers. Teens act as prosecuting attorneys, defense attorneys and jurors. Sentencing can include useful public service hours, counseling, public apology, paying for damage caused, or socialization activities. Follow-up on teen offenders is through the Partners organization, which provides mentoring, probation and parole functions. Teen court meets during the school year on the fourth Thursday of the month at 3:00 p.m. at the Federal courthouse, 402 Rood Avenue.



Photo by Precision Visual Communications



Photo by Colvanti Photo Design

## SENIOR RECREATION CENTER

The Senior Recreation Center at 550 Ouray Avenue (corner of 6th and Ouray) is owned by the City of Grand Junction and operated in cooperation with a volunteer senior organization. The Center is more than just a hot lunch site and gathering place for seniors. It hosts a large variety of activities, from seminars such as the ABC's of Fraud to art shows to holiday events and parties to trips and excursions. Weekly fun at the Center runs the gamut from art and computer classes, to BINGO and Bridge lessons, Pokeno and pool tournaments, to senior dancing and exercise! You never know what new friends you may make and new hobbies you may find to enjoy. Special events are planned each season - who says kids have all the fun?

Photo by Christopher Tamlinson