CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS ...

FRONT ROW: Gene Kinsey, Mayar Cindy Enos-Martinez

BACK ROW: Jack Scott, Janet Terry, Earl Payne, Jim Spehar, Reford C. Theobold



Grand Junction, Colorado

TO THE CITIZENS OF GRAND JUNCTION ...

The year 2000 has proved to be a transition year for the City in many ways. The City welcomed Kelly Arnold as our new City Manager.

The new City Hall building, completed and dedicated in August, will move us into the new millennium with a professional appearance, state-of-the-art technology and room for future expansion. All citizens can be proud of this public building.

It has been five years since the passage of the Growth Plan, and it is time to update that plan in 2001.

Our strength as a city continues to be the involvement of citizens in our community. All of the volunteers, committee members and board members of civic and community organizations have contributed much in time and talent. We all owe them our appreciation and thanks. I encourage you all to get involved in municipal government and to voice your opinion on issues of importance to you.

Sincerely, Gene Kinsey, Mayor

YEAR 2000 HIGHLIGHTS ...

The year 2000 was a time of change in the City of Grand Junction. The City started the new millennium with a new City Hall building and a new City Manager. Mark Achen, Grand Junction's City Manager for the past 16 years, retired in July. City Council hired Kelly Arnold, former City Manager of Laramie, Wyoming, to lead the City into the next century.

Grand Junction was abuzz with construction activity in 2000. The result is a modern City Hall, a neighborhood park on Orchard Mesa overlooking the Colorado River, and improvements to 24 Road, 25 Road, 27 1/2 Road and Horizon Drive.

The new City Hall features easy access to the most frequently used customer service areas of utility payments and planning. The City Auditorium and Hearing Room have state-of-the-art audio-visual equipment so citizens can clearly see materials being presented to the City Council and Planning Commission. Meetings are televised live on AT&T cable, Channel 12, with improved audio and video.

Eagle Rim Park sits on a bluff overlooking the Colorado River and lower downtown Grand Junction. This 9.5-acre neighborhood park was dedicated in June of 2000. Lottery funds from Great Outdoors Colorado contributed to the \$1.1 million cost. One can enjoy the panoramic views of the City, Colorado National Monument and surrounding mesas from two picnic shelters and three river overlooks. Neighborhood kids are enjoying the playground, swings and skate park. Street improvement projects abounded in 2000. Orange cones sprouted on several major corridors around town during the spring and summer. The result is improved drainage, better traffic flow and safer streets in many areas of town.

Regular maintenance of City facilities is an ongoing project. The City annually budgets money for storm drainage improvements, water system improvements, vehicle and equipment replacement, sewer system improvements, and our street overlay and maintenance program. The City budgets money each year for sidewalk improvements, and City Council sets aside over \$300,000 per year to help neighborhoods with the cost of paving alleys.

KELLY ARNOLD, CITY MANAGER

The Grand Junction City Council hired Kelly E. Arnold as the new City Manager in September of 2000. Arnold was chosen after a national search when former City Manager Mark Achen retired on July 7 after 16 years. Arnold received a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration from Colorado State University in 1984 and a Master's of Public Administration from the University of Kansas Edwin O. Stene City Management Program in May, 1986. Arnold was appointed Laramie City Manager in May of 1997, and was their Assistant City Manager from November of 1990 to January of 1997. He had served as the Interim City Manager from January to May, 1987. Kelly and his wife Susie have a one year-old son, Alec.

CITY COUNCIL ALSO...

...Discussed and debated downtown parking issues, including building a parking structure downtown. City Council felt a parking structure was still too expensive, but did budget money to improve and add several more parking lots to help address parking concerns. Off-street parking for City employees was leased near the new City Hall, and a new parking lot for the Two Rivers Convention Center will be added one block south of the building.

Council passed a new Zoning and Development Code in March. The new code was the final step of a five-year process which began with the Growth Plan and ended with new zoning consistent with that plan. In October, the Planning Commission approved a 24 Road Corridor Plan that calls for

BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS ...

mixed-uses and higher architectural standards for this entrance into Grand Junction. The plan was approved by City Council in November of 2000.

The Community Development Block Grant program funneled \$489,000 in federal dollars into City programs to address housing and infrastructure needs for low-to-moderate income residents. These grants were used to fund the Catholic Outreach acquisition of a Homeless Day Center at 302 Pitkin; rehabilitate a 12-unit rental property in the 1800 block of Linden Avenue; build a drainage project for the Riverside area; and for an addition and remodel of the Head Start classroom and Family Center at 134 West Avenue.

The City purchased the Purdy Mesa Livestock Water Company in September of 2000, resolving long-standing health concerns. During the drought of 1977, ranchers asked the City for "stock water," as Kannah Creek was dry. The City allowed taps into its water transmission lines. However, between 1977 and 1987 this same stock water was being piped into homes for drinking water, raising a serious concern about health.

This City acquisition allows the City to remove this health risk. The upgraded Purdy Mesa water treatment system now meets the state and federal standards of the Safe Drinking Water Act. The system has added storage and plant capacity while cutting the water user's rate in Kannah Creek by 50%.

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 November 2000) are:

AIRPORT AUTHORITY

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

The Airport Authority sets policy and oversees the operations of the airport, ensuring compliance with its by-laws, with the State Public Airport Authority law and with FAA regulations. The Board meets at 5:15 p.m. the 3rd Tuesday of each month at Walker Field Airport, with additional committee meetings as needed.

Gary R. Morris Miles McCormack Craig Springer Kenneth Sublett Steve Ammentorp Robert McCormick Gene Kinsey

BUILDING AND FIRE CODE BOARD OF APPEALS

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

This board decides requests for special exceptions to the building code; suggests amendments to the building code for consideration by BOCC; adopts substantive rules and regulations based on the provisions of the building code; and hears appeals about building permits. The Board meets as needed at the County Administration building at 750 Main St.

Norman Kinney Ken Hussman David Reinertsen Ray Rickard Thomas Cronk David Detweiler, 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 Avenue.

Bill Whaley	Pamela Blythe	Bill Reidy
LeRoy Donegan	Priscilla Mangnall	Janet Prell
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 Board of Directors establishes policy and directs 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	P.J. McGovern	E. Chris Launer
Teresa Kareus	Bruce Benge	Bruce Hill
Mark Hermunstad	Becky Brehmer	Cindy Enos Martinez

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.

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

GRAND JUNCTION PLANNING COMMISSION 7-member board 4-year terms Terms expire in October

The Planning Commission hears and decides many planning and zoning-related issues and makes 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 meets at the City Auditorium, 250 N. 5th Street.

John Elmer	Dr. Paul A. Dibble	James W. Nall
Terri Binder	Jerry L. Ainsworth	Nick Prinster
Vicki Boutilier	William E. Putnam	

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.

William C. Jones

Barbara Creasman

Iohn Heideman Walid Bou-Matar

Paul Jones

Ed Chamberlin Philip Born Steve Schulte Pat Gormley David P. Bailey

HOUSING AUTHORITY

7 members 5-year terms Terms expire in October

The Housing Authority provides safe and sanitary dwellings and apartments for persons of low and moderate income. The Housing Authority meets the 4th Monday of each month at 11:00 a.m. at Wells Fargo Bank, 2808 North Avenue.

Marius "Gabe" DeGabriele	Kathleen Belgard	Gi Hamrick
Erin Ginter	Jack Scott	Steve Heinaman
Corey Hunt	p.	

PARKS & RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD

7-member board 3-year staggered terms Terms expire in June

The Board assists in the planning of recreation activities, and 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 City Auditorium, 250 N. 5th Street.

Bob Cron	Bernie Gross	Tilman Bishop
Jamie Hamilton R.T. Mantlo	Lena Elliot	Nora Hughes

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 Colorado riverfront within the Grand Valley. 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
Lenna Watson	Jim Majors
Marius "Gabe" DeGabriele	Dustin Dunbar
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 use 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. at the Reed Building, 350 Main Street.

Birgit Bostelman	Jamie Lummis	Dr. John Halvorson
Robert Traylor	Judy Craddock	Clark Rieves
Ken Scissors	Timothy Fry	William Findlay
Diana Cort	Janet Hollingsworth	a noncontrator and the second s

Clark Rieves William Findlay

VISITOR & 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 resulting in a positive economic impact of visitor dollars to the City. 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 various locations throughout the community.

Chris Blackburn	Linda Smith	Brad Higginbotham
Robin Kleinschnitz	Daniel S. Sharp	Bill Micars
Wade Haerle	Alan Friedman	Peggy Page

ZONING AND DEVELOPMENT CODE BOARD OF APPEALS 5-member board 3-year terms

Terms expire in October

John Elmer

Mark Williams

J. Creighton Brick

The Board of Appeals hears and decides appeals of administrative decisions, appeals for variances of the bulk requirements and nonconforming 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 noon at the City Auditorium, 250 N. 5th Street.

	Mark Gamble (Sign Code only)
	Dr. Bruce Baurle (Sign Code only)
er	2 vacancies

lographer: Ortstopher Tomlinson

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WHAT'S AHEAD FOR 2001 ...

Two Rivers Convention Center

The City will renovate Two Rivers Convention Center in 2001, upgrading and enlarging the kitchen facility, meeting rooms and performing a major "facelift" on the building. The parking area will be improved and a new parking lot will be added one block south to accommodate the expanded facility.

Photo courtery of Powderhorn Reso Photographics: Christopher Tomlinsi



WHAT'S AHEAD FOR 2001

Storm Drainage

The Public Works department is looking at long-term solutions to some of the drainage issues in the City. In our semi-arid climate, the rains and moisture we receive tend to come infrequently in large, moisture-laden storms. As more land develops and tields give way to subdivisions and streets, that water has fewer places to drain. As the City rebuilds and improves streets, we improve the storm drainage capabilities underneath the streets, but there is much left to do to solve the area's drainage problems.

The City will spend nearly \$2 million per year for the next 15 years addressing storm drainage problems in the City. Several detention basins will be built to detain water from the Ranchman's Ditch, Leach Creek, Buthorn Drainage and Appleton Basin. Storm drainage projects for 2001 include Independent Avenue, Bunting Avenue, South Camp Road and the Riverside area.

Street Reconstruction Projects

The major street reconstruction projects for 2001 include the continued work on 25 Road from Highway 6 & 50 to Patterson Road and work on 29 Road from 1-70B to Bunting Avenue. Utility and storm drainage work started on 25 Road during 2000. This year, the City will reconstruct the road, lowering it to correct drainage problems, and will work at night on some of the construction to lessen the impact on businesses.

Mesa County and the City are jointly completing the 29 Road project with the help of federal funding. Several studies have recommended the 29 Road corridor as a major north-south link between Highway 50 and I-70. This three-year project will start in the spring of 2001 with intersection improvements at 29 Road and North Avenue. 29 Road will be widened at North Avenue to six lanes, including double left-turn lanes and four through-lanes. Phases two and three will extend the street improvements from North Avenue to Patterson Road with a three-lane street section and paved shoulders.

Independent Avenue from 25 1/2 Road to First Street will be reconstructed to a three-lane collector street. A new storm drain system will be added along with a center turn lane, curb, gutter, sidewalks and bicycle lanes. Utility work will begin in 2001, and street construction will start in April of 2002.





Photo by Douglas Norcrass

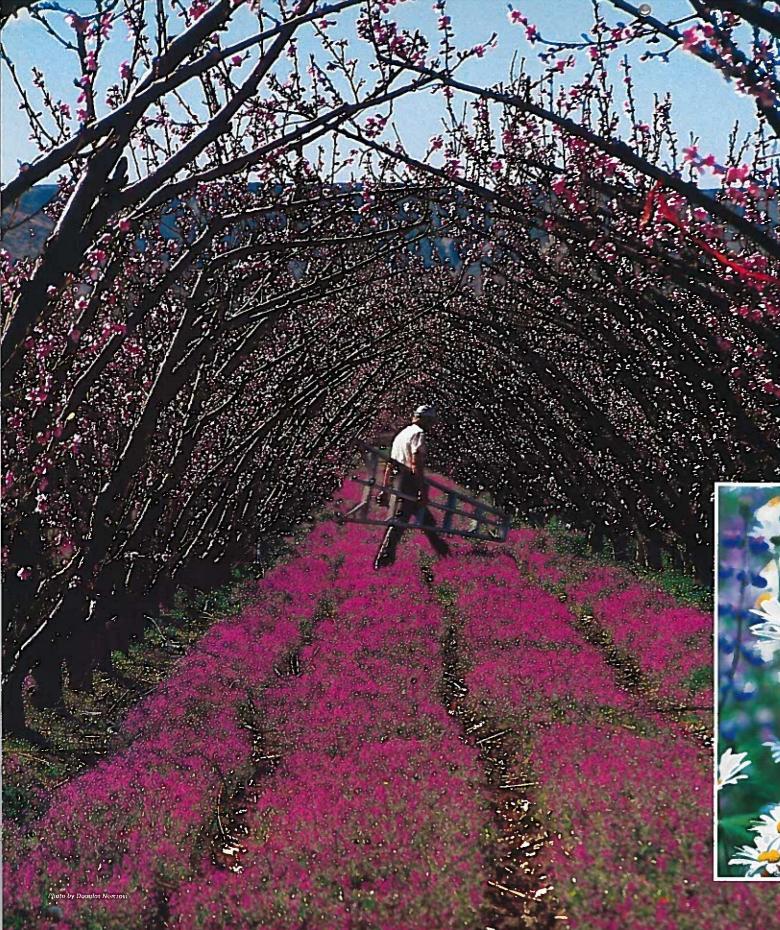
The newest jewel in the City's park system is Eagle Rim Park, perched on a southern bluff of the Colorado River just north of Orchard Mesa Middle School. This 9.5-acre neighborhood park draws kids to the skateboard area and playground. The park is the starting point for a scenic walk over the Old Mill pedestrian bridge crossing the river and a stroll along the Riverfront Trail.

PARKS

Eagle Rim Park features a seven-foot bronze statue of a pioneer woman striding into the Grand Valley. This spot is not far from the historical crossing of "The Grand" (the original name for the Colorado River) on the north branch of the Old Spanish Trail. The Mount Garfield Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution has placed this statue to commemorate the brave women who helped settle Mesa County.

Photo by Colorada Photo Design

Photo by Charles Const.

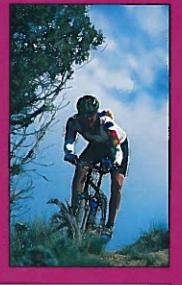


GRAND JUNCTION VISITOR & CONVENTION BUREAU

The Grand Junction Visitor & Convention Bureau (VCB) is a department of the City, whose purpose is to pro-actively market the Grand Junction area, resulting in the positive economic impact of visitor dollars. This marketing responsibility is critical in maintaining the area's largest industry, tourism, which provides 7,476 jobs, \$117 million in wages and salaries and \$351.4 million in spending each year.

VISITOR CENTER

The VCB operates the Visitor Center, located at 740 Horizon Drive, which welcomes thousands of guests each year. Out-of-towners and locals alike stop in to pick up information on lodging, restaurants, tours and area attractions. Staffed with friendly and informative volunteers, the Visitor Center answers questions, provides brochures and maps and makes recommendations to suit the visitor's needs. The Visitor Center is open seven days a week yearround from 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. and until 8:00 p.m. from Memorial weekend through Labor Day.



a by Colorado Photo Desigr



SPRING CLEAN UP PROGRAM

It's spring! Time to remove clutter and clean up your yard and house. If spring has you in a cleaning frenzy, you can get rid of your old "stuff" during the City's annual Spring Clean- Up. One of our most popular and longest-running programs, Spring Clean-Up results in a cleaner, betterlooking community.

This program is available to City residents only (no businesses). Each household is limited to eight discarded tires. Additional tires will be picked up for \$2.50 each. If a residence has over 10 cubic yards of debris, there will be a charge of \$75 for each truck load hauled over the limit. Arrangements for excess trash and tires must be made before the program starts by calling 244-1575.

Items need to be set out next to your regular trash pick-up spot. If you have frontal pick up, items must be placed in the gutter. Do not place items on grass or landscaped areas, buildings or fences as the machinery may cause damage. Keep all debris separate from your household trash containers so it will not interrupt your regular trash pick-up.

If the landfill will not accept an item, it will not be picked up. We will not pick up sealed containers, vessels containing a liquid, batteries, fuel tanks of any kind, gas or air cylinders, refrigerated appliances, refrigerated air conditioners, or tree limbs longer than 10 feet.



For more information, call the Street Maintenance Division at 244-1575 or the Information Line at 242-4636.



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Photo by Christopher 1



COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT...

The Community Development Department's primary focus is land use planning. In addition, the department administers code enforcement, weed abatement, annexation, historic preservation, demographics and the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program.

PLANNING

In April of 2000, the City Council adopted a new Zoning and Development Code. The code was the result of a two-year public process that involved many meetings with property owners and several public hearings. The code will be used to implement the recommendations in the Growth Plan that were adopted in 1996.

Tools such as the Zoning and Development Code and the citywide Growth Plan are used to guide decision making and recommendations on current and long-range development.

The Growth Plan reflects community values, ideas and desires. It will be used as a tool to manage growth and change in order to achieve the community's desired quality of life. Unlike specific area/neighborhood plans, the Growth Plan encompasses broad policy recommendations for a variety of elements such as land use compatibility, balancing urban development and open space, assuring adequate public facilities, improving coordination between service providers and enhancing the visual appeal of major corridors in the community.



In 2000, the Community Development Department met with Orchard Mesa residents and updated the Orchard Mesa Neighborhood Plan, which was then adopted by the Planning Commission and City Council. Several specific area/neighborhood plans will be completed in the next year, including Riverside, El Poso, and the South Downtown plan.

hoto by Calorada Photo Delign

NEW CITY HALL RISES . . .

CITY HALL







After a 15-month relocation while the old City Hall was torn down, City Hall has now been rebuilt and reopened in a beautiful, modern and efficient building at the corner of 5th Street and Rood Avenue. The 48,000 square foot brick structure has impressed citizens and visitors with its bright, spacious interior. The use of tile, oak, glass and stainless steel gives a stately, substantial look and feel to the building. A sandstone fountain graces the front entrance. Sculpture and artwork decorate the hallways. Future expansion to a third floor ensures that City offices will remain in this downtown location an estimated 50-plus years.

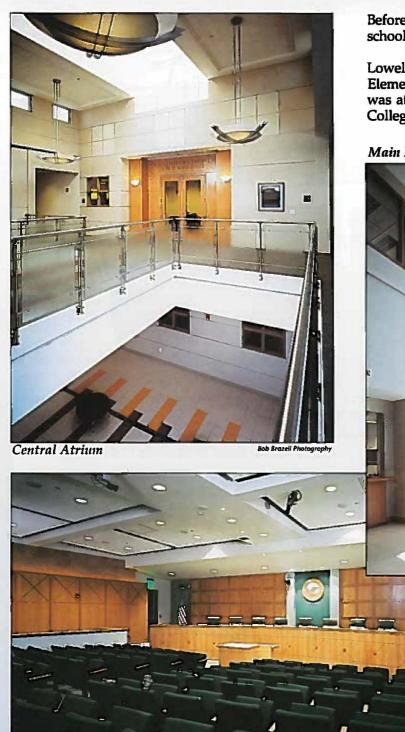


ota by Colorada Phota Design

On Saturday, August 26, 2000, the City Council hosted a grand opening celebration for citizens with a formal dedication ceremony and open house. Balloons, food, tours of the building and activities for children drew several thousand people to the opening. City Council honored past Council members for their contributions to the City, and a new time capsule joined two others buried on the site, all to be opened in 2032.

HALL

Photo by Douglas Narcross



Before our new City Hall was constructed at the corner of 5th Street and Rood Avenue, the earth beneath the bricks and copper supported schools, libraries and other civic buildings in years past.

Lowell Elementary school, built in 1884, may have been the first house of learning to be built on that corner. For decades the Lowell Elementary building had the honor of helping children learn, and in 1925, a new educational entity took up residence in the building, which was at the time 40 years old. Mesa Junior College stood proud on that corner for 23 years. In 1948, the building, home of the Mesa Junior College Mavericks and former elementary school, was finally condemned.

Main Entrance



Two years later in 1950, the City decided to purchase the hapless building and embarked on a drastic remodel. The entire top floor had to be removed, and what was left became the City Hall.

Next to Mesa Junior College on the corner of 5th Street and White Avenue, a City Library was constructed in 1939. That building, standing next to the remodeled Lowell Elementary building (City Hall), seemed to be an ideal expansion site, and in 1973, the City purchased and joined it to make an expanded City Hall.

Times changed, and in 1987 the building changed as well with the addition of an elevator for handicap accessibility.

In 1996, the City decided a structural engineering study of the City Hall building was necessary. The study revealed some troubling problems: the 112 year-old foundation under parts of the Lowell Elementary section of the building was a crumbling mess of sandstone. The load-bearing walls were held together with weak mortar. The part of the building that had once held the library was flood-prone, due to high groundwater.

However, the buildings which had served Grand Junction for so many years had even more problems aboveground. An aging heating and cooling system made for an uncomfortable work environment and with the dawning of the technology era, the old City Hall was simply inadequate. There was not enough space for the modern computers and communications equipment, and City employees had to endure a leaking roof and cracks in the walls.

The City Council considered another remodel, but that idea proved to be expensive and inefficient. In 1998, Council voted to start with a clean slate, demolishing the ancient building and creating a new City Hall on the same site.

In April of 1999, City employees cleaned files, closets and drawers in anticipation of a move to a temporary location while construction took place. In one closet, tucked beneath a stairwell, dusty, leather-bound ledgers from the late 1800s were discovered. They, and many other items of historical significance, were subsequently donated to the Museum of Western Colorado.

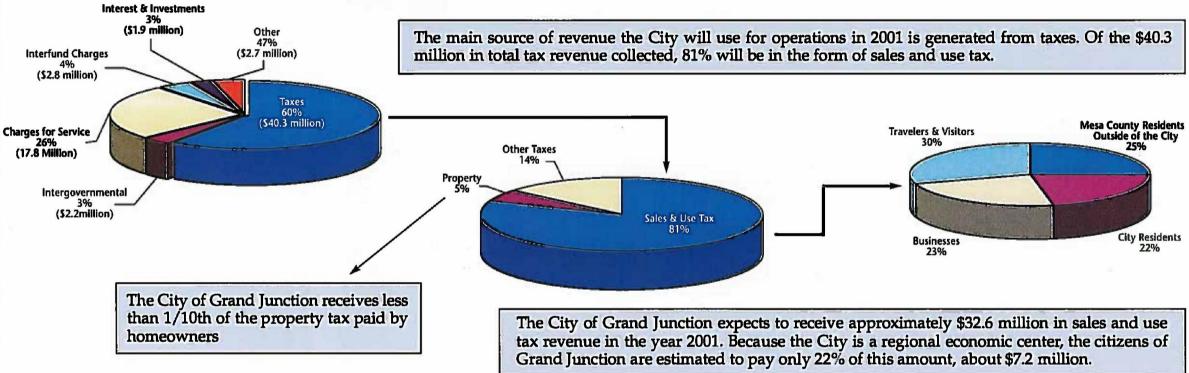
The designers and planners of the new City Hall recognized the importance of keeping the feeling of the old buildings alive. A stone mural originally placed in the 1939 City Library building can be found in the new building today, inside the main entrance lobby. At the new City Hall dedication ceremony, former City Council members were given a piece of Grand Junction's history. Bricks from the old building had been carefully removed and saved to be presented to the people who had helped to shape Grand Junction's future.

Auditorium

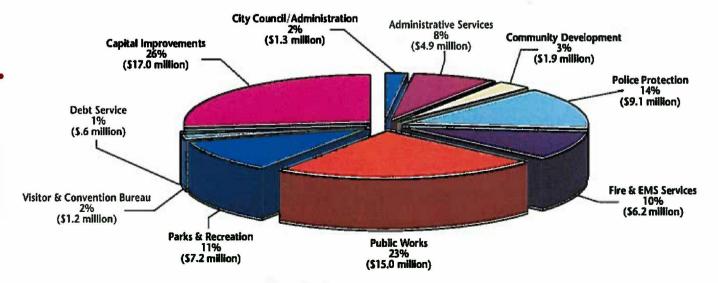
Bob Brazelt Photography

250 N. 5TH STREET • GRAND JUNCTION, COLORADO

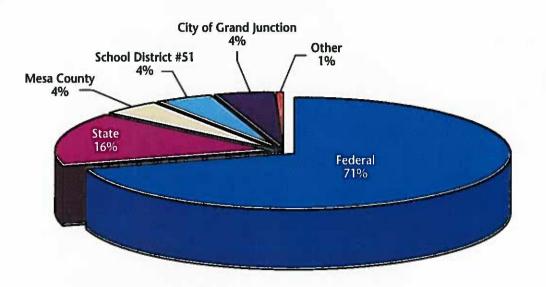




Capital improvements of streets, parks and other infrastructure continue to be the major category of expenditure, accounting for 26% of the total budget for 2001.

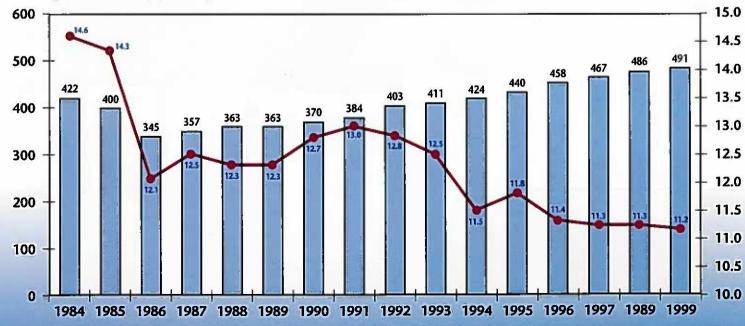


Your Jax Dollar ...

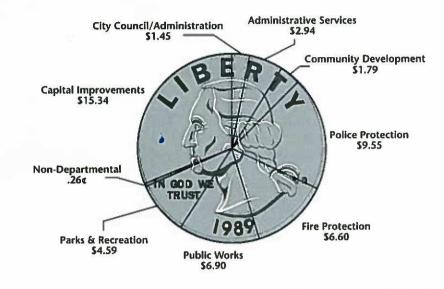


Approximately 30% of the average person's wages (or 18 minutes of every hour) are required to pay taxes of one type or another. The City of Grand Junction receives less than FIVE CENTS of every \$1 in taxes paid by residents.

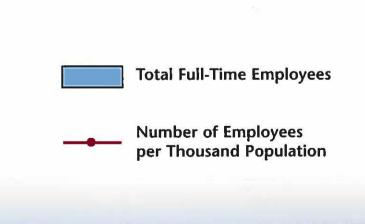
City Staffing ...



Monthly Cost Of Services ...



The average homeowner will pay \$593 in annual taxes received by the City, or \$50 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 17-year low.



CODE ENFORCEMENT

C

The Code Enforcement Division is responsible for addressing complaints about and violations of the Zoning and Development Code. Typical violations cover junk, animals, trash, sight distances at intersection corners, construction without a permit and illegal home occupations. The Division administers the City's weed control ordinance and woodburning stove regulations.

HISTORIC PRESERVATION

The Grand Junction Historic Preservation Ordinance was passed in 1994 to preserve and protect historic structures, sites and districts. The Historic Preservation Board promotes historic preservation and recommends designation of historic resources to City Council.

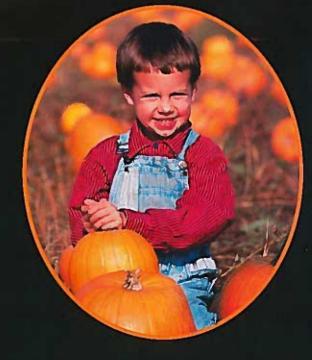
Some of the sites already designated for historic status includes the Seventh Street National Historic District, the Railroad Depot, the Avalon Theater, the St. Regis Hotel and the First United Methodist Church.

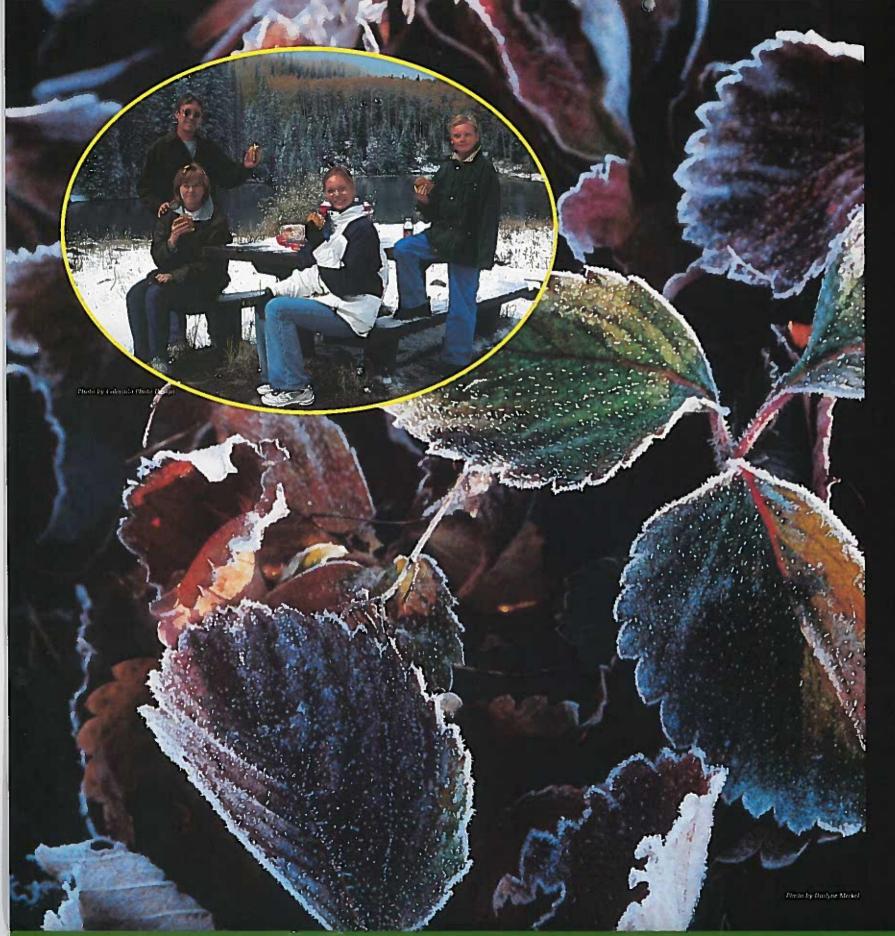


Clubb by Davlyne Merkel

FALL LEAF PICK-UP

It is time to rake your leaves! One of our most popular services for City residents is our Leaf Pick-Up Program. Each year the City picks up leaves and recycles them. Residents are asked to rake their leaves into the street. Three mechanical units and open truck crews will repeatedly canvass the City during the season removing fallen leaves from gutters and residential frontages (no alley removal). You may also bag the leaves and put them on the curb for pick up. The leaves will be brought to the new composting site at the Mesa County Landfill where they will eventually be turned into commercial compost.





POLICE SERVICES

The Police lost a tremendous asset to their department in 2000 with the early retirement and subsequent death of Chief Gary Konzak. Hired as the new chief in 1998, Konzak served for slightly over a year before open-heart surgery forced him from his position. His death has saddened all who knew and worked with him. Acting Chief Martyn Currie has been tilling that position since December of 1999. One of the first priorities of new City Manager Kelly Arnold is the hiring of a new police chief, and a national search is already underway.

The Police Department was created in 1909 when the town of Grand-Junction became a charter city. The mission statement for the Grand-Junction Police Department is:

- Maintaining quality of life
- The abatement of criminal activity
- The delivery of timely, courteous, quality service, and
- Embracing the community in problem solving.

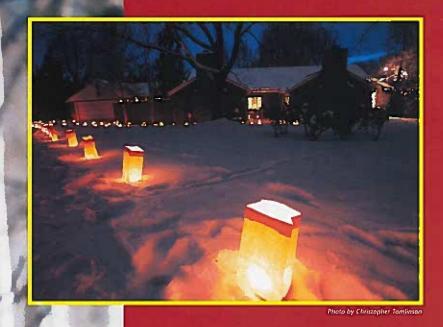
In 1999, the Police Department had 78 sworn officers and 56 support staff. Within the Operations Division of the Police Department are the Grand Junction Regional Communications Center, the downtown area of Beat 6, Crime Prevention, K9, School Resource, SWAT and the Traffic Unit.

The Police Department added the Beat 6 unit in 1998. This unit consists of six officers who patrol the downtown area exclusively on their bikes from June through August, returning to their original assignments at the end of the summer. The high visibility of the Beat Six officers' presence and increased late night surveillance has had a dramatic effect, decreasing crime and negative activity in the downtown area.



Photo by Clarise Taylor

The Regional Communications Center handles police, fire and EMS calls for all of Mesa County using the latest computer-aided dispatching and radio equipment. A 30-person staff works around the clock to provide services. In 1999, 83,374 calls for service were dispatched.



ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

The Administrative Services department provides an array of services to the City and its customers. These include our customer service area where businesses may come to pay sales tax and residents pay City utility bills, parking tickets and municipal court fines.

The City Clerk's office prepares City Council agendas, runs City elections, maintains the City's public records, processes liquor licenses, schedules auditorium use and responds to requests for information.

The department also includes Budget and Accounting, Human Resources, Risk Management, Information Systems, Purchasing, Stores and the City Print Shop.

