

Grand Junction, Colorado



Photo by Davis Photography

City Council members Bill McCurry, Reford Theobald, Harry Butler, Mayor Cindy Enos-Martinez, Janet Terry, Dennis Kirtland, and Jim Spehar.

A LETTER FROM THE MAYOR...

The year 2001 will perhaps always be remembered as a quiet, innocent time before the tragic events of September 11. While City government continues to provide the necessary services of street maintenance, water, sewer, police and fire protection, those essential services suddenly take on new meaning in a very changed world. Our first priority as a City will continue to be providing these essential services and for the safety of our residents.

This year we welcomed three new members to City Council with the addition of Harry Butler, Dennis Kirtland and Bill McCurry. We also added a new Police Chief, Greg Morrison, and a new Community Development Director, Bob Blanchard.

This year saw the completion of some long-term projects such as the 25 Road renovation, and the start of other significant projects such as the Two Rivers Convention Center renovation. We will continue to work together as a City Council to plan a better future for our community.

Sincerely,
Cindy Enos-Martinez, Mayor

YEAR 2001 HIGHLIGHTS ...

In April, City voters elected three new City Council members, and re-elected incumbent Cindy Enos-Martinez. Harry Butler, Bill McCurry and Dennis Kirtland joined Janet Terry, Reford Theobald and Jim Spehar on Council. City Council then appointed Cindy Enos-Martinez as their new Mayor.

In addition, in April voters rejected a ballot issue to eliminate the Tabor revenue restrictions. City taxpayers voted to have revenues above the Tabor limits refunded rather than use them for specific projects. For the second time in several years, voters also rejected a plan to sell part of Lilac Park, which remains as a greenbelt into the City.

A shared vision for the Grand Valley's future was born out of Valley Vision 20/20, a broad-based effort to produce a common unified vision of what the Grand Valley community can become. The Chamber of Commerce, City, County, Fruita, Palisade, School District and Mesa College sponsored this visioning project.

No discussion of the year 2001 would be complete without touching on the issues raised by the American Civil Liberties Union regarding the Ten Commandments monument on City property. In April, the ACLU sued the City on behalf of several local residents, asking that the monument be removed. In 1958, the Fraternal Order of Eagles donated the monument to the City and it has been on City property since that time.

The City then designed and built the Cornerstones of Law and Liberty, placing the Ten Commandments among these monuments.

This plaza, dedicated in October, places the Ten Commandments in an historical context as one of the bases of our current system of laws, along with the Magna Carta, the Mayflower Compact, the Declaration of Independence, the Preamble to the U.S. Constitution and the Bill of Rights. The case will be argued in District Court in 2002.

Monsoon rains in July highlighted a long-standing need for infrastructure improvements to the combined storm and sanitary sewer system in several older neighborhoods in Grand Junction. Flooding and sewer back-ups in several residences prompted a City Council discussion on ways to move forward more quickly on separating those combined sewers.

At press time, the City was considering a plan to finance these improvements with low interest bonds available through the Colorado Water Resources and Power Development Authority. Transportation issues continued to be a main topic of discussion for many City residents, City planners, public works staff and City Council. The City continues to grow at a steady two percent each year, with housing starts and commercial development leading the way. This development brings more trucks and cars onto our roadway system.



Photo by Grand Junction Parks & Recreation

Several major transportation studies were underway in 2001 to plan for this growth. The Colorado River Transportation Corridor Study looks at ways to move traffic from the Mesa Mall area to Orchard Mesa. This study is looking at a corridor that would bypass the First and Grand intersection using a new route along the railroad tracks near the Riverside neighborhood. The Highway 340 Transportation study identifies needed safety improvements along that busy corridor.

25 Road from Highway 6 & 50 to Patterson was completely rebuilt and reopened in August. This two-year project added storm drains, a middle turn lane, and curb, gutter and sidewalk. 25 Road improvements came just in time for the approval of the Grand Mesa Center, a 28-acre, \$25 million shopping center with access from both Highway 6 & 50 and 25 Road. This shopping center will add 200,000 feet of commercial retail space, and will include several restaurant sites.

In June 2001, work began on a ten-year project to improve the 29 Road corridor. At completion, 29 Road will eventually stretch from Orchard Mesa, over the Colorado River and north to Interstate 70. The city will widen 29 Road between North Avenue and the I-70 Business Loop to five lanes. In 2002 and 2003, Mesa County will build 29 Road from U.S. Highway 50 to Unaweep Avenue, and will build a bridge over the Colorado River by 2006. In 2009, a bridge over the railroad tracks will be completed.

BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS ...

Grand Junction citizens give hundreds of hours of community service each year by serving on City boards and commissions. They give generously of their time and talents to make Grand Junction a great city. To apply for position openings, contact the City Clerk at 244-1511. Current boards and their members (as of October 2001) 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 third Tuesday of each month at Walker Field Airport with additional committee meetings as needed.

Miles McCormack	Craig Springer	Steve Anmentorp
Robert McCormick	Kenneth Sublett	Karen Berryman
Dennis Kirtland		

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 Street.

Ken Hussman	Norman Kinney	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	LeRoy Donegan
Priscilla Mangnall	Janet Prell	Peter Ivanov
Seth Brown	Joan Meyers	Doug Clary

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 Thursday of each month at 7:30 a.m. at the Reed Building, 350 Main St.

Doug Simons	P.J. McGovern	E. Chris Launer
Bruce Bengt	Bruce Hill	Becky Brehmer
Gregg Palmer	Ed Chamberlin	Janet Terry

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 Friday of each month at 8:00 a.m. at the Parks shops at 1400 Gunnison Ave.

Terry Hamm	Mitch Elliott	Vince Urbina
Stephen Gerow	1 Vacancy	

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 and 3rd 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	Terri Binder
William E. Putnam	John Evans	Richard Blosser
1 Vacancy	(1st Alternate)	(2nd Alternate)

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 Tuesday of the month at 4:00 p.m. at the Reed Building, 350 Main St.

Philip Born	William C. Jones	Pat Gormley
Barbara Creasman	David P. Bailey	Dennis Pretti
Louise Wagner		

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 11:30 a.m. at 1011 N. 10th Street.

Marius "Gabe" DeGabriele	Kathleen Belgard
Gi Hamrick	Erin Ginter
Corey Hunt	Harry Butler
	Steve Heinaman

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 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 at the Parks Administration Building, 1340 Gunnison Avenue.

Bob Cron	Bertie Gross	Tilman Bishop
Lena Elliot	Nora Hughes	R.T. Mantlo
Dennis Derrieux		

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	John Heideman
Lenna Watson	Jim Majors	Walid Bou-Matar
Marius "Gabe" DeGabriele		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 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	

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.

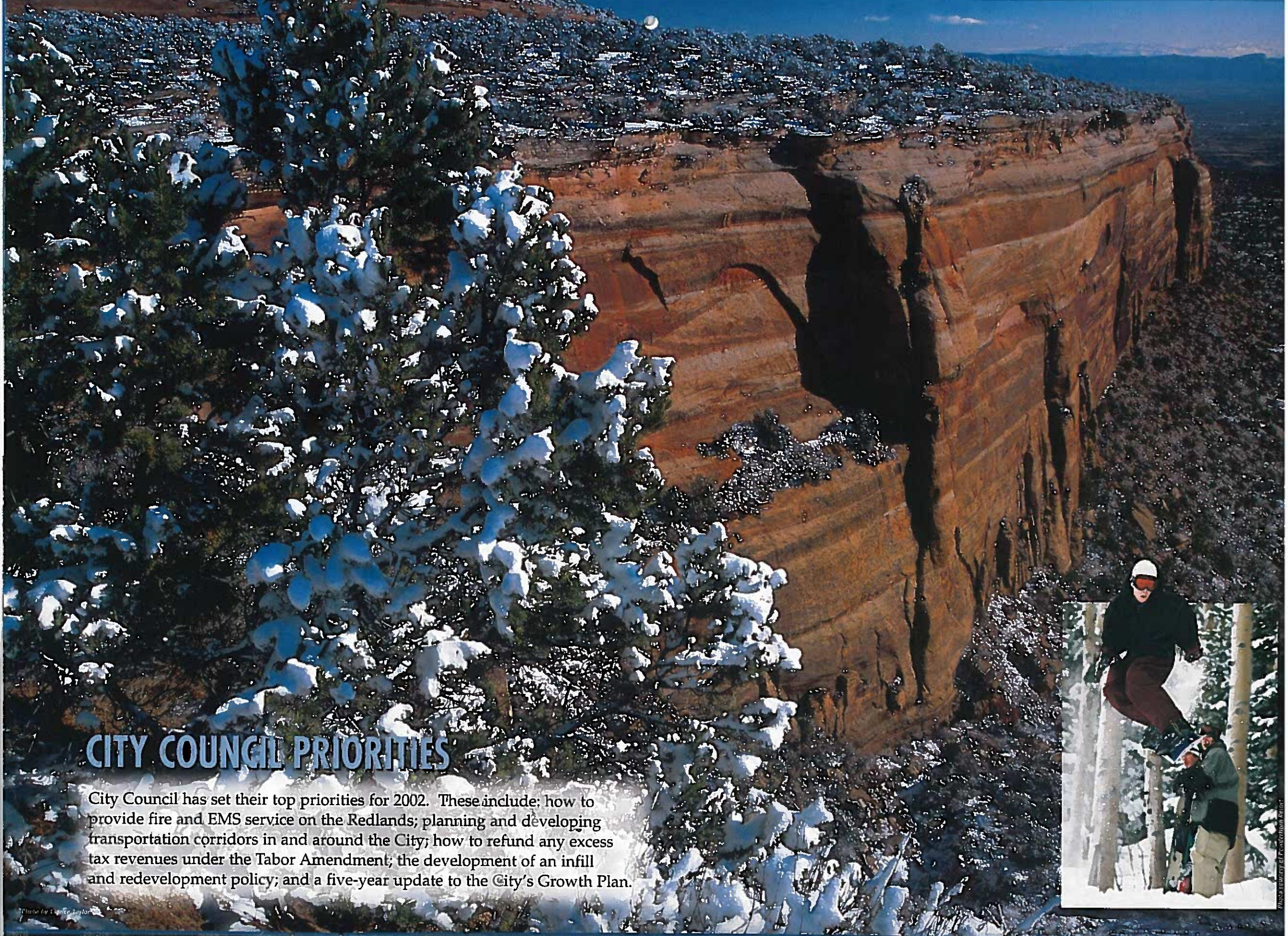
Chris Blackburn	Linda Smith	Bill Mears
Wade Haerle	Alan Friedman	Peggy Page
Jane Fine Foster	Kevin Reimer	Larry McDonald

ZONING AND DEVELOPMENT CODE BOARD OF APPEALS

5 member board
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 noon at the Municipal Hearing Room, 250 N. 5th Street.

John Elmer	Mark Williams	Clay Tuffy
John Evans	Richard Blosser	
(1st Alternate)	(2nd Alternate)	



CITY COUNCIL PRIORITIES

City Council has set their top priorities for 2002. These include; how to provide fire and EMS service on the Redlands; planning and developing transportation corridors in and around the City; how to refund any excess tax revenues under the Tabor Amendment; the development of an infill and redevelopment policy; and a five-year update to the City's Growth Plan.





WHAT'S AHEAD FOR 2002...

Storm Drainage

Why does the City have combined storm and sanitary sewers? In many older parts of the City, the same pipes that carry sewage to the Persigo Wastewater Treatment Plant also fill with storm water during a heavy rainstorm. When these systems were installed, it was standard practice for cities to have combined sewers. As the City grows, more streets, pavement and parking lots mean there are fewer open fields to allow rain to soak into the ground during a storm. The storm water overwhelms the system, and sewage back ups can occur. As the City rebuilds roads such as First Street, 12th Street and 25 Road, we install separate storm drains to handle this water. There is still a backlog of combined sewers in older parts of the City. The City Council recently agreed to speed up the replacement of these sewers, including borrowing money at low interest rates.

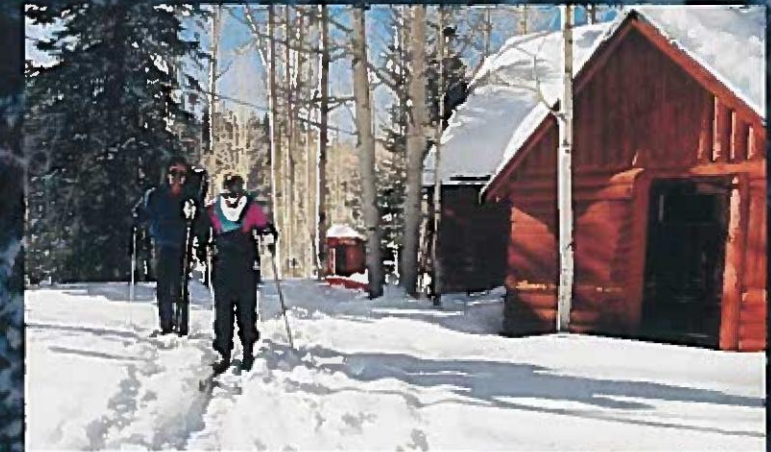
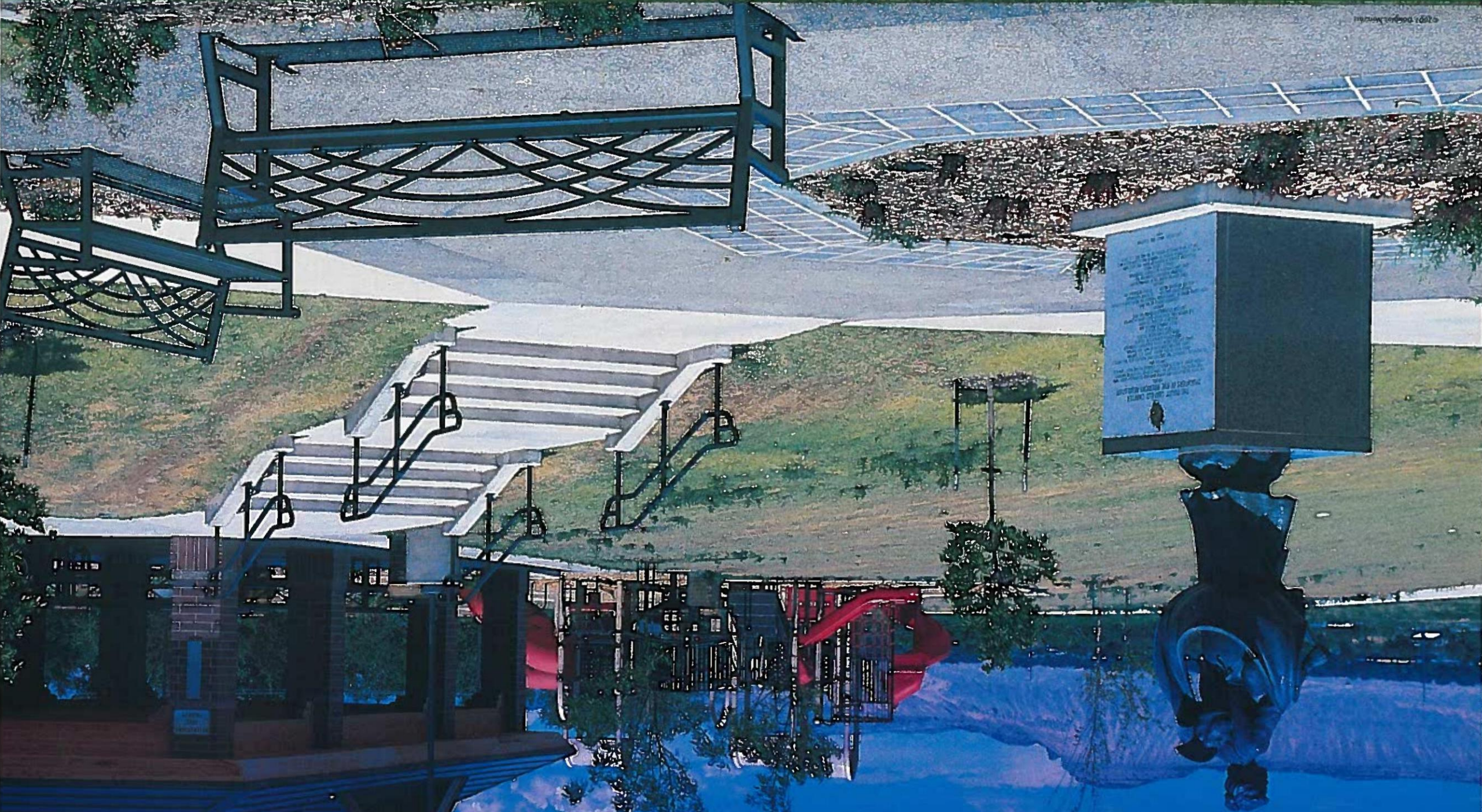


Photo by Christy R. Zamboni

PARKS

The newest addition to the Parks system is Eagle Rim Park, shown here. The park is located on the southern bluff over-Bookcliffs, Colorado National Monument and the Grand Mesa. It features a skate park, playgrounds, and picnic shelters.

Improvements to Canyon View Park continue, as new rest-rooms and bleachers were added to the baseball fields at the park in 2001. In 2002, Canyon View will be completed with the addition of three new tennis courts, Suplizio Field in Lincoln Park received a facelift this year with a new brick entryway and new outfield completed in time for the Junior College World Series of Baseball.





GRAND JUNCTION VISITOR & CONVENTION BUREAU

The Visitor and Convention Bureau markets Grand Junction to the outside world, bringing valuable tourism revenue to the City. In the Grand Valley, tourism is the largest basic industry; a basic industry is one that brings new dollars into a region.

The VCB operates a Visitor Center on Horizon Drive that is filled with brochures, maps and information on local attractions, lodging and restaurants. The Visitor Center is staffed daily by knowledgeable and friendly volunteers who know the local community.

The VCB also markets to groups and associations that plan annual meetings. If you belong to an organization that holds an annual meeting, contact the VCB and they will work with your group to bring that meeting to our community.



Photo by Claire Taylor



Photo by Fred Johnson

SPRING CLEAN UP

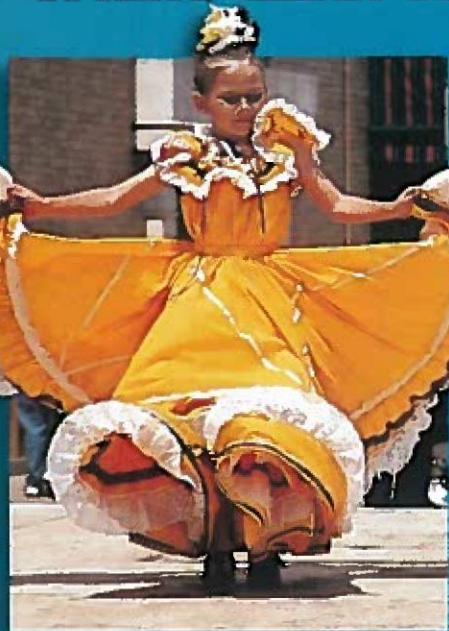


Photo by Darlyne Meckel

Each spring, City residents are urged to clean up their yards, basements and garages. The City helps homeowners dispose of all the excess yard waste and trash with their annual Spring Clean Up. Residents can leave their trash at the curbside during the designated week, and City crews take it to the landfill.

This program is available to City residents only (no businesses). The program will change slightly this year. We have eliminated alley pick-ups. All items will need to be placed in the gutter in front of your house. Do not place items on grass or landscaped areas, or close to buildings or fences, as the

machinery used to pick it up could cause damage. Keep all debris separate from your household trash containers so it will not interrupt your regular trash pick-up.

Each household is limited to eight discarded passenger car tires. We will not pick up truck tires this year. If a residence has over 10 cubic yards of debris, there will be a charge of \$75 for each truckload hauled over the limit. Arrangements for excess trash and tires must be made before the program starts by calling 244-1575.



Photo by Darlyne Meckel

Household hazardous waste will not be picked up during the Spring Clean Up program. 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.

CINCO DE MAYO FESTIVAL



Photo by Darlyne Meckel

For more information on spring clean up, contact the Street Maintenance Division at 244-1575 or the Information Line at 242-4636.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT . . .

The Community Development department has a new Director. Bob Blanchard began his position in June of 2001. One of his goals is to review the entire development review process. "I want to assess the current process to see if any changes are needed," said Blanchard.

Development is proceeding at a brisk pace, and has shown few signs of slowing down, even as the national economy slowed in the fourth quarter of 2001. It has been five years since the adoption of the Joint City/County Growth Plan. The plan will be updated in 2002 with the help of public input. Data gathering began at the end of 2001, and the update is expected to take about six months.

Other Community Development projects for this year include some amendments to the Zoning and Development Code and a proposal for a downtown historic preservation survey. Several neighborhood plans need updating, including the Redlands Neighborhood Plan, and a South Downtown/El Poso/Riverside Neighborhood Plan. Blanchard also is proposing some design guideline overlays for new development and public projects on the Seventh, Twelfth, and Patterson Road corridors.



Photos by Jennifer M. Miller

TWO RIVERS CONVENTION CENTER



Here are some of the improvements:

*Meeting room space was doubled
Kitchen area was enlarged and rebuilt
Restrooms were rebuilt and enlarged
New vestibule/entry area Elevator
New office area
Additional parking*

Visitors to the center are greeted by a completely revised entryway, featuring a large decorative wall that leads to the entry doors on both the north and south sides.

This space, including new facility offices, was constructed on top of the existing plaza slab. A dramatic circular glass block form that draws eastern light into the lobby anchors the front entry. Upon entering the new lobby, visitors can proceed to the remodeled concourse serving the exhibit hall or into a smaller lobby/hallway that serves the new meeting room complex.



Two Rivers Convention Center renovations are complete, and residents will see an expanded, more modern facility and parking area. Sink Combs Dethiefs, Architects, and Shaw Construction, general contractor, have expanded and improved on the original 1970's era building.

Before making changes to the building, the City held focus groups to get ideas and input from the groups that use the building, elected officials, staff and the public.

The new meeting room area has moveable partitions that can create up to six separate rooms that total 4,500 square feet of space. The two larger rooms will seat up to 80 people each. The other four rooms are used for smaller meetings and dinners, seating up to 30 people each. When completely open the new area can seat 300 people banquet-style.

New larger restrooms were added between the new meeting rooms and the existing concourse. Sections of each restroom can be opened or closed off to service the meeting rooms and/or exhibit hall

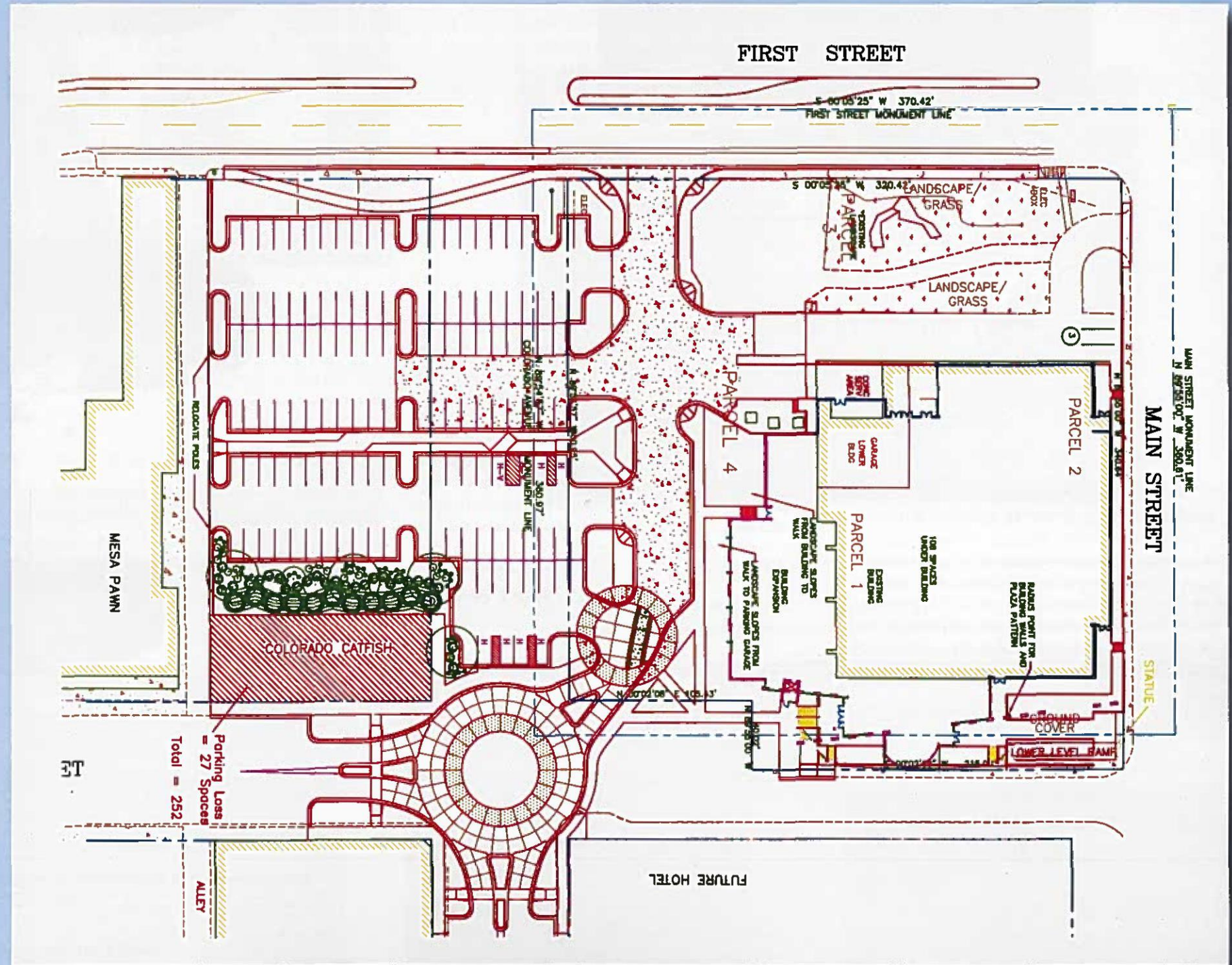
functions separately or together. The kitchen was expanded to 4,400 square feet and received some much-needed new equipment as well as a new concession/bar opening into the concourse.



The exterior site plan features the City's second roundabout, located at Second Street and Colorado. Colorado Avenue was closed from First Street to Second Street and Second Street was closed from Main to Colorado. This creates new vehicle access to the Convention Center and provides more parking in the block to the south of the building. This area has become an outdoor exhibit area and pedestrian plaza.

The Commission on Arts and Culture and the City Council have selected a monumental stainless steel sculpture and water feature to grace the entrance to the building. The piece is funded through the City's 1% for the Arts program. Colorado Springs artist Ivan Kosta is creating the sculpture.

The sculpture features two interlocked broken steel circles approximately ten feet in diameter, echoing the confluence of the rivers for which the building is named. Streams of water flow from the top of the circles down 'strings' on thin steel rods. The sculpture will be built by the artist in his studio over the winter and installed at Two Rivers in May, 2002.

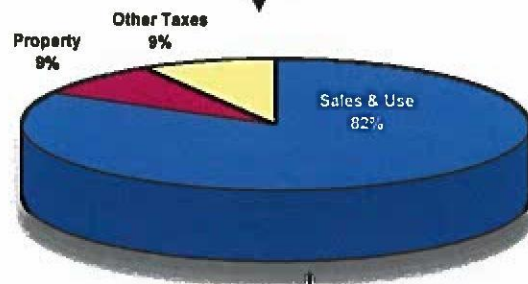
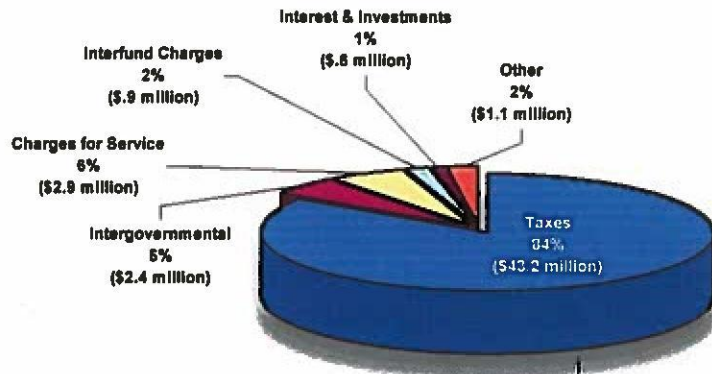


Two Rivers Convention Center is accepting bookings for meetings, weddings, trade shows and special events at the renovated facility. Please contact the sales department at 245-0031.

2002 BUDGET

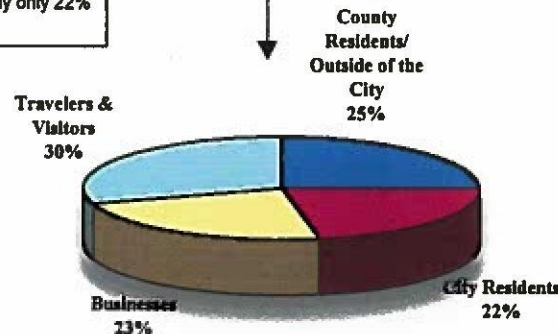
Where the Money Comes From

The main source of revenue the City will use for general government operations in 2002 is generated from taxes. Of the \$43.2 million in tax revenue collected, 82% will be in the form of sales and use tax with only 22% of that amount being paid by Grand Junction residents.



Although the total property tax bill on residential property has increased, homeowners are paying LESS Property Tax to the City of Grand Junction today than they were in 1985.

The City of Grand Junction expects to receive approximately \$35.7 million in sales and use tax revenue in the year 2002. 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 \$7.9 million.



In the 2002-2003 budget, the City is predicting continued growth in sales tax revenues, although at a slower rate than in the previous two-year budget cycle. The sales tax revenue growth for 2001 is expected to reach a 7 1/2 % growth rate, while the City is estimating the sales tax growth rate for 2002 at 6 1/2 %.

The overall economy in Grand Junction remains healthy, with new businesses and residents continuing to choose the high quality of life that Grand Junction offers.

Capital improvements in the City continue to be the largest part of the budget. In 2003, 23% of the budget will go toward improving streets, parks, and infrastructure. Several major projects will get underway in 2002, including several large multi-year projects that will be completed in phases.

The Riverside Corridor

Plans are underway for a new road to connect from Highway 340 through the Riverside area to Noland Avenue and Highway 6 & 50. This road would provide an alternate route from Orchard Mesa to the Redlands Parkway without going through the First and Grand intersection. The road would also reroute traffic away from the residential areas of Riverside and Riverside Park. Engineering work will begin in 2002, with construction starting in 2003.

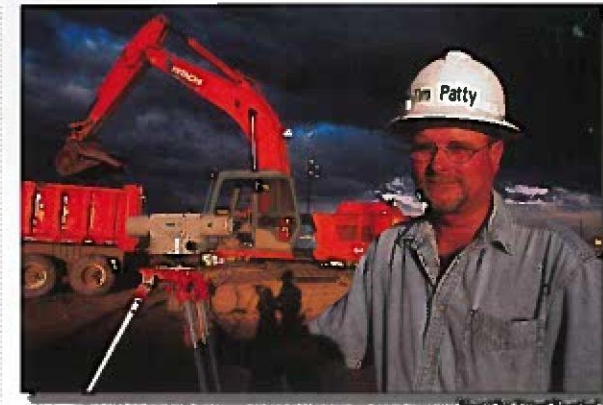
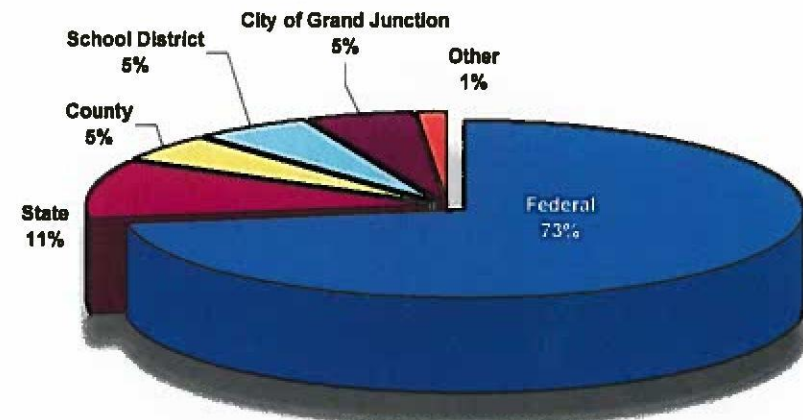


Photo by Robert Ehrlicher

29 Road

The 29 Road project marks the beginning of one of the largest capital construction programs ever undertaken by the City of Grand Junction and Mesa County. Working together, the City and Mesa County have prepared a plan to create a three to five-lane corridor from Highway 50 on Orchard Mesa over the Colorado River, still heading north over several train tracks and the I-70 business loop, past Patterson Road and intersecting with Interstate 70. The project will be constructed in multiple phases of 12 different projects and will span more than a decade.

Where Your Tax Dollar Goes



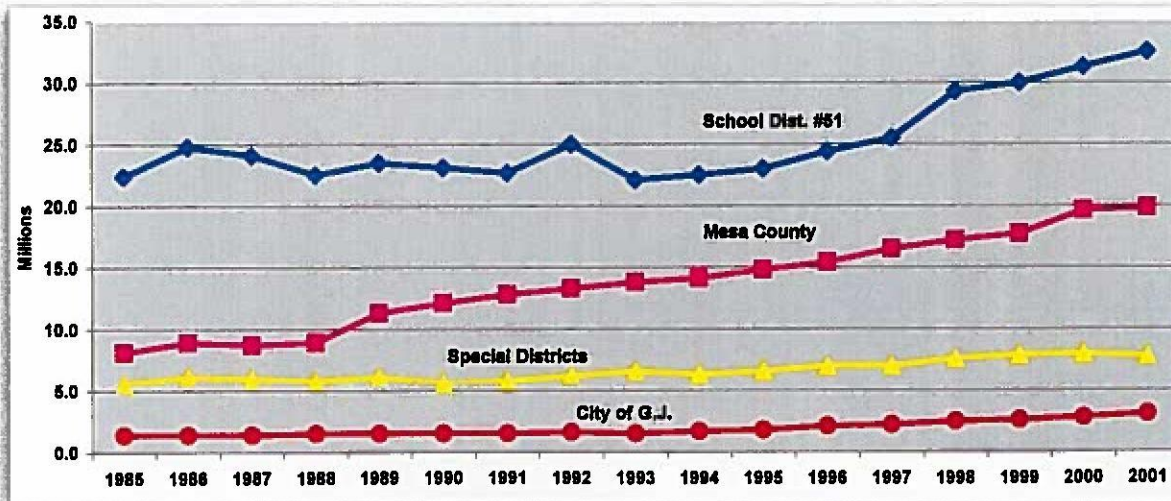
Approximately 28% of the average person's wages (or 17 minutes of every hour) are required to pay taxes of one type or another. The City of Grand Junction receives about *FIVE CENTS* of every \$1 in taxes paid by residents.

Monthly Cost of Service



The average homeowner will pay \$561 in annual taxes received by the City, or \$47 per month in support of all general government services provided by the City of Grand Junction.

Historical Property Tax Levies (Millions)



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

Signal Communication

The City will be working jointly with the Colorado Department of Transportation and other city departments to begin installing a fiber optic network to link traffic signals. This will enable us to change the signal light timing to respond to changes in traffic volumes throughout the day. The final result will be the more efficient use of our road network.

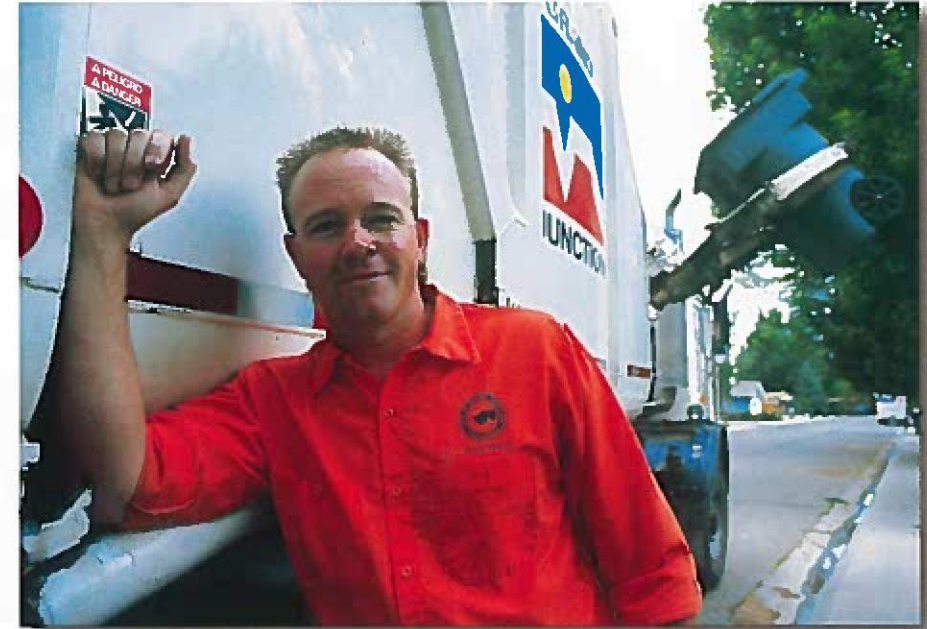


Photo by Karen Eneker

The Solid Waste division uses four automated trash trucks to pick up the City's garbage. We used to make 350 pickups per day with a fleet of five trucks and 10 employees. Using automation, we now make 700 pickups with a fleet of four trucks and four employees.

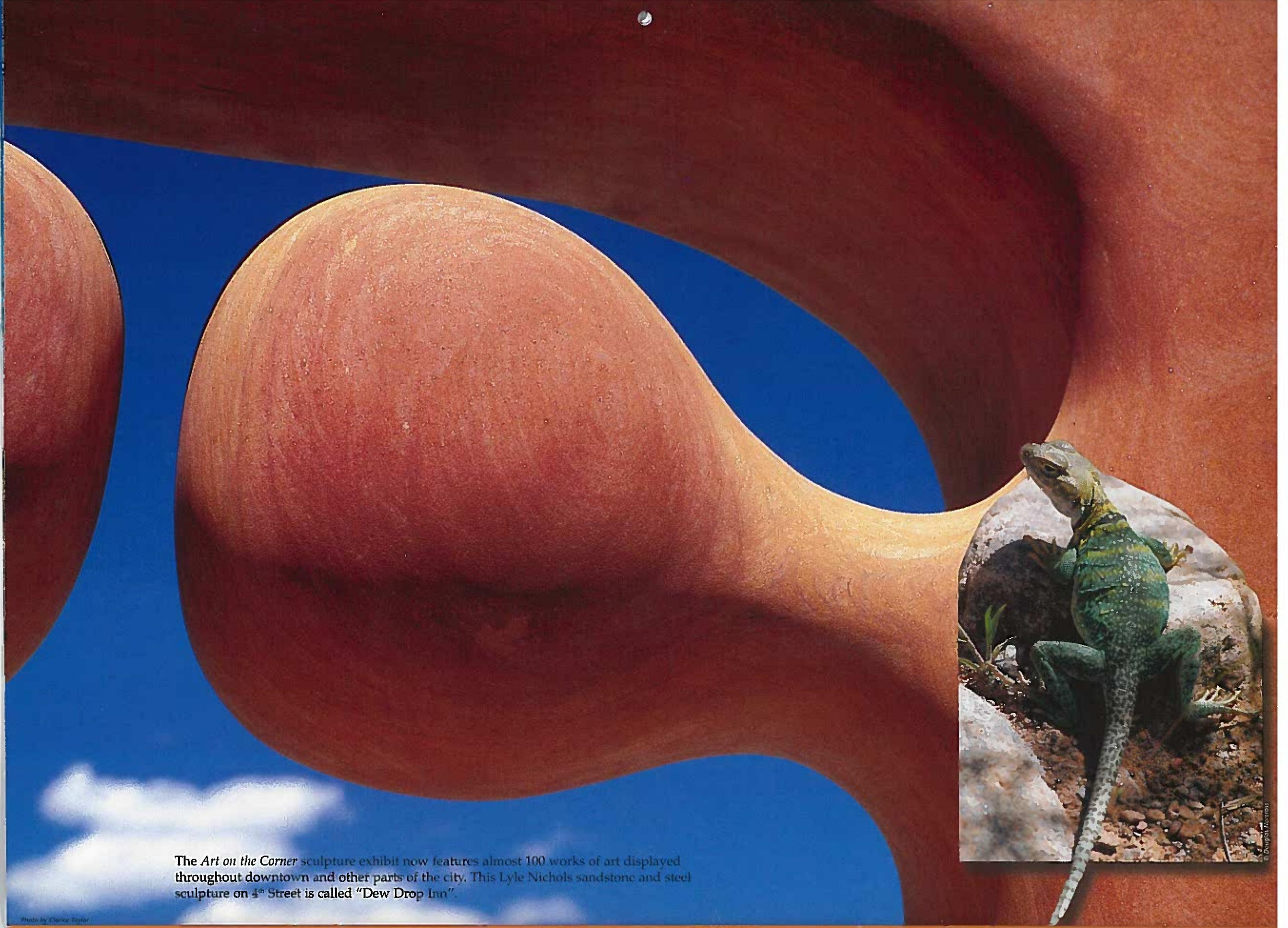
MAJOR CIP PROJECTS

	2001	2002	2003
Storm Drainage Improvements	\$2,262,728	\$1,294,687	\$1,826,041
Water System Improvements	\$1,193,761	\$2,643,358	\$1,082,171
Two Rivers Convention Center Renovation	\$4,678,254		
Vehicle Replacement Program	\$1,500,734	\$984,734	\$1,569,406
E-911 Communications Center Equipment	\$552,634	\$790,000	\$1,123,643
Sewer System Improvements	\$4,384,352	\$7,469,807	\$6,203,007
Fire Station #5 Construction		\$150,400	\$479,600
Fire Department EMS Equipment Payments		\$456,000	\$456,000
Street Overlay/Maintenance Program	\$1,243,212	\$1,151,437	\$1,950,605
Alley Improvements	\$323,000	\$326,000	\$340,000
Sidewalk Improvements	\$482,000	\$494,000	\$515,000
29 Road: Interstate 70-B -to- F Road	\$1,044,000	\$1,000,000	\$1,200,000
Riverside Parkway, Hwy 340 to Hwy 50	\$220,000	\$200,000	\$1,300,000
Independent Avenue, 25.5 Rd to 1st Street	\$220,000	\$1,105,000	
Two Rivers Parking Lot	\$1,013,545		
Canyon View Park/Area Improvements		\$695,000	



CITY WATER QUALITY

City residents are fortunate to have a pure, fresh source of mountain water. Our water originates from mountain streams at around 11,000 feet high on the Grand Mesa. We are the first users of this supply—there are no industrial, agricultural or urban contaminants present.



The *Art on the Corner* sculpture exhibit now features almost 100 works of art displayed throughout downtown and other parts of the city. This Lyle Nichols sandstone and steel sculpture on 4th Street is called "Dew Drop Inn".

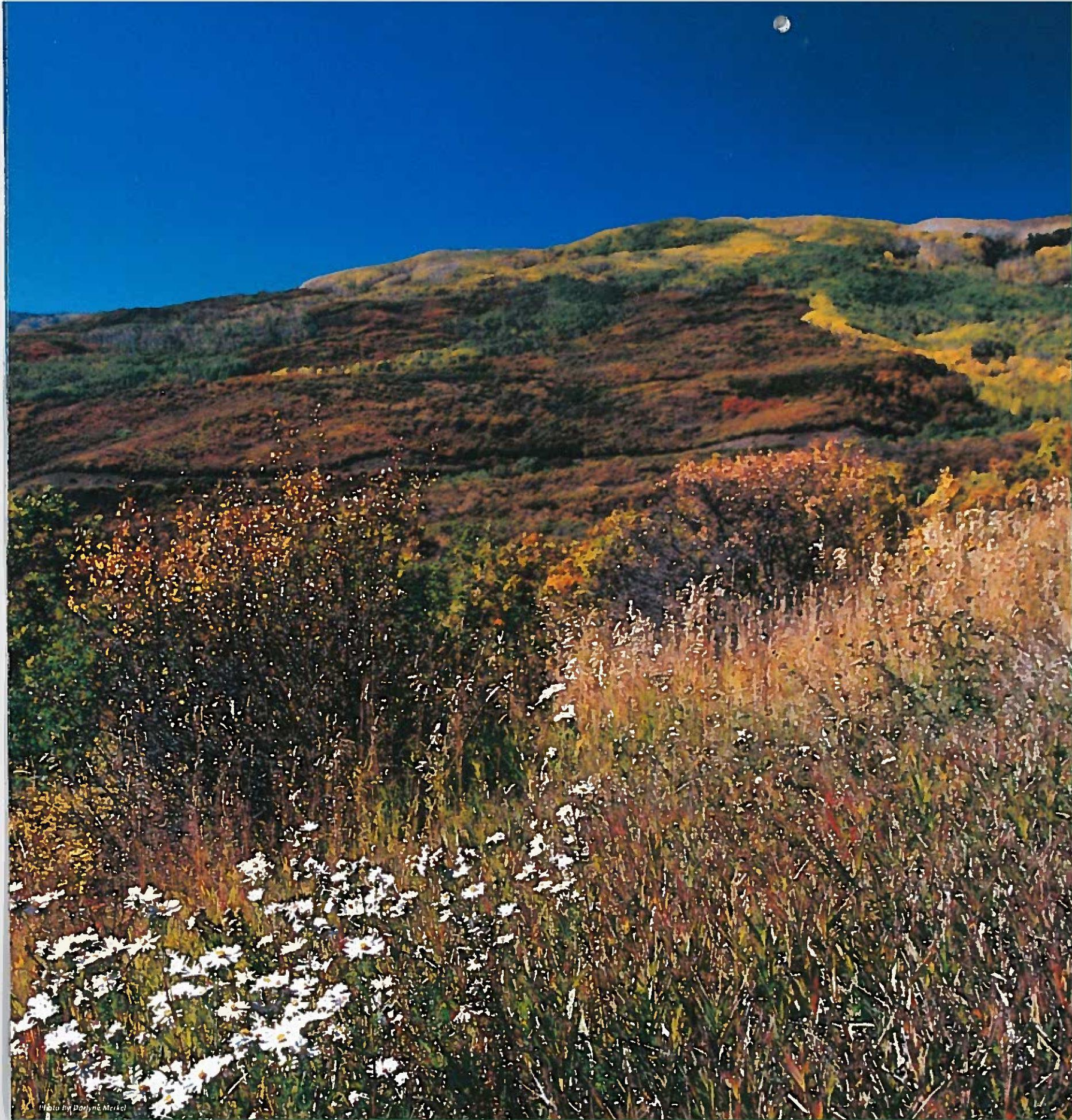


Photo by Darlene Merick

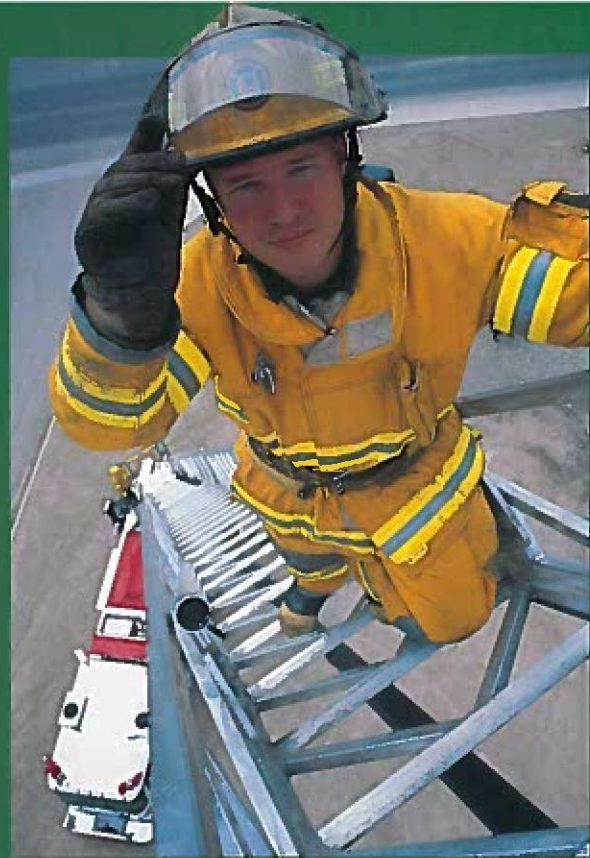


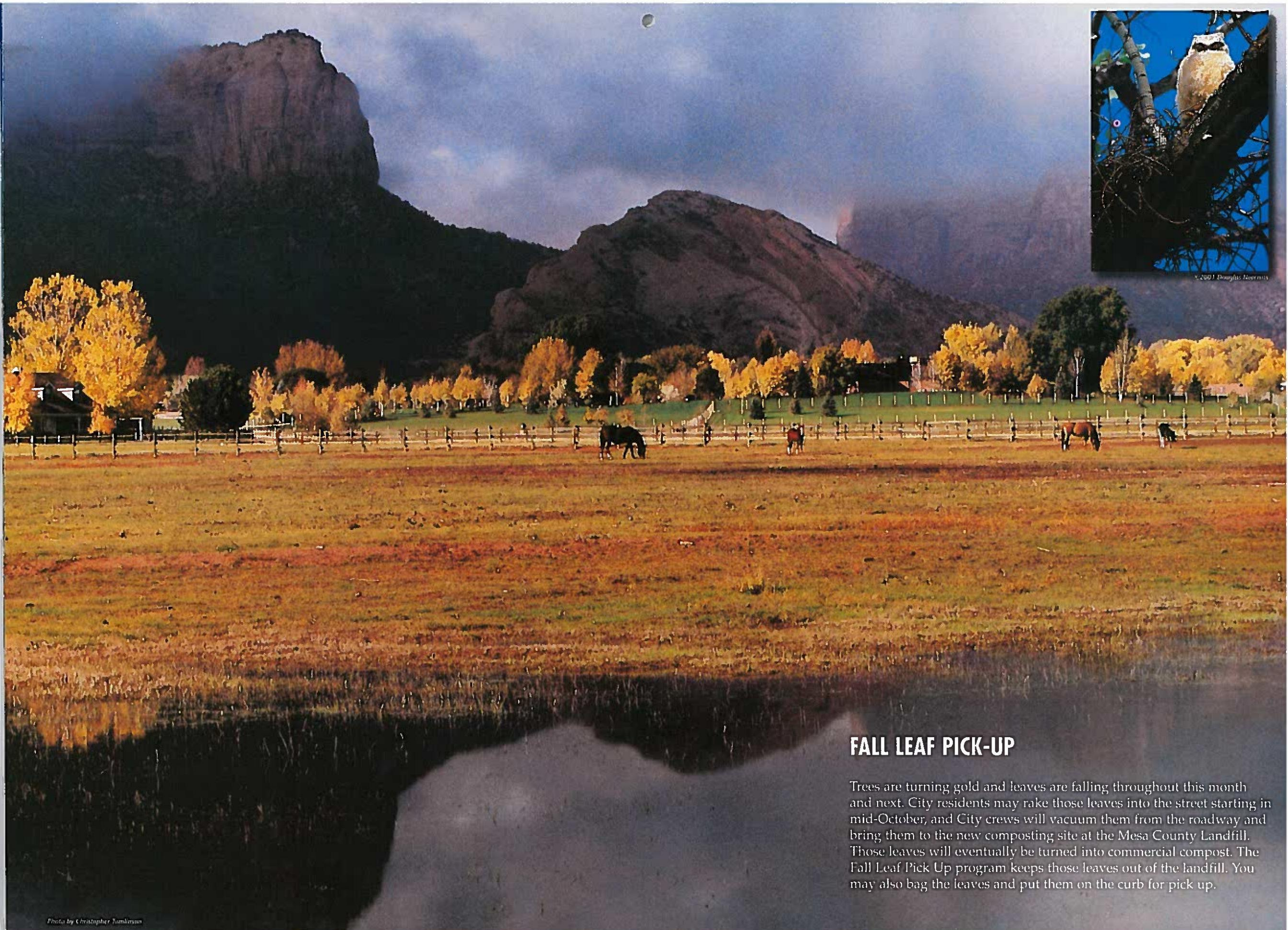
Photo by Karen Enerdel

FIRE SERVICES

The Grand Junction Fire Department provides fire protection and emergency medical services for the City and the adjoining Grand Junction Rural Fire Protection District. The Fire Department service area covers 93 square miles and includes over 66,000 people. Four fire stations currently serve the area, but recent talks with Mesa County indicate that a fifth station could be added in the future. There are 75 full-time employees and nine reserve firefighters currently on staff.

Our physical isolation in Western Colorado means that significant help in a large emergency incident would be four hours drive away in Denver or Salt Lake City. Therefore, our Fire Department develops and trains firefighters in such diverse roles as confined space rescue, hazardous materials handling, technical rescue and fire investigations. Our firefighters are highly trained to handle many types of emergencies in addition to fighting fires.

The Fire Department also provides public education on fire safety programs for children and adults. Each year they reach over 8,000 children with programs in schools and at the annual Safety Fair. Last year the Department received the Leland Gayheart Award for a smoke detection program that saw over 1,000 smoke detectors installed in residences on the Western Slope. The program was a joint effort with the local chapter of the American Red Cross and is recognized as a model for other communities to follow.



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FALL LEAF PICK-UP

Trees are turning gold and leaves are falling throughout this month and next. City residents may rake those leaves into the street starting in mid-October, and City crews will vacuum them from the roadway and bring them to the new composting site at the Mesa County Landfill. Those leaves will eventually be turned into commercial compost. The Fall Leaf Pick Up program keeps those leaves out of the landfill. You may also bag the leaves and put them on the curb for pick up.

POLICE SERVICES

Police Chief Greg Morrison joined the department in September of 2001, bringing with him the goals to expand the department's community policing and problem solving policing philosophy.

According to Chief Morrison, "Maintaining quality of life in the community, while continuing to respect individual liberties and personal dignity, will be the benchmark used to gauge our success in the delivery of law enforcement services. Remaining mindful of the people's will and continuing to be responsive to the community's needs will be the standards that our performance is measured against."

"The abatement of criminal activity as it affects quality of life is our mission," according to Chief Morrison. "The delivery of timely, courteous, quality service is our mandate to the men and women of the Grand Junction Police Department, always without the use of unnecessary force, and always with the intent to solve the problems that people call us for assistance with."



Photo by Christopher Taminson



Photo by Clarice Taylor



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SEE GRAND JUNCTION ONLINE

■ In May, the City launched a new website at www.gjcity.org. Filled with information, this site can tell you everything you need to know about City government. Two pull-down menus from the front page make navigating this site easy. Here are some of the highlights of what you will find there:

- City Council members and contact information
- City Council agendas and meeting minutes
- Openings on City Boards and Commission
- Current job openings
- Maps on the Geographic Information System (GIS)
- City newsletters
- Parks and Recreation
- Activity Guides
- Grand Valley Vision 20/20
- Colorado River Transportation Corridor Study
- Zoning and land use maps

And much, much more.



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