



## Results are in FROM 2003 CITIZEN SURVEY

### Quality of life is excellent, City employees rate high

Every two years, City Council conducts a survey of residents to determine their perceptions of City services, quality of life in Grand Junction, safety, drinking water, and City employees. The first survey was conducted in 2001, and the 2003 survey was recently completed and compared to the previous findings.

"We will use the survey to make improvements in our services," said City Manager Kelly Arnold. "In addition, the survey indicates that exceptional customer service is being maintained by City employees."

The questionnaire was mailed to 19,202 City utility customers, and 3,611 completed surveys were tabulated. Respondents were asked to use a rating scale of 1-5 while completing the questionnaire. The number 1 represents a 'poor' rating while 5 represents an 'excellent' rating.

An overwhelming percentage (80.2%) of Grand Junction households rated quality of life as good or excellent in 2003. This is up 1.0% from 2001. A very small percentage (2.3%) rated quality of life as poor or below average. This is the same percentage as 2001. The quality of life rating was 4.05.

Grand Junction households were asked the question, "In general, how well do you think the City of Grand Junction provides services?" An above average rating of 3.74 was achieved. This was an increase of .12 from 2001.

Next, households were asked to rate individual City services. The following table provides an overview of the responses.

#### City of Grand Junction Services

City Services	2001 Mean	2003 Mean	Difference
Street Maintenance and Repair	3.27	3.26	-0.01
Street Sweeping	3.24	3.53	0.29
Traffic Management	2.89	2.88	-0.01
Fire Protection	4.03	4.18	0.15
Emergency Medical Services	4.13	4.24	0.11
Delivery of Police Services	3.63	3.68	0.05
Enforcement of Traffic Laws	3.20	3.12	-0.08
Crime Prevention	3.28	3.23	-0.05
Appearance of City Parks	4.27	4.09	-0.18
Recreation Programs	3.90	3.91	0.01
Trash Collection	4.16	4.28	0.12
Weed Control	2.98	2.86	-0.12
Junk and Rubbish Control	3.15	3.08	-0.07
Storm Water Collection System	2.49	3.20	0.71
*Water Service		4.14	N/A
*Water Quality	3.76		N/A

\*The question on water was reworded in 2003 and added in the City Services block of questions.

This data indicates that City employees were very courteous and provided services in a timely and helpful fashion. The mean in all three areas increased slightly between 2001 and 2003. City employee courteousness was rated 4.14 in 2003, up from 4.05 in 2001. City employee helpfulness was rated 4.01 in 2003, up from 3.90 in 2001. Finally, City employee timeliness was rated 3.87, up from 3.72 in 2001.

Complete results of the entire 2003 and 2001 Household Surveys are available at the City website at <http://www.gjcity.org> under the City Council page.

## F1/2 Transportation Study CONTINUES

Over 80 residents took the time to fill out and return the "Planning Game" for the F1/2 Corridor Study, and their input has been used to identify various alternatives for future transportation needs in the area between 24 Road and Horizon Drive.

An Open House to present some of those alternatives is planned for Wednesday, July 9 from 4 to 7 p.m. at Two Rivers Convention Center. The firm of Michael Baker Jr., Inc. has looked at over 16 alternatives, plus six different combinations of alternatives for expanding existing roads or adding new roads in this area.

The City is looking for ways to handle increased traffic from the eventual build-out in the 24 Road area. The proposed density and types of uses in this area will increase the amount of future traffic and congestion unless the City improves the road system.

The results of the analysis of these alternatives will be presented at the Open House.

### Public OPEN HOUSE

#### F1/2 CORRIDOR STUDY

##### DATE & TIME:

Wednesday, July 9, 2003  
4 pm to 7 pm  
(attend anytime — no presentation)

##### PLACE:

Two Rivers Convention Center  
159 Main Street, Grand Junction

##### FORMAT:

Open House Format — Displays, Exhibits, and City staff will be available to answer your questions about this study. You can also comment.

##### DISCUSSION ITEMS:

Results of the search for solutions to future traffic problems, citizen participation process, and next steps of this Study.

# STORMWATER *Steering Committee* FINALIZING RECOMMENDATIONS

The Grand Valley Stormwater Unification Feasibility Project held its sixth meeting on May 22. The 14-member steering committee is formulating recommendations for consolidating certain services and stormwater management functions within the Grand Valley. Mesa County, Grand Junction Drainage District, City of Grand Junction, City of Fruita, and the Town of Palisade are jointly sponsoring the project.

The steering committee's evaluation of stormwater management services in the valley includes two general recommendations. The first recommendation is to keep local services at the local level where they are most efficient and responsive. The second recommendation is to establish some type of new regional organization to address large, multi-jurisdictional needs that aren't being met very well at the present time. The steering committee is still working out details on what form this new organization might take and what activities it might perform.

A final recommendation to elected officials and a final report will occur in mid-summer.

## Grand Junction Police Department's VICTIM ADVOCATE'S TRAINING ACADEMY *begins in* September

Would you like to make a difference in this community? Do you want to make an impact on the ever-increasing domestic violence problem? Then take this opportunity to help victims of crime by becoming a Victim Advocate. Grand Junction Police Department's Victim Assistance Program is looking to expand its group of volunteers. Qualities needed in an individual are compassion, caring and a strong belief in victim's rights.

Our volunteers are talented, competent individuals. One volunteer, Diane Jenkins, just accepted a job offer from the Drug Enforcement Administration. In June she will enter 16 weeks of training at Quantico, VA to become a special agent. She has been a very active volunteer in the Victim Advocate program for the last two years. While on duty, she helped over 100 victims with great skill and compassion.

You, too, can make a difference, just like Diane. A forty-hour training academy will begin in mid-September. Once trained, Volunteer Advocates provide crisis intervention for victims of crime and during a critical incident. Find out more information about joining this team of Victim Advocates by calling Judy Shormann, Grand Junction Police Department's Victim Services Coordinator at 244-3580.

## *City Council hosts* NEIGHBORHOOD MEETINGS



One of the Strategic Directions in the City's Strategic Plan states: "A vital, organized network of neighborhoods will exist throughout the City, linked with parks and schools and supported by City resources and active volunteers."

This is followed by a goal to "create programs to strengthen neighborhoods and provide a framework for them to work closely with the City on issues important to them."

The City's Strategic Plan recognizes the importance of neighborhoods in shaping the community's future. A committee consisting of Mayor Jim Spehar and Councilmen Harry Butler and Bill McCurry, as well as staff from various departments, have been charged with making recommendations on various

models for neighborhood organizations and programs for future implementation.

To get a feel for the "pulse" of neighborhoods, the committee hosted ice cream socials in four pilot neighborhoods. The four neighborhoods were Riverside/El Poso, Orchard Mesa West, Sherwood Park, and Redlands near the Parkway. At the informal gatherings, Council members and staff heard from the residents about issues such as traffic and maintenance of properties. It was also an opportunity for residents to reflect on how they define their neighborhood and what makes it unique.

The committee will use the information gathered at the neighborhood events, as well as models from other communities, to make recommendations on a neighborhood program for Grand Junction and to report back to City Council in August.



3.

Several new Art on the Corner sculptures were added downtown during the Art and Jazz Festival. The painted meters are by Kay Crane and Debbie Cope, right to left. The meters are located at 5th and Main and take 25 cent donations that go to the Art on the Corner program.

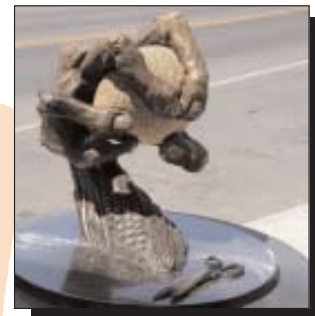


1.



2.

- (3). "Know When to Fold Know When to Hold" by Grand Junction High School art students
- (4). "Of the Three Paper is the Mightiest" by Gary Hauschulz
- (5). "Once Apon a Time" by James Haire



4.



5.

# Thursday Night Farmers Market Festival *starts in* Downtown Grand Junction



The Thursday night Farmers Market Festival is coming soon! The Main Street Farmers Market in cooperation with The Downtown Partnership will host the Festival on Thursdays from July 10 through September 18th from 4:30 to 8:00 p.m. The event will promote a feeling of community pride and enthusiasm for Downtown Grand Junction and its surrounding environment.

What makes this unique from other Farmers Markets is a festival atmosphere with arts & crafts and snack food vendors in addition to Colorado's finest fruits, vegetables and other food products offered by local farmers. To make this event fun for all ages, a variety of performers from musicians to jugglers will entertain children and adults. For those who aspire to be better cooks, il Bistrot Italiano and other restaurants will be hosting culinary demonstrations around 5:30 and 7:00 p.m. each Thursday evening.

The Farmers Market Festival is sched-

uled to be in the 400 block of Main Street and will expand to the 500 then the 300 blocks as the Festival grows. Many Downtown businesses are being encouraged to participate by arranging a booth, providing activities in front of their business or having a sidewalk sale. Toys for the Fun of It will host a Yo-Yo clinic, puzzle night, and juggle night. Read More Books next to the Reed Building will be hosting local writers for book signings and book readings. Original Accents will be hosting pastel drawing classes and many of the restaurants have joined together to have Music on Main every Thursday night beginning on June 19th.

Enjoy these Farmers Market Festivals every Thursday starting July 10 in our beautiful Downtown Shopping Park!



# City Reservoirs **FULL**

A fast flowing, heavy spring runoff has filled the City of Grand Junction's upper reservoirs on the top of the Grand Mesa, assuring City residents of a good supply of domestic water this summer.

According to Terry Franklin, Water Services Superintendent for the City, "although we are still in a dry period, the runoff this spring was perfect for filling the reservoirs. It was fast and furious instead of slow and steady, and our reservoirs are full."

Mark Relph, Public Works and Utilities Director, reminded residents that although the full reservoirs eliminate the need for water restrictions this summer, "we still need to be 'water wise' in our use of water now and in the future."

All domestic water providers in the valley are still working on a joint drought response plan for future use.

"We need to be aware that water is a precious resource, and conditions can change depending on the weather this summer and next winter. Conserving water is still a very good habit to develop," said Relph.

The City owns or has part ownership in 17 reservoirs on top of Grand Mesa, providing 5,300 acre feet of water. This is the first time since 1998 that all the reservoirs have completely filled, although they were close to filling in year 2000.



*Mendez Construction of Grand Junction is installing new storm drains on Noland Ave east of 5th Street as part of the City's Combined Sewer Elimination Project.*

## City starts work on **COMBINED SEWER ELIMINATION PROJECT (CSEP)**

Construction started April 14, 2003 on the first two of six contracts for the Combined Sewer Elimination Project.

The **CSEP Phase I Water Line Replacements** project is the first of six Combined Sewer Elimination Project contracts that will replace over 21,400 feet of water lines ranging in size from 6" to 24" in

the downtown area. The low bidder for the Phase I Water Line Replacements was M.A. Concrete of Grand Junction in the amount of \$1,534,748. They started construction on April 14. The first phase of water line replacements should be completed in October.

**CSEP Phase I Basin 10** is the second of six contracts proposed over the next two years to complete the Combined Sewer Elimination Project. This contract will construct 2,685 feet of storm sewer and reconnection of existing inlets to the new sewer system. A storm water quality facility will

also be constructed adjacent to the existing Western Colorado Botanical Society pond. The low bidder for the Basin 10 work was Mendez Construction of Grand Junction in the amount of \$386,239. Construction starts May 5 and should be completed in July.

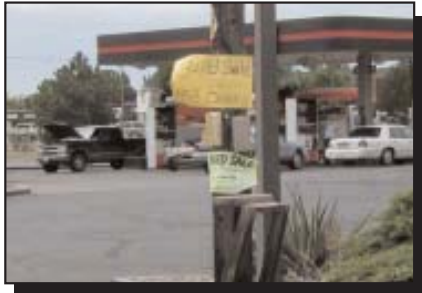
Bids will be received on the large **CSEP Phase I Basin 8** contract on June 17. This contract is the 'backbone' of the entire project and will construct new storm sewer lines from Struthers all the way to North Avenue along 8th Street. Construction should start in early August and be completed in May 2004.

Construction for the entire project will continue through March 2005. More information can be found at [www.gjcity.org](http://www.gjcity.org).

# CODE ENFORCEMENT *Corner*

## YARD SALES

If you are having a yard sale, no permit is required. To maintain a safe and clean City please remember: **Signs are not allowed in any right-of-way, including public utility poles, traffic sign posts,**



**medians, in the roundabouts or along the side of the roadway.** Please put your signs on your property where the sale is occurring. Try having several neighbors team up for a neighborhood sale to attract more cus-

tomers! Up to four sale days per year, per household are allowed and gross sales can total up to \$5,000.00. Call Code Enforcement at 244-1593 for more information.

## WEED REMINDER

Did you know that in 2002 the maintenance of weeds on City-owned properties was turned over to the City's Streets Division? Maintenance will continue year-round on City owned properties. The Code Enforcement Division will continue to inspect private properties for weed violations through October. There were 1,748 Violation Notices issued to properties in the City for weed violations in 2002. Eighty-six percent of those that received notices corrected the violation voluntarily.

You can avoid a notice by continually maintaining weeds everywhere on any property you rent or own. If you spray your weeds with herbicide, all dead vegetation must be removed. Maintenance by spray-

ing, cutting and removing weeds is required in the area between the sidewalk and the curb or edge of pavement and continues to the center of the alley.

For more information about the weed abatement program, visit [www.gjcity.org](http://www.gjcity.org) under Code Enforcement. Comments or suggestions are invited by using the email response on the web site. Use the web to report a violation or call 244-1583.



# City Clothing Drive ..... *accepting* Clothing



The City of Grand Junction Employees' Association is holding their 12th annual Clothing Give Away on August 8 and 9. The Clothing Give Away will be held at the Lincoln Park Barn on Friday August 8 from 5 to 8 PM, and

on Saturday August 9 from 9 AM to noon.

The annual Clothing Drive is organized each year by City employees to give back to our community. Donations for the Clothing Drive will be accepted this year from July 7 through August 7 at City Shops, located at 2549 River Road. This year the Clothing Drive is putting an emphasis on children's clothing. Employees also collect items for the Clothing Drive from school lost and found departments, and American Linen

cleans the items.

Each year the Clothing Drive serves hundreds of individuals and families from our community who are in need of clothing. With the support of City of Grand Junction employees, their families and the community, we are looking forward to another successful year.



Harry Butler, Council member  
 Cindy Enos-Martinez, Council member  
 Dennis Kirtland, Council member  
 Bruce Hill, Council member  
 Bill McCurny, Council member  
 Gregg Palmer, Council member  
 Jim Spehar, Council member

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