

Chat Session

3/12/14

Hall Residence – 380 Meadow Lane, Elk Run

A new hotel on the corner of the CDC parcel would require a parking garage underneath it and that would involve building a “bathtub” to keep the water out of the garage.

Can the Town purchase back the CDC parcel?

Rocky Mountain Institute (RMI) may bring their Boulder groups here, too, which means these guests need a nicer hotel than the Elements Hotel being proposed in Willits.

Summer months would be busier than winter months for the hotel because of fishermen.

Not necessarily. Lots of skiers wouldn't mind the trip from Basalt to save a couple hundred dollars per night on a hotel room, compared to Aspen prices.

People who stay in Basalt now want rooms that cost less than \$250/night.

The former Total Merchant Services space in Gold Rivers is in foreclosure. Could it be converted to a hotel? Response: It could be converted into a 40 to 50 room hotel but it would have to be a “mom and pop” venture with only a coffee bar type of arrangement for serving breakfast. This could work because there are several restaurants immediately adjacent.

RMI expects people to come to Basalt to study their new facility, in addition to the people coming for workshops and seminars.

The Hyatt said it would need at least 125 rooms in order to be a successful hotel.

Could we close the portion of Two Rivers Road between Lions Park and the CDC parcel to create a larger park?

The Aspenalt, gas station, and Clark's area could be redeveloped with an underground parking structure and plaza on top.

In order for a hotel venture to be profitable we may have to consider public/private partnerships or tax increment financing (TIF).

I would love to see Town Hall moved to the east end of Midland Avenue to get more people in that part of town.

Town Hall could also be moved to the CDC parcel.

Moving Two Rivers Road would need to incorporate a wide sweeping curve.

Any road rearrangement would have to be done in such a way that it wouldn't make getting to the schools more difficult than it already is.

Blocking cars from the 7-11 bridge really put a crimp in people's ability to get to the schools.

It also caused more congestion at the main intersection in the middle of town during drop-off and pickup times. I deliberately schedule my errands in town to avoid the school traffic.

It's nice that the 7-11 bridge was fixed up kind of like a park. People use it all the time.

The current road configuration is on former railroad beds so there is an artificial grade between Town Hall and the Pan and Fork Mobile Home Park. Lions Park looks like it's in a pit and not very inviting.

Two Rivers Road used to be a State highway so we're also dealing with a right-of-way that is wider than it needs to be for a street.

Any road changes would have to provide smooth access to the hotel.

We should have food carts or trucks for people who want to have a quick lunch. If you want a \$3 taco you're not going to Cuvée. Maybe we could have a Taqueria on wheels.

Butch's Lobster Shack might go where the recycle center was during the summer. The new gas station owners don't want the lobster shack on their property.

We need a traditional playground with swings and slides downtown.

"I hope the skating rink comes back again next winter."

"There's nothing for teenagers to do in Basalt! It'd be nice to have a youth center with both planned activities and a place for teens to just hang out, that has stuff like pool tables, foosball, climbing wall, maybe a basketball court..."

"The best thing the Town could do is get out its big rubber stamp that says, 'YES!'"

The first thing that needs to be addressed downtown is parking. Then work on the pedestrian connections and view planes to the river.

Could the Town come up with a large amount of money that would help draw a developer for what could be a pretty big redevelopment project? Response: the Town could leverage some of its funds in a way that could be very enticing to developers. That would be a public/private partnership.

"People need to know that this planning process isn't just smoke and mirrors."