

# CITY MANAGER'S UPDATE

Monthly report to the Fort Collins City Council and community

July 9, 2009

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# ISSUES BEFORE COUNCIL

## Transportation Issues

- Transportation Group Staff will return to City Council on July 14th for the third of three discussions on Transportation services and challenges in Fort Collins. This presentation will include an update on transportation service level reductions as a result of reduced revenues, transportation capital project needs and funding challenges, and the importance and relevance of the scheduled Transportation Master Plan Update (to be conducted in partnership with the City Plan Update).

## Halligan-Seaman Project Update

- City Council has provided the staff with specific policy direction regarding the need for additional water storage and to pursue the enlargement of Halligan reservoir as a regional project with partners.
- On November 4, 2003, the Council adopted, by a 7-0 vote, Resolution 2003-121 which authorized the City Manager to proceed with various activities associated with pursuing the expansion of Halligan Reservoir.
- By way of an update, during the 2nd quarter of 2009, the third-party consultants continued working on the Purpose and Need Report.
- Validation continues for the Poudre Basin Model, Soldier Canyon Filter Plant Model, Big Thompson Network Model, Greeley System Model, and the Fort Collins System Model continued.
- Park Creek Reservoir was verified as an alternative for a portion of the Halligan project. Analysis continues on issues related to wetlands, riparian areas, wildlife habitat, stream morphology, and sediment transport.
- Six additional 2D modeling sites were identified and work on data collection has been started.
- The project is within budget and the schedule has been changed per the Corps latest estimate.
- An update on the Halligan project is on the City Council July 14, 2009 work session agenda.
- Visit [fcgov.com/utilities/halligan-update.php](http://fcgov.com/utilities/halligan-update.php) for more information.

## Board and Commission Annual Review

- City Council meets yearly with several boards and commissions for periodic reviews. The boards represented are staggered and each board or commission meets with Council every six years. Representatives from the following Boards and Commissions will meet with City Council at the July 21 Work Session:
  - Art in Public Places Board
  - Cultural Resources Board
  - Land Conservation and Stewardship Board
  - Senior Advisory Board
- At the work session, Council review will consist of the following questions:
  - Are the current duties of the board, as defined by City Code, realistic? If not, what duties would you suggest be added and/or deleted?
  - Is the board's workload (annual work plan) too much; too little; about right? Explain.

- Does the board effectively accomplish its annual work plan?
- Are board meetings conducted in an effective manner? What could be done to improve board meetings?
- Is the current size of the board appropriate?
- Are communications between the board and Council effective? What could be done to improve these communications?
- The discussion at the work session will assist the Council in determining whether it should:
  - Continue the board without alteration of duties or composition.
  - Continue the board with amendment to duties and/or composition.
  - Eliminate the board and its duties.
  - Eliminate the board and transfer of some or all duties to other existing board(s).

### **Neighborhood Night Out**

- Neighborhood Night Out will be Tuesday, August 4, 2009. City Council will be canceling their regular meeting so they can attend events in their districts. Neighborhood Night Out (NNO) is an annual, nationwide event that happens the first Tuesday in August. The night is geared towards community building and safety.
- The registration deadline for residents is July 21. There are currently 30 events registered. Neighborhood Services anticipates having 85-90 events and over 4000 participants this year.
- Event hosts will receive a t-shirt and a goodie bag containing balloons, sidewalk chalk, and nametags. Contact Ginny Sawyer at 970-224-6070 or [gsawyer@fcgov.com](mailto:gsawyer@fcgov.com) to register.
- The Proclamation for Neighborhood Night Out will occur on Tuesday, July 21, 2009.

## **FEDERAL STIMULUS PROGRAM (AMERICAN RECOVERY AND REINVESTMENT ACT - ARRA)**

### **ARRA REGIONAL ROAD MAINTENANCE PROJECT - SHIELDS STREET (CR 17)**

**Total Project Budget: \$3.4 million**

**Scope of work: 9.5 miles of asphalt overlay in Larimer County, Berthoud, Loveland and Fort Collins.**

**Project Management: Larimer County with inspection assistance from each agency**

**Project Status: Plan Review by CDOT**

#### **City of Fort Collins Segments**

- Within Fort Collins City Limits: \$1.36 million, 3 miles  
Funding Source: ARRA Federal Grant, Pavement Management Program  
Anticipated Completion: October 2009
- This project is currently out to bid.

#### **EECBG GRANT SUBMITTED JUNE 23**

- The City has submitted its initial application to receive funding under the federal stimulus grant for Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant (EECBG) formula grants. This formula grant allocation will total \$1.3 Million to be applied to a variety of City projects.

- An Energy Conservation Strategy will be developed based on the City's adopted Energy Policy and the Climate Action Plan. Projects will likely include both community oriented projects and public facility energy efficiency projects for City buildings. Funding should be secured beginning within 120 days of the application submittal, with work to be accomplished over the next 3 years.

## **ECONOMY**

**Fort Collins Sales and Use Tax** (These amounts are for April sales reported in May)

**May 2009 Statistics (as compared to the same period in 2008)**

- Total sales tax decreased 10.0%
- Total use tax decreased 26.4%
- Combined total collections were down 12.3%

**2009 Totals**

- Total sales tax is down 4.8%
- Total use tax is down 26.6%
- Combined total collections are down 8.1%

## **CAPITAL PROJECTS**

**CANAL IMPORTATION PONDS AND OUTFALL (CIPO)**

**Project Description: Joint Stormwater and Natural Areas Restoration project in the Canal Importation Basin and Red Fox Meadows Natural Area.**

**Project Budget: \$21,500,000**

**Budget Status: On Budget**

**Project Status: On Schedule**

**Anticipated Completion: Fall 2011**

**Highlights:**

- Completed installation of storm sewer and inlets on Springfield Drive, Castlerock Drive and Oakwood.
- Completed planting of 25 large Scotch Pine trees in Fairbrooke Pond.
- Completed installation of irrigation system in Red Fox Meadows pond site and are 90% complete with irrigation system in Kane Pond site.
- Completed surfacing trails around Red Fox Meadows Pond site and trail connection to Stuart Street.
- Completed concrete paving on Castlerock Drive and asphalt paving on Springfield Drive.
- Completed all restoration of affected properties, sidewalk and curb and gutter on Castlerock Drive and Springfield Drive.
- Installed inlets and laterals on Prospect Road and Taft Hill Road into Fairbrooke Pond.

- 90% complete with outdoor classroom in Kane Pond and began concrete foundation for classroom in Fairbrooke Pond.
- Began installation of 7' x 3' box culvert storm sewer from Fairbrooke Pond to Suffolk Street.

**MULBERRY INTERMEDIATE REPLACEMENT PROJECT – REPLACEMENT PHASE (3)**

**Project Description:** Replacement of existing process equipment and new odor control structures. Excavation for the new aerated sludge basin.

**Project Budget:** \$1,500,000

**Budget Status:** On Budget

**Project Status:** 76% Complete – Installing Grit Blowers and Step Screens

**Anticipated Completion:** September 2009

**MULBERRY INTERMEDIATE REPLACEMENT PROJECT – REPLACEMENT PHASE (4)**

**Project Description:** Construction of Activated Sludge Basin, mechanical buildings, new final clarifier mechanisms, remaining odor control facilities, and other site improvements

**Project Budget:** \$16,500,000

**Budget Status:** On Budget

**Project Status:** 0%- Contracts signed

**Anticipated Completion:** January 2011

**STREET MAINTENANCE PROGRAM**

**Annual Program Budget:** \$10.1 million

**2009 REVISED Budget:** \$8.9 million

**Funding Source:** Pavement Management Program (Street Maintenance 1/4 Cent Sales Tax, Transportation Fund, General Fund, and various permit fees)

**2009 Concrete and Repaving Projects**

- **Overlay and Sealcoat Project**  
**Project Status:** On Schedule  
**Anticipated Completion:** September 2009  
**Budget Status:** On Budget
- Another substantial reduction was realized in the Street Maintenance Program due to reduced sales tax projections, resulting in a total budget reduction of \$1.2 million.
- Concrete repairs were completed in the Silver Oaks neighborhood and on Riverside Avenue in advance of the overlay and sealcoat projects. Concrete repairs also began on James and Burton Courts, and on Shields Street between Prospect and Mulberry.
- Streets crews completed milling and paving operations in the English Ranch, Silver Oaks, Fairbrooke, and Ridgewood Hills neighborhoods. Work also continued on North Lemay Avenue in advance of the Hot-in-Place Recycling project.
- The City's overlay contractor, Lafarge, completed work in the English Ranch, Ridgewood Hills and Silver Oaks neighborhoods.

## **I-25 / SH-392 INTERCHANGE DESIGN**

**Funding Source: CDOT- FHWA Estimated Project Budget: \$1.9 million**

**Project Status: Final Design**

- The System Level Study for this interchange was approved by the Transportation Commission on January 21, 2009. An IGA between Fort Collins, Windsor and CDOT outlining the distribution of the \$1.9 million for the final design was finalized and signed in February. A kickoff design meeting was held in the last week of February.
- The project team is proceeding forward with the accelerated design process with a goal of completing the design by August 2009. At a Joint Wall Type Selection meeting between the City and the Town in June, the Project Team received unanimous direction to proceed with a natural stone faced wall design for the interchange.
- The project team continues to work with adjacent property owners that will be affected by the interchange footprint. The project team continues study potential wetland mitigation sites. The accelerated design process puts the project in the best position for any economic stimulus funding that becomes available. The design will follow the intent of all of the guiding principles adopted by the City Council and the Town Board.

## **WEST HARMONY ROAD IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT**

### **SENECA TO COLLEGE**

**Funding sources - 2005 Building on Basics (BOB) - Community Enhancement Projects, Oversizing Development fees and a Federal Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) grant.**

**Estimated Project Budget - \$8 million**

**Project status: Major construction beginning in March 2009.**

**Anticipated Completion Date: Seneca to BNSF – August 14, 2009. BNSF to College Ave - 2010 or 2011 construction.**

- The goals of the project are to provide solutions to the problems of high accident rates, congestion and lack of bicycle and pedestrian facilities along West Harmony Road from Seneca Street on the west to College Avenue on the east, including the Harmony Road / Shields Street intersection.
- The limits of the project are between Seneca Street and College Avenue, including reconstruction of the Harmony/Shields and Harmony/College intersections. Construction of the section just west of the BNSF Railroad was completed in fall 2008. Construction of the Harmony/Shields Intersection and Harmony Road from Seneca to the BNSF Railroad will be completed by August 14, 2009. Harmony Road from the BNSF railroad tracks to College Avenue, including the Harmony/College intersection, is under design at this time.
- Major construction on Harmony Road from Seneca to BNSF railroad tracks including the Harmony/Shields intersection is about 70% complete.
- Harmony Road is now open between Seneca and Shields Street. Harmony Road is currently closed east of Shields Street to Starflower Drive. Shields Street is currently reduced to a two-lane street with right turns only at the Harmony Road intersection.
- Work completed in June includes sidewalk, curb and gutter, concrete pavement, asphalt pavement, overhead lighting and traffic signal installations on the west half of the project. Traffic was reopened on this stretch of Harmony Road on June 14, 2009.

- On June 15, Phase 2 construction began. Phase 2 work completed in June consisted of removals, utility relocates, fly-ash subgrade treatment, aggregate base, and some curb installation. The Harmony/Shields intersection is projected to reopen in mid-August.
- The remaining section of Harmony Road from the BNSF Railroad to College Avenue is planned to be built in 2010 or 2011 with the College and Harmony Intersection Improvement Project which is currently being designed.
- For more information and project background visit: [fcgov.com/westharmony/](http://fcgov.com/westharmony/)

### **COLLEGE AND HARMONY INTERSECTION IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT**

**Funding sources - 2005 Building on Basics (BOB) - Community Enhancement Projects, STP-Metro Federal and State Funds.**

**Estimated Project Budget - \$5.5 million**

**Project status: Preliminary and Final Design in 2009. Construction in 2010.**

- The goals of the project are to relieve congestion, improve safety, bicycle and pedestrian facilities, and to rebuild the intersection with concrete pavement. The project also includes the portion of the West Harmony Road Improvements from the BNSF Railroad tracks to College.
- The Project Design Team is currently finalizing conceptual design. Work during June included work on Preliminary Design items such as storm water design, property owner discussions, and pavement design. Construction is planned for spring and summer of 2010.

### **MASON BIKE TRAIL EXTENSION – SPRING CREEK TO PROSPECT ROAD**

**Funding Source: Federal Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) grant along with City of Fort Collins contributions**

**Estimated Project Budget: \$940,000**

**Project Status: Construction Bid Advertised**

- The project is being advertised. Construction is expected to start mid August. The construction will extend the Mason bike trail from Spring Creek underpass to Prospect Road. A new pedestrian bridge will be constructed over Spring Creek.

### **DRAKE ROAD WIDENING**

**Funding Source: Street Oversizing Funds**

**Estimated Project Budget: \$280,000**

**Project Status: Construction**

- This project is funded through the Street Oversizing Fund and consists of placing pavement, curb and gutter, parkway and sidewalk to two sections along the south side of Drake Road between Taft Hill Road and Overland Trail. Construction began on May 18 by Don Kehn Construction, Inc. The concrete curb and gutter has been installed as of June 30, with asphalt paving expected to be complete by July 7. After the paving is complete, the crews will work on sidewalk installation, final grading, restoration and fence placement.
- There will be some overlap between Kehn Construction and Cutler Repave due to days missed because of weather conditions. However, the widening project is expected to reach substantial completion around July 18, per the original contract, and will be ready for the hot-in-place recycling project by the Pavement Management Program which is currently scheduled to begin on July 13. The hot-in-place project, following the widening project, will

provide a new surface for the entire one mile stretch of Drake Road between Taft Hill Road and Overland Trail.

- After the completion of both projects in late July, Drake Road will be a four-lane arterial roadway between Taft Hill Road and Overland Trail.

### **EAST PROSPECT ROAD LANDSCAPING**

**Funding Source: 1997 Building Community Choices (BCC) - Community Enhancement Projects**

**Estimated Project Budget: \$650,000**

**Project Status: Construction**

- Construction along the section of East Prospect Road between the Poudre River Bridge and Summit View Drive was impacted by the adverse weather and site conditions during the first part of June. However, as the month progressed, and the weather began to improve, construction efforts intensified. By the end of the month, the contractor, L&M Enterprises, Inc., had installed and tested all of the irrigation components for the project. Median grading and shouldering for the remaining two medians within the construction limits were also addressed, completing the earthwork within the medians. As the month came to a close, L&M had started installing trees and shrubs, with the anticipation of substantially completing the project in early July. As has been the case during the duration of the project, all work was accomplished while keeping one lane of traffic open.
- The upcoming months will see the substantial completion of the project, the contractor addressing any punch list items identified for the improvements, and the creation of a maintenance plan for the newly constructed improvements.

### **SHIELDS AND TRILBY TURN LANE IMPROVEMENTS**

**Funding Source: Larimer County Regional Road Fee**

**Estimated Project Budget: \$125,000**

**Project Status: Final Design**

- The City of Fort Collins Engineering Department's Capital Projects group and the Larimer County Engineering Department are constructing turn lane improvements at the Shields Street and Trilby Road intersection. The design is nearly complete with construction beginning on Monday, July 20<sup>th</sup>. The Contractor will be Connell Resources Inc. through the Larimer County on-call contract. The improvements are expected to be complete the first week of August.
- The primary benefit of the intersection improvements will be reduced vehicle wait time on Shields. The project includes a new right turn lane from northbound Shields to eastbound Trilby and extending the existing left turn lane from southbound Shields to eastbound Trilby, as well as asphalt widening, shoulder construction, slope grading and improved traffic signaling.
- Construction on the intersection will result in lane closures, periodic lane shifts, and slower vehicle speeds. Advanced warning boards will be placed by Larimer County a minimum of 5 days prior to the beginning of construction.
- This is an accelerated design and construction schedule to ensure the improvements are made prior to the Shields Street asphalt repaving project taking place later this summer as part of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009.

## **NORTH COLLEGE IMPROVEMENT PROJECT**

**Funding Source: Federal Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) funding, Transportation Enhancement (TE) funding, Hazard Elimination/Safety Program funds, along with City of Fort Collins contributions**

**Estimated Project Budget: \$5.6 million**

**Project Status: Present Preferred Alternative for Approval and Adoption**

- The City of Fort Collins is continuing work on the North College Corridor Improvements Project from Vine Drive north to the Hickory/Conifer intersection.

### Project Status

- The project team examined options relative to bike paths and sidewalk locations, and median widths.
- Public and stakeholder support exists for minimizing the median width. Support was received for the Hickory/Conifer intersection side-by-side left turn lanes for the short term, and realignment of Conifer for the long term. An Outdoor/Natural Theme and the Cultural/Artistic Theme also received support.
- A draft preferred alternative was presented to the project's Technical Advisory Committee on June 4.
- Staff presented the North College project at the following meetings:
  - Bicycle Advisory Committee on June 8. Staff received feedback regarding the bicycle/pedestrian options.
  - City Council Work Session on June 9. Some members of Council discussed bike and pedestrian alternatives and had concerns about the off street path. Council members suggested the use of excess truck bypass funds to fund improvements.
  - Commission on Disabilities on June 11. Staff received feedback regarding bike and pedestrian options.
  - Planning and Zoning Board on June 12. Staff discussed bicycle/pedestrian options, access management, and impact of building location and future redevelopment on corridor improvements.
- A total of three property owners attended meeting on June 23 hosted by City staff to discuss the Right of Way process and ask questions of right of way specialists.

### Next Steps

- A third Public Open House was held July 8 to present the draft preferred alternative and phasing and implementation plan.
- The project team will request a letter of support for the draft recommended preferred alternative and phasing and implementation plan for the North College Improvements Project at the following upcoming meetings:
  - Commission on Disabilities (COD) (July 9)
  - Bicycle Advisory Committee (BAC) (July 13)
  - Transportation Board (July 15)
  - Planning and Zoning Board (July 16)
  - City Council Work Session (July 28)
- Staff will seek City Council approval of the phased implementation plan at the regularly scheduled City Council meeting on September 1.

- Coordination will continue with City departments, the Colorado Department of Transportation, the Technical Advisory Committee, and the North Fort Collins Business Association.

#### Project Schedule

- 2009 - Planning, community engagement, visioning, alternatives analysis, selection of preferred alternative, and development of priorities for implementation.
- 2009/2010 - Project development, engineering, rights-of-way acquisition
- 2011 - Construction begins

#### Budget Status

- Since there is not enough funding to complete improvements from Vine to Conifer for the North College Improvements Project - Phase II, the project will need to be built in phases. It is anticipated that the City Council will make a recommendation regarding the method of phasing at the July 28 work session.
- Staff is currently exploring the surplus funding from the Truck Bypass Study (approximately \$1.8 Million) to determine if this funding can be incorporated in to the North College Improvements project – Phase II.
- Financing strategies to complete the North College Improvements Project will be discussed with the City Manager and department management representatives on July 13. Staff will present a complete package of options (phasing to match various levels of anticipated funding, the various funding sources (confirmed as well as potential) to outline opportunities and identify methods to pursue.
- A phasing and implementation plan will be developed for the preferred alternative to correspond to the available funding and potential future funding opportunities.

## **PROJECT/PROGRAM UPDATES**

### **Climate Wise Recognized with Alliance for Innovation Award**

- Climate Wise, a City of Fort Collins program that helps businesses reduce greenhouse gas emissions and save money, has been named a 2009 Outstanding Achievement in Local Government Innovation Award winner by the Alliance for Innovation.
- Ten winners from Florida to Canada were selected from among 57 national entries.
- Climate Wise is a voluntary City of Fort Collins program. Its focus is to assist local businesses and organizations to protect the environment while saving organizational dollars. The program's City staff, including members of the Natural Resources Department, Utilities and Transportation, provide free, in-depth assessments of each new business partner in order to find personalized, creative solutions and recommend projects.
- By promoting waste reduction, energy savings, alternative transportation and water conservation, the program acts as a supportive catalyst of environmental stewardship and operational efficiency. In 2008 Climate Wise's 130 local partners reduced over 100,000 tons of greenhouse gas emissions and saved \$7.2 million.
- Arizona-based Alliance for Innovation, formerly The Innovation Groups, is a "special collaborative forum for learning, measured risk taking, exploration and discovery, and sharing of knowledge and experience." The forums are designed to discuss challenges facing

local governments and find the best ways to adapt to and solve those issues. For more information about the Climate Wise program, visit [fcgov.com/climatewise](http://fcgov.com/climatewise), or email [climatewise@fcgov.com](mailto:climatewise@fcgov.com)

## **Bike Week 2009**

- The 2009 Bike Week was a complete success. This year's events included many new events including the Sunset Cruiser Ride, Bike to Skate night, the "FC Bikies" local bike awards gala, and Bike Prom. This year's events offered fun bicycling activities for all ages while celebrating our growing local bike culture.
- Of the week's highlights, the "FC Bikies" local bike award gala, recognized 25 Fort Collins residents who have contributed to the growth of bicycling in Fort Collins in both the short and long term. Award recipients were given handcrafted trophies made of recycled bike parts to a crowd of 100+ residents and peers at New Belgium Brewing Company.
- Bike to Work Day was also another great event. FC Bikes staff organized 30 breakfast stations throughout Fort Collins and partnered with several local businesses that helped sponsor the day's event. This year's Bike to Work Day event was also a "zero waste" event as all breakfast stations utilized compostable products. Gallegos Sanitation worked with the City's FC Bikes program to pick up all waste created by Bike to Work Day and compost all products.
- This year, nearly 150 businesses participated in the Worksite Challenge and the number of residents who participated in the event rose slightly compared to 2008 data. FC Bikes partnered with Dept. of Natural Resources staff and the ClimateWise program to encourage more participation from local businesses.
- Concurrent with Bike Week, FC Bikes staff also organized and implemented the first session of beginner B.I.K.E. camp (Bikes Improve Kids' Experiences) for 25 youth's ages 8-12 years of age. Bike Camp is a fun, educational camp that teaches children basic road rules and bicycling handling skills. The camp was based in Lee Martinez Park and utilized the Poudre Bike Trail.
- Overall, the 2009 Bike Week demonstrated the value of community partnerships while attracting overwhelming public support for bicycling in our community. The bicycle culture is definitely growing in Fort Collins and FC Bikes is working hard to build a cohesive bicycling community to help keep bicyclists riding all year long while attracting new bicyclists every day.

## **Portable Signs in the Right Of Way**

- Staff will be preparing for the last steps of the portable sign ordinance compliance. They will be visiting participating business and property owners face-to-face to discuss placement and requirements.
- The goal remains to have all allowable signs permitted by July 30, 2009. Staff continues to proactively enforce City Code outside of the sign boundary.

## **Mason Corridor Update**

- During June, crews successfully completed the conversion of Howes Street from one-way to two-way operation. Mason Street will be converted to two-way traffic by the end of this summer.

- We are continuing to make progress on the Bus Rapid Transit project in the areas of property acquisition, securing federal funding, and coordination with Colorado State University.
- The design of the South Transit Center (south of Harmony Road) will commence in July.
- Design of the Troutman pedestrian crossing under the BNSF railroad is underway. A public meeting scheduled for July.

## COMMUNITY EVENTS

### Thursday Night Music and More

- This concert series at Civic Center Park (222 Laporte Ave. -between Mason and Howes Streets) attracts the area's best musicians! The kickoff concert is on Thursday, July 9th at 6:00pm.
- This year's lineup features the following bands:
  - July 9- Colorado Swing Big Band - *Swing Era Jazz & Blues***
  - July 16- Archie Funker - *11 Piece Funky Horn Band***
  - July 23- Otra Vez - *Salsa & Latin Jazz***
  - July 30- Mojambus - *Blues***
  - August 6- Euforquestra - *Afro Caribbean Barnyard Funk***
  - August 13- Interstate Cowboy - *Western Swing & Americana***
- The concert and activities are nestled in the grass in this natural amphitheatre behind the Justice Center and are conveniently located within walking distance of Downtown restaurants, parking and shopping. The evening is filled with vendors serving hotdogs, ice cream, activities for all of the kids, face painting & much more! The public is encouraged to park in the parking garage at Mason and LaPorte.

### Downtown Days – July 9-11

- Enjoy a day of shopping in historic downtown with your family and friends amongst a variety of street performers and great savings at the Downtown Sidewalk Sales on July 9, 10 & 11!
- Relish the great summer weather by meandering through downtown to check out the sidewalk sales. Merchants will be displaying their merchandise on the sidewalks of their stores as well as inside. Be sure to call ahead for specific store hours.
- The streets will be alive with many talented performers. Street performers will be performing all around downtown on Thursday, Friday and Saturday between 10:00am and 7:00pm. The variety of performers this year includes belly dancing, clowns and more!
- See [downtownfortcollins.com/festivals.php/shopevents](http://downtownfortcollins.com/festivals.php/shopevents) for more details and a list of participating stores.

### Nature of the Poudre River Tours – July 18

- Discover the beautiful Cache la Poudre River as it flows near downtown Fort Collins on a 2-hour walking tour loop on paved and soft surface trails. Meet at Lee Martinez Park, in the lower parking lot near the tennis courts. Tours are family friendly.

- Free – NO registration required. Call 970-416-2815 or email [naturalareas@fcgov.com](mailto:naturalareas@fcgov.com) with your contact information and program choices.
- Visit [fcgov.com/naturalareas/pdf/09program-guide.pdf](http://fcgov.com/naturalareas/pdf/09program-guide.pdf) for an extensive list of Natural Areas programs including guided hikes, equestrian rides, bike rides, and much more. Events range from easy to moderate and include events for children and seniors.

## NATURAL AREAS QUARTERLY REPORT

### 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter 2009

Natural Areas Land Conservation Update - June 2009	Acreage	Cost
Land Protected - April - June 2009	-	-
Land Protected In 2009 - Year to Date	1,367	\$ 2,522,975
Acres Owned by Natural Areas Program	34,419	
Acres Leased by Natural Areas Program	1,128	
Acres of Conservation Easements Protected by Natural Areas Program	4,937	
Total Acres Owned/Leased/Conservation Easements - Natural Areas since program inception	40,483	\$ 75,593,964
Total Acres Managed - Natural Areas Program	33,759	
Net Land Conservation Funds Budgeted Remaining for 2009		\$ 1,731,926
<b>Under Contract - 2009</b>		
<b>Acquisitions To Date - 2009</b>		
Picnic Rock	160	\$ 170,215
Picnic Rock Lease	191	\$ 8,600
Wellington Community Separator	136	\$ 1,397,803
Bernard	880	\$ 946,357
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>1,367</b>	<b>\$ 2,522,975</b>

## SPOTLIGHT

### Traffic Operations Department

- The mission of the Traffic Operations Department is to facilitate safe and efficient travel around the city via all modes of transportation.
- There are three divisions in Traffic Operations:
  - Traffic Engineering
  - Traffic Signal Maintenance and Construction
  - Signing and Pavement Markings
- Traffic Engineering is responsible for traffic signal timing, traffic operational studies, traffic accident analysis, development review, signing and marking plans, work area traffic control,

neighborhood traffic mitigation, traffic data collection, and the operation of the City's Traffic Management Center (TMC).

- Traffic signals, closed circuit television cameras, and vehicle detection equipment are tied into the TMC using approximately 33 miles of fiber optic cable and wireless radios. This state-of-the-art system allows engineers to monitor traffic in real-time and make adjustments as necessary to expedite traffic flow.
- Good traffic engineering relies on sound data. Data collected by Traffic Operations includes 24 hour traffic volume counts, intersection turning movement counts, pedestrian/bicycle counts, speed studies, travel time studies, and traffic accident data which is used to identify high accident locations that can be targeted for improvement.
- Traffic signal maintenance is responsible for keeping the traffic signal system running. The system includes:
  - 177 traffic signals
  - 36 pedestrians signals
  - 26 reduced speed limit school zones with flashers
  - 5 fire station traffic signals
  - 28 closed circuit television cameras
  - 40 mid-block vehicle detection areas
  - Fiber optic cable, radios and computer network infrastructure used for communication with the Traffic Management Center.
- Maintenance includes preventative maintenance and response maintenance when malfunctions occur. The preventive maintenance program thoroughly inspects each traffic signal, pedestrian signal equipment and controlled school zone twice a year to insure proper performance of all equipment.
- Signing and pavement marking teams are responsible for the installation, replacement and repair of signs and pavement markings used to inform, guide, warn and regulate traffic in a safe manner. Traffic Operations maintains:
  - Approximately 30,000 traffic signs
  - Approximately 1,500 lane miles of street striping (about 21,000 gallons of paint).
  - About 1,500 crosswalks
  - Downtown parking spaces and red curb parking restrictions

## **Highlights for 2009**

- Traffic Signal Re-timing Project
  - With funding through a Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) grant the Traffic Operations Department is working on a review of the signal timing on all of the major arterial streets within the City.
  - New timing plans are being implemented with an emphasis being placed on minimizing stops and reducing vehicle emissions. Work has been completed on the following corridors:
    - Harmony - College to Lady Moon (15% reduction in travel time during the p.m. peak)
    - Timberline - Trilby to Prospect (14% reduction in travel time during the p.m. peak)
    - Lemay - Stuart to Vine (8% reduction in travel time during the p.m. peak)
    - Mulberry - Whedbee to Greenfields (15% reduction in travel time during the p.m. peak)

- The project is on schedule and under budget. The remainder of the arterial corridors will be completed by the end of the year.
- Sign Replacement Program
  - In 2008, the Federal Highway Administration implemented new regulations related to traffic sign retroreflectivity. The intent of the regulations is to improve safety by ensuring sign visibility at night. To comply with these new regulations, Traffic Operations has implemented a sign replacement program.
  - This multi-year project will eventually replace approximately 10,000 signs. This year, Traffic Operations will replace about 1,500 signs.
- Pedestrian Crossing Treatment Guidelines
  - The Fort Collins Transportation Master Plan and Pedestrian Plan note the importance of providing safe and efficient pedestrian facilities. The decision to travel as a pedestrian is partially subject to the pedestrian's ability to safely and efficiently cross roadways along the travel route. Traffic Operations is developing guidelines for the placement of devices to ensure pedestrians have adequate street crossing facilities. Goals include:
    - Support the goals in the City's Pedestrian Plan and the Transportation Master Plan.
    - Promote pedestrian travel by providing safe and convenient roadway crossing opportunities.
    - Create a balance between the demand for treatments and the resources to implement them.
    - Achieve a reasonable balance of impacts between all modes of travel.
    - Encourage multi-use path street crossings where they can be safely implemented.
    - Create a standard guideline to ensure consistent and appropriate installation of pedestrian treatments throughout the City.
  - These guidelines will be completed this summer with implementation beginning shortly thereafter.

## **PUBLIC SAFETY UPDATE**

### **POLICE SERVICES**

June was a busy month with officers responding to over 7845 incidents (calls for service) resulting in 1600+ cases. A snapshot of some of the activities in June include:

#### **Home Invasion Robbery Arrest Made**

- Jovon Justin Roberts, 22, was arrested for the home invasion robbery at 1608 South Whitcomb Street. Three 20 year-old male residents reported an unknown black male entered their home, threatened one of them with a knife and took some electronics, cash, and one of the victim's wallet. Officers located the suspect's vehicle 30-minutes later in an apartment complex parking lot on Heatheridge Drive.

- Roberts was arrested, taken into custody on charges of 1st Degree Burglary, Aggravated Robbery, and 1st Degree Kidnapping.

### **False 9-1-1 calls**

- Officers and firefighters found themselves responding to three apparent false 9-1-1 calls reporting motor vehicle accidents with injuries within a 30 minute time span on June 3. In each incident, officers and fire personnel arrive and were unable to locate any signs of an accident.

### **Bank Robberies**

- The Western States Bank at 1298 N. College was robbed on June 2 bringing the total of bank robberies in 2009 to 7. Police work closely with the FBI on bank robbery investigations. Gary D. Jackson was arrested several days later in Wyoming for the robbery.
- Since 2006, there have been 12 bank robberies in Fort Collins of which 8 suspects have been identified and/or arrested.

### **Traffic Crash**

- Police responded to over 265 reports of motor vehicles crashes in June including 1 fatality.
- In June three people died in motorcycle crashes in the Fort Collins area. The investigation continues into the June 19 fatal crash involving the collision of a 2004 Honda Odyssey van and a 2007 Harley Davidson motorcycle in the intersection of E. Harmony Road and Snow Mesa Drive. The motorcyclist was pronounced dead at the scene.
- Later that afternoon a Larimer County Deputy responded to the Pine Ridge Natural Area to investigate a report of an indecent exposure. While in the area he observed a crashed motorcycle and located the bodies of a missing Fort Collins man and woman police were actively looking for.

### **Increased Traffic Enforcement**

- Traffic enforcement has increased and people are taking note. For years the most frequent complaints from citizens have been about traffic and traffic enforcement. As such, a greater emphasis has been placed on traffic enforcement which has resulted in an increase in the number of traffic citations issued as follows:

2005 – 10,261  
 2006 – 11,230  
 2007 – 12,525  
 2008 – 15,175  
 2009 (thru May) – 7,856

### **Stabbing**

- A total of six stabbings were reported in June. Details of a few are noted below:
- On June 6 a man was received several stab wounds in the back following a verbal and physical altercation in Jefferson Park. Cynthia Sanders, 56, was arrested for 2<sup>nd</sup> degree assault.
- On June 20 a 25-year-old man was stabbed outside an apartment at 2602 Timberwood Drive. Details of the altercation were limited as the victim and witnesses were unable or unwilling to provide any information to officers.
- An 18 year-old man was stabbed June 28 in the alley at 23 Old Town Square.

- A 34 year-old man was stabbed following an altercation at 1550 Blue Spruce Drive on June 28.

### **Sex Assault**

- Roberto May, 43, was arrested June 8 on charges of Sexual Assault on a Child (F4) and Sexual Assault on a Child Position of Trust (F4).

### **Attempted Sexual Assault**

- A 16 year-old female reported an unknown male grabbed her arm and tried to remove her shirt as she walked near a crosswalk on the west side of Linton Elementary School on Caribou Drive on June 23. The victim broke free, left the area, and reported the incident to police approximately 1 hour later. The case is under investigation.

### **Ethnic Intimidation**

- Leondas Eugene Tucker, 49, was arrested at his residence on West Elizabeth Street on June 17 after a 65 year-old neighbor reported he had slammed a door and made offensive remarks with racial overtones towards her.

### **Assault**

- Elizabeth Morgan Burrell, 26, is facing charges of assault with a deadly weapon for allegedly stabbing David Osborne in the back at his home at 825 ½ N. College Avenue and then tipping a refrigerator on top of him. Burrell and another man, Kelly Standifer, fled Fort Collins in a stolen vehicle after the assault and were taken into custody on I-70 just west of Limon on June 13.

### **Emergency Notification System Failed**

- The emergency notification system that sends phone calls, e-mails and text alerts during an emergency failed after several attempts to notify residents of an approaching storm on June 15. The source of the problem has been identified; although regrettable, the incident was a valuable learning experience. LETA, Everbridge (the system vendor) and the Poudre Emergency Communications Center (PECC) have been working to correct the problem that appears to have been a combination of both computer and human operator error. The root cause of the problem has been determined as the inability of the system to accommodate the distribution of messages using overlapping polygons fields. Procedures were put in place to prevent the problem from occurring in the future.

### **Shooting**

- A 17 year-old Fort Collins juvenile male reported being shot in the arm June 21 following a verbal altercation while in his car at the intersection of E. Drake Rd. and College Ave. The victim was transported to the hospital for treatment of his injuries. The shooter has been identified and the vehicle and guns involved have been recovered. This was not a random drive-by shooting and all the involved parties are known gang members. The Criminal Impact Unit is working to locate the suspect.

### **Studio 14**

- The Fort Collins Police SWAT team's 25-minute interview with Studio 14 is now being aired on the City's local cable Channel 14. The interview covers topics such as the team composition, training, frequency of use, typical applications, as well as a few of the sniper

and less lethal weapons. The program may be aired on Channel 14 or at [atlas.fcgov.com/SWAT/index.html#](http://atlas.fcgov.com/SWAT/index.html#)

### **Crime Prevention Activities**

- June incidents are up as the schools close for the summer break. This is not unusual, as we routinely see an increase associated with spring and Christmas breaks as well.
- The number one crime in Fort Collins continues to be First Degree Criminal Trespass (getting into someone's vehicle and stealing items). This is a felony crime no matter how much is taken. Quite often criminals who commit this type of crime will look for opportunities such as unlocked vehicles, windows slightly open, valuables left in plain sight, or vehicles parked in unlit areas.
- This month, the Crime Prevention Specialist spoke to 1850 who attended various activities such as talks, presentations, or fairs. 41 telephone calls were also handled that ranged in questions about restraining orders to forming a Neighborhood Watch. Here's a breakdown:
  - Security Survey & Dealing with Difficult People, ALPHA Center, 8 attended
  - Kid Safety, Kindercare (Oakridge), 31 attended
  - Safety Fair, Coachlight Apts/Neighbor-to-Neighbor, 250 attended
  - Workplace Violence, ChildSafe, 7 attended
  - Cub Scout Jamboree, Safety Talk, 500 attended
  - Stetson Creek Neighborhood Watch, 12 attended
  - Lafarge Employee Safety, 50 attended
  - RESTORE, 42 attended
  - Safety Fair, University Village, 200 attended
  - DBA, Personal Safety, 50 attended
  - Cub Scout Jamboree, Safety Talk, 200 attended
  - Old Navy, Safety Event, 200 attended
  - Amazing & Aging Senior Event, 300 attended

### **Crime Prevention Tip:**

- Please remember to lock doors and windows (house or vehicle), and provide good lighting during the night. This will lessen your chances of being a crime victim. Please don't provide the opportunity. And remember to call police if you see or hear anything that is suspicious or unusual.

## **BUILDING ACTIVITY**

### **PLANNING, DEVELOPMENT & TRANSPORTATION SERVICES**

**June, 2009**

#### **Monthly Report**

#### **CURRENT PLANNING:**

Received 12 Development Application/Minor Amendment submittals in June, 2009. YTD, submittals are up 14% over 2008.

**SUMMARY ACTIVITY REPORT**

**CONCEPTUAL REVIEWS/FOLLOW UPS – JUNE, 2009:**

<b>Project</b>
Expansion of non-conforming use Subdivide existing lot into 2 lots Demonstration/Education Facility Change of permitted use to allow Auto Service Garage Divide lot for new house and alley-house New infill project on Prospect Mixed Use – Industrial and Residential

**STAFF REVIEWS – JUNE, 2009:**

<b>Type</b>	<b>Project</b>	<b>Process</b>	<b>Description</b>
PDP	318 W Myrtle Townhomes	LUC	This is a request to remodel and add a second story onto the existing house at 318 W Myrtle St and add 4 new two story townhome dwelling units to be attached to the N end of the existing house. Each new dwelling unit will contain 2 bedrooms and will be 836 to 960 sq ft in size. A new parking lot for 8 vehicles will be added to the N end of the property. This lot will be accessed from the alley along the E side of the property.  Location: 318 W Myrtle St; on the N side of W Myrtle St, between S Howes St and S Meldrum St.  Zoning: NCB-Neighborhood Conservation Buffer.
PDP	1101 W Oak St	LUC	Request to construct a new 2-car detached garage with habitable space. The lot currently contains one single family residence.  Location: 1101 W. Oak St.  Zoning: NCL – Neighborhood Conservation Low Density.
PDP	Aspen Dental Care	LUC	This is a request for a new 2,600 sq ft,

			<p>single story dental office building. The building is to be 19'6" high. The property is 19,575 sq ft (.45 acre) in size. New paved parking areas for 19 vehicles will be added as part of the development plan. This site will be accessed from S Timberline Rd via a shared driveway with the neighboring animal hospital. There will be a secondary driveway connection into the Sunstone Neighborhood Center to the south.</p> <p>Location: 3838 S Timberline Rd, just S of the Countryside Animal Hospital.</p> <p>Zoning: LMN – Low Density Mixed-Use Neighborhood.</p>
PDP	Union Place	LUC	<p>Request for a 58 unit community that will include 8 single family homes, 10 duplex units, 40 multi-family townhome style units, and 3 mixed-use commercial buildings with an undetermined number of additional residential units above. There could be as many as 44 affordable housing units. Access to the site would be from Willox Ln and a future Mason St extension.</p> <p>Location: 10.2 acres on the S side of W Willox Ln just to the W of the McDonald's Restaurant/Shell Gas Station.</p> <p>Zoning: CN – Commercial N College.</p>
Major Amendment	SunTerrace Townhomes (Old Town N Replat)	LUC	<p>Request for a 56 unit townhome development to be established through a Major Amendment to the approved Final Plan for the Old Town North Subdivision (file #28-99). The project includes a replat of Blocks 6 and 9. The replat of Block 9 will create attached single-family lots</p>

			<p>from the previously defined detached single unit lots found in Block 9.</p> <p>Location: NW corner of Cajetan St and Redwood St.</p> <p>Zoning: CCN – Community Commercial, N College.</p>
Major Amendment	Penny Flats	LUC	<p>Major amendment revises Buildings 3 and 4 of the original approved PDP from 4 story buildings with a maximum height of 54' to 6 story buildings with a maximum height of 84'. Proposing to increase from 147 units to 170 residential units and increase square footage from 200,838 sq ft to 222,831 sq ft. Also proposing to decrease commercial use from 29,246 sq ft to 25,400 sq ft and increasing the number of parking spaces from 317 to 323 spaces.</p> <p>Location: Block 33, at the NW corner of Maple St and Mason St.</p> <p>Zoning: D – Downtown District.</p>
Major Amendment	Casey's Car Wash	LUC	<p>Request to remodel a portion of the existing self-serve car wash into a small novelty retail store and café with patio.</p> <p>Location: 4315 S. Mason – W of S College Ave, S of W Drake Rd, E of S Shields St and N of W Horsetooth Rd.</p> <p>Zoning: C – Commercial.</p>
PDP	Whitman Storage Facility	LUC	<p>Request to add Recreational Vehicle, Boat and Truck Storage use (screened storage in an unroofed area) on the southerly one-half (0.9 acre) of the commercially zoned portion of the property at 209 E Skyway Dr. The proposed use currently is not permitted in the C, Commercial</p>

			<p>District; however, City Council recently approved an ordinance that allows an applicant to request that a use permitted in the City of Fort Collins be added on a property/site in a particular zone district.</p> <p>Location: S side of E Skyway Dr, E of S College Ave.</p> <p>Zoning: RL – Low Density Residential (easterly 1/3) and C – Commercial (westerly 2/3) zone districts.</p>
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**HEARINGS – JUNE, 2009:**

<b>Type</b>	<b>Project</b>	<b>Hearing Type Outcome</b>	<b>Description</b>
Exemption to Land Use Code	Centre Avenue Residences	P&Z Hearing  Approved	<p>Request to allow residential building heights of 4 stories on the property at the NE corner of Centre Ave and Worthington St. The allowable height on this property is 3 stories, and the building height standard is set forth in Section 4.27(D)(4)(a) of the City's Land Use Code. Ultimately, the applicant is proposing to submit a Project Development Plan (PDP) for 3 buildings, each containing 10 dwelling units, on the 2.4 acre site. The target market is for seniors wanting to live in an upscale condominium project in a convenient location close to a variety of services.</p> <p>Location: NE corner of Centre Ave and Worthington St.</p> <p>Zoning: E - Employment Zone District</p>
Addition of Permitted Use	Rocky Mountain Archery	P&Z Hearing  Approved	<p>Request for an Addition of a Permitted Use to allow Unlimited Indoor Recreational Use and Facility (over 5,000 sq ft) to the property located at</p>

			<p>4518 Innovation Drive. This use is currently not allowed in the existing zoned HC - Harmony Corridor District. The proposal includes an 11,600 square foot facility on .63 acre for Rocky Mountain Archery. It will be a full service archery pro-shop and indoor shooting range and will perform tuning and repair on all types of archery equipment, provide any and all of the archery supplies that anyone involved in the sport could need and manage a top of the line indoor facility for numerous shooting leagues and statewide tournaments.</p> <p>Location: 4518 Innovation Drive.</p> <p>Zoning: HC – Harmony Corridor.</p>
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**NEW SUBMITTALS – JUNE, 2009:**

<b>Type</b>	<b>Project</b>	<b>Process</b>	<b>Description</b>
Basic Development Review	Provincetowne Neighborhood Park	LUC	The project is a 10 acre, City of Fort Collins neighborhood park in the Provincetown neighborhood. The park site provides a small restroom, picnic shelter, pump house, playground, soccer field, basketball court, kids BMX area, skate park, seating areas and shade trees. The project also includes two trails for the Natural Resources Department.

**NEW SUBMITTALS (REVISED PLANS) – JUNE, 2009:**

<b>Type</b>	<b>Project</b>	<b>Process</b>	<b>Description</b>
PDP	SunTerrace Townhomes (Old Town N Replat)	LUC	See Description under “Staff Review” section above.
PDP	Union Place	LUC	See Description under “Staff Review” section above.
Major	Penny Flats	LUC	See Description under “Staff Review”

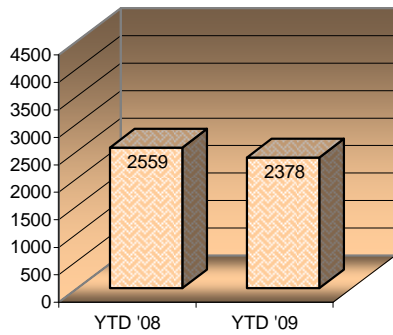
Amendment			section above.
Modification of Standards	Meldrum Street Townhomes	LUC	<p>Request for a modification of standards for Meldrum Townhomes in order to accommodate the unit's requirements for accessible living and bedroom space, therefore pushing more of the structure to the rear of the lot.</p> <p>Location: 221, 223, 225 &amp; 227 N Meldrum.</p> <p>Zoning: NCB – Neighborhood Conservation Buffer.</p>
PDP	Aspen Dental	LUC	See Description under “Staff Review” section above.
PDP	Rigden Farm 15 <sup>th</sup> Filing (revision)	LUC	<p>Request to replat 2.69 Acres of Tract A of the Rigden Farm First Filing into 3 separate lots with minor infrastructure improvements. A subsequent separate application will be submitted for a proposed future bank on the site.</p> <p>Location: SE corner of S Timberline Rd and Custer Dr.</p> <p>Zoning: NC – Neighborhood Commercial.</p>

**NEW SUBMITTALS (FINAL PLANS) – JUNE, 2009:**

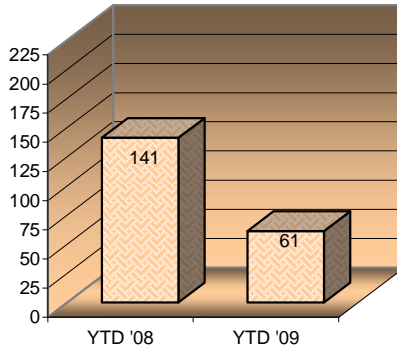
Type	Project	Process	Description
	None for June		

**PLANNING, DEVELOPMENT AND TRANSPORTATION SERVICES**  
**June, 2009**  
**Monthly Report**  
**MONTHLY NEIGHBORHOOD & BUILDING SERVICES ACTIVITY**

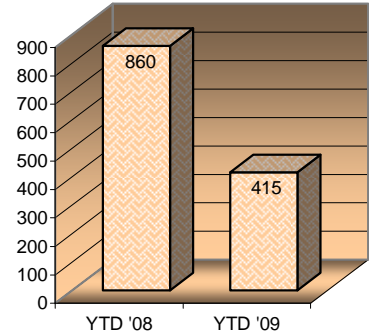
**Bldg Permits Issued YTD**



**Total Construction Value YTD (\$M)**

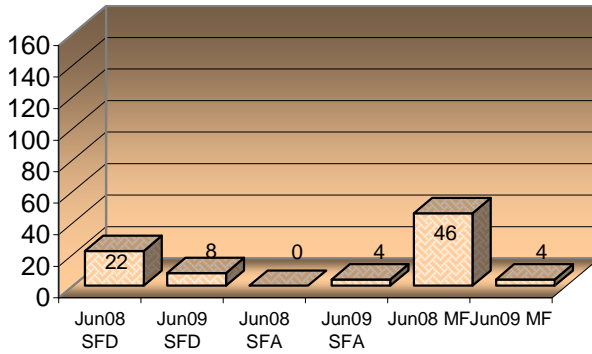


**Total Fees Collected YTD (\$T)**

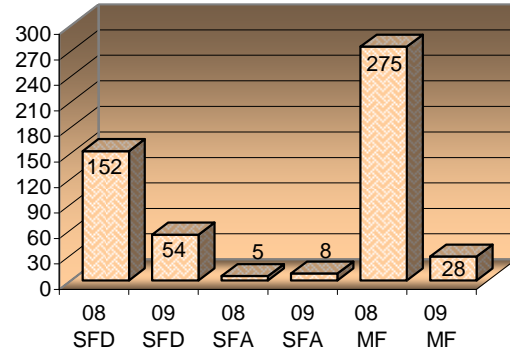


**Current vs. Previous Year New Housing Units by Current Month and YTD Totals**

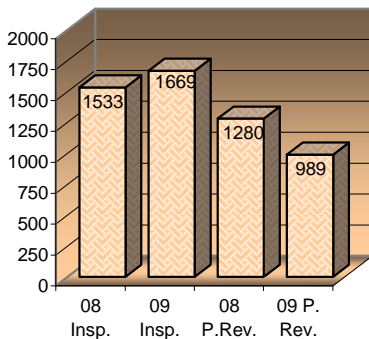
**Units for Current Month**



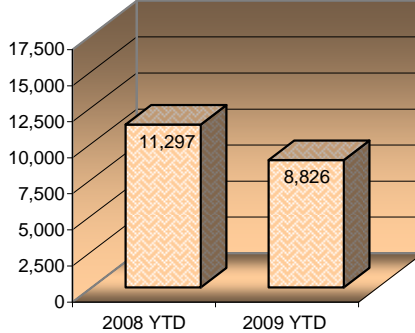
**Units YTD**



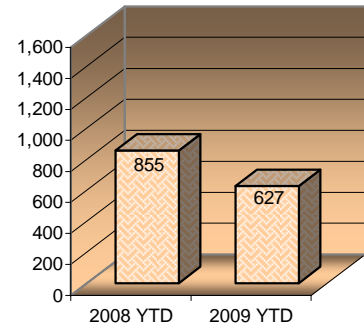
**Zoning Plan Reviews/Inspections YTD**



**Building Inspections YTD**



**Building Plan Reviews YTD**



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