

City Manager's Report

September 17, 2021

Council and Colleagues, greetings. These reports will be included in the City Council packet for regularly scheduled Council meetings, excluding Work Session meetings. The reports are intended to be informational, covering miscellaneous events and topics involving the City organization. This report will include the following supplemental attachments:

- Water Services Monthly Report

Work Anniversaries – September, 2021

Ten Years:

Amy Ulibarri, Recreation Leader I
(9/25/2011)



Dustin Eberhardt, Police Officer
(9/19/2011)



15 Years:

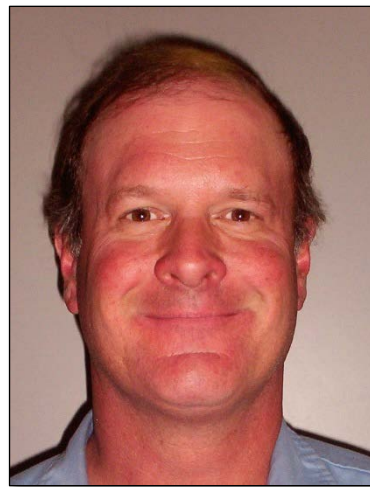
Juan Huerta, Equipment Operator
(9/10/2006)



Richard Tsinnie, Multi-Skilled Worker, Water Services
(9/10/2006)



Robert Cunning, Multi-Skilled Worker, Water Services
(9/10/2006)

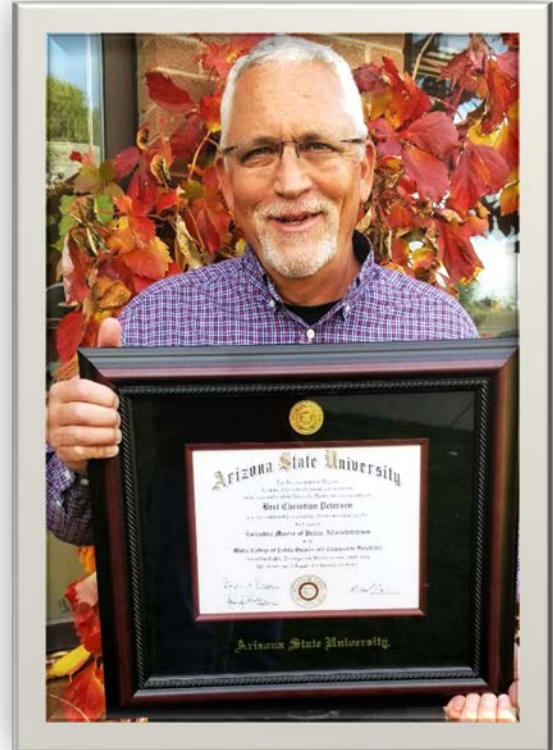


30 Years (ding, ding, ding):

Ringin the bell this month is Bret Petersen, Capital Improvements Engineer, who thirty years ago (9/4/1991) joined Team Flagstaff!

Mr. Peterson has served as GIS Aide, Engineering Aide I, Engineering Aide III, Project Manager I, Utilities Engineer & Project Manager II, Senior Project Manager, Assistant City Engineer, and Capital Improvements Engineer. All of these titles have been earned during his tenure with the City of Flagstaff.

Currently Bret is supervising the bulk of the Capital Projects Team and overseeing significant City projects such as the Lone Tree Overpass and Rio De Flag Flood Control Project. He is quite busy. And we are in good hands. Bret offers the following:



Working for the City of Flagstaff has proven to exceed my expectations as a career choice after graduating from college 30-years ago. Being a public servant and working for (and with) many talented staff over a long career has truly given me a great sense of pride in what we get to deliver for our community. I am one, among many, that continue to make Flagstaff better and I am honored to be a part of the team. We are the lucky ones, we get to serve!

There is much work yet to complete, and I hope to see a large turnout at the ribbon-cutting ceremony when we open the Lone Tree Overpass project in November 2026, again when we complete the final leg of the Rio de Flag Flood Control project, and in celebration of many other planned (and maybe some un-planned) public infrastructure improvements we have promised to deliver to our citizens.

It has been my sincere honor to serve in this capacity."

Congratulations, Mr. Petersen, on your amazing tenure with the City. It has been our sincere honor. We are fortunate to have you!

32 Years (ding, ding, ding):

Also ringing the bell this month is Deputy Chief Frank Higgins, who joined the City Police Department 32 years ago!

His work experience includes assignments working as a Patrol Lieutenant, Patrol Sergeant, Detective, solo motor officer, tactical driving instructor, UAS/drone pilot, and certified forensic computer examiner. He has also served with the Emergency Service Response Teams as a SWAT operator, sniper, and as a bomb technician on the regional bomb squad. During his career he has been awarded the City Managers Award for Employee Excellence, the Lifesaving Medal, Officer of the Year (outside organization), and numerous commendations. Prior to his law enforcement career, he served two enlistments in the United States Marine Corps.



With this multi-skilled background, Dep. Chief Higgins can sum it all up in his typical short, and always humorous, fashion:

"I am a bomb technician. If you see me running, try to keep up."

We take note that after this amazing tenure, Frank Higgins will be retiring from the City of Flagstaff this month.

Thank you for your service to our community, and to our Nation, Deputy Chief.

Your retirement is well deserved, and we are all so happy for you. You will indeed be missed!

Fire Department

- The FFD special operations team and Coconino County Sheriff's office responded to a hiker that had injured themselves off of Mount Elden Lookout Road. The hiker was halfway up the side of the mountain with approximately a 60% grade. Crews were able to access the patient through the difficult terrain and used a short haul helicopter rescue. The patient was safely extracted off of the side of the mountain and was transported to FMC where the person is expected to recover. (see picture)



- FFD held Firefighter interviews this week and will be working towards conditional offers next week.
- All crews in the GFR trained at the airport with the newest ARFF truck along with airport emergency operations plan. (see picture below)



Human Resources

- The online training portal, LEARN, has been rolled out to the organization. This will provide a significant number of training opportunities to employees online while also being a tool to create and disseminate City specific training.
- Human Resources and Management Services are working together to evaluation a new Human Resources Information System and Payroll platform that will be able to address the City's many needs.

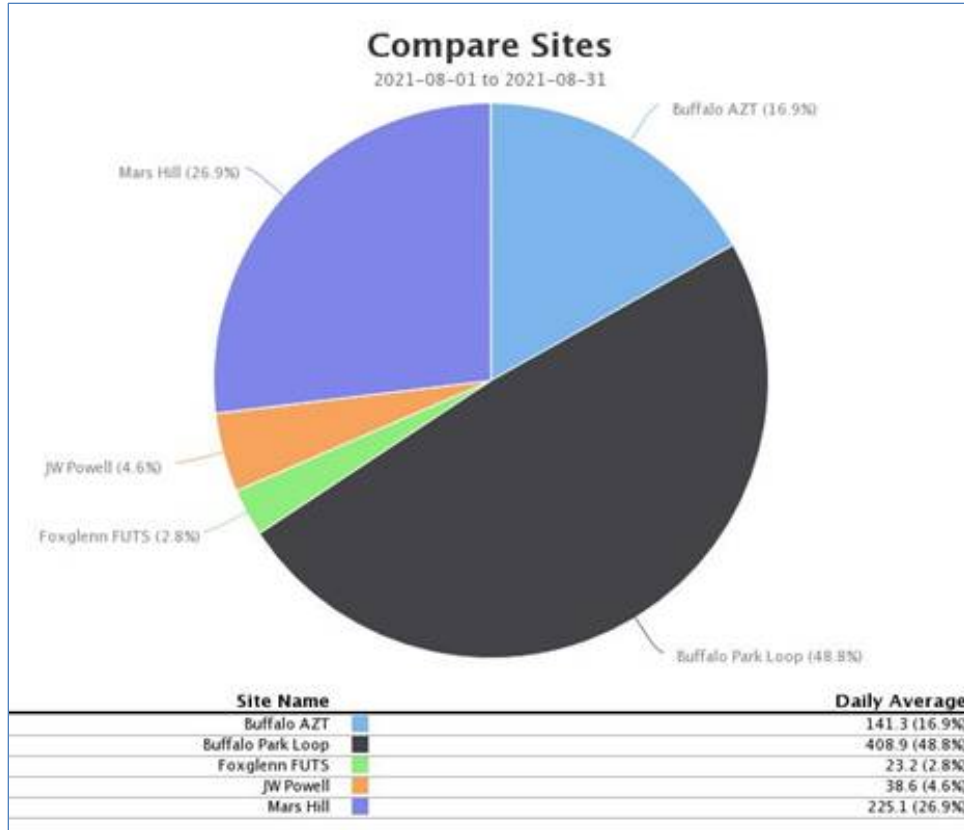
Police Department

- Officer Austin Rogers responded to the downtown area for a report of a subject who was struck by a train. Upon Officer Rogers arrival he noticed a group of people standing around the subject and applying pressure to a bleeding wound on his leg. Officer Rogers assessed the wound and applied his tourniquet. Medics arrived shortly after and took over medical care for the subject. Great work Officer Rogers!
- PIO Sgt. Brockman and Lt. Hernandez organized a coffee with a cop event.
- The Dispatch center has moved over to the new computer aided Dispatch Program.
- Valeria Chase | NAU/COF Program Manager Off-Campus Life & Neighborhood Liaison expressed appreciation for the Flagstaff Police Department's participation on the 4th annual Community Welcome walk! This year, over 40 volunteers met with 240 residents and visited over 370 homes. Neighbors were happy that we made personal connections with them, shared helpful information, and loved on their pets. I am excited to see how our efforts help make a difference in the neighborhoods. Many volunteers expressed how much they enjoyed connecting with their teams, welcoming back students, and getting out in the community after a long time. I appreciate your enthusiasm and cannot thank you enough for taking time out of your busy schedule to volunteer.

Parks, Recreation, Open Space & Events

- The Karen Cooper FUTS Trail experienced flood damage from the August 17th storm event and thank you to Javier Avila and Shawn Mullaney for working to make the trail passable this week, so it could be reopened. (see picture)
- Trail counters for the month of August along five (5) sections of the FUTS are listed below. Many daily users even with the heavy monsoonal season during August.





- Jay Lively staff met with the Arizona Coyotes Public Affairs team on Thursday, September 2nd to give a tour of the rink and discuss partnership opportunities moving forward.
- Cub Scout Pack 736 (boys and girls ages K-5th grade) committed to helping the Open Space program by planting native grass and flower seeds on the slopes along N Izabel St, on the east side of McMillan Mesa. (picture below)



- Open Spaces also hosted a Mushroom Walk, with the City's own Sara Dechter and her husband Mike leading the way on McMillan Mesa. It was a very popular event, with a long waiting list!



- The Hal Jensen Recreation Center had new computers installed in the computer lab. The City of Flagstaff IT team installed software that will prevent file downloads and blocks inappropriate websites for participants.

Public Works

- The DOC crew has been assisting with vegetation clean up this week, the focus has been downtown alleys and things are looking nice in that area.
- Hauling crews have begun the movement of the large Museum Flood debris pile that has been accumulated since the last monsoon storm. The stockpile is being loaded on E. Rt. 66 and is moved to the Cinder Lake Landfill for scaling and proper disposal. This work will be scheduled as the crew is available and will take a couple of weeks to complete.



- The Streets Signal Technician is addressing a handful of streetlight outages. This week we replaced half a dozen based on the bulbs that have been found. The longer-term LED replacement project is still working through procurement and legal for RFP review. This longer-term solution is being led by engineering and we continue to advocate to a swift resolution and formal solicitation as soon as possible.
- The Fleet Management Committee met this week and reviewed the "Electrification" sub-committee's draft policy on navigating the City's transition to alternate fueled vehicles.

That is all for now, Council. Appended hereto is the monthly report from Water Services. Thank you. Onward and upward ...