

280 or as many as 465 homes. This will provide varied home choices as required by Monument's comprehensive plan.

The development will be served by three new access points off Old Denver Highway that cross the Santa Fe Trail. A total of six crossings were part of a memorandum of understanding between Phoenix Bell Associates LLP and El Paso County that was signed Jan. 14, 2008. Foreman asked, "Can you imagine having 13 crossings across this area?" He noted the town is working with the developers, and this property won't be developed for two or three years. We have the time to work with the developers," and the rest of those partnering to relocate this portion.

Just the portion of the trail included in Conexus Phase

2 and 3 will be relocated. A separate owner of the property north of this parcel is not developing. To the south, Conexus Phase 1 and the Baptist Road Trailhead will remain as they are with no trail changes. A Great Outdoors Colorado grant request may come to the board in the future to pay a portion of this realignment.

Trustee Mitch LaKind asked if there would be a barrier between the trail and the highway for noise mitigation. Foreman said the realigned trail would be in the landscape right-of-way between the development and the highway.

This request was approved by the Monument Planning Commission during its Aug. 12 meeting. See <https://ocn.me/v20n9.htm#mpc>.

Segregated left and right

turn lanes will be added to Old Denver Highway, which will eventually become a four-lane roadway. Resident Robert Wells suggested the entrance to the new development should come off of Baptist Road, eliminating the need for any access points over the Santa Fe Trail, but Andrea Barlow of NES Inc., representing the developer, said that wouldn't work because of the protected Preble's meadow jumping mouse habitat and the many drainage ways.

The motion passed 7-0.

**Woodmen Valley Chapel-Monument campus approval**

Woodmen Valley Chapel asked the board to approve a Monument campus in the Conexus Phase 2 and 3 development. The 5.45-acre parcel was rezoned to include churches in August 2018.

Traffic will enter the church area by going north on Old Denver Highway and turning east into the parking lot. When leaving the church, patrons will only be allowed to turn right or north onto Old Denver Highway. Ed Houle, project manager for the chapel, said it was to encourage patrons to go into downtown Monument after services.

The 29,000-square-foot church includes 642 assembly seats and 394 parking spaces. Between the two services on Sunday, as some are coming to the church while others are leaving will be a traffic issue. Church volunteers will assist with parking in the lot and paid officers will manage traffic along the roadway.

The request passed unanimously.

**Broadband discussion**

Trustee Laurie Clark proposed a broadband feasibility study for the town after the voters approved an exemption from the SB-152 bill. Clark said this makes way for the town to increase competition, provide basic broadband to all residents, improve telecommunications service, and possibly decrease cost of broadband service.

She stressed the need for a comprehensive vision to determine what role the town should have in broadband. "I am not in any way suggesting the town should compete with private industry," she clarified.

LaKind, who has previous experience in high speed wireless service deployment, said "I will never vote for a nickel to go toward this study or that the town becomes an ISP (Internet Service Provider)," and competes with private enterprise. Wilson agreed, saying the government should not be involved in free markets.

**Background:** High-speed broadband service is typically run over fixed fiber connections. When it is available in the U.S., fixed wireless access or 5G will use wireless connectivity at the final connection within a home or business, which will require close-in, line-of-sight transmitters set hundreds of feet apart over a street.

Clark said the 1,650 people who voted on this ballot question proves the residents want more choice. OCN believes she is referring to the vote count on the ballot question about broadband services. In April, the ballot question passed with 1,044 "yes" votes and 504 "no" votes.

LaKind said that when the question was asked of the voters about SB-152 to allow the town to remove itself from the overview of the bill, there was zero information provided to

the public either on the town's website or in the blue book. "I believe the majority of residents were not informed" of the result of their vote, he said. He suggested there are six national companies that either provide broadband today or will be doing so in the future.

Clark asked the board to approve \$95,000 for a 2021 study.

Clark's motion died on arrival when no trustee made a second motion to the request. Foreman was directed by the board to do no further work on broadband for the town.

**Town code enforcement**

Town Code Enforcement Officer Evan Cox gave the board an overview of his many assigned duties. With regard to enforcement, Cox said he attempts to educate violators first to gain voluntary compliance. Wilson noted that when the board approved the full-time position, they knew there would be 50% enforcement duties and the rest all duties as assigned.

Cox said that when Chief Sean Hemingway arrived his duties tripled, including COVID-19 related procurement and preparedness planning, scheduling training, acting as firearms instructor, and writing training bulletins.

He said Woodmoor residents call for town code enforcement, but because Woodmoor is not in the town proper, they should use the form at <https://www.woodmoor.org/wia-violation-submission/>.

Cox told the board he receives code violation notifications through word-of-mouth and sticky notes and could use a centralized software system to administer the town's codes more efficiently.

The meeting adjourned 8:51 p.m.

*Allison Robenstein can be reached at [allisonrobenstein@ocn.me](mailto:allisonrobenstein@ocn.me).*



**What are you looking for?**

- Support care- What would yours look like?
- How is your optimism?
- What is necessary?
- Whose health is more important?
- Spouse and Caregivers are not the same. **Why?**

**Lifting Spirits Adult Day Service**  
755 Highway 105 #C  
Palmer Lake CO 80133  
719-488-1415



**We Don't Just Brighten Homes, We Brighten Futures.**

**High School Sophomores & Juniors Win a Summer Trip!**  
MVEA Youth Leadership Trip Contest

High school sophomores and juniors are just a couple of short questions away from an opportunity to win a once-in-a-lifetime all-expenses paid trip. Top-placed winners will receive either a trip to Washington D.C., with more than 1,800 students from across the U.S. for the Electric Cooperative Youth Tour, or will be invited to the Colorado Electric Education Institute's Cooperative Youth Leadership Camp in the mountains outside of Steamboat Springs. Deadline: Thursday, November 12, 2020.

Visit [www.mvea.coop/leadershiptrip](http://www.mvea.coop/leadershiptrip) for contest qualifications and to complete an entry form.

**Need Cash For College? Win a Scholarship!**  
\$27,000 In Scholarships Available

MVEA's scholarship program includes scholarships to accredited colleges, universities, junior or community colleges, as well as Vocational/Technical Scholarships. Additional scholarships include Power Lineworker Scholarships for students pursuing a career through a lineworker training program, as well as a Power Engineer Scholarship for current college students pursuing a power engineering career. Deadline: Monday, January 18, 2021.

Visit [www.mvea.coop/scholarships](http://www.mvea.coop/scholarships) to learn more.

Questions? Contact Erica Meyer,  
(719) 494-2654, [erica.m@mvea.coop](mailto:erica.m@mvea.coop).



**Monument Board of Trustees, Sept. 21**  
**Town sells \$22 million in debt to finance water projects**

*By Allison Robenstein*

At the Sept. 21 Monument Board of Trustees (BOT) meeting, the board approved the sale of debt in the form of lease agreements to finance water projects. The 2019 budget audit was reviewed. During a budget workshop before the regular meeting, Treasurer Rosa Ooms discussed the 2021 preliminary budget.

October was recognized as National Arts and Humanities Month. To find out more about events see <https://arts-october.com/events/>.

Trustee Laurie Clark was noted absent.

**Debt sales will occur before election**

Town Attorney Andrew Richey asked the board to approve the sale of Certificates of Partici-

pation (COPs) to be paid back in the form of rentals to leased town property.

Richey said, "The COP financing operates through the interplay of several agreements; the first agreement is a lease of town property to a financial trustee in exchange for up to \$22 million for water system improvements (site lease). The second agreement is a lease back to the town by the trustee of town property in exchange for annual rents of up to \$1.5 million (lease agreement). The third document is an agreement of the trustee with investors who receive a portion of the rents from the trustee under the terms of their purchase of Certificates of Participation (indenture)."

The collateral for the agreement will be town prop-