



Town of Mammoth Lakes

2024 Year in Review

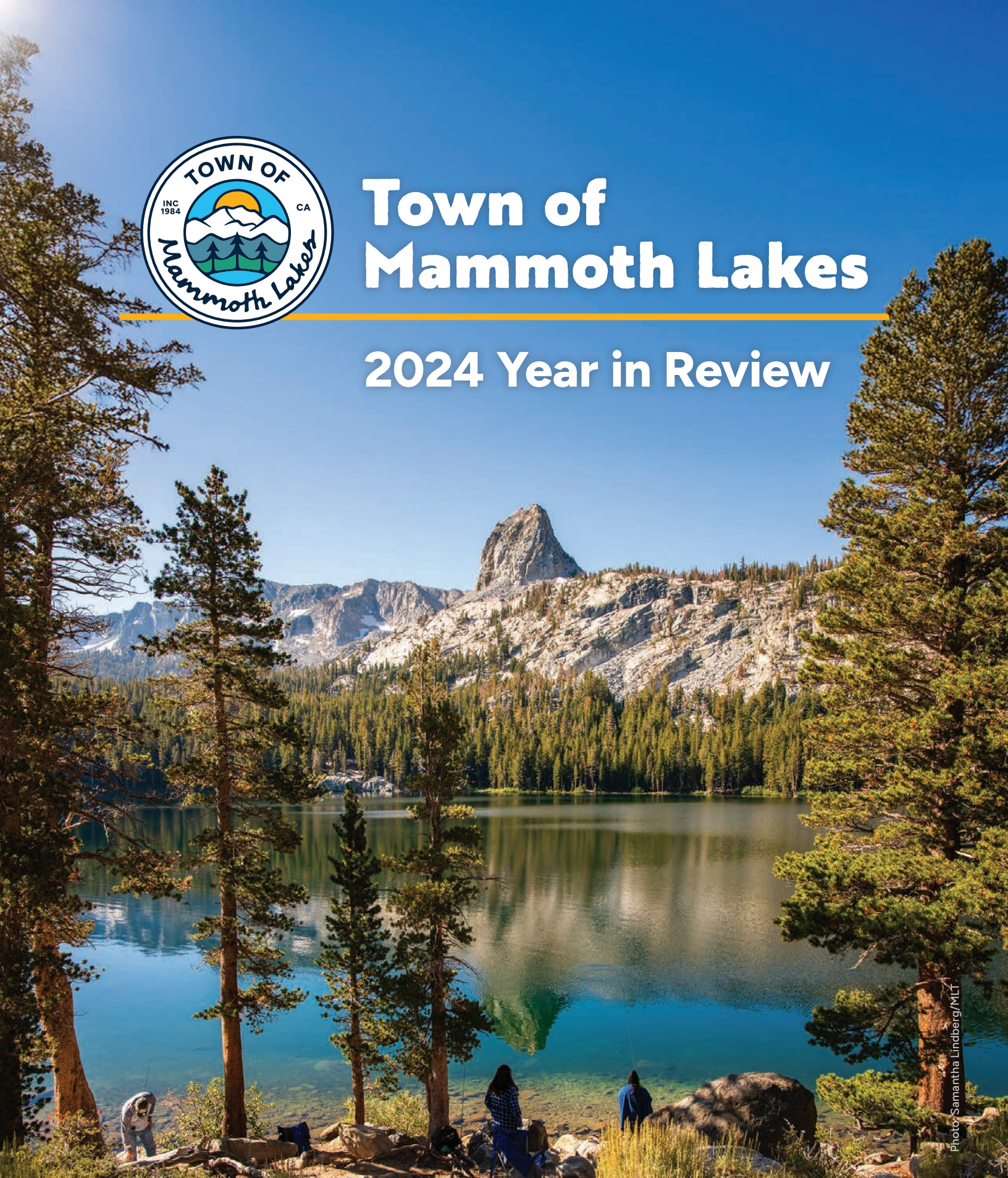


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INTRODUCTION

ROB PATTERSON, TOWN MANAGER

2024 was a year of transition for the Town organization. A change in leadership is always difficult for an organization to navigate and success involves a focused effort from the new leadership and the team. In addition to general leadership style changes, there was a focus on development of a community-first mindset, interdepartmental support, strategic planning, and elevating expectations of subject matter experts in various fields. The leadership team performed a bottom to top evaluation of organizational effectiveness, looking for opportunities for improvement. The effort resulted in an improvement in employee engagement as well as opportunities to solve pain points, increasing the efficiency and effectiveness of the organization.

The organization continues to function at a very high level of achievement as is evidenced in the accomplishments of 2024. The entire organization is focused on optimizing opportunities for the community, from our budget practices, providing unallocated revenue to reinvest in the community to strategic planning, designed to identify opportunities on the horizon, to staff planning to make us ready when opportunities do arise. The team is focused on doing the most they can for the community we serve.

You will read about many successes in the coming pages, things we are truly proud to have achieved. The organization continued to focus on Housing needs, trying new avenues to address the problem through leasing opportunities, while maintaining work on The Parcel and Bridge programs and creating dedicated funding sources, like Measure L, to achieve it all. A broad breath of capital improvement projects was completed to provide infrastructure and maintenance that will serve to improve our visitor and resident experiences. Departments focused on executing their mission of providing for the community through enhancements to services provided and public safety. The team remains responsive to the challenges we face and is ready to provide effort and resources to address them.

The staff success and all of our accomplishments would not be possible without the leadership of the Town Council. In addition to providing policy direction, strategic planning and the voice of the community, the Town Council is supportive and encouraging of our efforts. From top to bottom the entire organization of the Town of Mammoth Lakes is focused on service to the residents of the Town of Mammoth Lakes, our businesses, visitors and partners. I could not be more proud of this effort and our opportunity to serve.



HOUSING ACCOMPLISHMENTS



HOUSING NOW!

The Housing Now! initiative made significant progress in 2024, creating new units available for occupancy in Mammoth Lakes. The program also advanced several housing initiatives and unit availability on a number of individual projects.

THE PARCEL

The Sawyer, or Phase I of The Parcel, was completed in summer 2024 and the 81 units were fully occupied in the same year. All of the units, with the exception of the manager's unit are occupied by local households earning between 30% - 80% AMI (equates to \$23,000 - \$60,000 for a household of two). The Kingfisher, or Phase II of The Parcel, broke ground in August and has a target completion date of fall 2026. These units will also be available to households earning between 30%-80% AMI. Together, these two phases will provide 156 affordable rental units, plus two manager's units.

LEASE TO LOCALS PROGRAM

The Lease to Locals program, operated by Placemate, was launched in August 2024 and aims to connect tenants with property owners who wish to lease their properties on a seasonal (5-11 months) to long-term (12+ months) basis in exchange for a financial incentive from the Town. The incentive is in addition to the rental revenue that the owner will collect. In 2024, five properties have been leased through the program with an average subsidy of \$9,200 per property. The first year goal for the program is to assist approximately 40 households.



ACCESS APARTMENTS AND INNSBRUCK LODGE

The Access Apartments project, located at 238 Sierra Manor Road, is an adaptive reuse project being developed by Eastern Sierra Community Housing (ESCH) that will provide 13 affordable, one-bedroom units. Seven of the units will be for households earning up to 80% AMI (equates to \$52,000 for a household of one) and six of the units will be for households earning up to 120% AMI (equates to \$89,000 for a household of one). An additional \$4.2 million in funding was procured from the State Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program in July 2024 to fill a funding gap and construction began shortly thereafter. The project has a target completion date of fall 2025 and will be owned and operated by ESCH upon completion.

The Innsbruck Lodge Affordable Housing development, located at 913 Forest Trail, is funded through the State Project Homekey program, which is a State-funded program that is intended to assist those who are experiencing homelessness or are at risk of becoming homeless. It provides 15 affordable studio and one-bedroom units (plus one manager's unit) for households earning up to 80% AMI. ESCH is the developer, owner, and operator of the project. Six of the units were completed in May 2024 and the remaining units will be completed in early 2025.



SMALL-SITE DEVELOPMENT UPDATE

The Town's initial small-site development project located at 60 Joaquin Road was largely completed in 2024. The project includes the development of two duplex structures containing a total of four residential units that will be for-sale units available to households earning up to 150% AMI. The units are expected to be listed for sale in early 2025.

BRIDGE PROGRAM UPDATE

The Town, together with ESCH, launched the Bridge Program in late 2021 with the goal of increasing the number of affordable deed-restricted ownership units in the community. The program acquires market rate units that are then resold to individuals at a subsidized rate with a deed restriction in place to ensure they remain in the affordable housing stock for the Town. Five additional units were acquired in 2024 and three were sold, bringing the total number of sold units to eight.

SHORT-TERM RENTAL PROGRAM

The moratorium on the issuance of new Short-Term Rental (STR) certificates ended in March 2024 with the introduction of a Certified Properties program. The program is a new approach to the management of STRs that will provide enhanced oversight intended to address various quality of life issues related to STRs. The program will help address safety issues for the renters and impose enhanced penalties and "time-outs" for violators. The program shifts the responsibility of managing the unit and ensuring it is not disruptive to the community to the property owner, rather than to a management company. Aside from the implementation of the Certified Properties program, the STR Advisory Committee made additional recommendations to the Town Council to address the ongoing housing issues. Those recommendations included: a ballot tax measure to fund housing programs (Measure L), a rental subsidy program (Lease to Locals), a housing down payment purchase program (not yet implemented or developed), and consideration of zoning changes to the RMF-2 zoning designation.

RECREATION ACCOMPLISHMENTS



OFFICE OF OUTDOOR RECREATION (OOR) ACCOMPLISHMENTS

STEWARDSHIP AND TRAIL MAINTENANCE

- Three Summer of Stewardship events were held in 2024. 106 volunteers participated in the events by collecting 190 pounds of trash and conducting trail maintenance on Mammoth Pass and Mammoth Crest, cleaning up the brush along several multi-use paths (MUPs), and constructing new trails from Sherwin Meadows Trailhead to the Meadow Trail.
- 293 volunteers participated in 16 Trashy Thursdays by collecting over 1,000 pounds of trash and 69 pounds of recycling.
- Town staff completed Black Bear Run Trail, the short connector between the Sherwin Meadows Trailhead and the Meadow Trail, and a new boardwalk through an annually wet area along the Mountain View Trail. Staff also performed general trail maintenance on over 30 miles of soft surface trails.
- The Town took over the entirety of the approximately 90-mile winter groomed trail system from the United States Forest Service (USFS). Work included clearing the entire trail network of trees and other hazards, updating wayfinding signage across the entirety of the network and performing numerous tasks related to managing a program of this scale.



FUELS REDUCTION WORK

In 2024, staff completed numerous hazard tree reduction projects across nearly the entirety of the Town's MUP network. This included a \$500,000 timber project, in partnership with Mammoth Lakes Fire Protection District, in the Lakes Basin between the art gallery and pack station. All wood was then moved from the site to the area near Horseshoe Lake where it was collected by public wood cutters. Staff removed more beetle infested trees from the Mammoth Creek Parcel and removed rounds to prevent the spread of the beetles. Crews also facilitated SPLAT (an environmentally friendly beetle repellent treatment) in that parcel to help mitigate future infestations. Staff also performed fuels reduction and hazard tree work across the MUPs, Mammoth Creek Parcel, and at The Parcel housing project. And finally, crews developed three new interpretive signs for Mammoth Creek Parcel to highlight the fuels reduction work that occurred in that area and to help educate the public using that path.



E-BIKE SAFETY

The new e-bike ordinance was adopted in December 2023 and provides the Mammoth Lakes Police Department with the ability to enforce speeding or reckless e-bike riding on the Town MUPs. To support e-bike safety, the Town introduced a new e-bike host program and purchased three e-bikes and supplemental safety equipment to allow trained hosts to patrol the MUPs and engage with visitors. Six new "speed measuring devices" were also installed and staff continued its annual effort to "paint" stewardship and appropriate use messaging directly onto the paths.



SHARP TRAILHEAD FACILITIES PROJECT

With both winter and summer recreational use rising in the Sherwins, the Town and Mammoth Lakes Recreation (MLR) are implementing improvements in the area to help protect resources and provide an enhanced user experience. The creation of the new and improved Sherwin Meadows Trailhead is underway and will provide infrastructure for recreationists and their four-legged friends. Restrooms, trash facilities, a bike tool station, interpretive and wayfinding signage, a bear box, a poo fairy station, and an avalanche beacon checker will all be available.



PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT ACCOMPLISHMENTS

COMMUNITY RECREATION CENTER

Officially opening to the public on November 24, 2023, the Community Recreation Center (CRC) has been a game changer for the community by providing community focused recreation programs, events and activities. In its first full year of operations, the CRC welcomed over 40,000 people!

The new indoor LA Kings Ice at Mammoth Lakes realized significant growth, particularly in our established youth, co-ed adult and rapidly growing women's hockey programs. Curling also experienced strong participation with a sold-out league of 13 teams, and with just under 100 people learning to curl. The highlight of the curling calendar was hosting the California Curling Championships in April 2024. It was gratifying to see the community fully embrace the facility by purchasing all the available dashboard sponsorship spaces around the rink. The Town also welcomed the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power (LADWP), Mammoth Disposal and Snowcreek Resort as major sponsors of the CRC. In the summer, the ice rink was transformed into a 20,000 square foot, three-court gymnasium – the Mammoth RecZone offering a multitude of court sports and the home of the Parks and Recreation Department summer camps. Youth and adults enjoyed playing basketball, volleyball, futsal, pickleball, arena soccer, skateboarding and indoor cricket!

In the fall of 2024, the Town Council formally closed-out Phase I of the CRC and awarded the Phase II contract. The total value of the improvements for Phase II is \$1,846,413 and includes facility-wide rubber flooring, new staff offices and locker/meeting room, admission counters, custom elevated bleachers for installation above the locker rooms, an ADA lift and stairs, netting, exterior lighting, and chiller sound mitigation. Work is expected to be completed in the summer of 2025.



NEW PARK OPENINGS!

The Town completed several park projects in 2024 with some ongoing work planned to be fully completed in the summer of 2025.

Whitmore Track and Ball Fields

Constructed in 2012, the Whitmore Track and sports field has been incredibly popular and heavily used since it opened to the public. Between 2017 and 2021, over 194,000 recreation enthusiasts visited the Whitmore Recreation Area (a 460% increase in visits over five years), representing almost 13,000 unique people. The rehabilitation project conducted in 2024 cleaned and restriped the 9-lane all-weather track surface along with several patches to the rubber surface and synthetic turf. Total investment was \$100,000.

Dog Park

The Town, partnering with the Mammoth Lakes Foundation, sited the community's first off-leash dog park at the intersection of College Parkway and Wagon Wheel Road. The Town received a \$50,000 T-Mobile grant in 2021 and previously allocated an additional \$150,000 for a dog park. A 40-space parking area, restrooms and other amenities were constructed adjacent to the dog park that can also support other nearby uses including the theatre and multi-use path access. Construction began in 2023, and the Town Council officially opened the dog park on November 6. Total project cost was approximately \$1,150,357.



Mammoth Creek Park

To complement all the improvements made at the CRC, the Town Council allocated funding to rehabilitate Mammoth Creek Park. Improvements will include a large, prefabricated climbing boulder, a planned 20x30 pavilion, multiple shade structures, a custom metal railing, replacement of the large grass area with irrigation (completed in 2024), additional landscaping for screening, and a bouldering park with fall protection. Mammoth Creek Park also welcomed the opening of the Capybara food truck serving authentic Argentinian cuisine.

Park at the Parcel

The Park at the Parcel officially opened to the public on August 7. The Park at the Parcel was designed to meet two community needs. The first was to build an exclusive playground for the on-site childcare facility operated by our partner, Mono County Office of Education. The second need was to build a family park in the center of Town fully accessible to not only residents living at The Parcel, but the many families that live near the park. The park area is just under an acre in size and includes a playground for 2-5 year-olds enrolled in childcare, and a family park incorporating a 5-12 year old Play On!® National Demonstration Site (NDS) playground. The NDS playground includes a domed climbing net, group spinner and arch swing that combined, promote the six key elements of play: balancing, sliding, brachiating, spinning, climbing, and swinging.





2024 SUMMER CAMPS

The Parks and Recreation Department hosted 644 campers supported by 22 staff members over nine weeks of summer camps. These guest comments say it all: "The staff this summer were phenomenal!", "Good leaders and wore my kid out every day!", and "Fun activities and engaged staff, you all did a great job and kept it affordable for families, much appreciated."

Campers got a chance to explore the Sierra by biking, hiking, paddleboarding, skateboarding, swimming, and climbing all over the region. The Department integrated adventure sports with visual and performance arts to provide a holistic camp experience that nurtures both interpersonal and intrapersonal growth. The biggest addition to the program this summer was hosting camps at the new Mammoth RecZone operating within the CRC, which provided necessary protection from the elements and was greatly appreciated during the "monsoon week." Our backpackers continued to enjoy ice cream in the backcountry, our nature campers sponsored by LADWP helped Clean Up the Lake, our Wave Rave skateboarders loved the "indoor skatepark at the CRC", and our bikers shredded miles of trails!

More local children took advantage of the Tony Colasardo Scholarship Fund in 2024. The Town awarded 89 scholarships valued at just under \$13,000. Recipients enjoyed the UK International and Challenger Sports Soccer Camps, several signature summer camps and after school programs, such as Gymnastics, Little Wreckers, and the Spring Bike Squad.



CAPITAL INFRASTRUCTURE ACCOMPLISHMENTS



MAIN STREET LANDSCAPING

The Main Street Landscaping project included installation of irrigation facilities, light earthwork, and in-ground planting of native drought-tolerant trees and plants on both sides of Main Street between Mountain Boulevard to just east of the Main Street and Old Mammoth Road intersection. New irrigation lines use sleeves installed underneath sidewalk and Frontage Road asphalt during the Main Street Sidewalk projects. The project plans were completed in early 2022 and the project was split into two phases.

In May 2022, the Town bid the Main Street Landscaping Phase I project. Bids were opened in June 2022, and no bids were received. After consulting with the Town Attorney, staff began reaching out to contractors to find someone interested in completing the project. After months of searching, negotiating, and working with potential contractors, Town staff received two bids in February 2024. At the April 3, 2024 Town Council meeting, Council authorized the Town Manager to sign a contract with Gray's Grasshopper, the contractor who submitted the lowest of the two bids received. Work began on April 23. Work was completed on September 3, and the project cost \$735,000.



TOWN-WIDE WINTER ANIMATION

The Town Council allocated \$145,000 in 2024 to animate the Town during our busy winter season. Phase I of the project included the animation of the two Town monument signs with garlands, LED warm white lights and small spotlights for enhanced visibility. The two trees at the corner of Old Mammoth Road and Main Street (Footloose Sports) were also rehabilitated and will provide festive winter animation for years to come. After a long hiatus, the Town's Community Tree Lighting Ceremony returned to Mammoth Creek Park.



SUMMER ROAD REHABILITATION AND MULTI-USE PATH PROJECT

In the summer of 2024, the Town completed a \$2.8 million project to rehabilitate several streets and multi-use paths (MUPs) that required preventative maintenance. The project scope of work included the reconstruction of the following streets and MUPs:

Streets: Kelley Road, Silver Tip Lane, Monterey Pine Road – from Majestic Pines Drive to Silver Tip Lane, Majestic Pines Drive – from Monterey Pine Road to NE end, Mono Street and Dorrance Drive – from Joaquin Road to Manzanita Road.



Multi-use paths: Main Street North Side MUP – from 203 North of Old Mammoth Road to the Mammoth Lakes Welcome Center, Old Mammoth Road MUP – from Waterford Avenue to Minaret Road and Mammoth Creek Park West MUP – near the CRC.

The project was fully funded, and expenditures came in under the original budget allocation of \$3,077,113. Total project expenditures were \$2,693,700, which included a \$161,200 reimbursement from Mammoth Community Water District. The remaining funds allocated to this project in the amount of \$383,413 was returned to the General Fund for future projects.



NEW TOWN HALL

In February 2024, the Town Council authorized bonding for the new Town Hall. Staff have been working with HMC Architects since 2022 on designs for the new facility. The project includes a new Town Hall with community spaces and offices for administrative staff. The schematic design also includes plans for an emergency operations center (EOC) for future phasing. The Town Hall project design was approved by the Planning and Economic Development Commission in April and construction began on the foundations, utilities and parking lot in the summer. The new Town Hall is planned to open in late 2026. Funding for the design came from the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) in the amount of \$1.9 million. Construction of the project is funded by municipal bonds (\$27 million).



CHILDCARE FACILITY

In 2022, the Mammoth Unified School District notified the Town that it was planning to demolish its modular structures during its renovation construction project at the High School. The Town repurposed some of the modular units for a community childcare center located on the Mammoth Lakes Foundation property at 100 College Parkway. The project utilizes six of the modular buildings to provide an approximately 6,700 square foot structure available for future operations of a childcare center. A contract for construction was awarded in April 2024 and work should be substantially completed in 2025.

2024 SLURRY SEAL PROJECT

Every year Town staff completes road condition assessments of streets and MUPs throughout Town. During the fall of 2023, staff prioritized several streets for slurry seal and striping including Minaret Road, Chateau Road, Old Mammoth Road – from Minaret Road to Club Drive, Meridian Boulevard, Azimuth Drive, Canyon Boulevard and Forest Trail. The project was completed in September.





TOWN FACILITIES EXTERIOR PAINTING PROJECT

In summer of 2023, Town staff documented damaged paint on several Town facilities and created project plans, technical specifications, and special provisions for these facilities. During this process, staff decided it would be beneficial for the Town to create a cohesive, single-color scheme for most Town structures, especially those in parks. This would streamline future maintenance and touch-up work by reducing the number of paints that need to be stocked. Certain buildings will retain their unique color schemes, such as the Community Center, Police Department and Mammoth Lakes Tourism buildings. Colors were selected to blend with our forest aesthetic. Public entrance doors were painted the Town blue to provide cohesion across all Town-owned structures.



This project was completed in August and included repainting the following 21 structures: Pickleball Complex Maintenance Building and Snack Shack, Voodoo Chute Pump House, Mammoth Lakes Community Center, Community Center Tennis Court Restrooms, Mammoth Lakes Tourism Building, Trails End Park Restroom and Pavilion, Mammoth Creek Park East Restroom, Mammoth Creek Park West Restroom, Shady Rest Park Restroom, Shady Rest Park Pavilion, Shady Rest Park Snack Shack, Shady Rest Park Storage Shed, Whitmore Pool Main Building, Whitmore Pool Pump House, Whitmore Track Restrooms, Whitmore Track Maintenance Shed, Whitmore Track Storage Shed, Whitmore Track Pump House, and the Mammoth Lakes Police Department.

CHAPARRAL ROAD EXTENSION

In early 2021, Town Council adopted The Parcel Master Plan, outlining a path forward for the Town to construct multiple affordable housing units at The Parcel. The extension of Chaparral Road was identified as being Phase II of public infrastructure utilizing SB1 funds committed from Mono County's SB1 funding allocation. In June 2022 the Town advertised the Chaparral Road Extension project, which included the connection of Chaparral Road to the extension of Tavern Road within The Parcel project. In addition, a sidewalk, a multi-use path, bus turn-outs, bus shelters, landscaping and utilities were constructed. Work was contracted to Spiess Construction and completed in December 2024.



MUNICIPAL SERVICE ACCOMPLISHMENTS



MEASURE L

As part of the work completed by the STR Advisory Committee in 2024, a 2% TOT increase was recommended and presented to voters within the Town of Mammoth Lakes. This initiative, called Measure L, was passed by 63% of voters on November 5. The recommendation from the Advisory Committee was to generate a consistent funding source for the Town's Housing Now! initiatives. The current method of funding is to commit unallocated TOT to Housing Now! during the quarterly budget review.

In the last few years, the Town has been fortunate with excess revenue for this purpose; however, that funding is not likely to match the needs of the program in the near future. On January 15, 2025, Town Council adopted a resolution committing all proceeds generated by the Measure L ballot initiative to Housing Now! for the 10-year term, until such time the incremental TOT expires. For the current fiscal year, this represents \$2.8 million.

STYROFOAM TAKEOUT CONTAINER PROHIBITION

The Town's prohibition on Styrofoam foodware went into effect on January 1, 2024. Many restaurants throughout Town complied with the prohibition, however a handful of restaurants took advantage of the grace period allowed by the Municipal Code for the first year of the prohibition. Town and Mammoth Disposal staff conducted outreach throughout the year at the Restaurant Association and visited every restaurant to share information about the prohibition.



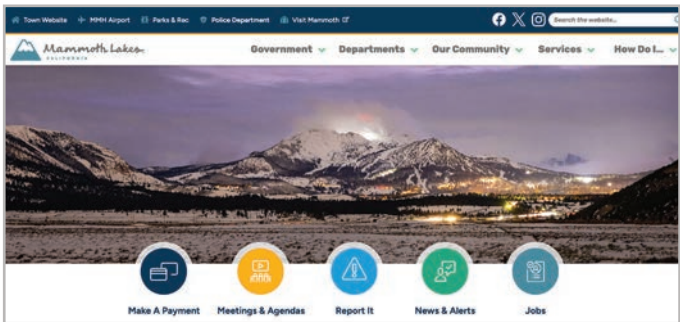
2023 WINTER STORM
AFTER ACTION REPORT

The 2022/23 winter season in the Town of Mammoth Lakes presented an unparalleled challenge, characterized by extraordinary, record-setting snowfall producing multi-layered incidents causing the Town Manager to proclaim a local emergency. A comprehensive 2022/23 After Action Report (AAR) was completed in 2024. This effort explored and analyzed key events during the 2022/23 winter emergencies such as the decision-making process and how each of the agencies worked together on the Town’s approach.

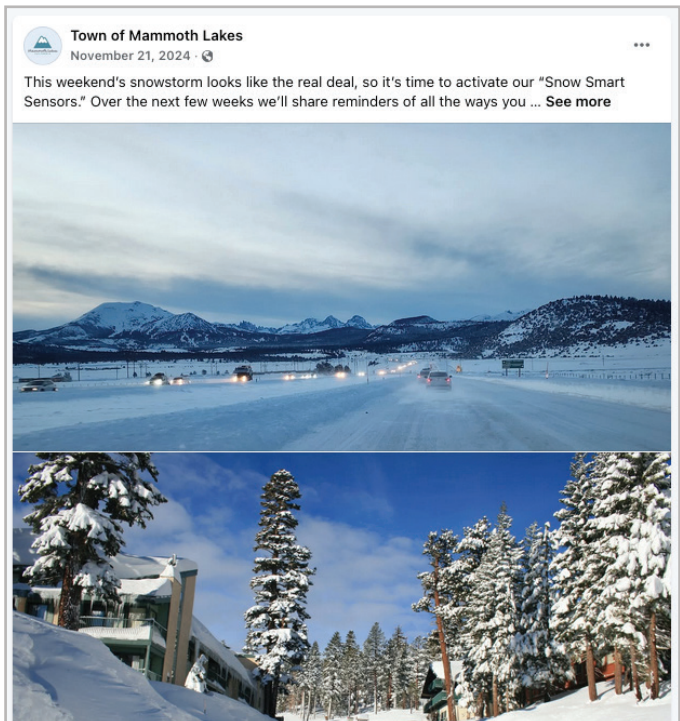


COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT
AND PUBLIC OUTREACH

At the beginning of the year, the Town launched its new updated website providing enhanced navigation and functionality for its thousands of users. The homepage was improved with graphic informational buttons, as well as several quick link tabs to some Town Departments and other important information. The Mammoth Lakes Police Department, Parks and Recreation Department and the Mammoth Yosemite Airport all have exclusive Department Headers making these sites distinctive.



The Town increased its outreach efforts through “Community eNews” distributed every Friday to over 1,400 subscribers and “Recreation This Week” sent every Thursday to over 4,400 DaySmart subscribers. The Town’s social media presence has also expanded with the contracting of a public communications professional to draft and post an informative, insightful and community-centric social post every Thursday, called our “Social Spotlight.” Recent topics included the Housing Now! program, winter Snow Smart driving tips, improvements to the Sherwin Meadows Trailhead and the Town’s Strategic Planning Series. Launched at the beginning of the year, the Town’s new Instagram page has over 2,200 followers while the Town’s Facebook page continues to attract followers with over 9,000 people.



MAJOR PROJECTS AND PERMITS

A number of large development projects progressed in the planning and/or construction phases during 2024.

THE LIMELIGHT RESIDENCES

The Limelight Hotel, located at 15 Canyon Blvd., reached a major milestone in 2024 with the “top out” of its construction project, which then allowed developers to focus on sealing the exterior of the project to allow interior work to continue throughout the winter months. Construction is expected to be completed in 2025. Limelight Residences Mammoth is a new condominium hotel project that will include 149 hotel rooms and 15 residential units with amenities oriented to guests of the hotel including hotel lounge and meeting rooms, a fitness center, ski club, childcare, equipment rental, and an outdoor pool and jacuzzi terrace.



MAMMOTH MAIN BASE

The Mammoth Main Base Redevelopment Project is a major private development application being processed by the Town. In 2024, the applicant continued to work through issues related to evacuation route planning and the environmental review (CEQA/NEPA) process. Work on this project will continue in 2025 and beyond.



THE MAMMOTH MALL

The Mammoth Mall renovation, located at 126 Old Mammoth Road, commenced in 2024. The project includes the complete renovation of the existing 2-story Mammoth Mall structure to improve the existing commercial building that consists of restaurant, retail and office spaces plus a new featured restaurant, ground floor patio and two second floor outdoor decks. Construction is expected to be completed in 2025.



POLICE DEPARTMENT HIGHLIGHTS

CALIFORNIA OFFICE OF TRAFFIC SAFETY (OTS) GRANT

On February 7, MLPD received a \$40,000 grant from the California Office of Traffic Safety via the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration to support its Bicycle and Pedestrian Safety Program. This grant allowed the Department to promote safe practices for pedestrians and bicyclists and provide education about the importance of sharing the road. The grant program ran through September. Grant funds supported a variety of activities focused on bicycle and pedestrian safety such as:

- Community bicycle and walk “audits” of streets with a high rate of pedestrian and/or bicyclist fatalities and serious injury crashes.
- Helmet fitting inspections and distribution of helmets to those in need.
- Community and school education presentations.
- Community bike rides that encourage and teach riders safe riding skills.
- Pop-up events that promote the importance of visibility on roads with safety equipment such as reflective armbands/leg bands and bicycle headlights/tail lights.

At Town Clean-up Day and Kidapalooza MLPD staffed bicycle safety booths at the CRC. Officers handed out free high-end Kali Protectives helmets, including those rated for e-bikes, along with bicycle lights, lighted wristbands, and bike bells. All these handouts were funded by the OTS Grant.

MLPD Officers also participated in several group bicycle rides including the Town of Mammoth Lakes Bike Squad and the Pamper Pedal Footloose Sports Ride, thanks to a new grant funded e-bike! The State has also provided funding for e-bike patrols to reduce the number of bicycle vs. vehicle calls for service that have been growing in number every year.



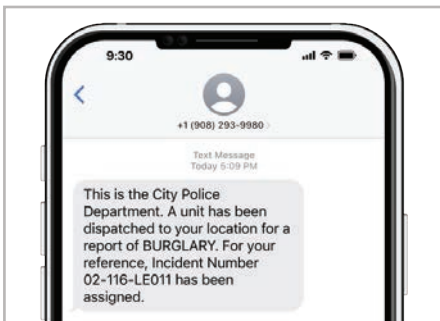
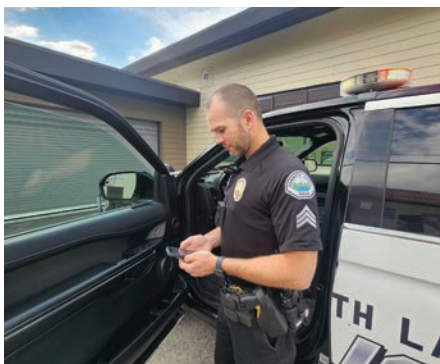
EXPLORER ADVISORS' ASSOCIATION WINTER ACADEMY

From February 15–19, MLPD and MCSO Explorer Post 7880 attended the Orange County Law Enforcement Explorer Advisors' Association Winter Academy. This five-day event helps prepare young people to become Law Enforcement Explorers and build skills for future careers in law enforcement. They took part in physical training, drills, and classroom lessons on topics like ethics, traffic control, and law enforcement careers. They also learned about SWAT, DUI enforcement, bomb squad operations, and more through hands-on demos. The Academy is both mentally and physically challenging, helping participants grow in confidence and perseverance.



POWERENGAGE SOFTWARE

MLPD implemented a new tool on July 12, to keep citizens informed and collect feedback on non-life-threatening calls for service. PowerEngage allows MLPD to text citizens who have called for assistance to provide pre-arrival instructions. It also allows us to send text message surveys after certain types of interactions with our Department. This software interfaces with RIMS, our computer aided dispatch system. PowerEngage cannot be used to make formal complaints or report an emergency or criminal activity. The community can also opt out of the text messages if desired.



FLOCK SAFETY AUTOMATIC LICENSE PLATE RECOGNITION CAMERAS

On July 17, the Town Council approved a one-year lease agreement with Flock Safety for installation of eight Automatic License Plate Recognition (ALPR) cameras throughout Mammoth Lakes. Four cameras are located at the intersection of Old Mammoth and Minaret roads. The remaining four cameras are located on State Route 203: inbound and outbound at Meridian Boulevard, plus inbound and outbound at The Village. ALPR cameras greatly assist in the response, apprehension, and investigation of criminals. They also help the Town assist in evacuation planning by capturing real-time vehicle counts.



CHIEF'S ADVISORY COMMITTEE

A new Chief's Advisory Committee (CAC) was formed and the first meeting took place on December 11. The CAC was created to act as a resource to help form strategies, develop community policing concepts, and increase public awareness. The Committee is intended to provide a forum for discussions concerning community issues and the goal is to have a broad spectrum of viewpoints represented. There are currently 14 members of the CAC serving either one or two-year terms. MLPD hopes that the CAC will act as a sounding board for the Chief regarding community needs and concerns, as well as providing community feedback about proposed police programs and priorities.



STATE OF CALIFORNIA OFF-HIGHWAY MOTOR VEHICLE GRANT

The Mammoth Lakes Police Department was awarded a \$51,680 grant from the State of California Off-Highway Motor Vehicle (OHMVR) Division for the period of January 1 – December 21. The Department applied for this funding to continue its Off Highway Vehicle (OHV) program, which was launched in 2021 with its first OHMVR Division Grant award. The 2024 award was used to purchase a flatbed snowmobile trailer for easier access to staging areas, to pay for a covered storage area to protect the OHV/OSV vehicles, purchase additional safety and recovery gear to outfit the vehicles and staff, and to reimburse officers' patrol plus administrative costs. Summer and winter OHV/OSV patrols allow MLPD to enforce speed laws in restricted areas, detect operation of vehicles and/or snowmobiles while impaired, verify green sticker registration, address encroachment/trespass issues, provide accident support, monitor dispersed camping, and educate the public.





K9 OFFICER JAX

In April and May, K9 Officer Jax (and his handler Officer West) attended a 30-day Narcotics and Firearms Detection Course in Sacramento. The class really paid off on the afternoon of December 22, when a MLPD Police Officer unexpectedly interrupted an armed robbery in progress near Mammoth Pacific's Geothermal Plant. The suspect (a 33-year-old Mammoth Lakes resident) immediately fled on foot into a wooded area, leaving two victims behind. The victims advised MLPD Officers their belongings were stolen at gunpoint by the suspect. Additional Mammoth Lakes Police Officers responded to the area, with the assistance of California Highway Patrol and Mono County Sheriff's Office personnel. A perimeter was set up in the area and the suspect was apprehended without incident. K9 Officer Jax was deployed in the wooded area to conduct an article search for evidence. K9 Officer Jax successfully located the victim's property along with an unregistered loaded firearm allegedly used in the robbery.

On June 12, K9 Officer Jax and his handler visited Mammoth Elementary School for a demonstration. These types of programs help introduce the community to our department and showcase how obedient and friendly police K9s can be when not engaged in apprehension, a pursuit, or searching for narcotics. A few lucky students were selected to give K9 Officer Jax some attention.

AIRPORT ACCOMPLISHMENTS

AWARD NOMINATIONS

The Mammoth Yosemite Airport (MMH) was nominated for both the "Most Innovated Airport" and "Most Improved" and "Top General Aviation Airport" at the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) Western-Pacific Region Airports Conference in June 2024. The airport was nominated for the "Most Innovated Airport" in the Western-Pacific Region since MMH was the first to achieve compliance with Aircraft Rescue Fire Fighting (ARFF) and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS) mitigation. The airport was the first to transition the ARFF vehicle from Aqueous Film Forming Foam (AFFF) to Fluorine-Free Foam (F3). The airport was nominated for the "Most Improved" and "Top General Aviation Airport" because of high levels of safety compliance and FAA grant management.



TRIENNIAL FULL-SCALE EXERCISE & STATEWIDE MEDICAL AND HEALTH EXERCISE

On September 28, the airport hosted a statewide medical and health exercise in conjunction with the airport's triennial full-scale exercise required by the FAA. The training included multi-agency collaboration, response concepts of operations, triage and tracking, medical response, medivac coordination, and firefighting. The organizations included hospitals, healthcare infrastructure, Mammoth Yosemite Airport, local fire departments and EMS, Inyo and Mono OEM, public health, and law enforcement with 166 people participating.



AUTOMATED WEATHER OBSERVATION SYSTEM (AWOS) RELOCATION AND UPGRADE PROGRESS

Construction began on the Automated Weather Observation System (AWOS) Relocation and Upgrade project in July 2023. The project was on hold for approximately one year due to delays in availability of electrical equipment. The new AWOS was installed in September 2024 and the old AWOS was removed.



GRANTS AWARDS FOR MAMMOTH YOSEMITE AIRPORT

The Town was awarded two grants from the FAA, totaling over \$2 million. The Town received a grant in the amount of \$244,329 for Multipurpose Building redesign to include ARFF and SRE. The second grant in the amount of \$1,762,875 is allocated for the General Aviation and Terminal Parking Lot reconstruction.



OPTIMIZING OPERATIONS

The airport purchased a new tractor and mower deck to improve mowing efficiency. The new tractor and mower deck will increase the area that is able to get mowed each year while freeing up staff time for additional work items, since the old mower was five feet wide and the new is 15 feet wide. The airport purchased additional snow wedge tires for snow removal equipment so that chains will not be required. Using snow wedge tires rather than chains will preserve the airfield asphalt surfaces and prevent rapid deterioration.



LEADERSHIP

TOWN COUNCIL

Bill Sauser | Mayor
Chris Bubser | Mayor Pro Tem
Sarah Rea | Councilmember (term ended December 2024)
Amanda Rice | Councilmember
Brent Truax | Councilmember (term started December 2024)
John Wentworth | Councilmember

TOWN ADMINISTRATION

Daniel C. Holler | Town Manager (retired February 2024)
Rob Patterson | Town Manager (started March 2024)
& Acting Finance Director
Andrew Morris | Town Attorney
Nolan Bobroff | Community & Economic
Development Director
Stuart Brown | Parks and Recreation Director
& Public Information Officer
Dan Casabian | Police Chief
Jamie Gray | Town Clerk
Haislip Hayes | Public Works Director
& Town Engineer
Pam Kobylarz | Assistant to the Town Manager
Lawson Reif | Outdoor Recreation Manager

PLANNING & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

Michael Vanderhurst | Chair
Jennifer Burrows | Vice Chair *
Dawn Vereuck | Vice Chair ^Δ
Paul Chang | Commissioner *
Greg Eckert | Commissioner
Cynthia Fleming | Commissioner ^Δ
Lana Grand | Commissioner ^Δ
Jessica Kennedy | Commissioner *

* Term ended July 2024

^Δ Term started August 2024

PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION

Dan O'Connell | Chair
Silver Chesak | Vice Chair
Greg Newbry | Commissioner
Scott Reif | Commissioner
Ben Wisner | Commissioner



CONTACT INFORMATION



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Mammoth Lakes, CA 93546

Main Phone: 760-965-3600

Mammoth Lakes Police Department: 760-965-3700

Public Information Line: 760-965-3612 (updated during emergencies)

Notify Me: townofmammothlakes.ca.gov/list.aspx

Website: townofmammothlakes.ca.gov

Facebook: facebook.com/townofmammothlakes

Instagram: instagram.com/townofmammothlakes

Email: Initial of first name and last name @townofmammothlakes.ca.gov

For example, John Doe: jdove@townofmammothlakes.ca.gov

