

September 2020 Public Works Report

Street Maintenance

Paving work is underway, about to start or completed on Erie Parkway east of County Road 5, County Road 7 south of Erie Parkway, County Line Road north of Cheesman Vista Parkway and Sunset Drive in Vista Ridge. We've had some weather delays but anticipate completing all work in 3 weeks. We're anticipating the Streetscan high definition road scan report and program cost recommendations later this month.

Front Range and Denver Regional Landfill Updates

Current status of the landfill operations is that the Denver Regional Landfill (**DRL**), west of County Road 5 and south of County Road 6, is being filled until January 2021. After that capping (cover, seeding, etc) operations will continue for another 6 months. This will result in full closure of this landfill and begin a 30-year monitoring period, per the agreed upon 2018 Closure/post-Closure Plan.

Front Range Landfill (**FRL**), east of County Road 5 and south of County Road 6 will continue to fill the southern-end moving westward until fall. Right now they are moving a road on the south face to allow them to continue this operation. This will result in seeding that southern face in late fall, which is an ideal time to seed. The goal is having the southern facing edge of the FRL being completed this fall, and trash operations moving north to the permitted elevation and out of visibility from the south from that point forward.



Methane Recovery Facility at FRL

Capital Improvement Projects

Lynn R Morgan Water Treatment Facility (WTF) Expansion

Construction of the WTF expansion continues ahead of schedule and well under budget. We received the roughly \$767,000 DOLA grant for the hydro turbine and are gearing up to do that additional work. Garney Construction will begin the construction of the turbine building now, we will place the order for the fabrication of the turbine which is a 6-month lead item.

North Water Reclamation Facility (NWRf) Expansion

This month we will bring before the Board a proposed change order to award the Construction Manager at Risk (CMAR), Archer Western a change order to begin construction of the expansion of this facility to 3.03 Million Gallons per Day (from 1.95 MGD) and replacement and expansion of the solids handling system. We will also be bringing a request

Sustainability and Water Conservation



Energy

- Tanko contract has been executed and the streetlight audit is scheduled to begin September 16th.

Green Business & HOA Certification Program

- Green HOA Certification Scorecard Pilot was announced and sent to the Organizing Neighborhoods of Erie (ONE), feedback is trickling in. Certifications will be integrated into the existing Green Business Program and recognition process.

Waste

- Recycling Center is staffed and open 4 days/week now and diversion rates are at 100%.
- CDPHE's Front Range Waste Diversion Grant was applied for and we will be notified if we receive an award October 15. This grant would assist with infrastructure, policy, and education efforts in 2021.
- Leaf composting cleanup events have been scheduled for November 7 & 15.
- Waste Diversion Feasibility Study results scheduled for November 17 Study Session.

Water Efficiency

- Slow the Flow Irrigation Assessments have been doubled due to high demand. Two HOAs have enrolled for an assessment as well. Smart control clock and rain sensor installations are nearly fulfilled.

Lynn R. Morgan Water Treatment Facility (WTF)

Annual Daily Average Flow:

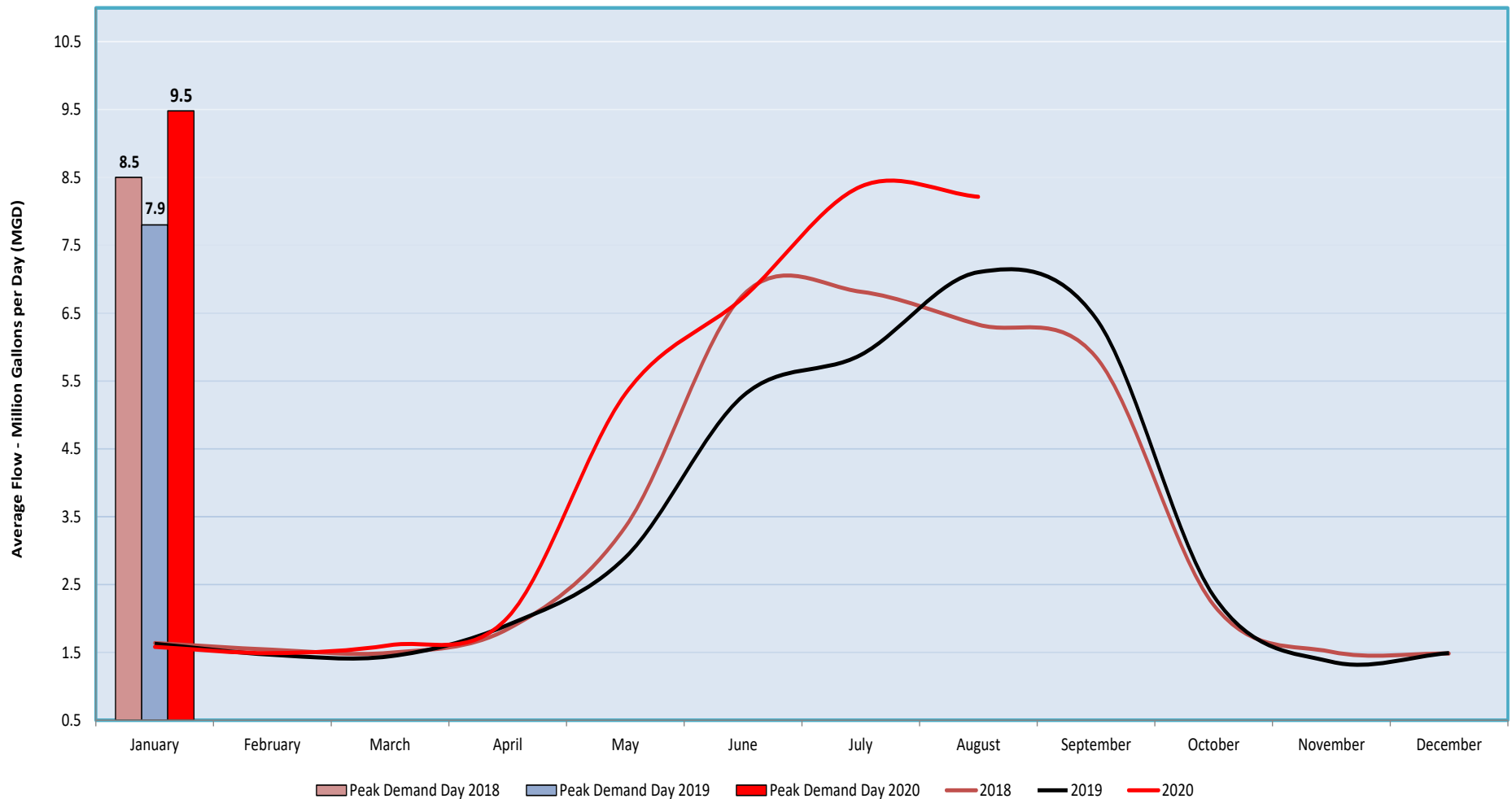
2017 - 3.3 (Million Gallons) MG

2018 – 3.4 MG

2019 – 3.3 MG

July 2020 maintains the record for the highest monthly average flows at 9.5 MG, while November 2019 had the lowest flows at 1.36 MG. Summer demands greatly affect the annual average due to outdoor irrigation. COVID and drought have exacerbated summer irrigation demands. This is a common theme throughout the Front Range.

Average Monthly Production



Annual Daily Gallons Per Capita per Day (GPCD):

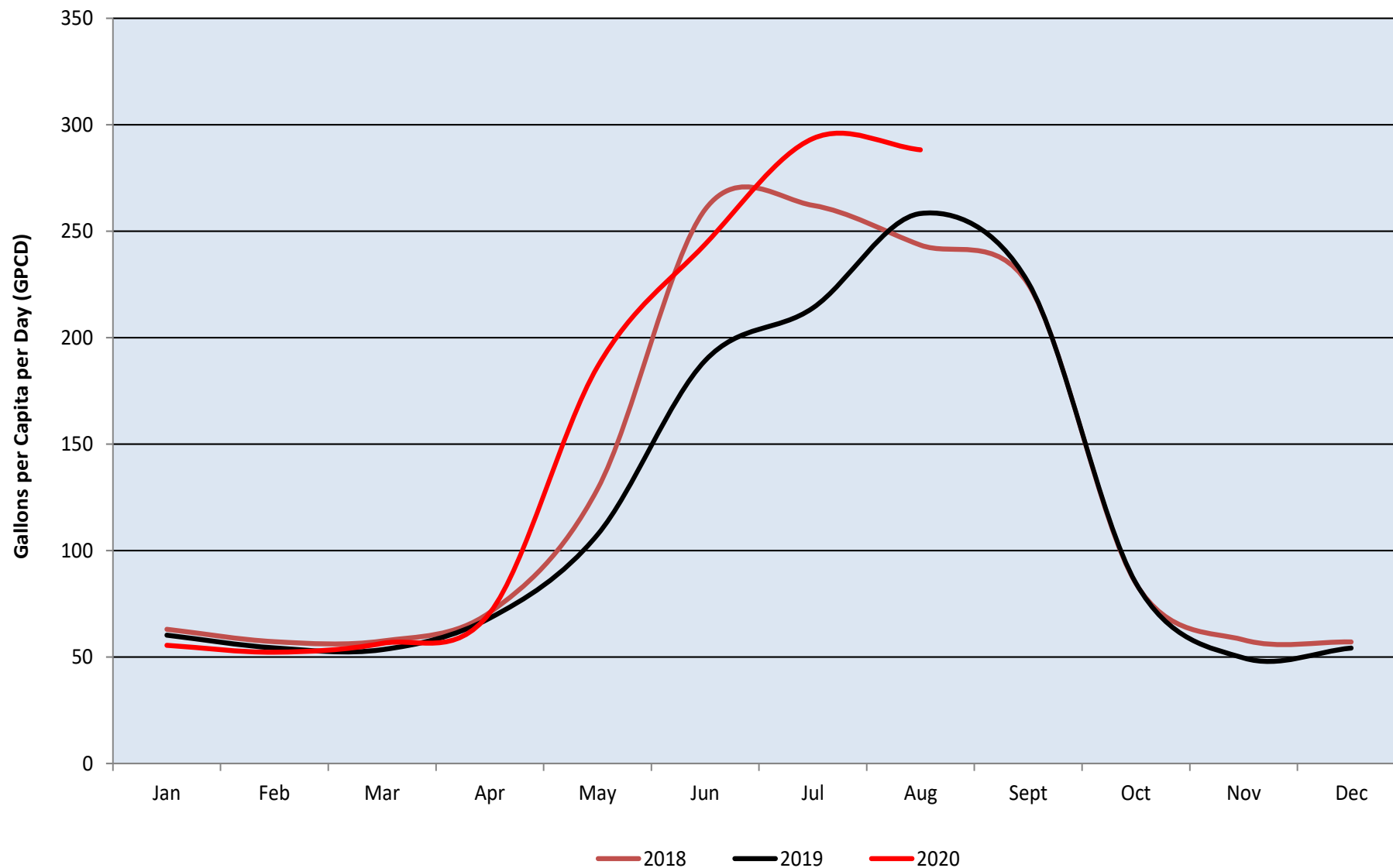
2017 - 130 GPCD

2018 – 131 GPCD

2019 – 118 GPCD

July 2020 had the highest average daily usage at 294 gallons GPCD. November 2019 had the lowest usage at 50 GPCD. Reducing summer irrigation and increasing reuse water availability will reduce reliance on treated water supplies in the future.

Average Daily Usage Per Capita



North Water Reclamation Facility

Annual Daily Average Flow:

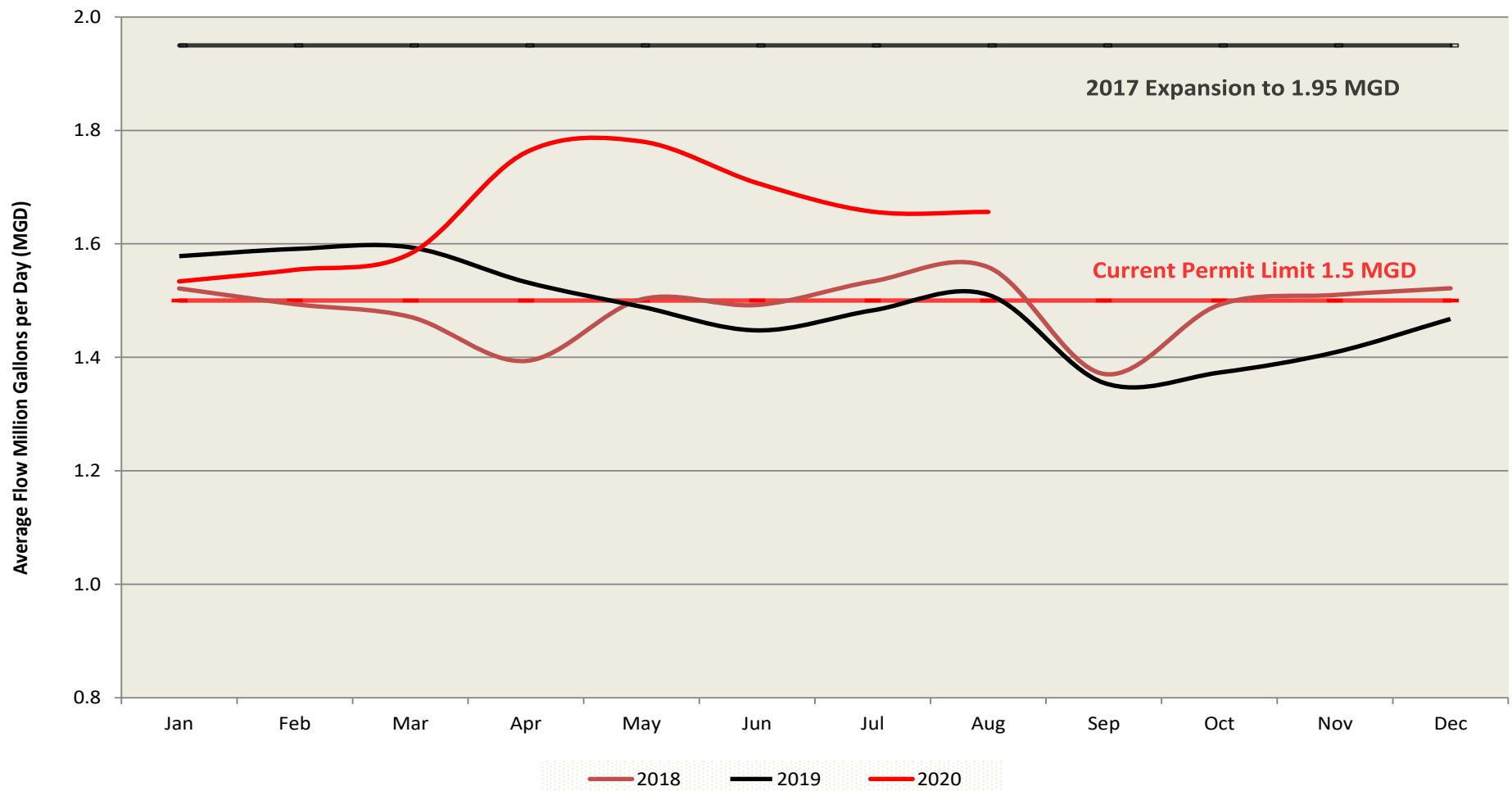
2017 - 1.42 MG

2018 – 1.49 MG

2019 - 1.49 MG

March 2017 had the lowest average flow of 1.29 million gallons per day (MGD). May 2020 set a high average monthly flow of 1.78 MGD. This stark increase is likely due to the Stay at Home and Safer at Home orders which have driven residents who work out of town to stay at home. Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE) is indicating that they will not be renewing our permit until as late as 2023 or 2024, and have recently issued significant regulatory orders against the Town predominantly related to the fact that our permits are years overdue and innacurate. We plan to challenge this pattern with the support of multiple local and regional wastewater providers in the near future.

Average Monthly Flows



Annual Daily Gallons Per Capita per Day (GPCD):

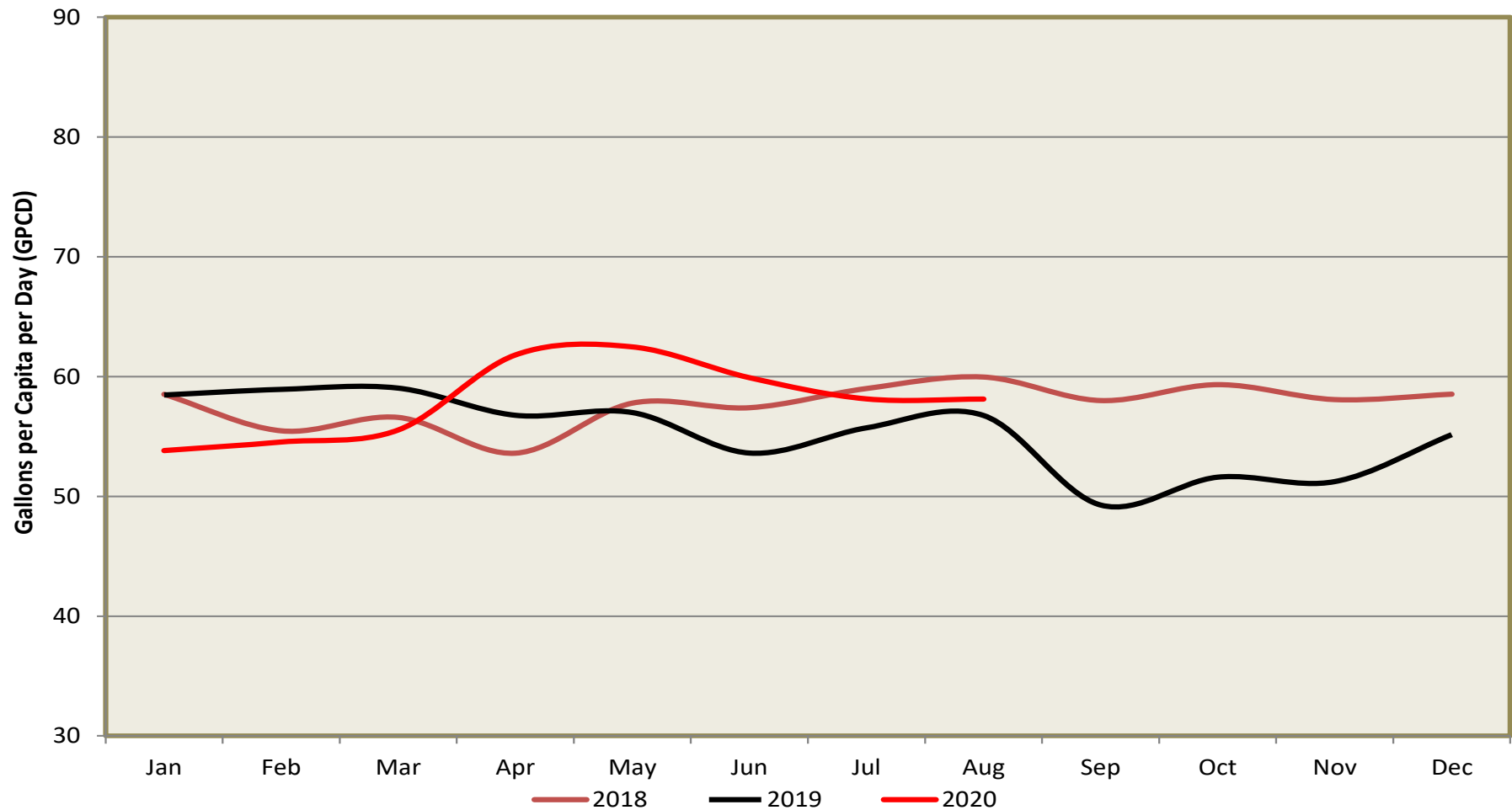
2017 - 57 GPCD

2018 - 58 GPCD

2019 - 55 GPCD

This graph depicts customer indoor water usage. May 2017 had the highest usage at 64 GPCD, primarily due to snow melt seeping into manholes after a particularly wet snow and subsequent warm weather which we believe are now primarily resolved. September 2019 had the lowest usage at 49 GPCD. Fall, with relatively little precipitation and dropping groundwater levels, is a good indicator of true daily flows.

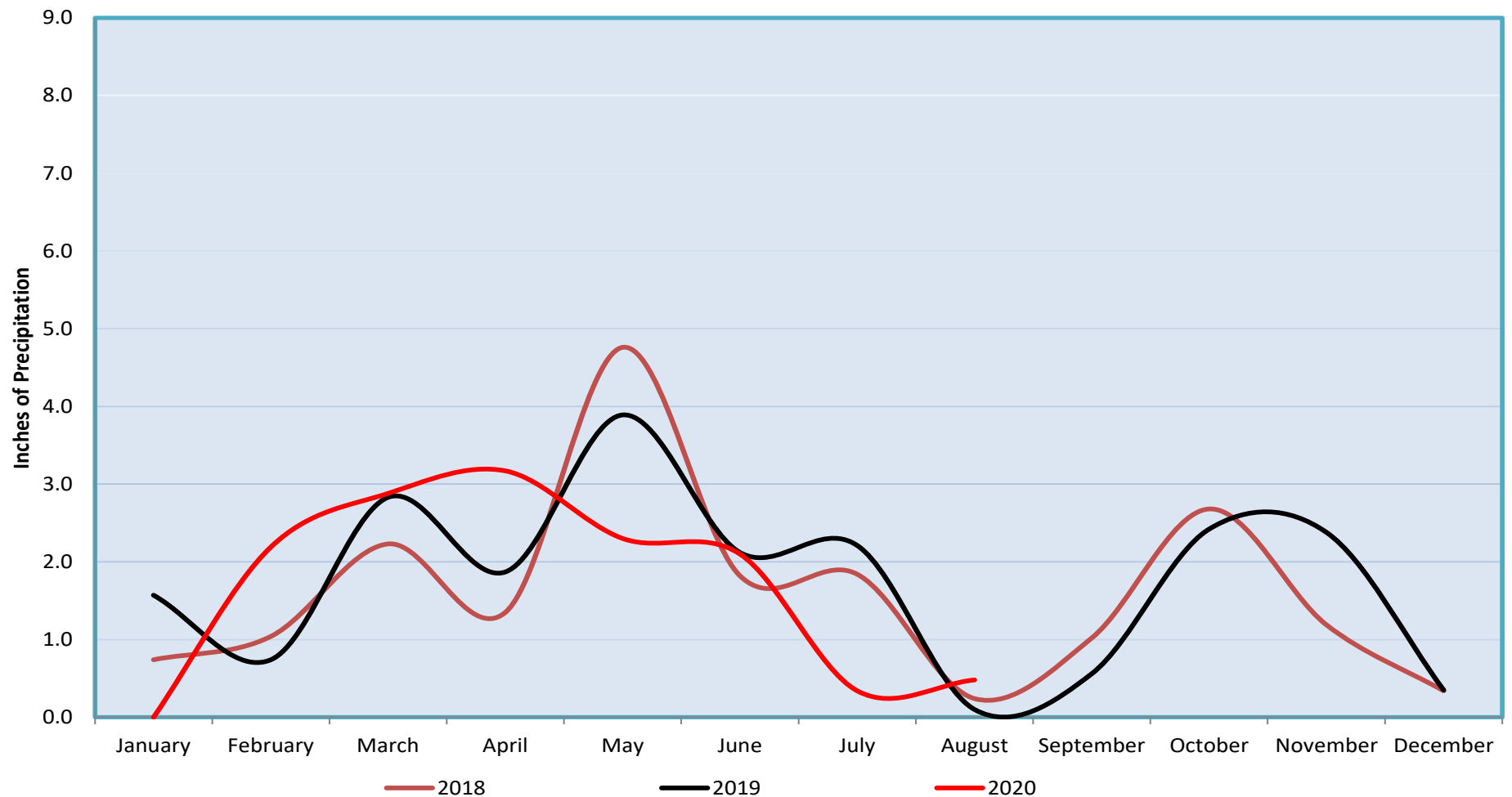
Average Daily Usage Per Capita



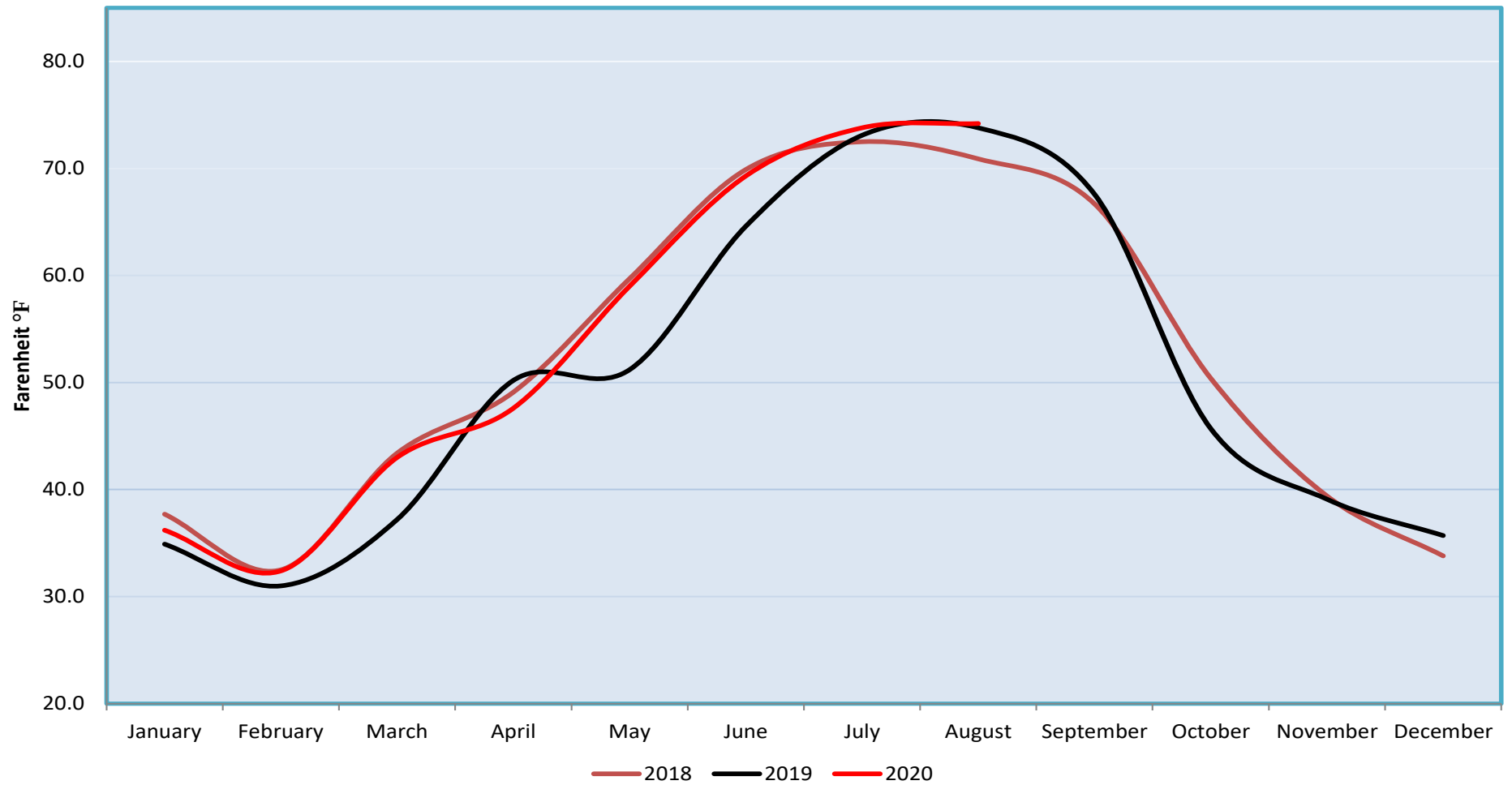
Monthly Data for Boulder – National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) & Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS)

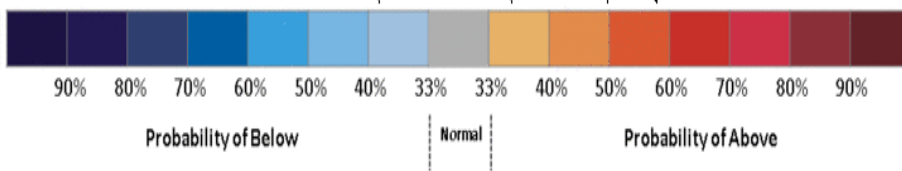
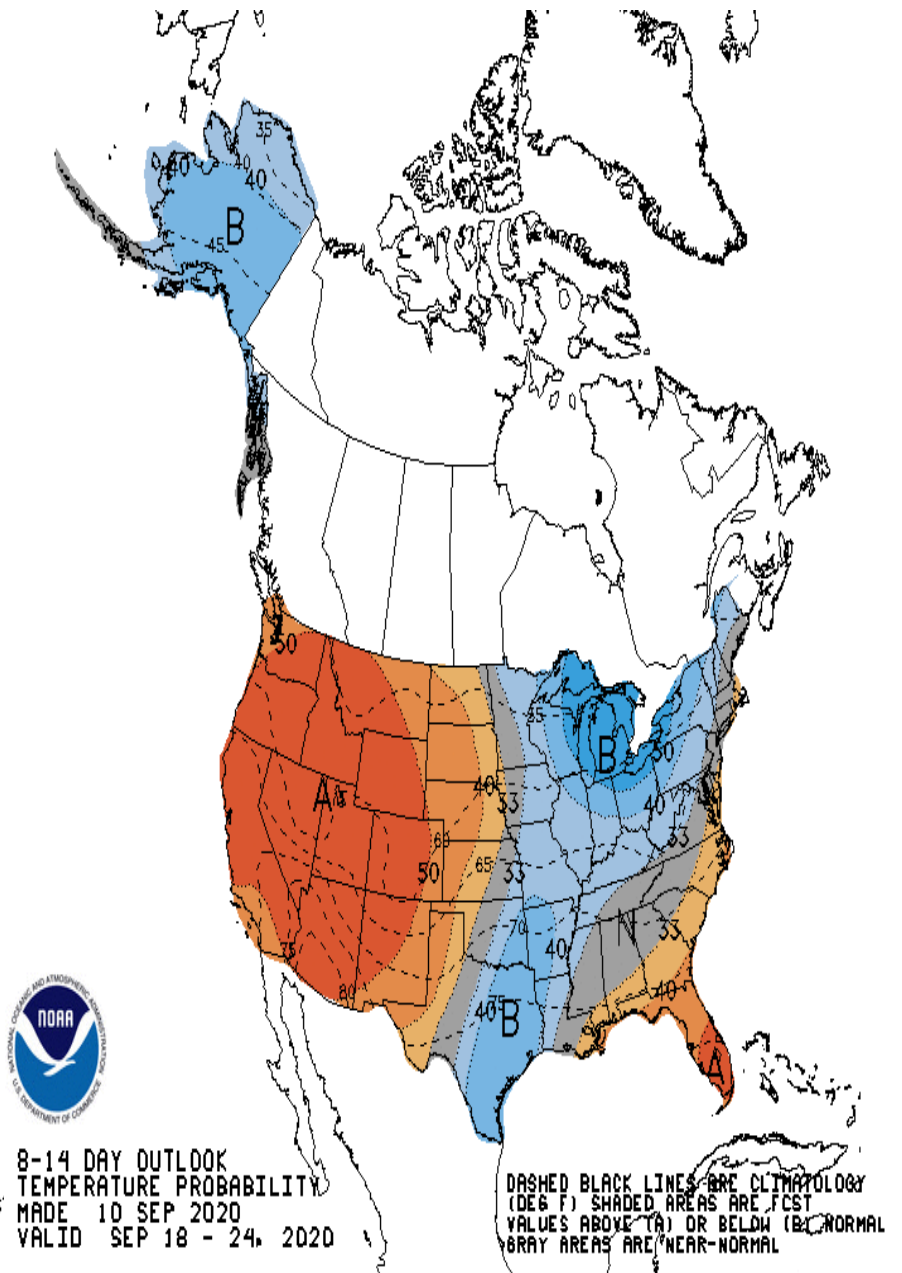
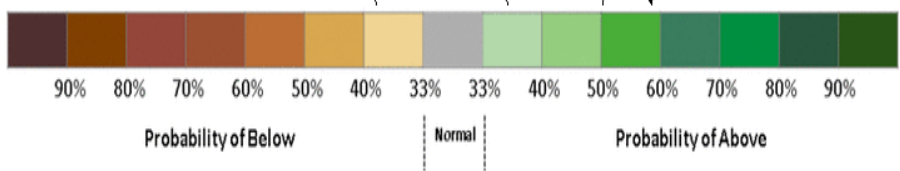
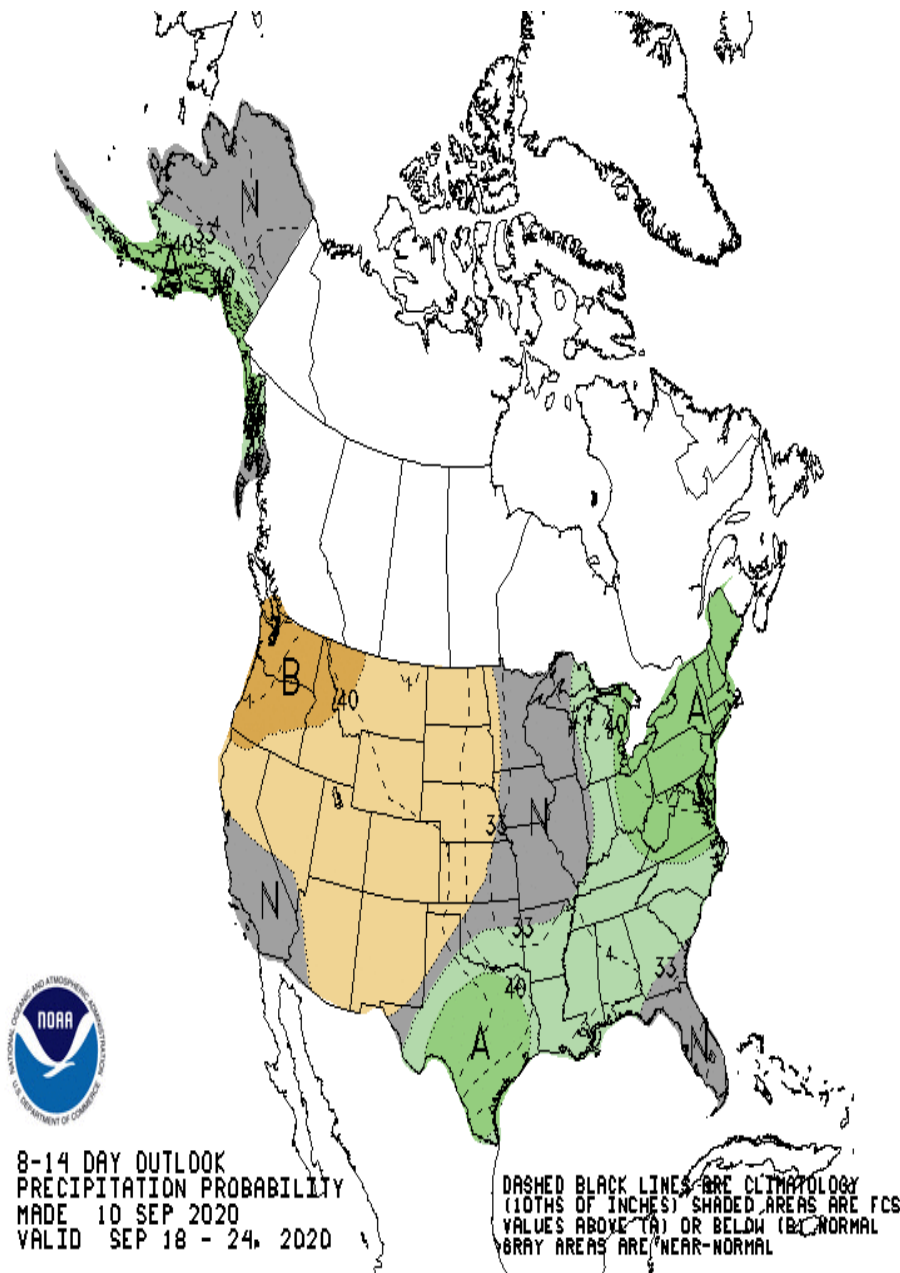
NOAA is predicting a 33% chance of below normal precipitation and 60% chance of above normal temperatures through late September. This year's graph looks unusual due to a complete lack of precipitation early in the year followed by far less than normal spring and summer precipitation. Drought conditions are significant throughout the state, however Erie is in good shape in terms of water supply throughout the irrigation season.

Precipitation



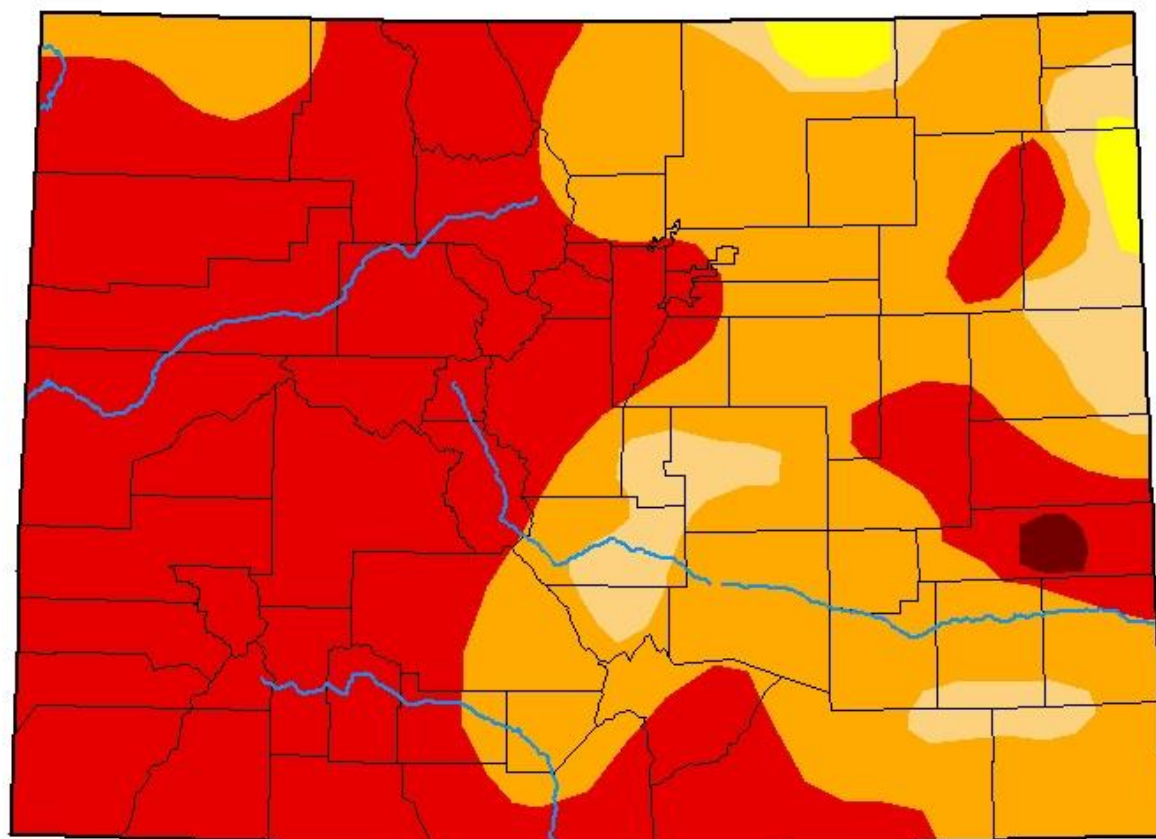
Mean Temperature





U.S. Drought Monitor Colorado

September 8, 2020
(Released Thursday, Sep. 10, 2020)
Valid 8 a.m. EDT



Intensity:

	None
	D0 Abnormally Dry
	D1 Moderate Drought
	D2 Severe Drought
	D3 Extreme Drought
	D4 Exceptional Drought

The Drought Monitor focuses on broad-scale conditions. Local conditions may vary. For more information on the Drought Monitor, go to <https://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/About.aspx>

Author:

Richard Tinker
CPC/NOAA/NWS/NCEP



droughtmonitor.unl.edu

Transportation Updates

Staff is anticipating notifications regarding a \$890K grant application for our Traffic Signal Communicaiton project mid-September and our \$2.5M Safer Main Streets application for imprvemnts to County Line Road between Cheesman and Telleen (school area) by mid-November.

Local transportation planning updates follow below:

- NATA Synopsis
- MCC Letter to RTD re:FISA



Synopsis of August 27, 2020 NATA Meeting

1. July 23, 2020, NATA Meeting minutes were approved.
2. Treasurer's Report was presented and approved.
3. Smart Commute staff gave a review of their plans for TransForum this year as a virtual event. TransForum will follow the October 22 NATA meeting, and will start approximately 8:30. The event will be free to attend. All Smart Commute members will be included as event sponsors in marketing materials and during the virtual event. TransForum will focus on the future of train travel, particularly future vehicles using train corridors. TransForum will include a drone flyover of N Line as well as information about artists who produced station artwork. Additionally, Smart Commute is producing a commemorative book about the N Line project – if any jurisdiction has historical photos, or information, contact Karen or Carson. Smart Commute gave an update about Bike to Work Day. It is now "Bike to Wherever Week" and will encourage bike trips the week of September 21 (same week as N Line opening).
4. RTD Accountability Committee Update provided by Chair Mullica, who sits on the committee. Chair Mullica provided a quick overview of first meeting, including the creation of subcommittees and working groups. All meeting materials and recordings are available on the DRCOG website ([August 8 meeting](#), [August 24 meeting](#))
5. RTD Director Open Seat, District I discussion. The candidate running for the District I seat did not obtain enough signatures so Boulder County is now required to appoint the seat, which is not up until November. This seat sits in multiple counties but has a majority of people in Boulder County. The Boulder County Commissioners have no specific timing right now for this appointment or individual identified. Anyone interested in appointment should contact the County.
6. RTD directors Vince Buzek and Troy Whitmore gave updates. GM Search Update: RTD Board selected Debra Johnson. RTD is currently in negotiations with her so exact start date is not yet decided. FISA/Budget: The RTD Board is working with an anticipated shortfall of about \$166M for 2021. FISA has about \$130M in the account now, and about \$20M in annual contributions. Staff wants to use both the account balance as well as future contributions for the current debt situation, but north Directors are pushing back because FISA funds are essential as pool of possible future local match funds. Reimagine RTD Pause: Reimagine was set up to address what the future of mobility looks like for RTD and their services but with unknown impacts of COVID-19, Reimagine has been paused. RTD Accountability Committee: The Committee elected Elise Jones and Crystal Murillo as Co-Chairs.
7. RTD N-Line Opening Activities presented by Pauletta Tonilas. The opening is scheduled for September 21, however, this opening will look very different from our other Grand Openings due to COVID. This will be an invite ONLY event (the public will not be allowed to attend due to safety requirements for COVID). Starting at noon on September 21, the Free rides will begin for the public until Sunday, September 27, then the promotional fare of \$3.00 starts on September 28 for 6 months. On Thursday, September 17 there will be special rides, invite only, for the Board, VIPs and the Media.
8. CDOT Statewide Transportation Plan Highlights, presented by Rebecca White. Statewide Transportation Plan has been finalized. Effort started in May 2019. Reached 64 counties of Colorado through in-person meeting and town halls, and reached new stakeholder audiences. The plan includes (1) The 10-Year Vision (including the four-year SB267 projects), (2) 10 Rural Transportation Plans, and (3) The 2045 Statewide Plan (meeting Federal requirement).
9. New CDOT Dashboards, presented by Steven Harrelson. (1) Program Financial Summary Dashboard, (2) Program Summary Dashboard, and (3) Project Summary Page (currently just SB267 projects as a pilot,

All presentations will be available on NATA website at www.northareatransportation.net

hope to expand to all projects eventually). Dashboards available at
<https://www.codot.gov/programs/your-transportation-priorities/projects-funded>

Full meeting record is available: <https://youtu.be/KsxQeEXFRM8>

- Smart Commute Update: <https://youtu.be/KsxQeEXFRM8?t=1181>
- RTD Accountability Committee Update: <https://youtu.be/KsxQeEXFRM8?t=1569>
- RTD Director Open Seat, District I Discussion: <https://youtu.be/KsxQeEXFRM8?t=1835>
- RTD Directors Comments: <https://youtu.be/KsxQeEXFRM8?t=2074>
- RTD N-Line Opening Activities: <https://youtu.be/KsxQeEXFRM8?t=3047>
- CDOT Statewide Transportation Plan Highlights: <https://youtu.be/KsxQeEXFRM8?t=3606>
- New CDOT Dashboards: <https://youtu.be/KsxQeEXFRM8?t=4601>

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Northwest Mayors & Commissioners Coalition (MCC)

<i>Boulder County</i>	September 10, 2020
<i>City of Boulder</i>	RTD Board of Directors
<i>City & County of Broomfield</i>	Paul Ballard, Interim General Manager and Chief Executive Officer Regional Transportation District 1660 Blake Street
<i>City of Lafayette</i>	Denver, CO 80202
<i>City of Longmont</i>	Dear RTD Board Directors and General Manager Ballard,
<i>City of Louisville</i>	In response to the recent RTD Board committee discussions, the Northwest Mayors & Commissioners Coalition (MCC) (formerly the US 36 Mayors & Commissioners Coalition) and Commuting Solutions want to express in the strongest possible terms our opposition to using the FasTracks Internal Savings Account (FISA) funds for any purpose other than completion of the unfinished corridors within the voter-approved FasTracks plan, including Northwest Rail, North Metro completion, Southwest Corridor Extension, the Central Rail Extension and remaining FasTracks commitments to US 36.
<i>City of Westminster</i>	
<i>Town of Erie</i>	
<i>Town of Superior</i>	
	RTD must honor the 2004 vote of our constituents and only use the FasTracks tax for the purposes for which they were intended. The RTD Board in 2012 created the FISA to show goodwill and create a path forward to one day fund un-funded commitments. The account was created by capping future RTD route expansion at the 2013 level plus inflation and diverting revenues above that to complete existing unfunded commitments. The existing RTD commitments have not been completed and there has not been an alternative solution offered, so it would be in bad faith to defund or diminish the FISA at this time. To date, the northwest area communities have paid \$370 million in to FasTracks. The 2004 FasTracks plan explicitly included US 36 Bus Rapid Transit and Northwest Rail to serve the northwest region. While we are pleased that the Flatiron Flyer Bus Rapid Transit service has been successful, the voters gave RTD their trust based on a promise that explicitly included Northwest Rail as well. Honoring this long-standing commitment is central to RTD rebuilding the public's trust, not only within the Northwest Region but throughout the district. The MCC and Commuting Solutions recognize that RTD is facing tremendous challenges due to the COVID-19 pandemic and is making hard choices in the short-term to address severe financial impacts,

including significant service reductions due to lower ridership levels, increased costs to ensure public health and safety, and proposed furloughs and lay-offs of the RTD workforce, including frontline workers. Our communities are facing similar challenges due to COVID-19, and our agencies, residents and businesses are experiencing the cumulative impacts of these local and regional hard choices. We recognize the tough decisions we're all facing and our shared responsibilities. We are committed to working together with RTD to find a reasonable path forward.

To date, our communities have experienced an approximate 40% reduction in transit service. Moreover, we know that an additional 10% in service cuts are being planned for January 2021 in our region. We are committed to working with RTD to help identify and prioritize these additional temporary, short-term, pandemic service level cuts. We share your desire to focus on serving essential workers, people seeking health care and returning students during the remaining stages of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Given these challenges, RTD's focus should be on immediate actions needed to respond to the impacts of the pandemic. To that end, we recommend that the board prioritize development of a more limited mid-term financial plan update for 2021-22 that specifically addresses the immediate adjustments needed to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic. To address the system wide cuts that must be made, we recommend that the board fairly allocate the cut targets across the region (looking at FasTracks and the Base System) and then work with each sub-region to determine where the cuts would come from in their areas. Additionally, the board should seriously reconsider the fare rates. The very high ticket price continues to be a reason that our constituents tell us they will not ride RTD (the number two reason behind safety).

The remaining four years of the mid-term financial plan, including the \$33 million in base system funding for the SH 119 BRT shown in 2023, should remain as-is, and any changes considered at a later date when the immediate pandemic crisis has abated. RTD has made a commitment to fund SH 119 through its BRT corridor planning process and with TIP funding, and not as a part of the FasTracks plan.

As part of that 2021-22 mid-term financial plan, RTD should approve using a portion of the available FISA funds to invest in the advancement of the 30% design study of the Northwest Rail peak service passenger line from Westminster to Longmont as outlined during RTD's recent meeting with the BNSF Railway Corporation. This 30% design study for Northwest Rail peak service is important to update the corridor cost

estimates and ridership projections and to help advance discussions and next steps with agency partners and local communities. RTD should also approve funding for the other remaining FasTracks commitments along US 36, including Northwest Rail and the other improvements detailed in the Northwest Area Mobility Study (NAMS).

Preservation of FISA funds for their intended long-term use is also important as it enables RTD to retain one of their few significant remaining reserve funds. Further, it will allow RTD to preserve funds that may become necessary to leverage potential future state and/or federal funding opportunities that will likely arise to advance capital investment projects and contribute to our region's broader economic recovery.

We appreciate RTD honoring these long-standing commitments to our communities and northwest area voters. The MCC and Commuting Solutions look forward to continuing to work with the RTD Board and staff to follow through on these critical mobility needs for our region.

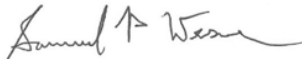
Thank you,



Elise Jones
Boulder County Commissioner



Craig Eicher
Commuting Solutions Board Chairperson



Sam Weaver
Mayor, City of Boulder



Clint Folsom
Mayor, Town of Superior



Ashley Stolzmann
Mayor, City of Louisville



Jamie Harkins
Mayor, City of Lafayette



Brian Bagley
Mayor, City of Longmont



Pat Quinn
Mayor, City & County of Broomfield



Jennifer Carroll
Mayor, Town of Erie



Herb Atchison
Mayor, City of Westminster

cc: Heather McKillop, RTD Chief Financial Officer
Governor Jared Polis

Senate Majority Leader Stephen Fenberg
Speaker KC Becker
Senator Faith Winter
Senator Mike Foote
Representative Matt Gray
Representative Edie Hooton
Representative Shannon Bird
Representative Jonathan Singer
Representative Sonya Jaquez Lewis