



# TOWN OF ERIE NEWS FLASH

## Board of Trustees Action Items

For more information contact:  
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Posted on: August 12, 2014

## Erie Board of Trustees Action Items

### August 12, 2014

**Board Approves Special Review Use and Site Plan Applications for Oil & Gas Wells** – During Tuesday night's meeting, the Board of Trustees approved the Special Review Use and Site Plan applications from Encana Oil & Gas (USA) Inc. for the Pratt and Waste Connection well sites. The Pratt site includes six horizontal wells and the Waste Connections site includes seven horizontal wells. Both sites are located north of the Vista Ridge neighborhood near the northwest corner of Weld County Road 4 and Weld County Road 5.

During their presentation, representative from EnCana announced the estimated project timeline for both sites as follows:

#### Waste Connections Well Site:

- Feb 2015: Construction begins
- Mar 2015: Drilling begins (7 wells)
- Aug 2015: Completions begin
- Oct 2015: First production

#### Pratt Well Site:

- Dec 2014: Construction begins
- Jan 2014: Drilling begins (6 wells)
- Jun 2015: Completions begin
- Aug 2015: First production

After the Public Hearing concluded, Mayor Tina Harris read a directive which stated that the Board of Trustees are seeking to bring oil and gas operators back to the table to discuss improvements to the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU's)- specifically to address the process by which gas well locations are chosen within the state.

In August 2012, the Town successfully negotiated with oil & gas operators and the Colorado Oil & Gas Conservation Commission to achieve the first Memorandums of Understanding (MOU) in Colorado that included requirements which exceed state rules and regulations and address the Town's concerns



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regarding public health and safety impacts. The following are a brief outline of the BMP's from the MOU that have been applied as conditions by the COGCC for the Pratt wells.

1. Maximize equipment and wellhead setbacks from occupied buildings and residences.
2. Prior to any new operations, provide notification to landowners within 1/2 mile.
3. Prior to any new operations, provide designated staff member the following:
  - o A site plan for site preparation, mobilization and demobilization.
  - o A plan for interim reclamation and re-vegetation and final reclamation of the site.
  - o A plan for noise, light and dust mitigation, to the extent feasible and where applicable.
  - o A traffic management plan.
  - o Updates of this information if any plans change during operations
4. Utilize steel-rim berms around tanks and separators instead of sand or soil.
5. Utilize closed-loop systems for drilling and completion operations.
6. Utilize multistage pressure separation in conjunction with a vapor recovery unit (VRU) for new wells.

### BACKGROUND

#### State Oil and Gas Regulations:

Under Colorado State law, surface and mineral estates are separate and distinct interests in land, and may be "severed" from one another. The Colorado Oil and Gas Conservation Commission (COGCC) governs the permitting and regulation of oil and gas well drilling and production, including permitting, siting, setbacks, and adjacent development.

#### Town of Erie Oil and Gas Regulations:

The Town of Erie Municipal Code regulates the access roads, fencing, and color of the oil and gas well above ground facilities through the review of the required Site Plan and Special Review Use applications for the proposed oil and gas well facilities. Other operational aspects of an oil/gas facility are regulation by the State of Colorado through the COGCC.

**RFQ for Historic Downtown Erie Public Art** – During Tuesday night's meeting the Board of Trustees approved a resolution to issue a Request for Qualifications (RFQ) for the Historic Downtown Erie Public Art Project. This will be a one-time project funded through the generous donation of the Dr. C.W. Bixler Family Foundation. A total of \$43,000 is available to commission an artist to create sculptural artwork that will have a welcoming visual impact and enhance the Downtown Erie guest experience. A special ad hoc committee will review the RFQ's and make a recommendation to the Board of Trustees. The ad hoc committee will consist of: 1 Trustee (non-voting), 1 member of the Arts Coalition of Erie, 1 member of the Erie Chamber of Commerce, 2 Historic Downtown business owners and 1 member of the Historic Preservation Board. The RFQ will be released on Friday, August 15, 2014 through the [Notify Me](#) module



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of the Town's website. Once posted you may view and download the RFQ by going to Notify Me and selecting "Bid Postings."

**Engage Erie** – View the most recent activity on the Town's new social engagement site, [Engage Erie](#).

View complete August 12, 2014 Board of Trustees Meeting Packet [here](#).

**Upcoming Board of Trustees Meetings** – The next regularly scheduled [Board of Trustees](#) meeting will be on Tuesday, August 26 at 6:30 pm. All meetings are held in the [Town Hall boardroom](#) located at 645 Holbrook Street in Erie.

**More Information** – Board of Trustees Action Items are brief summaries of some, but not all, agenda items and do not serve as the official meeting minutes. Select this link to view archived Board of Trustees meeting online via the [On Demand Video](#) service. To request approved meeting minutes of Board of Trustees meetings, please contact the Town Clerk's Office at [nparker@erieco.gov](mailto:nparker@erieco.gov).