

The Town of Grand Lake, Colorado
Seeks An Experienced
Town Manager

The Town of Grand Lake, Colorado is an authentic mountain town beloved by residents who relish the contrast of seasons. Summer into Fall in Grand Lake bustles with tourists. The small town at the end of the road in Winter is a magnet for ice fishing and snowmobilers. Visitors revel in the beachside community's locally owned & operated businesses many of which are along a wooden boardwalk.

The organization is small, meaning that the Town Manager must enjoy a "hands on" role with diverse responsibilities and skillsets. In the past 5 years the streets of Grand Lake have upgraded from gravel to pavement, with over \$7 million invested in streetscape and stormwater infrastructure, as well as a new water tank and the strategic purchase of 21 acres in town. The board is thankful for the outgoing manager built a cohesive team, strengthened internal systems, and completed a Comprehensive Land Use Plan, public lands use plan and a visioning plan. The culmination of those will be a long-term strategic plan now underway, and long-term capital plan for the next manager to work with the board to complete. Town has applied for a grant to fund an economic development plan. The new Manager will build upon a strong culture and steer the organization toward a new level of excellence in public engagement and customer service. Mayor Steve Kudron, a local business owner, values the Manager as leader of a "Trusted Team" that ensures that the Town is "not only a place that is beautiful but a place of substance."

About The Town:

At an altitude of 8,439', located at the headwaters of the Colorado River on the shores of Colorado's largest natural lake at the west entrance to Rocky Mountain National Park, the town of Grand Lake exudes a vibrance that is difficult to describe. Home of the world's highest registered yacht club and the nation's highest altitude golf course with grass greens, Grand Lake offers a unique getaway. The iconic lakeside town framed by the Rocky Mountains has been a vacationer's paradise for over a century. With no national chain businesses, more cabins for rent than hotel rooms, and many entrepreneurial small businesses with resident proprietors the Town is unique compared to many other tourist towns. The spirit of involvement extends to the Chamber of Commerce which operates the gograndlake.com website, Grand Lake in summer has a people-centered, hand-built feel like your grandfather's resort town.

Approximately 500 residents live year-round within the Town limits, while another 3,000 reside in the surrounding area. During peak summer tourist season, between 15,000 and 20,000 visitors converge and pass through the town each day. Amenities in the town include the Middle Park Health Clinic, the Grand Lake Center – a venue for conferences, meetings, and workshops, together with an excellent fitness facility, and an intensely used Town-operated marina.

As a testament to its appeal as a get-a-way, the Town of Grand Lake has an estimated 936 housing units, 139 of which are occupied year-round. Seasonal visitation is both a way of life, and a challenge.

The Town of Grand Lake is a statutory town operating in a Council-Manager form of government. Town activities and services are primarily funded through sales tax which can be perused in the Treasurer's regular [Financial Reports](#). In 2023, the



Town's 5% sales tax brought in approximately \$3.2 million, a 50% increase in revenue since 2019. The Town generally operates with [a budget](#) of \$6.7 million. The Town enjoys reserve funds of approximately \$6 million. Town has invested heavily in new equipment for Public Works, replacing heavy machinery, small equipment and tools. The town operates three enterprise activities, a water utility, a pay-as-you-throw waste and recycling center, and the marina with boat rentals and tours. Each enterprise has significant reserves.

Grand Lake is proud of hosting flourishing activities such as a summer theater and seven major annual events, four of which are managed directly by town staff. Having recently been awarded grants in the last 10 years by Downtown Colorado Inc, USDA, Colorado Department of Local Affairs, the Town was designated a Creative District in 2018 by Colorado Creative Industries. It was awarded one of nine Spaces To Create which is a grant to support an artist community. Grand Lake continues to invest in these sectors with 10% of annual revenues this year dedicated to parks, arts, and history. Recently, the Town invested \$2 million in upgrades to the Community House auditorium, the recreation center and energy efficiency and beatification grants to local businesses.

Being a smaller community, Grand Lake partners with Grand County for

services such as the building department and law enforcement. Nearly all positions at the Town are involved directly with the public including a dedicated Public Engagement Manager. Community Development just established CloudPermit, an online platform for permits. The receptionist is also the Permit Technician, managing facility rentals and Nightly Rental Licenses (Short Term Rentals). Though the Grand County Sheriff provides local law enforcement, Grand Lake has recently added a Code Enforcement position. With high standards for visitors to enjoy, the board prioritizes clean streets, drivable alleys and attractive front yards. The new manager will be closely involved in the nuances of code enforcement, permitting and a wide variety of public engagement needs that come with providing events and services as a host to thousands of visitors.

Activities in Town and Nearby

The Town of Grand Lake is a recreational playground with wide open spaces and breathtaking mountain scenery. Outdoor recreational activities include fishing, biking, hiking, skiing, snowboarding, snowmobiling, hunting, water sports, four wheeling, and for those who prefer something different, geocaching.



Winters in Grand Lake are not for the timid, but certainly are well-suited for those who prefer the outdoors in all conditions. After Trail Ridge Road is closed through Rocky Mountain National Park, Grand Lake becomes a tranquil retreat until the snow piles up enough to make it a welcome end-of-the-pavement destination for Winter visitors who have dubbed it the ‘Snowmobile Capitol of Colorado’ due to direct access from town to the state’s largest network of groomed snowmobile trails and the vast Arapaho National Recreation area beyond.

Grand Lake locals tend to own more snowmobiles and boats than vehicles.

Grand County boasts two ski areas – Winter Park Resort and Granby Ranch. On average Winter Park Resort receives over 29 feet of snow annually. It is also the home to Mary Jane Mountain, Winter Park Resort’s famed terrain for bumps and spectacular tree skiing and riding. Granby Ranch is designed for skiers and riders of all ages and abilities. It offers easy lift access, has a terrain park with progressive features, and wide-open landscape that includes beginner, intermediate and advanced runs.

The Ideal Candidate

The Town Board of Trustees is seeking a town manager who has management experience, excellent communication, and people skills. The Town Manager is appointed by and serves at the pleasure of the Board of Trustees.

The ideal candidate will play a hands-on leadership role with a small but qualified staff, and an engaged community. Most of the staff members are direct reports to the town manager.

Required Qualifications

Progressively responsible management experience in municipal or other local governments is required. A Bachelors Degree in public administration or a related field is required, and a Masters Degree is strongly preferred.



Compensation

Annual salary for the position, exempt from FLSA, is \$103,000 to \$172,000, dependent upon qualifications. Compensation package includes health, dental, vision, and life insurance, longevity pay, and high employer match toward ICMA-RC 457 deferred compensation plan.

Schedule

The outgoing manager will be transitioned out by April 30. The Treasurer has been appointed Acting Manager and the Public Works Director will be the Operational lead between that time and the start date of the incoming manager. The Board of Trustees seeks to fill the position by Memorial Day. The below schedule will be followed, but the position will remain open until a successful candidate is selected:

Submittal Deadline	April 30 th
Interviews	Week of May 10th

Board Decision

May 13th Board Meeting

Finalists will be identified and published pursuant to CRS 24-6-402(3.5) and 24-72-204(3)(a)(XI), requiring a two week period between announcement of finalist and finalization of contract.



Please provide Cover Letter, Resume and Three references with titles and contact information, and direct inquiries to:

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