



COMMUNITY SERVICES & FACILITIES

BACKGROUND

This section of the Clifton-Fruitvale Plan contains background information about the Clifton Community Hall, Mesa County Clerk & Recorder’s Motor Vehicle Division, Sheriff’s Office, Mesa County Library District Branch, CSU Cooperative Extension, and U.S. Postal Service. This section of the plan also, where appropriate, makes recommendations with respect to improving services and facilities for residents of the planning area.

EXISTING COUNTY FACILITIES

<u>NAME</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>SQ. FT.</u>	<u>OWNER</u>	<u>USAGE AMENITIES</u>
Clifton Community Hall	125 2nd St.	4,000	Mesa County	Meeting room(s), full kitchen
Clifton Substation (Peachtree)	3225 I-70 Bus. Loop	2,040	Leased (private)	Clerk and Recorder - Motor Vehicle Division - Sheriff's Office

Clifton Community Hall

Mission Statement of Clifton Community Hall, Inc.

“To Foster Pride in the Community of Clifton by Promoting Activities-Public, Private and Nonprofit-Through the Use of the Facility Known as Clifton Community Hall”

Mesa County owns the Clifton Community Hall which was built as a result of a sales tax issue in the early 1980s. The County contracts with the Clifton Community Hall, Inc. to operate the facility. In 1992, the county purchased an adjacent lot for additional parking for the hall. The Gray Gormet provides senior meals at the Hall daily. Service clubs, such as the Clifton LIONS, also meet at the facility regularly. Clifton Community Hall, Inc. board of directors has sponsored the annual Clifton Community Celebration at the site for two years. They are actively seeking wider use of the Hall by the community.

Clifton Substation

Mesa County leases space in the Peach Tree Shopping center to provide limited satellite services for the Mesa County Clerk & Recorder and the Sheriff’s Office.





Mesa County Clerk & Recorder’s Motor Vehicle Division (DMV)

The Clerk & Recorder’s office oversees Elections, Motor Vehicles, and Recording (public documents). Services are limited to the Division of Motor Vehicles; auto registrations, license plates, renewals, etc. Current statistical information indicates the Clifton branch of the Division of Motor Vehicles branch is growing. In 2005, organizational changes within the Clerk & Recorder’s office were adjusted to increase the staff from four to five deputy clerks (for the DMV in Clifton). The number of people served at this branch is second to the numbers served at the Mesa Mall DMV. With the growth that is occurring throughout the county, it would be beneficial to have a facility large enough to house a “Vote Center” during elections, as well as a branch desk in the Clifton-Fruitvale Community for recording of documents.

Mesa County Sheriff’s Office

The Sheriff’s Office has a small office in the Peach Tree shopping center. Calls for service are handled by central dispatch in Grand Junction for all emergency services.

Substation Key Issues and Public Comments:

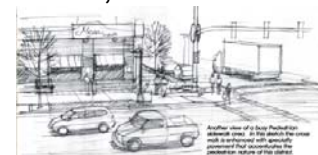
- Like having Clerk’s office in community
- Like having the small Sheriff Office in Clifton
- No room for storage at Sheriff’s current office in Clifton
- Need more sheriff patrols in area
- A more visible Sheriff’s annex would be helpful – close to the high school.
- SO the office is understaffed and the area is a high call for service area
- There may be a need for a county services building in the area

CLIFTON BRANCH LIBRARY

The Mesa County Public Library District, which operates as a special district, includes a branch facility in Clifton. The library branch is located in leased space in the Peach Tree shopping center. In addition to books, videos, tapes, and other resources, the branch has a small meeting room and a few computers. Next to the main branch, the Clifton branch is the most heavily used facility.

Branch Library Key Issues and Public Comments:

- Library services are used extensively by public – especially children’s programs
- Could use some upgrades in books selection and appearance.
- Library needs expanded hours
- Kids need a place to use computers for schoolwork and games.
- Due to lack of parks and recreation in the area, many parents use the library as a “baby-sitting service.”





CSU COOPERATIVE EXTENSION

Youth Development

4-H currently has three clubs geographically located in the Clifton area. There are no active after-school programs. In the next 15 years, the club numbers could double. The Board of County Commissioners has asked to see some after-school programs in the Clifton-Fruitvale area once a new 4-H agent is hired. At that time, 4-H will look at a target school which will probably be a middle school. The goal is to grow the program in the After-School and Non-Traditional club venue.

Small Acreage Program

Administered by the Montrose office. There are rarely calls for service in the Clifton/Fruitvale community. Recent calls have involved some serious die-out problems with alfalfa and requests for ideas on what larger property owners (10 -15 acres) can do with their property.

Horticulture Section

Twenty-eight active Master Gardeners live in the Clifton-Fruitvale area. The office conducts site visits in the area to give advice on trees, shrubs, turf, etc. There has also been assistance given to Clifton Elementary School on tree and turf problems.

When the 29 Road project is completed and the area becomes more visible, the office will consider establishing a demonstration garden along the road corridor, which could serve the Clifton/Fruitvale area as well.

The office has been consulted on using the new Grand Valley Transit transfer station grounds across I-70 B from Coronado Plaza as a demonstration garden for water-wise design and plantings.. Other concepts include incorporating some artistic features such as – sculptures, carvings, or monuments.

Childcare Resource Network (CCRN)

This grant funded project provides child care providers in-home visits to promote trainings and educational services (literacy, social/emotional issues, professional development, etc.). Child care providers in the Clifton-Fruitvale community are among those providers receiving these services.

Division of Pest Management and the Upper Grand Valley Pest Control District

Current activities include spraying noxious weeds on roadsides, education about noxious weeds, working with landowners to control noxious weeds, control of insect pests of fruit trees within the part of the area that is in the Pest Control District.





Major Pest Management Concerns:

- Infestations of white top and Russian knapweed;
- Possible infestations of "List A" noxious weeds
- Myrtle and cypress spurge slated for eradication statewide.
- In the next 5 years there could be new species of noxious weeds entering the area.
- Subdivision of orchards (either operating or abandoned) where fruit trees are left in residential parcels and residential parcels with fruit trees in general.
These trees are not usually well cared for and pose a problem to commercial growers.

More specific information is included in the Natural Resources and Environment section of this plan.

U.S. POSTAL SERVICE

The Clifton-Fruitvale Community grew around the Clifton post office established in 1900. Many of the issues that were heard throughout the planning process were common among all the neighborhoods and perhaps the most frequently heard issue was the location, safety, and parking related to the current F Road location of the Post Office in downtown Clifton. According to the Clifton Postmaster “the Post Office will not be relocating for at least another 3 to 5 years.” In the recent past there were plans to find a new location but that option is currently not being pursued.

Post Office Key Issues and Public Comments:

- Need a central, easy to access Post Office
- The Post Office needs to have better circulation and parking or it needs to move to a new location.
- Post Office parking – is dangerous
- Relocation issue may be a matter of federal appropriations and require persistent lobbying to get the required funding approved.

