

KGEZ-Kalispell, MT

Flathead Valley Issues- October 2020

1. **Covid 19.** Flathead County has the second-most cases in Montana. People refuse to wear masks and limit public gatherings.
2. **Glacier Park International Airport.** Flights canceled; passenger counts drop dramatically. Expansion project—even though funded, is put on hold.
3. **Covid 19 Testing.** City Council members voice concerns about adequate testing for Covid 19 in the local area.
4. **Homeless People in NW Montana.** The numbers of homeless people in NW Montana has grown dramatically. New shelters are being sought.
5. **Waterfowl in Woodland Park.** Numbers have increases to levels that create a health hazard. New City Ordinance to help control the situation.
6. **Tax Increment Funding Districts.** Using this unique method of setting-aside property tax money for future projects. Keeping up-dated with State Law is always a challenge for City Lawmakers.
7. **City Budgets.** The incorporated cities in Flathead County continue to struggle for funding sources. Columbia Falls votes on a local Resort Tax.
8. **Drug Use/Abuse.** Law Enforcement Agencies continue to point to vandalism and theft related to drug abuse.
9. **Traffic Congestion.** The Plans to add additional lanes and interchanges are being submitted to the Montana Department of Transportation.

KGEZ 20-20 News reaches out to provide coverage of local events with an eye on providing information and discussion of all these issues. The KGEZ Good Morning Show features interviews with local and regional officials each morning between 6:00 and 10:00. A minimum of 5-local interviews are scheduled each morning.