



STEAMBOAT TODAY

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ROUTT COUNTY'S DAILY NEWSPAPER

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STEAMBOAT SPRINGS, COLORADO

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INSIDE



4 Points: Your guide to weekend entertainment

SPORTS



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MATT STENSLAND/STAFF

Steamboat Ski & Bike Kare repair shop manager Tim Magill works on a pair of skis Thursday in the shop. Sporting goods sales tax revenues were down almost 21 percent in December 2008 compared with December 2007, according to a report released by the city Thursday.

Sales tax revenues slide

City could face multi-million dollar budget cuts if trend continues

Margaret Hair
PILOT & TODAY STAFF

STEAMBOAT SPRINGS

Declining sales tax revenues could mean multi-million dollar budget cuts for the city of Steamboat Springs this year.

Steamboat Springs' total sales tax collections were about 9 percent less in December than in the same month in 2007, making it the fourth consecu-

tive down month in 2008.

Based on the decreased receipts, the Steamboat Springs City Council plans to reopen the 2009 city budget at meetings in early March. The council could be looking at a multi-million dollar budget cut at those meetings, Councilwoman Cari Hermacinski said.

The city's December 2008 Sales, Use and Accommodation Tax Report showed a decline

in sales tax collections for the month, from \$2.56 million in 2007 to \$2.33 million in 2008. Those figures put the year-to-date total sales tax collections for 2008 just more than 0.6 percent higher than in 2007.

The December figures pushed the city's total 2008 sales tax receipts about \$370,000 over its budget for the year, said Assistant

See **Tax revenues**, page 17

For more

To download a PDF of the Steamboat Springs December 2008 Sales, Use and Accommodation Tax Report and a PDF of the Colorado Association of Ski Towns' report of taxable sales for December 2008, visit this story on the Web at www.steamboatpilot.com.

For more about what the decline in sales tax receipts and other revenues will mean for the city's 2009 budget, see Sunday's *Steamboat Pilot & Today*.

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Steamboat Realty



SKI TOWN USA SNOW REPORT

Steamboat Ski Area

New snow — Mid-mountain*	5 in.	Total snow†	272 in.
New snow — Summit	4 in.	Trails open	165/165
Base — Mid-mountain	72 in.	Lifts open	16/18
Base — Summit	85 in.	Conditions	Powder

*24-hour snowfall as of 12:30 p.m. previous day; † total snow beginning Oct. 21 as measured at mid-mountain FOR UP-TO-DATE ROAD CONDITIONS, INCLUDING RABBIT EARS PASS, call 511 or visit: www.cotrip.org

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