If you’ve always wanted to live in Vail but didn’t think it was possible, meet the latest Vail InDEED family. Enjoying all that Vail has to offer as a home.
Community priorities were leveraged like never before in 2018 as a result of bold new partnerships involving commitments and investments from the public and private sectors. Championed by the Vail Town Council and town staff, these widespread collaborative activities have been recognized at all levels - locally, regionally, nationally and globally - and are resulting in...
The 2018 community survey was conducted by RRC Associates, an independent research firm. Results reflect the opinions of 562 community members that responded to the statistically valid version of the survey.

SOLID RATINGS FOR TOWN SERVICES

Circulated every other year, most recently in 2018, Vail’s community survey offers insightful feedback from respondents who are asked to evaluate the overall direction of the town, rank priorities and rate their satisfaction with town services. Once again, day-to-day contributions by the town’s front line employees received high scores in 2018. From the cleanliness of pedestrian areas and public restrooms, to dependability of bus service, to overall park maintenance and snow removal on roads, these day-to-day contributions by the town’s front line employees received high scores in 2018.

COMMUNITY SURVEY REAFFIRMS PRIORITIES

Results from Vail’s biennial community survey are being used to assist the Town Council in aligning its areas of focus with community priorities. These activities are described in the Town Council Action Plan for 2018-20. Survey respondents identified housing opportunities and environmental sustainability efforts as high priorities for the Town Council to act upon. They were listed as the top two priorities from among 11 topics, and were confirmed through a financial prioritization exercise in which respondents were asked to allocate $100 across six categories to best reflect their priorities. The topic of parking was also raised by respondents in a number of ways with concerns expressed about lack of available parking, pricing, the appropriateness of parking on the Frontage Road and comments about the future prospects of paid summer parking. The full report is available at vailgov.com/2018survey.

ACCOUNTABILITY & OUTREACH

Rating is based on a 1-5 point scale with 5 "very satisfied"

WHAT ARE THE TOP TWO COMMUNITY PRIORITIES?

Survey respondents identified housing opportunities and environmental sustainability efforts as high priorities when survey respondents were asked to select their top two priorities from over 11 topics.

VAIL TOWN COUNCIL

Top row / left to right: Mayor Dave Chapin, Jen Mason, Greg Moffet, Mayor Pro Tem Jane Bruson, Town Manager Greg Callton
Bottom row / left to right: Travis Coggan, Kim Langmaid, Kevin Foley

PHOTO BY REX KEEP

Image 469x314 to 737x528

Over 1,000 community members responded to the survey in total.

Communities engaged in ways to best reflect their priorities. These activities are described in the Town Council Action Plan for 2018-20.
INAUGURAL EAGLE COUNTY TOWNS & COUNTY DINNER

The Town Council ended the year by hosting a first-ever gathering of elected officials and leadership teams from the towns of Minturn, Red Cliff, Avon, Eagle and Gypsum, as well as Eagle County Government, for an evening of friendship and networking. The keynote speaker was Cathy Ritter, director of the Colorado Tourism Office. There was interest from elected officials in attendance to continue the dinner gathering on an annual basis in an effort to support the idea of regional partnering and collaboration.

GLOBAL FRIENDSHIP

A 10-member Vail delegation traveled to Japan in January to further a Global Friendship exchange with the resort region of Yamanouchi-machi, located in the Nagano Prefecture. A memo of understanding was signed that identifies the exploration and development of cooperative projects in the areas of education, cultural exchange, promotion of tourism and environmental sustainability. The trip was led by Vail Mayor Dave Chapin and included visits with local government and tourism representatives. In August four Japanese students visited Vail and in September the Colorado Taiko Summit performance group showcased iconic and internationally-renowned master Japanese Taiko drummer Makoto Yamamoto, as part of the global friendship cultural exchange programming. The Japanese dignitaries originally experienced Vail’s hospitality during a visit in 2017.

2018 VAIL TRAILBLAZER AWARD

Sheika and Pepi Gramshammer, known around the world for investing their heart and soul into Vail’s rise as a premier international resort, were selected as recipients of the 2018 Vail Trailblazer Award. Presented by the Vail Town Council, the award has been established as an annual civic recognition to honor those who contribute their time and talent to make Vail a great resort community.

COLLABORATIVE LEADERSHIP

A spirit of collaborative leadership is being renewed between the Town of Vail and Vail Mountain following a first-ever joint retreat held last August. A series of far-reaching partner initiatives that will form the foundation for ongoing resort-community programs and activities has been identified. The goal is two-fold: enhance the guest experience and grow a sustainable tourism economy. The discussions have already been met with early successes, including the 10th Mountain Division Ski Down and Parade which has taken place during the 2018-19 winter season. Other co-successes include:

- Announcement of a three-year contract extension that will keep the Burton U.S. Open Snowboarding Championships in Vail through 2021
- Revitalization of Snow Days and Spring Back to Vail events as iconic pillars during need periods
- Support of the U.S. Mountain Community Summit focused on community housing solutions

Yet to come will be the design and implementation of a unifying guest service program that will draw upon the foundational work initiated by the Vail Chamber & Business Association through its new Mountain Hospitality Program. The goal is to launch the new training by September 1, 2019, as an enhancement for Town of Vail and local business staff. Pending U.S. Forest Service approval of proposed snowmaking enhancements on Vail Mountain, efforts will also be explored to bolster the Thanksgiving holiday as well as other need periods to ensure strong visitation year-over-year.

Vail Mayor Dave Chapin says the enhanced collaboration, that also includes discussions around housing and sustainability, has been structured to leverage shared priorities between the town and Vail Mountain that will provide meaningful progress for the short-term and long-term.

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Vail Mayor Dave Chapin and Yamanouchi-machi Mayor Yoshitaka Takefushi attend a dedication ceremony recognizing the relationship between the two resort communities after executing the Global Friendship Exchange Agreement in Nagano City, Nagano, Japan, in January 2018.

Vail Mayor Dave Chapin and Yamanouchi-machi Mayor Yoshitaka Takefushi attend a dedication ceremony recognizing the relationship between the two resort communities after executing the Global Friendship Exchange Agreement in Nagano City, Nagano, Japan, in January 2018.
BOLD STEPS TO ACTIVATE WINTER

Vail’s legacy is defined by the courage to make bold decisions, which has resulted in success both on and off the mountain. So when an idea to reimagine a bigger and better kickoff to the 2018-19 ski season was floated, the town was all in. Following back-to-back low snow starts, a revitalized business model was piloted featuring free headliner concerts in Ford Park coupled with lodging, merchant and restaurant activation to drive guests to Vail over a four day period. The concept centers on attracting guests in early December – even if snow conditions are less than expected. With lead investments from the town and Vail Resorts, local businesses joined in supporting a reimagined Snow Days celebration produced by Highline Sports and Entertainment. Performances led by A-list entertainers Nathaniel Rateliff & the Night Sweats and Shakey Graves drew an estimated 8,000 concert-goers during each of the two nights. Lodging and dining packages enhanced existing destination incentives – as did a perfectly-timed winter snowstorm. The four-day celebration boosted lodging occupancy, retail spending and parking revenues over the previous year and has resulted in the town supporting the large-scale concert model to again stimulate the economy during April’s Spring Back to Vail event.

81% said events create a positive experience same as in 2016
79% said there are about the right number of events in Vail | 78% in 2016

2018 COMMUNITY SURVEY RESULTS
EVENTS GROW AND IMPROVE

Vail works with event promoters to innovate and improve the experience for guests and residents alike. Among the 52 special events that received financial support from the town, several events identified opportunities to significantly enhance the guest experience and were met with enthusiastic response and positive reviews:

GoPro Mountain Games
The GoPro Mountain Games, in its 17th season, substantially expanded its footprint with the introduction of DockDogs in Lionshead, while Kids’ Adventure Village was relocated to Golden Peak. The more spectator-friendly and spacious location was embraced by spectators, families and dog-lovers, and provided a better flow of pedestrians throughout Vail Village, Lionshead and Golden Peak.

Whistle Pig Vail
In collaboration with AEG Presents, one of the largest live music companies in the world, the Vail Valley Foundation brought the inaugural Whistle Pig concert series to the Gerald R. Ford Amphitheater. Focused on performances by headliners in an intimate setting, most of the ticketed shows sold out, and included Dispatch, Robert Plant, The Jerry Garcia Birthday Band and 311. The series returns in 2019 with early concert bookings Steve Martin, Martin Short and Gary Clark Jr.

Making Vail America Days™ More Sustainable
At the direction of Town Council, new initiatives to improve the environmental footprint of Vail America Days™ were implemented by the event organizers and town staff. The parade included more electrically or person-powered entries, water bottles were replaced with water refill stations and participants endeavored to discourage disposable hand-outs at the parade.

Colorado Classic
In keeping with the spirit of cooperation with key partners and a willingness to take risks, the town joined with the Vail Valley Foundation to present the Colorado Classic on August 16 and 17. While the event garnered worldwide televised media coverage reaching over 200 million households in 250 countries, Town Council decided to continue work with the Vail Valley Foundation to reimagine an event for the same time slot in 2020.

NEW EVENTS IN 2019

- Vail hosted two stages of the Colorado Classic in August.
During 2018, Town Council adjusted budget policies to raise the minimum reserve levels to 30% of annual revenues from the previous minimum of 25%. Another change as recommended by the town manager is a reduction in the number of budget adjustments during the year, called “budget supplementals.” The town traditionally has scheduled three supplementals during the year; in 2019 the target is two. The philosophy behind the reduction is to encourage more thorough and consistent planning during the annual budget process.

Sales tax collections, the town’s largest single revenue source, experienced a slow start to 2018 due to lackluster snow and soft visitation. Over the summer business picked up, with May, June and August up 25%, 18% and 17%, respectively, from the prior year. Early snow brought a strong start to the 2018-19 winter season. In December, the reenergized Snow Days concerts, consistently good snowfall and replenished lodging inventory contributed to substantial increases in occupancy over 2017. In total, sales tax collections of $27.9 million in 2018 exceeded prior year by 8.9%.

**Investing in Community Priorities**

Town Council-directed investments to advance community priorities increased $6 million, or 62%, in 2018 from the prior year. Housing saw the largest increase year-over-year, with an additional $3.4 million in spending, an increase of 81%. Housing expenditures include both the new Val InDEED deed-restriction purchase program as well as partnering with private developers on housing developments, such as Solar Vail (see pages 17-18 for details). With the increase in spending funded by town reserves, Town Council has stressed that a consistent and reliable funding source is greatly needed to continue the positive momentum in providing workforce housing in Vail. Environmental efforts in 2018 focused mainly on water quality infrastructure projects, with an increase of $2.1 million in spending, while $500,000 of additional expenditures related to the economy helped fund music events during the winter season.

**Taxes generate 60% of the town’s $78.8 million annual budgeted revenues for 2018, with sales tax making up the largest percentage at 33%, real estate transfer tax at 8%, property and ownership tax at 7%, ski lift tax and franchise fees at 8% and construction use tax at 4%.

**WHERE THE MONEY WENT**

**2018 MUNICIPAL BUDGET**

**WHERE THE MONEY COMES FROM**
CONSTRUCTION ACTIVITY

High-end residential and commercial construction projects contributed to significant increases in town revenues, including Construction Use Tax, construction permits and plan check fees. Construction Use Tax more than doubled from the prior year, with $4 million in 2018 collections. The increase was a result of the Vail Health Hospital renovations. Without that project, Construction Use Tax was up 14% from the prior year.

Other construction-related revenues totaled $2.9 million in 2018, up 85% from the prior year. While the Vail Health expansion again made up a significant portion of the increase, construction revenues such as permits and plan check fees otherwise saw an increase of 21% with 594 residential remodels and 90 commercial projects during the year.

REAL ESTATE TRANSFER TAX

Real estate sales in Vail were up 23% for the year, with $7.8 million in taxes collected by the town. Almost half of the increase was due to sales of new inventory at The Lions. Without those sales, real estate tax collections were up 14%. The funds from the 1% Real Estate Transfer Tax are restricted for the funding of parks and recreation, public art, environmental sustainability and open space.

RESERVES

Reserves remained healthy at $51 million at the end of 2018, but down from the all-time high of $82 million in 2016. The town is debt-free, with recent large capital projects funded from cash reserves. Some of the most notable projects in 2018 included the Red Sandstone Parking Garage, East Vail water quality improvements, bus replacements, upgrade of in-town wireless equipment, undergrounding of utility lines, open lands master planning and repairs to the Slifer Plaza fountain.

SHORT-TERM RENTAL

Implementation of new short-term rental regulations which requires licensing, as well as life-safety and neighborhood considerations began March 1. However, responding to feedback from the lodging community and property managers, the Town Council revised the regulations over the summer and revised the original ordinances. The main goal of the revisions has been to simplify the application process. For a full list of regulations, visit vailgov.com/short-term-rentals.

To date, 695 units are licensed to operate within the town. The town is set to increase enforcement efforts after the March 1, 2019, effective date, when fines may be assessed.

To report complaints related to rental activity in your neighborhood, call the town’s hotline:

VAIL SHORT-TERM RENTAL HOTLINE
970.331.0632

(888) 331-1111

Call to report non-emergency issues, such as:

parking | noise | trash

For emergencies, call 911.
It was a wake-up call for the community. Sweet Basil, the acclaimed Vail Village restaurant, abruptly announced it would no longer be serving lunch on Mondays and Tuesdays until further notice. Simply put, there were not enough cooks in the kitchen and the restaurant didn’t want to sacrifice its reputation for quality. That was in 2008 and for majority owner Matt Morgan, the challenges associated with housing have continued to be difficult to overcome.

While the company has made ongoing investments to purchase rental homes and master lease others, Morgan says the need to do more as business owners is ever-present. Those efforts have gotten an additional boost through the town-sponsored Vail InDEED program, a revolutionary concept that is setting a new standard for mountain resort communities. In one of 21 transactions authorized by the town since the program’s debut in 2017, Morgan’s company used the funds it received for deed-restricting one of its properties as a down payment to purchase another. Sweet Basil now provides housing opportunities for approximately 15% of its employees, which includes its sister restaurant, Mountain Standard. Morgan calls it a “win-win” and applauds the town for its innovation. Partnering with the Vail Local Housing Authority, which serves as the Vail InDEED agent, the Town Council has appropriated $6.5 million in funding. The funding has been used to acquire deed-restrictions on 105 homes at an average cost of approximately $63,000, resulting in an efficient and cost-effective use of town resources. The acquisitions are benefitting projects from East Vail to Edwards. By acquiring real estate interest in these homes, the properties become deed-restricted and must be occupied by residents working 30 hours a week for an Eagle County business.

For Morgan, Vail InDEED couldn’t come soon enough for the community. “It’s brilliant and it’s helping to keep these homes from evaporating to the 2nd homeowner market which squeezes an already difficult situation.” Morgan says the program also provides an unbelievable opportunity for young professionals to own a home in Vail.

SUSTAINING OUR ECONOMY - ONE HOME AT A TIME

"The process was pain-free and laid out clearly for us. Working together with our mortgage broker we were able to get everything in place quickly. Without the assistance of the Vail InDEED program, our dream of our family owning a house in Vail would not have been possible!" ~ Vail InDEED participant
COMMUNITY | HOUSING

SOLAR VAIL APARTMENTS

Ground was broken during the summer for the new Solar Vail Apartments, located at 501 N. Frontage Road. The collaborative partnership between Sonnenalp Properties, Inc., and the Town of Vail will provide 65 new studio, one- and two-bedroom apartments. As a result of the collaboration, 100% of the new homes will be deed-restricted and occupied by residents of Vail, with 25% of the homes intentionally set aside for employees of Vail businesses other than the Sonnenalp Hotel. The terms of the deal were negotiated in 2017 and represent the first use of the Vail InDEED program. The town’s $3.2 million investment comes from housing mitigation funds collected from the private sector as an obligation of development impacts. The new homes are scheduled to be completed in time for the 2019-20 ski season. Prior to construction, only nine of the 24 units on the site were deed-restricted.

“The Solar Vail Project would not have been built without the financial participation and the ‘let’s make this happen’ mindset of the town throughout the entitlement, planning and financing process.”

~ Johannes Faessler

6 WEST APARTMENTS

The first public-private regional housing collaboration is represented by the 6 West Apartments in Edwards. To increase the supply of local housing, the town has joined with the Eagle County Housing & Development Authority by purchasing deed-restrictions. Vail acquired 23 deed-restrictions for $625,000. The homes, 14 one-bedroom, 6 two-bedroom and 3 three-bedroom, will be rented at market rate to qualifying residents who work a minimum of 30 hours per week with leasing preference given to the town’s municipal employees followed by a second preference given to employees working at a licensed business with Vail. Developed by West Edwards Apartments, LLC, the homes will be ready for occupancy by spring 2019.

The 6 West acquisitions represent the first use of the Vail InDEED program outside the town’s boundaries and are being used to establish a down valley deed-restriction value and process. The town’s effort to pursue regional housing opportunities has been identified as a top housing initiative by respondents taking part in the 2018 community survey and is included as a priority in the Town Council’s action plan.

FINDING A DEDICATED FUNDING SOURCE FOR HOUSING

While Vail’s housing program has become a model for other resort communities through the success of the Vail InDEED program and other actions, the ability to sustain the town’s momentum is tied to funding. Town monies generated from fee in lieu payments from developments with either an inclusionary zoning or commercial linkage mitigation for employee housing requirements totaling $3.2 million have been used as seed money for Vail InDEED. Other funding comes from the town’s annual budgeting process which is dependent upon revenue forecasts and balancing other priorities.

Recognizing that Vail’s housing needs cannot be met for the long-term through existing revenues, the Town Council has identified the need for a dedicated funding source and has tasked the Vail Local Housing Authority to explore possible options and assist in quantifying an annual need. The Housing Authority has begun the process of selecting consultants to aid the effort in 2019.

2018 COMMUNITY SURVEY RESULTS

53% say pursuing a dedicated funding source to provide ongoing financial support for deed-restricted housing is a priority. (17% say it is not a priority, 30% are neutral)

MAKING PROGRESS TOWARD HOUSING GOALS

The goal of the Town of Vail Housing Strategic Plan, adopted in 2016, is to acquire 1,000 new deed-restrictions by the year 2027.

- In 2016 - 723 deed-restrictions were recorded within the town
- By 2018 - 867 deed-restrictions were recorded within the town* 

* An additional 114 deed-restriction obligations are pending as a result of entitlements granted. This includes development approvals for Marriott Residence Inn and Mountain View Residences.

COMMUNITY | HOUSING

Vail’s newest and youngest residents turned out for a block party in July as the town welcomed the 32 families of the Chamonix Vail Townhomes.

CHAMONIXVAIL.COM   |   970.479.2150

Photo by Townsend Bessent

Photo by Town Council

53% say pursuing a dedicated funding source to provide ongoing financial support for deed-restricted housing is a priority. (17% say it is not a priority, 30% are neutral)
HOUSING LOTTERY REVISED to Restore Participation and Afford All Participants a Chance of Home Ownership

You can’t win if you don’t play. After learning of frustrations that many prospective applicants of the town’s housing lottery had chosen not to participate because the odds were stacked against them, the town has overhauled its process for resales of its deed-restricted homes. The revisions include implementation of a true lottery drawing process which affords all qualified participants a chance of being selected. A weighted preference and tiered system that had been in place since 1999 was replaced with a point-based lottery process which grants preference to persons that live and work in Vail, yet still affords all participants a chance of being selected. The changes also allow current residential property owners, including vacant residential land, to participate in the lottery. Another change is replacing the annual lottery process with a separate process each time a home becomes available for purchase. Minimum household size requirements have been eliminated as well.

A lottery will be used each time a home at Vail Commons, North Trail Townhomes, Chamonix Vail Townhomes, Arosa Duplex and Red Sandstone Creek Townhomes become available for resale. The inventory includes 98 homes ranging from one- to three-bedrooms. The town’s employee housing guidelines stipulate a maximum resale price of 1.5 to 3% per annum to maintain affordability for the long-term.

The streamlined lottery process awards each qualified applicant a minimum of one lottery ticket into the resale drawing. Additional lottery tickets are awarded, up to a maximum of five total, based on the following criteria:

- Meet minimum lottery participation criteria 1 lottery ticket
- Vail resident 1 lottery ticket
- Vail resident for equal to or greater than 5 years 1 lottery ticket
- Employed in Vail 1 lottery ticket
- Employed in Vail for equal to or greater than 5 years 1 lottery ticket

Maximum Total: 5 lottery tickets

To learn more about the lottery application process or to sign up to be notified of upcoming resales, contact Lynne Campbell, Town of Vail housing coordinator, at lcampbell@vailgov.com.

PHOTO BY TOWNSEND BESSENT

HIGH PRIORITY

- Expanded housing opportunities for a wide range of household incomes and resort community occupations are listed as a high priority for the Vail Town Council to consider in the coming months.

70% SUPPORT MORE TECHNIQUES

- In addition to identifying housing as a priority, survey respondents expressed support for various techniques to help improve the situation. Most favorable is support for identifying opportunities for regional partnerships to construct new deed-restricted housing outside of town boundaries.

77% SAY LOSS OF LONG-TERM RENTAL IS A PROBLEM

- In probing the impact of short-term rental impacts in Vail, 49% call the problem “critical” or “serious.”

2018 COMMUNITY SURVEY RESULTS

2018 HOUSING RESALES

- Chamonix Vail
  - 1,113 square feet
  - 2-BR, 2-bath
  - $407,301

- Red Sandstone Creek
  - 1,464 square feet
  - 3-BR, 2-bath
  - 1-car garage
  - $323,197

COMMUNITY HOUSING

2018 HOUSING RESALES

| Community Gardens at Chamonix Vail Townhomes |

2018 HOUSING RESALES

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• Chamonix Vail
  - 1,113 square feet
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• Red Sandstone Creek
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COMMUNITY HOUSING

2018 HOUSING RESALES

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<td>Mary McDougall</td>
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• Appointed by the Vail Town Council
EngageVail.com

COMMUNITY PLANNING AHEAD

A PLAN FOR VAIL’S FUTURE

A community-driven master planning process is taking place that will be used to guide future improvements to town-owned facilities and properties in the heart of Vail. Launched in December, the 11-month effort will identify opportunities for a number of prominent town sites. The 10-acre area includes the Lionshead Parking and Transportation Center, charter bus lot, Dobson Ice Arena, Vail Public Library and Vail Municipal Building complex. Completion of the Civic Area Plan has been identified as a high priority by the Town Council.

Upon adoption in late 2019, the plan will provide guidance on future decision-making, funding and an action plan for implementation. To learn more about the Civic Area Plan project schedule, upcoming outreach activities and other feedback opportunities, visit the town’s new online forum, EngageVail.com.

MAINTAINING VAIL’S CORE ASSETS

Another town area needing improvements is the Public Works & Transportation Maintenance complex. Spanning 51-acres along a narrow bench on the north side of I-70, there’s a fueling station, bus bays, carpentry shop, sign shop, greenhouse, impound lot, snow dump, a large fleet of vehicles and employee housing.

The property has been the headquarters for these critical town functions since 1979 and has undergone various expansions and modifications. Future improvements have been identified through a master plan update:

- Electrical system upgrades for new electric buses
- Solar photovoltaic array farm
- Streets and parks building expansion
- Additional employee housing
- Frontage Road turn lanes/tunnel widening

The plan will be budgeted and implemented in phases.

VAIL NATURE CENTER | REDEFINED

Tucked away on the south side of Gore Creek in Ford Park, the Vail Nature Center has served as an outpost for nature walks and other discoveries since 1974 utilizing a converted ranch house built in the 1940s. Looking to bring new life to the center and its 7-acre surroundings, the town expanded on planning efforts initiated by the Vail Recreation District, Walking Mountains Science Center and the Vail Local Marketing District with a needfinding assessment that has identified opportunities to strengthen the center’s role as a community gem. The research also gave clarity to the center’s mission as a place to learn how to value, protect and live gracefully with nature. A temporary yurt will serve as the center’s seasonal programming space while architects and designers begin developing concepts for long-term improvements that will be implemented with input from the community. Also new is the center’s management responsibility which has been transferred from the Vail Recreation District to the town. Walking Mountains Science Center will continue to staff the center with educational and outdoor programming.

UPDATE TO COMPREHENSIVE OPEN LANDS PLAN

Council-directed refinements on the topics of environmentally sensitive lands, town land and use of lands and trails are included in the update to the 1994 Comprehensive Open Lands Plan. The update was formally adopted by the Town Council in October following an extensive public review process. The most significant modifications included removal of recommendations for several trails, including the Vail Trail extension, to avoid impacting wildlife habitat. In addition, the plan highlights the need to manage and monitor lands for biodiversity and protection of wildlife – considerations that were identified by stakeholders and highlighted during a community wildlife forum which was repeated in March 2019. The plan also identifies parcels with potential for workforce housing development and community connectivity.

Next steps include analyzing and prioritizing parcels for acquisition, additional and continued wildlife education and seasonal closure compliance, trail assessments including user types and numbers and reducing impacts to heavily used trails. vailgov.com/openlandsupdate

UPDATE TO COMPREHENSIVE OPEN LANDS PLAN

2018 OPEN LANDS PLAN UPDATE ACTION ITEMS

27 ACTION PLAN PARCELS

15 parcels for protection of environmentally sensitive lands
7 trail connections/new trail access
5 parcels for workforce housing or public facilities
CONGRATULATIONS!

At long last, Vail has been officially certified as a Sustainable Mountain Resort Destination. The designation extends throughout the Gore Creek watershed encompassing 70,000 acres of public land from the top of Vail Pass through Dowd Junction.

This international recognition has been years in the making and extends far beyond the community’s progressive environmental conservation efforts. Certification has required an intensive on-site audit of more than 200 indicators across all aspects of sustainability. These include:

- sensitive site and wildlife protection
- destination management strategies
- economic development
- waste
- carbon emissions
- water quantity and quality
- cultural and natural heritage

Requirements also include tracking data and strategies for crime, emergency preparedness, the threats of climate change and hazards like fire and flood. Only eight destinations in the world are currently certified sustainable destinations, including communities in Australia, China, Iceland and the Netherlands. In the U.S., Jackson Hole is currently in the process of certification and is a partner in sharing best practices.

Vail’s efforts are managed by a Destination Stewardship Council, with representatives from the town, Vail Resorts, U.S. Forest Service, businesses and other local organizations, facilitated by Walking Mountains Science Center. Every eight months, the town and its partners are required to submit progress reports on key items from the destination scorecard where improvements to retain the certification will be needed. Areas for improvement include increased wildlife protection due to declining herds; reducing the carbon footprint, water, and energy associated with the town’s snowmelt system and on-mountain snowmaking; and the need for a coordinated destination management strategy. There is also work to be done on data collection for employment, local employment indicators and workforce housing.

Being certified as a sustainable destination has reinforced a strong sentiment in Vail – a passion for environmental stewardship and natural resource protection, collaboration and innovation. The ability to share Vail’s dedicated sustainable business practices with the world and a heightened focus on waste, climate action and wildlife have spurred action of residents and guests alike. Community members have educated and supported the project by spreading the word on trail closures for wildlife protection, adopting energy conservation measures in their homes and businesses, participating in the Sole Power Challenge (and leaving their cars at home) and purchasing solar or wind power through Holy Cross Energy. All of these actions will allow Vail to continue making progress and achieve a re-certification in 2020.
GORE CREEK SHOWS SIGNS OF IMPROVEMENT

A significant investment to restore Gore Creek appears to be paying off with researchers documenting increases in aquatic invertebrate populations in both 2016 and 2017. Gore Creek has been listed as “impaired” since 2012 for failing to meet state standards for aquatic life. The latest data, from September 2017, show four of seven locations meeting state standards; only one site met the state-mandated bug population numbers in 2015. Improvements are being attributed to reductions in pesticide use, expansion of streamside vegetation and an emphasis on stormwater filtration projects. In contrast, testing downstream on the Eagle River, where no concerted education and outreach campaign has occurred, is showing lower scores.

Since 2015, the town has mapped and evaluated more than 1,096 stormwater inlets and over 500 outfalls that flow into Gore Creek. Of those, 46 were identified as high priority projects for upgrades, filtration and retrofits. About half the priority projects have since been completed. The most visible of the improvements have taken place at the East Vail Interchange and at Stiller Square in Vail Village. Future improvements are planned for Westhaven Drive in 2019-20 and the West Vail roundabout in subsequent years. The town has received approximately $1 million in grant funding for the projects in partnership with Eagle River Water & Sanitation District, CDOT and Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment.

MAINTAINING GORE CREEK’S GOLD MEDAL STATUS

Gore Creek has maintained its Gold Medal status from Red Sandstone Creek to the confluence with the Eagle River. Gore Creek is one of only a handful of streams where anglers can catch a “grand slam” of trout, all in one stream. The Gold Medal status dictates special regulations on that stretch of stream:

- fishing with artificial lures only (no bait)
- bag limit is two fish over 16 inches (state standard for trout is six with no size limit)

A stream’s Gold Medal status is designated by Colorado Parks and Wildlife and is based on size and density of fish populations.

PROJECT RE-WILD

The town partnered with Eagle River Watershed Council to complete a riparian restoration project at Cedar Point Townhomes in East Vail during the year. The effort to stabilize and revegetate streambanks was the first to be completed through the cost-share program known as Project Re-Wild. Thanks to grants, volunteers and design funds from the town, this effort to restore important creek-side habitat occurred at no cost to the HOA or homeowners. Several other creek-side property owners received technical and design funding and assistance from the town to restore their riparian area. Project Re-Wild continues in 2019 with four more projects. The program is not accepting new applicants at this time.

STORM DRAIN ART

Six artists were commissioned to create original works for year two of the town’s popular storm drain art project. The illustrations, which were displayed next to selected storm drains, depicted Colorado wildlife species that live in or near Gore Creek and were used to raise awareness about storm drains and their direct impact on the health of Gore Creek.

WATERSHED EDUCATION PROGRAMS

- Lunch with the Locals | Monthly
- Free Sustainable Landscape Workshop | Spring
- Storm Drain Art | Artist Applications Spring

2018 COMMUNITY SURVEY RESULTS

93% supportive of a watershed protection ordinance to restrict pesticide use
86% supportive of an increase to stream setback rules within a prescribed distance from creek
85% supportive of a no-mowing zone to restrict lawn mowing next to watersheds

220 identified actions in Gore Creek Strategic Action Plan
$2.25M spent on Gore Creek actions since 2016
27,000 bugs collected for sampling annually in the Eagle River Watershed

2018 STATS

SPILLS HOTLINE

Ten calls were made to the 24-hour hotline, 970-476-GORE, during the year to report spills and illegal dumping in Gore Creek and storm drains in Vail. The anonymous calls resulted in several interventions where code enforcement and environmental staff members were able to prevent pesticides, paint, grease, drywall dust and carpet cleaning fluid from reaching Gore Creek.

SUSTAINABILITY GORE CREEK SUCCESS

Since 2015, the town has mapped and evaluated more than 1,096 stormwater inlets and over 500 outfalls that flow into Gore Creek. Of those, 46 were identified as high priority projects for upgrades, filtration and retrofits. About half the priority projects have since been completed. The most visible of the improvements have taken place at the East Vail Interchange and at Stiller Square in Vail Village. Future improvements are planned for Westhaven Drive in 2019-20 and the West Vail roundabout in subsequent years. The town has received approximately $1 million in grant funding for the projects in partnership with Eagle River Water & Sanitation District, CDOT and Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment.
VAIL BUSINESS RECYCLE CHALLENGE

The Town of Vail’s inaugural Business Recycling Challenge took place in 2018 with seven participating businesses averaging a 57% recycling rate following the four-week challenge, improving from a 49% average baseline before the competition began. Manor Vail, McNeill Property Management, Mountain Standard, Steadman Clinic, Sweet Basil, Vail Mountain School and Vail Spa Condominiums all participated in the challenge. McNeill Property Management was the overall challenge winner with a final recycling rate of 84%. The award for most innovative recycling education was given to Vail Mountain School while Vail Spa Condominiums was the winner of the most improved category.

Vail adopted a community-wide recycling ordinance in 2014 and the challenge program is part of ongoing efforts to reach community waste diversion goals of at least 25% by 2019. Vail is close to achieving that goal, having averaged 24% diversion in 2018. The Eagle County recycling rate is 22%, compared to 12% in Colorado and 34% nationally. The town partnered with Walking Mountains Science Center to run the challenge and serve as an expert liaison.

CLIMATE ACTION COLLABORATIVE

Vail continued its involvement in multiple coalitions to advance climate action policy over the past year, including the Colorado Communities for Climate Action, which Vail Town Manager Greg Clifton took over as chair starting in 2019. The CC4CA now has 23 member communities across the state, having direct involvement in state legislation on carbon pollution goals, no- and low-emission vehicles statewide, inventories for greenhouse gas emissions, energy impact assistance and more. The town also committed its financial support to the Climate Action Coalition of Eagle County, advancing a new education campaign and projects specific to power supply, waste reduction and green commuting.

FOCUS ON WILDLIFE

The first Vail Wildlife Forum took place in January and brought together local experts to raise awareness about the declining state of area wildlife populations and to develop strategies to improve the local habitat. Following the high-profile forum, the town worked with local biologists to prepare a comprehensive habitat improvement plan involving land owned by the town, Colorado Department of Transportation and the U.S. Forest Service.

A series of actions including a prescribed burn and cutting and thinning of closed-sag aspen trees and deciduous shrubs has been recommended to improve the wildlife-friendly habitat. Recommendations on noise, sightlines, barriers, movement corridors and enhanced vegetation have also been prepared to address recreation issues and future development considerations.

The forum also identified the need to provide a greater understanding of the purpose of seasonal trail closures after trail cameras in Vail recorded over 200 hikers ignoring the closures within a 10-day period. Deer and elk struggle to survive during the winter and need access to specific familiar regions to refuel and safely raise their new young in the spring. Closing trails allows them a familiar safe zone to graze and give birth.

To help reinforce the seasonal closures, the town partnered with the U.S. Forest Service to add gates and informational signs at the trailheads. Volunteers from the Vail Valley Mountain Bike Association were also present to help provide education and compliance during the closures and collect statistics on users through the new Trail Ambassador program.

Other actions taken during the year included repairs to wildlife fencing at Dowd Junction and an increased focus on wildlife education at the town’s Lunch with the Locals series.

The updated Open Lands Plan cited the need for a biodiversity study to better manage lands for habitat and the designation of “wildlife sanctuary zones,” where no trails or recreation should take place.
When you’re Vail’s fire chief, the scenarios are all too real. Having spent more than two decades of his fire service career in California’s Sierra Nevada, Chief Mark Novak has seen first-hand what wildfires can do. "Like Paradise, one of the major challenges we face in Vail is helping people understand both the risk and potential impact of a catastrophic wildfire."

"I can’t tell you if it will happen in three months, three years, or 30 years, but what I can predict is that the actions we take today through our Fire Adapted programs can significantly change the way fire will impact our community in the future."

One component of the program is the curbside assessment initiative. To date, approximately 1,600 properties have been evaluated during the first two years of the five-year neighborhood canvass. The assessments have taken place in the Intermountain and West Vail south neighborhoods and have included evaluations of landscaping, roofing materials and other risk factors that can contribute to the ignitability of a home, especially from embers that can travel for miles. Property owners can now check the status of the door-to-door assessments by accessing a new online report at VailWildfire.com. The next phase in 2019 will bring assessments to East Vail neighborhoods.

Fires are happening with more frequency and intensity than in previous decades. For example, all 20 of Colorado’s largest fires have occurred since 2000 – five of them in 2018. While it has been over 100 years since the Vail area has had a significant wildfire, Chief Novak says it’s important to understand that fires are part of our environment. "I can’t tell you if it will happen in three months, three years, or 30 years, but what I can predict is that the actions we take today through our Fire Adapted programs can significantly change the way fire will impact our community in the future."

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Aftermath of an urban interface wildfire in Summit County.

**2018 WILDFIRE ACTIVITY**

- **6** Mountain Area Mutual Aid Fire mutual aid responses by Vail Fire
- **19** deployments by Vail Fire to wildfires across western U.S.
- **500,000** acres burned by wildfires in Colorado
- **450** homes destroyed by wildfires in Colorado
- **2.9M** Colorado businesses whose homes are at risk from wildfire per Colorado State Forest Service
- **1,600** properties evaluated in Vail’s curbside assessment program

**2018 COMMUNITY SURVEY RESULTS**

- **1 in 10** say they’re “extremely prepared” in the event of a catastrophic emergency event
- **87%** are in favor of using defensible space landscaping, such as using deciduous trees in place of conifers

- **2.9M** Coloradans whose homes are at risk from wildfires per Colorado State Forest Service
- **1,600** properties evaluated in Vail’s curbside assessment program
MORE FIRE ADAPTIVE ACTIONS TAKING PLACE

• Preparation of a Community Wildfire Protection Plan to be adopted in 2019 that will prioritize future wildfire mitigation efforts, including forest thinning
• Establishment of the Eagle Valley Fire Cooperative for enhanced coordination of training, joint-purchasing, technical rescue, fire prevention and wildfire sire response
• Acquisition of a long-range mobile acoustical warning device that will be used for emergency notification in neighborhoods
• Continuation of pile burns and free chipping services for property owners

Residents are encouraged to contact the department at 970.477.3475 with questions about the Fire Adapted programs or to make an appointment for a free on-site property assessment.

VAIL’S EVACUATION PLAN | ARE YOU READY?

During an evacuation, you may have 5 minutes or less to leave your home. As a general rule, take the shortest route to the Frontage Road and then onto the interstate. Details, along with a short video, can be found at vailgov.com/evac including instructions for those who don’t have a car as well as information on an alternate evacuation route for East Vail. For a list of recommended items to take with you, visit ready.gov. See page 40 for additional emergency notification resources.
EXPERIENCE

2018 COMMUNITY SURVEY RESULTS

Rating is based on a 1-5 point scale with 5 “very satisfied”

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<th>Rating</th>
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<th>2016 Survey</th>
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<td>Parking attendant courtesy</td>
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<td>Overflow Frontage Road parking (convenience/ease of access)</td>
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<td>82%</td>
<td></td>
<td>Summer Season</td>
<td>83% in 2016</td>
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RED SANDSTONE PARKING GARAGE

Vail gained 160 new public parking spaces with December’s opening of the Red Sandstone Parking Garage. The four-level structure coincides with a major renovation of Red Sandstone Elementary School which addresses previous deficiencies, including inadequate parking and the dangerous mix of cars, buses and pedestrians. As an additional benefit, the project expands the town’s public parking inventory.

The new structure includes public restrooms, solar photovoltaic technology, fast-charging electric vehicle stations and a future public art installation. A state-of-the-art parking locator system is being piloted to determine possible expansion to the Vail Village and Lionshead structures.

The pass-activated garage has provided a moderately priced option for Vail-based employees with passes selling for $450 for the 2018-19 winter season. By using the pedestrian overpass, the garage is within easy walking distance to jobs in Lionshead Village or elsewhere by bus.

As school operations resume at Red Sandstone, the top deck will be used for the school’s on-site parking, while the remaining three levels, representing 120 spaces, will be available for pass-holder parking. Access to all 160 spaces will be available to pass-holders during the weekends and other non-school times. The town will also be exploring a variety of options for operation of the garage during the summer season.

Funding was made possible as a result of a three-way partnership between the town, Eagle County Schools and Vail Resorts, totaling $15 million. In looking to the future, the garage has been engineered to accommodate two additional levels as well as the ability to be repurposed for multi-use in the event a parking structure is no longer needed.

Completion of the garage brings the number of covered parking spaces in town to 2,610 and represents the first dedicated public parking to be established since 1990 when 400 spaces were built.

ELECTRIC BUS DEMONSTRATIONS

The town hosted a series of electric bus demonstrations during the year as manufacturers from three companies tested their vehicles on Vail’s in-town route. The demonstrations allowed bus drivers and mechanics a chance to learn and provide important feedback as the town begins a competitive procurement process for the conversion to new battery-electric buses by 2020.
NEW IN 2018

ADressing Vail’s Parking Challenges

Adjustments to summer and winter parking policies were implemented based on recommendations from the Vail Parking & Transportation Task Force and feedback from the community survey. Summer saw the addition of a $25 overnight fee to discourage vehicle storage in the Vail Village and Lionshead parking structures. The fee was used to help increase daytime capacity in the structures and reduce overflow parking on the Frontage Road. Daytime parking remained free and allowances were made for free overnight parking for guests of nearby lodges with on-site parking limitations as well as employees who worked the night shift. The program resulted in an average reduction of overnight stays by 50% and a reduction in overflow parking by four fewer days. For winter, patrons enjoyed the return of 2-hour free parking, a change from the 90-minute period offered the prior season. The adjustment followed complaints that additional time was needed to enjoy lunch in the villages as well as adequate access to the library and Dobson Arena. Appointed by the mayor, the 12-member citizen task force includes representation from the lodging and retail-restaurant sectors, plus large employers, including Vail Resorts and Vail Health Hospital, as well as the community-at-large.

More Free Parking in West Vail

In cooperation with the Colorado Department of Transportation, the town gained daily access to 100 free parking spaces on the North Frontage Road west of the West Vail roundabout for the 2018-19 winter season. The spaces had previously been available Friday through Sunday only. There are now 150 free parking spaces in West Vail available seven days a week from 7 a.m. to 11 p.m. with easy access to a bus stop.

2018 Stats

Overflow parking days on Frontage Road during winter season 2017-18: 10
Overflow parking days on Frontage Road during summer season 2018: 17
Day goal for overflow parking on Frontage Road per season: 15
Total number of gated parking spaces in Vail managed by town: 2,860

Download a FREE PARKING map at vailgov.com/free-parking
Impressed with Sommer’s variety of skills, the department offered a sponsorship that placed her at the Colorado Law Enforcement Training Academy in Glenwood Springs, a four-month program. She and three other Vail recruits, Michael Chon, Jose Balderas and Tyler Johnston, are recent graduates of the Academy and have joined the department as peace officer trainees.

While other departments across the country are struggling to find qualified applicants for the jobs available, Vail is proud to have hired its largest and most diverse class of recruits.

Recruiting qualified candidates is serious business as the investment can exceed $60,000 for seven months of training. In exchange, recruits are asked to commit a minimum of two years in Vail before relocating to other departments, or they are responsible for reimbursing the town for their training.

The department offers ride-alongs, sponsors an Explorer Post for young adults (14-21), maintains a presence at job fairs and prides itself in offering opportunities for returning veterans as part of its outreach and recruitment initiatives. To find out more, contact Commander Ryan Kenney at rkenney@vailgov.com.
SOCIAL CONNECTIONS

The conversations have solved crimes, calmed fears, warmed hearts and made us laugh as the department’s ever-growing presence on social media offers a window to the world. Each platform has a unique outreach function:

• Facebook serves as a place for conversation
• Twitter is used to release breaking news
• Instagram showcases the lighter side of the department

Facebook interactions have included a post asking for the public’s help in identifying a suspect who broke a bus window last spring. Thanks to tips received, an arrest was made. In another post, a new father offered his heartfelt thanks to an officer who helped save his wife’s life after the officer made an emergency run to Summit County for blood to help the young mother hospitalized at Vail Health.

It was a busy wildfire season, and while Vail was fortunate to be spared from the fires, the department partnered with neighboring agencies to help spread the word about evacuations in nearby subdivisions and communities through its Twitter feed.

The department’s Instagram account is a favorite tool for officers and their followers. Posts range from wildlife seen on patrol, to team meals, to non-emergency activities. The most popular posts are of animals, or those which show the humorous side of policing.

As consumers increasingly move to social media for their news as well as everyday connections, the department invites its citizens and guests to join the conversation.

EMERGENCY NOTIFICATIONS

In the event of an evacuation or other critical emergency, public alerts are disseminated in multiple ways to reach as many people as possible in the shortest amount of time. The most reliable notification for those in Vail and Eagle County is EC Alert. Signing up is easy and free and can be done quickly at ecalert.org. A secondary notification system is the Wireless Emergency Alert System, which works like an Amber Alert, to notify all cellphones within a geographic area. No sign ups are needed. When a local test of the wireless alert system in May identified coverage lapses, officials concluded that multiple notification tools, both low-tech and high-tech, will be used to reach those in imminent danger. This might even include a knock on the door by uniformed officers, a mobile speaker system canvassing the neighborhood, or a breaking news post on social media. For details, visit vail911.com.
STUDENT RESIDENT PROGRAM ENDS AFTER A LONG RUN

2018 marked the end of the Vail Fire Resident Firefighter program. Although this program had served the department well for decades, a changing workforce, increased basic training requirements and high attrition associated with the program necessitated the transition. According to Fire Chief Mark Novak, “we found ourselves in a position in which most resident firefighters remained with the department for a year or less, which can largely be attributed to the unprecedented rate at which Front Range fire departments have been hiring full-time firefighters.” This resulted in the program requiring a near continuous recruitment and training cycle just to maintain basic staffing levels.

VAIL LEADS REGIONAL MUTUAL AID PLANNING

In 1993 when the South Canyon fire took the lives of 14 wildland firefighters on Storm King Mountain, the need for a statewide mutual aid plan was identified as a top priority. When those efforts slowed at the state level, Vail Fire’s leadership team got to work. A meeting of fire chiefs from eight northwest Colorado counties was convened and the Mountain Area Mutual Aid plan was developed. This regional plan includes a process to rapidly deploy local government fire resources. The timing of this effort was fortuitous as it was used almost immediately on area wildfires including the Buffalo, Golf Course and Lake Christine fires in Summit, Grand and Eagle counties. The success of this plan has drawn attention at the state level and has renewed a sense of urgency to build a state plan based upon the concept established by the Mountain Area Mutual Aid Plan.

| VAILGOV.COM/FIRE | 970.479.2250 |

FIRST RESPONDER COLLABORATION

It was a banner year for collaboration among emergency service agencies in Eagle County. The year began with a number of “First 15 minutes” workshops which involved all first responder agencies collaborating to develop strategies to operate more effectively during the critical first 15 minutes of a large incident. Another significant collaboration was the purchase of a new hazardous materials response unit through a cost-share agreement between Eagle County and the other participating agencies of the Regional Hazardous Materials Association of Eagle County. The culmination of this cooperative spirit was the formation of the Eagle Valley Fire Cooperative. This agreement will provide the framework for future collaborative efforts such as training, joint purchasing, fire investigation and technical rescue.

| Vail Fire & Emergency Services Response Calls |
|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| 2015 | 2016 | 2017 | 2018 |
| Structure Fires | 15 | 16 | 13 | 10 |
| Vehicle Fires | 11 | 15 | 15 | 9 |
| Wildland Fires | 11 | 8 | 14 | 11 |
| Rescue/Emergency Medical | 874 | 526 | 540 | 592 |
| Motor Vehicle Accidents | 231 | 131 | 180 | 149 |
| False Alarms | 526 | 607 | 599 | 537 |
| Hazardous Materials | 73 | 79 | 93 | 80 |
| Service Calls | 133 | 112 | 143 | 175 |
| Smoke Reports | 275 | 170 | 41 | 52 |
| Miscellaneous | 48 | 60 | 277 | 328 |
| TOTAL | 1,897 | 1,724 | 1,915 | 1,943 |
STICKWORK | Patrick Dougherty

After many years of planning, Patrick Dougherty’s Stickwork installation came to fruition in June. A renowned environmental artist, Dougherty has created over 285 whimsical installations spanning 35 years. Utilizing locally-felled materials, over 50 volunteers worked during a three-week period to build the willow structure situated on the lower bench of Ford Park. “The sculpture is sited within a crescent of trees, creating an intimate space behind it. Some of the individual elements lean, some bend at the waist falling into each other. This is meant to suggest camaraderie and interdependence,” explains Dougherty. A video documenting the installation was also produced and may be viewed on artinvail.com.

TO THE EXTENT OF HOW DEEP THE VALLEY IS | Lawrence Weiner

AIPP accepted a generous art donation from the collection of Vicki and Kent Logan. Lawrence Weiner, an original figure of the 1960’s Conceptual Art Movement, is among the trailblazing artists who presented art through language. The work was redesigned with the artist this summer to complement its new location on the western facing façade of the Vail Village parking structure. This major gift, which was recently featured in the New York Times, enhances the caliber of the town’s public art collection.

12TH ANNUAL VAIL WINTERFEST | Sponsored by Doe Browning

Vail’s Paper Lantern Workshops & Holiday Lantern Walk was a highlight of the AIPP winter programs. Several hundred guests and residents participated in two AIPP workshops led by Alpine Arts Center. Many who participated in the Lantern Walk on December 23 built their paper lanterns at home or at school. Led by Santa and Ralph, the world’s tallest elf, the jolly procession ended at the grand opening of the Vail Winterfest Ice Theater on Gore Creek Promenade. Sculptor Paul Wertin created an interactive installation where guests could wander through the ice arches to enjoy free and family-friendly cinematic experiences.

ART IN PUBLIC PLACES STATS

55 permanent public art works
36 works are created by Colorado artists
350 attended the free Wednesday Art Walks

PHOTO BY DOMINIQUE TAYLOR

PHOTO BY TOWNSEND BESSENT

PHOTO BY FRANZ ZARDA

PHOTO BY TOWNSEND BESSENT, DOMINIQUE TAYLOR AND JACK AFFLECK

PHOTO BY ARTINVAIL.COM | 970.479.2344

EXPERIENCE ART IN PUBLIC PLACES
Healthy Lifestyle Series

These offerings included: Gentle Yoga, Meditation, Zumba, Country Western Dance and a Walking/Skiing Book Club, depending upon the season.

One Book One Valley

The seventh year of the county-wide community reading initiative One Book One Valley took place as community members joined together to read "Underground Airlines" by author Ben Winters. In April, the author appeared in person at Colorado Mountain College in Edwards.

Children's Services @ your library

The library’s partnership with Red Sandstone Elementary School entered year seven in 2018. Due to school construction in the fall, staff traveled to Camp Minium to bring the teachers and students programming and books. A new program Touch a Truck was the highlight of the spring near Ford Park where town and private vehicles, fire trucks and police cars were assembled for children to explore. The library’s summer reading program Libraries Rock continued to serve residents and guests. Library programs were taken on the road by partnering with many agencies and staff continue to collaborate with the Eagle County Historical Society, Eagle River Land Trust, Walking Mountains Science Center, The Bookworm and Eagle River Youth Coalition’s Girls in Science.

Bilingual Story Time

The library continues to offer bilingual story time every Saturday morning. Vail is the only library in Eagle County that offers such a bilingual program on weekends. All stories, songs, games and crafts are presented in English and Spanish.

Evenings of Engagement @ your library

These programs entertained and informed over 3,000 attendees in 2018. Programming included living history performances, book talks and signings, Celtic & acoustic musicians, Sensational & Super Seniors and a professional pumpkin carver.

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35th Anniversary Celebration

2018 marked the 35th anniversary of Vail Public Library in its current location. In recognition of the anniversary, an exhibit featuring highlights of the library’s history was created. Through the efforts of many over the years, the library stands as a legacy to the ski resort pioneers who started it. The values that continue to enrich it and the community of users that enable it.

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Members of the Eagle River Youth Coalition – Youth Leaders Council have been actively sharing their voices in the Civic Area Master Plan process. A top priority of the Vail Town Council is to inform and engage community members, including youth, in matters of public interest and community planning endeavors.

MORE WAYS TO JOIN THE CONVERSATION

• EngageVail.com - Online discussion forum with ongoing feedback and information-sharing opportunities
• 8150 Vail Podcast - Monthly in-depth exploration of town focus areas. Visit iTunes Store, Stitcher, Google Play, Tunein or Spotify. Enter Vail 8150
• Televised Board Meetings
  Vail Town Council, Design Review Board Planning and Environmental Commission | Highfivemedia.org
• Twitter - Gavel-to-gavel @VailTownCouncil
• Facebook - People, projects, events and more