



Photo by Dominique Taylor

2020
MAKING IT
THROUGH AN
UNIMAGINABLE
YEAR
TOGETHER

2020 | YEAR IN REVIEW





Photo by Dominique Taylor

March 2020



Photo by Dominique Taylor

January 2021

STRONGER TOGETHER

It was an unimaginable year. In a stunning matter of days and weeks, beloved community members were lost to COVID-19, livelihoods were uprooted, and our community and world changed forever. Yet it taught us so much about ourselves as a community – compassion, humility, adversity, resiliency. From the frontline workers who kept essential services flowing, to the health care workers who risked their lives to treat our loved ones, to the first responders who were there for us, 2020 will forever be remembered as a defining moment in Vail's history. This is our journey.

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VAIL STRONG

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2020 COVID-19 TIMELINE

GLOBAL - Happening in the World

EAGLE COUNTY - Happening in Eagle County

US - Happening in the United States

VAIL - Happening in Vail

CO - Happening in Colorado

JANUARY

GLOBAL

Jan 22
Human-to-human transmission documented in Wuhan, China, by World Health Organization

VAIL

Jan 28
Vail Health creates internal COVID-19 Task Force and sets up Incident Coordination Team. Countywide collaboration meetings have begun

FEBRUARY

US

Feb 29
First reported COVID-19 related death in U.S., a patient in Washington state. Later, it is discovered first death occurred Feb. 6 in California

MARCH

US

March 11
COVID-19 declared a global pandemic

March 27
CARES Act signed into law

CO

March 5
Gov. Polis announces first confirmed cases

March 13
Colorado reports first COVID-19 related death

March 25
Statewide Stay-at-Home Public Health Order issued

EAGLE COUNTY

March 6
First confirmed case in Eagle County

March 7
Vail Health opens first drive-thru testing site in the state in Gypsum

March 16
Eagle County Schools transition to remote learning

March 21
First Eagle County COVID-19 related death

VAIL

March 14
Vail Mountain announces shut down

March 19
Vail Transit suspended; ECO Transit continues for critical use only

APRIL

US

April 2
More than 10 million Americans out of work

CO

April 3
Gov. Polis asks Coloradans to wear non-medical, cloth face coverings when going out

April 24
Safer-at-Home Public Health Order

EAGLE COUNTY

April 1
MIRA Bus begins free testing

April 16
Confirmed local cases surpass 500

April 16
ECO Transit requires face coverings

April 22
Gov. Polis visits virtually, approves request for exemption from state health orders

April 23
Five Commitments of Containment introduced

April 27
Eagle County launches Transition Trail Map (Green, Blue, Black); begins with Green protocols

VAIL

April 22
Vail Public Library begins curbside pickup

April 22
First round of funding awarded for Vail Community Relief Funds

MAY

US

May 27
Deaths surpass 100,000

CO

May 6
F-16 Flyover Salute to health care workers

EAGLE COUNTY

May 7
Antibody testing becomes available

Public Health Director Heath Harmon added to Governor's Advisory Committee on COVID-19 Policy

May 8
Eighth Eagle County COVID-19 related death

May 25
County moves from Green to Blue on Transition Trail Map

VAIL

May 4
Vail Transit returns to service with safety protocols

May 15
Local emergency responders participate in statewide remembrance of the 1,000-plus victims lost to COVID-19

JUNE

US

June 10
Confirmed cases reach 2 million

CO

June 18
Safer-at-Home and in the Vast, Great Outdoors Public Health Order increases allowable size of gatherings for indoor and outdoor events

EAGLE COUNTY

June 1
Facilities and operations begin phased, in-person reopening with required safety protocols

June 18
Half of cases now reported among people 30 years of age or younger

June 29
Confirmed local cases surpass 700

VAIL

June 1
Phased reopening of public buildings includes daily opening of Vail Public Library

June 2
Town moves to "crisis" phase of recession plan with 21% reduction from original 2020 budget

June 16
Second allotment of Community Relief Funds awarded

JULY

US

July 16
New record number of cases reported in a single day: 75,600

CO

July 16
Gov. Polis issues executive order requiring face coverings indoors

EAGLE COUNTY

July 3
Eagle County moves to Black Diamond phase on Transition Trail Map

July 17
Public health order updated to limit gatherings to 10 people or less and public gatherings to 100 or less indoors and 175 or less outdoors

July 23
Confirmed local cases surpass 1,000

July 29
Vail Resorts CEO Rob Katz sends open letter to communities, guests and employees, 'We Must Stay Vigilant'

VAIL

July 17
Vail Mountain opens Eagle Bahn Gondola for limited summer activities

AUGUST

US

Aug 17
COVID-19 now third-leading cause of death in U.S. behind heart disease and cancer

EAGLE COUNTY

Aug 25
Return to in-person learning for Eagle County Schools for 2020-2021 year

VAIL

Aug 31
Commercial Rent Relief program launched

SEPTEMBER

US

Sept 22
Death toll surpasses 200,000

CO

Sept 8
State announces partnership with Apple, Google to allow for COVID-19 exposure notification on cell phones

Sept 10
State launches outbreak map on COVID-19 website

Sept 15
Dial framework released for Protect Our Neighbors, Safer-at-Home and Stay-at-Home protocols

EAGLE COUNTY

Sept 22
Tenth death related to COVID-19

VAIL

Sept 30
Economic recovery activities produce record sales tax collections for the month of September. This is the first month where sales tax collections increased compared to the same month in the prior year since the start of the pandemic

OCTOBER

US

Oct 22
FDA approves Remdesivir as first COVID-19 drug

CO

Oct 16
Colorado submits COVID-19 vaccine plan to Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

EAGLE COUNTY

Oct 9
Eagle County adopts statewide public health orders along with additional requirements specific to the local community; starts in yellow phase, Safer-at-Home Level 2: Concerned

VAIL

Oct 9
Vail Gift Card program launched as economic stimulus

NOVEMBER

US

Nov 8
Infections surpass 10 million

CO

Nov 20
State adds purple extreme level to risk meter

EAGLE COUNTY

Nov 16
County moves to orange phase on state public health order dial, Level 3: High Risk

Nov 17
Confirmed local cases surpass 2,000

VAIL

Nov 4
Synexis BioDefense system installed in public buildings and on buses to complement cleaning protocols

Nov 7
Mandatory mask zone implemented in designated areas

Nov 20
Vail Mountain opens for the ski season with COVID-19 protocols and a reservation system

Nov 24
Executive order limits size of private gatherings to single household to curtail spike in local cases during Thanksgiving holiday

DECEMBER

US

Dec 11
FDA approves Pfizer vaccine

Dec 14
Death toll surpasses 300,000

Dec 18
FDA approves Moderna vaccine

CO

Dec 8
State tests COVID-19 vaccine delivery with a trial run to Vail Health

Dec 14
First shipment of 46,800 doses of Pfizer vaccine arrive, followed a week later by Moderna vaccine

EAGLE COUNTY

Dec 9
13th death due to COVID-19

Dec 13
Confirmed local cases surpass 3,000

Dec 14
Eagle County commits \$3 million to aid small businesses suffering from pandemic

Dec 16
Vail Health administers first COVID vaccine

Dec 17
Total deaths attributed to COVID-19 at 16

VAIL

Dec 21
Vail Transit limits passengers to 20 riders and modifies in-town route to comply with state guidelines

COMMUNITY LIFELINE



Photo by Dominique Taylor

Community members made more than
16,500 masks | **2,000** gowns

Donovan Pavilion in West Vail became the headquarters for the operation

April 2020

NEIGHBORS HELPING NEIGHBORS

The safety and well-being of community members emerged as the number-one priority at the outset of the pandemic. Neighbors played a vital role in looking out for one another with regular welfare checks, grocery shopping, mail collection, transport and other critical errands. On a larger scale, area non-profits were enlisted to help with distribution of \$500,000 in community relief funds set aside by the town and awarded to frontline workers most in need. Among them:

- The uninsured snowsports instructor who needed help with his medical bills after emergency surgery
- The family whose head-of-household was laid off from his job and needed financial assistance to pay the bills
- The cancer patient whose work hours had just been reduced and was looking for help with medical bills
- The mental health assistance provided to an overwhelmed resident through Olivia's Fund that likely saved his life



Photo by Dominique Taylor

March 2020



VAIL COMMUNITY RELIEF FUND | PARTNER AGENCIES

As friends and neighbors faced adversity together, the Vail Community Relief Fund served as a lifeline during difficult times.

Medical & Behavioral Health

- **Bright Future Foundation**
Provided crisis response for victims of domestic violence
- **Eagle Valley Behavioral Health, an outreach of Vail Health**
Increased access to behavioral health for Vail community through Olivia's Fund; enabled 42 individuals with up to six free behavioral health care visits with qualified clinicians
- **The Hope Center of Eagle River Valley**
Provided support for mobile crisis team to respond to increase in crisis line calls and to house staff separately when clinicians needed to quarantine due to exposure or illness
- **Vail Valley Charitable Fund**
Assisted with medical bills for nine individuals affected by COVID-19 who live or work in Vail

Rent Relief

- **Salvation Army**
Assisted 54 families who live or work in Vail
- **Swift Eagle Charitable Foundation**
Assisted 27 families who live or work in Vail; average grant was \$1,651
- **Catholic Charities**
Assisted 19 qualifying residents

Food Relief Efforts

- **Eagle Valley Community Foundation**
Provided 79 Vail households with boxes of staples and bags of produce
- **United Way**
Distributed to local charities that focus on food assistance, including Vail Valley Charitable Fund and New Life Assembly

To inquire about past or current assistance, vailgov.com/grant-process



Courtesy of The Community Market

April 2020

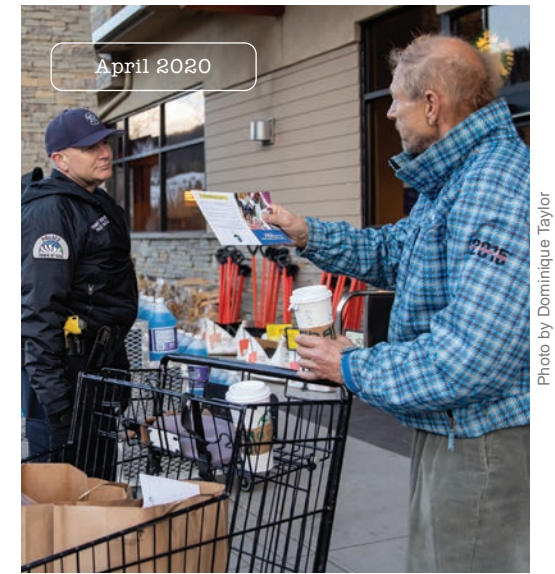


Photo by Dominique Taylor

April 2020

PARTNERING FOR SENIORS

Town of Vail partnered with Eagle County Healthy Aging, a program of Eagle County Public Health and Environment dedicated to serving the over-60 population, to offer Vail seniors practical assistance. The outreach was delivered through a mailing of 1,200 postcards which also included information and resources related to COVID-19 including phone numbers and websites for local primary care providers, pharmacies and programs. In addition to the mailing, Vail police and fire staff handed out hundreds of postcards. The awareness campaign played a part in increasing home delivered meals from 5 to 60 meals twice a week (14 of those being Vail seniors), which replaced the in-person meals previously offered in Minturn. Meal delivery not only provided nutritious food and convenience for seniors to stay at home, but the added benefit of a friendly face and socialization.



PUBLIC HEALTH & SAFETY

Throughout the summer, town employees were modeling safe practices by wearing face coverings in public.

Photo by Dominique Taylor

COMMITMENT TO SAFETY AND CLEANLINESS

Providing community members and guests with safe choices has been at the forefront of the town's response to the global pandemic. Extraordinary efforts have been undertaken to keep public spaces sanitized while assisting with implementation of county and state public health orders – even taking those orders a step further by implementing the additional restriction of an outdoor mandatory mask zone in the highly trafficked pedestrian areas of Vail Village and Lionshead to provide messaging consistent with established protocols on Vail Mountain. Meanwhile, the most advanced technologies were adopted to clean, sanitize and disinfect high touch areas across the community. Electrostatic sprayers that safely attack microbes and decontaminate facilities efficiently and effectively were immediately put into use. Later, Vail became the first municipality in the country to pioneer use of a state-of-the-art microbial reduction product when the Synexis BioDefense System was added to air handling systems within all occupied buildings and on the town's 33 buses.



Photo by Dominique Taylor

Motorists are greeted with a friendly reminder to mask up during their visit.

CLEANING BY THE NUMBERS

2,513 HOURS spent sanitizing and disinfecting public buildings from April to December

142 UNITS Synexis installations to reduce microbial load between cleanings

13 GALLONS of hand sanitizer distributed and used in public buildings

105 CANS of disinfectant spray distributed throughout public buildings

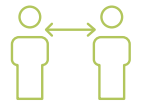
38,220 SHEETS of disinfectant wipes distributed

70,000 FACE COVERINGS distributed to town employees and on the buses

6,000 DISPOSABLE GLOVES used by town employees

5 COMMITMENTS OF CONTAINMENT

The Five Commitments of Containment became the battle cry as efforts were mobilized on all fronts to implore community members to take the recommended steps to reduce the spread of COVID-19.



stay 6' apart



wear a face covering



wash hands often



get tested



stay at home



Photo by Dominique Taylor

PUBLIC HEALTH & SAFETY

VAIL HEALTH PRESIDENT & CEO WILL COOK: SPEAKING FRANKLY

Vail Health President and CEO Will Cook had stern messages to convey during the pandemic's earliest days. He warned that intensive care unit beds in Vail and elsewhere across the state could be overrun with COVID-19 patients and metrics indicated that the county death toll could climb to astonishing levels without an intervention. His candor worked; the community listened and acted. Working collaboratively with Eagle County Public Health and Environment, the best testing capabilities in the country had been put into place by May and the area was leading the nation in the percentage of community members being tested coupled with the lowest death rate. These metrics continued to set the tone for much of the remainder of the year, as the community remained diligent about mask-wearing, social distancing and adhering to public health guidelines.



April 2020

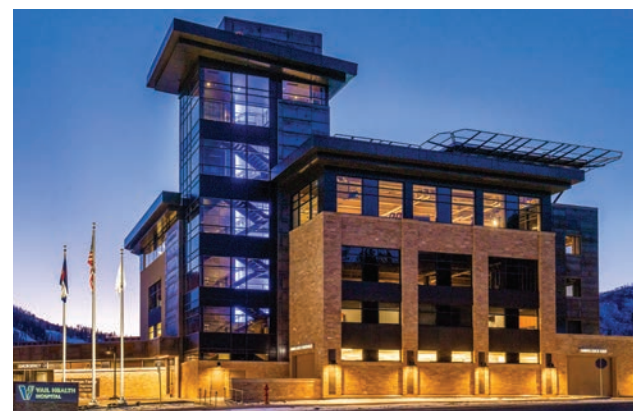


Photo by Vail Health

Vail Health not only navigated a pandemic but continued major construction while seamlessly serving the community's health care needs. The hospital's east wing debuted in November after more than five years of planning and construction.

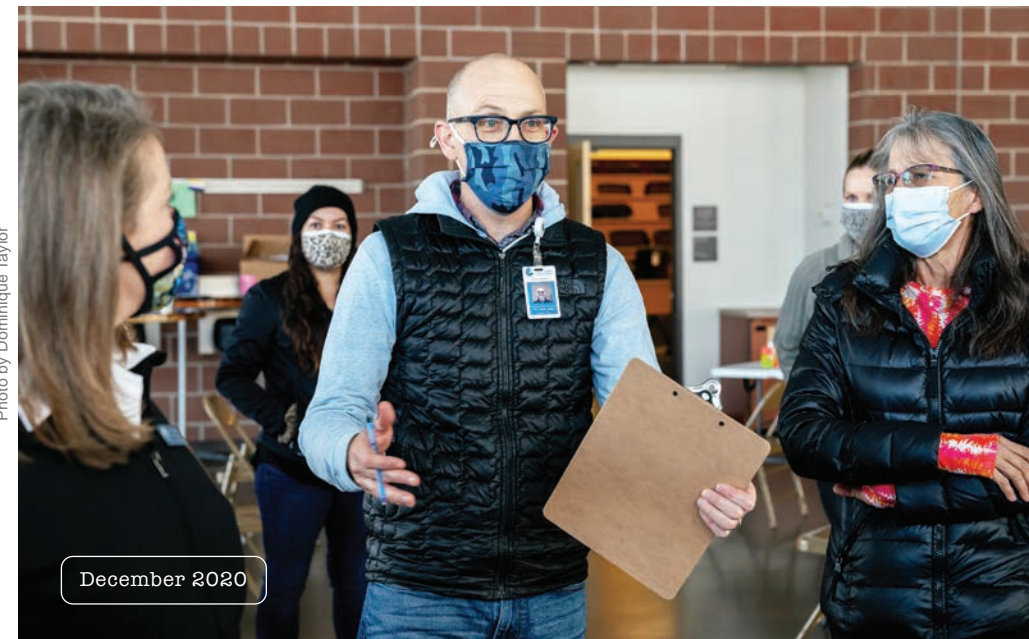


Photo by Dominique Taylor

December 2020

Heath Harmon, director of Eagle County Public Health and Environment, has been leading efforts to help guide Vail and other local communities through the public health crisis.

EAGLE COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH & ENVIRONMENT DIRECTOR HEATH HARMON: A VOICE OF REASON

His community leadership has been direct, informative and persuasive. Heath Harmon, director of Eagle County Public Health and Environment, had only been on the job for a matter of weeks when COVID-19 became a household word. Responsible for tracking a series of metrics that have been used to shape public health protocols, Harmon has worked tirelessly on behalf of the greater community in raising awareness about the virus and how best to reduce the spread. His efforts to promote and implement balanced public health guidelines, which include disease prevention strategies needed for the community's physical health along with the economic supports needed for the community's mental health, have won accolades across the state. He has been appointed to the Governor's Advisory Committee on COVID-19 Policy and is co-chair of the Governor's Back-to-School Working Group.

VACCINE BREAKTHROUGH

The first Pfizer vaccine in Eagle County administered by Vail Health was to one of their own in mid-December, a lead respiratory therapist who spent seven days on a ventilator while battling the virus in March. After her recovery, she had returned to work to help other COVID-19 patients. She was the first of 220 staff and local health care workers to receive the vaccine that day, with the town's police and fire employees following soon behind. Concurrently, Castle Peak Senior Care Community was busy vaccinating their staff and residents, some of the most vulnerable in the community.



Photo by Katie Harmon

December 2020



Vail Public Library's treasured Story Time for preschool children didn't miss a beat, with Cricket Pylman going virtual from her house the same month the pandemic was hitting hard.

MUNICIPAL SERVICES

March 2020

Photo by Dominique Taylor

TAKING CARE OF BUSINESS

The safe delivery of municipal services has guided the town's operational decisions throughout the pandemic. Remarkably, much of the town's core business remained uninterrupted as employees found ways to connect with members of the public to carry on. Through a combination of in-person appointments and virtual interactions, staff issued building permits, conducted building inspections, sold parking passes, interviewed job applicants, launched a master plan initiative, provided essential library services and convened dozens of board meetings virtually as part of a concerted effort to keep the public's business running safely and efficiently. In the neighborhoods, the presence of emergency responders, landscapers, mowers, snowplow drivers and other work groups provided an additional sense of stability and predictability.

VAIL TRANSIT CHALLENGES

The most visible service to be impacted by COVID-19 has been Vail's transit system. For six weeks during the spring, buses sat idle as public health officials assessed how best to protect riders and drivers, addressing the problems of limited personal protective equipment. While demand decreased due to stay-at-home public health orders, the shutdown created hardships for riders who rely on public transit. Service resumed in May with enhanced safety measures such as plexiglass enclosures to separate drivers from passengers and a requirement for occupants to wear face coverings. A decontaminant system was installed on each bus for added protection.

RIDER CAPACITY IMPACT

Capacity restrictions created additional challenges for both Vail and the regional ECO Transit operation, with ridership reduced to half capacity as determined by state and local public health guidelines. That number was reduced even further to 20 riders per bus with the onset of winter and spiking virus cases in Colorado. To ease delays for riders, the number of buses was doubled for use on busy outlying routes in Vail. This required a concurrent change to the in-town service, redirecting passengers to an express route along the South Frontage Road. To help communicate these changes and to facilitate the capacity limits, a bus host program was assembled. Despite the town's best efforts, rider capacity restrictions contributed to ongoing challenges to those accustomed to Vail's gold standard service.

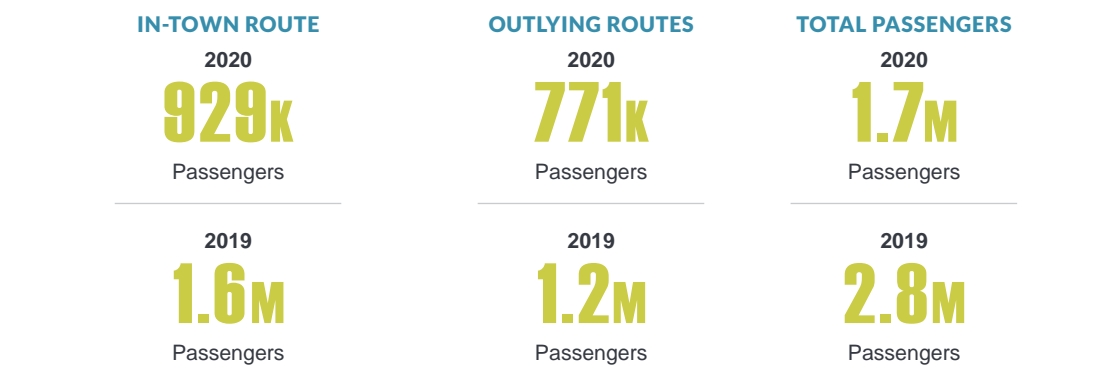


March 2020

Photo by Dominique Taylor

EMPTY SEATS

Vail is known for having one of the largest free bus systems in the country. The dramatic drop in ridership is a testament to the impact COVID-19 has had on guest services and daily routines.



December 2020

Photo by Dominique Taylor



Photo by Dominique Taylor

March 2020



Photo by Dominique Taylor

January 2021

MUNICIPAL SERVICES

ECONOMIC RECOVERY

Alarmed by the prospect of large-scale financial collapse triggered by the pandemic, the town’s leadership worked quickly and aggressively to focus on stabilizing Vail’s economy. Multi-layered efforts to sustain the restaurant and retail community were initiated to maintain jobs and keep Vail businesses open. A Vail Economic Recovery Task Force was quickly formed as a subset of the existing Vail Economic Advisory Council to address Vail-specific efforts to reboot the economy.

These activities included:

- Creation of outdoor spaces to expand capacity at retail establishments, restaurants and bars
- Open consumption zones in Vail Village and Lionshead after the state of Colorado authorized legislation allowing restaurants to sell and deliver alcoholic beverages
- A newly constructed entertainment venue including stage and sound in Ford Park’s lower bench to allow for outdoor performances within social distancing requirements
- \$1 million for commercial rent relief for Vail businesses from August to November
- Funding of tents and subsidized permanent structures in partnership with Vail restaurants to provide additional seating in winter
- Winter outdoor enhancements including warming fire pits and domes to provide shelter from the elements and as an alternative dining location

- Online business toolkits with resources to local businesses to address the challenges associated with the pandemic and resulting public health orders
- A locals gift card stimulus program to thank frontline workers with \$25 gift cards provided to employees through their employers
- Design and distribution of Vail-branded facemasks and neck gaitors along with a robust communications effort to encourage compliance with the five commitments of containment
- Guest service advocates to educate guests and residents on community safety measures while creating a welcoming first impression, and bus hosts to assist with passenger capacity requirements

Recovery efforts also included working one-on-one with event producers to provide guidance on protocols that could allow some outdoor events to take place within public health guidelines. Staff also joined regional and county planning efforts to coordinate the exchange of information

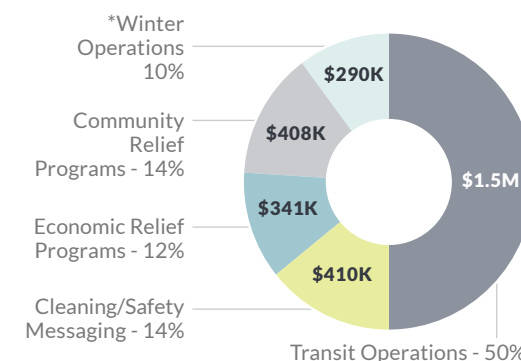
In the end, Vail’s economic resiliency eclipsed initial forecasts and resulted in robust visitation and revenues throughout the summer, record sales tax collections during September, October and November, as well as record real estate transactions for the year.

2020 ECONOMIC RELIEF FUNDS

Federal relief funds awarded through the CARES Act and additional funding from the Town of Vail were spent on a variety of relief programs as well as extra cleaning supplies and sanitizing services, sick pay to employees covered under the Families First Act, temporary tenting for restaurants, fire pits, domes, a gift card program, music activations and more.



2020 COVID-19 Relief | Where the Money Went



*Includes personal protective equipment, bus host program, sick pay for employees and legal fees.

Second homeowners were among the first to find refuge in Vail, using their homes as a safe haven when COVID-19 cases spiked elsewhere. Eventually, guests returned, too, as travelers heeded public health guidance by seeking solace in the great outdoors.





March 2020



November 2020

MUNICIPAL SERVICES

SPECIAL EVENTS

The Burton U.S. Open Snowboarding Championships was presented successfully in February prior to the pandemic with fan favorites and special new elements added to honor the legacy of Jake Burton, who passed away in 2019.

After March 15, special events, the cornerstone of Vail's economic development activities, were hosted, postponed, canceled and later reconfigured as the long-term reality of the pandemic took hold during the spring and summer. Budget adjustments across all town functions resulted in a 30% reduction to the funding of events.

Large event cancellations included:

- GoPro Mountain Games
- Taste of Vail
- Pink Vail
- Spring Back to Vail
- Powabunga
- Kids Adventure Games
- Gourmet on Gore
- Vail Oktoberfest
- Vail Snow Days
- Summer Athletic Tournaments including:
 - Vail Lacrosse Shootout
 - King of the Mountain
 - Kick It 3v3 Soccer

EVENTS REIMAGINED

Guided by public health protocols that regulated the size of outdoor gatherings, Vail's event production partners got creative and delivered a variety of customized activities and performances to continue the tradition of exceptional guest experiences in Vail.

Other events embraced a hybrid format with both in-person and virtual components. This included the GoPro Mountain Games Elements, which featured select competitions and events at limited capacity and online activities and concerts.

AT A GLANCE

20+

events/concerts at the Ford Park Lower Bench Venue

15

Farmers' Markets

29

shows at The Amp, 3,848 guests, 175 at a time

2

Holiday Tree Lighting events streamed online

1,000

take-home children's art kits distributed for Revely Vail

29

floats in the stationary Vail America Days™ parade

EVENT HIGHLIGHTS | SUMMER

- **Vail Whitewater Race Series** was the first event safely re-created by the Vail Recreation District
- **Alpine Arts Center** offered virtual and in-person events at The Amp and Colorado Snowsports Museum
- **Vail America Days™** introduced socially distanced walking tours of stationary parade floats and mobile musical entertainment
- **Vail Farmers' Market** and **Farm to Table Dinners** took place with ticketing and social distancing along with an online shopping platform
- **Bravo Vail!** created mobile performances with the Music Box, plus hosted 7 concerts at The Amp with reduced crowds and a streaming presence
- **Hot Summer Nights** hosted doubleheader shows at reduced capacity at The Amp
- **Vail Fine Arts Festival** debuted, bringing a socially distanced art festival to Lionshead in August
- New **Ford Park Lower Bench** event venue provided an outdoor space with social distance in mind

Events included:

 - **Vail Jazz in the Park**
 - **Shakedown Presents: Live Music in the Gardens**
 - **Vail Craft Beer Festival**
 - **The Wine Classic at Vail**
 - **GoPro Mountain Games Elements: Yoga**

EVENT HIGHLIGHTS | WINTER

- **Revely Vail** and **Vail Holidays** virtual tree lighting: streaming the annual tree lightings on Facebook allowed this family tradition to continue while gatherings were still restricted
- **Ambient Entertainment** included musicians and costumed characters strolling the villages to surprise and delight
- **Magic of Lights Vail** in the Betty Ford Alpine Gardens lit up the night with seasonal lighting and unique ice sculptures



Magic of Lights Vail



Vail Farmers' Market

DOCUMENTING OUR JOURNEY

From sorrow to hope to resiliency, local photographer Dominique Taylor has captured the many emotions of community life during the pandemic. Dominique's visual storytelling is used throughout this publication to offer context to a year that can be difficult to put into words. This photo essay features the photographer's personal selections of her images that represent the journey of 2020.



1 March 17 - Two days after the lifts stopped spinning, many locals and a few remaining tourists are unable to resist the temptation to skin up Vail Mountain for some fresh turns, despite an uphill travel public safety closure.

2 March 20 - Sterilizing high-touch public spaces, including the Vail Transportation Center, became a high priority with cleanings occurring multiple times a day.

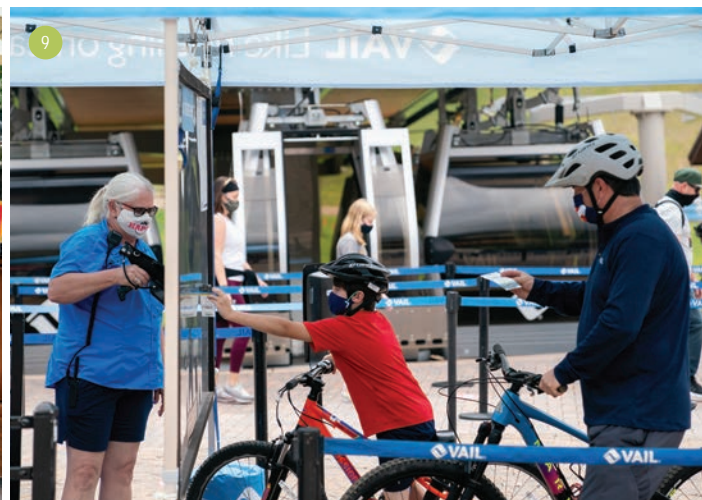
3 March 20 - Just days after the shutdown of Vail Mountain, a lone pedestrian walks through the heart of Vail Village, deserted at the height of spring break season, typically one of the busiest times of the year. On this day, Eagle County had recorded the second-highest number of COVID-19 cases in the state, after Denver.



4 March 26 - A grocery shopper in West Vail wears a mask as the reality of the seriousness of the novel coronavirus begins to register with residents throughout the valley. Eagle County confirms its second COVID-19-related death.

5 April 4 - A resident intending to exercise his dogs at Bighorn Park is met by a sign indicating the park's closure and a list of other shutdowns ordered by Gov. Jared Polis in response to the rapid spread of COVID-19 throughout Eagle County and Colorado.

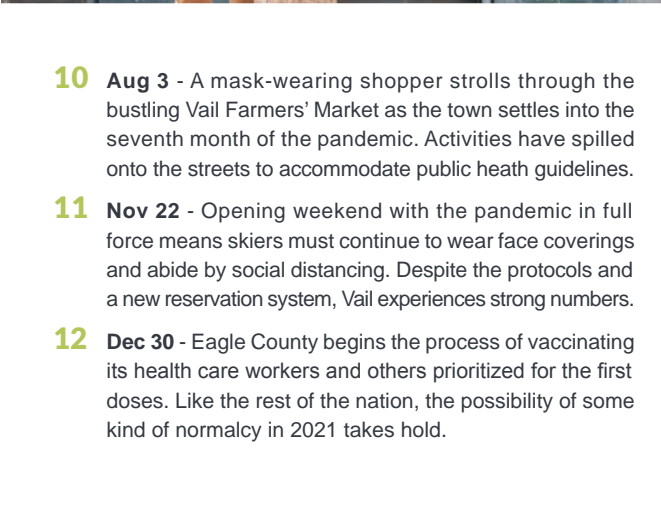
6 April 15 - One month after the shutdown, police officers pick up to-go meals to support local restaurants as state and local health officials become early adopters of mandating face coverings for essential workers.



7 April 15 - Despite unseasonably warm weather, a customer wears a face covering and gloves while waiting outside the post office. With so many unanswered questions about the virus, more people don personal protective equipment when venturing out of their homes.

8 May 25 - In-person dining returns for the first holiday weekend of the summer, although at reduced capacity, as guests flock to Vail to avoid their own local lockdowns and restrictions.

9 July 26 - A Vail Resorts employee scans tickets through a plexiglass barrier. To adapt to the summertime pandemic, face coverings and social distancing are required for all on-mountain activities.



10 Aug 3 - A mask-wearing shopper strolls through the bustling Vail Farmers' Market as the town settles into the seventh month of the pandemic. Activities have spilled onto the streets to accommodate public health guidelines.

11 Nov 22 - Opening weekend with the pandemic in full force means skiers must continue to wear face coverings and abide by social distancing. Despite the protocols and a new reservation system, Vail experiences strong numbers.

12 Dec 30 - Eagle County begins the process of vaccinating its health care workers and others prioritized for the first doses. Like the rest of the nation, the possibility of some kind of normalcy in 2021 takes hold.

Photo essay by local photographer Dominique Taylor
DominiqueTaylor.com

VAIL STRONG

CARRYING ON WITH COMMUNITY PRIORITIES

Addressing the impacts of the pandemic required significant focus and attention during the year, yet much of the town's remaining business carried on with impressive results, garnering national and international recognition in addressing the community's most pressing priorities of housing and environmental sustainability. The Town of Vail leadership remained focused on major initiatives which were reaffirmed by priorities identified in the 2020 Community Survey.



2020 VAIL TIMELINE



JANUARY

Jan 16
Town Council announces interest in exploring alternatives to Booth Heights housing development in East Vail

Jan 21
Ribbon cutting for Vail's newest public parking garage and remodeled elementary school at Red Sandstone

Jan 30
PrimaVail Leadership Forum features Police Chief Dwight Henninger and Vail Local Housing Authority member Molly Morales, among others

FEBRUARY

Feb 1
LED light bulb swap begins at Vail Public Library

Feb 13
Public meeting on East Vail Noise Impact Analysis as part of I-70 West Vail Pass Auxiliary Lane Study

Feb 18
Josef Stauer selected as 2020 Vail Trailblazer Award recipient

Feb 26 - 29
38th Annual Burton U.S. Open Snowboarding Championships

MARCH

March 1
Implementation of new code amendments requiring ignition-resistant building materials and fire-resistant landscaping

March 4
Vail community honored with 2020 'Best in Americas' Award for continued progress made toward waste diversion

March 10
Annual Community Meeting takes place virtually

March 13
Biennial Community Survey is initiated with postcard invites to property owners, households and businesses

APRIL

April 1
Census 2020 Day

April 15
Start of free webinar series on Sustainable Landscape sponsored by environmental sustainability department

April 22
Earth Day seed giveaway

MAY

May 13
West Vail Master Plan process begins with call for volunteers to serve on Advisory Panel

May 25
10th Annual Sole Power green commuting challenge begins

JUNE

June 3
Law enforcement personnel joined with local protesters to decry the killing of George Floyd in a march of over 1,000 people in Vail Village to call on social justice and police reform across the nation

June 14
Vail Farmers' Market begins with virtual format

June 15 - 19
Trees for Vail

June 17
Advisory bike lanes pilot program begins on Vail Valley Drive

June 19
Free curbside chipping service begins

June 26
Vail Trail Host program begins 2nd season

JULY

July 1
E-bike share pilot program begins

July 4
Vail America Days™ introduces new concept of socially distanced walking tours of stationary parade floats

July 24
Hard to Recycle event takes place with face covering and social distancing protocols

July 27
2nd Annual Business Recycling Challenge begins

AUGUST

Aug 31
Vail police and fire chiefs host Facebook livestream event to answer questions about emergency evacuation planning

SEPTEMBER

Sept 3
Vail dispatcher Fernando Almanza recognized with 40 Under 40 award presented by International Association of Chiefs of Police

Sept 17 & 19
Virtual One Book One Valley finale events with author Erika Sanchez

Sept 23
Stephens Park playground reopens following renovation

Sept 29
Vail InDEED program recognized nationally by Urban Land Institute for 2020 innovation

OCTOBER

Oct 1
Vail Trails Clean Up

Oct 4 - 10
National Fire Prevention Week

Oct 19
Virtual kick off of One Book One Valley 10th anniversary with NEA Big Read "Lab Girl" by Hope Jahren

Oct 23
Police Chief Dwight Henninger sworn-in to executive board of International Association of Chiefs of Police; will become president in 2021

Oct 24
National Drug Take Back Event

NOVEMBER

Nov 1
Scott Robson completes first year as Vail town manager

Nov 3
Vail voters approve Ballot Issue 2G repealing Gallagher Amendment

Nov 11
Gillig bus manufacturer begins road-testing for newly-built battery electric buses in preparation for delivery to Vail in 2021

Nov 17
PrimaVail guest service training begins second season

Nov 20
Vail recognized as one of 88 cities across the globe to lead climate actions

Nov 28
Revely Vail virtual Tree Lighting Ceremony in Lionshead

DECEMBER

Dec 8
Shop with a Cop

Dec 13
Vail Holidays virtual Tree Lighting Ceremony in Vail Village

Dec 20
Art in Public Places' 14th Annual Winterfest Ice and Lantern installation opens

Dec 31
Fireworks ring in New Year





Photo by Dominique Taylor

March 2020

CHECKING IN WITH THE COMMUNITY

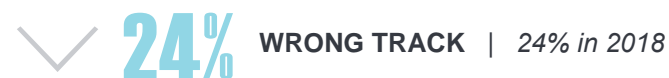
Circulated every other year, most recently in 2020, Vail's community survey offers insightful feedback from respondents who are asked to evaluate the overall direction of the town, rank priorities and rate their satisfaction with town services. The results are used during the annual budget process to support top priorities identified by the community, such as environmental sustainability and housing-related initiatives. The survey is also used to compare service rating levels with previous years to identify areas of improvement as well as the need for additional emphasis.

OVERALL DIRECTION OF THE TOWN



WHY? (comments frequently offered by respondents)

- Satisfaction with town services
- Town is working hard to address important issues
- Effective response to COVID-19



WHY? (comments frequently offered by respondents)

- Housing and cost of living related concerns
- Frustrations with parking
- Booth Heights development

The 2020 Community Survey was conducted by RRC Associates, an independent research firm. Results reflect the opinion of 680 community members. The full report is available at vailgov.com.

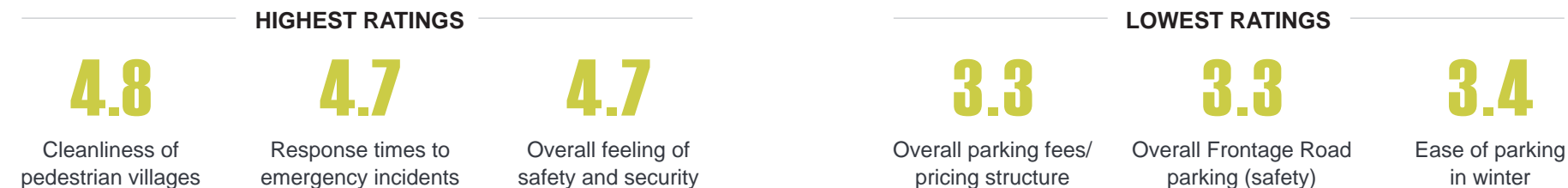
November 2020

PANDEMIC CONCERNS IDENTIFIED

The 2020 community survey had even more value when a series of questions were added during the onset of the pandemic to gather input on local behavior as well as opinions on the situation. The findings identified health and safety concerns expressed by older residents, requests for frequent updates on local infection numbers and testing, and an overall concern by employees and businesses impacted by the early closure of Vail Mountain and other shut-downs associated with safer-at-home public health orders. These concerns were addressed through immediate actions which included increased community updates and ongoing grant programs to help the most vulnerable.

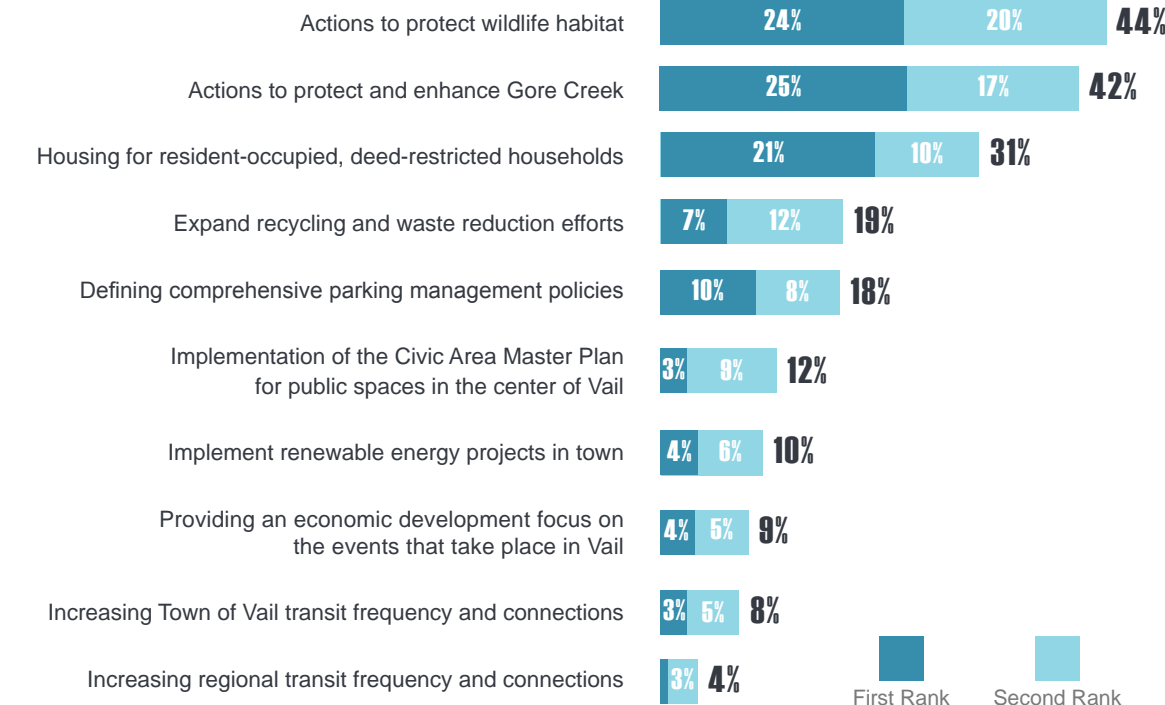
RATINGS FOR TOWN SERVICES

Day-to-day contributions by the town's frontline employees received high scores in 2020, carrying on a tradition of excellence. From the cleanliness of pedestrian villages, to park maintenance, to response times to emergency incidents, to overall satisfaction with the Vail Public Library, these services are among the highest rated for overall satisfaction by survey respondents with scores of 4.7 or higher on a 5-point scale.



Ratings above are based on a 5-point scale with 5 being "very satisfied"

WHAT ARE THE TOP TWO COMMUNITY PRIORITIES?



Environmental sustainability efforts and housing opportunities were identified as high priorities when survey respondents were asked to select their top two priorities from among 10 topics.

Given the timing of the survey in mid-March, the long-term impacts of COVID-19 are not reflected in the community's response.



Mayor Dave Chapin



Mayor Pro-Tem Kim Langmaid



Kevin Foley



Jenn Bruno



Travis Coggin



Jen Mason



Brian Stockmar



Town Manager Scott Robson

Photo by Dominique Taylor

CREATING OPPORTUNITIES IN A TIME OF CRISIS

The work of the Vail Town Council and town staff left nothing to chance in 2020. Throughout their biweekly meetings, held in-person for a brief time during the pandemic and later virtually, council members came together to explore innovations and adaptations that have brought out the best in Vail. It was critically important for members of the community to join in the conversations and at one point an executive order was signed by the town manager. The order allowed for the postponement of any quasi-judicial hearing before the town council if the town manager determined the hearing would be compromised if held remotely. Two such hearings, a rezoning matter on Hanson Ranch Road and a Special Development District for Highline/Doubletree, were postponed for several weeks until protocols allowed citizens to enter council chambers individually to present live public comment to town council. Conveying a spirit of optimism and resiliency, council members used each meeting to praise the tireless work of the community's service workers and encouraged everyone to pull together as one.



Public health protocols were used to determine how best to safely convene public meetings which included one-at-a-time access to the council chambers for staff presentations and public comment sessions. Eventually, all meetings moved to virtual formats.

2020 COMMUNITY SURVEY RESULTS

Accountability & Outreach

Ratings are based on a 5-point scale, with 5 being "very satisfied"

4.2

HIGHEST RATING

Approachability of staff and Town Council Members *4.2 in 2018*

4.1

Providing Information to citizens *4.1 in 2018*

4.1

Offering public engagement opportunities *4.1 in 2018*

MAYOR DAVE CHAPIN: LEADING BY EXAMPLE

In an open letter to the community dated March 19, Mayor Dave Chapin announced he had tested positive for COVID-19. His public announcement became breaking news that day and set the tone for other leaders across the country. The announcement helped raise awareness about the seriousness of the virus and helped reduce the stigma of acknowledging a positive diagnosis. After fully recovering, the mayor set yet another example by donating his plasma to be used as an experimental treatment to help others battling with COVID-19. The plasma draw occurred during one of the country's first mobile convalescent plasma donor events which was held April 28 in Vail.



Photo by Chris Dillmann | Vail Daily



LEADERSHIP



November 2020

Left – Town Council Member Travis Coggin helps raise awareness of a mandatory mask order directed by the Town Council.

ALTERNATIVE HOUSING INITIATIVES

The complexities of achieving the dual community goals of housing and environmental sustainability kept the town council docket full throughout the year as various agreements and partnerships were pursued to chart an alternative outcome to an approved housing development in East Vail. Rather than break ground on the Booth Heights development and the mitigation required to address impacts to bighorn sheep and other wildlife habitat, with unanimous support, the Town Council announced an ambitious commitment to explore an alternative path.

The objective has been to identify a win/win scenario which, at a minimum, would make available a development opportunity for at least 144 beds on Middle Creek, Lot 3, arguably the premier remaining housing site in Vail, located on the north side of the Town Center roundabout, in exchange for protection of the 23-acre Booth Heights property owned by Vail Resorts. To address the community's equally pressing environmental goal, the town has facilitated the start of a large-scale fuels reduction and wildlife habitat enhancement initiative with the U.S. Forest Service covering 4,400 acres in the East Vail area. Given concerns expressed regarding COVID-19 and the importance of safely operating Vail Mountain, Vail Resorts removed themselves from the three-party partnership to focus on other matters. Despite the setback, Town Council remained committed to moving forward with high quality and much needed housing on Middle Creek, Lot 3. This has resulted in actions that will stand on their own in advancing the community's goals, including:

- Creation of the Lot 3, Middle Creek Subdivision site through a collaboration with Coughlin & Company, owner of the Middle Creek Village Apartments. This town-owned parcel, currently occupied by Children's Garden of Learning, was identified as the preferred housing site due to its current zoning, central location and relative ease of developing when compared to other sites in town
- After studying 11 unique sites, a relocation plan for Children's Garden of Learning was adopted in which the early childhood education center would move to a temporary facility in Lionshead for the next 3 to 5 years to allow time to prepare for a permanent facility; the temporary facility is to be ready for occupancy by August 2021
- Pre-development agreement between Town of Vail and Triumph Development outlines development of Lot 3, Middle Creek to include a minimum of 144 beds, a completion date of November 2022, the ability of the town to master lease or sublease homes and the ability to freely assign the town's right to the lease and title to the land without Triumph's consent, as well as redevelopment of Timber Ridge to include a minimum of 200 deed-restricted units of varying size
- Advancing a partnership with the Forest Service to help cost-share the National Environmental Policy Act review process for the Booth Creek Fuels Reduction Project

VOTERS REDIRECT PROPERTY TAXES

Voters in Vail joined with others across the state in repealing the Gallagher Amendment during the Nov. 3 general election. The Gallagher Amendment had lowered the amount of residential property taxes that a town like Vail could collect from residential property owners based on the amount of commercial property taxes collected, rather

than on the assessed value of the residential properties. This had resulted in a projected decline in collections of \$9.2 million over a 10-year span in Vail, causing the Town Council to ask voters to allow for more local control in directing how tax dollars are allocated in the event the state effort was unsuccessful.



MASTER PLAN TAKING SHAPE

Imagine a neighborhood where the following can be found: high quality resident housing, easy access to parks and trails, and a lively, convenient commercial area linked with comfortable pedestrian, bike and transit options. This is the desired future for West Vail as contemplated by community members who joined a series of virtual workshops and open houses to help shape a master plan for the West Vail neighborhood. This plan reimagines a future West Vail that retains the livability of the neighborhood while transforming the commercial core into a

vibrant, convenient destination for shopping and gathering for residents and visitors. The plan includes goals and strategies that will help Vail realize its vision with detailed recommendations for transportation, housing and the commercial area. The planning process began in March 2020 and is headed for completion in 2021.





HOUSING

March 2020



February 2021 The Rabins and their twin toddlers in front of their deed-restricted home in Chamonix Vail.

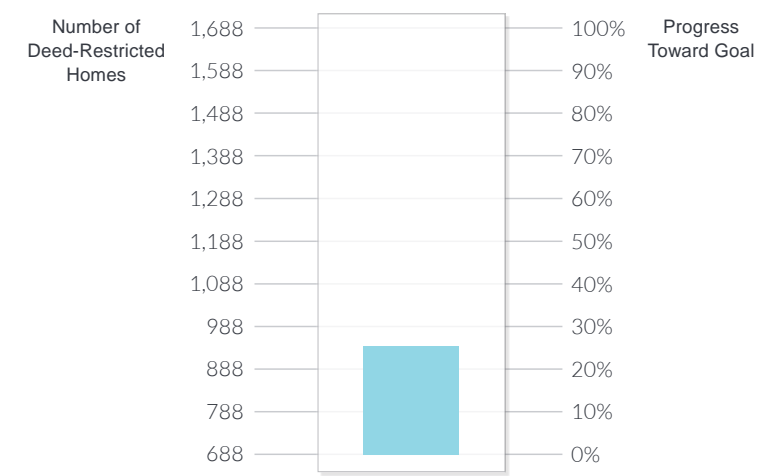


VAIL HOME PARTNERS

The new name given to the collaboration between the Vail Town Council and Vail Local Housing Authority is Vail Home Partners. Together, the two entities have committed to implementation of the Vail Housing 2027 Strategic Plan and its adopted goal of acquiring 1,000 new deed restrictions by the year 2027. At the current rate of acquisition, it is projected the town will reach its goal by 2027.



2027 Housing Goal Progress



Percentage of Goal
Starting point of 688 deed-restricted homes in 2017



Left to right: Steve Lindstrom, Mary McDougall, James Wilkins, Molly Morales and Greg Moffet

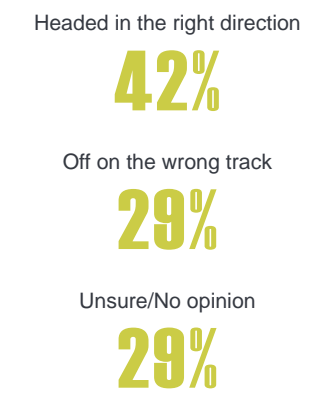
MEET THE VAIL LOCAL HOUSING AUTHORITY

The idea of a local housing authority came to life in 1990. At the time, citing “the general nature of the housing problem,” and the importance of “maintaining neighborhood integrity and quality of life,” the Vail Town Council appointed a 7-member Housing Task Force to aid in developing policies and recommendations to address the community’s need for expanding the supply of homes for local residents. The role of the Task Force was to prepare a report further defining the magnitude of the problem and recommend a desired course of action. Their report contained a strong recommendation to form the Vail Local Housing Authority, indicating “the real success of any housing authority lies in the commitment and vision of the board of directors, staff and local community members.”

If commitment and vision of the authority are the key to success, the Vail community is in good hands. The Vail Local Housing Authority is comprised of a 5-member board of directors, appointed by the Vail Town Council. Each authority member is appointed to a 5-year term. Steve Lindstrom, a longtime resident, serves as the chair of the Housing Authority. Other members are: past FirstBank President Mary McDougall, Vail Health Property Manager Molly Morales, former Eagle Water & Sanitation District CFO James Wilkins, and longtime housing supporter Greg Moffet.

2020 COMMUNITY SURVEY RESULTS

Q. Do you think the Town of Vail and the Vail Local Housing Authority’s mission and goals to address housing for year-round residents is headed in the right direction or do you feel they are off on the wrong track?



N = 361. Survey sample is based on respondents registered to vote in the Town of Vail and weighted to match the U.S. Census owner-occupied housing rate, 2014-2018



RESIDENTIAL RENT RELIEF

Temporary rent relief was authorized for residents of the town-owned Timber Ridge Village Apartments in collaboration with Corum Real Estate to help cover expenses due to the stay-at-home public health orders, which forced Vail Mountain and many other businesses to shut down temporarily, impacting thousands of employees throughout the valley. This included 50% rent forgiveness for 42 town-rented units for the month of May which equated to \$710 in relief per housing unit. For residents requiring additional relief, referrals were made to the Salvation Army, United Way and other non-profit partners of the Vail Community Relief Fund. As a result, no residents of the Timber Ridge Village Apartments had to leave their homes and much of the town’s workforce remained living in Vail and ready to return to work once businesses were able to reopen.

HOUSING



LEADING THE WAY WITH VAIL InDEED

The Vail InDEED program continues to demonstrate success and value to the community while providing a proven playbook for other communities and earning national recognition for its innovative thinking. Since its inception in 2018, the program has secured homes for 344 residents. The Vail Housing Authority serves as the Town Council's agent. The program has grown to be the most cost-effective initiative in which the town acquires perpetual deed restrictions from private property owners subject to a mutually accepted purchase agreement. Participants in the Vail InDEED program include first-time homeowners, longtime residents, business owners and long-term rental investors. A 2019 study quantified the value and benefits of the Vail InDEED program, noting that a \$65,000 investment in a single resident-occupied deed-restricted home yields a 5% annual return.

“ I have been involved with the Vail InDEED program from many sides. As an investment property owner, I found this program to be extremely helpful in getting into a property. The deed restriction has allowed me to find long-term renters who want to live and work in this valley but cannot afford to purchase anything themselves. They get a fabulous condo and I have a long-term investment ”

- Dana Gumber, local real estate broker

National Recognition

In October, the Vail InDEED effort was recognized nationally by the Urban Land Institute for its housing policy leadership following a lengthy evaluation process that consisted of a jury review of the program and panel interviews. Vail's recognition was especially significant given that previous recipients have represented large urban areas including New York City, Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority and City of Chicago.

Model Program

The town's housing department routinely fields inquiries about the Vail InDEED program from other communities across the country facing similar housing challenges. The concept has been replicated in the Colorado communities of Avon, Frisco, Breckenridge, Fraser and Winter Park, as well as nationally in California and Michigan.

MULTIFACETED APPROACH

After becoming the first jurisdiction in the county to adopt inclusionary zoning and commercial linkage policies in 2007, possible updates are being explored as well as consideration of a new residential linkage component. Each of these tools, which link a formula to net new employee generation with development, is widely accepted as a proven means of increasing the supply of resident-occupied, deed-restricted homes in communities where housing is a challenge. In this instance, by placing a deed-restriction on the home, occupancy is limited to persons living and working in the Vail community.

Possible amendments to Vail's existing requirements would update calculation methods and place a greater emphasis on delivery of on-site and off-site housing units versus payment of fees-in-lieu amounts. Consideration of a residential linkage requirement would allow the town to capitalize on the growth from all forms of development in the community. The policies are recognized as contributing to a multifaceted approach to increase available homes for residents. This includes updated housing policies and practices, a combination of land use regulations, public-private partnerships, new development opportunities and other strategic actions aimed at increasing the overall supply of homes for year-round residents in Vail.

NEW ONLINE DEED-RESTRICTION COMPLIANCE PROCESS

The housing department listened to feedback and created an online sworn compliance statement and compliance form for the 2020 annual employee housing compliance process. The improved online process replaces the notarized affidavit requirement and allows owners to click, upload and sign all the documents online. The new process places greater emphasis on improved customer service and enhanced customer convenience.

2020 Community Survey Results

78% 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" as it contributes to the loss of long-term rentals and causes increases in real estate prices.

Short-term Rental Registrations in Vail

Cascade Village	151
East Vail	419
Lionshead	723
Sandstone	308
Vail Village	702
West Vail	216
TOTAL	2,519

Source: Town of Vail Finance Department

Vail InDEED By the Numbers



Photo by Dominique Taylor

SETTING THE EXAMPLE

A Town of Vail employee home purchase program was launched with the sale of the first home occurring in the fall, a 580 sq. ft. 1-bedroom, 1-bath at Homestake at Vail Condominiums which sold for \$250,000. The town had purchased the property in 2019 for \$325,000 with the intent to sell the home to a town employee with a deed restriction in place. The town is one of the larger employers in the community.



FIRE

VAIL FIRE & EMERGENCY SERVICES RESPONSE CALLS

	2018	2019	2020
Structure Fires	10	10	4
Vehicle Fires	9	16	27
Wildland Fires	11	5	19
Rescue/Emergency Medical	592	596	653
Motor Vehicle Accidents	149	178	153
False Alarms	537	593	542
Hazardous Materials	80	95	76
Service Calls	175	174	182
Smoke Reports	52	49	54
Miscellaneous	328	301	189
TOTAL	1,943	2,017	1,899

RECORD YEAR FOR WILDFIRES

The three largest wildfires ever recorded in Colorado occurred in 2020 with Vail Fire crews assisting on deployments throughout the state. Among them was the East Troublesome fire which burned 193,812 acres and was noted for extraordinary fire growth, which exceeded 100,000 acres in one 24-hour period. The rapid-fire spread was equivalent to the distance from Vail to Eagle and illustrated how a wildfire that originates in another community could threaten Vail in a short period of time.

The magnitude of the 2020 fire year was due in part to the ongoing drought Colorado is experiencing as well as continuing forest health issues. Response to wildland fires was further challenged by COVID-19 safety precautions which complicated many of the logistics associated with fighting large wildland fires.

The Grizzly Creek fire burned 32,431 acres in the Glenwood Canyon in August. Although this was a very destructive fire, it could have been much worse. During the first week of the Grizzly Creek fire, it was designated as the number-one priority fire in the nation. This allowed vast resources, including aircraft and hand crews, to be assigned to the fire, which undoubtedly limited its spread. Just one week later, wildfires in California were rapidly elevated as top priorities and it became very difficult to get resources for wildfires in Colorado.

The 2020 wildland fires reinforced the need for every person to have a personal wildfire action plan that includes a “to go” kit as well as an evacuation plan. These fires also emphasized that the survival of a home is largely dependent upon the actions taken before a fire

CLASS 2 FIRE SUPPRESSION ASSESSMENT RATING for Vail by Insurance Services Office for 2020

Excellent

Top 5%

Fire departments in the nation receiving similar scores

Top 12%

Fire departments in Colorado receiving similar scores

Evaluation is conducted every 5 years and could result in reduced insurance rates for some customers; Class 1 rating is highest score



East Troublesome Fire - the state's second largest in history

occurs, which will make it resistant to wildfire-generated embers. In support of the wildland fire suppression effort in Colorado, personnel from Vail Fire deployed to 21 wildland fires. Due to the long duration of several Colorado fires, crews were deployed multiple times to the same fires which included Cameron Peak, the state's largest fire, and Pine Gulch, the third largest fire in state history.

NEW CODE AMENDMENTS

Address Long-term Wildfire Protections

New code amendments requiring ignition-resistant building materials and fire-resistant landscaping became effective March 1, following unanimous approval by Town Council. The changes apply to new construction, renovations and additions of more than 500 square feet. Since adoption, the town has processed 173 building permits, including 61 reroof permits and 87 deck replacement permits. Fire Chief Mark Novak says the changes are a measured step forward toward creating a safer community.

21

Wildland Fire Deployments in 2020

7 of these were mutual aid requests, all were in Colorado

Wildland Mitigation Projects Planned for 2021

East Vail Fuels Reduction project planning

Hand thinning and burning of 150 piles on Deer Underpass Unit located west of the Intermountain neighborhood

2020 COMMUNITY SURVEY RESULTS

Level of support for wildfire mitigation evaluation of defensible space around each home by trained personnel

63%

Very Supportive
58% in 2018

4%

Not at all Supportive
8% in 2018

COMMUNITY WILDFIRE PROTECTION PLAN

Adoption of Vail's first-ever Community Wildfire Protection Plan took place in the spring following a two-year effort involving critical input from partner agencies and other stakeholders. The plan addresses 5 main goals with 11 strategies and 31 actions that are being used to reduce the risk of a highly impactful wildfire event in Vail.

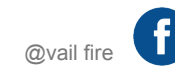




Photo by Dominique Taylor

COVID-19 EFFECT

The pandemic added an additional layer of safety protocols within the fire stations and determined how each call would be handled. It also brought out the best in people.

- Gestures of good-will were abundant with offers of food for firefighters, “thank you first responders” signs placed in front of the station and donation of neck gaitors by Vail Resorts
- A part-time resident generously offered several condominium properties in Vail to be used to provide a quarantine location for first responders. A firefighter from Gypsum self-isolated there after a potential on-the-job exposure
- Protocols held up the return of a Vail Fire crew following a 14-day deployment to the Cameron Peak fire after learning someone in their camp had tested positive
- Highest of safety standards were used to facilitate installation of town-sponsored gas firepits and warming tents in Vail Village and Lionshead

2020 COMMUNITY SURVEY RESULTS

Ratings are based on a 5-point scale, with 5 being “very satisfied”

Courtesy and helpfulness
of fire department staff

4.7

4.7 in 2018

Fire safety, awareness and
education programs

4.6

4.4 in 2018

IMPROVING EVACUATION PREPAREDNESS

To address community concerns about escape routes during a fast-moving wildfire, public safety leadership from Vail and throughout Eagle County has been making changes to evacuation procedures based on lessons learned from the busy wildfire season. This includes expansion of pre-designated evacuation zones to all portions of Eagle County, creation of a standardized list of information for incident commanders to provide to the 9-1-1 Vail Public Safety Communications Center when initiating an evacuation, and the standardization of notification methods based upon the level of evacuation being implemented. Together, these improvements will result in more efficient evacuations. While these steps will be significant in improving evacuation procedures, the most important component of evacuation planning is the readiness of individual community members. This includes having an evacuation plan and following the

6 “P”s:

1. **P**eople and pets
2. **P**apers, phone numbers and important documents
3. **P**rescriptions, vitamins and eye glasses
4. **P**ictures and irreplaceable memorabilia
5. **P**ersonal computers
(information on hard drive and removable memory)
6. **P**lastic (credit cards, ATM cards) and cash

For more information, visit vailgov.com/evac

How to Evacuate

- If evacuating by car, use the frontage road to access I-70
- If you do not have a car, go to the nearest Town of Vail bus stop
- Be familiar with all routes out of your neighborhood

East Vail has a designated secondary evacuation route which utilizes the east end of Bighorn Road.



EAGLE COUNTY ALERT | ecalert.org

Sign up and receive real-time emergency alerts to your phone, including important evacuation instructions. Download the Everbridge app to receive non-emergency alerts, such as weather and road conditions, as these non-emergency alerts are no longer distributed via text message.



COMMUNITY CONNECT | when seconds count

Letting first responders know if a pet lives in your home or other critical information about your property is the time-saving purpose of Community Connect, a new online service offered by Vail Fire. Users simply create a profile and enter pertinent property and occupant information for a residential or commercial property which is then made available to public safety agencies at the time of dispatch. The information is confidential and signups are free at communityconnect.io/info/co-vail.

FIRE INSPECTOR ADDED

An additional fire inspector is being added to the department’s personnel to ensure customer service standards are maintained year-round, including demands for special events, construction activities and creating safer workplaces for businesses. Originally approved for 2020, the position was deferred until 2021 due to budget cuts associated with the impacts of COVID-19.



POLICE

COVID-19 RELATED CALLS

115 Public Health Violations

PARTIAL LISTING OF CRIMES

	2018	2019	2020
Burglary	24	30	23
Larceny/Theft	208	234	212
Motor Vehicle Theft	5	11	16
Assault	47	76	80
Fraud	78	141	101
DUI/DWAI	29	47	32
Drugs	53	40	18
Vandalism	104	87	82
Sexual Offenses	9	9	5
Trespassing	46	68	30
Intoxicated Person	124	116	85
Total Arrests	532	502	421

KEEPING 9-1-1 ON CALL DURING COVID-19

21,803 9-1-1 calls generated 132,124 calls for service involving area law enforcement, fire and EMS, and handled 98,103 administrative calls.

To keep the 9-1-1 center functioning with full coverage:

- Strict protocols required a lockdown in March which prohibited visitors and non-essential employees from entering the center
- Dispatchers were assigned to the same console during each shift and their off-duty movements required similar protocols

These steps enabled the center to handle a busy call load with minimal levels of illness and quarantine.

CHIEF TO LEAD SOCIAL JUSTICE AND POLICE REFORM ON INTERNATIONAL SCALE



Photo by Rex Keep

As incoming president of the International Association of Chiefs of Police, Dwight Henninger is sharing his passion for community policing and police reform not just in the U.S., but across the world as a member of the IACP executive board. The IACP is the world's largest and most influential association of police leaders, giving its 31,000 members in 165 countries a compelling voice. Chief Henninger's powerful advocacy work has not been lost on Vail. In June, he joined a march of peaceful protesters to decry the killing of George Floyd and others at the hands of police officers. In an open letter to the community, he and other law enforcement leaders wrote of their commitment to building trust and equality for all in Eagle County.



Photo by Dominique Taylor

Protestors call for national social justice and police reform during a peaceful march in Vail Village.

FOCUS ON BEHAVIORAL HEALTH

Working as a co-responder team, law enforcement partnered with mental health clinicians and community paramedics to handle 23 emergency calls in Vail as well as 99 calls countywide in 2020, completing the program's second year. The Eagle Valley Co-Responder Team was created to provide immediate and comprehensive behavioral health services to assist in keeping patients safe during a crisis. An expansion of mental health services provided by the Hope Center and Eagle Valley Behavioral Health, an outreach of Vail Health, allowed most mental health calls to be serviced immediately by a specialized mental health clinician. As a result, the Hope Center handled 384 direct calls for mental health assistance during the year. This collaborative approach to mental

HIGH PROFILE CASE DEMONSTRATES DEPARTMENT'S CAPABILITIES

The department's approach to investigations, which has emphasized continuous training in multiple disciplines as well as working with law enforcement partners to expand resources, helped bring a high-profile case to the forefront. After allegations arose of possible improprieties involving the town's IT director following his resignation in 2018, a complex, 18-month investigation exposed an elaborate scheme to defraud taxpayers over a six-year period. Working directly with federal authorities and the district attorney on the investigation, multiple charges, including

Get Help now+

Are you or someone you love in need of help?

EXTREME RISK

CALL 9-1-1 NOW
Requires immediate emergency assistance

MODERATE RISK

If you or a loved one are experiencing emotional distress or suicidal thoughts, call:

The Hope Center Hotline (970) 306-4673 Colorado Crisis Center (844) 493-8255

LOW RISK

EagleValleyBH.org
Find local therapists for yourself or others

health calls, where some resources are reallocated so that police are accompanied by clinicians when responding to mental health calls, addresses the national call for police reform or "defunding the police" that was so prevalent in 2020. The Eagle County program will enter its third year of operation in 2021.

2020 COMMUNITY SURVEY RESULTS

Ratings are based on a 5-point scale, with 5 being "very satisfied"

Overall feeling of safety and security
4.7
4.6 in 2018

Overall quality of service
4.5
4.4 in 2018

Confidence in the Police Department
4.5
4.4 in 2018

Appropriate presence of police on foot/vehicle patrol
4.4
4.3 in 2018

FINANCE



Monday with a limited menu for from 11:30am - 7:30pm. Order and take it to go, no eat on the patio but you must dispose of your own trash and understand that we are not allowed to serve you in any way, or we will be in violation of the State of Colorado's Closure Order.

We must comply with State of CO & CDC restrictions on group sizes - for this reason, you may be asked to wait outside for your order.

OUR BAR IS CLOSED. We are not allowed to serve you beverages while you are waiting for your order.

Please do not enter if you are not feeling well, have been exposed to COVID-19, or have recently traveled to a foreign country.

Thank you for understanding and helping keep our staff and our mountain community safe!

March 2020

Photo by Dominique Taylor



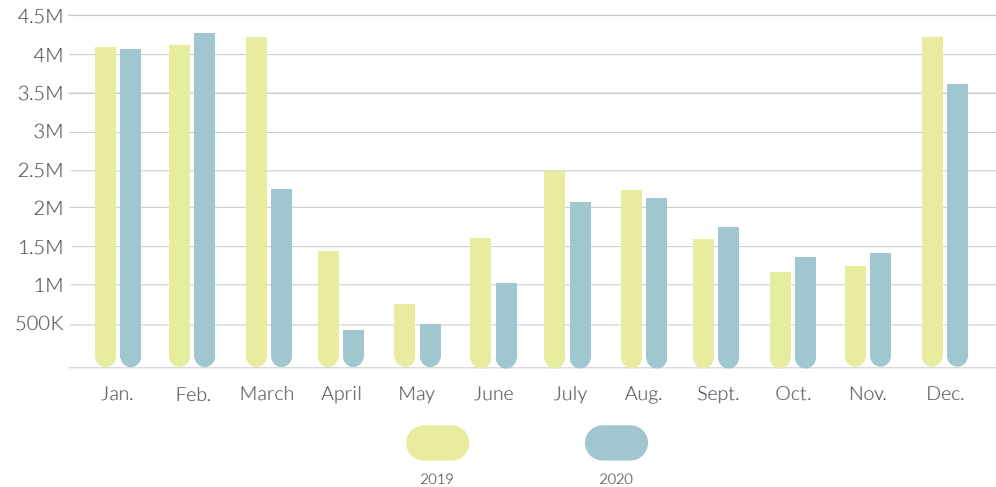
December 2020

Photo by Dominique Taylor

SALES TAX

After a steady start to the year, sales tax collections were hit hardest in March and April. Combined, these months were down \$3 million or approximately 53% from 2019. May and June lagged, with collections down 35%. With outdoor music activations and a strong drive market, July saw improvement, down 16%. By September, the town experienced record sales with each month through November up 10% or more from the prior year. Due to increased cases of the virus during the early winter impacting visitation, December sales tax showed a 19% decrease from 2019. In total, sales tax collections for 2020 experienced a 15% reduction, or \$4.3 million decline from 2019. This impact is similar to the Great Recession in 2009 when sales tax collections were down 14%, yet a marked improvement from budgeted expectations of a 23% decline in sales tax.

Vail Sales Tax Collections 2019 vs 2020



The mid-March shutdown resulted in a 47% decrease in what is traditionally one of the town's largest collection months. By late summer, collections rebounded with three consecutive months of record growth. With a return to cold season and reliance on destination markets, December ended the year down 19%.

RETT

Real Estate Transfer Tax collections surpassed all expectations with a record number of real estate purchases. RETT collections for 2020 total \$10.3 million, an increase of 47% from 2019. 66% of the real estate sales were priced over \$2.5 million.

14 PROPERTIES

\$10M

31 PROPERTIES

\$5-10M

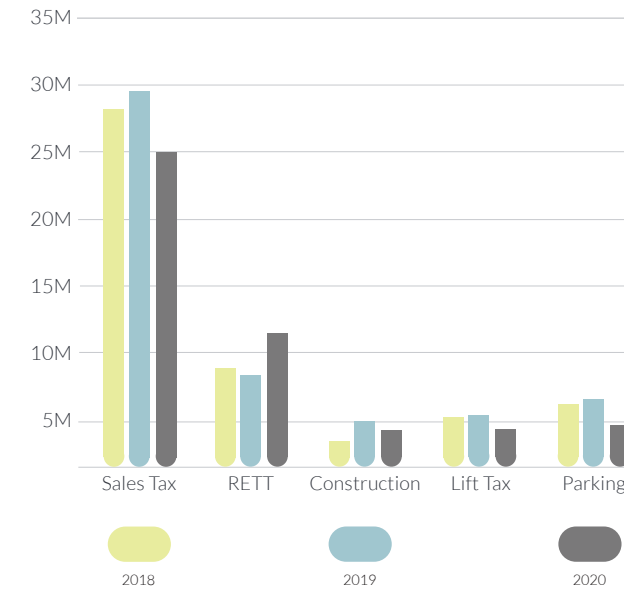
61 PROPERTIES

\$2.5-5M

326 PROPERTIES UNDER

\$2.5M

Major Sources of Revenue



Across all funds, total revenues for the town were down 7% from 2019, or \$5.1 million. Hardest hit from the pandemic was Sales Tax, down 15%, or \$4.3 million; parking revenue down 28%, or \$1.9 million; and Lift Tax down 21%, or \$1.1 million. Increases in RETT helped to offset the losses, with collections of \$10.3 million, up 47%, or \$3.3 million from the prior year.

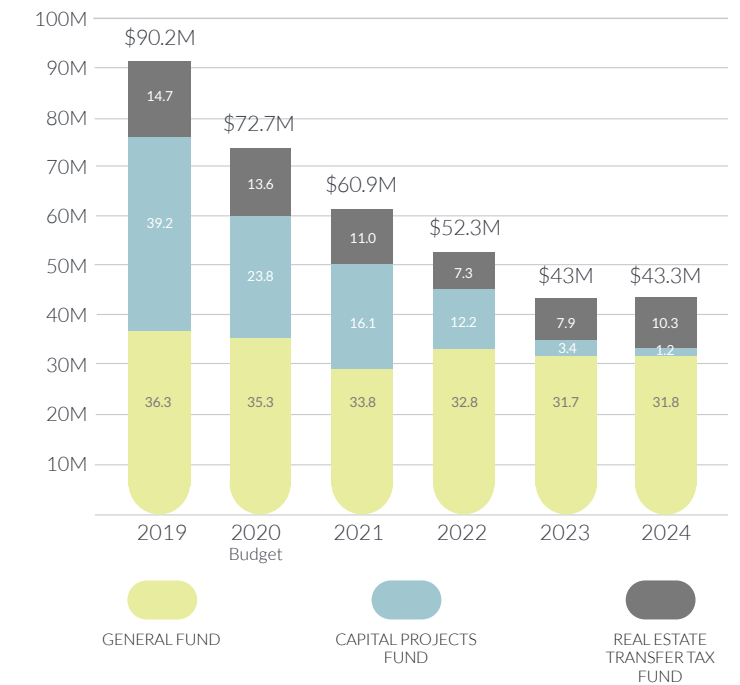
CONSTRUCTION ACTIVITY

Construction Use Tax collections of \$2.1 million were down 16%, or \$390,000 from 2019. Other construction related revenues of \$1.9 million in 2020 were down 23%, or \$593,000 from 2019. The majority of construction activity was related to residential projects totaling 880, compared to 91 commercial or mixed-use projects.

RESERVES

Available reserves remain healthy at a projected \$72.7 million at the end of 2020, but down 19%, or \$17.5 million from the prior year. A majority of reserves were used to continue large capital projects already underway. Through cost-saving measures of \$3.2 million, sales tax collections exceeding expectations and support from the federal CARES Act of \$2.8 million, the town was able offset revenue losses of \$5.3 million while providing \$2.7 million in relief to the community and local business and retaining reserves for future years.

Town of Vail Reserves | History and Projection



Reserves available for spending are projected to be \$72.7 million at the end of 2020, down 19% from 2019. Reserves were mainly used to continue capital projects and in support of Town Council Action Plan goals.



March 2020



August 2020

FINANCE

RECESSION PLANS ACTIVATED

With stay-at-home orders and business closures taking place in March, Town Council immediately implemented the town's 6-level recession plan, with 6 being the worst, in anticipation of a decline in sales tax collections, the town's largest revenue source. The budget was adjusted to the third level, "**Significant**," in March based on a projected 14.5% decrease in revenues, or nearly \$10 million less than the 2020 original budget. By June, Town Council directed staff to move to the fourth level, "**Crisis**," anticipating a 21% decrease in revenues, or \$15.3 million. Each level included a combination of expenditure cuts and use of reserves to offset revenue impacts.

FINANCIAL RELIEF FOR OUR COMMUNITY

Sales Tax Payment Relief

Nearly 350 businesses took part in postponing payment of sales taxes owed to the town when Town Council authorized two extensions to help with business cash-flow. The \$2.5 million in deferred payments from the 4% tax was repaid by the Aug. 20 deadline.

Vail Community Relief

After setting aside a half million dollars, the town awarded \$375,000 to 15 organizations through its Vail Community Relief Fund. The remaining funds were allocated to continue community relief in 2021. *See page 7*

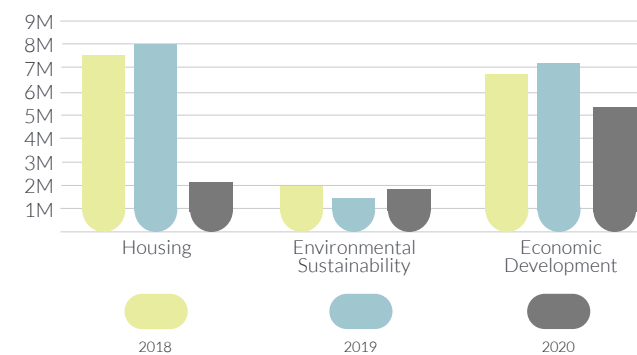
Commercial Rent Relief

A \$1 million commercial rent relief program was created to support local storefront businesses from August to November with relief not to exceed \$15,000 per business. Fourteen businesses were approved for the relief. To expand the impact to even more businesses, the relief was restructured in 2021 to a broader business relief grant program.

PRIORITY SPENDING

Despite the pandemic, Town Council remained focused on the Council Action Plan with continued investment in housing, environmental sustainability and economic development, although spending decreased 44%, or \$7.4 million, compared to 2019. Investment in housing programs, which included the purchase of deed restrictions through the Vail InDEED program, totaled \$2.1 million in 2020, down \$5.9 million. Much of the decline is due to a 2019 housing investment of \$4.1 million for deed restrictions at the Solar Vail project. Environmental sustainability spending totaled \$1.8 million, up \$400,000 from 2019 due to streambank mitigation projects. Economic development spending was dramatically altered during 2020 with the cancellation of large-scale music events. Reimagined events and small outdoor music activations throughout the villages helped to sustain the local economy. Summer marketing and events spending totaled \$5.3 million, down 25% or \$1.8 million from 2019 with reductions in marketing to destination guests and greater focus on the drive-market.

Priority Spending



A decrease in spending for housing programs in 2020 reflects a one-time investment for Solar Vail Apartments spent in 2019, plus fewer Vail InDEED purchases. Special event spending was reduced by \$1.9 million compared to 2019.

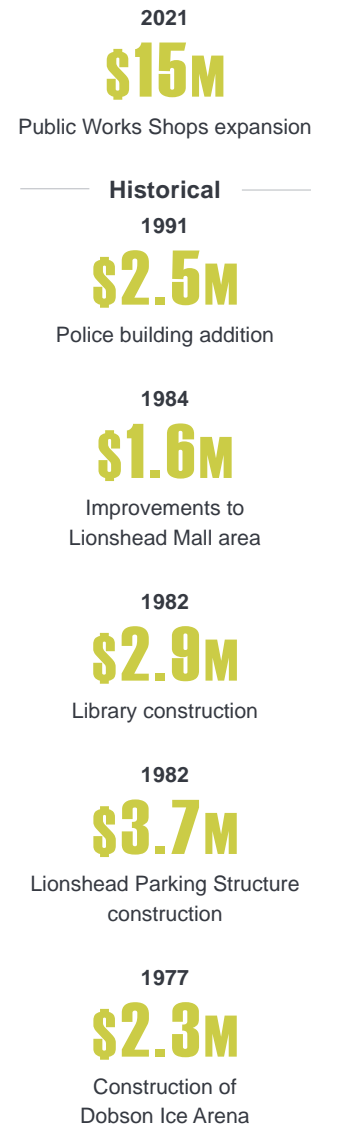
PUBLIC WORKS PROJECT FINANCING

While temporarily suspended earlier in 2020 due to economic concerns, the Public Works Shops expansion project finished the planning, design and entitlement process in 2020. The project will begin construction in 2021, with a total budget of \$19.6 million of which \$15 million will be financed. Due to historic low interest rates, in early 2021 Town Council approved the financing at 1.76% interest for a 15-year direct lease arrangement. Total interest cost over the life of the loan will be \$2.2 million, although the town may pay off the debt early without penalty after 2025. The town will save \$3.4 million by financing the project rather than waiting until able to cash fund. It also frees up valuable town reserves for future economic uncertainty and smaller capital projects. This is the first project to be financed by the town since 1991, except for re-financing activities and Vail Reinvestment Authority debt.

About the Project

The Public Works Shops building was built in 1979 and this project has been identified as a need in the town's long-term capital plan for over six years. Expansion of service levels over the past 40 years has surpassed the capacity of the current space, causing growing concerns about safety, efficiency and functionality. This first phase of the project includes an expansion of the shop building to house heavy equipment as well as remodels of the office area, break room and locker rooms. To accommodate the improvements, the shop yard will be expanded by excavating into the hillside for safer flow of vehicle traffic. It is the largest capital project the town has undertaken in recent years, excluding grant-funded Sandstone Underpass project and the multi-year streetscape improvements constructed in the mid-2000s.

TOWN OF VAIL DEBT



VAIL LOCAL MARKETING DISTRICT



Photo by Dominique Taylor

March 2020



Photo by Jack Affleck

August 2020

MARKETING IN A COVID-19 WORLD

The Vail Local Marketing District got creative when the pandemic hit, modifying target markets, approach and messaging. The “Find what you’ve been missing” campaign resonated with Vail aficionados who primarily hailed from origins within a 10-hour driving distance. September and October were record breaking months for sales and lodging tax collections, proving that not even a global pandemic will keep Vail loyalists away.

VAIL

FIND WHAT YOU'VE BEEN MISSING

With stunning mountain vistas, exhilarating outdoor activities and a Bavarian-inspired village full of world-class shopping and dining, Vail is where you can live a life full of endless possibilities and find the freedom to explore what you've been missing.

DISCOVERVAIL.COM

ENHANCED DATA DRIVEN MARKETING

The Vail Local Marketing District was established in 1998 to market Vail as a premier international mountain resort destination and focuses on driving visitation during the non-wintertime period, May to October. The effort is funded by a 1.4% lodging tax approved by voters in 1999. Members of the Vail Town Council serve as the VLMD with guidance provided by a voluntary advisory board and staffed by the town’s economic development department.

The Vail Local Marketing District continued a significant shift in strategy during the year to focus on building an owned database to target known guests more actively. A new Wi-Fi gating was put in place for the town’s free Vail Wi-Fi, allowing the VLMD to gain a better understanding of the Vail guest. Since its launch in mid-March, the database has grown to over 30,000. This has enabled the VLMD to create a direct relationship with Vail’s guests, including post visit surveys to better understand the guest experience.

INDEPENDENT & COMPLEMENTARY

The shift toward an independent online presence, free from reliance on **Vail.com** and Vail Resorts, resulted in the new **DiscoverVail.com** website, which was launched in March. The two websites are meant to complement one another, with cross linking to Vail mountain information on **Vail.com** and comprehensive Vail content on **DiscoverVail.com**.



Photo by Jack Affleck

YEAR-ROUND MARKETING OPPORTUNITY

With the evolving marketing focus of Vail Resorts toward their Epic Pass, the VLMD is evaluating the need for a more consistent year-round marketing effort to draw guests to Vail. With the continual and robust online presence of **DiscoverVail.com**, Vail now has a powerful tool to provide comprehensive information to visitors of all types. With growing independence and self-sufficiency of its efforts, the VLMD is evaluating the potential of a steady presence for the destination on a year-round basis and is considering financial models to support such an effort.

GROWING RELATIONSHIPS WITH LODGING COMMUNITY

The District recognizes the contributions of the lodging community to its marketing efforts. Consequently, the VLMD identified the need for a dedicated lodging professional to work closely with the lodging community on marketing and other efforts. The **DiscoverVail.com** website launched with a comprehensive lodging search engine which allows users to book their reservations online directly with Vail lodging properties. Each lodge can provide a listing, free of charge, with the individual property paying no commission on leads or reservations. The VLMD carries the ongoing operational cost of the booking platform.

VLMD lodging tax revenue totaled \$3 million for 2020, down 18.3% from 2019 but up 26.9% compared to the amended budget of \$2.6 million.



Photo by Jack Affleck



In a year interrupted by a global pandemic, the Vail community made impressive progress on key environmental sustainability goals.

SUSTAINABILITY



Photo by Dominique Taylor

RECORD RECYCLING AT HARD TO RECYCLE EVENT

A rescheduled, drive-through Hard to Recycle event in July saw record turnout as over 15 tons of household hazardous waste, electronic waste and paper to be shredded was accepted and recycled. This was the largest volume ever collected in Vail and greater than the total from two hard to recycle events in 2019, combined.

HEAVY TRAILS USE

Trails throughout Vail experienced heavy use during 2020 as residents and visitors took to the outdoors during the pandemic. Booth Lake trail had the heaviest use with an overall increase of 40% compared to summer 2019, prompting the town and its partners to host cleanup efforts in the fall.

GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS

The pandemic shifted the workplace for numerous town employees who worked from home for part of the year. This resulted in an estimated 38.5% decrease in commuter miles or the equivalent of:

- Removing **111** vehicles from the road for 1 year
- Reducing energy used in **59.2** homes for 1 year
- Reducing **57,729** gallons of gas consumed
- Carbon sequestered by **670** acres of forest per year



Photo from Colorado Parks and Wildlife

BIGHORN SHEEP COLLAR STUDY WITH CPW

Colorado Parks and Wildlife began the first scientific research study of the East Vail bighorn sheep herd in more than two decades in 2020. The objective of this study is to characterize the seasonal distribution, migratory movements and habitat selection patterns of bighorn sheep in the Gore Range data analysis unit, which includes the Gore-Eagles Nest and Gore Canyon game management units. Understanding these two herds' use of the landscape is instrumental for making wildlife and land management decisions aimed at perpetuating the bighorn population; maintaining or improving the condition of its habitat; and protecting critical seasonal ranges such as winter and lambing areas. CPW aims to collar 15 sheep with the study extending for several years. The town has provided land and access for the traps and will continue to provide support through 2021.

FUELS REDUCTION/WILDLIFE MITIGATION

Project work began in earnest in 2020 on the landscape-scale fuels reduction project as the town entered into a cost-share agreement with the U.S. Forest Service and contracted with SE Group of Frisco to conduct the field work analysis and public scoping required by the National Environmental Policy Act. This effort has the combined benefits of reducing wildlife risk to the community and enhancing the habitat for the East Vail bighorn sheep herd. It includes 4,400 acres of mountain shrub slopes from the Red Sandstone area to East Vail, of which 1,500 acres are part of the Holy Cross wilderness area. The project proposal aims to employ several tools; prescribed burn, mechanical treatment, and manual pruning of shrubs, and will be reviewed as a full Environmental Assessment under the NEPA process for appropriateness, with public comment period beginning in spring 2021.



E-BIKE SHARE PILOT PROGRAM

Vail implemented a neighborhood-based electric bike share program from July 1 through Sept. 9. The goal was to determine community interest and feasibility of implementing a full-scale e-Bike share program in Vail as a micro-mobility option for residents and employees to reduce the number of single occupancy vehicles traveling in town during non-snow months. The program resulted in 189 unique users logging 518 rides and riding 2,062 miles using the e-Bike share for commuting purposes. The e-Bike share provided an outdoor, socially distanced alternative to taking the bus, which had limited capacity due to COVID-19 restrictions.

SUSTAINABILITY

RESTORE THE GORE

Macro Scores

Gore Creek and Red Sandstone Creek both showed marked progress on water quality. Three sites on Gore Creek posted their highest scores ever and all four sites on Red Sandstone Creek exceeded state standards for aquatic life for the first time. These aquatic life numbers indicate that the effort to Restore the Gore through broad community support and cooperation is showing tangible results.

Red Sandstone Creek Bug Score

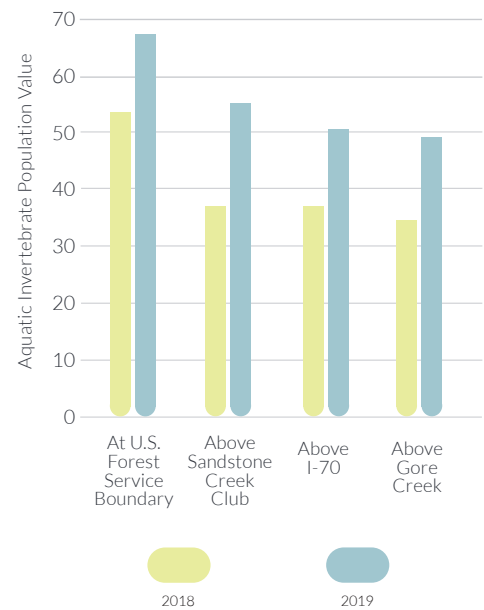


Photo by Jack Affleck

RIPARIAN RESTORATION

Through several volunteer projects and Town of Vail staff plantings, over 15,000 native trees and shrubs have been planted along Gore Creek since 2016 as part of an extensive riparian restoration project through the Restore the Gore initiative.



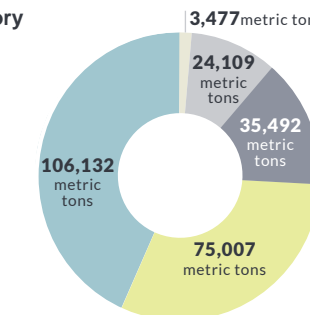
CLIMATE LEADERSHIP RECOGNITION BY CDP

Vail was recognized as one of 88 cities across the globe that continue to lead on environmental action. Vail's "A" list rating for 2020 was awarded by CDP Cities, a global emissions reporting platform. This was the first time the town had achieved the climate leader rating. To score an A, a city must disclose publicly and have a citywide emissions inventory, have set an emissions reduction target and published a climate action plan. It must also complete a climate risk and vulnerability assessment and have completed a climate adaptation plan to demonstrate how it will tackle climate hazards now, and in the future.

Vail conducted its first communitywide greenhouse gas inventory in 2020, signed onto the Climate Action Plan for the Eagle County Community in 2018 and participated in the development of the Eagle County Community Resilience Plan in 2019. These actions, along with other energy efficiency measures, contributed to Vail earning an A score.

Town of Vail GHG Inventory CO2e by Category

- Commercial Energy
- Transportation & Mobile Sources
- Residential Energy
- Solid Waste
- Water & Wastewater



SUSTAINABLE DESTINATION RECERTIFICATION & GLOBAL RECOGNITION

Preparations for a recertification process were undertaken during the year to retain Vail's distinction as a Sustainable Destination under the Mountain IDEAL standard authorized by the Global Sustainable Tourism Council. Recertification requires the town and its partner stakeholders to meet and maintain progress on 44 sustainability criteria in categories including destination management, planning, community and culture, and environmental resources. The town completed the recertification audit process in December. Preliminary results indicate Vail will achieve recertification.



The Vail community was honored with the 2020 'Best in Americas' Award for continued progress made toward waste diversion in a mountain resort community. Vail currently has a 29% diversion rate for municipal solid waste, recycling and compost. The award was presented by Green Destinations, a global non-profit foundation promoting sustainable tourism. Category winners and finalists were selected by a panel of experts representing 12 international organizations. The Vail destination was also recognized as a Top 100 Sustainable Destination in the world in 2020. Vail has been recognized as a Top 100 sustainable destination each year since 2017.



LIBRARY

February 2020



October 2020

COVID-19 | DELIVERY OF ESSENTIAL SERVICES

Deemed an essential service, Vail Public Library served its patrons in extraordinary ways during the pandemic, following the protocols provided by Eagle County Public Health for the safe use of public spaces. After a two-and-a-half month building closure which necessitated implementation of a curbside pickup program, the library reopened for in-person services in June and has continued operations from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. daily. The following steps were taken to prioritize the health and safety of the community:

- In-person services inside the library building were limited to one hour daily for returns, browsing, checkout and computer use. There is a maximum number of patrons and staff allowed in the building at one time as determined by public health protocols.
- Seating areas, children's room, community room, study room and Tech Studio remained closed.
- Masks and social distancing have been required of all patrons and staff, gloves are required for use in the periodical lounge.
- The after-hours book drop at the front of the library remains open. Patrons are asked to return materials to the book drop or the cart in the library Galleria. Appropriate isolation and disinfecting procedures are completed before returning items to circulation.

Even during a pandemic, the library successfully provided diverse services and materials to patrons and libraries throughout the state. In particular, the library's virtual collections, which feature downloadable books, audios, movies, periodicals and streaming online resources, were increasingly more popular in 2020 as patrons enjoyed these materials from the safety of their homes.

VIRTUAL PROGRAMMING

Story Time and Kids Create programs swiftly pivoted to virtual and "Take & Make" activities during the pandemic highlighting the staff's creativity, resourcefulness and commitment to the library's young patrons with programming originating from the homes of staff members via Facebook Live. Within a month of the pandemic, staff began offering virtual classes via Zoom for Gentle Yoga on Mondays and Wednesdays. Yoga became so popular that a third class was added on Fridays. Zumba fitness was every Monday evening and virtual Books 'n Bites discussions were held once a month.

CURBSIDE PICKUP

Beginning April 22, the library began offering curbside pickup service. Materials were selected using the online catalog at vaillibrary.com and placing a hold on the items. Staff then made an appointment for items to be picked up. Patrons received their materials outside the front doors with social distancing in place.

ONE BOOK ONE VALLEY

In celebration of the 10th year anniversary of the countywide community reading initiative, One Book One Valley, staff successfully applied for a National Endowment for the Arts Big Read grant through Arts Midwest. The library was awarded \$9,150 to be used toward purchasing books for the community, marketing, programming and the Finale Author event.

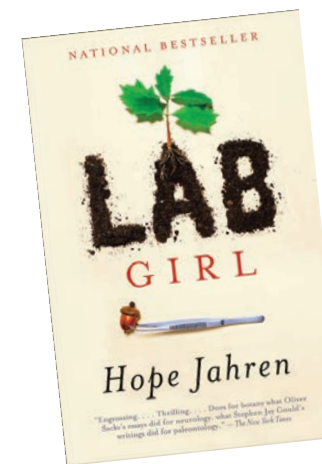


Photo by Dominique Taylor

2020 COMMUNITY SURVEY RESULTS

61%

Have a library card in the Town of Vail
64% in 2018

79%

Are "very satisfied" overall with Vail Public Library
73% in 2018

2020 LIBRARY STATS

23,735

Physical items circulated

22,292

Electronic materials circulated

65,182

Visitors to the Library
124,771 in 2019

STORYWALK®

During the summer, the library applied for a CARES Act Grant so that it could make a StoryWalk® in Vail become a reality. It was the perfect time to introduce a new way in which families could engage safely with the library in the beautiful outdoors at Bighorn Park. The library was awarded \$7,500 for the StoryWalk® through the generosity of the Institute of Museum and Library Services through the Colorado State Library.

DIGITAL ARCHIVE INITIATIVE

The library's collection of digitized materials grows every year, including oral histories, transcripts, scanned photographs and various documents. New in 2020 was the creation of "History Nuggets," which are shorter, condensed snippets of a specific oral history. The newest addition to the library's digital initiative lives at the Colorado Historic Newspapers Collection, which has started digitizing the Vail Trail newspaper.



ART IN PUBLIC PLACES



December 2020

Fourteenth Annual Vail Winterfest Ice Installation

Photo by Dominique Taylor



Community Paper Lantern Display

December 2020

Photo by Dominique Taylor

FOURTEENTH ANNUAL VAIL WINTERFEST

Sponsored with Doe Browning

The Lantern Making Workshops and Lantern Walk did not occur as in the past, but the reimagined Fourteenth Annual Winterfest was a festive celebration continuing this beloved family tradition.

Highlighting community, connection, and unity, an installation of 20 illuminated ice sculptures representing lanterns from across the globe was installed on the Gore Creek Promenade. This picturesque setting allowed for a safe socially distanced art experience in our crisp mountain air. The variety of sculpted lanterns reflected Vail's presence as an international mountain resort community, showcasing influences from Vail's friendship cities including Yamanouchi, Japan; San Miguel de Allende, Mexico; and St. Moritz, Switzerland.

Premiering alongside the ice sculptures was an exhibition of over 100 lanterns created by Vail Mountain School first through fourth grade students. The International Bridge served as the perfect setting to display these hand painted lanterns representing our year-round Vail community.

Art in Public Places invited guests and residents to create their own lantern through video instruction with Alpine Arts Center. Complimentary lantern kits were provided through Art in Public Places. Lanterns were encouraged to be displayed on a designated shepherd hook placed in the four corner planter beds of the International Bridge or on social media.

"In its 14th year, the Vail Winterfest brings many together who use this magical background to document their holiday time in Vail. I'm grateful to have this opportunity to give back to Vail and salute AIPP for embracing this opportunity with perfect success."

~ Doe Browning, Former AIPP Chair & Winterfest Sponsor

SUMMER ART INSTALLATIONS

Art in Public Places commissioned two outdoor installations evoking a sense of joy, happiness and whimsy in 2020. The colorful installations by two Colorado artist collectives, The Ladies Fancywork Society and Jason T. Graves and Remington Robinson, brightened highly visible outdoor locations to be enjoyed in a safe and socially distanced setting.



Emilio Garcia with his work *In Praise of Shadows*

2020 AIPP CAPITAL PROJECTS

A hand carved wood installation within the main stairwell at the Golf and Nordic Clubhouse by Mexican artist Emilio Garcia Plascencia was added to the AIPP collection.



The Hatchery by Ladies Fancywork Society

LADIES FANCYWORK SOCIETY

The Ladies Fancywork Society adorned the front entrance and atrium of the Vail Public Library with a playful large-scale crocheted yarn installation titled *The Hatchery*. The crochet-creating friends began adorning unexpected objects in the dark of night with installations around Denver. Their work was noticed by many art enthusiasts, ultimately bringing the collective's creations to the forefront of the public art scene. Their fanciful acrylic yarn creations have been commissioned by the Denver Art Museum, as well as the Museum of Contemporary Art, while maintaining their street credibility with invitations to CRUSH WALLS in Denver's Rino district.

JASON T. GRAVES & REMINGTON ROBINSON

The painting duo Jason T. Graves and Remington Robinson enlivened the main entrance and top deck of the Vail Village parking structure throughout the summer with their large-scale signature style murals. Their creative concepts, precise pattern work, dramatic realism and soothing color theory result in art that is highly accessible to a broad range of tastes. With over 70+ murals they have created collaboratively and as individuals, Vail is delighted to share their work with the community. While the interior mural evokes a sense of movement and flow as you enter the structure, the large realistic murals of a *Summer and Winter Dahlia* reflect their traditional style.



Summer Dahlia in progress by Jason T. Graves and Remington Robinson



Photo by Dominique Taylor

December 2020

ONLINE RESOURCES



- vailgov.com
- vaillibrary.com
- artinvail.com
- lovevail.org
- vail-calendar.com
- vaileventparking.com
- maps.vailgov.com
- vailpermits.com
- vail911.com
- vailindeed.com
- vailsocial.com
- vailwildfire.com
- engagevail.com
- hikevail.net
- donovanpavilion.com
- grandviewvail.com
- solepower.org
- discovervail.com



- @vailgov
- @vailtowncouncil
- @vailfire
- @vailpolice



- @townofvail
- @vailPD
- @vailfire
- @vailpubliclibrary
- @EVSolePower
- @discovervailco



Nextdoor



- @vailgov
- @vailfiredept
- @vailcopolice
- @vail_public_library
- @restoregorecreek
- @EVSolePower
- @discovervailco



vail 8150



Vail Town Council
Vail Board Meetings



EXCLUSIVE VEHICLE
TOWN OF VAIL



TOWN OF VAIL

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Vail, Colorado 81657

vailgov.com

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