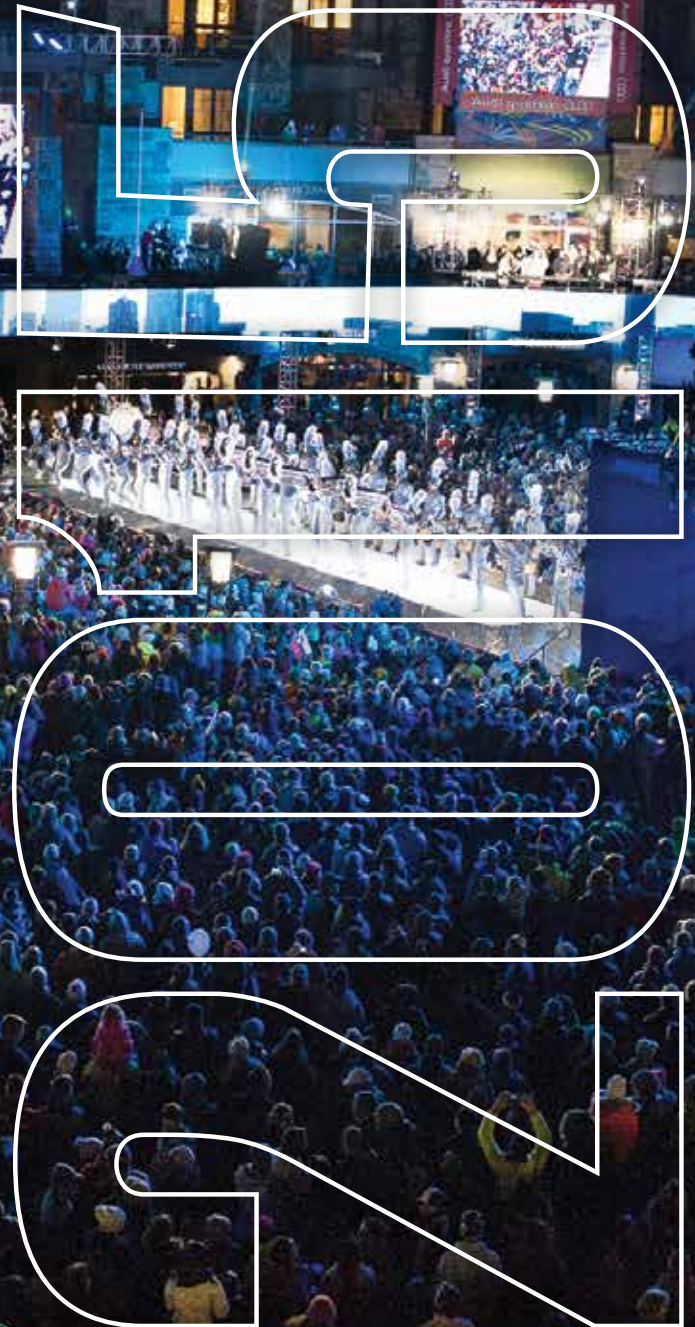


TOWN OF VAIL YEAR IN REVIEW | 2015



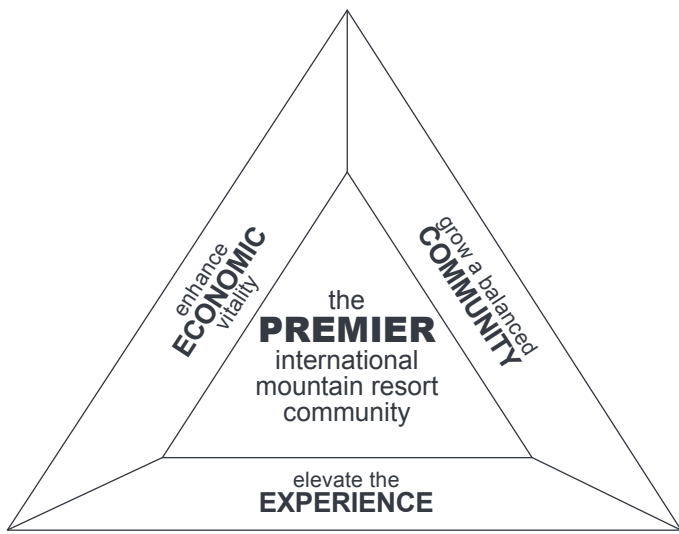
Looking Back – Looking Forward
Resort Benchmarks
New Events Leading the Way
Taking Care of Community Needs



2015 FIS Alpine World Ski Championships - February 2-15, 2015

Over 200,000 spectators with capacity crowds at Championships Plaza

Estimated 800 million worldwide television viewers in 27 nations



This report is presented within three areas of focus used to prioritize town resources. Learn what the Vail Town Council and staff have been doing to keep Vail in a leadership position as the Premier International Mountain Resort Community.

- W** **Enhance Economic Vitality** Pages 4 - 13
Keeping us at the forefront of our resort competitors
- S** **Grow a Balanced Community** Pages 14 - 19
Expanding upon our community infrastructure and building capacity for future leaders
- M** **Elevate the Experience** Pages 20 - 23
Delivering on the promise, "VAIL. Like nothing on earth," in everything we do

A Remarkable Year

Big decisions and even bigger events capped a remarkable year for the community. Leading the way was Vail's participation in the 2015 FIS Alpine World Ski Championships, a proud moment that returned ski racing to Vail, showcased the community's spirited hospitality and drew worldwide attention. Major decisions aimed at maintaining Vail's competitiveness resulted in funding allocations for the I-70 Vail Underpass, an overhaul of the Vail Golf & Nordic Clubhouse and assistance in construction of the new Betty Ford Alpine Gardens Education Center. Other decisions acknowledged the value of environmental stewardship with the distribution of free reusable bags to support the Kick the Bag Habit program as well as a long-term commitment to restore Gore Creek. Also of community significance was approval of a master facilities plan for Vail Valley Medical Center which has cleared the way for a phased expansion of the hospital campus.

Perhaps the biggest decision of all came from Vail voters when two newcomers – Kim Langmaid and Jen Mason – were elected to the Town Council in November as well as two former members, Kevin Foley and Dick Cleveland. And for the first time since 2011, the community transitioned to a new mayor and mayor pro tem with Dave Chapin and Jenn Bruno, respectively, taking the leadership positions for the next two years, while recognizing the contributions of outgoing Mayor Andy Daly and Mayor Pro Tem Ludwig Kurz for providing a strong foundation for a bright future.

TIMELINE FOR 2015

JANUARY	FEBRUARY	MARCH	APRIL	MAY	JUNE
<p>Jan 6 Acquisition of one-bedroom housing unit at Vail Heights authorized by Town Council for \$200,000 <i>pg. 14</i></p> <p>Jan 15 Text to 911 becomes available via Vail Public Safety Communications Center <i>pg. 19</i></p>	<p>Feb 2 - 15 2015 FIS Alpine World Ski Championships at Vail and Beaver Creek <i>pg. 10</i></p> 	<p>March 3 - 7 Burton US Open Snowboarding Championships <i>pg. 10</i></p> <p>March 17 Vail Valley Medical Center Site Specific Redevelopment Master Plan approved by Town Council <i>pg. 13</i></p>  <p>March 31 Annual Community Meeting</p>	<p>April 12 Vail Public Safety Communications Center recognized as Colorado's 2015 Communications Center of the Year <i>pg. 19</i></p>	<p>May 1 I-70 Vail Underpass funding increase approved <i>pg. 12</i></p>  <p>May 15 Annual Clean Up Day</p> <p>May 21 - 24 Vail's exploratory visit to San Miguel de Allende <i>pg. 9</i></p>	<p>June 4 - 7 GoPro Mountain Games</p>  <p>June 11 Vail ART Pass program announced by Art in Public Places <i>pg. 23</i></p>  <p>June 28 - Sept 7 Vail Jazz Festival</p> 

Special Events | *pg. 10*



Jack Affleck

Vail Golf & Nordic Clubhouse Renovation | *pg. 15*



Rex Keep

I-70 Vail Underpass | *pg. 12*





Dave Chapin
Mayor
dchapin@vailgov.com



Jenn Bruno
Mayor Pro Tem
jbruno@vailgov.com



Dick Cleveland
dcleveland@vailgov.com



Kevin Foley
kfoley@vailgov.com



Kim Langmaid
klangmaid@vailgov.com



Jen Mason
jmason@vailgov.com



Greg Moffet
Town Manager
gmoffet@vailgov.com



Stan Zemler
Town Manager
szemler@vailgov.com

Celebrating Successes

After serving eight years as a member of the Town Council, including four years as mayor, Andy Daly presided over his last meeting on Election Day in November and was recognized for his many contributions. Among the successes during Daly's tenure included strengthening relationships with the town's partners, upgrading public facilities to complement the millions of dollars in private sector improvements, leveraging special events as an economic development tool with the 2015 FIS Alpine World Ski Championships as a crowning achievement, improving public safety with construction of the West Vail Fire Station, continued progress on the Restore the Gore Strategic Action Plan and leaving the town in the best financial shape it has ever been in with substantial reserves and no direct debt. Daly noted the town has an enormously capable and dedicated staff under the leadership of Stan Zemler, calling him one of the most respected town managers at any resort community in the western U.S. Also during the Election Day meeting, Margaret Rogers was recognized for her eight years of service on the Town Council, including her contributions to strengthen the town's focus on environmental stewardship, special events and the cultural arts.



Zach Mahone

Serving two terms as Vail's mayor, Andy Daly helped lead the effort to bring the 2015 FIS Alpine World Ski Championships to Vail and Beaver Creek.

It was well after the election that then-Mayor Pro Tem Ludwig Kurz would be recognized for his most recent service on the Town Council. Kurz had initially finished in a tie with Dick Cleveland in his bid for re-election. But once the overseas and active military ballots had been received and counted a week later, Cleveland had edged out Kurz to claim the fourth seat. Also finishing out his term on the Town Council was Dale Bugby who served two years.

2015

JULY	AUGUST	SEPTEMBER	OCTOBER	NOVEMBER	DECEMBER
<p>July 1 - Aug 5 Bravo! Vail Music Festival </p> <p>July 1 Kick the Bag Habit program becomes effective at Vail's grocery stores pg. 17</p> <p>July 27 - Aug 8 Vail International Dance Festival </p> <p>July 29 Ribbon cutting for Betty Ford Alpine Gardens Education Center pg. 20</p>	<p>Aug 4 Town Council votes to approve permanent ban on retail marijuana sales in Vail</p>	<p>Sept 4 Construction of Vail's new skatepark begins pg. 16</p> <p>Sept 9 Groundbreaking ceremony for new Vail Golf & Nordic Clubhouse pg. 15</p>	<p>Oct 10 West Vail Fire Station Open House pg. 18</p> <p>Oct 20 Town Council adoption of 2016 Town of Vail budget</p> <p>Oct 30 First phase of Lion's Ridge Apartment Homes opens to tenants pg. 14</p>	<p>Nov 3 Town Council Election pg. 3</p> <p>Nov 17 Transfer of leadership/ new mayor and mayor pro tem pg. 3 </p>	<p>Dec 15 Town Council approves one-year extension of Cornerstone Residences development plan</p> <p>Dec 15 Town Council reviews amendment to Lionshead Redevelopment Master Plan that will facilitate future redevelopment of Evergreen Lodge</p> <p>Dec 31 Fourth year in a row for record sales tax collections pg. 4</p>

Betty Ford Alpine Gardens Education Center | pg. 20



Courtesy of Betty Ford Alpine Gardens

LOOKING FORWARD TO 2016

Ribbon Cuttings

- Vail Skatepark, June 2016
- Vail Golf & Nordic Clubhouse, Fall 2016

Groundbreakings & Renovations

- I-70 Vail Underpass, April 2016
- Chamonix Neighborhood Site Work/Utilities, Spring 2016
- East Vail Fire Station Renovation, June 2016
- Booth Creek Park Renovation, Summer 2016

Priority Actions & Initiatives

- Restore the Gore Strategic Action Plan
- Fuels Reduction & Forest Health

ENHANCE ECONOMIC VITALITY

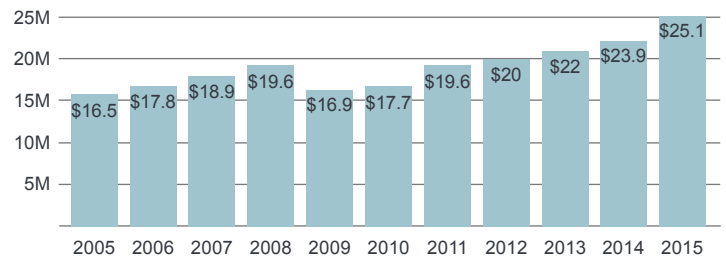


The Town of Vail had a solid year in 2015. Across all funds, year-to-date revenues totaled \$68.7 million, up 6.0% from the prior year, mainly due to record years in both sales tax and real estate transfer tax collections.

Sales Tax Success

Vail experienced record sales tax collections in 2015 for the fourth year in a row. The \$25.1 million in collections was a 5.3% increase from the prior year. Eleven of 12 months were record performance, again validating Vail's success with summer marketing, events across both seasons and increased average daily lodging rates. The most notable increase occurred during June, up 7.7% from 2014. August/September, combined due to Labor Day weekend, was up 7.5% while March and April were both up 7.0%, respectively. Sales tax typically makes up 40% of the town's annual revenue.

Sales Tax (\$ millions)



Sales tax collections are an important indicator of the resort community's overall economic health. With the exception of the recession years, Vail's sales tax collections have shown steady increases.

Real Estate Transfers

Real estate transfer tax (RETT) collections of \$7.0 million in 2015 were up 1.7% from the prior year. This represented the second year in a row for record collections after peaking in 2008. Larger commercial and residential sales helped to overcome a 2.3% decrease in base sales, or individual sales of less than \$2.5 million. The number of high-dollar sales of over \$2.5 million remained strong during the year ending with four more transactions from the prior year's record-setting activity. For example, during 2015 there were nine properties sold for over \$10 million, one more than 2014; 20 properties sold between \$5 and \$10 million, one fewer than 2014; and 46 properties sold between \$2.5 and \$5 million, four more than 2014. These high-end properties accounted for \$4.5 million, or 65% of the total RETT collections year-to-date.

New Businesses

Fifty new business licenses were processed by the town in 2015 including 16 new retail establishments, two new lodging/property management businesses, 13 food and beverage licenses and 19 in the "other" category. Vail collects an annual business license fee from all establishments which generated \$320,900 in 2015.

Vail Businesses by Category 2015 | Total - 580



Construction Activity

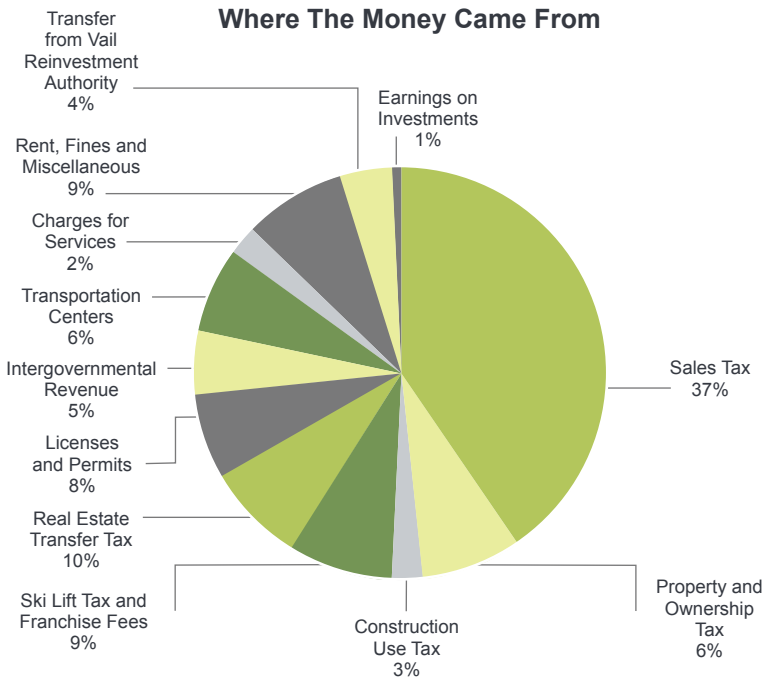
Town revenues from construction-related activity were down in 2015 compared with 2014 which was a record year since the peak in 2007. Construction use tax collections of \$2.2 million were up 23%, offset by construction permits and fees of \$1.9 million, down 25% from 2014.

Financial Transparency

User-friendly charts and graphs depicting the town's financial structure, spending trends and revenue sources will soon be available on the town's website. To learn more, visit vailgov.com/finance.

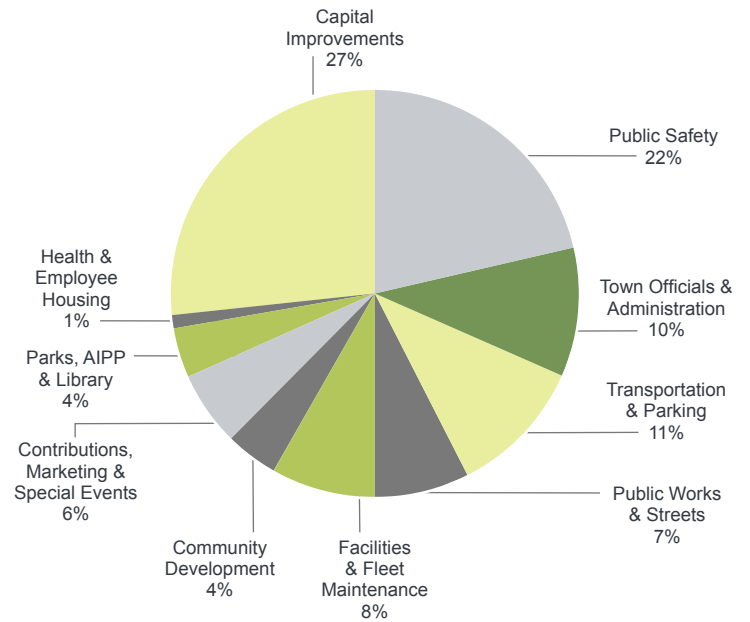
2015 Municipal Budget

Where The Money Came From



Taxes generated 65% of the town's \$68.6 million annual revenues in 2015, with sales tax making up the largest portion at 37%, real estate transfer tax at 10%, property and ownership tax at 6%, ski lift tax and franchise fees at 9% and construction use tax at 3%.

**Where The Money Went
Municipal Spending by Area**



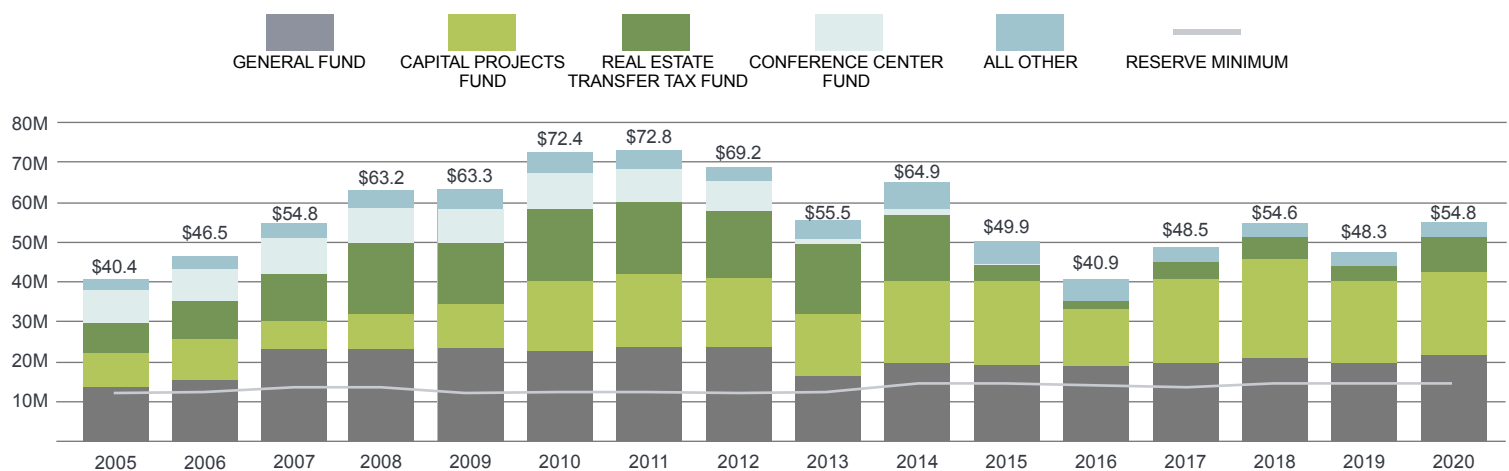
Municipal Services accounted for \$39.3 million, or 73% of 2015 expenditures, with the remaining 27% (\$14.3 million) spent on capital improvements.

Town Capacity for Funding Future Capital Projects with Reserves

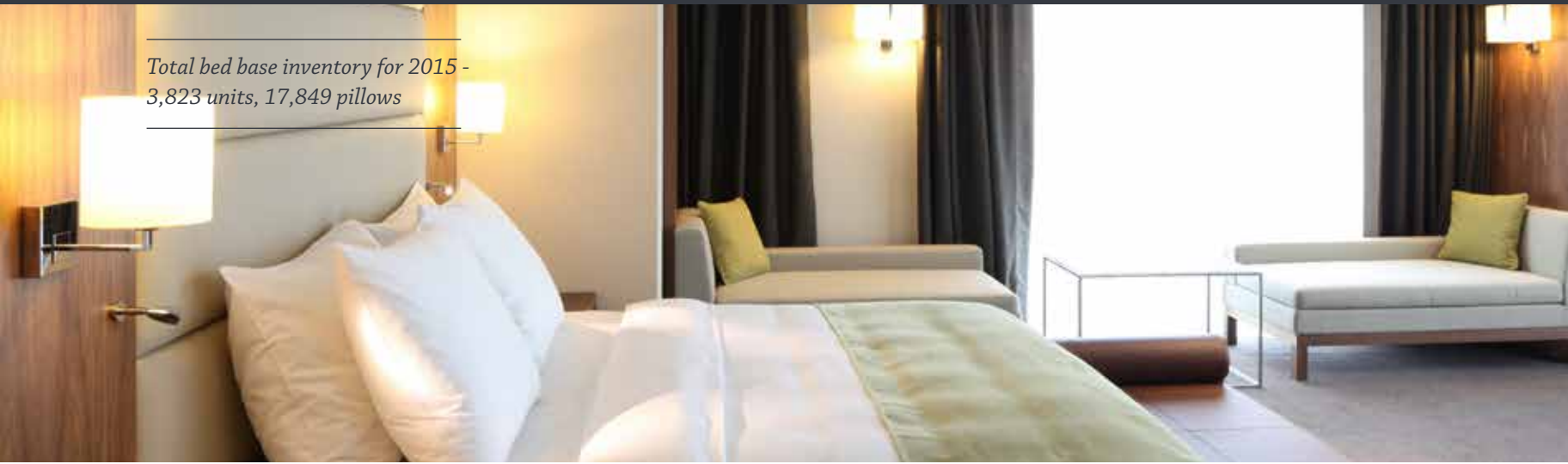
Town reserves were projected at \$50 million for year-end 2015 and could drop to \$40 million over the next few years when cash is used to fund large projects such as the Booth Creek Park redevelopment, the Vail Golf & Nordic Clubhouse, water quality projects, a remodel of the municipal building and neighborhood roads and bridges. Strong reserves have allowed the town to cash-fund major capital projects completed in the past few years rather than incur the financing costs associated with debt. Examples of past projects include construction of the West Vail Fire Station, renovation of the Main Vail Fire Station, redevelopment of the Ford Park Fields, redevelopment of the Vail Village Welcome Center, guest service enhancements, frontage road bike lanes and environmental improvements.

The town develops a five-year capital projects plan during each annual budget cycle. Future large projects are paid from the Capital Projects Fund and Real Estate Transfer Tax Fund where appropriate. Other than normal capital maintenance of municipal assets, the town will invest over the next five years in a renovation of the East Vail Fire Station, a remodel of Town Hall, Gore Valley Trail improvements, major storm water quality improvements and new pickleball courts at Golden Peak. Based on a Town Council policy directive, minimum reserves in the General Fund are never to drop below 25% of annual revenue streams, or approximately \$9.2 million. The town has been debt-free since December 2012.

Town of Vail Reserves: 10 Year History & 5 Year Projection



A hold on capital spending during the economic downturn, along with a healthy rebound in revenue resulted in a growth of reserve levels from 2010 to 2012. Over the last five years, cash funding of major capital improvements has utilized some of those reserves and kept the town debt-free, while maintaining balances well above the reserve minimum level adopted by the Town Council.



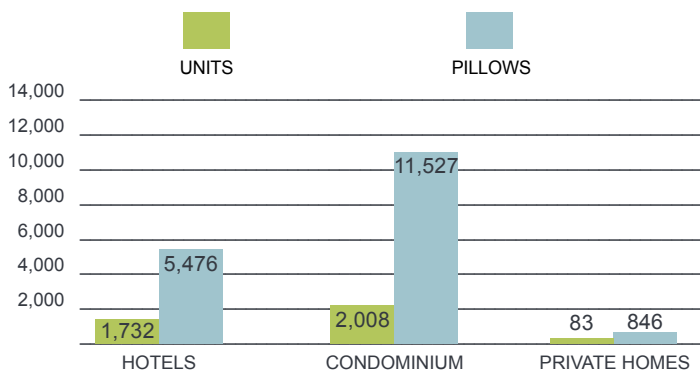
Total bed base inventory for 2015 - 3,823 units, 17,849 pillows

Vail's Evolving Bed Base and What it Means to the Local Economy

There has been a shift in Vail's bed base inventory with an increase in condominium units, a decrease in hotel rooms and a growing market for vacation home rentals. A study to identify changes in Vail's lodging inventory was commissioned by the town in 2015 to document Vail's existing lodging supply of short-term rentals. The DestiMetrics study shows an evolution in the mix of professionally-managed lodging properties when compared with inventories in 2009 and 2011. Condominium units are now the most prevalent property type in Vail today accounting for 2,008 units, or 53% of the inventory with two-bedroom units the most common, up from 1,793 condo units in 2009. Hotel units account for 1,732 units, or 45% of total inventory, down from 1,835 in

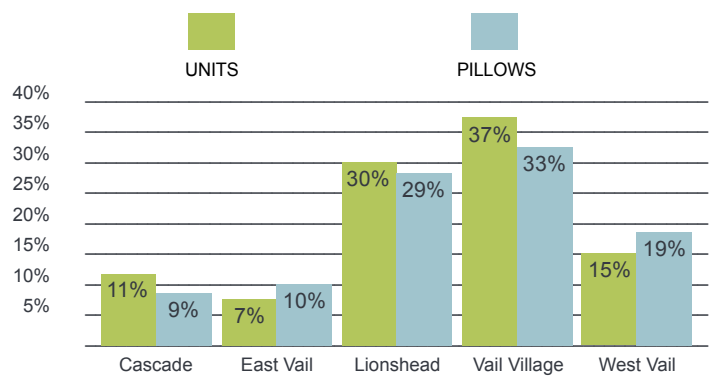
2009. The inventory also includes fractional ownership units in private homes, accounting for 2% of managed lodging properties today. Of those collective 3,823 units, 93% met the platinum or gold inspection standards as prescribed by the Lodging Quality Assurance Rating system administered by the Vail Valley Partnership. There were 199 units meeting the silver classification and no units in the bronze category. While difficult to quantify, the study also estimates a total of 1,035 rent by owner units in the mix today, up from an estimated 410 units in 2009, with the rate of growth now slowing. With this updated inventory, the information is being used to analyze bed base capacity and unit type as well as future opportunities.

Units & Pillows by Property Type as of 2015



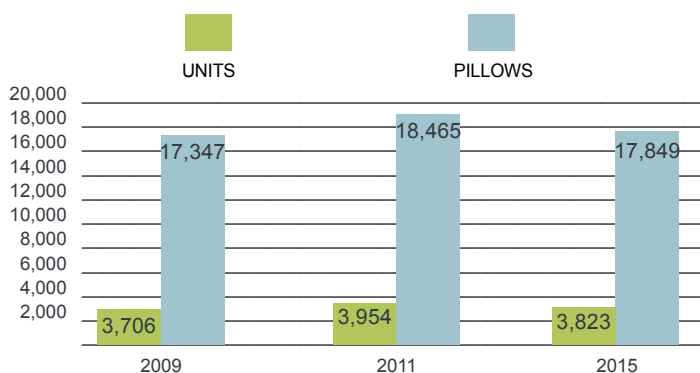
The inventory of professionally-managed units in Vail as of 2015 shows a higher number of condominium units and associated pillows when compared to hotel units. Private homes account for a small percentage of the inventory.

Units & Pillows by Location as of 2015



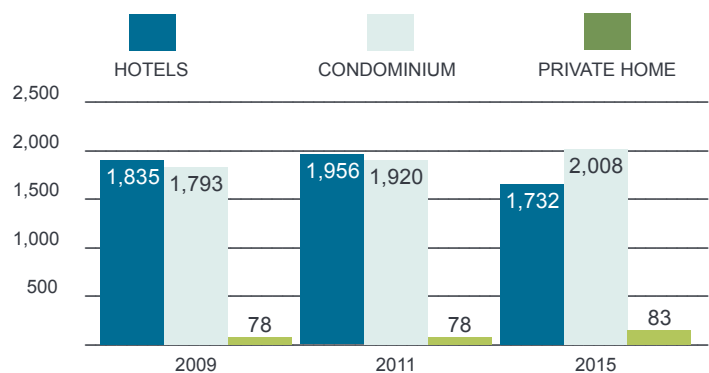
Vail's bed base inventory is largely concentrated in Vail Village and Lionshead, representing 67% of the units and 62% of the pillows, respectively. West Vail is the next largest area with a significantly smaller share of units and pillows.

Units & Pillows Comparison



A comparison of Vail's bed base inventory since 2009 shows an increase in the number of overall units and pillows. The number has fluctuated from 2011 to 2015 due to the temporary loss of inventory from two hotel properties.

Units by Type Comparison



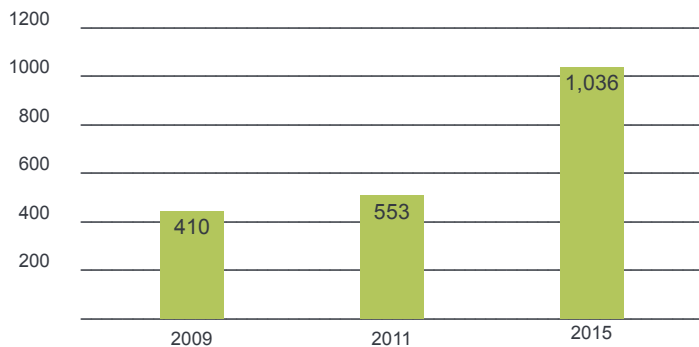
The number of condominium units has overtaken Vail's inventory of hotel units over the past five years. This comparison will change yet again with the opening of The Lion in 2016 and a future redevelopment of the Roost Lodge property.

Source: DestiMetrics

Rent by Owner Impacts

The impact of short-term rentals on the community hasn't been fully realized. On the one hand, these vacation home rentals listed on VRBO.com, HomeAway.com, Airbnb.com and other online sites have expanded Vail's bed base capacity offering additional pricing and availability options for guests. Conversely, these units have the potential to reduce the critical inventory of long-term rental housing for employees. A recent study on the impact of vacation home rentals in mountain communities by the Colorado Association of Ski Towns identified a series of best practices and suggested proactive measures be taken to regulate the industry to address lodging and sales tax collections, licensing and neighborhood nuisances, such as parking and noise.

Changes in Number of Units in Vail Listed on Rent By Owner Channels



The estimated number of rent by owner properties in Vail has more than doubled since 2009, according to the DestiMetrics bed base study.

Regulating Rent by Owners

In response to the explosive, innovative industry of rent by owners, the Town Council approved additional regulations in 2015 to address various equity issues identified by the lodging community. Since July 1, 2015, the new regulations have required short-term rental properties to post their Town of Vail sales tax account number in all advertisements of those rentals. Also, as of Jan. 1, 2016, all short-term rental properties in Vail renting more than 14 days per year are required to obtain an annual business license from the town regardless of the location of the business management office. Previously, management companies located outside of Vail were not required to obtain a business license. To date, more than 65 new business licenses have been issued as a result of the regulations, bringing the total number of RBO registrations in Vail to approximately 250. The town will continue to monitor RBO advertisements to ensure compliance. All short-term rentals less than 30 consecutive days are subject to sales and lodging taxes totaling 9.8%. For more information, visit vailgov.com/short-term-rentals.

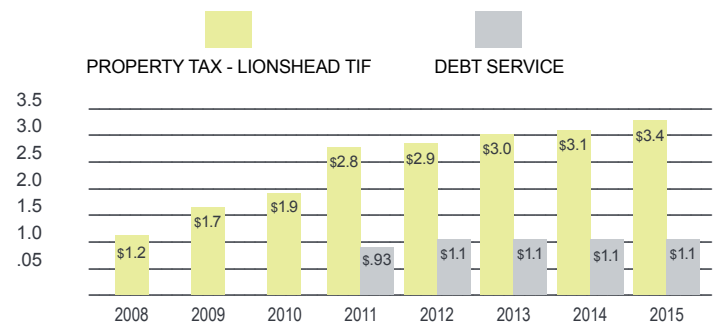
Short-Term Rental Taxes

State of Colorado	2.9%
Eagle County	1.0%
Eagle County Transportation	0.5%
Town of Vail	4.0%
Vail Local Marketing District - Lodging Only	1.4%
TOTAL	9.8%

Funding Capital Projects with Tax Increment Financing

For most communities, typical sources of funding for major capital projects are limited to debt or the use of reserves. However, due to a past Town Council's vision to create an urban renewal authority in 2004, a third option has been available. Tax increment financing (TIF) through the Vail Reinvestment Authority (VRA) has supported funding for projects that would have been more difficult to complete, or perhaps, not at all. The VRA is an urban renewal authority authorized under state statute to collect incremental property tax generated from redeveloped properties within the Lionshead area through 2030. VRA's TIF revenue can only be used for capital improvements within the Lionshead district. Bonds totaling \$11.9 million issued by the VRA in 2010 have paid for projects such as the Lionshead Transit Center, Lionshead Welcome Center, renovation of the Vail Public Library and the east and west portal entries into Lionshead. In addition to covering annual debt service on the bonds of approximately \$1.1 million, the VRA generates another \$2 million per year to use on other capital projects within the district. The Town Council will continue to work on a long-term capital plan for the district in the upcoming budget cycle, to ensure the best use of TIF funding until it sunsets in 2030, when the property tax increment will revert back to the original taxing entities.

Vail Reinvestment Authority Incremental Property Tax (millions)

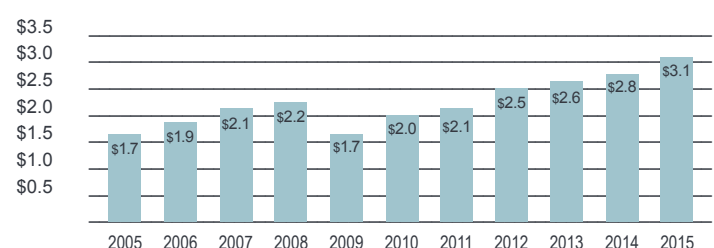


Property tax collections in the Lionshead VRA District have increased as major redevelopment projects in the area were completed, and as overall property values increase. Annual collections for 2015 were \$3.4 million. Debt service of approximately \$1.1 million is paid annually on the \$11.9 million bonds issued in 2010, with final repayment by 2030.

Lodging Tax Collections Reach All-Time High

Higher priced lodging inventory has not only positively impacted sales tax, but is reflected in record lodging tax collections. With newer inventory coming on line since 2005, lodging tax collections averaged an annual increase of 9% per year until the downturn in 2009. A post-recession rebound occurred with notable increases in 2010, up 14.6%; 2012, up 14.3%; and 2015, up 10.0%. The Lion, estimated for completion in 2016, is the only recent major redevelopment project since 2010.

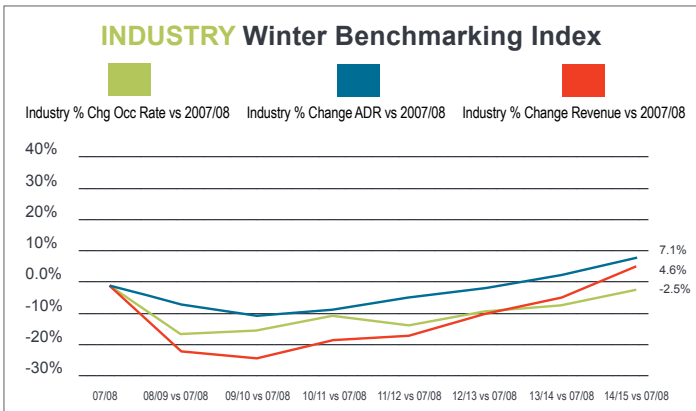
Lodging Tax (millions)



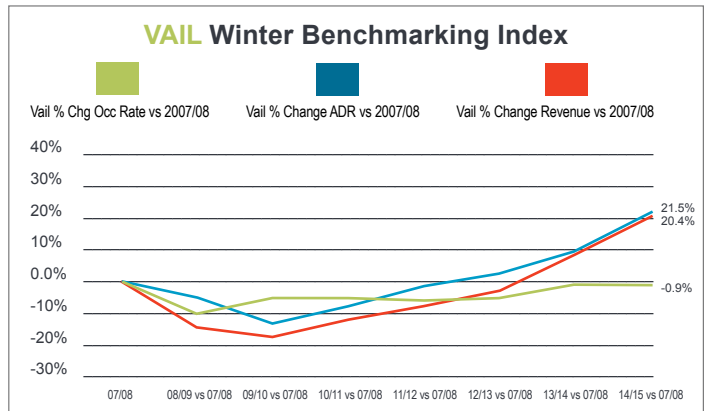


Benchmarking the Mountain Resort Industry

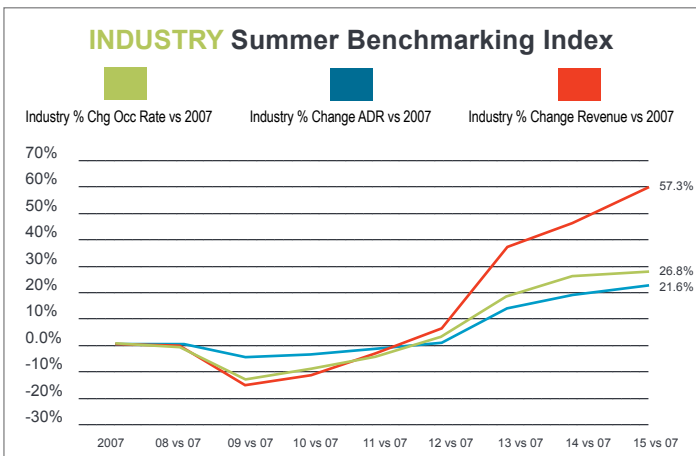
A resort industry benchmarking index prepared for the town is showing a trend for Vail's lodging industry that may be difficult to sustain long-term. The percentage increases in average daily rates are outpacing the industry in both summer and winter while occupancy is pacing behind the industry in both winter and summer. The benchmarking index by DestiMetrics compares annual lodging performance against the pre-recession year of 2007 and includes data from 24 properties in Vail representing 2,509 units, or 63% of Vail's bed base.



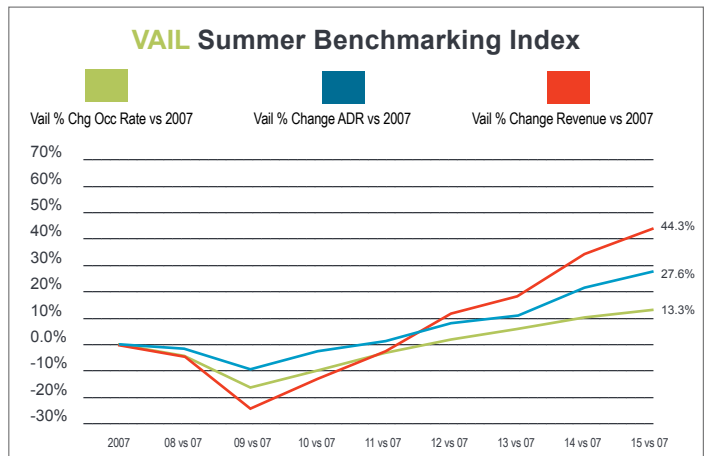
Changes in the industry's winter season metrics from 2007-08 to 2014-15 show both ADR and RevPAR exceeding the pre-recession benchmark, while occupancy rates did not keep pace.



Vail has outperformed the industry in all three metrics when comparing ADR, RevPAR and occupancy during the winter benchmark periods. A similar pattern of higher ADR and RevPAR performance is shown as well as lower occupancy rates.



Summer season industry benchmark comparisons show that occupancy, ADR and RevPAR significantly exceeded the lodging industry's pre-recession season in 2007.



Vail's summer ADR outperformed the industry, while occupancy and RevPAR lagged behind the industry benchmark. However, when compared with Vail's pre-recession summer of 2007, there were significant increases in all three metrics.

San Miguel de Allende is best known for its art and cultural influences. Historic buildings feature Colonial and Spanish architecture that date from the 17th and 18th centuries.



Sisterhood Agreement

A Vail delegation’s fact-finding trip in May to share information with counterparts in San Miguel de Allende, Mexico, resulted in a reciprocal visit in July where a new Sisterhood Agreement was crafted between the two resorts. Facilitated by Mayor Andy Daly, the one-year agreement outlines numerous partnerships, including educational, environmental and cultural exchanges, as well as identification of tourism and promotional opportunities. Most notably, San Miguel has become a popular destination for many of Vail’s Mexican guests and second homeowners and the potential for a lasting partnership with San Miguel is seen as an opportunity to further strengthen Vail’s relationship with its Mexican guests. The town has had a Sister Cities relationship with St. Moritz, Switzerland, since 1982. In 1997, a partnership was forged with Delatite Shire/Mt. Buller, Australia, which resulted in a series of student and employee exchanges.



The Town of Vail delegation meeting with representatives from San Miguel de Allende in their government offices.

Eagle Air Alliance Partnership

The Town of Vail has continued its role as a major funding partner to help guarantee non-stop flights at the Eagle County Airport from destinations such as Houston and Toronto as part of a public-private coalition funded by the EGE Air Alliance. While the town has been a funding partner since 2002, community efforts have failed to keep pace with the realities of airline industry consolidation, along with increased competition for flights from resort airports in Colorado and surrounding states. This has resulted in a decrease in available seats from 2007 to 2013 of nearly 100,000 available seats. To address this decline, efforts are in place to find new air carrier routes to replace available seat inventory from key feeder markets, including anticipated new winter service from Oakland, Calif., and Charlotte, N.C., in 2016-2017, which would result in over 8,500 new seats.

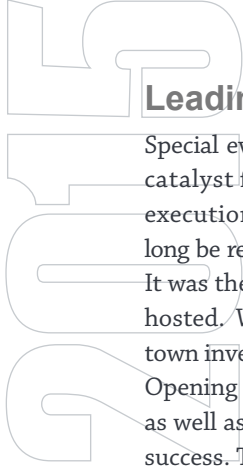


Courtesy of Eagle County Airport

Recent studies of passengers using the Eagle County Regional Airport identified an economic impact of more than \$225 million in annual visitor spending countywide.



Zach Mahone



Leading the Way with Special Events

Special events have become an increasingly important economic catalyst for Vail requiring strategic precision in planning and execution. The 2015 FIS Alpine World Ski Championships will long be remembered as the pinnacle of Vail's special events success. It was the largest, most impressive multi-day event Vail has ever hosted. Working closely with the Vail Valley Foundation, the town invested \$2.75 million over five years to help ensure that the Opening Ceremonies, nightly awards and related entertainment as well as the Nations Cup dual slalom at Golden Peak were all a success. The Championships exceeded expectations on all fronts with more spectators for a skiing championship event in U.S. history and a global broadcast viewership of 800 million in 27 nations. This international spotlight is projected to drive growth in international visitation to Vail for years to come.

Burton US Open

Expanding Vail's appeal to a new generation of snow sports enthusiasts has been an important consideration in bringing the Burton US Open Snowboarding Championships to Vail in 2013 after a 27-year run in Vermont. In 2015, the event saw some of the world's greatest snowboarders converge on Vail Mountain for four days of intense competition and family fun. The town again provided \$400,000 in sponsorship money for the third year. According to an independent analysis, the event's return on investment included \$3 million-plus in direct economic impact from attendees and over 1 billion media impressions world-wide.

Courtesy of Burton US Open



Diverse Events Calendar

Twenty-eight events received support from the town in 2015 with allocations of \$850,000 recommended by the Commission on Special Events and approved by the Town Council. The largest allocation, \$85,000, was awarded to support the GoPro Mountain Games. The allocations included three newly-funded events. Funded at \$15,000, the FIPS Mouche World Youth Fly Fishing Championships made its American debut in August as a preview to the World Fly Fishing Championships that will be hosted in Vail in 2016. Receiving \$55,000 and capitalizing on the new Ford Park athletic fields, the annual Kick-It 3v3 Soccer event doubled in size from a regional invitational event to a national championship. Funded at \$25,000 was the Vail Outlier Offroad Mountain Bike Festival, a new enduro mountain bike race held in late September on Vail Mountain and accompanied by a weekend-long world class cycling expo and demo village. In addition to the 28 events funded by the CSE, the Town Council allocated \$1.3 million in economic development funds to support activities in its iconic event category, including 2015 FIS Alpine World Ski Championships, Bravo! Vail, Burton US Open, Vail Jazz Festival, Vail International Dance Festival and Hot Summer Nights.



Eddie Clark Media

Outlier Offroad Festival

The Strategy Behind Special Events

2016 offers a strong calendar of events aligned with the Town Council’s mission of providing our citizens and guests with “an abundance of recreational, cultural and educational opportunities” that will continue to drive increased results and contribute to providing thought-provoking educational and life-enriching opportunities. The total 2016 special event funding is \$1.9 million.



Burton US Open

Courtesy of Burton US Open



FIPS Mouche World Fly Fishing Championships

Mike Speer



GoPro Mountain Games

Courtesy of GoPro Mountain Games



Vail Symposium

Courtesy of Vail Symposium

Newly-Funded Cultural & Recreational Events for 2016

- The 36th Annual FIPS Mouche World Fly Fishing Championships will make its American debut in September and is expected to deliver teams from all over the world at the highest level of fly fishing competition
- CarniVail: Back by popular demand, the traditional Vail-style celebration of Mardi-Gras features a Fat Tuesday parade and Street Party in Vail Village
- The Colorado Cup 2016 features a team from the world-renowned German Bundesliga Soccer League

Signature Events Returning for 2016

- Burton US Open Snowboarding Championships
- GoPro Mountain Games
- Bravo! Vail Music Festival
- Vail International Dance Festival
- Vail Jazz Festival
- Vail Farmers’ Market & Art Show

In addition, many favorite sports tournaments, festivals, culinary and music events are returning for another season. To learn more about this year’s events, visit vail-calendar.com.

Education and Enrichment Programs

The primary goal of this event category is to promote leadership development, intellectual opportunities and health and well-being. In addition:

- Potential to build the Vail brand as an educational and well-being destination
- Local, regional, national and international media exposure
- Economic impact may be in the future: Potential to return economic benefits as participants share their experiences to individuals and groups within their spheres of influence

Funded Educational & Enrichment Events for 2016

- Vail Centre Programming
- Vail Veterans Programs
- Betty Ford Alpine Gardens Programming
- Global Solutions Forum Event
- Vail Symposium Programming
- Valley Tastings: Food for Youth Event
- Starting Hearts Programming



Vail Jazz Festival

John Ryan Lockman



Taste of Vail

Courtesy of Taste of Vail



Vail Veterans Programs

Courtesy of Vail Veterans Program

Construction will continue - April 2016

Projected completion - December 2017



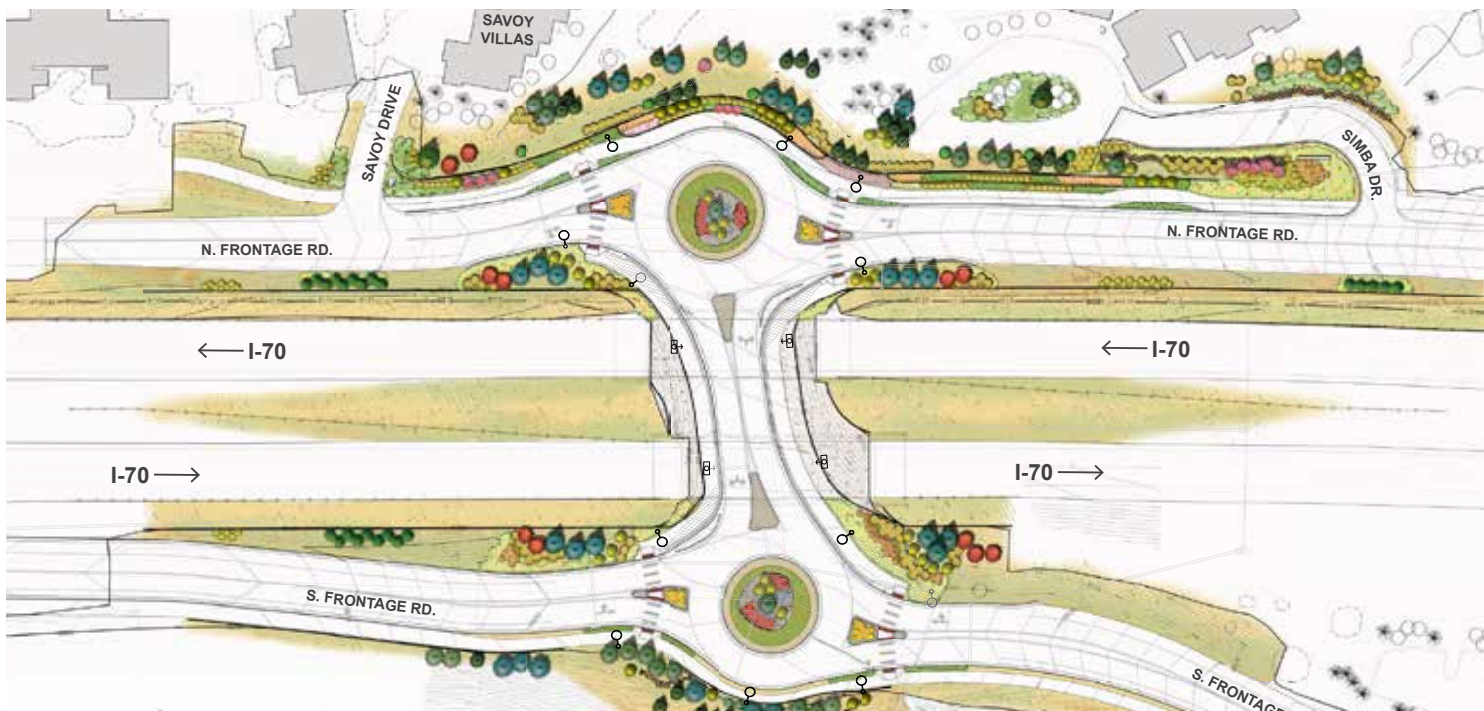
I-70 Vail Underpass

The long-anticipated I-70 Vail Underpass project is becoming a reality after the Town Council and Colorado Transportation Commission agreed to increase funding allocations to offset escalating construction costs and design refinements. The town's cost-share was increased from \$6 million to \$8.7 million, while CDOT's funding allocation increased from \$14.8 million to \$21.4 million for a total project budget of \$30.1 million. With funding decisions in place, initial detour paving has been completed in anticipation of an April 4, 2016, construction start. The detours will be used to divert traffic to a head-to-head configuration on either the eastbound or westbound side of I-70 while the underpass bridge is built on the opposite side of the highway. To address the significant construction impacts, community updates will be circulated to provide critical detour information and other

advisories. A construction hotline has also been activated. The project has a December 2017 completion target. The underpass represents the town's largest capital investment to date and has been identified in regional transportation plans for more than 20 years to help relieve congestion at the two interchanges and improve transit circulation and emergency response within the town. It will also provide a safe and efficient alternative for pedestrians and bicyclists.

Project Hotline: 970.685.7706 | codot.gov/projects/i70vailunderpass

The new underpass will be built beneath I-70 between the West Vail and Town Center exits. Roundabouts will be constructed to link up with the frontage roads. Extensive landscaping will be used to provide a buffer for adjacent properties. A public art component is also planned.



Project timeline: 2015 - 2019

All hospital services remain fully operational during construction



A rendering of the west wing of Vail Valley Medical Center, which will include upgraded patient and intensive care units, as well as additional sports medicine research labs and capabilities.

Vail Valley Medical Center Master Facility Plan Guides Campus Expansion

A master plan that is being used to direct a \$200 million two-phase expansion of the Vail Valley Medical Center campus was approved in March by the Town Council after a lengthy review by the Planning and Environmental Commission. The approval ensures the hospital's long-term presence in Vail and will benefit patients and the community in many ways.

A groundbreaking ceremony was hosted in August to mark the beginning of the project's first phase, an expansion of VVMC's west wing. A development application for the second phase, the east wing expansion, will be submitted to the town for review

in 2016. Notable improvements include a larger emergency department, upgraded patient and intensive care units, more space for appointments with physicians, expanded sports medicine research labs and capabilities, a relocated helipad to expedite critical transfers, more parking and a new entrance on South Frontage Road West for easier patient access.

A land exchange between the hospital and the nearby Evergreen Lodge is also contemplated and would provide opportunities for additional redevelopment improvements for both properties. For details, visit vmmc.com/build.



Celebrating 50 Years in Vail

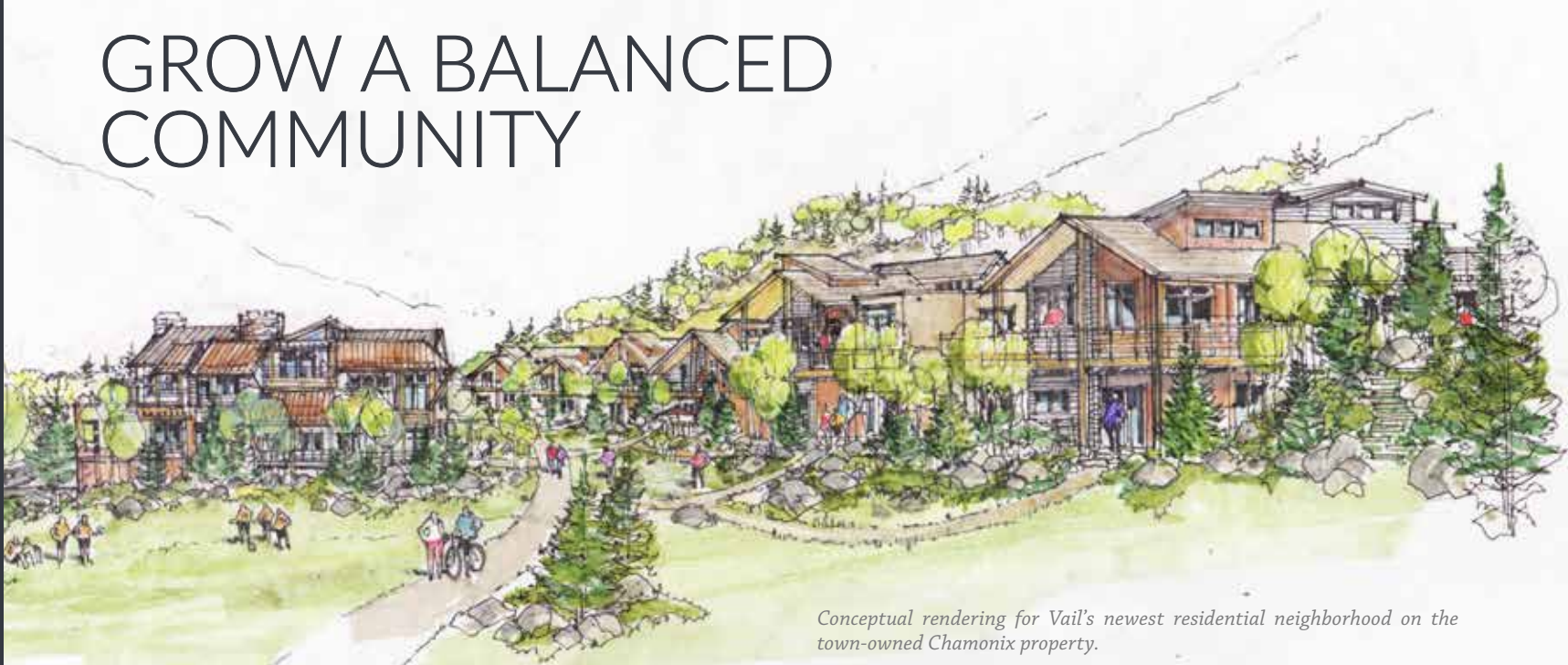
Beginning with one full-time doctor in 1965, Vail Valley Medical Center has grown to become the world's most advanced mountain hospital with specialty services like cardiology, endocrinology, sports medicine and cancer care. The hospital's 24-hour, Level III Trauma Center is staffed by board-certified emergency physicians and is complemented

by two world-class interventional cardiologists and a cardiac catheterization lab for critical heart emergencies. VVMC is Eagle County's second largest employer, keeping 870 jobs local. As an independent, nonprofit hospital, VVMC revenues are reinvested in the community through better services, healthcare jobs, new physicians, state-of-the-art equipment, improved access, community outreach and charity care. VVMC and its orthopaedic and sports medicine partners at The Steadman Clinic, Steadman Philippon Research Institute, Vail-Summit Orthopaedics and Howard Head Sports Medicine have built a reputation that brings thousands of patients to Vail each year specifically for healthcare. These visitors provide more than \$30 million, including nearly 100,000 visitor nights, annually in direct economic impact within Vail alone in hotel, restaurant and retail spending, according to an independent analysis by BBC Research and Consulting.



A rendering of the west wing as seen from West Meadow Drive.

GROW A BALANCED COMMUNITY



Conceptual rendering for Vail's newest residential neighborhood on the town-owned Chamonix property.

Housing Developments

Chamonix Property

With an improvement in market conditions and a growing sense of urgency, the town returned its focus to the vacant 3.6-acre Chamonix parcel in West Vail to address the Town Council's goal to grow a thriving and balanced community. As envisioned, the desired residences at Vail's newest neighborhood will be built as deed-restricted homes that are resold through the town. Pricing and target market considerations will be used to direct the overall project. Density discussions ranged from 15 to 25 residences per acre on the town-owned property. After awarding a design contract in June, the scope of work has been divided into two phases. The first phase, approval of a development plan, allows for construction of utilities and site access to the property with the initial infrastructure work beginning in spring 2016. The second phase is to start construction of the new homes guided by critical decisions involving unit mix and product type as well as level of subsidies. As the largest remaining available housing site in Vail, the Town Council has worked diligently to ensure the development, to be built in phases, responsibly addresses the needs of the community with design and fiduciary integrity.

Lion's Ridge Apartment Homes

Construction of the first phase of the \$20.7 million Lion's Ridge Apartment Homes was completed in October and opened to eager tenants. The remainder of the project will be completed in spring 2016 and will include a total of 112 one- and two-bedroom units, replacing the eastern half of Timber Ridge Village Apartments. Built by Gorman & Company, Inc., with local developer Jen Wright of Wright and Company, the opening capped a multi-year effort on the part of the town to partner with a private developer. The town continues to own and operate the 96 Timber Ridge rental units on the western side of the property.



New Housing Manager

A new housing position was added to the Community Development Department in June with Alan Nazzaro selected to join the staff as housing manager. His duties include coordination of day-to-day management of the housing team and the development of the town's long-range housing policies, plans and programs.



Townsend Bessent

Alan Nazzaro

Nazzaro has 30 years of experience in community development, housing, land development and redevelopment. Upon his arrival, Nazzaro's skills were immediately tapped to help lead the Chamonix housing development and to coordinate efforts of the Vail Local Housing Authority in updating the town's Housing Strategic Plan. His hiring doubled the town's housing resources which has included a housing coordinator for many years.

Vail Heights Purchase

The purchase of a one-bedroom housing unit at Vail Heights in West Vail was authorized by the Town Council in January. Funding for the \$200,000 acquisition came from the town's buy-down fund which is partially supported from collection of employee housing mitigation fee-in-lieu payments which began in 2007. The town took possession of the unit in the spring and it was added to the town's employee housing rental pool, which now totals 52 units.

Lottery Master Purchaser List

Twenty-five qualifying home buyers became eligible for the town's master purchaser list in July which is used to determine the order in which deed-restricted units are resold through the town. The list is used for resales of 82 units at Vail Commons, Red Sandstone, Creek, North Trail Townhomes and the Arosa Drive Duplex, where priority is given based on the number of years a person has worked and lived in Vail or elsewhere in Eagle County. During the year there were five resales. Of the 12 potential purchasers on the 2014 list, five were given an opportunity to purchase a home. Of the 25 current lottery applicants, seven have been offered the opportunity to purchase a home since July 2015.

Left: Lion's Ridge Apartment Homes, Vail's newest workforce housing development, includes four, three-story tall buildings containing 112 rental units capable of providing homes for 233 residents.

Groundbreaking - September 2015

Opens - Fall 2016



With stunning views of the Gore Range, the new Golf & Nordic Clubhouse will showcase Vail's recreational amenities and provide enjoyable experiences for clubhouse patrons year-round. To inquire about reservations of the community banquet space, visit grillonethegore.com/events.

Vail Golf & Nordic Clubhouse

A public groundbreaking in September to celebrate demolition of the aging and inadequate Vail Golf & Nordic Clubhouse couldn't come soon enough for supporters of the project. When the new clubhouse opens in the fall of 2016, the final investment of redirected conference center funds that had been authorized overwhelmingly by voters in 2011 will be fulfilled by the town after completing earlier upgrades to the Ford Amphitheater and the sports fields at Ford Park. Approval of the \$8 million-plus clubhouse project took much perseverance on behalf of Vail's decision-makers. Stymied by a series of court challenges filed by neighboring property owners that had objected to intended ancillary uses of the clubhouse, the project was shelved temporarily which added additional costs to the project in the form of escalating construction bids and legal fees. In the end, the Colorado Court of Appeals brought closure to the final court



challenge when it issued a unanimous decision upholding a lower court ruling that had found the project to be well within the authority of the Town of Vail and Vail Recreation District. Upon reflection, Mayor Andy Daly credited the Town Council for having the fortitude to keep the greater community's interest at the forefront of the project so the clubhouse could be transformed to meet the needs of current and future users in a "way that will make us all proud." Moving forward, Mayor Daly directed the community's attention to a comprehensive management and operations plan that will serve to protect the future interests of the neighborhood. The plan was a condition of the project's approval and stipulates traffic, parking, hours of operation and other requirements, including a cap on the maximum number of banquet guests. To view the plan, visit vailgov.com/clubhouse.



The new clubhouse will include expanded Pro and Nordic shop retail space as well as a public grill serving golfers and patrons on the upper level. Construction has been carefully coordinated to maintain continuity of Nordic and golf operations which were relocated to temporary facilities.



In addition to enhanced spaces for golf and Nordic patrons, the facility features an expanded community/banquet space for functions of up to 160 guests. Parking will be dedicated for golf and Nordic patrons. Event parking will be managed by the Vail Recreation District.



Skatepark design & funding approved - July 2015

Projected completion - June 2016

Concrete is poured to form the mini-bowl element at the new skatepark which will also include a variety of street and transition style elements as well as a signature “vert” feature and full-size half-pipe.



Valerie Theberge

Artist Valerie Theberge works on one of her mosaic murals that will be installed as part of the project.

New Skatepark in Lionshead

Designed with input from local skaters, ground was broken on Vail’s new skatepark in the fall. Located in an unused space between the two parking decks in Lionshead, the site was first suggested by Cameron Chaney, a student at the Vail Ski and Snowboard Academy, who successfully helped pitch the idea to the Town Council. The \$1.7 million skatepark will be completed in June 2016 and will include a public art component. After eight seasons, Vail’s temporary skatepark was dismantled in October and donated to the town of Eagle for future use.

Pickleball at Golden Peak

Town Council members experienced the game of pickleball during a visit to the Golden Peak Racquet Sports Facility in November to review recommendations for a \$1 million renovation of the courts in the 2016 budget. The Town Council directed staff to proceed with a plan to upgrade the facility to include six pickleball courts, parking and ADA improvements to accommodate the growing sport. This will result in replacement of a full tennis court at the site. In making the decision, the Town Council noted that two new tennis courts would soon be constructed as part of the Booth Creek Park renovation project.



Ludwig Kurz and Margaret Rogers check a noise meter reading while fellow council members gather to learn more about the sport of pickleball.

Booth Creek Park Renovation

Final design concepts were approved for renovation of Booth Creek Park in East Vail. Components include a new playground, a double tennis court, picnic shelter, restrooms, walkways and on-street parking. Planning for the renovation included extensive community involvement with neighborhood meetings, site visits, Town Council discussions, online participation and a kids’ workshop to provide ideas for the new playground. Booth Creek Park is the last of Vail’s six neighborhood parks in line for a major renovation. Construction is scheduled to begin in May 2016.



Opportunities for passive and active recreation are included in the Booth Creek Park renovation. On-street parking will be located on Manns Ranch Road.



Jack Affleck

Gore Creek is feeling the impact that comes with maintaining a world class resort community. Thankfully, with a little work, we can protect something that all Vail residents and guests hold dear – our stream.

A Little Wild Goes a Long Way.

Restore the Gore Strategic Action Plan

An action plan that will be used to help restore ecological conditions in Gore Creek received a thorough review by the Planning and Environmental Commission during the year on its way to final adoption by the Town Council in early 2016. The Restore the Gore Plan identifies over 220 strategic actions to be implemented over the next five years totaling over \$7 million that include: new regulations, best management practices, on-the-ground projects including riparian area restoration and stormwater infrastructure, such as water quality vaults, plus education, outreach and ongoing monitoring. During the plan’s review, an aquatic biologist presented an overview of the effects of urban activities on the insect population and declining trends in ecosystem health in Gore Creek and the Eagle River. Declining insect levels are the proverbial canary in the coal mine of river health, as they serve as indicators of healthy ecosystems. If the environment does not support healthy insect levels, the fish and wildlife that depend on it are also threatened, as is Gore Creek’s Gold Medal status. Since 2012 Gore Creek has been identified as an impaired stream by state and federal regulators. Water quality testing has since identified a continued trend in declining insect levels. Implementation of the Restore the Gore Plan will call upon the cooperation of property owners, residents, recreationists and guests to adopt new practices, such as switching to sustainable lawn maintenance activities, restoring turf lawns to healthy riparian areas and being mindful of what goes down the storm drain to achieve one of two key goals, prevention of pollutants at the source, or disrupting the pathway of pollutants from entering Gore Creek.



Protecting Public Land

An additional tool to enforce stream tract encroachments within Vail was approved by the Town Council in June. The ordinance helps facilitate the removal of a private encroachment on town-owned stream tract property. It also grants the town authority to remove the encroachment, such as an illegal patio, if the property owner fails to comply and to charge for cost recovery. The ordinance is similar to legislation adopted in 2007 that addresses abatement of dead trees. Following enactment, the town applied the new tool to facilitate removal of several encroachments while more than a dozen other documented encroachments remain to be addressed.

Kick the Bag Habit

After enacting the valley’s first recycling law, the town’s environmental goals were advanced yet again when the Town Council approved an ordinance to ban the use of plastic bags at Vail’s two grocery stores. The Kick the Bag Habit program became effective July 1 and eliminates carryout plastic bags, while paper bags are available for a 10-cent fee for shoppers that forget to bring their reusable bags. To prepare for implementation, the town distributed more than 18,000 free reusable bags throughout the community and launched a bag share program. Since implementation, there has been an 85% reduction in the amount of single-use bags.



Recycling Results

Efforts continued during the year to provide on-the-ground education and recycling assistance to businesses and residents as well as to create online resources at lovevail.org to assist with implementation of the communitywide recycling requirement adopted in 2014. Preliminary numbers indicate Vail has diverted about 20% of its trash from going to the landfill, just under the 25% by 2019 goal adopted in 2009 and up from about 10% in 2010. The national average is 34.5%. A renewed outreach and compliance plan is underway for 2016.

Energy Conservation

Townwide energy conservation got a boost in 2015 with a Think Big Grant award from Holy Cross Energy, supporting a \$500,000 project to convert all street and remaining building lighting to LEDs. The town has achieved 18% of the adopted 20% by 2020 energy consumption and greenhouse gas emissions goal, driven by a 31% reduction in electricity alone. The town’s solar PV systems in Lionshead have generated 57 megawatts of electricity since installation in 2012. This combined effort has resulted in a reduction of 2,273 metric tons of greenhouse gases over the 2006 baseline, equating to the electricity use of 313 homes for one year, 5,300 barrels of oil and nearly 60,000 trees. With new facilities and expanding energy needs, the town continues to look for future opportunities for reductions as well as renewable energy and offset programs.



Courtesy of ERFPD

Vail Fire & Emergency Services Response Calls				
	2012	2013	2014	2015
Structure Fires	18	13	15	16
Vehicle Fires	13	12	11	15
Wildland Fires	24	17	11	8
Rescue/Emergency Medical	571	621	574	526
Motor Vehicle Accidents	146	223	231	131
False Alarms	531	544	526	607
Hazardous Materials	79	58	73	79
Service Calls	105	101	133	112
Smoke Reports	240	321	275	170
Miscellaneous	27	39	48	60
TOTAL	1,754	1,949	1,897	1,724

Wildfire Readiness Training

Emergency response agencies participated in a wildfire readiness training exercise during the summer that brought together over 60 responders from 18 agencies to test real-time emergency response and coordination between fire agencies, law enforcement and various support groups. Coordinated by Vail Fire & Emergency Services, the “Hot Potato” exercise simulated a wildfire that was staged in the Potato Patch neighborhood on the north side of Interstate 70. The training included a door-to-door canvass of the neighborhood to simulate a mandatory evacuation as well as a mock structure fire and public alerts. To coincide with the training, community members were asked to familiarize themselves with Vail’s evacuation plan at vailgov.com/evac and to visit readycolorado.com for preparedness information. The exercise reinforced the importance of teamwork with the partner agencies as well as ongoing training and public outreach. The department also turned its attention to a proposed forest health project to remove dead and diseased trees on Forest Service land near the Intermountain neighborhood. This project will use both helicopter logging and hand-thin/pile burn to remove trees on approximately 120 acres in partnership with the town. This project could begin as early as 2016 and will take two to five years to complete.



Courtesy of ERFPD

Property owners in the Potato Patch neighborhood participated in a large-scale wildfire training exercise in August that tested the town’s evacuation plans as well as first-responder resources. Earlier in the summer a lightning strike ignited a small wildfire on Forest Service land above the neighborhood as a storm moved through the area. The affected area was less than an acre and no structures were damaged.

Improved ISO Rating

Property owners were encouraged to check with their insurance agent to see if an upgraded townwide insurance classification would result in lower premiums. An improved rating, 2/2X, from the Insurance Services Offices became effective Nov. 1 and is an improvement from the last inspection in 2010, due in part, to construction of the West Vail Fire Station. The rating is based on an evaluation of the town’s fire suppression system, the 911 dispatch system as well as the water supply available for firefighting. The ISO rating is used by many insurance companies as part of their underwriting process to determine availability of insurance, coverage levels and premiums.

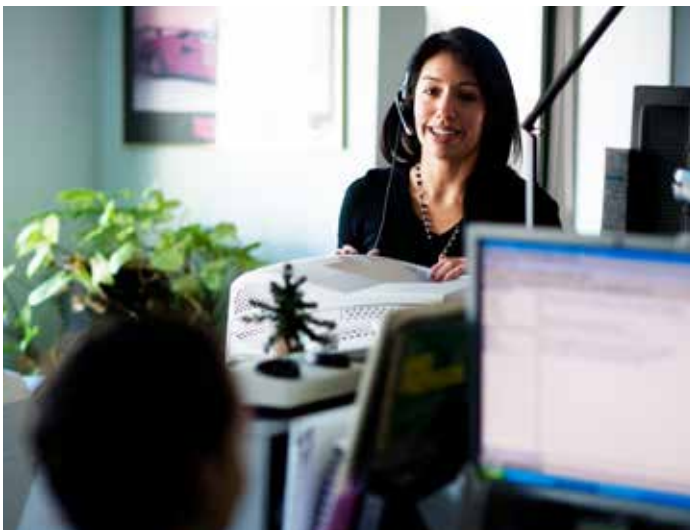


An open house was held in October as part of National Fire Prevention Week. The family-friendly event included station tours, equipment displays, a rappelling demonstration, kids’ obstacle course and fire safety information, including steps homeowners can take to make their homes more resistant to wildfire.

Vail Public Safety Communications Center: Best in State

A first-time recognition for the Vail Public Safety Communications Center occurred during a kickoff to National Telecommunicator’s Week in April when the center was named Colorado’s 2015 Communications Center of the Year by the Association of Public Safety Communications Officers and the National Emergency Number Association. The Vail 911 Center, one of 96 communications centers in Colorado, was recognized for its contributions to professionalism, training accomplishments and its efforts during the 2015 FIS Alpine World Ski Championships. Staffed by 18 telecommunicators, five supervisors and a director, the Vail Public Safety Communications Center answers all 911 and non-emergency telephone calls for Eagle County emergency services.

Nate Agnini



The Vail Public Safety Communications Center provides dispatch services for 12 police, fire, emergency medical services and utility agencies in Eagle County and handles more than 121,000 calls annually.

Text to 911

The Vail Public Safety Communications Center added Text to 911 to its system in 2015, enabling users to text directly to 911 from their cellular phones. Accessible through the four major carriers - AT&T, Verizon, T-Mobile and Sprint – the countywide service became just the third county in Colorado to join the system. Not long after announcing its availability, the technology was successfully used in a backcountry medical incident in which the reporting party lacked adequate cell service to make a call, but was able to send a text. Dispatchers communicated by text over the next several hours until a Vail Mountain Search and Rescue team reached the party to provide assistance. The service was also successfully used to begin the new year in assisting with a traffic stop involving a suicidal party.

Roadside Baby Delivery

Kelly Klein, a dispatcher for the Vail Public Safety Communications Center, was awarded a pink “stork” pin by supervisors in August after assisting a motorist who had called 911 to report his wife was in labor. Klein calmly and expertly assisted the caller with the roadside delivery of a baby girl before paramedics and firefighters arrived on scene. The caller, Eagle Police Chief Joey Stauffer, was grateful for the assistance. Their heartwarming story was relayed by news outlets from across the country.

Vail Crime Statistics				
	2012	2013	2014	2015
Total Arrests	896	744	680	797
Burglary	28	22	26	20
Larceny/Theft	306	317	284	282
Ski/Board Theft*	78	83	70	66
Motor Vehicle Theft	5	11	9	10
Assault	60	60	47	57
Fraud	76	87	81	93
DUI/DWAI	84	68	52	57
Drugs	217	113	55	136
Vandalism	117	122	115	102
Sexual Offenses	16	8	9	9
Trespassing	59	60	54	43
Trespassing - Vehicular**	22	30	30	18
Disorderly Conduct	79	46	44	47
Obstructing/Resisting	33	24	19	15
Protective Custody	145	75	52	51
Call Volume	37,072 in 2015		35,345 in 2013	
	34,720 in 2014		37,734 in 2012	
* Ski and Snowboard Theft is included in Larceny/Theft				
** Vehicle Trespassing is included in Trespassing				

Drug Ring Bust and Hash Oil Lab Arrest

Good police work helped break up a local drug ring in June with the arrest of 15 people and the grand jury indictment of nine following a three-month investigation into drug trafficking in Vail. No one was injured in the operation and the defendants were taken into custody without incident. In carrying out the arrests, police seized firearms, cash and numerous types of drugs including cocaine, ecstasy, LSD and heroin. Investigators identified The Underground, a bar on Bridge Street, as a nexus of the criminal activity. The bar was closed by the Colorado Division of Revenue as a result of the investigation. Following the arrests, Chief Dwight Henninger denounced the open trafficking of drugs in Vail’s bars and pledged to take extra efforts to ensure a safe community for residents and guests. Later in the year, community members alerted investigators to an illegal hash oil lab in the Intermountain neighborhood. The lab was safely dismantled and the resident was arrested, preventing the potential for a catastrophic explosion. To assist narcotics detectives in targeting felony-level drug dealers, traffickers and manufacturers, the Town Council authorized the addition of a drug investigator on a trial basis for 2016.

Operation Tire Safe

Having adequate snow tires or chains on Interstate 70 was no longer a message solely for truckers, as the Police Department joined with other agencies in alerting drivers of passenger vehicles to check their tires before hitting the road in preparation for enforcement of traction laws by the Colorado Department of Transportation. The public safety agencies partnered with local tire distributors to offer coupons for discounts off the cost of new tires as part of an overall awareness campaign that included free tire checks.

ELEVATE THE EXPERIENCE



Betty Ford Alpine Gardens Education Center

Courtesy of Betty Ford Alpine Gardens

Betty Ford Alpine Gardens Education Center

Fulfilling its distinction as the world's premier alpine botanical gardens, a ribbon cutting ceremony in July marked the opening of the new Betty Ford Alpine Gardens Education Center. The 3,000-square-foot facility has become the centerpiece of the gardens, extending its presence in all seasons. Located just west of the gardens on the lower bench of Ford Park, the center includes interactive displays on the mountain environment, a unique alpine house for displaying plants in all seasons, plus work stations for environmental research, horticulture and education programs. A capital fund-raising campaign was closing in on its \$3.6 million goal, bolstered by a \$500,000 contribution from the town. The center is open year-round.

Ford Park Lower Bench Improvements

Another phase of improvements to Ford Park took place during the year with the focus on the lower bench area. The project included construction of new restrooms, playground improvements, utility work and installation of concrete pavers on Betty Ford Way. Previous phases have included renovation of the athletic fields, construction of a new concession stand and restrooms, plus renovation of the Ford Amphitheater.

Summer Access to Ford Park

Two pilot programs were introduced during the summer to improve access to Ford Park. A reconfiguration of the upper parking lot allowed a combination of paid public parking spaces and reserved patron parking spaces to be used on peak event days with the lot remaining free on non-peak days. Also introduced for the summer season was a new daily extension of the town's in-town bus route to Ford Park via Vail Valley Drive, providing convenient access to the Vail Nature Center and the Ford Amphitheater.



Guests benefited from new pedestrian maps and other directional signs showing the locations of the park's many amenities. The last phase of improvements scheduled for Ford Park will be additional wayfinding enhancements and entry portals which will take place in 2016.



Ford Park Playground

Leslie Cothran

With a workforce of over 300 representing a variety of careers, town employees are known for their exemplary service and are an essential part of Vail's continuing success.



Rex Keep

Time-Honored Customer Service

Town of Vail employees have long been known for taking ordinary circumstances to a higher level of customer service. This effort brings them personal fulfillment as well as pride for the town. In an attempt to document these acts of kindness, the Town of Vail has launched a webpage for recipients to submit their positive experiences regarding Town of Vail employees. To share your story, please visit vailgov.com/teamaccolades. The employees will then be nominated to receive recognition from their peers for doing things the "Vail Way." Here are three examples collected from the website:

Fire Department – Josh Eaton

A family traveling from Mexico became stranded in front of Fire Station 2 in Vail Village after their car broke down. Despite the language barrier, Engineer Josh Eaton was able to diagnose their car issue when he expertly discovered a pinhole leak in a pressurized intake pipe in the water pump. He then contacted the Salvation Army and the Vail Interfaith Chapel to arrange a place for them to spend the night. The next day Eaton unselfishly used his day off to help connect the man with a local mechanic to get the family on their way.

Public Works Department – Caleb Chase

During a wintery evening in February, Caleb Chase, a heavy equipment operator, was plowing streets in East Vail when he came upon a semi-truck that had inadvertently headed up Bighorn Road. Knowing the difficult circumstances ahead for the driver in turning the truck around, Chase offered his assistance. After several unsuccessful maneuvers, Chase began spreading cinders by hand, shovel-full by shovel-full, to give the rig the traction it needed to get the truck safely back to the interstate.

Police Department – Jeff Campbell and Gail McFall

An Avon resident was compelled to contact the Police Department to commend the actions of two code enforcement officers:

"I am humbled and very grateful for the professionalism of your Officers Jeff Campbell and Gail McFall who recently assisted me. I contacted your office to find out how to gain Amphitheater access after hours so that I could conduct the search for my lost cell phone. In no way did I expect the officers to comb through the theater seating to help locate my phone. Within 30 minutes, I received a call that the phone was found and then they delivered it to me in Avon. Please let them know how much I appreciate their kindness."

Innovations in Customer Service

Several technology upgrades and online tools were added during the year to improve the ability of residents and businesses to access information, fill out forms and make online payments with the Town of Vail 24/7. Additions include:

Online Sales Tax Payments

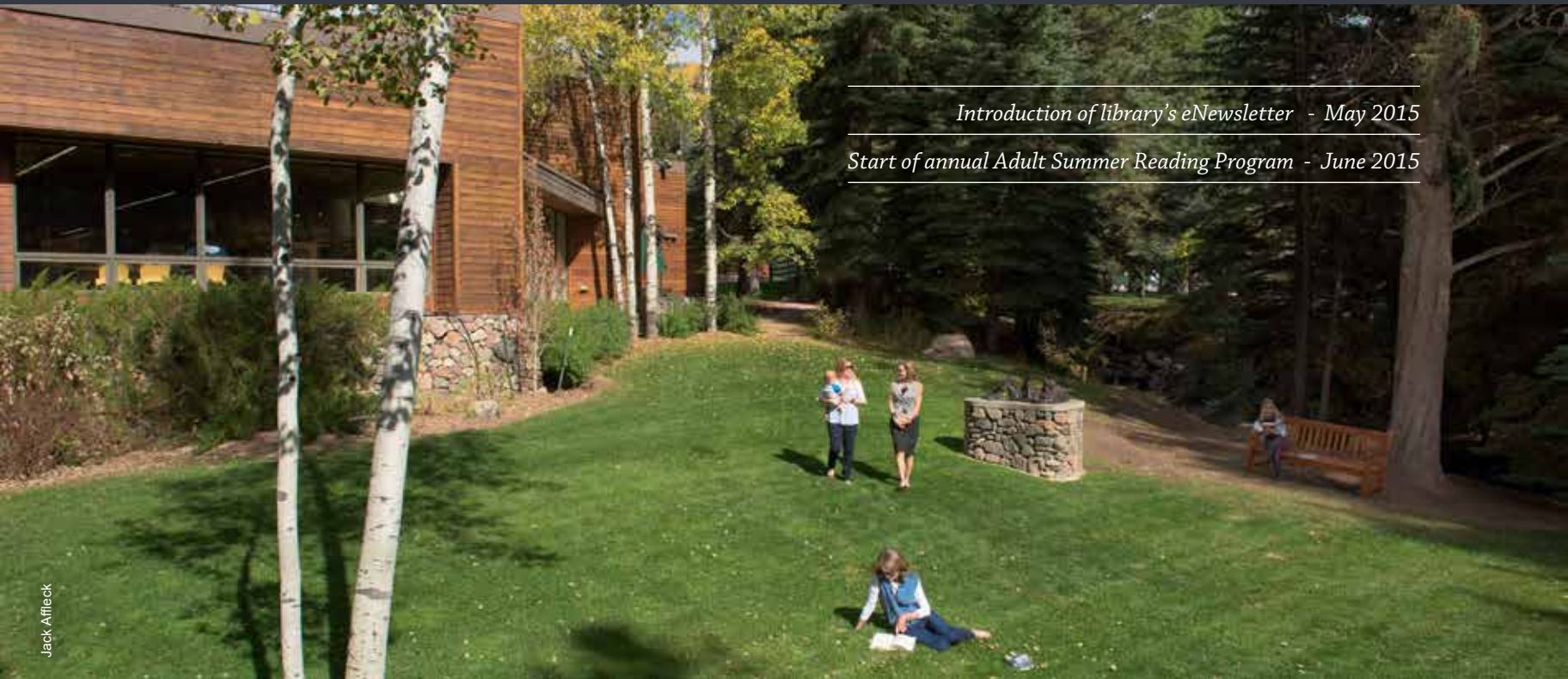
A new online option for submittal of sales tax returns and payments was launched with more than half of all businesses signing on. The system has created numerous efficiencies for both the town and its business partners. Go to vailgov.com/epay.

Public Records Portal

A new public records portal was created that provides immediate access to town documents. This portal provides direct access to some of the more commonly requested records. Portals can be found within department areas on vailgov.com.

eCommerce @ your library

The Vail Public Library began accepting credit cards for the payment of fines and fees as well as donations to the Friends of the Library. The service is available by creating an account on the library website, vaillibrary.com.



Jack Affleck

Introduction of library's eNewsletter - May 2015

Start of annual Adult Summer Reading Program - June 2015

Outside the Lines

Library staff members took to the streets in September to show community members how much their library has changed over the years with new offerings and programs for all ages. The week-long international celebration was part of the Outside the Lines initiative and was a big success throughout Vail and will be continued in 2016.

Healthy Lifestyle Series

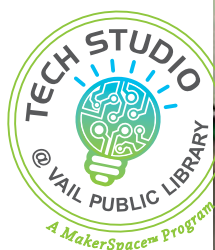
A Healthy Lifestyle Series was introduced by the library last summer. The initial response was so positive that it will become an annual series featuring programs and events that focus on maintaining a healthy lifestyle. For more information, visit vaillibrary.com.

Children's Services @ your Library

Children's services during the year included weekly story times and monthly after-school programming with holiday and seasonal themes for both pre-school and elementary students. Red Sandstone Elementary brought classes to the library monthly for the fourth year. Reading Buddies paired teens with younger students for shared reading. Books 'n Bites, a book club for kids in grades 3-5, Tech Studio, Hour of Code and the annual Summer Reading Program rounded out the library's programming for children.

Tech Studio

The Makerspace™ program, led by library staff, offered additional classes in 2015 and an open lab concept on Tuesdays and Wednesdays. Tech Studio offers: 3-D printing, BB-8, Sphero, Lego Mindstorms, Makey Makey, Littlebits, Photoshop and video editing software classes. Visit vaillibrary.com for a full list of offerings.



Adult Summer Reading Program

An adult reading program was introduced in 2015 where participants received a booklet with activity-related raffle tickets and prizes including a \$50 dining certificate to Pepi's. Four special events were made available: *Be a Hero Adopt an Animal*, *Veteran's Night*, a film showing of the movie *Unbroken* and an ice cream social as the finale. More than just reading a book, this social time was enjoyed by many. Look for details on programming for 2016.

One Book One Valley

The title for the fourth year of this countywide community reading initiative, One Book One Valley, was *The Cold Dish*, the first book in the Walt Longmire mystery series by NY Times Bestselling Author Craig Johnson. In September, Johnson appeared in person to an audience of well over 100 attendees at Colorado Mountain College in Edwards.



Common Cents for Colorado

The library was named to an elite group of 13 Colorado libraries chosen to participate in Common Cents for Colorado in 2015. This program consists of free workshops designed to teach the basics of financial literacy in a stress-free environment. The library will continue offering workshops through the summer of 2017.



Tech Studio participants enjoy their free software lesson.



Townsend Bessent

Red Eddy by Paul Vexler

Installed in the Vail Village Welcome Center - December 2015

Vail Winterfest Ice Theater

Sponsored with Triumph Partners

The coolest outdoor ice theater returned to Vail during the winter. Conceived by Art in Public Places, the ice theater featured films projected on a screen made of ice at the Gore Creek Promenade in Vail Village. Ice sculptor Paul Wertin with his team from Alpine Ice carved 19,000 pounds of ice onsite for a week. For nine years, Triumph Partners has generously sponsored the Winterfest exhibition, bringing this free family-friendly winter event to Vail.

F Z Photography



Winterfest Ice Theater by Paul Wertin

Vail Paper Lantern Project

Vail's Paper Lantern Project invited residents and guests to come together as a community to share the winter holiday spirit. The project was celebrated at the Holiday Tree Lighting with a festive lantern walk through Vail Village led by Santa. Sponsored by Doe Browning, Art in Public Places organized the lantern-making workshops and distributed LED lights for the lanterns at the tree lighting ceremony.

Vail Art Pass

Art in Public Places introduced its new Vail ART Pass program in June for community members with an interest in the visual arts. For a \$50 annual fee, the more than 45 ART Pass members gathered throughout the year to tour private art collections, museums and artist studios, as well as opening receptions. For more information on this pass, visit artinvail.com.

Call for Artists

It was a busy year for Art in Public Places issuing four public calls to artists for public art integrated in capital projects.

Vail Skatepark

In the spring, AIPP issued a call for public art and request for qualifications at the Vail Skatepark for which 50 artists applied from around the country. With a budget of \$100,000 Valerie Theberge's proposal was selected to create four large-scale unique mosaic murals for each side of the stairwell towers abutting the park. The artist, from Washington, D.C., will be present to install the murals in the spring of 2016. This will be the first mosaic medium in the town's public art collection.

Vail Welcome Center

In another national call, 40 proposals were submitted for sculptural art in the Vail Village Welcome Center. Paul Vexler's *Red Eddy* sculpture was selected and installed in December. The work is suspended from the vaulted ceiling and is created primarily from Douglas fir. The undulating work measures 48 x 48 x 216 inches. It was well received at a reception for the remodeled Vail Village Welcome Center at which the Snohomish, Wash., artist was present.

Booth Creek Playground

Continuing the tradition of collaborating with artists in Vail's playground design, a public call was also issued for the redevelopment of the Booth Creek playground. Fifty-seven interested artists submitted applications to work with the design teams on this project. Art in Public Places and the Town of Vail design team is presently working with Denver's Chevo Studios to incorporate yet another artful playground in Vail.

I-70 Vail Underpass

With a budget of just over \$300,000, over 80 artists submitted their qualifications for integrated public art at the I-70 Vail Underpass Project. The selected finalists are now submitting proposals for this large capital project.

Town of Vail Awards and Recognition

In 2015, many Town of Vail staff members were recognized for their commitment to providing a vibrant and safe environment for residents and guests. Examples include:



Colorado Safety Awards

The Town of Vail Safety Committee was recognized with the coveted Safety Champion Award, presented by the Colorado Inter-governmental Risk Sharing Agency (CIRSA). Charlie Turnbull, street superintendent (pictured with Mayor Daly), was also the recipient of the CIRSA Safety Manager of the Year. Recent accomplishments of the Safety Committee included safe delivery of municipal services during the 2015 FIS Alpine World Ski Championships.



Tourism Professional of the Year

Kelli McDonald, Town of Vail's economic development manager, was named Tourism Professional of the Year by the Vail Valley Partnership in 2015. McDonald is responsible for leading the town's marketing and special events initiatives which has resulted in record visitation and sales tax revenues. She's held the position since its creation in 2007.

Public Safety Awards

Police Officer Craig Westering and Sgt. Chris Botkins were presented with a Lifesaving Award by the Eagle County Rotary Clubs after breaking the fall of an intoxicated man from a seventh floor balcony. Also receiving recognition was Rebecca Pacheco of the Vail Public Safety Communications Center. In addition, the Rotary's annual Leadership Award was presented to Police Chief Dwight Henninger for his work in heading the Safety and Security Committee for the 2015 FIS Alpine World Ski Championships.



Rotary award recipients Chief Dwight Henninger, Sgt. Chris Botkins, Officer Craig Westering and Supervisor Rebecca Pacheco of the Vail Public Safety Communications Center.

Appointments and Departures

Board and Commission appointments during the year included:

- Ludwig Kurz to the Planning and Environmental Commission
- Doug Cahill to the Design Review Board
- Michael Kurz to the Art in Public Places Board
- Luca Bruno, Ted Steers and Amanda Zinn to the Vail Local Licensing Authority
- Steve Lindstrom to the Vail Housing Authority
- Mark Christie, Kim Newbury Rediker and Sheena Richardson to the Vail Commission on Special Events
- John Dawsey, Michael Holton, Jessie Klehfoth and Laurie Mullen to the Vail Local Marketing District Advisory Council

Stan Zemler Leads CAST

Town Manager Stan Zemler became president of the Colorado Association of Ski Towns in November when then-president Aaron Huckstep of Crested Butte lost his re-election bid for town council. Zemler had been vice president of CAST previously. He'll serve as president until June 2016 when he will be up for re-election.

Townsend Bessent



Brandmeyer Leads Staff Transitions

Pam Brandmeyer, assistant town manager, transitioned from the staff in March after almost 35 years. She had been with the town since 1980 serving in a variety of roles, including town clerk and interim town manager.

Anthony Thornton



Deputy Fire Chief Retires

Deputy Fire Chief Mike McGee retired in May after 38 years in Vail. He began his career as an unpaid resident firefighter and soon worked his way through the ranks to deputy chief in 2000.

Dale Harpe



Gonzales Retirement

After 14 years with the Police Department, Moses Gonzales retired as a code enforcement officer in June. Gonzales has been known for his vast community service efforts throughout Eagle County over the years.

ONLINE RESOURCES

vailgov.com | vailpublic.novasagenda.com | maps.vailgov.com | vaillibrary.com | artinvail.com | vail-calendar.com
vaileventparking.com | vailpermits.com | vail911.com | grandviewvail.com | donovanpavilion.com

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