

TOWN OF VAIL

# YEAR IN REVIEW

TURNING YOUR FEEDBACK INTO ACTION

Focusing on Housing for Local Families

Making Progress with Parking & Transportation

Taking a Leadership Role in Sustainability

Financial & Department Updates



TOWN OF VAIL



THE DAVIS FAMILY  
New homeowners at  
Chamonix Vail in West Vail



# Building on your Feedback

2017 was the year for listening, focus and action. With information gathered from the biennial community survey coupled with ongoing outreach, including online forums and involvement from all corners of the community, considerable

progress was made in the focus areas of **ECONOMY**, **COMMUNITY** and **EXPERIENCE**. Together, these initiatives are keeping Vail in a leadership position as the *Premier International Mountain Resort Community*.

In the pages that follow, learn what the Vail Town Council, Board and Commission members, town staff and agency partners have been doing to involve the community in:

- Providing additional housing opportunities for local residents
- Making it easier to get around town
- Becoming a leader in our environmental sustainability practices
- Enhancing neighborhood amenities
- Advancing Vail's appeal as the premier international mountain resort community

Lastly, we're pleased to celebrate the talents and contributions of the people who have come together to make Vail a special place.

## 2017 MILESTONES

JANUARY	FEBRUARY	MARCH	APRIL	MAY	JUNE
<p>Jan 16 Community members invited to assist in development of candidate profile for Vail Town Manager search</p> <p>Jan 17 Resolution adopted by Town Council in support of Climate Action Plan for Eagle County</p> <p>Jan 23 Vail Parking &amp; Transportation Task Force convened following reinstatement</p>	<p>Feb 21 Re-dedication of newly-renovated East Vail Fire Station</p> <p>Feb 22 First community workshops held to update Town of Vail Comprehensive Open Lands Plan</p> <p>Feb 22 Town of Vail receives certification as Great Place to Work</p> <p>Feb 27 - March 4 World's top snowboarders compete at 35th annual Burton U.S. Open Snowboarding Championships</p>	<p>March 7 Life-Saving Recognition Awards presented to telecommunicators Tina Mojzer, Kelly Klein and Michelle Aranda</p> <p>March 14 Annual Community Meeting celebrates accomplishments of Trailblazer Award recipients Vi and Byron Brown and outgoing Town Manager Stan Zemler</p> <p>March 23 Vail Public Library presents One Book One Valley author Lin Enger and book signing of <i>The High Divide</i></p>	<p>April 1 Online citizen portal launched by Community Development Department</p> <p>April 4 Town Clerk Patty McKenny named Acting Town Manager</p> <p>April 9 - 15 National Library Week activities</p>	<p>May 4 Year-round safe disposal medication drop box established in Municipal Building</p> <p>May 13 Annual Clean Up Day</p> <p>May 16 Groundbreaking ceremony for Chamonix Vail townhomes</p> <p>May 29 Expanded summer bus service pilot program launched for East Vail, Golf Course and Sandstone outlying routes</p>	<p>June 3 Launch of weekly bilingual story time at Vail Public Library</p> <p>June 6 Grand opening and ribbon cutting for newly-renovated Booth Creek Park</p> <p>June 8 - 11 GoPro Mountain Games</p> <p>June 20 - 23 Annual Trees for Vail giveaway</p>

The annual community picnics at Bighorn and Donovan parks provide opportunities for the Town Council and employees to connect with members of the neighborhood and to learn what's on people's minds.

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JULY	AUGUST	SEPTEMBER	OCTOBER	NOVEMBER	DECEMBER
<p>July 2 Curbside wildfire home hazard evaluations begin</p> <p>July 4 Grand Marshals Bill and Sally Hanlon lead Vail America Days™ Parade</p> <p>July 17 - 18 Officials from Yamanouchi, Japan visit Vail to explore Global Friendship Exchange</p> <p>July 25 Community Picnic at Bighorn Park</p>	<p>Aug 1 Greg Clifton becomes new Town Manager</p> <p>Aug 22 Vail Health dedicates new west wing</p> <p>Aug 15 Community Picnic at Donovan Pavilion</p> <p>Aug 15 Logging operations begin for Vail Intermountain Fuels Reduction project</p>	<p>Sept 15 Vail awarded \$525,000 federal grant to assist with purchase of 7 battery electric buses in 2020</p> <p>Sept 25 First day on job for new Town Manager Greg Clifton</p> <p>Sept 27 Vail Nature Center feasibility study begins</p> <p>Sept 29 Vail named to Top 100 Sustainable Destinations for 2017 by Global Green Destinations</p>	<p>Oct 7 West Vail Fire Station Open House</p> <p>Oct 11 Vail InDEED, deed-restriction program introduced</p> <p>Oct 13 Grand opening and ribbon cutting for Sandstone Underpass</p> <p>Oct 24 Police Chief Dwight Henninger elected 4th Vice President of International Association of Chiefs of Police</p>	<p>Nov 7 Voters return incumbents Dave Chapin, Jenn Bruno &amp; Greg Moffet, and elect newcomer Travis Coggin to Town Council during Municipal Election</p> <p>Nov 14 Community Welcome Reception for Town Manager Greg Clifton and recognition of state and national accomplishments of Streets Superintendent Charlie Turnbull and Police Chief Dwight Henninger</p> <p>Nov 15 America Recycles Day waste reduction and recycling events</p>	<p>Dec 5 New short-term rental regulations approved by Town Council effective March 1, 2018</p> <p>Dec 5 Vail joins Compact of Colorado Communities in climate action planning and training activities</p> <p>Dec 11 Shop with a Cop attended by 51 children</p> <p>Dec 22 Art in Public Places' Holiday Lantern Walk, 10th Annual Winterfest Ice Theater presented by Vicki &amp; Kent Logan opens</p>

# HOUSING

## HOUSING FOR LOCALS

Significant progress is being made on multiple fronts to address our local housing crisis. With new interest from the private sector, a commitment from the Vail Local Housing Authority and adoption of innovative policies by decision-makers, more progress is being made than in any other time in Vail's 50-plus year history.

*Building  
on our  
Momentum*

## OUR GOAL

The Town of Vail and Vail Local Housing Authority are focused on **acquiring 1,000 new deed-restricted homes** by the year 2027, making it affordable for locals to live in Vail.

PHOTO BY JACK AFFLECK

**\$9M**

dedicated by Town of Vail  
for housing  
within past 18 months

**9/6/16**

Vail Housing 2027  
Strategic Plan adopted





## A HOLISTIC APPROACH TO HOUSING

With limited new construction opportunities within the town boundaries, Vail's 2027 Housing Strategic Plan identifies a holistic approach to making gains in the number of new resident opportunities. Among them is Vail InDEED, the new deed-restriction purchase program introduced in October and considered to be among the most innovative of its kind in the country. The Vail InDEED program is different from other deed-restriction programs. Most significantly, there is no maximum price appreciation upon selling the property or an obligation that the owner live in the property as his/her primary residence. Like other programs, the occupants of Vail InDEED properties must work a minimum of 30 hours per week for an Eagle County business and the property shall not be rented on a short-term basis. The intent is to sustain a community for year-round residents. Within the first three months, local interest had generated more than a dozen applications. The Vail Local Housing Authority has been identified as a special agent of the town to act as the initial decision-making body for the purchase of deed-restrictions. Initial seed money of \$500,000 was set aside in 2017 by the town to help fund the program.

Expanded partnership opportunities with local employers as well as municipal and county partners are also identified in the housing plan. For the first time in recent history, private sector developers have stepped forward to participate in expanding the housing inventory. This has resulted in approvals for 176 new deed-restricted properties to be included in developments associated with Marriott Residence Inn, Solar Vail and Mountain View Residences.

## NEW HOUSING DEPARTMENT, PERMANENT FUNDING

In recognizing housing as a priority for the long-term, the Town Council has authorized creation of a new Housing Department within the town's organizational structure. The new department will be staffed by Vail's first-ever housing director along with a housing coordinator. The department will work in tandem with the Vail Local Housing Authority in implementation of the housing strategic plan as well as numerous administrative responsibilities, including overseeing the town's lottery process and compliance monitoring. In addition, the Town Council has approved the establishment of a new housing fund with an initial budget of \$500,000 for 2018. This new fund will allow monies to accumulate over time. Yet to come will be additional discussions on how best to create a permanent and reliable revenue stream for this new fund.

## WHAT'S NEXT

A number of new housing initiatives are contemplated for the future. This includes discussions with Vail Resorts and the community regarding a potential housing development on company-owned land in East Vail that would provide homes for seasonal and resort employees, plus a master plan process for the West Vail area. Opportunities to partner on housing developments outside the town's boundaries will also be explored.

**927**

deed-restricted homes in Vail

**65**

deed-restrictions acquired via Vail InDEED in 2017

**176**

deed-restricted properties approved for new construction





2016 - Concept drawing



May 2017 - First lottery



May 2017 - First lottery



May 2017 - Groundbreaking ceremony



January 2018 - Second family moves in



July 2017 - Infrastructure and foundation in place



January 2018 - First family moves in



Welcoming a  
new neighborhood  
to West Vail



Chamonix Vail is all about creating a balanced community. This includes chefs in our restaurants, emergency room doctors in our hospital, business owners in commercial areas, maintenance workers to plow our roads and fix our streets, vice presidents at our banks, ski patrollers to watch over our ski mountain and even Olympians to represent our storied skiing heritage as the premier international mountain resort community. They're an example of some of the new residents of Chamonix Vail, a culmination of 15 years of thoughtful planning and retooling by the town to get it right. The result is a new neighborhood of efficiently designed townhomes that provides livability, function and compatibility with the surrounding neighborhood. It's also a proud place for families to call home. More than a dozen young kids – the next generation of Vailites – will be growing up in Chamonix Vail. And who knows, one of them may just turn out to be another Vail Olympian! The vision for Chamonix Vail has been about maintaining and sustaining community. For the new homeowners, Chamonix Vail is a dream come true. It allows them to be a part of the local community in West Vail and the opportunity to grow their families in Vail. "I hope this is only the beginning," says Steve Lindstrom, longtime chairman of the Vail Local Housing Authority.

"It's extremely gratifying to see what can be accomplished once a community gets behind something. Community members and the Town Council alike are to be commended for their support and commitment to maintaining and sustaining this place we call home."

Chamonix Vail is the result of a public-private partnership between the town, the design-build team of Triumph Development West, R.A. Nelson and 359 Design. Additional support has been provided by the Vail Local Housing Authority and town staff.

***"I love that we will be able to know our neighbors again. I never thought we'd be able to have a home in Vail, let alone a brand new one with a garage!"***

**Karen Hannah | New Chamonix Vail Homeowner**

**3.54**

acre lot

**20**

years since the last  
large-scale housing lottery in Vail

**97**

qualified buyers

**\$17.7M**

cost of development

**\$3.6M**

cost of land and infrastructure  
subsidized by town

# PARKING & TRANSPORTATION

PHOTO BY DOMINIQUE TAYLOR

*“I knew I would use the Sandstone Underpass almost daily, but have been surprised by how many of those uses have been walking while looking at the public art and beautiful mountains. I’m a fan!”*

Diane Johnson | Vail Resident

## ON THE GO

Improving the quality and convenience of parking and transportation for residents and guests has been a top priority of the town. With completion of the new Sandstone Underpass, plus introduction of expanded transit service in outlying neighborhoods and the pending construction of a new parking structure at Red Sandstone Elementary School, the improvements are making it easier to keep Vail on the go.





Building on  
our partnerships

## COORDINATION + COLLABORATION = SANDSTONE UNDERPASS

Before the Sandstone Underpass became a game-changer to those who've been using it, various dignitaries gathered during a grand opening ceremony in October to take time to recognize the project's partnerships and collaboration. The new \$30.1 million underpass represents the culmination of more than 25 years of planning, plus another five years of design, funding coordination and construction. Because of its significant role in easing congestion at the West Vail and Town Center I-70 interchanges, the Colorado Department of Transportation supplied 71% of the project's funding – while the community reaps the benefits of pedestrian, transit and community connectivity. The new connection reduces travel time between the North and South Frontage Roads, improves pedestrian safety and emergency response, and serves to link the North Recreation Path to the Gore Valley Trail. In addition to CDOT's design and engineering expertise, the project required extensive coordination with adjacent properties. This included acquisition of land and easements from Simba Run and Savoy Villas as well as numerous discussions with affected properties to ensure impacts would be kept to a minimum, such as using public art to reduce nighttime glare from headlights. In the end, the project was completed on time, on budget and is considered to be an example of one of the town's most collaborative projects in recent history.



Red Sandstone Parking Structure

## NEW PARKING STRUCTURE APPROVED

A three-way partnership is responsible for the pending construction of a four-level, 160-space parking structure on the Red Sandstone Elementary School site. In addition to \$9.2 million budgeted by the town, the balance of the \$15 million project will come from Vail Resorts which has approved the town's request to use \$4.3 million pledged by the company in 2005 to help fund new parking. Eagle County Schools will contribute the remainder at \$1.5 million. The parking garage, which will include public restrooms, solar photovoltaic technology and public art, will be built in conjunction with the school's remodel and will open in time for the 2018-2019 ski season. Once completed, 120 of the spaces will be available for public parking when school is in session and access to all 160 spaces will be provided during weekends and other non-school times. The building's remodel will begin at the end of the 2017-2018 school year and is scheduled to be completed by February 2019. The school will operate during the fall of 2018 through early winter 2019 out of a modular complex in Maloit Park designed specifically for its purposes.

### Sandstone Underpass

**70,000**

cubic yards of earth excavated  
to lower frontage roads

**25,000**

square feet of  
retaining wall constructed

**10**

utility lines relocated  
totaling 23,000 linear feet

**\$30.1M**

to build  
Sandstone Underpass

**3,500/day**

vehicles used the underpass  
during 2017 Christmas holiday

We're listening

## FREE BUS SERVICE ADDED TO REDUCE PARKING DEMAND

### Expanded Summer Transit Service was a Success

Residents and guests responded favorably to a pilot program that delivered expanded transit service to Vail's outlying neighborhoods during the summer. There were double-digit increases in ridership on the East Vail, Golf Course and Sandstone routes, prompting the Town Council to retain the service increase for 2018. Citizen requests to expand Vail's summer bus service have been documented in the town-sponsored community survey as well as feedback collected during neighborhood picnics. The pilot program was recommended by the Vail Parking and Transportation Task Force as a way to help free up available spaces in the parking structures by reintroducing community members to the economical and environmental advantages of Vail's free transit system.

### Bus It to Hike It Campaign

A campaign to address the impacts of overflow trailhead parking was activated by the Vail Welcome Centers during the summer. Guests received a pocket-sized "Bus it to Hike it" guide with information on how to use three bus routes to connect to nine trailheads from East Vail to West Vail. Hikers were encouraged to leave their car in the parking structures and to board an outlying bus to travel to and from the trailheads for added convenience and to minimize neighborhood impacts. [vailgov.com/bustohike](http://vailgov.com/bustohike)

### Electric Bus Grant

Buses on the intown route between Golden Peak and Lionshead could be electrified by 2020. This route provides service to over 2 million riders annually with buses operating up to 20 hours a day. A federal grant was awarded during the year to help fund the replacement of the existing seven hybrid diesel-electric buses. A series of demonstrations will be held in 2018 to test different bus configurations on the route and to collect feedback on bus types. Electric buses produce zero tailpipe emissions, are quiet, have a higher miles-per-gallon equivalent and significant fuel cost savings over the life of the bus.

### Park 'n Ride with West Vail Express

To make it easier to park free and ride free, express bus service from West Vail was improved for the 2017-2018 winter season with increased frequency and scheduled departure times. During the mornings, riders wait no longer than 10 minutes to catch a bus into Lionshead or Vail Village using a combination of the West Vail Express and West Vail Green route. In the afternoon, 10 minute return service from the Vail Transportation Center runs from 2 to 5:30 p.m. using a combination of the West Vail Express and West Vail Red route. The town maintains 175 free parking spaces on the North Frontage Road in West Vail. There are 75 spaces across from the West Vail Mall which are available daily from 7 a.m. to 11 p.m. and another 100 spaces west of the roundabout which are available Friday, Saturday and Sunday, also from 7 a.m. to 11 p.m. The spaces are provided on a first-come, first-served basis.

**37%**

increase in summer ridership on routes with expanded service

**\$5.1M**

budgeted in 2017 for transit operating expenses (excluding capital)

**3.2M**

passengers per year ride the free Town of Vail buses

*"I just took the West Vail Express bus for the first time and it's awesome. Huge thumbs up. When I first moved to Vail six years ago I had no idea that the transportation was so good. People are shocked when they see the bus system here and that's a good thing."*

Bert Hollis | Vail Resident





PHOTO BY JACK AFFLECK

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**PARKING IN VAIL  
ADDRESSING A CHALLENGE**

overflow parking days  
on frontage road during  
winter 2016-2017

22

overflow parking days  
on frontage road  
during summer 2017

15

day goal for overflow  
parking on frontage  
road per season

280

free outlying parking  
spaces around town  
in winter

**Vail Parking & Transportation Task Force**

In anticipation of ongoing challenges in managing the supply of available public parking in town, the Vail Parking & Transportation Task Force has been reactivated. Appointed by the mayor, the 12-member citizen group includes representation from the lodging and retail-restaurant sectors, plus large employers, including Vail Resorts and Vail Health, as well as the community-at-large. After being inactive for more than a decade, the advisory panel format is being used to provide input and recommendations to the Town Council on how best to combine management of public parking, transit and traffic operations to provide convenient and reliable access to shopping, dining, entertainment, jobs and recreation in Vail year-round.

**Winter Parking**

Many of the advisory recommendations forwarded to the Town Council by the Parking & Transportation Task Force were adopted for the 2017-2018 ski season, including pricing adjustments. For the first time in 10 years, winter parking rates were increased for the Vail Village and Lionshead parking structures as well as pricing adjustments for season pass holders. The new fee structure is intended to help meet the town’s goal to limit the amount of overflow parking on the South Frontage Road and to encourage use of free outlying parking and transit. Another change was a reduction in the free parking period in the structures from two-hours to 90-minutes to improve availability of close-in parking. A \$50 fee for overnight parking was enacted to discourage vehicle storage. Extra bus service and a \$5-off parking coupon program for the business community was introduced to help offset the pricing increases.

**Summer Parking**

During the summer, drivers pulled a ticket to gain entry to free parking in the structures to help the town learn about arrival times, departures and length of stay. The information is being evaluated by the Parking & Transportation Task Force to determine if additional management solutions will be recommended in anticipation of a 26-month closure and demolition of the Vail Health parking structure to make room for construction of a new garage on the campus. During the interim, on-site parking will be available for patients and guests, while the town and hospital will work together to address off-site parking solutions. Previous summer management techniques have included express bus service along the frontage road to event venues in Ford Park; extension of the in-town transit route to Ford Park via Vail Valley Drive; a mix of reserved, paid and free parking at Ford Park and restricting use of the South Frontage Road for overflow parking. The town’s overflow parking goal is a maximum of 15 days in summer and 15 days in winter.

PHOTO BY JACK AFFLECK



Overflow parking on South Frontage Road



## TRANSPORTATION IMPACT FEE

New development will continue to be required to help pay its own way following approval of a transportation impact fee and related fee schedule. The fee applies to new development, including creation of any new residential dwelling units or commercial floor area, and replaces an earlier traffic mitigation fee that had been collected for development in certain zone districts. Revenues will be used for new transportation-related infrastructure projects due to the increased vehicular, pedestrian and bicycle traffic from the incremental new development. The new impact fee does not apply to residential remodels where no additional units are added or to commercial remodels that do not increase square footage or change use. The town estimates development of approximately 2,000 new residential units and approximately 500,000 square feet of new commercial space in the next 25 years. Based on the projected growth, the list of pedestrian, transit and other transportation-related capital projects to accommodate the growth is estimated at \$95 million, of which 22% could be paid for by the impact fee. [vailgov.com/impact-fee](http://vailgov.com/impact-fee)



## PEDESTRIAN SAFETY

The first two phases of pedestrian safety improvements were completed during the year at key crossroad locations. The flashing beacons were installed at the Town Center and West Vail roundabouts, the Municipal Building crossing on South Frontage Road, the intersection of Vail Valley Drive and South Frontage Road, just west of the intersection of West Forest Road and South Frontage Road, and at the new Sandstone Underpass. Enhanced lighting at the roundabouts is planned for 2018 to complete the improvements, intended to increase the safe movement of pedestrians.



An impact fee on future development will be used for pedestrian, transit and other transportation-related projects.



# SUSTAINABILITY



*“Vail is a great example of the progress and success that destinations can have when they harness the power of travel and tourism as a force for good.”*

Geoff Bolan | CEO and Founder of Sustainable Travel International





*Think globally  
act locally*



The Town of Vail and Vail Mountain ask you to join us on this journey and embrace the mountain **IDEAL**:

## **I**nnovation

Innovate and try something new in sustainability. Support Actively Green businesses, eat locally grown food, celebrate with local artisans and musicians.

## **D**iversity

Protect local biodiversity and our mountain community's natural and cultural heritage. Discover how people from around the world make our community unique.

## **E**ducation

Take an active role in learning what it means to be a sustainable destination. Learn with us and share with others.

## **A**uthenticity

Seek out meaningful authentic experiences. Celebrate the special character and history of our mountain community.

## **L**eadership

Empower yourself and others by being a sustainability champion. Lend a hand and be the change you want to see in Vail.

### **TOP 100 SUSTAINABLE DESTINATION**

In pursuit of certification under the Mountain IDEAL standard for Sustainable Destinations, Vail was nominated and selected as one of the Global Top 100 Sustainable Destinations of 2017. The town was selected for this honor based on its history of preservation of open space and protection of sensitive areas, energy and water conservation efforts, sustainability programs, year-round tourism planning and collaborative planning efforts among local partners. Representatives from the Town of Vail were present in Cascais, Portugal in September to accept the award and present on best practices at Greenfest, the sustainable tourism conference connected to the awards.

### **MOUNTAIN IDEAL**

The Town of Vail received preliminary approval as a Certified Sustainable Destination under the Mountain IDEAL sustainable destination standard during the year. The Mountain IDEAL is a newly-recognized sustainability standard sponsored by the Global Sustainable Tourism Council. The Vail destination, which includes the entire Gore Creek watershed, the town boundaries and the Vail Mountain permit area, met the standards of a third party audit completed by Green Destinations in July 2017 with official certification pending in 2018. The town has partnered with Walking Mountains Science Center, Vail Resorts, Eagle River Water and Sanitation District, Vail Recreation District and the U.S. Forest Service on this project.

## GORE CREEK HEALTH

In its second year of implementation, the Gore Creek Strategic Plan made progress in addressing the listing of Gore Creek as an Impaired Waterway. In late 2017, aquatic macroinvertebrate studies from the previous year were published, providing cause for cautious optimism about the future success of the town's efforts to Restore the Gore. The town saw increases in sensitive aquatic macroinvertebrate species in most monitoring locations on Gore Creek. Remediation actions have included a reduction in pesticide application by 92% on town property, numerous habitat restoration projects, public education, landscaper workshops and community partnerships to build support. The town was also the recipient of three grants toward infrastructure and habitat improvements from the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment, Colorado Parks and Wildlife Fishing is Fun Program and Great Outdoors Colorado, totaling over \$300,000.

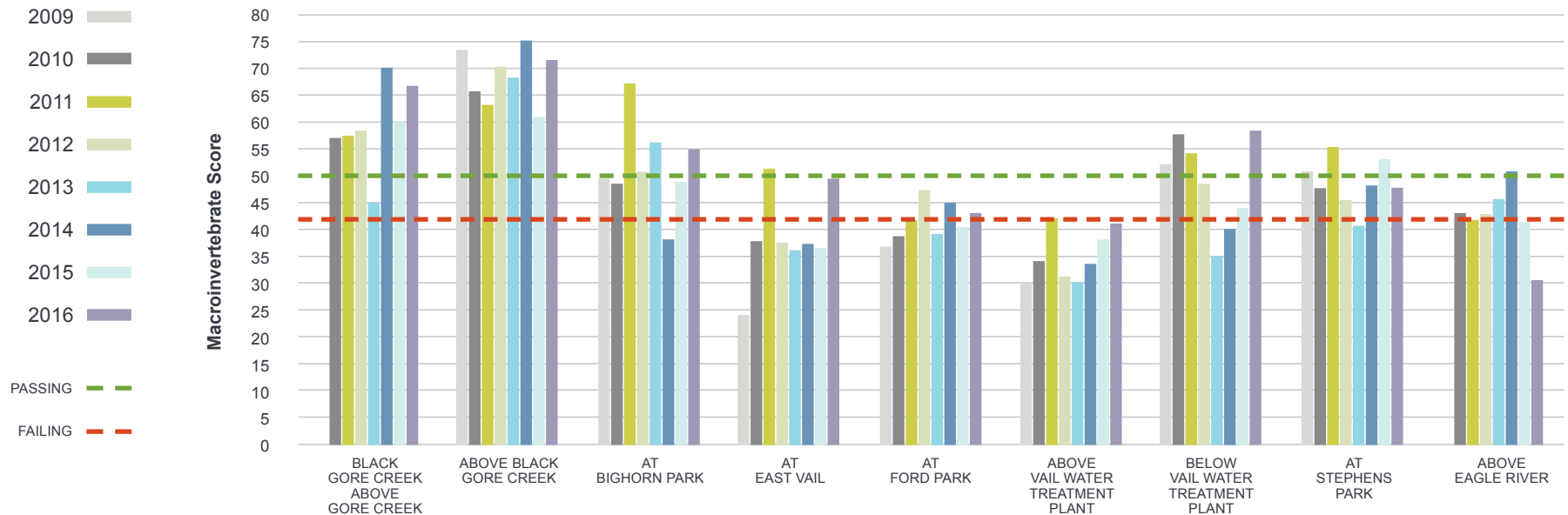
## CLIMATE ACTION COMMITMENT AND PARTNERSHIP

As the Town of Vail remains committed to working diligently toward its 20% by 2020 local emissions reductions goal, Vail Town Council took several actions to show its resolve to continue its work on climate change at the national, state and local levels. This included joining:

- Mayors National Climate Action Agenda
- Compact of Colorado Communities
- Eagle County Climate Action Collaborative
- Colorado Communities for Climate Action

Our commitment as a town is strong, as our leaders accept the global scientific consensus that climate change is human-caused and a serious concern for resort communities like Vail whose values and identity are winter snow sport and environment-driven.

Gore Creek Macroinvertebrate Scores | Fall 2009 - Fall 2016

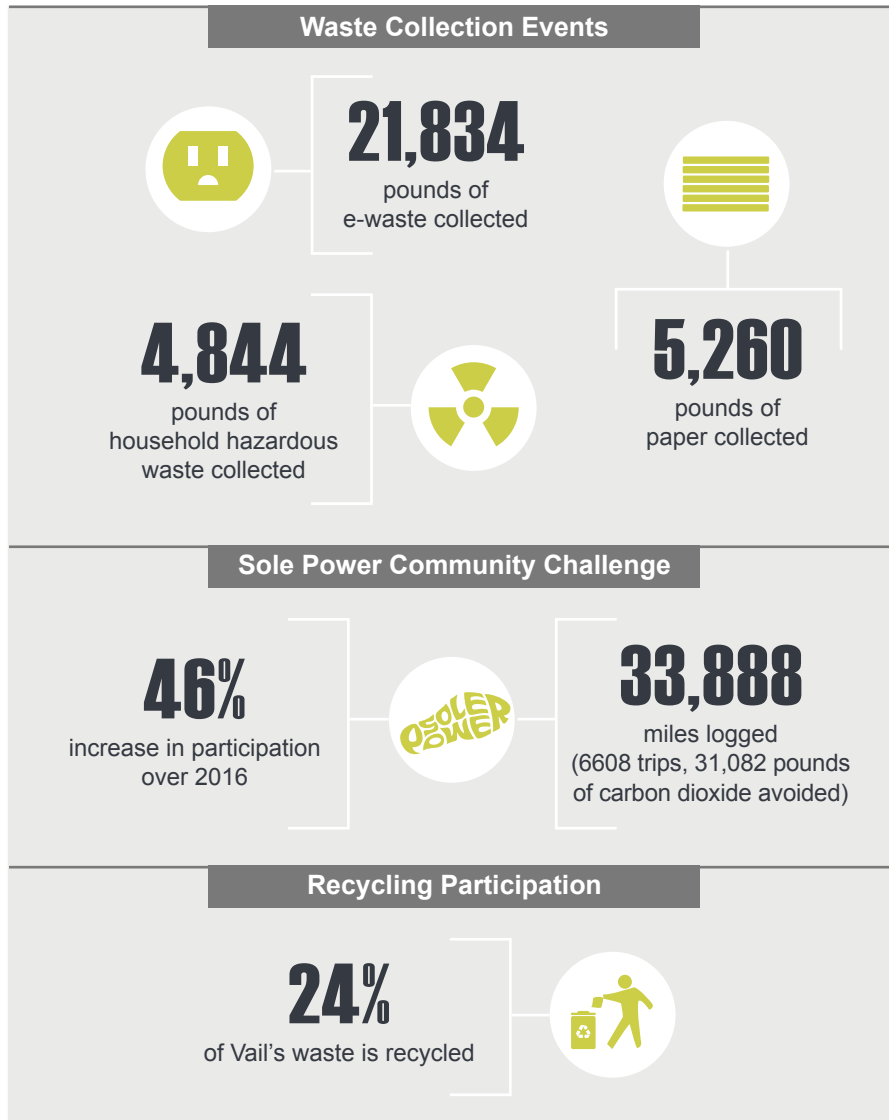


Each year Timberline Aquatics, on behalf of Eagle River Water & Sanitation District, samples macroinvertebrate populations at nine locations on Gore and Black Gore creeks. These measurements count sensitive insects like caddisflies, stoneflies and mayflies that indicate healthy water quality. While developed areas are the most at risk, managers are hopeful recent data indicate an upward trend.





## 2017 SUSTAINABILITY EVENT TOTALS



## COMPREHENSIVE OPEN LANDS PLAN UPDATE

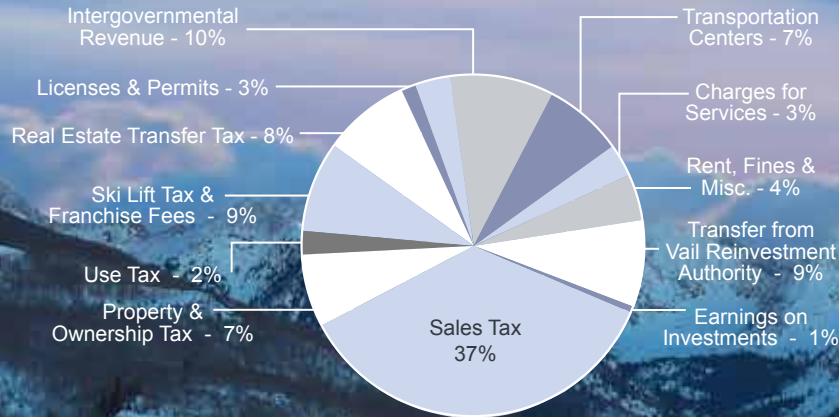
The process to update the 1994 Comprehensive Open Lands Plan continued during the year with community engagement and input from technical expert groups. Trails scoping sessions and community workshops focused on protection of lands, trails, acquisition of private lands and the future use of remaining town lands. As a result of the collective feedback, the draft plan added additional emphasis on acquiring lands to protect Gore Creek water quality, improving Vail's trail system and neighborhood connections, managing lands for biodiversity and preventing habitat fragmentation. The draft update was reviewed by the Planning and Environmental Commission and will be forwarded to the Town Council for consideration in spring 2018. [vailgov.com/openlandsupdate](http://vailgov.com/openlandsupdate)

## WILDLIFE IN FOCUS

While Vail remains home to an abundance and variety of flora and fauna, a renewed focus on wildlife populations, habitat and trends began in 2017. Local moose and bear populations are on the rise, as they are more tolerant of human presence, as are mountain lions, which are adaptable. Conversely, Colorado Parks and Wildlife has tracked steady declines in deer and elk populations in and around the Gore Creek valley in recent years and the iconic East Vail bighorn sheep herd has seen some ups and downs over the last decade. Biologists have identified recreation, disease, predators, food sources and habitat fragmentation as contributing factors in impacting fluctuations in the local wildlife populations. To help improve habitat connectivity and migration corridors, Vail is participating in the Safe Passages for Wildlife program. The town is also a lead organization in an \$80,000 multi-community grant to help the town's understanding of Vail's biodiversity strengths and weaknesses. Vail, Boulder, San Francisco, Portland and other communities will support the use of the iNaturalist App, which allows citizens to collect and report species sightings. The data will contribute to a GPS-enabled mapping application that may ultimately aid in decision-making. In addition, the update to the 1994 Open Lands Plan will incorporate the need to assess wildlife impacts in land-use decisions in a more deliberate way.

## 2017 MUNICIPAL BUDGET

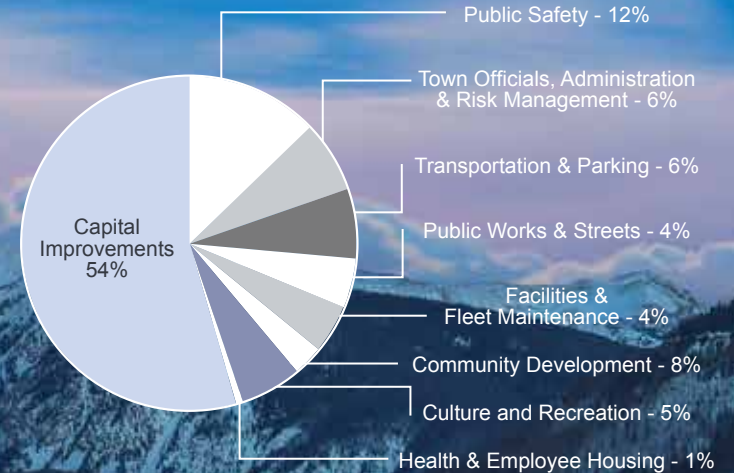
### Where the Money Comes From



Taxes generate 62% of the town's \$71.1 million annual budgeted revenues for 2017, with sales tax making up the largest portion at 36%, real estate transfer tax at 8%, property and ownership tax at 7%, ski lift tax and franchise fees at 9% and construction use tax at 2%.

### Where the Money Went

#### Municipal Spending by Area



Municipal services accounted for \$51.3 million, or 46% of budgeted 2017 expenditures, with the remaining 54% (\$59 million) spent on capital improvements.

## FUNDING FUTURE CAPITAL PROJECTS WITH RESERVES

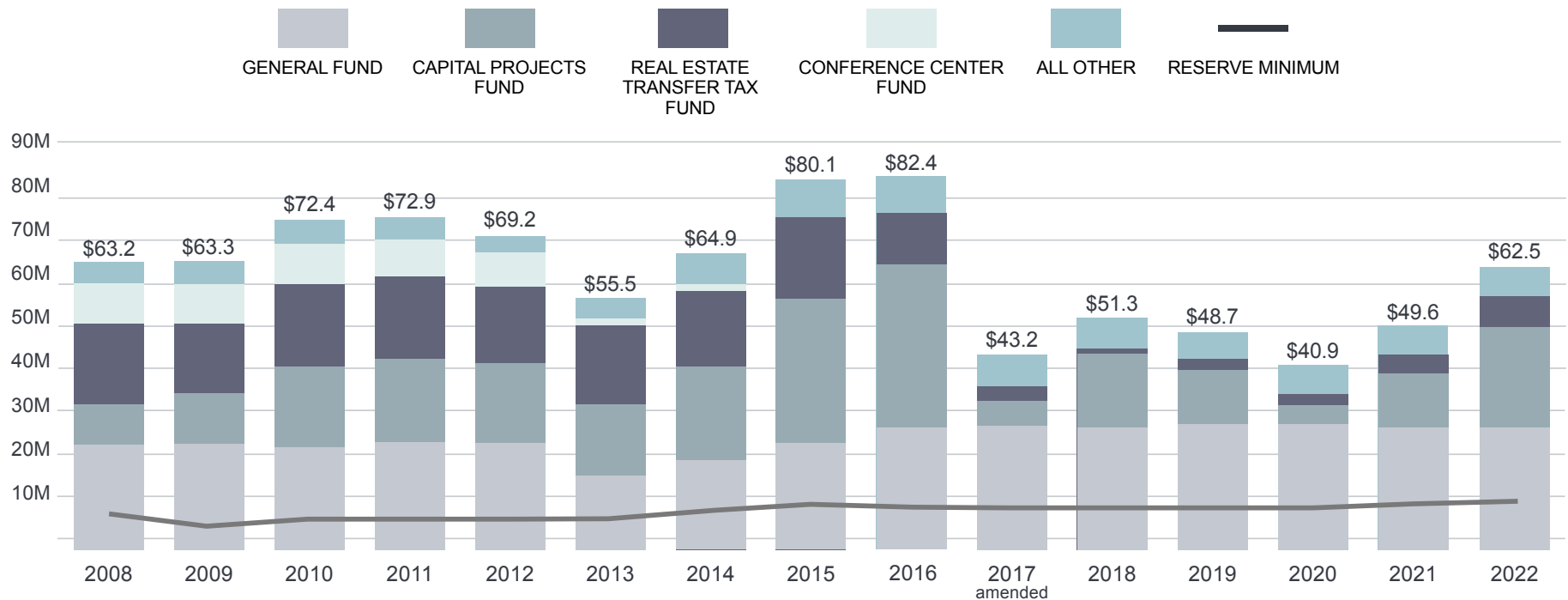
Town reserves are projected at \$43.2 million for year-end 2017 from a previous high of \$82 million in 2016. The Town Council strategically utilized cash reserves to fund a variety of capital projects rather than incur debt. Some of the larger projects include the Chamonix Vail townhomes, the sales of which will replenish reserves by \$17 million during 2018. Other cash-funded projects in 2017 included completion of the Sandstone Underpass, \$9.1 million; continued pedestrian safety enhancements and wayfinding, \$1.7 million; the purchase of 15 bus replacements, \$6.6 million; and ongoing Gore Creek water quality projects, \$1.5 million.

The town develops a five-year capital projects plan during each annual budget cycle. Other than the capital maintenance of municipal assets, future capital

investments are planned for repairs to the Gore Valley Trail in West Vail, transit stop improvements, water quality infrastructure improvements identified in the Gore Creek Strategic Plan, construction of a multi-level parking structure at Red Sandstone Elementary School, annual funding of the Vail InDEED deed-restriction purchase program, road reconstruction in East Vail and bridge replacements at Nugget Lane and Bridge Road.

Based on a policy directive from the Town Council, minimum reserves in the general fund are never to drop below 25% of annual revenue streams, or approximately \$9.7 million. General fund reserves were \$27.3 million at the close of the year. The town has been debt-free since December 2012.

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



Based on Town Council policy directive, minimum reserves in the general fund are never to drop below 25% of annual revenue streams, or approximately \$9.7 million for 2017. General fund reserves are currently \$27.3 million and are projected to remain stable. Looking to the future, town reserves will be replenished in 2018 from sales of townhomes at Chamonix Vail.

# Finding a Balance with Short-Term Rentals

With the growth in popularity of short-term rental properties in Vail, the Town Council spent numerous meetings in 2017 listening to citizen testimony on the positive and challenging aspects of this evolving industry. In December, new regulations were approved with a delayed implementation date of March 1, 2018, to allow for property owners and managers to prepare for the changes and to create an administrative tracking and complaint system managed by the town. Earlier in the year, it was reported that Vail had over 2,300 short-term rental units, or 31% of total residential units.

During deliberations, the Town Council weighed citizen concerns about residential neighborhood integrity, unfair business competition, occupant safety and availability of affordable housing. Other points of view offered support for the short-term rental market as a means for owners to help pay for their housing in Vail, an investment tool to encourage real estate sales and an opportunity to provide a variety of lodging options for Vail guests. A study was completed, as well as public input sessions and an online survey to help identify the most critical elements for the regulations to address. Key provisions of the adopted requirements include:

- Short-term rental license required for each property to be renewed annually by owner
- Courtesy notification of a duplex neighbor's intent to short-term rent the adjoining unit
- Acknowledgment of town life-safety, noise and parking regulations
- Local property contact for emergency response
- Posting of the rental's physical address and other contact information within the interior of the rental unit



PHOTO BY JACK AFFLECK

The new short-term rental regulations are intended to address a wide variety of concerns and ensure increased compliance with licensing and tax collections.

Based on feedback from the community, the town is also implementing a complaint process for concerned neighbors, including an online and phone hotline (**970.331.0632**) for non-emergency issues such as noise, trash and parking. The new regulations require complaint resolution within 60 minutes; otherwise, a formal written complaint may be filed with the town. After three or more verified violations within a 12-month period, the town could revoke the license for two years. Given that there is no “one-size-fits-all” answer for the town in regulating short-term rentals, town staff will continue to monitor the process and gather feedback from the community.

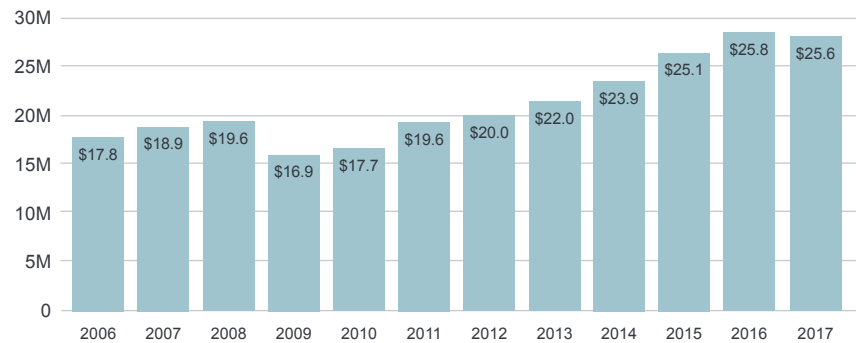
## Safety First Checklist

- Occupancy: 2 per bedroom plus 2 additional people within the property
- Smoke and carbon monoxide detectors
- Timely fireplace and stove maintenance
- Portable outdoor fireplaces prohibited
- Map or floor plan of emergency exits

## SALES TAX - Largest single revenue source

Sales tax collections of \$25.6 million in 2017 ended up less than 1% down from the prior year. A slow start to the 2017-2018 ski season saw December collections dip 3.8% compared to 2016. Collections were strongest during spring with a March/April combination up 13%. June and July followed, up 5.5% and 7.9%, respectively, due largely to the success of summer marketing and events. Impacts from renovation delays with the new Hotel Talisa and DoubleTree by Hilton® also contributed to the slowdown of growth earlier in the year due to a reduction of approximately 410 lodging units, representing a 10.4% decrease in available inventory.

Sales Tax Collections (\$ millions)



Sales tax collections are an important indicator of the resort community's overall economic health. Post-recession the town experienced increases averaging 8.4% per year. Since 2015 collections have leveled off.

## CONSTRUCTION ACTIVITY

Collections of Vail's construction use tax, which represent the equivalent of sales tax paid on building materials, totaled \$1.8 million in 2017, up 1.3% compared to the prior year. Since its inception in 2010, this tax has generated a total of \$12.5 million, contributing to the cash-funded capital projects throughout the town, including the West Vail Fire Station, Vail Village Transportation Center remodel and the Chamonix Vail townhomes. Other construction-related revenues, such as plan review and building permit fees, are up 5.6% from the prior year, generating a total of \$1.6 million in 2017 for general town operations.

## REAL ESTATE TRANSFERS

Real estate transfer tax collections of \$6.2 million in 2017 were down 8.4% from the prior year. Collections can vary from year to year especially when large commercial properties are sold, such as the ownership transfers in 2016 of the Vail Cascade and Four Seasons resorts. Without those large sales, 2017 collections would have been up 30% from the prior year with the majority of high dollar sales transactions coming from residential properties.

## Real Estate Transfer Tax

**1%**

RETT started in 1979

**25%**

more RETT collected for properties over \$10M in 2017 compared to 2016

**104%**

more RETT collected for properties between \$5M and \$10M in 2017 compared to 2016

**10%**

more RETT collected for properties between \$2.5M and \$5M in 2017 compared to 2016

# DEVELOPMENT

# HOME

*Growing a vibrant,  
diverse economy*

PHOTO BY ZACH MAHONE

## New Business Licenses in 2017

**18**

retail establishments  
(228 total)

**57**

lodging and property management  
(97 total)

**5**

food and beverage  
(106 total)

**11**

“other” category  
(189 total)

## WELCOME CENTER PROGRAMMING

In October, the Welcome Centers in Vail Village and Lionshead completed their first year of operation as a town-run function. The Welcome Centers provided more than 100,000 guests with useful information and assistance and an additional 100,000 guest interactions via the Community Host Program. The Welcome Center facilities were used for various functions including Lunch with Locals, a registration point for events, Ski and Snowboard Club Vail’s temporary “clubhouse,” drop-off and pick-up for Small Champions and the Eagle Valley Learn to Ski and Ride Program. The expanded use of the centers has highlighted the versatility of the recently-renovated spaces.

## JAPANESE GLOBAL FRIENDSHIP EXCHANGE

At the invitation of the Town Council, a 12-member Japanese delegation visited Vail in July to explore the possibility of a sisterhood exchange. The officials represented the northeast area of Nagano Prefecture which includes the Town of Yamanouchi Downtown and the Yamanouchi-machi tourism region. During a business meeting, Vail’s leadership and the Japanese dignitaries noted that both areas enjoy the spirit and the natural beauty of living in the mountains as well as numerous opportunities for information-sharing on best practices. A reciprocal visit by a 10-member Vail delegation was planned for 2018.



Mayor Dave Chapin greets Japanese dignitaries

COURTESY OF TASTE OF VAIL



## GREEN EVENTS

The Celebrate Green! special events program had one of the best years yet in 2017. In working with the town’s special event producers, waste diversion and sustainability efforts at events reached a new high. The Burton U.S. Open Snowboarding Championships purchased full carbon offsets to achieve a carbon neutral event. Working with Walking Mountains Science Center, five events achieved a zero waste or near zero waste status by providing opportunities for guests and vendors to compost or recycle a majority of their waste, practicing responsible purchasing, sorting waste to minimize contamination and providing on-site waste education.

## Percentage of Waste Recycled at each Event Funded by the Commission on Special Events

**92%**

Taste of Vail  
Mountaintop Picnic

**91%**

Vail Farmers’ Market & Art Show

**90%**

Taste of Vail  
Lamb Cookoff

**81%**

Gourmet on Gore

**72%**

GoPro Mountain Games

# \$3.9M

economic impact from Burton U.S. Open Snowboarding Championships

# 414,000

event attendees in 2017

# 44

events receiving Town of Vail funding

## SPECIAL EVENTS

Forty-four events received funding from the town in 2017. Thirty events that belong in the cultural/recreational/community category received a total of \$837,290 as recommended by the Commission on Special Events and approved by the Town Council. The largest allocation, \$90,000, was awarded to support the GoPro Mountain Games. New events highlighting the 2017 calendar were the Melee in the Mountains Roller Derby Tournament, Vail Craft Beer Classic, Slow Fashion Vail and Taste of Vail Fall Wine and Food Classic.

Other notable events funded during the year included the Vail Summer Bluegrass Concert Series, Vail Holidays™, Vail America Days™, Vail Oktoberfest™, Gourmet on Gore, Vail Kids Adventure Games, Spring Back to Vail, Vail Snow Days, Vail Farmers' Market and Art Show, Taste of Vail and Outlier Offroad Festival. Also funded were a full slate of athletic events including Vail Lacrosse Shootout, King of the Mountain Volleyball, Kick-It 3v3 Soccer and Vail Valley Soccer Cup. An additional \$151,500 was awarded to eight programs in the education/enrichment category.

In addition to the events funded by CSE, the Town Council allocated \$815,025 in economic development funds to support activities in the signature event category, including Bravo! Vail, Burton U.S. Open, Vail Jazz Festival, Vail Dance Festival and Hot Summer Nights Concert Series.

### Burton U.S. Open Snowboarding Championships

The 35th annual Burton U.S. Open saw some of the world's greatest snowboarders again converge on Vail for intensive competition and family fun Feb. 27 - March 4. The town again provided \$404,000 in sponsorship money for the fifth year to help bring the event to Vail. The event's return on investment included \$3.9 million-plus in direct economic impact from attendees and world-wide media impressions.

### Colorado Classic Bike Race 2018

In December, the Town Council voted to support two stages of the 2018 Colorado Classic to be held in Vail. The proposal, presented by the Vail Valley Foundation, includes a circuit race for elite men and women cyclists in Vail Village on Aug. 16 followed by a time trial for the racers on Aug. 17. The event will conclude with stages in Denver on Aug. 18 - 19. In voting to approve the VVF's funding request of \$310,000, plus \$65,000 for in-kind services, council members welcomed the possibility of a three-year commitment for the event, which is now in its second year, saying Vail's long tradition of cycling events has added excitement and vitality to the community. The Vail Valley Foundation will pair the stages with entertainment at the Ford Amphitheater to enhance the appeal of the event and extend the positive economic impact to the town.

## NEW EVENTS IN 2018

**JANUARY - MARCH**  
The Steadman Clinic  
Vail Cup

**FEBRUARY 8 - 10**  
TedxVail

**MAY 4**  
Legacy Fighting  
Alliance

**AUGUST 16 - 17**  
Colorado Classic

**NOVEMBER 12 - 18**  
Vail Mountaineers  
Hockey Sportsmanship  
Tournament (weekends)



Vail Mountaineers Hockey



COURTESY OF VAIL MOUNTAINEERS

COURTESY OF TEDx VAIL





PHOTO BY JOHN RYAN LOCKMAN

Vail Summer Bluegrass Concert Series



COURTESY OF HIGHLINE

Vail America Days™



COURTESY OF VAIL VALLEY FOUNDATION

GoPro Mountain Games



COURTESY OF HIGHLINE

Vail Oktoberfest™



COURTESY OF VAIL LACROSSE SHOOTOUT

Vail Lacrosse Shootout



PHOTO BY GABE L. HEUREUX

BURTON  
**U.S. OPEN**  
SNOWBOARDING CHAMPIONSHIPS

*“Our goal is to provide programming that appeals to both guests and the local community and also brings a strong financial return on investment to the town.”*

Barry Davis | Commission on Special Events Chair

# NEW & IMPROVED



## A VIBRANT VAIL

Renovations and redevelopments benefited neighborhoods and the greater community with significant public and private reinvestment during the year. The newly renovated playground at Booth Creek Park, with its hand-crafted play structures, drew thumbs up from users of all ages who gathered for the park's reopening in June. A picnic pavilion, restroom, turf grass play area, paved walkways, on-street parking and two hard-surface tennis courts maintained by the Vail Recreation District completed the three-year-long renovation.

### Booth Creek Park

**\$2.4M**

in renovation cost

**48.5%**

of park site left undisturbed

**91.3%**

of existing trees  
on site protected

**436**

new trees and  
shrubs planted

## INVESTING IN OUR FUTURE

### Vail Health Hospital West Wing Opens

Vail Valley Medical Center announced its new name, Vail Health, in August, the same evening its new west wing was dedicated, signifying two major milestones in the health care system's history. The first phase of construction on Vail Health Hospital began in 2015, and upon completion just two years later, the community and guests were already benefiting from a new cardiac catheterization lab, new pre- and post-operative rooms, an upgraded Patient Care Unit and Intensive Care Unit, a new fourth floor for The Steadman Clinic, additional research space for the Steadman Philippon Research Institute and an expanded physical therapy clinic for Howard Head Sports Medicine. With the west wing complete, Vail Health has turned its focus to the second phase of construction on the east wing, which will include a new Emergency Department, relocated helipad on the medical center campus, a new main entrance to the hospital from South Frontage Road and additional parking.

### Hotel Talisa Debuts

In November, Vail's newest luxury hotel, Hotel Talisa, opened for its inaugural winter season following a \$65 million renovation. The former Vail Cascade property offers 285 new accommodations, spa and other upscale amenities, including a new restaurant, Gessner, along with après everyday in the Fireside Lounge and bar.

### Marriott Residence Inn

Approval of a development agreement is one of the few remaining steps needed before construction of the Marriott Residence Inn can begin following Town Council approval of a Special Development District application in 2017. The development would occur on the former Roost Lodge property on North Frontage Road. The project approval includes an extended stay hotel with 170 limited service lodge rooms, plus a rental apartment component to include 102 one- and two-bedroom apartments, 96 of which would be deed-restricted in perpetuity for employee housing. Also included in the approval is a two-level subgrade parking structure containing 331 parking spaces.



Vail Health | West Wing



Hotel Talisa

# PEOPLE

Mayor Dave Chapin enjoys a chat with a young participant during the ribbon cutting for Booth Creek Park.

## **SENSE OF COMMUNITY**

There's something special about Vail that draws people in from all corners of the world. We share a remarkable passion for this place. Our leaders, community members and employees take great pride in what we do and are rewarded by the simple pleasures in making Vail a better place to live and visit.



Top row / left to right Mayor Dave Chapin, Jen Mason, Greg Moffet, Mayor Pro Tem Jenn Bruno, Town Manager Greg Clifton Bottom row / left to right Travis Coggin, Kim Langmaid, Kevin Foley

## SOME FAMILIAR FACES, SOME NEW

Voters returned three incumbents and elected a newcomer to fill four openings on the Vail Town Council during the Municipal Election in November which included ten candidates. **Dave Chapin** and **Jenn Bruno** were the top vote-getters and were elected to four-year terms, earning unanimous reappointment by the Town Council in their roles as mayor and mayor pro tem for the next two years. **Travis Coggin**, in his first run for Town Council, won the third four-year term. Incumbent **Greg Moffet** finished fourth and received a two-year term. They're joined by **Kevin Foley**, **Kim Langmaid** and **Jen Mason** whose service extends to the next municipal election in 2019.



Greg Clifton

## WELCOME NEW VAIL TOWN MANAGER

After a thorough recruitment process that included an expanded search for qualified candidates and a series of on-site interviews with multiple finalists, **Greg Clifton** has become Vail's new town manager, fulfilling one of the Town Council's biggest decisions of the year. He has been on the job since September and has been spending his time listening and getting to know the community. Before moving to Vail, Clifton was the town manager in Telluride. He's also held city attorney and town manager positions in the Western Slope communities of Montrose, Ouray and Ridgway. Throughout his 20-plus year career, Clifton's presence has been felt across the state, serving as president of the Colorado Municipal League in 2001. In 2012 he received the City and County Manager of the Year award presented by the Colorado City and County Management Association. He currently serves as a founding board member of the Colorado Communities for Climate Action, a statewide group that focuses on climate action planning. His familiarity of the challenges and opportunities within the resort community environment make him a great fit for Vail. He succeeds **Stan Zemler** as the town's seventh manager.

PHOTO BY REX KEEP



Mia Vlaar

### NEW DIRECTOR

#### Mia Vlaar | Economic Development

In November, Mia Vlaar was introduced as the town’s new economic development director with a start date in January 2018. Vlaar brings a wealth of knowledge and experience to the position, having served in a number of corporate, government and non-profit marketing and management roles since moving to the valley in 1988. She most recently served as the director of sales and marketing for East West Destination Hospitality. She replaced Kelli McDonald, who resigned in September after 10 years on the job. McDonald was credited with helping to create a unified approach to marketing the Vail brand year-round and for her professionalism and extensive partnerships she forged throughout the community.

### ELECTED VICE PRESIDENT

#### International Association of Chiefs of Police

#### Dwight Henninger | Vail Police Chief

Vail’s professionalism in the public safety community is being recognized worldwide with the election of Chief Dwight Henninger as 4th Vice President of the International Association of Chiefs of Police. The election took place in October during IACP’s annual conference in Philadelphia. Chief Henninger will advance through the executive board positions, eventually becoming president in 2021-2022. Throughout his service on the IACP executive board, Henninger intends to continue as Vail’s police chief. The IACP serves 30,000 members from over 9,000 agencies in the U.S. and 150 countries. Chief Henninger has been Vail’s police chief since 2002 and is known for building collaborative partnerships, relations with our immigrant communities and emergency management.



PHOTO BY REX KEEP

Dwight Henninger

PHOTO BY JACK AFFLECK



Charlie Turnbull

### PROFESSIONAL MANAGER OF THE YEAR

#### Colorado Chapter of American Public Works Association

#### Charlie Turnbull | Vail Streets Superintendent

A fitting tribute to a 40-year veteran in the town’s Public Works and Transportation Department occurred in October when Charlie Turnbull was named Professional Manager of the Year. Turnbull can be seen on any given day walking the streets of Vail to ensure his crews are upholding the “Vail Standards” of maintenance and cleanliness as evidenced by some of the highest and most consistent scores on the town’s citizen survey year after year. Turnbull started his career with the town as a maintenance worker, then a heavy equipment operator. In 2000, his hard work was rewarded when he was promoted to his current position.



Vi and Byron Brown

## 2017 VAIL TRAILBLAZER AWARD

### Vi & Byron Brown

Longtime community members Vi and the late Byron Brown were honored as recipients of the Trailblazer Award in recognition of their 50-plus years of civic involvement. Their arrival in Vail in 1964 began a legacy which included key roles in establishing Vail as a ski racing mecca, with their involvement in creating Ski Club Vail and helping to bring the first World Cup ski races as well as the 1989 Alpine World Ski Championships to Vail. The Browns were also recognized for their role in organizing and supporting the Eagle Valley Community Fund. After participating in the award recognition earlier in the year, Byron passed away in September. Presented by the Town Council, the Trailblazer award has been established as an annual civic recognition.

[vailgov.com/trailblazeraward](http://vailgov.com/trailblazeraward)

PHOTO BY DOMINIQUE TAYLOR



**92%**

of town employees  
feel good about contributing  
to the community

**91%**

of town employees  
feel proud to tell others  
"I work here"

## TOWN OF VAIL AWARDED GREAT PLACE TO WORK CERTIFICATION

The Town of Vail has officially verified what most employees already know – it's a Great Place to Work! Verification came in the form of an independent analysis following a review of workplace ratings provided by town employees in anonymous surveys. In addition to honoring the town's culture of teamwork, guest service and camaraderie, the workplace certification provides a benchmark for ongoing efforts to foster an innovative and inclusive workplace and serves as a valuable recruitment tool for future employment opportunities. The town offers a strong benefit package as well as home-buyer assistance, tuition reimbursement and healthy living programs. The town employs 259 full-time employees and an additional 80 seasonal and part-time employees. [vailgov.com/jobs](http://vailgov.com/jobs)



# FIRE



## Vail Intermountain Fuels Reduction Project

- Reducing fuels available for wildfire
- Regenerating areas of unhealthy aspen
- Improving wildlife habitat

PARTNERS: Town of Vail, U.S. Forest Service, Colorado State Forest Service, Eagle County, The Nature Conservancy, National Forest Foundation, Vail Resorts, Colorado Parks and Wildlife

50

acres of  
tree removal work

800,000

board feet of  
wood removed

\$1.1M

cost of project



PHOTOS BY TOWNSEND BESSENT



# Building on our preparedness

## CURBSIDE WILDFIRE HOME HAZARD EVALUATIONS

Vail firefighters have begun a multi-year, door-to-door canvass of residential neighborhoods to help community members learn how best to protect their property from a wildfire. The effort is part of a larger Fire Adapted Vail Initiative which aims to reduce the community’s overall risk by encouraging the use of ignition-resistant construction and fire-resistive landscaping around the home. During the first canvass, which took place July through October, firefighters conducted advisory evaluations of 800 properties south of I-70 from Matterhorn Circle to the west end of Intermountain. An evaluation checklist was mailed to households in advance of the curbside assessment which includes roofing and siding materials as well as the landscaping that surrounds the home. Only items that are visible from the roadway or other public areas were evaluated. Upon completion of the evaluation, property owners received a follow-up letter from the department describing the results and recommended measures that can be taken to reduce any hazards on the property. An invitation to schedule a more thorough evaluation of the property was also offered. Additional evaluations will be taking place over the next several years to complete the town-wide effort. The next area of focus will be taking place in West Vail on the north side of I-70 from the west end of town through the Buffehr Creek area.

## ALL-RISK FIREFIGHTERS

A vehicle accident in September involving a semi-truck on I-70 at Vail Pass demonstrated the wide variety of skills that Vail firefighters possess. In this incident, a loaded semi-truck plunged off the highway into a deep ravine. The vehicle landed in Gore Creek where it then caught fire while leaking diesel fuel into the creek. The fire also spread to nearby trees. This complex scene required Vail firefighters to simultaneously use skills in technical rope rescue, vehicle fire suppression, wildland fire suppression, water rescue and vehicle extrication. Firefighters are required to train for a minimum of two hours each shift and maintain certifications in hazardous materials response, swiftwater rescue, ice rescue and technical rope rescue.

## Vail Fire & Emergency Services Response Calls

	2014	2015	2016	2017
Structure Fires	15	16	13	10
Vehicle Fires	11	15	15	9
Wildland Fires	11	8	14	11
Rescue/Emergency Medical	574	526	540	592
Motor Vehicle Accidents	231	131	180	149
False Alarms	526	607	599	537
Hazardous Materials	73	79	93	80
Service Calls	133	112	143	175
Smoke Reports	275	170	41	52
Miscellaneous	48	60	277	328
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1,949</b>	<b>1,897</b>	<b>1,724</b>	<b>1,943</b>



I-70 at Vail Pass response | September 2017



# ROLES

PHOTO BY JACK AFFLECK



## Vail Crime Statistics

	2014	2015	2016	2017
Total Arrests	680	797	666	728
Burglary	26	20	33	29
Larceny/Theft	284	282	296	277
Ski/Board Theft*	70	66	58	62
Motor Vehicle Theft	9	10	10	18
Assault	47	57	67	36
Fraud	81	93	91	140
DUI/DWAI	52	57	62	49
Drugs	55	136	126	122
Vandalism	115	102	116	109
Sexual Offenses	9	9	10	5
Trespassing	54	43	61	67
Trespassing - Vehicular**	30	18	18	24
Disorderly Conduct	44	47	34	49
Obstructing/Resisting	19	15	24	18
Protective Custody	52	51	33	49

<b>Call Volume</b>	<b>2017 - 35,788</b>	<b>2015 - 37,072</b>
	<b>2016 - 34,502</b>	<b>2014 - 34,720</b>

\* Ski and Snowboard Theft is included in Larceny/Theft  
 \*\* Vehicle Trespassing is included in Trespassing

# Building relationships with the community

## Community Outreach

The Police Department took part in a series of outreach activities during the year, which included the annual coat drive which has distributed over 3,800 coats to kids and families in need over the years; Shop with a Cop which served 51 children in 2017; Coffee with a Cop; National Night Out; Special Olympics events which included Tip a Cop and Freezin' for a Reason; and Adopt-A-Trail.

## Year-Round Medication Drop Box

An official safe disposal site for unused or expired household medications was established in the Vail Municipal Building in May, funded by the Colorado Household Medication Take-Back Program and administered by the Colorado Department of Public Health & Environment. Prescription and over-the-counter medications, as well as vitamins, can be disposed of safely in the drop box. The disposal service is free and items may be deposited anonymously with no questions asked.

## Bilingual Police Academy Recruit

To improve communications with Spanish-speaking community members, the department introduced a scholarship program offering tuition-free enrollment to the police academy for bilingual recruits. The first recipient, Elena Sanchez, an Eagle-Vail resident, finished her training in December and has begun her police officer field training.

## VAIL PUBLIC SAFETY COMMUNICATIONS CENTER

### Using Cutting-Edge Technology for Life-Safety Response

To meet the rapidly changing world of 911, the Vail Communications Center completed a significant remodel and upgrade of its location within the Police Department that has provided improved functionality and a technological base that will last into the future. The 911 answering point serves 11 agencies throughout Eagle County, accommodating an increased call volume and multiple operational requirements.

The center uses cutting-edge hardware and software to assist both callers and responders with weather and traffic alerts, text-to-911 and satellite mapping. The center is also an IPAWS Alert Originator. The Integrated Public Alert & Warning System is a federal system that allows local agencies to send alerts to cell phones in the area, even if they haven't subscribed to the local EC Alert notification system ([ecalert.org](http://ecalert.org)). IPAWS is an important tool in our resort environment, and will be useful in the event critical emergency information, such as evacuation notices, needs to be communicated to locals and guests.

Of additional value to the community is the center's use of emergency medical dispatch protocols in which telecommunicators have been trained and certified to provide medical instruction over the phone for 911 calls.



The Vail Public Safety Communications Center is funded by user agencies and the Eagle County 911 Authority Board. The Town of Vail contributes approximately 25% of the center's \$2.6 million budget for its police and fire services.

**121,764**

calls made to emergency dispatch in 2017

**120**

police officers and deputies supported by Vail Public Safety Communications Center

**768**

EC Alerts sent to the public in 2017



### Eagle County Alert | [ecalert.org](http://ecalert.org)

Sign up and receive real-time emergency alerts, from weather and road conditions to important evacuation instructions. Filter the alerts to only receive the information you need.

# LIBRARY

# VAIL PUBLIC

*“Vail Public Library has been an absolute godsend. Topping all is the courteous, intelligent & occasionally witty professional staff!”*

Loren W. Hershey, Esq. | Patron

Join us!

## ANNUAL PROGRAMS FOR ALL AGES

### Year-Round

Healthy Lifestyle Series

Tech Studio

Adult Programming  
*including Concerts and Art Exhibits*

Children's Programming  
*including Story Time and Reading Buddies*

Book Clubs for All Ages

Outreach and Programming  
for Seniors

Yoga and Meditation

### Winter

Skiing Book Club

### January - March

One Book One Valley

### April

National Library Week

### June - August

Summer Reading Programs for All Ages

Walking Book Club

### October

National Friends of Libraries Week

For program details, visit  
[vaillibrary.com](http://vaillibrary.com)

## ANNUAL LIBRARY PROGRAMMING 2017 UPDATE

### One Book One Valley

The sixth year of the countywide reading initiative One Book One Valley took place as community members joined together to hear the chosen author who appeared in person to an audience of over 100 attendees at Colorado Mountain College in Edwards.

### Evenings of Engagement and Program Outreach

Over the course of the year, the library's Evenings of Engagement programming series entertained and informed nearly 700 attendees as it hosted dozens of performers from around the country.

### Healthy Lifestyle Series

Over 1,329 folks joined in these wellness programs: Gentle Yoga, Meditation, Country Western Dance and Zumba. Perfect for the body, mind and soul.

### Outside the Lines

The library participated for the third year in Outside the Lines, a national initiative to get libraries out into the community with a focus on community partnerships. The program kicked off in September with the 2nd Annual Family Scavenger Hunt around Vail Village and Lionshead. In addition, library staff hosted another book giveaway day at City Market in Vail where free books were distributed and staff members visited with community members about the library. New this year was the planting of a Little Free Library in Ellefson Park, which had been built by the participants in the Teen Summer Reading Program earlier in the year.

### Children's Services @ your library

The library's partnership with Red Sandstone Elementary School entered its sixth year in 2017 during which classes visited the library monthly to borrow materials and discover how to use its vast resources. Tech Studio and Robotics Club continued to offer computer and digital opportunities to young patrons. The library began offering bilingual story time in June so that young patrons could begin to learn a second language. This program is offered every Saturday morning for both locals as well as guests.

### Actively Green

The library continued its participation in the Actively Green program with additional training at Walking Mountains Science Center. A new monitoring system for composting and recycling was implemented. Programming also focused on education and use of a new waste/recycle/compost bin for the Community Room. The library was certified Actively Green in 2015 and achieved Gold Level Status in the State of Colorado's Environmental Leadership Program awarded by the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment in 2016. Vail Public Library remains the only library in the state to have achieved this status.



Help fund these complimentary library programs by purchasing Vail Public Library coffee and teas, crafted locally by Vail Mountain Coffee & Tea. For sale at the library's service desk.

PHOTO BY JACK AFFLECK



Story Time

PHOTO BY JACK AFFLECK



Tech Studio



Actively Green  
weighing the library's weekly recycling

# ART

# IN PUBLIC PLACES

**ART** IN VAIL.COM

## ANNUAL PROGRAMS

### YEAR-ROUND

Vail Art Pass

### SUMMER

Free Art Walks through  
Vail Village

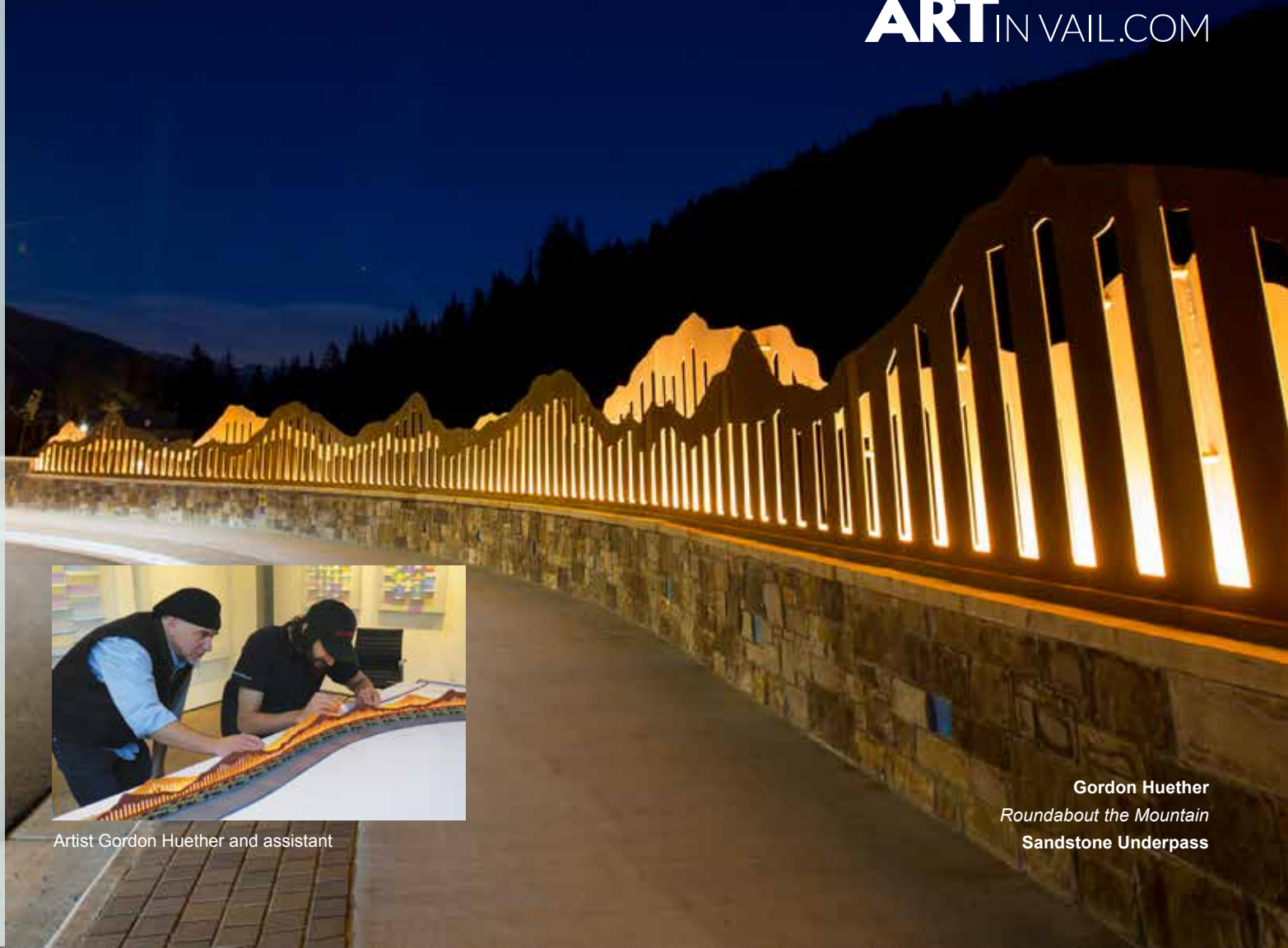
### WINTER

Free Art Walks through  
Vail Village

Vail Paper Lantern Project  
Winter Solstice Lantern Walk  
*Sponsored by Doe Browning*

Vail Winterfest Ice Theater  
*Presented by Vicki & Kent Logan*

For more information, visit  
[artinvail.com](http://artinvail.com)



Artist Gordon Huether and assistant

**Gordon Huether**  
*Roundabout the Mountain*  
**Sandstone Underpass**

## 2017 FEATURED ART INSTALLATIONS

### Sandstone Underpass - *Roundabout the Mountain* by Gordon Huether

The 112-foot Corten steel mountain silhouette art installation is a visual experience for both cars and pedestrians while serving as a headlight glare screen. Fused blue glass panels embedded in the stone wall represent the Gore Creek which lies to the south of the roundabout. Huether's work ranges from large architectural installations for public commissions to small intimate works of art for private collections and residences. The award-winning artist was recently selected to feature his art throughout the redevelopment of the Salt Lake City International Airport.



Ben Roth and assistant working on-site behind the Vail Public Library



### Art Donation

AIPP accepted the donation "53" *Birthday Series* by the late Rod Kagan from Ketchum, Idaho. Kagan's most iconic sculptural style is representative of modern totems. "53" *Birthday Series*, installed on Vail Valley Drive by the soccer field, is comprised of three works creating a contemporary interpretation of the totem. His sculptures are in

many private and public collections throughout the United States and abroad. Many are on permanent display at the Boise Art Museum, Idaho.

### Paintings at Vail Golf & Nordic Clubhouse *(right)*

Two paintings by Mai Wyn Schantz are now on view at the clubhouse. Schantz's preferred medium is painting on metal. Her work evokes a contemporary beauty found in nature through this industrial material. She has been exhibiting in gallery solo and group exhibitions, art centers and museums since 1999 and was recognized as one of three artists to watch in 2017 by Fine Art Connoisseur magazine.

### Symmetree by Ben Roth

Ben Roth, artist of the acclaimed beetle-killed lodgepole pine installation *Singing Trees* 2010, returned to Vail this summer to create another temporary environmental installation. Working with felled diseased spruce trees, the interactive installation captures the raw beauty of nature. His creations engage the viewer with their curious sense of design and space. A native of Colorado, Roth currently resides in Jackson, Wyoming.

Painting by Denver artist Mai Wyn Schantz



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