



Snowmass Village Parks, Open Space, Trails and Recreation Plan

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Chapter 1. INTRODUCTION

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About Snowmass Village

The Town of Snowmass Village (Snowmass Village or the Town) is a Home Rule Municipality in Pitkin County, Colorado nestled high within the Brush Creek Valley. The community is strongly associated with the world-class Snowmass Ski Area operated by the Aspen Skiing Company and has had a strong recreational identity since its incorporation in 1977. Encompassing 25-square-miles, the Town boasts superior recreational opportunities, spanning everything from organized group sports to remote wilderness experiences to authentic weekly summer rodeos.

In addition to recreation, Snowmass Village's natural setting is a key feature of the community, and a core reason for choosing to locate here. Mountains surround the community, including Burnt Mountain Ridge, Burnt Mountain, Baldy Mountain, Chapel Peak, Garret Peak, Clark Peak, Mount Daly, and Capitol Peak. Owl Creek and Brush Creek converge within the Town and then flow north into the Roaring Fork River. The geology and vegetation in the Town ranges from high desert to high alpine environments, and the expanses of exposed gray bedrock help inform the identity of the community. On south-facing slopes, the alkaline soil that develops from the Mancos Shale supports Gambel oak, sagebrush, serviceberry, and chokecherry. The north-facing slopes feature aspen, subalpine fir, Douglas fir, Engelmann spruce, and blue spruce. Wildlife is plentiful throughout the Brush Creek Valley, and include black bear, elk, moose, mule deer, porcupine, raccoon, coyote, beaver, skunk, badger, bobcat, mountain lion and red fox, among others.

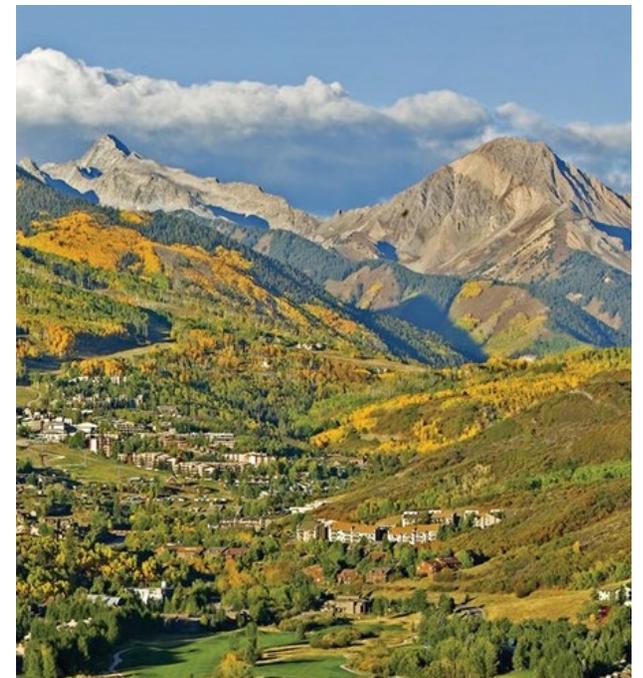
Town owned recreational resources are managed by the Town of Snowmass Village Parks, Recreation and Trails Department, which houses a staff of 24 employees. The Parks, Recreation and Trails Department is directed by the Town Manager and the Town Council, with the overall management and administration of department resources handled by the Parks, Recreation and Trails Director. The mission of the Town of Snowmass Village Parks, Recreation and Trails Department is to "Provide safe, expertly managed recreation programs and facilities that promote community cohesion, physical fitness, as well as family and individual well-being."

Community Character and Goals

In the 2010 Town of Snowmass Village Comprehensive Plan, the community characterizes itself with the following attributes, all of which have informed the development of this POSTR plan:

- A premier sports mountain with a wide variety of terrain that attracts all levels of sports enthusiasts
- A resort that benefits from its proximity to Aspen, but has its own individual identity
- A strong connection to the natural environment
- Stimulating atmosphere
- Significant opportunities for a variety of recreational and cultural activities
- A clustered, low-density development pattern that allows for the physical and visual openness and connection to the mountains to dominate valley views

- A Town Core that has an intimate, village feel
- A traffic system that allows convenient circulation, mobility, and parking
- Physical separation from other communities that allows Snowmass Village to be isolated in a dramatic valley setting
- Friendly interactions with community members and guests
- The presence of a vital, permanent community of residents that not only takes an active role in governance but values participation in "community life" as a whole
- A casual lifestyle



Who is Snowmass Village?

Residents



Permanent Population:
2,826



55% Male 45% Female



Median Age: 40.0



56% Residential Units
Permanently Occupied



33% of Workforce
Live in Village

Overnight Visitors



Peak Season Effective
Population: 11,000



Nearly 40% Arrive
with Children



Primarily Baby Boomers
(50-69)



38% Residential Units for
Part Time Residents



Annual Occupancy: 45%
Peak Season Occupancy: 84%

Recreation



4.6 Acres of Parkland
Per 1,000 Residents



26.5 Miles of
Unpaved Trails



7.6 Miles of Paved Trails



5.5 Miles of Groomed
Nordic Trails



4 Playgrounds



About This Plan

Parks and recreation, spending time outdoors, incredible scenic views, and family atmosphere are all integral to life in Snowmass Village. They are the reasons why many people move here, choose to visit, or buy second homes here. The Snowmass Ski Area and the immense recreational opportunity afforded there has shaped the Town’s physical form, identity and quality of life since its inception and the Town’s parks, open space and trails offerings have played an increasingly important role in the recreational landscape of the Town and the region in recent decades.

The Parks, Open Space, Trails and Recreation Plan (POSTR Plan) is a long-range planning and implementation document to guide the future development of the parks, open space, recreation, and trails within the Town. A detailed inventory of current facilities provides a snapshot of what exists today and how those resources are serving the present-day population. Analysis of those resources, coupled with current trends and desires, reveals opportunities that may improve service levels and the ability of the Town to recapture the costs of providing outstanding facilities and programs to its residents. Lastly, the

POSTR Plan includes goals, recommendations and guidelines that articulate the community’s priorities and can guide decision-makers to invest in projects that meet the community’s vision for parks, open space, trails and recreation in Snowmass Village.

PROJECT AREA

The project area for the POSTR Plan encompasses all of the land area within the Town of Snowmass Village. Connections to National Forest, ski area, City of Aspen, Pitkin County and other recreational resources are also considered, but projects which fall outside the Town boundaries are beyond the scope of this project. Throughout the POSTR planning process, comments were received that pertain to Pitkin County, Forest Service or other lands and those comments have been passed on to the appropriate land manager or recreation provider where possible.

HOW TO USE THIS DOCUMENT

This POSTR Plan is both a reference tool to examine the existing conditions of the Town of Snowmass Village’s parks, open space, trails and recreation facilities, and a road map for where we would like to go in the future as a community. Each chapter

serves a specific purpose. Chapter 2 provides an in-depth summary and analysis of Snowmass Village’s existing resources, including a look at walkability, connectivity and the market assessment. In addition, Chapter 2 summarizes the common themes from the public engagement process, and investigates the wayfinding in the region. Chapter 3 deals with the topic “Recreation Means Business,” and includes a discussion of trail use, visitor spending, economic benefits and fiscal impact analysis. Chapter 4 states the goals and objectives for the parks, open space, trails and recreation resources, which are aspirations that the community has for the future and will guide the community when making decisions about potential opportunities. Chapter 4 also includes the policies and administrative guidance necessary for the efficient operation of the department. Chapter 5 presents the Master Plan projects and implementation strategies to be accomplished in the future, Chapter 6 provides POSTR Standards for building and operating the system, while Chapter 7 covers how to “Make it Happen” including funding opportunities and an implementation matrix.

The POSTR Plan is one element of a broader library of community plans that inform the future development of the Town of Snowmass Village, and

is intended to relate to the other community plans either in place or currently underway. A Community Connectivity Plan (CCP) was developed concurrently with the POSTR Plan and the two documents work in tandem to promote trail connectivity and recreational access within the Town. The Town is also planning an update to the community's Comprehensive Plan, and this POSTR Plan has been designed such that its recommendations can be nested within that of the broader comprehensive plan.

WHAT MAKES THIS PLAN UNIQUE?

Snowmass Village is very different than the suburban communities found on Colorado's Front Range, and this POSTR Plan respects that difference and recognizes that the Town will need to view their view parks, open space and trails resources differently in order to be successful. In Snowmass Village, the effective seasonal population (permanent population + second-home owners and visitors) is nearly four times that of its year-round residents. This presents challenges in providing excellent services, but also opportunities. Parks and recreation opportunities can help draw visitors in for specific activities and events that cost money to participate in, or for activities that are free but encourage people to spend time in-town at restaurants and shops. These parks and recreation offerings can increase the desirability of a destination and serve to draw people into a community, providing all the economic benefits those visitors bring with them – like job creation, contributions to gross domestic product (GDP), and tax revenues.

People choose to live in and visit Snowmass Village because of the lifestyle and quality of life afforded here, and a big part of the Snowmass Village lifestyle is access to world-class recreational opportunities.

The Town of Snowmass Village works very hard to provide these outstanding parks, open space, trails and recreation opportunities to its residents. The Town also realizes the potential economic development benefits that may come from drawing in visitors, and that those benefits can help offset the cost of providing resources and facilities to locals. This plan addresses those opportunities and the implications of embarking on such an approach.

THE BENEFITS OF RECREATIONAL RESOURCES

Discussions of the benefits of parks, trails and recreation are often narrowly focused on recreational or environmental aspects and fail to see the big picture—the total package of benefits that a park, trail or recreation program can provide to communities, including public health, economic and transportation benefits, and even the effect on quality of life, community pride and identity. Among other benefits, improved recreational resources can make our communities more livable; improve the economy through tourism and civic improvement; preserve and restore open space; and provide opportunities for physical activity to improve fitness and mental health.

When seen as a whole, the evidence about the far-reaching benefits of recreational resources is compelling, especially given the minimal public investment involved compared to other undertakings with the same community goals, like transportation improvements or development projects.

Why Parks, Open Space, Trails and Recreation? Because they:

- Are a good investment and Improve the Environment
- Promote Healthy Living
- Raise Quality of Life
- Encourage Community Transformation
- Enhance Economic Revitalization and Sustainability





Public Engagement

First and foremost the Town of Snowmass Village's parks, open space, trails and recreation resources must serve the community. As such, this POSTR planning process included extensive public engagement, to ensure that the community's opinions are heard and needs are addressed. The following summarizes the various aspects of the public engagement process undertaken to support the development of the POSTR Plan.



STAKEHOLDER OUTREACH (OCTOBER 5-6, 2015; ON-GOING)

Over 40 stakeholder discussions were conducted with various agencies, homeowners associations, community groups, sports clubs, and individuals, including the following:

- General merchants
- Sporting merchants
- Lodging managers
- Mothers / parents
- Utilities (Water and San & SWFD)
- Aspen Skiing Company
- Institutional partners
- Transit providers
- Outdoor recreation providers
- Employee housing representatives
- Realtors / development representatives
- Recreation program users
- Snowmass Master HOA representatives
- Roaring Fork Mountain Bike Association



- Roaring Fork Valley Horse Council
- Challenge Aspen and advocates for disabled residents
- Snowmass Western Heritage Association (Snowmass Rodeo)
- Pitkin County Open Space and Trails
- Aspen Parks and Recreation
- US Forest Service

PUBLIC OPEN HOUSE (OCTOBER 6, 2015)

Our initial Open House was met with enthusiasm from the Snowmass Village community. It was held on Tuesday, October 6th in the Snowmass Recreation Center Gymnasium. Overall, over 60 people of all ages participated. Participants discussed existing conditions and future opportunities for parks, open space, trails and recreation by through facilitated discussion stations regarding the intent of the POSTR Plan, the community profile, the vision for parks, recreation and trails in Snowmass Village, recreation programming, a map of Town Park, and winter and summer trail maps. Participants provided comments on station boards with sticky notes and markers, through the comment box, and wrote in comments about their vision on a large poster board.

PUBLIC WORKSHOP (FEBRUARY 17, 2016)

The public workshop was held on Wednesday, February 17, 2016. Approximately 50 Snowmass Village residents and non-residents attended the workshop to give input on parks, open space, trails and recreation improvements. The workshop was the culmination of the initial information gathering phase for the POSTR Plan, with the community-

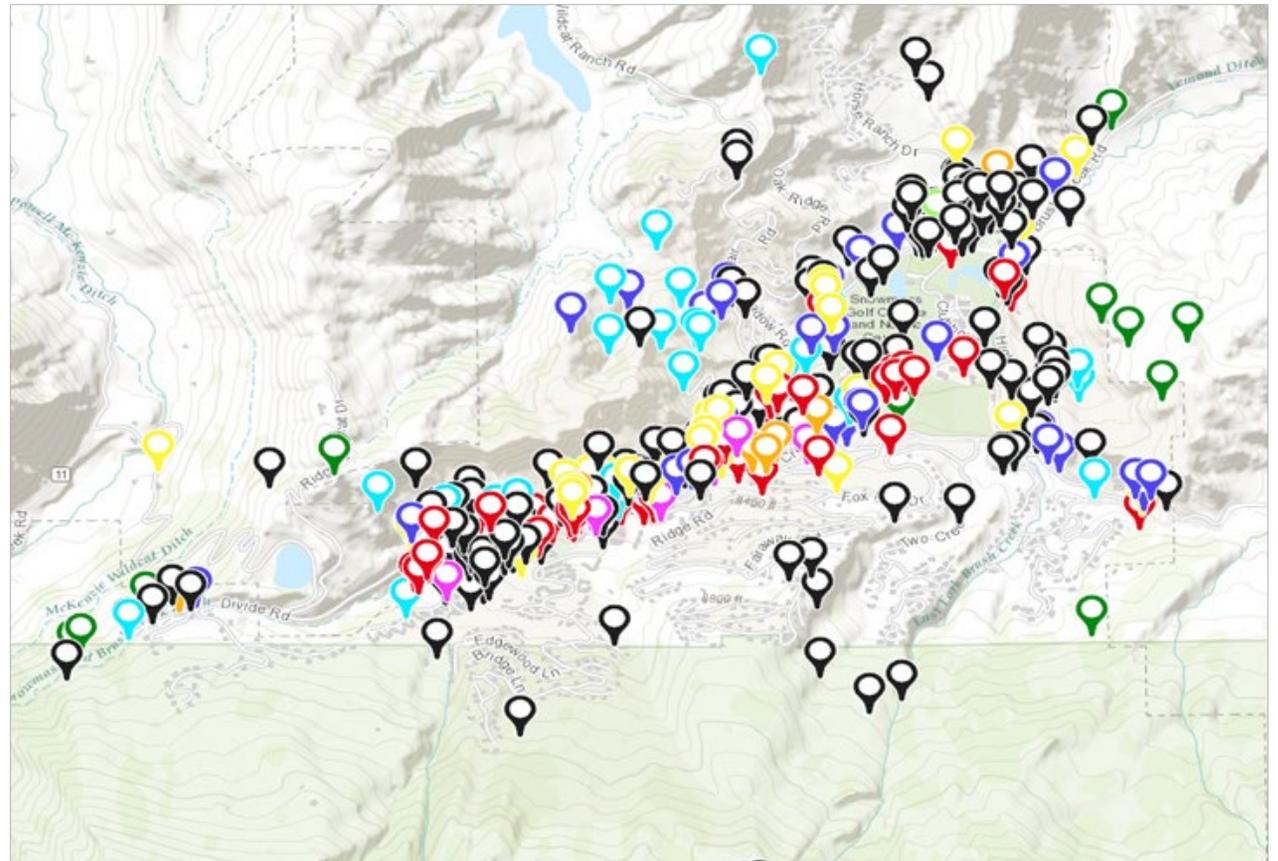
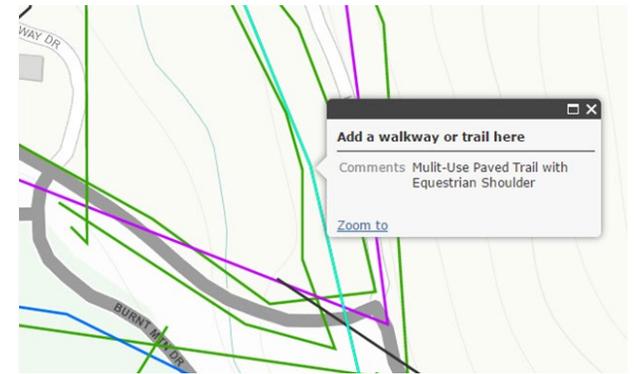
wide survey (see below) closing a week afterward. A wide range of potential improvements were provided and participants were asked to “vote” for the recreation center amenities, Town Park amenities, and recreation programs they felt are most important for the Snowmass Village community in a green dot exercise in which participants used green dots to show support for a project or activity. Open-ended write-in boards for recreation center amenities, Town Park amenities, and recreation programs were also provided. Large floor maps of Town Park and the trails system within Snowmass Village were also available for participants to draw on to demonstrate their ideas for new connections and amenities. Facilitated discussion stations similar to those in the Public Open House were also available, as was a station on ensuring safety on multi-use trails. Finally, attendees participated in the “Snowmass Bucks” exercise in which each participant was given \$5 Snowmass Bucks (like monopoly money) to allocate to various aspects of POSTR system to understand their funding priorities.

STEERING COMMITTEE

An ad-hoc steering committee of approximately 36 people were involved at different points in the process. Membership fluctuated over time. The steering committee was open to all those who were interested in participating and included a wide range of user groups and positions. In addition to providing input throughout the planning process and reviewing the POSTR Plan and recommendations, the Steering Committee also served as “Plan Ambassadors,” reaching out to a broader cross-section of residents and gathering their input. In the end, this POSTR document strives to reflect the values of the Steering Committee, and their input was critical to creating the most effective, enduring document.

WIKI-MAP

A wiki-map is an online editable map that allows community members to provide location-specific comments and to draw trail lines and connections on a digital map, similar to the google maps interface. An single interactive Wiki Map was used for the both the POSTR and CCP Plans, which allowed respondents to add parks, trails, open space, benches, and other ideas to the locations that they think needed them most. The wiki-map was open from the end of November through the end of February and received 670 total comments.



COMMUNITY-WIDE SURVEY

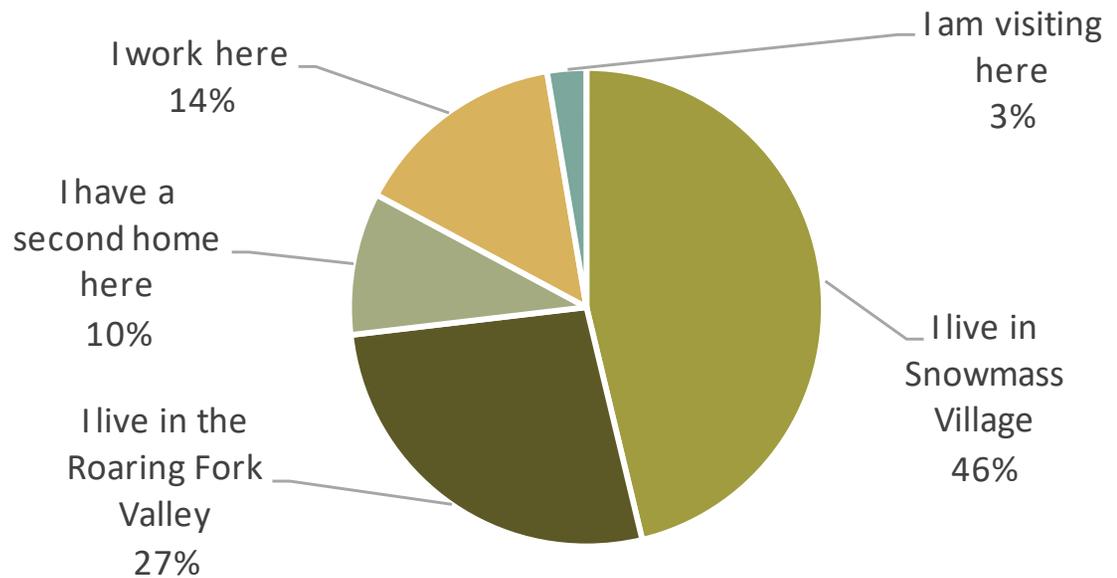
A community survey was conducted to gather public feedback on the parks, recreation facilities, open space, trails, programs and other community investments in Snowmass Village. The survey was a critical component for public engagement in the POSTR planning process targeted at residents, visitors and second-home owners. The survey explored the community's preferences, gaps, and future opportunities and covered the following topics:

- Recreation Center Facilities and Programs
- Parks, Playgrounds and Multi-Use Field Space
- Open Space and Town Gardens
- Recreational Trails
- Recreation Department Communications
- Respondent Demographics

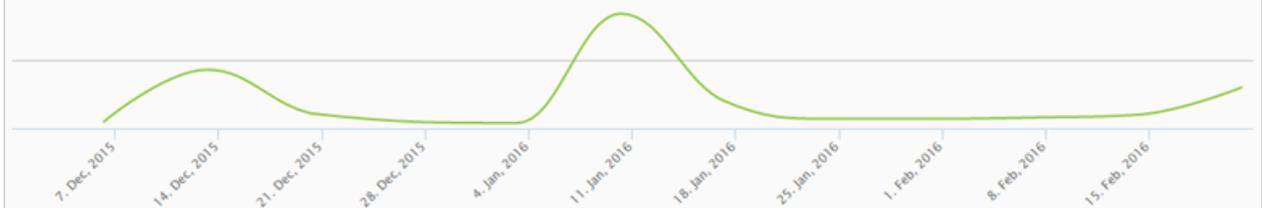
The survey was distributed by the Town through their email lists, and steering committee members were also encouraged to share the survey with their contacts. In addition, the survey was available at a laptop at the Recreation Center Front Desk and was advertised on the Town and Recreation Department Website, postcards distributed throughout the community, on social media, and in the newspaper.

The survey was open from the first week in December through the end of February and over 366 individual responses were received. Respondents included a mix of Snowmass Village residents, RFV residents, Snowmass Village second-home owners, Snowmass Village workers, and visitors. A variety of ages, incomes and family types are represented in the results.

What Brings You to Snowmass Village?



Response Timeline





YOUTH AND FAMILY SURVEY

A number of community groups and organizations were contacted during the POSTR Plan process for their perspective and vision for the Town of Snowmass Village's parks, open space, trails and recreation. One group that represents a significant portion of the Town's population is youth and families. To ensure this important community segment was sufficiently engaged, individual stakeholder interviews were set up with parents and mom's groups, and a partnership with the Aspen School District was pursued. A family

and youth specific survey was distributed to all district students and their families through school district email blasts and hard-copy newsletter. The youth and family survey received responses from 43 local families and included many of the same questions as community-wide survey, as well as a few new questions targeted at youth programming and per-registration. The youth and family survey included an option to just answer new questions if they had already responded to community-wide survey.



Chapter 2. UNDERSTANDING CURRENT CONDITIONS

Parks, Open Space, and Trails Inventory

The Town of Snowmass Village has incrementally developed its portfolio of parks, open space, trails and recreation facilities by following market trends and resident's needs. The following inventory summarizes the resources, facilities, and programs found in Town today.

PARKS

The Town currently maintains three dynamic parks that serve the varied needs of both residents and visitors. Town Park serves as a larger and more diverse "community park," while Cathy Robinson Park supports the population in close proximity as a "neighborhood park" and Yarrow Park provides a small relaxing space as a "pocket park" or "pause place." Below are brief descriptions of these parks, including the key recreational resources they contribute to the community.

Town Park

Town Park is the community's largest park consisting of 12 acres of public land (4 acres of which is maintained as a natural area). Town Park provides important spaces for recreation and retreat for the community, and plays host to some of Snowmass Village's premier special events. The park encompasses the Recreation Center and the Transit Station & Information Center at 2835 Brush Creek Rd. Parking is available in a variety of near-by lots; one situated between the Recreation Center and the Transit Center and a lot located across the street next to the softball field. These lots serve as daily/over-flow parking for Snowmass Resort in the winter months. Town Park provides a wide-range of recreational

opportunities for families, groups and individuals. All ages and abilities are accommodated at Town Park, incorporating features such as an accessible tennis court and gazebo/playground area. Although events at Town Park strive to be accessible to all, feedback from residents with mobility challenges suggests there is room for improvement for wheelchair access. Placement of some temporary event features (ticket booth, etc.) may block or infringe upon important ADA area/access points.

Town Park is home to at least 10 events each year, generally beginning with the RAGNAR race the first weekend in June and ending with the Balloon Festival in mid-September. Each of these events plays an integral role in the marketing of Snowmass Village as a world-class tourism destination and contributes to the economy of the community, while providing unique cultural and recreational opportunities not often afforded to residents of a rural community. For more information about the role of events in the economic fabric of Snowmass Village see Chapter 3: Recreation Means Business.

Town Park is seasonally maintained by a professional grounds-maintenance crew of 1 Full-time seasonal employee utilizing sustainable and effective irrigation techniques. In general, regular maintenance has kept Town Park and its related facilities in excellent condition and functioning well. This is no small feat, considering the level of use and activity on field spaces between programs, events and more. There is some minor field damage on the soccer/multi-use field space in the north east corner of the parcel. The "back of the house" outdoor storage for the department is found around the perimeter of the Rodeo Arena space (see page 19), which places heavy equipment near the tree playground and other important areas of Town Park.

Dogs are allowed at Town Park on-leash. Clean up stations for dogs are provided at Town Park, but dog activity at the park requires regular maintenance to keep the fields clean and ready for sport use.

Town Park is the center piece for park recreation offered to the Snowmass Village community. As seen in the following list, Town Park offers something to do for residents and visitors alike.



Key Recreational Resources:

- 2 Playgrounds: There are two playgrounds located at Snowmass Village Town Park for various age groups. The playground to the left of the Recreation Center is intended for older children, and is adjacent to the gazebo picnic area, and soccer field. This playground is suitable for ages 5-12. The playground to the right of the Recreation Center (the “Tree Playground”) is intended for younger children (ages 2-5), and is adjacent to the volleyball courts, basketball courts, and skate park. Both playgrounds are well utilized and feedback from the community suggest they are meeting the needs of the community well.
- Skateboard Park: The skate park is a 10,000 sq. ft. in-ground facility located near the basketball courts and Recreation Center. It is designed to provide exciting and diverse terrain for beginners all the way up to the most advanced skaters, although more learning opportunities could be provided. The skate park is open during snow-free months. The Recreation Department utilizes the space for skateboard lesson programming instruction for all levels Private lessons are also available.

- Multi-Use/Soccer Field: The multi-use field is a natural turf field space primarily used for soccer and passive recreation located near the picnic area and gazebo. The field is ADA accessible, although a synthetic turf field may provide better accessibility for wheelchairs and other mobility challenged users. The space utilizes movable soccer goals and accommodates 2 condensed soccer fields at a time. No lights are currently provided on the multi-use field space, which limits the effectiveness of the fields for sports programming and seasons in which leagues can operate. The field space also serves as event space for Jazz Aspen Snowmass and other large events, which complicates their use for team sports programming.
- Softball Field: The softball field is located on the South side of Brush Creek Road, adjacent to the Snowmass Club. A temporary bathroom is provided throughout summer months. The space is programmed for scheduled events and leagues, and is available for rent by the community. While organized sporting activities other than softball do not generally utilize the field, special events also take place on here. Lighting is not currently provided on the softball field.



- Outdoor Basketball: There is one outdoor basketball court located at Town Park near the Recreation Center. The court is available on a first come first served basis, and can be reserved in advance. The outdoor basketball court is open in the snow-free months, with indoor basketball opportunities available in winter. Surface of the court is in deteriorating condition due to the proximity of the skate park.
- Sand Volleyball: There are 2 sand volleyball courts located at Town Park near the Recreation Center. Courts are available on a first come first served basis, and can be reserved in advance. The courts, along with other temporarily constructed volleyball courts, are utilized for the annual Snowmass Doubles Volleyball Tournament. Courts are in good condition.
- Tennis Courts: There are 4 outdoor tennis courts located at Town Park. There are three shaded benches located between courts and one practice backboard located in court 1. Courts are available on a first come first served basis, and can be reserved in advance. While in good condition, the tennis courts are currently underutilized and are currently open only during snow-free months.
- Brush Creek Pond: The pond at Town Park is a man-made catchment that facilitates storm water and wetland functioning at the park. It is located to the east of the Tree Playground and to the north of the Rodeo Lot. Currently the area surrounding the pond is undeveloped. The pond is underutilized recreationally and does not have a consistent water flow throughout the year.
- Ice Rink: The ice rink, co-located with the Rodeo Arena (see sidebar) is open in the winter only. The rink offers public skate, youth stick and puck, open skate and broomball opportunities. Skate rentals are available. The ice rink employs a Zamboni to maintain a suitable ice surface, but weather and a lack of shade on the ice has created a challenge for consistent operation of the facility in the past 5 years it has been open. The ice rink/rodeo arena is serviced by lighting, although the lighting system should be upgraded to provide better service to the community and increased operational efficiency.
- Gazebo/Shelter: The Town Park Gazebo is located near the multi-use field and playground and includes six picnic tables. There is no electricity or grill located at the park. Gazebo is available on a first come first served basis, and may be rented in 3 hour time blocks.
- Support features and amenities: Town Park includes a network of concrete walkways and soft surface trails to provide circulation through the park. The park also includes water fountains, public art and installations, landscaping and a very effective wayfinding/signage system identifying where various activities in the park are located.



Existing Conditions Map: Town Park



POSTR System Leases

Rodeo Arena

The Snowmass Rodeo has been a community tradition since it was founded by Doug McLain in 1973. Since 2003, the Snowmass Rodeo has been produced by the Snowmass Western Heritage Association (SWHA), which was founded to preserve and enhance the western heritage, culture and character of Snowmass Village and the Roaring Fork Valley community. The Snowmass Rodeo is held on Town-owned park land leased to the SWHA. It takes place on Wednesday nights for 10 weeks a year, from June to August. Visitors to the rodeo can check out exciting competitions like saddle bronc and bull riding, team roping, and barrel racing. Children can participate in the Calf Scramble, Mutton Busting, and petting zoo.

Barbecue dinner, western vendors, live entertainment and a campfire sing-a-long are available to spectators.

The Rodeo Arena features the rodeo grounds, a corral area, spectator seating, ticketing, vending and restrooms. A lack of covered spectator seating can detract from the rodeo experience, particularly on days with inclement weather. In the winter months the rodeo grounds space is utilized for the ice skating rink, although the configuration of the rodeo grounds is not ideal for the ice skating operation. The dirt “Rodeo Lot” is an important component of skier parking in the winter and acts – inefficiently – as competitor prep space for the rodeo in the summer. The Rodeo Lot is not particularly aesthetically pleasing, and as part of the gateway into Snowmass Village it does not support the visual identity of the Town. Spectator Parking is provided in the Town Park/Transit Center Parking Lot.

Horseback Expeditions

The Town currently leases space at Town Park for staging of commercial horseback expeditions. Through a lease agreement, the Town also allows horseback operators to utilize the Horse Ranch Trail for the expeditions. The agreement requires the operator to maintain the Horse Ranch Trail to safety and sustainability standards and to spray for noxious weeds on the trail.

Balloon Launches

The Town also leases space in the Town Park parking lot to occasionally be used for hot air balloon launches by commercial operators. Balloon launches are typically infrequent and are generally scheduled early in the mornings when the demand for parking is low. Guests are often disrupted by location of launches. A different location might be recommended yearly.

Cathy Robinson Park

The Cathy Robinson Park is located at 4598 Owl Creek Rd., approximately 0.5 mile from Brush Creek Rd. The 1-acre park offers a small play structure that is popular with the neighborhood children as well as families with children who attend the adjacent Little Red School House. Commuting users utilize the communal parking lot shared between Cathy Robinson Park and the school house. Due to its proximity to the surrounding neighborhood, park goers use the sidewalk and the connective neighborhood trail system to access the park. The park’s primary user base is younger families as its structures and open space is more compact in comparison to that found at the Town Park.

Key Recreational Resources:

- Multi-purpose field: the field space at Cathy Robinson Park provides picnic, lounging and passive recreation opportunities. It is not large enough to accommodate most formal sport uses, but does provide an excellent space for youth soccer practices and informal pick-up games. The field space is used regularly by the Little Red School House and nearby neighbors, and is in good condition.
- Playground: the playground at Cathy Robinson Park is targeted at younger children (ages 2-5), but provides some opportunity for kids up to about 10 years of age. While small, the playground is appropriately sized for the local use it receives.

- Support features and amenities: Cathy Robinson Park also includes connectivity trails to allow easy access from adjacent neighborhoods, a shared parking lot, seasonal restrooms and benches.



Yarrow Park

Yarrow Park is small pocket park located at the trail junction of Brush Creek Trail and Owl Creek Trail. The tranquil location is nestled within an aspen grove accompanied by the peaceful Brush Creek. Yarrow Park is the perfect place to stop, play, picnic or rest while rambling on trails through Snowmass Village. This park is owned by Snowmass Chapel and shares maintenance duties with the Town. The Town and the Snowmass Chapel are currently engaged in discussions over the future maintenance of Yarrow Park.

Key Recreational Resources:

- Public Art and Landscaping: the “Lady with Diamonds” and “The Leaners” sculptural elements and flower gardens create a unique sense of place at Yarrow Park.
- Benches/Picnic Tables: The benches, picnic tables and stream-side platform provide excellent resting and picnicking space for a brief stop along the trail.
- Interpretive signage: Interpretative signage detailing the fish and habitat of Brush Creek is also found within the park, providing an educational component to the peaceful setting.

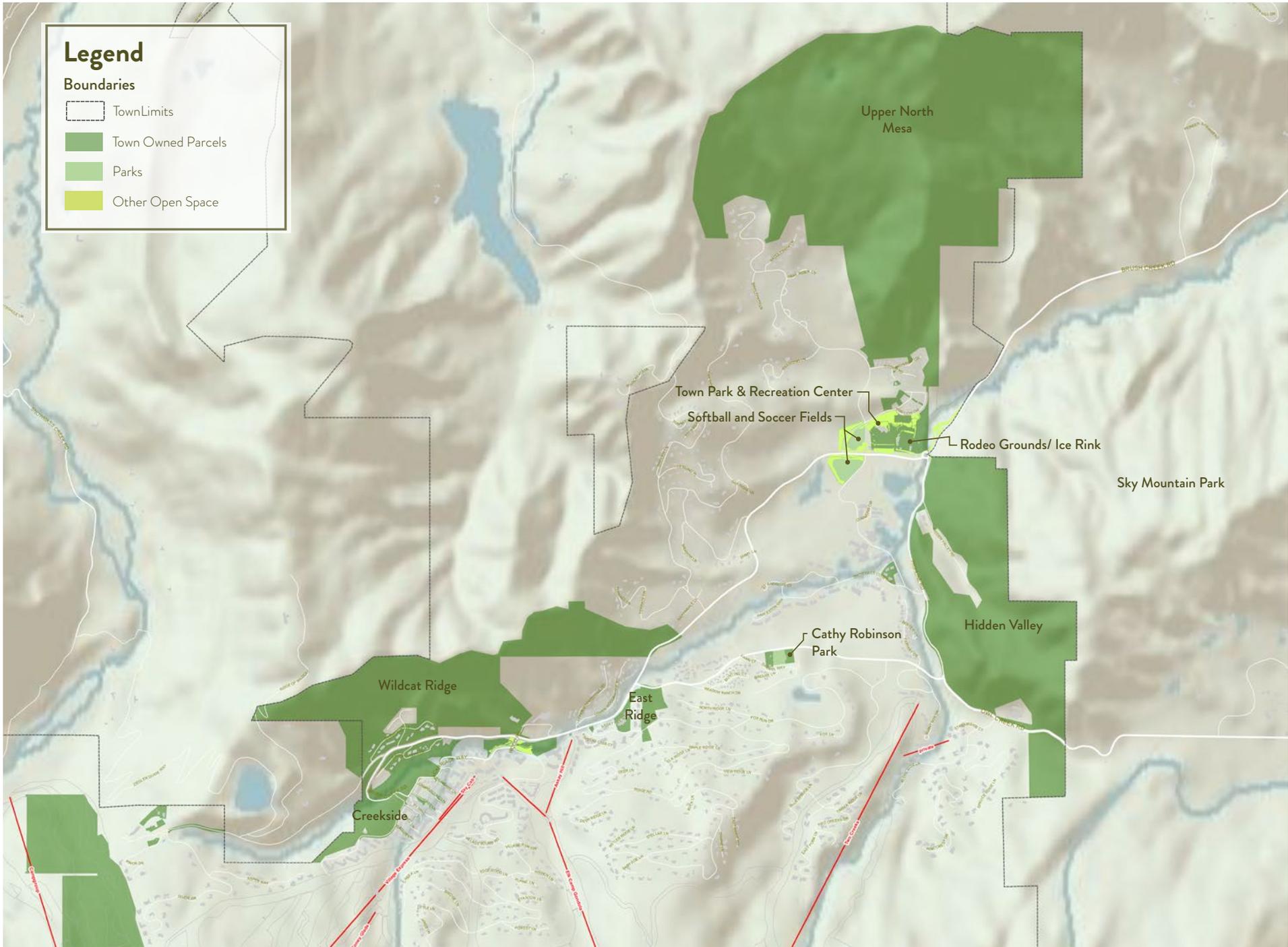


OPEN SPACE

“Open space” is a comprehensive term that can mean different things across organizations, jurisdictions, or individuals. Most people think of open space as natural, undeveloped lands that are special in some way—they may be scenic or indicative of an area’s heritage (e.g. agricultural lands), create separation between communities or land uses, or provide areas for wildlife and natural communities to thrive. Open space areas and associated buildings may be open for recreation and educational purposes. For a tourism-driven community, open space can be powerful on a variety of levels to preserve rural/mountain identity, promote areas for recreation, and reinforce quality of life.

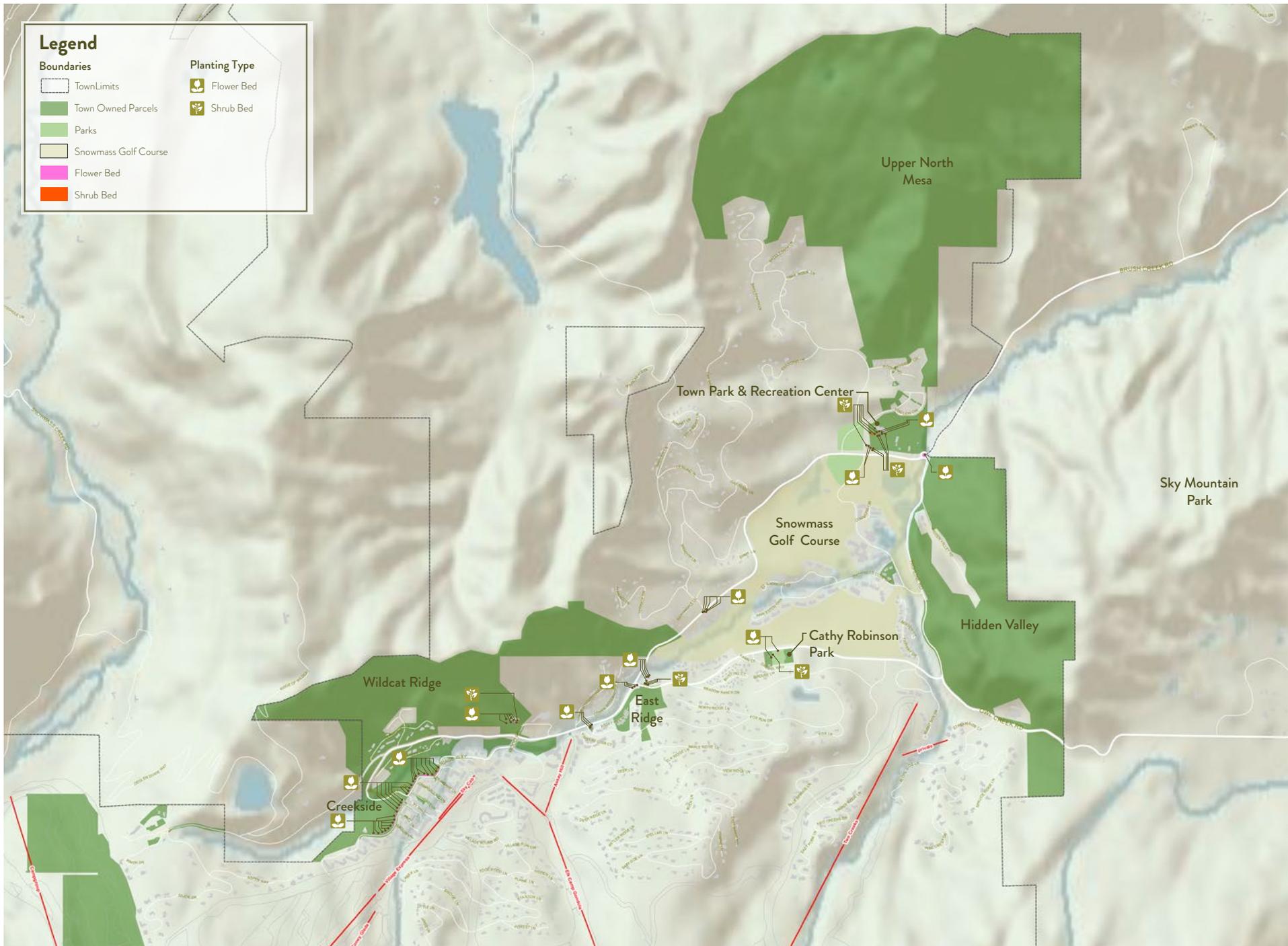
The Town of Snowmass Village has been active in assembling a patchwork of 1,451 acres of open space properties within the community. Some of this open space has been acquired through the efforts of the community itself. Other areas have been established as open space through the planned residential development process. Regardless of how established, the presence of open space in the Town supports long-held community values and can enable future opportunities for recreational use and enjoyment. Other land managers also manage open space in or adjacent to the Town of Snowmass Village, including Pitkin County Open Space and Trails, the US Forest Service and the Aspen Valley Land Trust.

The Town of Snowmass Village, also maintains 1.5 acres of gardens and 12 irrigation systems. Expert landscaping and noxious weed control is performed by the Town’s maintenance crew.



Open Space Map





Garden Map

Vegetation

On south-facing slopes in the Brush Creek Valley, the alkaline soil that develops from the Mancos Shale supports Gambel oak, sagebrush, serviceberry, and chokecherry. The north-facing slopes feature aspen, subalpine fir, Douglas fir, Engelmann spruce, and blue spruce.

Wildlife

The Town of Snowmass Village is surrounded by wild land and open space on all sides. In mountain communities, wildlife is an integral part of our daily life. Residents are able to observe many of these species: elk, mule deer, moose, black bear, mountain lion, pine marten, ermine, porcupine, marmot, raccoon, golden eagle, red tail hawk, great horned owl, wild turkey, beaver, red fox, and badger.

South-facing slopes in Snowmass Village support the mountain shrub communities of Gambel oak, sagebrush, serviceberry, and chokecherry. North-facing slopes support aspen, subalpine fir, Douglas fir, Engelmann spruce, and blue spruce. These vegetation communities provide critical habitat for a diverse range of wildlife species.

Preserving and protecting wildlife habitat in Snowmass Village is a decision of its residents. Observing wildlife in a natural setting is inspirational to most guests and a town benefit. Conducting biological studies before developing open space is crucial. Respecting the need for wildlife to have space, forage and solitude should be honored in all discussions. Rapid growth is fracturing our habitat and altering important migratory movements. Wildlife need consideration.

Elk Migration Corridor through Snowmass Village

Elk move through Snowmass Village as a part of

a larger migration corridor. Burnt Mountain is a critical migration link between summer range in the wilderness area (Willow/West Willow and beyond) and lower elevation winter range which includes Sky Mountain Park, Horse Ranch, Wildcat Ranch, Williams Hill and Light Hill. This migration corridor has been pinched from both sides due to development. Numerous biological research studies date back to 1974 and support the historical use of Burnt Mountain and East Snowmass Village by elk during migration and calving.

Wildlife Area Closures for Elk Migration and Calving

As a component of the overall trails management plan, the Town of Snowmass Village cooperates with the United States Forest Service, the Aspen Skiing Company, Colorado Parks and Wildlife and Pitkin County to protect critical areas located within our boundaries. Elk calving grounds extend from Faraway Road to Buttermilk Ski Area and extend through East Village and Burnt Mountain in the aspen habitat type. East Village trail restrictions are based upon intensive negotiations between agencies and multiple wildlife studies of the Burnt Mountain elk herd. Using sound science, a wildlife closure was adopted into town ordinances in an attempt to lessen the impact of the East Village development on the calving grounds. Colorado Parks and Wildlife originally recommended trails be closed through June 30, but recreational pressure resulted in a compromise which allows trails to be open on June 21st annually.

Elk show a strong fidelity to this area and they return to this traditional calving ground each spring because it provides water, seclusion and grazing. The area closure begins on April 25th, because elk begin to stage on lower Burnt Mountain in April. Cow elk are recovering

Wildlife Area Closures

The Town of Snowmass Village enforces trail closures enacted to protect sensitive wildlife habitats and prohibit human activity, including trail maintenance. Trail closures are strictly enforced in partnership with Pitkin County, Colorado Parks & Wildlife, Aspen Skiing Company and the USFS. Wildlife monitoring cameras are used in closed areas and citations are issued.

Per Section 10-29 / Seasonal Trail Closures of the TOSV Municipal Code:

It shall be unlawful for any person, to use by any means, the following trails during wildlife sensitive periods, as follows:

East Village Trail System / Opens on June 21 annually

- Tom Blake Trail: April 25 - June 21
- Anaerobic Nightmare Trail: April 25 - June 21
- Sequel Trail: April 25 - June 21
- Government Trail east of Elk Camp Work Road: May 15 - June 21

North Rim and Sky Mountain Trail Systems / Open on May 16 annually

- Rim Trail North: December 1 - May 16
- Sky Mountain Park: December 1 - May 16

from winter and have high energy demands. They need to forage and nurse without being startled or disrupted. Any disturbance during this time will have negative impacts to reproductive success and calf survival. Elk will calve in East Village and transition onto Burnt Mountain as the snow line recedes. In addition, wildlife cameras have proven that many other species of wildlife are using this protected area to have young of the year. According to Colorado Parks and Wildlife, over the last 30 years, calving numbers have significantly declined.

In addition, Sky Mountain Park and the Upper North Mesa parcel are closed to protect winter range and movement corridors for wildlife. Winter range provides an undisturbed area, while elk are on a declining diet in stressful winter conditions. Trails open in mid-May because wildlife studies show that most elk have crossed into the East Village production areas. See Wildlife Area Closures Box for closure dates.

Recreation

On Upper North Mesa old equestrian trails are being used again to separate equestrian and mountain bikes and provide a commercial use trail for outfitters. There are a number of old trails that connect to Town property. Two picnic areas exist, one off the equestrian trails originating from Town Park in Snowmass Village and in a prominent view location on the Skyline Ridge Trail. The one on the equestrian trails is a rest stop for equestrian users and contains some old picnic tables. On the Skyline Ridge Trail there is an old hitching post and picnic table at one of the most scenic spots along the ridge.

The North Rim Trail, Seven Star Trail, and North Rim Equestrian Trail are all located on open space lands.



GARDENS

The Town of Snowmass Village, also maintains 1.5 acres of gardens and 12 irrigation systems. Expert landscaping and noxious weed control is performed by the Town's maintenance crew.

Irrigation systems include:

- Brush & 82
- Welcome Sign
- Round-a-bout and medians
- Town Park & Transit Station

- Sinclair Bus Stop
- Town Maintenance Facility
- Cathy Robinson Park
- Yarrow Park
- Council Corner – (Brush Creek & Owl Creek)
- Faraway Bus Stop
- Town Hall
- Brush Creek Rd. & Wood Rd. Round-a-bout & Medians (2017)

TRAILS

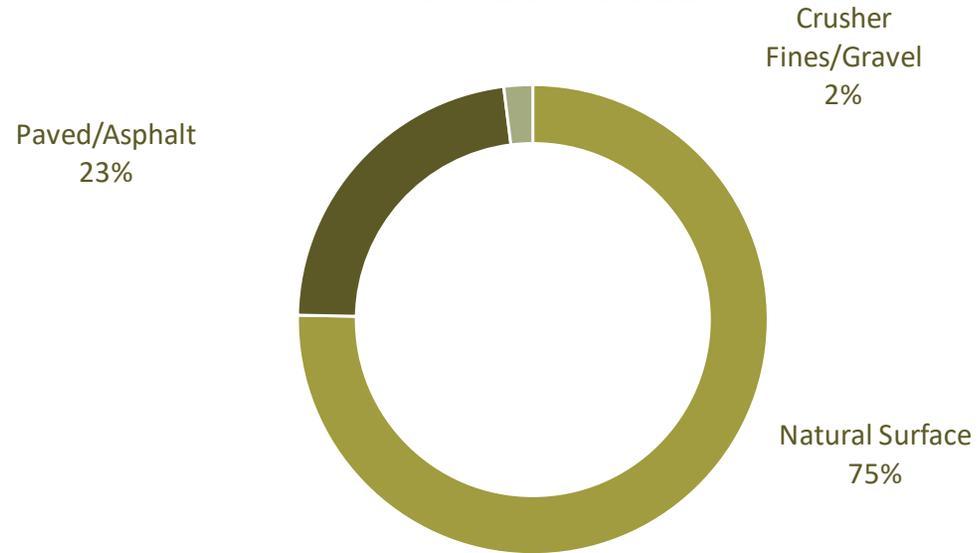
The Town of Snowmass Village manages 30 trails—both paved and unpaved—for a wide range of users and abilities. Most of the system is comprised of multi-use trails, although there are some hiking and equestrian-only trails. There are currently no bicycling-only trails. The majority of the Snowmass Village trail system is made up of natural surface/gravel trails. The Town also manages 5 trailheads and 18 bridges as part of the trails system.

In the winter, the Town plows 2.24 miles of the paved trail system and grooms 5.49 miles of the paved trail system in order to provide a winter trail amenity that serves both transportation and recreation functions. See the Winter Trail Map on page 30 or a graphic representation of the winter trail procedures. Winter trail grooming is performed with a tracked All Terrain Vehicle (ATV) and grooming attachment and winter trail plowing is performed with a Utility Trail Vehicle (UTV) equipped with plow and snow blower attachments.

In terms of ability level, trails in Snowmass Village are skewed towards intermediate and advanced level trails. Trails in the expert and beginner category make up less than a quarter of the total system, indicating a significant deficiency in the learning progression. While available terrain is a major factor in determining the ability level of trails, the ideal system would include approximately 1/3 of the trails in each ability level. This analysis includes only natural surface trails and excludes the equestrian-only trails, as difficulty ratings for paved surfaces and equestrians users can vary.

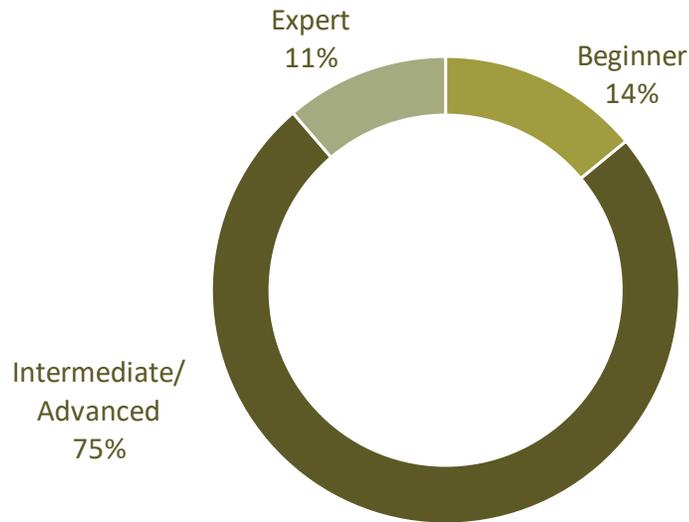
Dogs must be on leash at all times on all Town trails.

Trail Surfaces



Allowed Trail Use	Mileage of Trails	Percent of System
Equestrian, Hiking, & Biking	1.93 Miles	5%
Hiking & Biking Only	27.47 Miles	77%
Equestrian & Hiking Only	4.11 Miles	12%
Equestrian Only	1.47 Miles	4%
Hiking Only	0.56 Miles	2%
Biking Only	0 Miles	0%
Total	35.54 Miles	100%

TOSV Trails by Ability Level



While this plan deals only with town-managed trails, and the project area is limited to the boundaries of the Town, partnerships with other trail managers and regional trail connections are important factors to understand. The Town routinely engages with Pitkin County Open Space & Trails, the City of Aspen, the U.S. Forest Service, Bureau of Land Management, Colorado Parks and Wildlife, Aspen Skiing Company and other partners on trail development and has participated in the Upper Roaring Fork Valley Trails Plan, which is an on-going project that seeks to unify all the trails in the region into a cohesive system.

The Town of Snowmass Village manages a 2-person trail ranger team who among other duties are responsible for patrol of trails and open spaces and enforcement of regulations. The Town employs a maintenance crew of 3 employees to keep the trails in Snowmass Village maintained at a very high level of service. The Town employs a digital request tracker to allow the community submit trail maintenance issues. In general the Town’s soft-surface trails (dirt, gravel, etc.) are in excellent condition, while many of the paved trails are in need of repaving and more regular sweeping to clear debris. This is particularly true for the Brush Creek Trail. There are a few areas of soft-surface trails which currently require maintenance, such as rutting in the lower portions of the North Rim Trail, but these are addressed on an on-going basis.

Town-managed trails are as follows:

Paved Trail Name	Winter Procedure
Brush Creek (Rec. Center to Yarrow Park)	Plowed
Brush Creek (Yarrow Park to Numbered Lot 4)	Groomed
Fox Run	Groomed
Horse Ranch	Groomed
Melton Ranch	Groomed
Owl Creek	Groomed
Stark's	Nothing
Sleigh	Nothing
Village Way	Groomed

Brush Creek Trail

The Brush Creek Trail is the main artery of the Snowmass Village Paved Trail System. Use the Brush Creek Trail to access Base Village, the Village Mall, the Village Center, Anderson Ranch Art Center, the Snowmass Chapel, or descend approximately 2.5 miles to The Snowmass Village Recreation Center. This trail has moderate usage.

Stats

- Difficulty: Beginner
- Closure: None
- Uses: Biking, Hiking
- Surface: Paved
- Length: 5.83 miles
- Winter Conditions: Some portions are groomed, some are plowed, and some are closed.

Deadline Trail

The Deadline Trail is an advanced trail built with optimized flow for Mountain Biking. This Downhill Only flow-style trail incorporates bermed turns, rollers, and table top jumps. The Deadline Trail is open to both hikers and mountain bikers, with moderate to high usage. A loop opportunity is possible with the Viewline Trail. Dogs are not allowed on the Deadline Trail. This trail was built and maintained in cooperation with Pitkin County's Open Space & Trails (POST) plan.

Stats

- Difficulty: Expert
- Closure: December 1st to May 16th
- Uses: : Downhill Mountain Biking

- Surface: Dirt
- Length: 1.54 miles
- Winter Conditions: Closed

Ditch Trail

A favorite among locals for leisurely strolls, the Ditch Trail follows an old irrigation ditch and is relatively flat with gentle grades and beautiful views of Mt. Daly and the Maroon Snowmass Wilderness Area on the East end. The West end of the Ditch trail takes on a different demeanor as it takes a sharp turn to the South and climbs up to the West Government Trail before descending to the East Snowmass Trail (no biking).

Stats

- Difficulty: Intermediate
- Closure: None
- Uses: Mountain Biking, Hiking, Horse, XC Skiing
- Surface: Dirt
- Length: 2.05 miles
- Winter Conditions: Volunteer boot packed

East Brush Creek Nature Trail

Located along the Snowmass Club Golf Course and Highline Rd, the East Brush Creek Nature Trail is a great hiking only beginner trail. Enjoy a stroll alongside wetlands and native wildflowers. Signage designating the trailhead location and the connection to nearby trails is difficult, especially for first-time users.

Stats

- Difficulty: Beginner
- Closure: None

- Uses: Hiking
- Surface: Dirt
- Length: 0.27 miles
- Winter Conditions: Not maintained

Fox Run Trail

The Fox Run Trail is a short paved trail connection between the Village Way Trail and Fox Run Drive.

Stats

- Difficulty: Beginner
- Closure: None
- Uses: Biking, Hiking
- Surface: Paved
- Length: 0.13 miles
- Winter Conditions: Groomed

Highline Trail

The Highline Trail is a beginner to intermediate trail that is often used with Lowline Trail as a short, but fun loop, which works best when traveled counterclockwise.

Stats

- Difficulty: Intermediate
- Closure: None
- Uses: Mountain Biking, Hiking
- Surface: Dirt
- Length: 1.37 miles
- Winter Conditions: Not maintained

Horse Ranch Trail

The Horse Ranch Trail connects the bottom of the Rim Trail North to Town Park. The trail include two unsigned road crossings.

Stats

- Difficulty: Beginner
- Closure: None
- Uses: Biking, Hiking
- Surface: Paved and Gravel
- Length: 0.5 miles
- Winter Conditions: Groomed

Lowline Trail

The Lowline Trail is a great beginner trail that can be used with the Highline Trail as a short, but fun loop, which works best when traveled counterclockwise. This trail serves as the sole connection to Tom Blake Trail from Town Park for equestrian users.

Stats

- Difficulty: Beginner
- Closure: None
- Uses: Mountain Biking, Hiking, Equestrian
- Surface: Dirt
- Length: 0.99 miles
- Winter Conditions: Not maintained

Mayfly Trail

The Mayfly Trail is a great, quick getaway, hiking only trail right in Town. Interpretive signage along the trail allows users to learn about the life sequence of the Mayfly and how it relates to trout as they stroll along Brush Creek.

Stats

- Difficulty: Beginner
- Closure: None
- Uses: Hiking
- Surface: Dirt
- Length: 0.29 miles
- Winter Conditions: Not maintained

Melton Ranch Trail

The Melton Ranch Trail connects Martingale Lane and Sinclair Road to the Village Center (Post Office, Grocery Store, and local Restaurants and Stores). The Melton Ranch Trail can also be linked to the Brush Creek Trail via Wood Bridge.

Stats

- Difficulty: Beginner
- Closure: None
- Uses: Biking, Hiking
- Surface: Paved
- Length: 0.79 miles
- Winter Conditions: Groomed

Mountain View Trail

The Mountain View Trail connects the Rim Trail as well as the Mountain View Employee Housing to The Village Center (Post Office, Grocery Store, and local Restaurants and Stores) and on to the Melton Ranch Trail. The Mountain View Trail lies on an old road bed and is relatively mellow in grade except for the initial climb out of the Village Center parking lot. This trail serves as an excellent connector to the Rim Trail.

Stats

- Difficulty: Beginner
- Closure: None
- Uses: Mountain Biking, Hiking
- Surface: Dirt
- Length: 0.80 miles
- Winter Conditions: Volunteer boot packed

Nature Trail

A short but sweet route along Brush Creek, the Nature Trail travels through lush riparian zones, wildflower filled meadows, and aspen and conifer stands, providing a small example of most ecosystem types found nearby in the surrounding Rocky Mountains. The Nature Trail is rated expert for it's technical challenges for mountain bikers, but is not too terribly challenging for hikers. The Nature Trail lies on a narrow easement, with private property on either side of the trail.

Stats

- Difficulty: Expert
 - Uses: Biking, Hiking
 - Surface: Dirt
 - Length: 0.85 miles
 - Winter Conditions: Volunteer boot packed
-

Owl Creek Trail

The Owl Creek Trail connects Snowmass Village to Aspen starting near the intersection of Brush Creek and Owl Creek Roads near the Anderson Ranch Art Center in Snowmass Village and traveling East, crossing the Owl Creek drainage on to the Buttermilk Ski Area. The trail is rated for beginners, but is moderately challenging because of substantial elevation gain. The Owl Creek Trail is very scenic passing through beautiful Aspen groves and meadows.

Stats

- Difficulty: Beginner
- Closure: None
- Uses: Biking, Hiking
- Surface: Paved
- Length: 5.74 miles (1.85 miles are maintained by TOSV)
- Winter Conditions: Groomed

North and South Rim Trail

The Rim Trail is a Roaring Fork Valley Classic not only for its fun factor but also for the beautiful views along the entire trail, which traverses the west and north rims of Snowmass Village. This fast rolling, sinuous singletrack is not technically challenging, but is rated expert for its steep climbs and aerobic demands. The Rim trail as a whole is referred to in two sections: Rim Trail South and Rim Trail North. Rim Trail South travels approximately 3.8 miles in a Northerly direction before intersecting Sinclair Road and tying into the Rim Trail North. South to north is the recommended direction of travel. The entire Rim Trail has a high amount of usage. The “Ying-Yang” is a popular trail landmark and a perfect scenic spot for a trail respite.

Stats

- Difficulty: Expert
- Closure: Rim Trail North - Closed December 1st to May 16th
- Uses: Mountain Biking, Hiking
- Surface: Dirt
- Length: 7.88 miles
- Winter Conditions: Volunteer boot packed

Sleigh Ride Trail

The Sleigh Ride Trail travels from the Top of the Village (i.e. the top of Carriage Way) to the top of Divide Road. A beginner friendly trail, the Sleigh Ride Trail is great for those looking for a relatively flat grade for a leisurely walk. The Sleigh Ride Trail can be used to access the Nature Trail as well as the Ditch Trail.



.....

Stats

- Difficulty: Beginner
- Closure: None
- Uses: Mountain Biking, Hiking, Equestrian
- Surface: Gravel
- Length: 0.61 miles
- Winter Conditions: Groomed

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South Rim Connector Trail

The South Rim Connector Trail links the Nature Trail to the South Rim Trail. This trail lies on a narrow easement, with private property on either side of the trail. This trail serves as a connection from Lot 7 (mall) to South Rim Trail.

.....

Stats

- Difficulty: Intermediate
- Closure: Closed to mountain biking daily 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. due to guided Nature Hikes
- Uses: Mountain Biking, Hiking
- Surface: Dirt
- Length: 0.3 miles
- Winter Conditions: Not maintained

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Stark's Trail

This short connector trail links the Stark's Trail to Faraway Road.

.....

Stats

- Difficulty: Intermediate
- Closure: None
- Uses: Mountain Biking, Hiking
- Surface: Dirt

- Length: 0.09 miles
- Winter Conditions: Not maintained

.....

Powerline Trail

The Powerline Trail is an intermediate level trail that can be used to access the Tom Blake Trail and the Government Trail as well. The trail traverses through beautiful stands of Aspen and Mixed-Conifer trees, home to Mule Deer, Elk, and Bear. The Powerline Trail has moderate to high levels of use.

.....

Stats

- Difficulty: Intermediate
- Closure: None
- Uses: Mountain Biking, Hiking
- Surface: Dirt
- Length: 1.85 miles (0.6 miles are maintained by TOSV)
- Winter Conditions: Not maintained

.....

Stark's Trail (Bike Path)

The Stark's Trail (Bike Path) is a short paved trail that connects the Owl Creek Trail to the Starks Powerline Trail.

.....

Stats

- Difficulty: Beginner
- Closure: None
- Uses: Biking, Hiking
- Surface: Paved
- Length: 0.39 miles
- Winter Conditions: Not maintained

.....

Tom Blake Equestrian Trail

The Tom Blake Equestrian Trail, is just that, an Equestrian only trail. Enjoy a mellow trail ride entirely shaded in deep Aspen groves. There are sections of the Tom Blake Equestrian Trail that are shared with the Tom Blake Trail.

.....

Stats

- Difficulty: Equestrian
- Closure: April 25th to June 21st
- Uses: Equestrian, Hikers
- Surface: Dirt
- Length: 1.47 miles
- Winter Conditions: Not maintained

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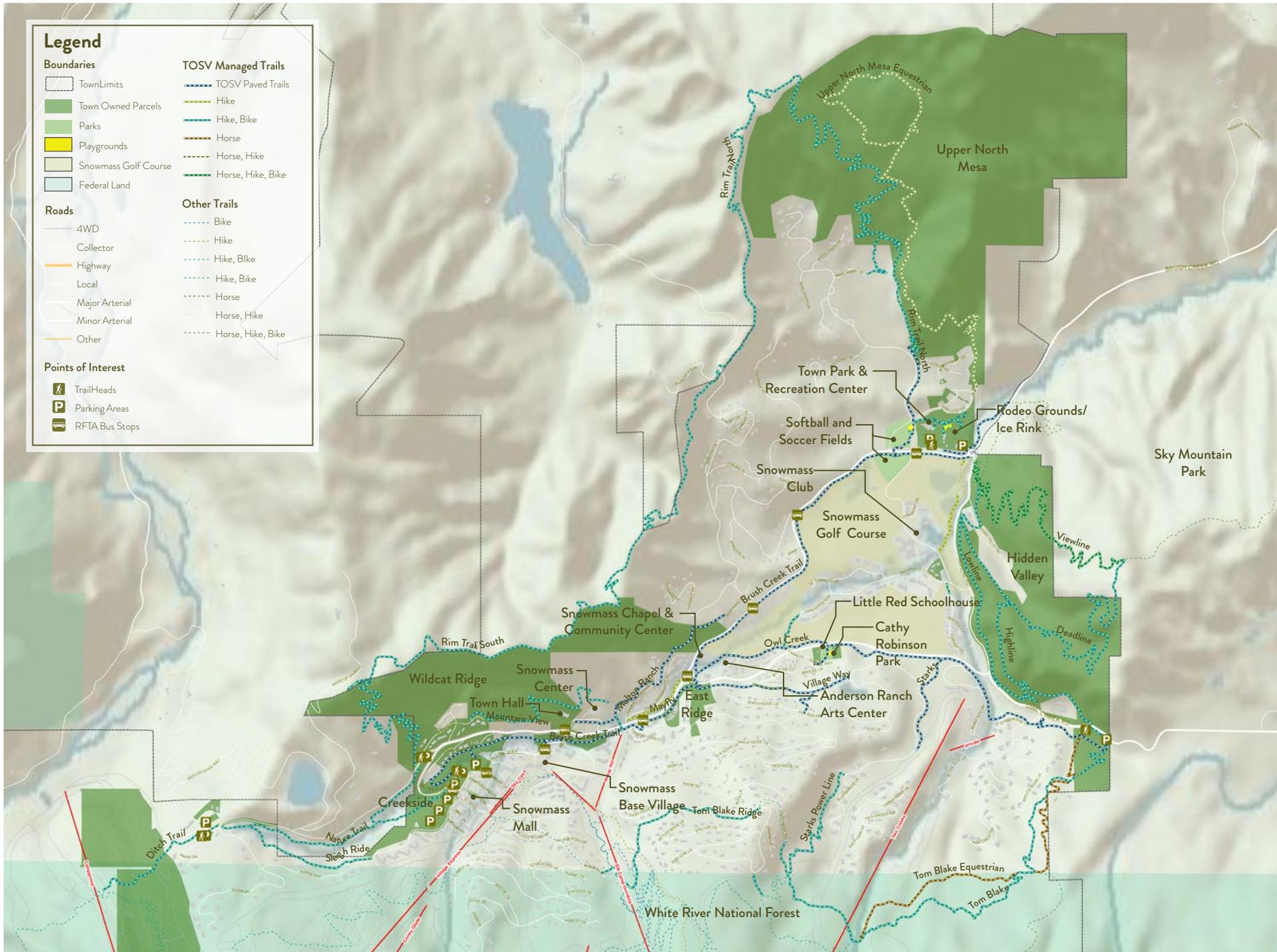
Tom Blake Trail

The Tom Blake Trail is a great intermediate singletrack that can be traveled in either direction. It is perhaps the most buttery smooth trail in the Roaring Fork Valley with optimized flow for mountain biking, and shaded in deep aspen groves the entire way for its 3+ miles. There are sections of the Tom Blake Trail that are shared with the Tom Blake Equestrian Trail. This trail has moderate to high usage.

.....

Stats

- Difficulty: Intermediate
- Closure: April 25th to June 21st
- Uses: Mountain Biking, Hiking, Nordic Skiing
- Surface: Dirt
- Length: 3.91 miles
- Winter Conditions: Volunteer boot packed



Existing Conditions Map: Summer





Upper North Mesa Equestrian Trail

The Upper North Mesa Equestrian Trail is a great 2-hour horseback ride with breathtaking 360 degree views of Snowmass Village, Aspen, and the surrounding mountains. Snowmass Creek Outfitters utilize the trail for guided horseback rides.

Stats

- Difficulty: Equestrian
- Closure: December 1st to May 16th
- Uses: Equestrian and Hiking
- Surface: Dirt
- Length: 2.52 miles
- Winter Conditions: Closed

Viewline Trail

Gateway to Sky Mountain Park, the Viewline Trail is a great intermediate singletrack, recommended as a climbing route to access the rest of the Sky Mountain Park Trails. The Viewline Trail offers phenomenal views of the Town of Snowmass Village and the surrounding mountains once you top out on the 1.6 mile climb. Dogs are not allowed on the Viewline Trail, as it leads to Sky Mountain Park where they are prohibited. This trail has been built and maintained in cooperation with Pitkin County's Open Space & Trails (POST) plan.

Stats

- Difficulty: Intermediate
- Closure: December 1st to May 16th
- Uses: Mountain Biking, Hiking, and Equestrian
- Surface: Dirt
- Length: 1.89 miles
- Winter Conditions: Closed

Village Way Trail

The Village Way Trail connects the Brush Creek Trail to the Fox Run Trail and on to Fox Run Drive. The moderate grades on this trail are great for those looking for an easy stroll.

Stats

- Difficulty: Beginner
- Closure: None
- Uses: Biking, Hiking
- Surface: Paved
- Length: 0.57 miles
- Winter Conditions: Groomed

Wildlife Area Closures

The Town of Snowmass Village enforces trail closures enacted to protect sensitive wildlife habitats and prohibit human activity, including trail maintenance. Trail closures are strictly enforced in partnership with Pitkin County, Colorado Parks & Wildlife, Aspen Skiing Company and the USFS. Wildlife monitoring cameras are used in closed areas and citations are issued.

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North Rim and Sky Mountain Trail Systems / Open on May 16 annually

- Rim Trail North: December 1 - May 16
- Sky Mountain Park: December 1 - May 16



RECREATION CENTER

The state-of-the-art Snowmass Village Recreation Center opened its doors in September 2006 and offers 18,000 square feet of recreation and fitness space to resident and non-resident guests 362 days a year (closed only on Thanksgiving, Christmas Day, and Easter). The Recreation Center lies within the Brush Creek Valley adjacent to Town Park and provides expansive mountain views from much of the facility. The Recreation Center hosts administrative staff for the Town's Parks, Recreation, and Trails department and Recreation Center staff as well as the amenities and equipment listed below:

- Concession area: After entering through the breezeway, the first thing encountered is the concession area. This space offers concession preparation for staff. Guest must purchase concessions at the Front Desk. This does not allow pool guests to purchase concessions from the pool deck. While food is available throughout the day, the concession area does not typically have a dedicated staff person, sharing staff with the front desk. The concession area is also used for camps and programming, such as SnowMassive Mondays poolside BBQ nights. A variety of beverages and snacks are available for sale throughout the year. Pizza by the slice and hot dogs are available Memorial Day - Labor Day.
- Office space: Located to the immediate right of the entry way and behind the Front Desk area are the Recreation Department offices for both facility and program staff members. Office space is somewhat constrained especially during high staffing periods in the summer months which can deteriorate the work environment for full time staff. Office space is limited but



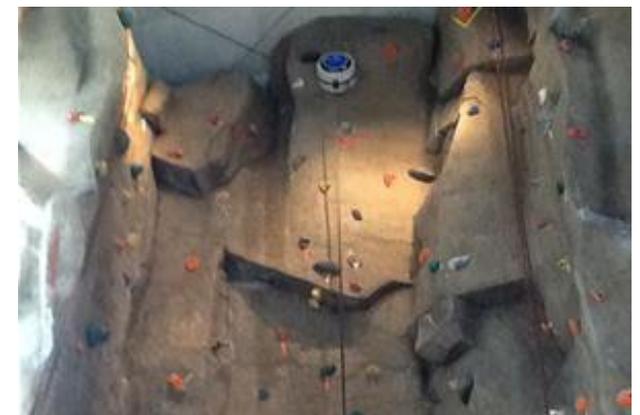
adequate in the winter months.

- Front Desk: Receiving guests as they walk into the facility, staff members greet members and single day visitors, address questions and perform registration into Recreation Programs. The welcome is diluted as this counter is submerged into the wall with no angle towards the entry way.
- Gallery Space: Located at the opposite end of the entryway, this space serves, somewhat inadequately, as a fitness area for spin classes. This space is located directly next to the locker room, weight room and pool entry.
- Weight, Stretching and Fitness area: This area offers a variety of cardio equipment, free weights, and circuit machines amid stunning mountain views. While a beautiful space, a line of cardio equipment crowds a narrow hallway which also serves as the locker room/restroom entry/exit. The state-of-the-art Matrix Fitness equipment is equipped with Virtual Active, a suite of fully interactive video-based cardio workouts. Users are engaged on all levels through audio soundtracks and video footage. On the treadmills, the incline will adjust to match the terrain shown in the video. For ascent, cycle, and elliptical machines, the resistance level adjusts to match the terrain. Videos are speed interactive.
- Cardio Equipment
 - 6 Treadmills
 - 4 Elliptical Trainers
 - 3 Hybrid Bikes
 - 11 Keiser M3 Indoor Cycling Bikes
 - 2 Ascent Trainers

- Strength Training Equipment
 - Free Weights and Adjustable Weight Benches
 - TRX Suspension Trainer
 - Functional Trainer
 - Assist Chin Dip
 - Bicep Curl
 - Chest Press and Shoulder Press
 - Lateral Raise
 - Pectoral Fly
 - Triceps Press
 - Pulldown
 - Row
 - Hip Abductor/Adductor
 - Squat Rack
 - Fit Balls
 - Leg Curl
 - Leg Extension
 - Seated Leg Press
 - Abdominal
 - Back Extension
 - Medicine Balls
 - Resistance Cords
 - Bosu Balance Trainers
- Family Locker room : The primary entry into the family restrooms and general locker rooms is located at the opposing end of the entry way, adjacent to the Gallery space. There are two Family changing rooms offering ADA restrooms and showers to guests. Signage to better

distinguish these rooms from the general locker rooms could be improved.

- Gender-specific Locker Rooms: Adjacent to the Gallery and sharing the same hallway as the family locker area are the male & female locker rooms. These areas provide an ample number of lockers, restroom and shower space, although more privacy could be afforded in the shower space.
- Bouldering and Climbing Wall: Approximately 25 vertical feet of wall space offers Recreation Center guests multiple belay and self-belay routes as well as a padded bouldering wall. This space is often used by groups, for programming and occasionally used by cardio/weight room attendees when they can't not find space on the gym floor. Instruction on the self-belay system is offered by Recreation staff. Climbing shoes can be rented at the front desk.
- Multi-purpose gymnasium: Accessed by walking through the rock climbing/bouldering area, the gymnasium serves many purposes for overall recreation, fitness and recreation programs. This is a relatively confined space as the facility walls and exposed support beams line the courtside. Even without these beams, structural walls are located to close too the playing court, limiting any space for both sport and spectators. The gymnasium can be rented hourly dependent upon use and availability.
- Fitness/Program Area: Following a set of stairs located near the rock climbing/bouldering wall, is the fitness and program room which overlooks the multi-purpose gymnasium. This 1,000 square foot space features wood floors, mirrors, televisions, and top-of-the-



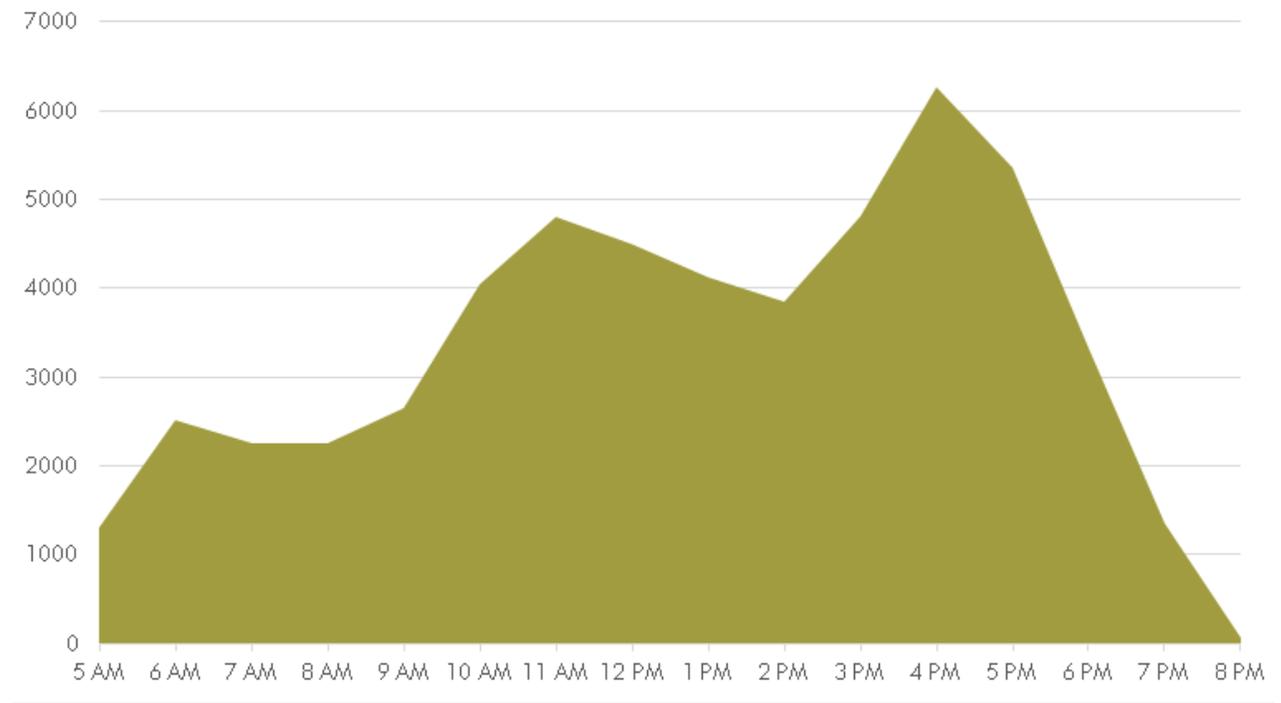
line sound equipment, directly connecting to the craft room and an elevator providing ADA accessibility. It can be divided into two separate rooms capable of holding two separate exercise classes or activities. The space includes many of the fitness programs as well as youth recreation programming:

- Plyo Balls
- Jump ropes
- Bosu Balls
- Body Bars
- Dumbbells
- Kettle Balls
- Battle Rope
- Gliders
- Craft room: Adjacent to the Fitness & Program room, this space is primarily used for youth recreation programming during camps. This is not a day care space.
- Storage space: Accessed via the weight room or Multi-Purpose gymnasium, this space provides storage for the majority of the facility and program equipment. It is elevated by a brief set stairs from the gymnasium floor making the movement of heavy equipment and refuse difficult.
- IT Equipment: The IT equipment shares space with the Aquatics infrastructure room, which is an inadequate and inconvenient space for such equipment.

In general, the Snowmass Village Recreation Center serves the needs of the community and provides a high level service for its resident and non-resident guests. The Recreation Center is open from 5:30 a.m - 8:30 p.m. Monday – Thursday, 5:30 a.m - 6:00 p.m. Friday, 8:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m. Saturday and 8:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m. Sunday. Peaks in usage occur in the morning/pre-work period, during lunchtime,

and after-work periods. The busiest time of day for the Recreation Center has consistently been between 4 PM and 6 PM for the past few years. The facility is used continuously throughout the year, averaging approximately 4,500 visits per month. A modest increase in usage is experienced during the winter months as guests tend to utilize more outdoor recreation during the summer, spring and fall months.

Hourly Recreation Center Usage



In comparison to most of its competitors, the Recreation Center has a very straight forward fee for daily and membership access:

Pass Type	Rate (\$)
Youth Daily	10.00
Adult Daily	15.00
Youth 20 Punch Pass	175.00
Adult 20 Punch Pass	240.00
1 Year Youth	522.50
1 Month Adult	125.00
Installment billing of \$65 per month, after initial payment of \$125 due at registration	65.00
1 Year Adult	660.00
1 Month Family	250.00
Installment billing of \$120 per month, after initial payment of \$250 due at registration.	120.00
1 Year Family	1232.00



The Snowmass Village Recreation Center offers a number of party rental options to the community, including:

- Ultimate parties are 3 hours in length; 1 hour party room or reserved pool deck space, and your choice of 2 (1 hour each) at climbing wall, swimming pool, bounce house, ice rink (winter only). Ultimate parties are allowed a maximum of 25 guests at the flat rate of \$450. Parties reserved for more than 25 guests will require a \$5.00 per person fee in addition to a \$35.00 additional staff fee.
- Pool parties at the Recreation Center are 2 hours in length and include use of pool as well as reserved tables and deck space during your party. Pool parties allow a maximum of 25 guests at the flat rate of \$200. Parties reserved for more than 25 guests will require a \$5.00 per person fee in addition to a \$35.00 additional staff fee.
- Bounce House Parties are 2 hours in length (1 Hour Bounce House, 1 Hour Party Room). Parties include exclusive use of both the Bounce house and Party Room. Tables and chairs are provided. Bounce House parties allow a maximum of 25 guests at the flat rate of \$300. Parties reserved for more than 25 guests will require a \$5.00 per person fee in addition to a \$35.00 additional staff fee.
- Climbing Parties are 2 hours in length (1 hour Climbing Wall, 1 hour Party Room.) Parties include exclusive use of the climbing wall, one climbing attendant and use of party room with tables and chairs. Climbing parties allow a maximum of 25 guests at the flat rate of \$200. Parties reserved for more than 25 guests will require a \$5.00 per person fee in addition to a \$35.00 additional staff fee.



Recreation Center Program Map

AQUATICS

The Aquatics Facility is attached to the Recreation Center and accessed via the daily or membership fee. Three outdoor salinated pools are available year round. Salt water chlorination is a process that uses dissolved salt as a store for the chlorination system. In order to achieve this concentration, the chlorine generator uses electrolysis to break down salt (NaCl). The resulting chemical reaction eventually produces hypochlorous acid (HClO), and sodium hypochlorite (NaClO), which are the sanitizing agents already commonly used in swimming pools. As such, a saltwater pool is not actually chlorine-free; it simply utilizes a chlorine generator instead of the direct addition of chlorine. This aquatics facility includes:

- Leisure Pool: The leisure pool is the highlight of the Recreation Center in the summer months. Recreational enhancement features have been placed within and next to the Leisure pool such as; a waterfall, tumble buckets, a water-slide, and jets. The tumble buckets, bubble rock, down spout, and water slide attractions are near the end of their lifespan. The pool is 64,000 gallons and is heated to 93°F. Heating is completed through traditional means and solar panels. The pool is staffed with three guards in the winter and up to eight in the summer months. During peak usage periods in the summer there are generally three guards working at one time. During lower use periods in the winter the department operates with a single guard with a backup supervisor trained as a guard. There has been an expressed difficulty by guards to see every corner of the aquatics area from one position, hence the necessity of 3 guards in the summer. This pool includes a zero entry ramp, but there is no ADA chairs meant to lower

swimmers into the water. The existing zero entry ramp is narrow and restricts the potential recreational use by younger families.

- Lap Pool : The two lane, 23,000-gallon lap pool is located adjacent to the Leisure pool allowing fitness swimmers separation from recreation pool attendees. These 25 yard lanes are also heated to 80°F. Heating is completed through traditional means and solar panels.
- Hot Tub: The life of the party for any aquatics facility, this 3,000-gallon hot tub is heated to 104°F. The hot tub seats 17 guests and offers a remarkable view of Snowmass.
- Pool Deck: The existing pool deck space provides outdoor relaxing space for Recreation Center guests. One of the existing problems is the upkeep and replacement of furniture located on the deck, although pool deck furniture has been replaced in summer 2016. In

the winter months the pool deck surrounding the Hot Tub is heated to aid snowmelt, but snow is also shoveled and piled in unused space to provide winter access, which can be inefficient.

- Concession: Although an access window is present, guests must currently re-enter the Recreation Center to purchase and receive concessions.
- Pool infrastructure and equipment: Stored within the Recreation Center facility, this storage space also stores IT equipment, aquatic equipment and other miscellaneous items. This space is suitable for the time being however, if the aquatic equipment were to malfunction resulting in flooding, there would be catastrophic damage to the pool system, IT system and Recreation Center at large.

The aquatics facility opens at 8 am and closes 30 minutes prior to the facility closing daily.





PROGRAMS

Fitness Programs

Utilizing the Recreation Center, fitness programs are located throughout the Recreation Center and have found use in every corner of the facility. An impressive list of cardio, strength and aerobic equipment may be found on the Town's Fitness website. The Recreation Center offers 6 different group fitness classes that meet 19 times per week and personal training for all ages and fitness levels from nationally-certified instructors. These basic fitness classes are provided free of charge with a Recreation Center admission or membership.

Specialty programs, which may change seasonally, include:

- Yoga: There are three types of yoga offered to membership and pass holders, designed for beginner to advanced skills, to increase strength, flexibility and balance. These courses are offered on week days only. Membership, a punch pass, or a \$15 drop-in fee are required for participation. There is a plethora of yoga opportunities throughout the valley. Some competitors offer the full spectrum of yoga classes and have a similar fee membership based admission.
- Pilates Mat: This variation to the conventional Pilates class focuses on strengthen and tone core muscles, improved posture and flexibility. These classes are for beginner through advanced skill sets and require a membership, punch pass, or a \$15 drop-in fee. This course does not utilize Pilates machines. The Town's Pilates program is one of two recreation facilities to provide a Pilates course, however there are private studios focused solely on

Pilates fitness. While individuals looking solely for Pilates will likely use one of these Pilates-specific studios, the fact that only one other recreation facility provides Pilates courses, adds value to the overall membership.

- Sports Conditioning: Attracting athletes of all disciplines, this course incorporates high energy cardio, develops muscle strength, explosive power, endurance, balance, and flexibility through functional exercise. Designed for beginner through advanced skill sets, this class requires a membership, punch pass, or a \$15 drop-in fee. Many facilities in the valley offer conditioning courses, either specific to athletic activities or generic. Many competitors focus specifically on ski conditioning but specialty courses for cyclists, rock climbing, and other activities are also available. The Town's program is generally less expensive than its competitors. Ski conditioning is also offered in the fall.
- Indoor Cycling: A popular class within this and most recreation centers, guests enjoy interval, strength and terrain workouts on stationary bikes. Membership, a punch pass, or a \$15 drop-in fee are required for participation. Although it is less expensive than its competitors, there are many competing cycling courses within the valley. Some facilities offer upsells to their cyclists with outdoor classes and weight training courses.
- TRX Training: TRX is a suspension training course focused on developing strength, power, endurance, mobility, balance, flexibility and core stability. Membership, a punch pass, or a \$15 drop-in fee are required for participation. Aside from the Aspen Club, no other facility offers a TRX course. Aspen Club's course is

also membership based which puts the Town of Snowmass at an advantage as membership prices are significantly less expensive.

- H.I.I.T.: High-Intensity Interval Training courses are extremely popular at the moment. This challenging 45-minute course elevates heart rates, builds muscle, improves body composition, cardio fitness and metabolic function. Admission is based on membership, punch pass or a \$15 drop-in fee and is for beginner to advanced guests. Nearly every competitor has a high interval course, under a variety of names.
- Personal Training: The Snowmass Village Recreation Center offers personal training through independent contractors who maintain their own schedule to meet the needs of clients. Each trainer is a certified professional who designs programs for each individual's needs, such as weight loss, strength programs, yoga sessions and sport specific training. One-on-one sessions as well as 2 person or small group sessions are available. One session is \$90, and registration for multiple sessions receives a discount.

Recreation Programs

Recreation Programs are divided into four categories; Adult and Youth Sport Leagues, Aquatics Programs and Youth Camps. These programs utilize the majority of the amenities offered through the parks, recreation and trails departments.

Adult Sport Leagues

- Futsal league: A variation of indoor soccer, these leagues are coed and played in the winter months from January to March. Registration is facilitated through an online registration

system. The Town's hosts one league merging recreational and competitive players onto the same playing field. Throughout the valley, there are several soccer leagues but during the winter months Snowmass hosts the only indoor, futsal league. The impact of being the sole regional provider of futsal/soccer in the winter is demonstrated through the volume of players and interest by spectators. As the sole providers, Snowmass has command of the price point and schedule frequency for this sport.

- Volleyball league: Offered in the fall (October - December) and winter (January - March), these coed leagues are held every Wednesday night during the 10-12 week season. Throughout the valley, the Town's program is the only 6 vs 6 league. The other recreation centers or departments offer 4 vs 4 leagues, also taking place in the fall or winter seasons. With no competition in Aspen and the closest volleyball leagues in Basalt and Carbondale, this is another exciting program for Snowmass Village.
- Softball league: Also a coed recreation league, the Town hosts games every Tuesday and Wednesdays during the summer. One constraint on this program is the lack of lighting features on the Town Park field. This restricts the number of games per evening and affects scheduling as the days become shorter in the fall. As previously stated, this is a coed recreation league which may restrict users interested in a woman's or men's only league and/or a recreation or competitive league. Softball leagues are limited in the Valley, but Aspen Parks and Recreation does offer a competitive and a recreation men's and coed recreation softball league. Prices are





comparable. The Aspen field does not have lighting features either.

- Soccer league: Facilitated in the summer, this 10 to 12 week coed league is played at Town Park and experiences similar constraints to the Softball league in terms of lighting. Play depends on weather, as with most outdoor sports, but the number of games and length of season is primarily constricted to the hours of day light. Again, similar to softball, Snowmass's main competition is with the Aspen Parks and Recreation department. These two leagues seem to conflict as both leagues are scheduled for Monday nights.
- Tennis Instruction: Snowmass has direct competition with the Aspen Recreation Center within the tennis market. Snowmass is approximately half the rate of the Aspen \$20/ class fee.
- Drop-in play: Three drop-in activities are offered at the Recreation Center; basketball, pickleball, and soccer. Similar to the fitness programs, admission into these league is based off of membership/punch cards or a \$10 drop in fee.
- Basketball is offered October through April on Monday evenings, Tuesdays and Thursdays at noon. There are two basketball leagues in the valley, although they are nearly 30 minutes away in Basalt and Carbondale.
- Pickleball is an up and coming sport, gaining the interests of many demographics but predominately with aging tennis players, as it requires similar skills with less movements. This activity is held from October to April at the Recreation Center on Mondays, Wednesday

and Friday at specific times. Drop-in pickleball is also offered at the Aspen Recreation.

- Soccer: Supporting winter Futsal and summer Soccer enthusiasts, the Recreation Center hosts drop-in soccer on Tuesdays and Friday from October to April. Snowmass Village offers one of the only indoor soccer facilities in the valley.

Youth Sport Leagues & Athletics

- Youth Soccer (ages 6-10 & 11-14+): Snowmass and Aspen Recreation Center host youth soccer camps throughout the summer,.Aspen has soccer for kids from kindergarten up to age 10 on every night of the week during the summer. This provides Snowmass the majority of players ages 10+, although some may move onto private, traveling or school teams. Aspen United currently does not utilize the field space in Snowmass Village, creating a potential opportunity for a partnership to bring more youth players to Snowmass Village Like the Snowmass field, Aspen plays on a field without lights so games must be played during the day. This presents another growth opportunity for Snowmass.
- Youth Tennis (ages 5-12 & 13+): Supporting three different clinics for children ages 5-8, 5-11 and 8-12 throughout the summer months. These clinics are located on the Town Park Tennis courts adjacent to the Recreation Center and costs between \$10-15. Similar to the program offered for the adults, the main competition is Aspen Recreation Center, although Snowmass offers less expensive prices per class.

Aquatics Programs

- Parent & Child aquatics: A Red Cross supported program, this course teaches basic skills to infants and young children. This is an educational course for the children as well as the parents as they are informed proper techniques to create a safe aquatic experience for their child.
- Preschool aquatics: As a Red Cross supported program, this course is designed to orient young children, approximately 4 and 5 years old, into the aquatic environment as well as support a positive space for aquatic development.
- Levels 1 through 4 swimming lessons: These classes are meant for any individual wishing to progress their aquatic skills. Students engage in safe, yet developmentally challenging tasks as they progress from water comfortability and basic water skills to stroke refinement. The pricing structure supporting these programs is one of the least expensive options in the valley.
- Private & Semi-private lessons: Facilitated by Red Cross certified instructors, these lessons are offered year-round.

Youth Camps

The Snowmass Village Parks, Recreation and Trails Department offers seasonal and weekly camps for kids throughout the year. Those camps consist of a Winter Break, School's Out, Summer Camp, Fall Break, and Thanksgiving Camp. Activities include, but are not limited to: arts and crafts, field trips, hiking, indoor rock climbing, playground time, and swimming. These camps are approximately \$30-\$50/day and operate all day Monday through Friday. While popular, prior registration and more than sporadic commitment is a challenge for the department. A pattern of

registration by parents has emerged where parents fail to pre-register in favor of drop-ins. This creates a challenge for the department as registration must meet a minimum number of participants for the camp to operate. These classes heavily depend on local kids and families, which means the scope of competition primarily falls on Aspen Recreation Center, but the Smashbox, Camp and other alternative providers are also in the mix. These programs offer nearly identical programs as Snowmass Village, resulting in a convenience decision for the families. Admission fees are generally cheaper in Snowmass Village but not by a significant margin.

Snowmass also offers specialty camps and clinics such as Challenger Soccer, and mountain biking clinics. Specialty camps like this are fairly consistent throughout the valley. Aspen Recreation Center also hosts youth soccer camps in the fall and for a comparable price.



Walkability and Connectivity

Because of its compact size, the Town of Snowmass Village is fairly well connected, though there are some constraints to being truly walkable or bikeable, depending on where you live. Brush Creek Road is a barrier to movement, even where there are striped crossings. This is exacerbated during the colder months, when reasonable walking and biking distances and visibility are more limited. The Town of Snowmass Village has made incremental improvements to walkways, trails and road crossings in recent years, but there are still areas to improve or complete.

In 2015, Snowmass Village Town Council adopted a goal of taking the necessary steps to improve the overall connectivity of the community. The Community Connectivity Plan (CCP) was conducted concurrently with the POSTR plan and was developed to recommend strategies and projects to improve overall connectivity and safety to key destinations within the Town for people biking, walking and taking transit. Specifically, the Community Connectivity Plan identifies projects relating to: crossings of Brush Creek Road, connectivity-related trails and walkways, transit, the Sky Cab (Skittles), parking and traffic calming. These proposed connectivity projects have been incorporated into the analysis of the POSTR system.

Wayfinding

As a mountain resort community, Snowmass Villages' economy is primarily tourism-based, creating a strong need for effective wayfinding and consistent community branding. The Snowmass Village Trail Signage Design Guidelines and resulting signage have been very effective at both branding the community and directing travelers. The signs incorporate the branding and identity standards for the community, which transcend mediums extending from the web, to printed materials all the way through to the built environment, and provide a seamless journey for visitors. While these guidelines are excellent for trails they could be better integrated into vehicle and roadway wayfinding to create an "information hierarchy" to organize community gateways, routes, districts, and destinations regardless of mode of travel.

Market Assessment

A comprehensive market assessment was conducted as part of the POSTR process. The market assessment defines resident demographic profiles, visitor trends, and a broad analysis of existing regional recreational amenities and attractions in the Roaring Fork Valley. This research explores the opportunity for the broader community's recreation needs, and provides a context for understanding the current and potential role for the Town's parks, open space and trails. The information below summarizes the key findings and observations of the assessment.

Key Findings

Small Local Population; Big Seasonal Population

The full-time resident population of Snowmass Village is 2,826, remaining relatively flat for the past few years. The small local population of Snowmass Village belies a large influx of second homeowners and visitors throughout the year, peaking at an estimated 11,000 peak seasonal population (example: Christmas week and 4th of July). This includes full-time, part-time/second homeowners, and visitors. The variation in the size of the population (residents plus second homeowners plus visitors) during the year creates different levels of demand for parks and recreation services.

Second Home Proportions

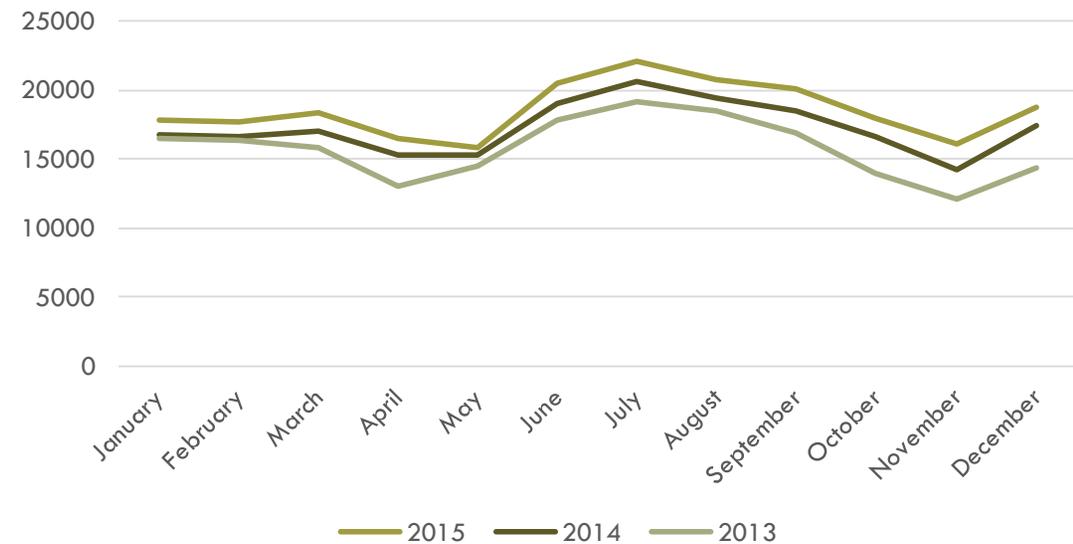
US Census records indicate that approximately 38 percent of the total residential properties in Snowmass

Village are utilized for seasonal/recreational use (second homes). The Town of Snowmass Village has a relatively low proportion of second homeowners compared to other mountain resort communities (Beaver Creek is 84% seasonal/recreational use, while Teton Village is 54% and Mountain Village is 42%). This indicates the vast importance of both visitors and locals to the success of the POSTR system in Snowmass Village.

Seasonality of Traffic

Colorado Department of Transportation traffic numbers indicate that traffic counts on Highway 82 typically peak in July and March, with troughs in May and November. These numbers indicate the times of year when the Town might have the greatest opportunity to connect with visitors, especially in areas proximate to and visible from area highways.

Snowmass Village Traffic Counts



Source: Colorado Department of Transportation Traffic Data Explorer



Resident Demographics

The demographic statistics of residents of the Town of Snowmass Village a few observations of note. First, residents' median age is 40 (Generation X), while overnight visitors are primarily baby boomers (ages 50-69). Second, the household income stats shows a very high level of income, suggesting some level of disposable income. Third, 33% of the workforce lives within the village, which is relatively high for the Roaring Fork Valley.

Recreation Competition

As a tourism and recreation-based mountain community, there is a wide range of recreation competitors in Snowmass Village, and in the broader region with which the Town of Snowmass Village Parks, Trails and Recreation department must contend with. These include: Aspen Parks & Recreation, the Basalt Recreation Department, the Carbondale Recreation Department, Pitkin County, the US Forest Service, the US Bureau of Land Management, the Aspen Skiing Company, the Snowmass Club, the Aspen Club (temporarily closed) and a number of smaller, one-off recreation providers, such as yoga or Pilates studios. The offerings of each of these providers were analyzed to understand the strengths, opportunities,

weaknesses and threats in the recreation environment of the Roaring Fork Valley. Below is summary of key findings in the major areas of the POSTR system.

Parks

TOSV offers substantial park space and facilities at Town Park, Cathy Robinson Park and Yarrow Park. Across these parks, TOSV residents and guests are afforded: multi-purpose field space, sporting fields and courts, playgrounds, parking, concrete and soft surface trails, water fountains, landscaping, art, and other parks. These amenities are similar to near-by parks facilities. One opportunity unforeseen within TOSV and its competitor's is lighting features to provide evening activities on the sporting fields. This would be a distinguishing features for TOSV's parks amongst its competitors, and could increase the attractiveness of the Town's sports leagues offerings.

Trails

Regional trail providers are more partners than competition, but it is still important to understand the context in which Snowmass Village sits. Trail connections with each of the recreation competitors mentioned above are possible in Snowmass Village, and the Town has worked hard to develop good working relationships with each.

Recreation Center

Viewing the competition at large, the Town of Snowmass Village's Recreation Center has many competitors when examining individual amenities but, with the exception of the Aspen Recreation Center, no other competitor has all these amenities at one facility. Another major difference in that the Town's Recreation Center pricing model is a consistent fee between residents and non-residents. The majority of facilities will charge residents or members one price and non-residents or tourists another. This resident model can increase the loyalty of residents, as well as increase the yield per non-resident guest as they are looking to satisfy a short term need instead of a calculated long term need present with residents.

When comparing the cost of amenity use to competitors, the Recreation Center's rates are less expensive. Most competitor facilities include fitness and other amenities into their admission fee (daily or membership) just like the Town of Snowmass Village, however the Town's Recreation Center is priced at a less expensive rate.



Aquatics

Similar to its competitors, access to the aquatics facilities are granted by paying the admission fee into the Recreation Center. When comparing the variety of programs to those competitors, Snowmass Village does not offer any swim teams, master swim periods, or aquatic fitness programs. Like Snowmass Village, most of these competitors also offer group and private swim lessons for all ability levels. The pricing structure supporting these programs is consistent if not one of the least expensive options in the region. Some competitors lack the enhancement features that increase the recreation experience and value afforded to users of the Snowmass Village facilities, such as the water-slide and splash fountain.

Programs

On the whole, TOSV has a variety of competitors in the adult and youth recreation programming sector with primary competition coming from the Aspen Recreation Center and the Aspen Parks & Recreation Department. Depending on the activity or camp, TOSV is the sole provider of some activities while they are amongst a populated pool of providers for others. Within the greater Roaring Fork Valley, TOSV is the

sole provider for: futsal leagues and volleyball leagues. Between TOSV and its competitors there is overlap in the programs and activities offered such as: adult softball leagues, softball, tennis, pickleball, soccer, youth climbing and youth camps.

In most cases, program fees are within a reasonable margin when compared to similar programs offered by competitors. For the majority of programs, TOSV is the less expensive option. Other constraints caused by competition may be the dates offered for these programs. One example is the adult soccer league. Both the TOSV and the Aspen Parks and Recreation Soccer leagues are scheduled for Monday nights. This forces players to choose between the leagues and, due to their close proximity, rescheduling the night they are provided may present an opportunity to potentially increase participation in each.

When comparing similar fitness programs offered at TOSV to its competitors, the Town does have significant competition for courses like yoga, sport conditioning, cycling and H.I.I.T. Most courses are scheduled mid-week through-out the Roaring Fork Valley, suggesting opportunities for more weekend offerings.

Competitors, on the whole, offer all the courses offered by the Town's Fitness program. In some cases, they offer many others as well. These additional classes include, but not limited to: Senior oriented courses, conditioning, taekwondo, activity specific conditioning or weight lifting courses, Zumba, tough mamas and others.



Chapter 3. RECREATION MEANS BUSINESS

Parks, open space, trails and recreational opportunities are important community amenities that help to spur economic development. From home owners choosing to live along a trail to tourists who choose their destinations based on the availability of recreation, the Town of Snowmass Village's parks, trails and recreation center are important community facilities that attract both people and dollars. The economic effects of

these assets are sometimes readily apparent (as in the case of trailside businesses) and are sometimes more subtle, like when a company decides to move to a particular community because of recreational amenities, but mounting new evidence shows an almost universal positive connection between well-designed parks, trails, and recreation facilities and important economic development indicators.

Why recreation? Because:

- Recreation improves quality of life and supports the TOSV lifestyle
- Recreation contributes to tourism and economic development
- Recreation increases tax revenues
- Recreation increases property values and make homes easier to sell
- Recreation attracts residents, businesses and a high-quality workforce

Tourism-Oriented Recreation Opportunities Assessment

Snowmass Tourism is a Town Department and acts as the official Destination Marketing Organization (DMO) for the Town, with a mission “to support the town’s economy through activities, events and programs that attract visitors and the associated spending.” As the Town has acknowledged, tourism is the basis of the Snowmass Village economy. The tourism industry is Snowmass Village’s largest employer, providing more than half the jobs in the town, and that industry is largely based upon recreation (U.S. Department of Commerce, 2015). Parks, trails, and the access to the outdoors and nature they provide, are a large factor in the decision for tourists to visit Snowmass Village. As demonstrated in the 2014 Snowmass Summer Visitor study, all of the top 6 reasons for visiting Snowmass Village are related, at least in part, to the parks, trails, and recreational amenities provided by the Town’s Parks, Trails and Recreation Department. These reasons include:

- 1) **Scenic Beauty**, which is enhanced and preserved by the Town’s parks and open space program.
- 2) **Mountain Getaway**. The mountain resort lifestyle Snowmass Village is known for is supported by the trails and recreation opportunities provided here.
- 3) **Arts, Music and Cultural Activities**, many of which take place on the Town’s park lands, such as the Jazz Aspen Snowmass Festival.
- 4) **Rest and Relaxation**. The Town’s parks, trails and open spaces help support a world class destination for rest and relaxation.
- 5) **Recreational or Sports Activities**. Clearly directly related to the Town’s provision of these activities through the Parks, Trails and Recreation Department.
- 6) **Special Events**, again many of which take place on the Town’s park lands.

While winter primarily focuses on the skiing product, the Town markets the community in the summer largely based on recreation offerings that are provided by Aspen Skiing Company, other providers, and the Parks, Trails and Recreation Department including sports and recreation activities like mountain biking (Bike Snowmass), hiking, rock climbing and kids camps. Many events promoted by the Town also utilize the department’s resources, such as the Ragnar Trail Race. The Town also partners with Aspen Skiing Company on the “Bike Snowmass” initiative to promote Snowmass as an international bicycle destination. The summer initiative was originally created to showcase the biking improvements in Snowmass, but has since been expanded to promote various mountain bike races and promotions throughout the summer. The Town Parks, Trails, and Recreation Department has also contributed to this effort and could play a bigger role in helping to develop Snowmass as a world-class bicycle destination moving forward.



DEVELOPING TOURISM-ORIENTED RECREATION OPPORTUNITIES

The strategic framework for this POSTR Plan seeks to fully consider the tourism-oriented recreation opportunities for the Town that could attract visitors in concert with satisfying the recreation needs of local residents. As a mountain community, Snowmass exists within a larger mountain tourism destination, encompassing Aspen and the wider Roaring Fork Valley. Aspen Skiing Company's resorts, originally conceived as venues for skiing, have evolved over time



to become epicenters for year-round recreation. The communities have also evolved, resulting in increased full-time residency in the region as well as second home ownership and annual visitation. . The Town's parks, recreation and trails offerings have also evolved over time and are now an important component of the overall tourism destination of Snowmass and the Roaring Fork Valley.

Snowmass Village has an effective population that is much larger than simply its year-round residents. Each group, and the varying demographics within each group, have a wide range of recreational needs, and the numerous activities, programs and events offered throughout the region will appeal to different audiences. The Town has already carved out a niche for itself in the regional economy. Snowmass offers a more rural lifestyle and aesthetic among some of the world's best recreational opportunities and scenic vistas. This POSTR Plan seeks to build upon that identity to provide unique opportunities for new recreational development.

Snowmass Village strives to provide outstanding parks, open space, trails and recreation to its residents, first and foremost. Parks and recreation can also draw visitors into a community, for specific activities and events that cost money to participate in, or for

activities that are free but encourage people to spend time in-town at restaurants and shops. The Town also realizes the potential economic development benefits that may come from drawing in visitors, and that those benefits can help offset the cost of providing resources and facilities to locals. The goal is to have Snowmass Village's parks, open space and trails provide an outstanding recreation resource for its residents as well as attract visitors to the region.

The process of identifying tourism-oriented recreational opportunities within the Town's parks, open space and trails, involves an evaluation of a number of interconnected factors. These factors are listed below:

- Residents and Stakeholders: The Town must first and foremost provide outstanding parks, open space and trails to its residents. To do this, it is critical to understand the needs, desires and concerns of the local community.
- The Recreation Marketplace: This includes understanding the population volumes and demographics of residents and visitors, as well as what is already being offered throughout the Roaring Fork Valley that would appeal to the various user groups.

- Positioning and Brand Identity: In a competitive environment all players strive to present an experience that differentiates them within the marketplace. All opportunities must in some way reflect what makes Snowmass Village different and unique within the Valley.
- Land Use Considerations: Future opportunities must exist within the context of Snowmass Village. This requires an understanding of the Town's existing and future parks, open space, trails and recreation, but also circulation and land use patterns, and the community's vision and goals for future development.
- Economic Impacts: Future opportunities must consider the balance between capital costs, community value, and revenue opportunity. This includes a realistic evaluation of visitation potential.

Economic Case Studies

As mentioned previously, the Town's recreational assets make up a small part of the overall world-class recreational environment of the Roaring Fork Valley that includes the Aspen-Snowmass resorts as well as public recreation opportunities on other municipal, BLM and USFS lands. This overall recreational environment is a primary draw for tourism and visitation in the region. Economic impact analyses of the Rim Bike Trail, the JAS Event, and the Snowmass Doubles Volleyball Tournament have been conducted as part of the POSTR plan to better understand the economic implications of recreational development that both serves locals needs and draws in visitors and to ensure these assets are properly leveraged for the greatest benefit to the community.

WHY CONDUCT AN ECONOMIC IMPACT ANALYSIS?

While *economic impact* analyses have been widely used in the fields of economic development and tourism, the tradition in parks and recreation planning has always been to provide *financial reports* for an agency's projects and operations. The difference between these two reporting methods is significant, and illustrates a fundamental divide between the way recreational and tourism assets are being considered and developed in many communities around the country. Financial reports focus on capital and operational costs compared against the revenues generated by the recreation agency, while economic impact analyses consider these same costs and benefits while also acknowledging the role these resources play in drawing additional visitors and tourism revenues into the broader community.

While the same holds true for parks and recreation facilities, trails are a perfect example of how financial reporting fails to capture the true benefits of a recreational resource. Trail development and maintenance can be costly, and often trail user fees are minimal (they can often be higher for Recreation Centers, etc.). As a result, financial reports often show trails as relatively high-cost centers in communities' annual budgets because operational costs generally exceed revenues. However, trails are absolutely critical attractors for tourists and can be a powerful tool for economic development, especially in mountain communities like Snowmass Village. While the recreation agency often receives little or no direct revenue from trail users, the local economy benefits immensely from bringing these new visitors into the community. Trail users may not always pay to be on the trail, but they typically buy goods, gas, food, and

lodging. It is this visitor spending that is tracked in an economic impact analysis.

To better understand the role recreational resources play in the economic fabric of the Snowmass Village, an *economic analysis* of the Rim Trail, the JAS Event, and the Snowmass Doubles Volleyball Tournament was conducted as part of this POSTR planning process. A *financial model* considering the costs and revenues of the total existing and proposed POSTR system was also generated in this process. These financial and economic analyses provide insight into the implementation and phasing strategies, and can greatly increase the competitiveness of projects for grants and other funding opportunities by demonstrating the immense return on investment these projects can provide.

ECONOMIC IMPACTS

A computer-based model—the Money Generation Model (MGM2)—was used to project the economic impact of the Rim Trail, the JAS Event, and the Snowmass Doubles Volleyball Tournament. MGM2 is a broadly accepted model that was developed by the National Park Service and is used to analyze the economic impact of all 58 National Parks, as well as hundreds of other local parks and recreation facilities across the country. The model demonstrates the immense value of recreation as an economic engine in Snowmass Village, by estimating the economic impact of spending associated with trail use on the Rim Trail and visitation to the two events in terms of changes in jobs, tax impacts, and sales (gross regional product).

Economic modeling requires the estimation of annual trail traffic volume, event attendance, and visitor spending in order to simulate the effect of these activities on the economy. While economic modeling utilizes observed industry interdependencies calibrated

to the local and regional economy of the Roaring Fork Valley, the results of any economic model are only as accurate as the data used to describe the modeled activity (i.e., trail use and event attendance). Therefore, certain estimations and assumptions related to these trails and events were made.

First, annual trail traffic volume was estimated using data collected by the Town using TrafX automated trail counters. The trail counter was placed on the Rim Trail between July and August 2015. Counts from this period were used to extrapolate an estimate of annual trail traffic volume following the extrapolation methodology of the National Bicycle and Pedestrian Documentation Project (NBPD). Event attendance was supplied by the Town and Snowmass Tourism documents.

Second, an assumption of trail traffic volume and event attendance by user type (Local/Day User and Non-Local Overnight User) is necessary for this analysis because, on average, these user types

spend significantly different amounts in connection with their trail visits and event attendance. While some economic analyses consider spending by both locals and visitors, to provide the most conservative estimates—and to ensure all economic impact figures consider only “new money” being brought into the local RFV economy—only spending by visitors was considered in this analysis. Based on input from the Town, 30 percent of Rim Trail users are estimated to be non-local visitors to the region and 85 percent of both JAS and Snowmass Double attendees are estimated to be non-local visitors.

Finally, Visitor Spending Profiles must be estimated for non-local visitors. For visitor spending this analysis utilized the average per capita daily expenditures calculated by RRC Associates for the 2014 Snowmass Village Summer Visitor Study. The Visitor Study was commissioned by Snowmass Tourism with the objective of providing information on tourism in Snowmass Village and represents the best estimate of tourism spending in the community.

The spending profile of the typical Snowmass Village visitor is presented below. Visitor’s largest spending category is lodging, followed by restaurants and bars, entertainment/amusement, and then shopping/retail.

With reasonable estimates of annual trail traffic volume and event attendance, traffic/attendance by user type, and visitor spending profiles, the MGM2 model can be completed and run. The model utilizes input-output modeling and industry relationship data from the US Census to estimate total economic impacts. Purchases for final use (i.e. trail user and event attendee spending) drive the model. Industries that produce goods and services for visitor consumption must purchase products, raw materials, and services from other companies to create their product. These vendors must also procure goods and services. This cycle continues until all the money is leaked from the region’s economy. There are three types of effects measured within an MGM2 model: the direct, the indirect, and the induced effects. The direct effect is the known or predicted change in the local economy that is to be studied (i.e. the visitor spending). The indirect effect is the business to business transactions required to satisfy the direct effect. Finally, the induced effect is derived from local spending on goods and services by people working to satisfy the direct and indirect effects. Total impacts reflect the total changes to the economy as the result of trail user spending (i.e. Direct effects + Indirect effects + Induced effects = Total Impacts).

In this analysis, jobs are discussed as “Full-Time-Equivalents” (FTEs). An employment position may be a year-round or seasonal job and either full-time or part-time, whereas one FTE provides sufficient work to keep one person employed full-time for one year. In seasonal industries, one FTE may represent several employment positions. It is important to note

Spending Category	Visitors
Lodging	\$103
Restaurants/bars/food concessionaires	\$49
Entertainment/amusement	\$38
Shopping/retail purchases	\$37
Recreation	\$11
Local transportation	\$10
Other (spa, incidentals, etc.)	\$7
Sightseeing	\$6
Total	\$261

that job creation estimates do not necessarily translate to any single job at a local business. Rather, visitor spending supports fractions of jobs at many hundreds of businesses in the RFV. For example, very few employment positions are likely created to deal only with the JAS event, but the event does support fractions of many hundreds of employees working at hotels, restaurants, etc. which when combined add up to full FTEs.

While this analysis demonstrates the spending associated with visitors using the Rim Trail or attending the JAS and Snowmass Doubles events, it is important to note that the availability of the Rim Trail or the two events are likely only part of the reason these visitors decided to come to the RFV. They may have chosen to visit the valley absent of the trail or the events, but the availability of such activities and opportunities likely contributed to drawing these visitors to the region.

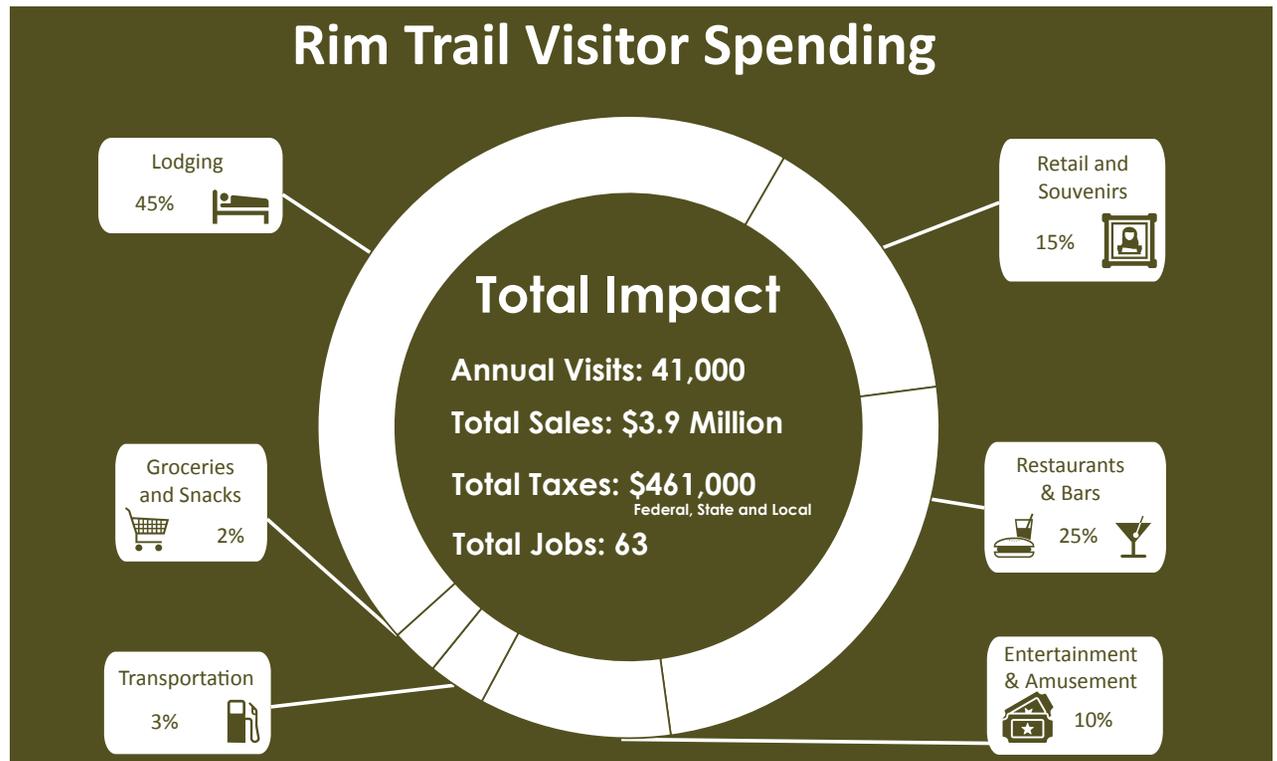


Economic Impact of the Rim Trail

The Parks, Trails and Recreation Department utilizes TrafX automated trail counters to understand the traffic volume of trails within the POSTR system. In 2015, the Rim Trail, including both the north and south sections, is estimated to have an annual trail traffic volume of approximately 41,000 trail visits. For the purposes of this analysis, 30% of trail visits were allocated to visitors, estimating about 12,300 visitor days.

The *economic analysis* of the Rim Trail demonstrates the powerful role trails play in the economic fabric of Snowmass Village. Visitor spending associated with the Rim Trail generates approximately \$2.9 million

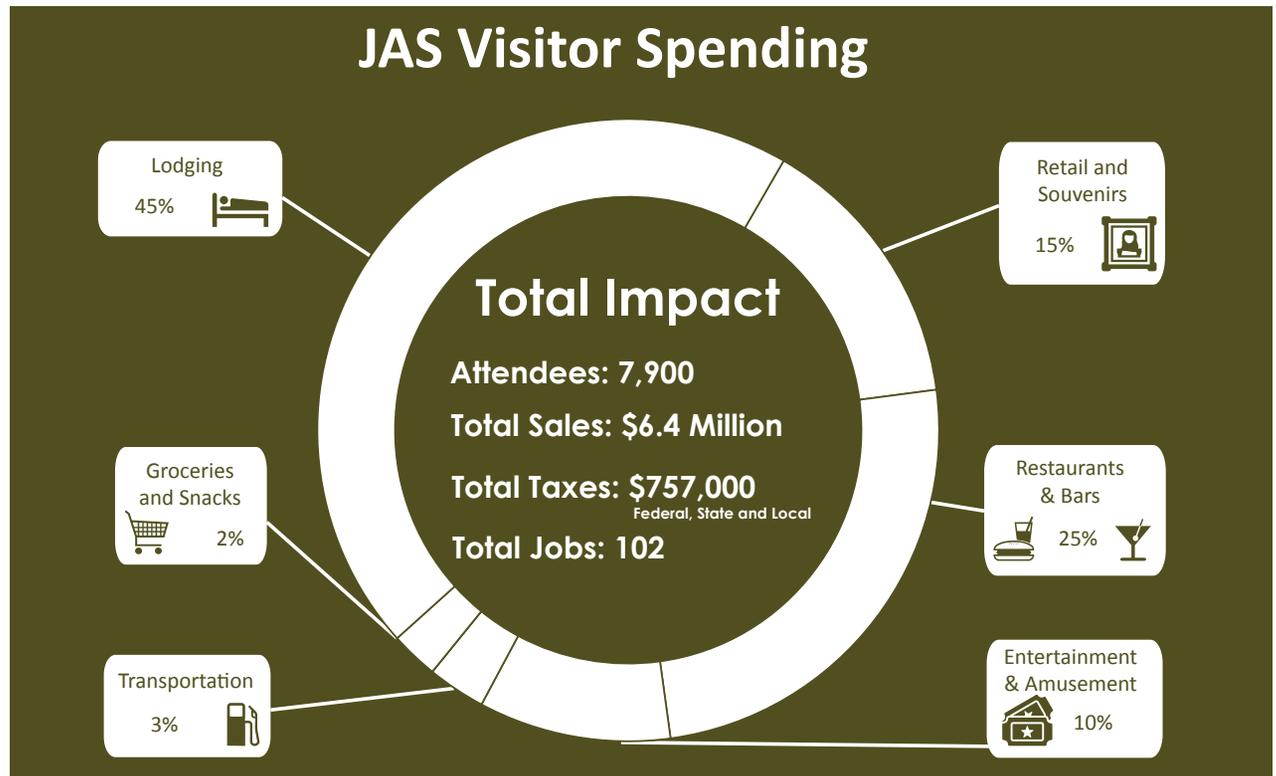
in direct sales and supports 53 FTEs each year. With an estimated multiplier of approximately 1.34, this direct impact then creates approximately \$3.9 million in total sales, supports 63 total FTEs, and generates approximately \$461,000 in federal, state and local taxes. This total impact includes direct, indirect and induced impacts.



Economic Impact of Jazz Aspen Snowmass Event

The Labor Day Experience of the JAS Jazz Aspen Snowmass event takes place at Town Park and hosts three days of world-class performances on multiple stages, with eclectic food and beverages, vendors and more. JAS has been running for 25 years and is a staple of the summer events in the region. Snowmass Tourism tracks the number of attendees to the JAS Labor Day Experience, and reports approximately 23,700 attendees over the three day event in 2015 (as the model is based on daily spending profiles we are interested in “visitor-days” rather than the 7,900 “unique visitors”). Based on data from Snowmass Tourism, 85% of these attendees are assumed to be visitors.

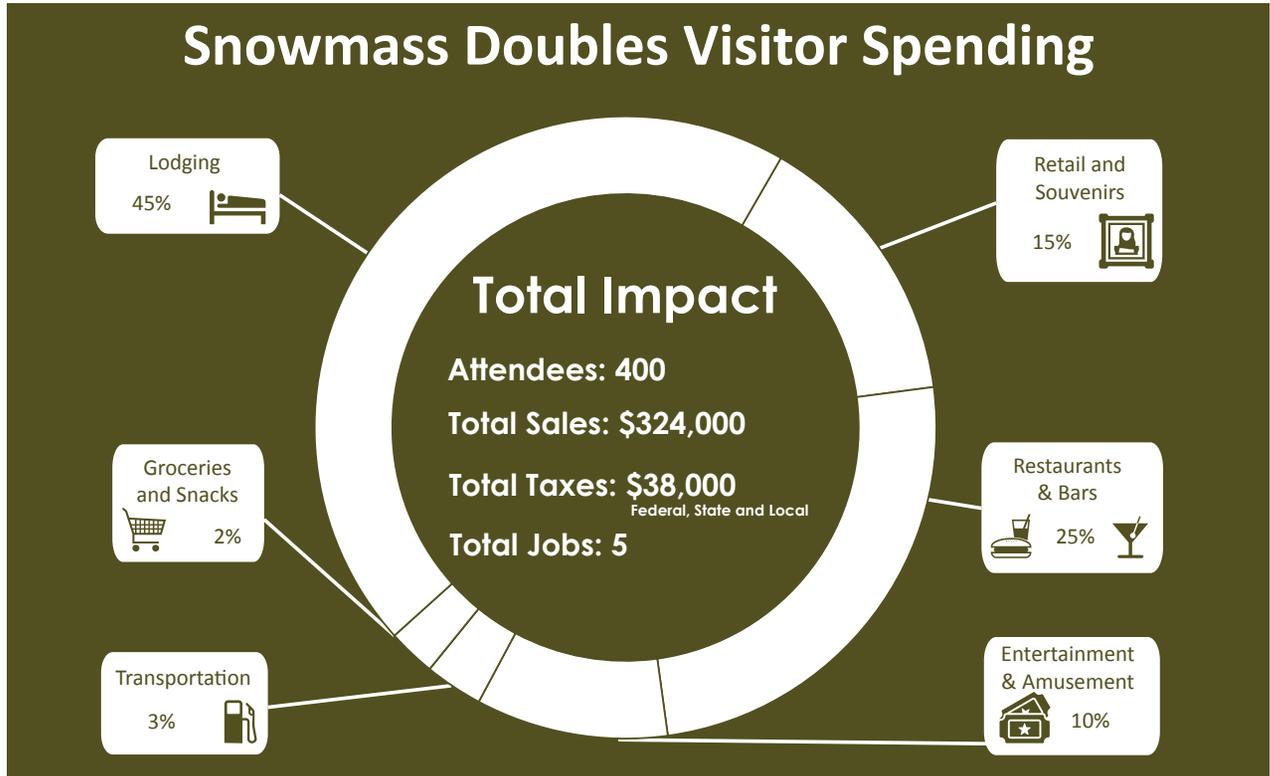
The *economic analysis* of this event helps to demonstrate the immense role that large events such as JAS play in the local economy of the region. Visitor spending associated with JAS generates approximately \$4.7 million in direct sales and supports 86 FTEs each year. With an estimated multiplier of approximately 1.34, this direct impact then creates approximately \$6.4 million in total sales, supports 102 total FTEs, and generates approximately \$757,000 in federal, state and local taxes. This total impact includes direct, indirect and induced impacts. . Albeit the largest, this is only one of the events that take place on park lands managed by the Town. To provide a frame of reference, a smaller event – the Snowmass Doubles Volleyball Tournament – has also been modeled.



Economic Impact of Snowmass Doubles Volleyball Tournament

The Snowmass Doubles Volleyball Tournament is in its third year and generally takes place in July. It offers men’s, women’s and coed teams in sand and grass divisions with an AVP Huntington Beach slot open to the top men and women’s teams. Currently limited to 270 teams, Snowmass Doubles is termed a “boutique” mountain tourney. Snowmass Tourism tracks the number of attendees to Snowmass Doubles, and reports approximately 400 attendees (1,200 visitor days) in 2015. Based on estimates from the Department, 85% of these attendees as assumed to be visitors.

The *economic analysis* of this event helps to demonstrate the smaller, but important role that minor events such as Snowmass Doubles play in the local economy of the region. Visitor spending associated with Snowmass Doubles generates approximately \$242,000 in direct sales and supports 4 FTEs each year. With an estimated multiplier of approximately 1.34, this direct impact then creates approximately \$324,000 in total sales, supports 5 total FTEs, and generates approximately \$38,000 in federal, state and local taxes. This total impact includes direct, indirect and induced impacts.. This impact demonstrates that even small events can have a big effect on the economy of the region.





Chapter 4: ENVISIONING THE FUTURE

**Parks, Recreation and Trails
Department Mission Statement:**

“Provide safe, expertly managed recreation programs and facilities that promote community cohesion, physical fitness, as well as family and individual well-being.”

OVERALL POSTR GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

Overall Goal 1: Provide safe and exciting recreation opportunities that reflect the interests and needs of all user groups and individuals within the community.

Objective 1.1: Balance the needs of diverse user groups within the community, focusing first and foremost on the needs of locals.

Objective 1.2: Serve an aging population with social, recreational, active and healthy opportunities.

Objective 1.3: Bring children and families into our parks and give them great reasons to stay and play for a lifetime.

Overall Goal 2: Provide amenities and facilities that offer progressive recreational opportunities and provide learning experiences to new recreational activities.

Objective 2.1: Promote park, open space and trail design that supports the exploration and appreciation of the surrounding natural environment.

Objective 2.2: Explore opportunities for learning through play, introductory experiences of activities, and skills development.

Objective 2.3: Include opportunities for passive recreation that supports the enjoyment of the natural environment.

Objective 2.4: Facilitate opportunities that encourage exploration of new activities (e.g., equipment rentals, skills camps, special events, educational programs).

Objective 2.5: Support exploration of progressive recreational opportunities with relevant programming (e.g., bicycle skills classes, action sports training, etc.).

Overall Goal 3: Engage the community throughout the development and on-going operation of the POSTR network to ensure dynamic community needs are being met and community resources are appropriately utilized.

Objective 3.1: POSTR development should first and foremost meet the needs of locals, which will evolve over time. Continue to use relevant community data to guide selection of amenities.

Objective 3.2: Maintain meaningful public engagement as projects from the POSTR Plan are implemented.

Objective 3.3: Make decisions with consideration of the varied needs of the community, with an emphasis on facilities and amenities that serve multiple uses.

Objective 3.4: Encourage volunteerism and provide clear avenues of participation for community members, including financial, volunteer labor and other areas of support.

Objective 3.5: Promote positive customer service and ensure customer feedback loops.

Objective 3.6: Maintain the momentum created during the POSTR planning process and create a Parks Commission/Committee/Board to represent the varied interests of the Town.

Objective 3.7: Regularly survey residents and visitors to provide clarity on the ongoing recreational demands of the community.

Overall Goal 4: Support the appeal and local benefits of multi-season parks, open space, trails and recreation first and foremost, while recognizing the context of a tourism-driven community.

Objective 4.1: Recognize the potential economic development benefits that may come from drawing in visitors, and that those benefits can help offset the cost of providing resources and facilities to locals, when considering the development of the POSTR system.

Objective 4.2: Integrate POSTR planning with other Town planning efforts.

Objective 4.3: Consider the potential need for additional facilities to serve non-resident users (i.e., signage, parking, rest rooms, Town-wide trail map).

Objective 4.4: Foster opportunities for secondary (local business) revenue generation by considering adjacency of POSTR amenities to commercial development.

Objective 4.5: Incorporate art, history and cultural resources into POSTR designs to celebrate the unique qualities of the Town of Snowmass Village.

Objective 4.6: Capitalize on partnerships with the USFS, ASC, Pitkin County and others to provide complementary attractions within the POSTR recreation network.

Objective 4.7: Encourage local recreation-oriented businesses to support Town-led POSTR initiatives.

Objective 4.8: POSTR development should enhance the Snowmass Village brand identity as a world-class venue for mountain recreation and culture for residents and visitors alike.

Overall Goal 5: Coordinate the development of POSTR components to build a cohesive network of recreational opportunities within the Town boundaries and connect those opportunities to recreation and values beyond the Town boundaries.

Objective 5.1: Carefully integrate the POSTR network so that it is readily accessible from homes, places of employment and key destinations.

Objective 5.2: Prioritize the development of new POSTR amenities that improve the connectivity of recreational activities.

Objective 5.3: Wherever feasible, establish connections between POSTR amenities using the Brush Creek Trail, or other connectivity amenities.

Objective 5.4: Ensure that future larger-scale residential developments include POSTR components that continue connectivity within the community. Development plans should illustrate proposed connectivity to existing and/or proposed POSTR networks.

Objective 5.5: Pursue partnerships that will enhance the POSTR network.

Objective 5.6: Explore partnerships to provide camping opportunities closer to the Town.

Overall Goal 6: Establish and maintain an active partnership with the USFS, ASC, Pitkin County and the City of Aspen that promotes collaboration and access to a broad system of recreational opportunities.

Objective 6.1: Pursue recreational offerings that provide new opportunities in the region and that tend to complement rather than compete with opportunities provided elsewhere in the valley..

Objective 6.2: Conduct regular check-ins with partner organizations to ensure opportunities are realized.

Objective 6.3: Establish a Roaring Fork Valley Recreation Council that includes all regional recreation partners to facilitate holistic, region-wide collaboration.

Overall Goal 7: Utilize financial resources of the POSTR network efficiently and equitably.

Objective 7.1: Meet recreational needs with maximum effectiveness and with minimum expense.

Objective 7.2: Strike a balance between service provision and cost recovery.

Objective 7.3: Overall, maintaining a cost recovery ratio of 50% or lower should be a goal of the recreation center staff.

Overall Goal 8: Encourage environmentally sensitive design in order to minimize impacts to each site's natural characteristics.

Objective 8.1: Identify distinctive scenic areas where viewing opportunities or view corridors could be established.

Objective 8.2: Identify environmentally-relevant areas that could become an amenity through the use of innovative design techniques.

Objective 8.3: Where practical, avoid construction in environmentally sensitive areas.

Objective 8.4: Identify key areas with high quality native vegetation, wetlands, or wildlife habitats, and manage them to reduce invasive, non-native species.

Objective 8.5: Utilize non-irrigated landscapes, native species, and low maintenance plant materials when feasible and appropriate for the designated use.

Objective 8.6: Manage POSTR features to prevent overuse that could result in irreparable damage to natural landscapes.

Overall Goal 9: Promote projects and designs that expand access to the POSTR network.

Objective 9.1: Ensure design plans meet all applicable Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) requirements.

Objective 9.2: Prioritize POSTR Plan projects that address identified the gaps in recreational access identified in this plan.

Objective 9.3: Consider use of the Universal Trail Assessment Process (UTAP) to enhance trail access and use for a wide variety of users, including older populations, inexperienced trail users, families and people with disabilities.

Overall Goal 10: Prioritize preventative maintenance and repair of existing facilities, trails and equipment over construction of new facilities to ensure they remain viable community assets long into the future.

Objective 10.1: Assess and inventory existing facility, trail and equipment conditions on an on-going basis.

Objective 10.2: The most heavily used facilities, trails and equipment should be focused on first.

PARKS GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

Parks Goal 1: Design and build parks and recreational facilities that integrate with, and enhance the quality of the community.

Objective 1.1: Consider the Town's brand when developing new or refurbishing old park facilities.

Objective 1.2: Establish connections between parks to create a community-wide network of amenities.

Parks Goal 2: Develop and maintain parks at a level of service that is appropriate for the location and type of use.

Objective 2.1: Follow Establish standards established in the POSTR plan and management plans, and annually assess the need for maintenance and renovation.

Objective 2.2: Provide adequate staffing, maintenance and operations funding to maintain acceptable standards, and adjust to keep pace with the addition of future amenities.

Parks Goal 3: Maximize the community value of Town parks.

Objective 3.1: Integrate park facilities and investments with programming needs and opportunities.

Objective 3.2: Pursue public/private partnerships that leverage Town park facilities and equipment for the greatest benefit to the community.

Parks Goal 4: Provide sufficient park acreage to meet the needs of current and future populations and recreational demands.



Objective 4.1: Regularly survey residents and visitors to provide clarity on the ongoing recreational demands of the community.

Objective 4.2: When determining recreational demands consider the increased user population resulting from non-resident users.

Parks Goal 5: Development of new parks and recreational facilities should be designed in conjunction with the existing trail network to ensure they promote accessibility from surrounding neighborhoods and commercial development.

Objective 5.1: New facilities should expand upon and enhance the existing POSTR network.

Objective 5.2: Development plans should illustrate connectivity of proposed parks to proposed development and existing trail networks.

Objective 5.3: Emphasis should be placed on connections between proposed parks and the Brush Creek Trail.

Parks Goal 6: Improve the efficiency of the limited park land in the Town throughout the year

Objective 6.1: Utilize flexible space to achieve greater utilization of facilities by combining activities that operate in different seasons or at different times of the day.

Objective 6.2: Explore solutions that expand the efficiency of existing resources and space, such as artificial turf or field lighting at Town Park.

Objective 6.3: Emphasize community values and priorities when planning for the Rodeo Grounds/ gateway area.

Objective 6.4: Effectively and efficiently use the capacity of existing space to create more activity in the parks.

OPEN SPACE GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

Open Space Goal 1: Create a network of open space that and celebrates the natural environment and culture of the community.

Objective 1.1: Periodically identify community needs and desires to inform and prioritize new and expanded open space resources through surveys and community outreach efforts.

Objective 1.2: Identify critical areas to be prioritized for conservation and preservation, including environmentally sensitive areas, scenic view and wildlife corridors, riparian areas and wetlands, river corridors, natural filtration and storm water drainage areas, and other community-valued natural resources.

Objective 1.3: Prioritize the acquisition of new open spaces that are multi-dimensional in the resource value they bring to the community.

Open Space Goal 2: Foster cooperative working relationships with adjacent communities, Pitkin County, USFS, and others who share common interest in open space preservation and management.

Objective 2.1: Understand the open space plans and objectives of other regional partners and determine where shared interests exist for improving the overall regional system for residents and visitors.

Objective 2.2: Proactively communicate with regional partners so that unique opportunities for acquisition of important open space are not lost.

Objective 2.3: Partner on grant funding applications to improve chances of success and to leverage financial resources.

Open Space Goal 3: Manage Open Space lands to provide high levels of potential habitat of wildlife species with emphasis on protecting and retaining unique wildlife habitats and key use areas.

Objective 3.1: Implement restorative treatments to create high quality habitat that provides a diversity of age classes and species to benefit all wildlife habitat that makes TOSV open space home.

Objective 3.2: Minimize wildlife fragmentation through appropriate recreation planning.

Objective 3.3: Monitor habitat over time to adapt management practices to the future needs of wildlife.

Objective 3.4: Continue to protect wildlife and their habitat through closures and coordination with Colorado Parks and Wildlife.

Open Space Goal 4: Promote a diverse array of vegetation types on TOSV open space.

Objective 4.1: Promote structural, species, and age class diversity.

Objective 4.2: Restore old roads and disturbed areas back to native vegetation.

Objective 4.3: Eliminate noxious weeds.

Objective 4.4: Protect and restore special habitats like the Upper North Mesa.

Objective 4.5: Restore degraded sections of Brush Creek and other wetlands and riparian areas.

Objective 4.6: Manage open space and vegetation on Town-owned land to achieve fire mitigation goals and objectives.

GARDENS GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

Gardens Goal 1: Continue to maintain Town-managed gardens to the currently high level of quality consistent with the Town's aesthetic character.

Objective 1.1: Follow Landscape Maintenance Standards set forth in the POSTR Plan for Town Gardens.

Objective 1.2: Seek to reduce invasive, non-native species.

Objective 1.3: Design and maintain median gardens within Town to provide a natural appearance.

TRAILS GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

Trails Goal 1: Provide a world-class multi-use trails system that accommodates the needs of **all** user groups and individuals within the community.

Objective 1.1: Provide a range of trail typologies to accommodate all user groups, ages and ability levels.

Objective 1.2: Establish trails in a variety of settings, that provide an experience, connect places of interest, or serve both purposes.

Objective 1.3: Establish a variety of trail lengths that encourage exploration of recreational activities in Snowmass Village, and provide a range of recreational experiences from short to day long outings.

Objective 1.4: Provide rest stops at regular intervals with seating and interpretive features and place rest stops in locations that have long distance views, are adjacent to scenic open space, and/or allow for additional recreational activities.

Objective 1.5: Look for opportunities to connect to regional trail systems (i.e., Sky Mountain Park, USFS, ASC, etc.) to support a continuous network that extends beyond the Town of Snowmass Village.

Trails Goal 2: Encourage sustainable design of trails to ensure safety on multi-use trails and minimize impacts to natural resources.

Objective 2.1: Consider safety on multi-use trails with a focus on design, education, and management, while providing separate facilities where necessary.

Objective 2.2: Utilize current standards and POSTR Plan Trail Typologies for trail surface design that responds to the specific location and ground conditions.

Objective 2.3: When practical, avoid trail construction through environmentally sensitive and/or habitat areas.

Objective 2.4: Design the trail system in response to type and volume of use, to avoid user conflict and overcrowding.

Objective 2.5: Encourage adherence to trail use policies and trail etiquette.

Objective 2.6: Objective 2.6: Maintain the character of trails in natural settings. Do not mow natural surface trails.

Trails Goal 3: Provide a progressive system of trails for all abilities that encourages learning and skills development.

Objective 3.1: Ensure the provision of trails for all ability levels from true beginner through world-class expert trails to allow for residents to progress through each ability level and move on to the next one.

Objective 3.2: Seek synergies within trail opportunities that can provide both beginner experiences and accessible experiences for persons with disabilities.

Objective 3.3: Encourage the integration of the trails system with program offerings.

Trails Goal 4: Ensure the integration of POSTR Plan Trails Projects and Community Connectivity Plan (CCP) Projects to capture both the recreation and transportation aspects of trails in Snowmass Village.

Objective 4.1: Capitalize on the transportation value of recreational trails and walkways while leveraging connectivity improvements for recreation by looking at both as part of the same network.

Objective 4.2: Coordinate implementation of connectivity improvements with POSTR trail connections to ensure both transportation and recreation objectives are being met.

Trails Goal 5: Promote and develop Snowmass as a world-class multi-use trail destination catering to local, regional and destination visitors.

Objective 5.1: Ensure integration of efforts of Snowmass Tourism, ASC, Pitkin County and the City of Aspen to promote Snowmass and the region as a trail tourism destination.

Objective 5.2: Consider how trail and POSTR improvements might contribute to improving the regional International Mountain Bike Association (IMBA) Ride Center Designation from the current “Bronze” designation to “Silver” or “Gold” level designation.

Objective 5.3: Recognize the economic development benefits that come from drawing in trail tourists, and that those benefits can help offset the cost of providing resources and facilities to locals, when considering the development of trails.

Objective 5.4: New trail development should enhance the Snowmass Village brand identity as a world-class venue for trail activities and bicycling.

Adhere to These Standards to Ensure Safety on Multi-Use Trails

“With time, patience, commitment, and cooperation among users and between users and managers as well as diligent and aggressive planning and management, shared-use trails can be an excellent way to accommodate many types of users with minimal conflict.”

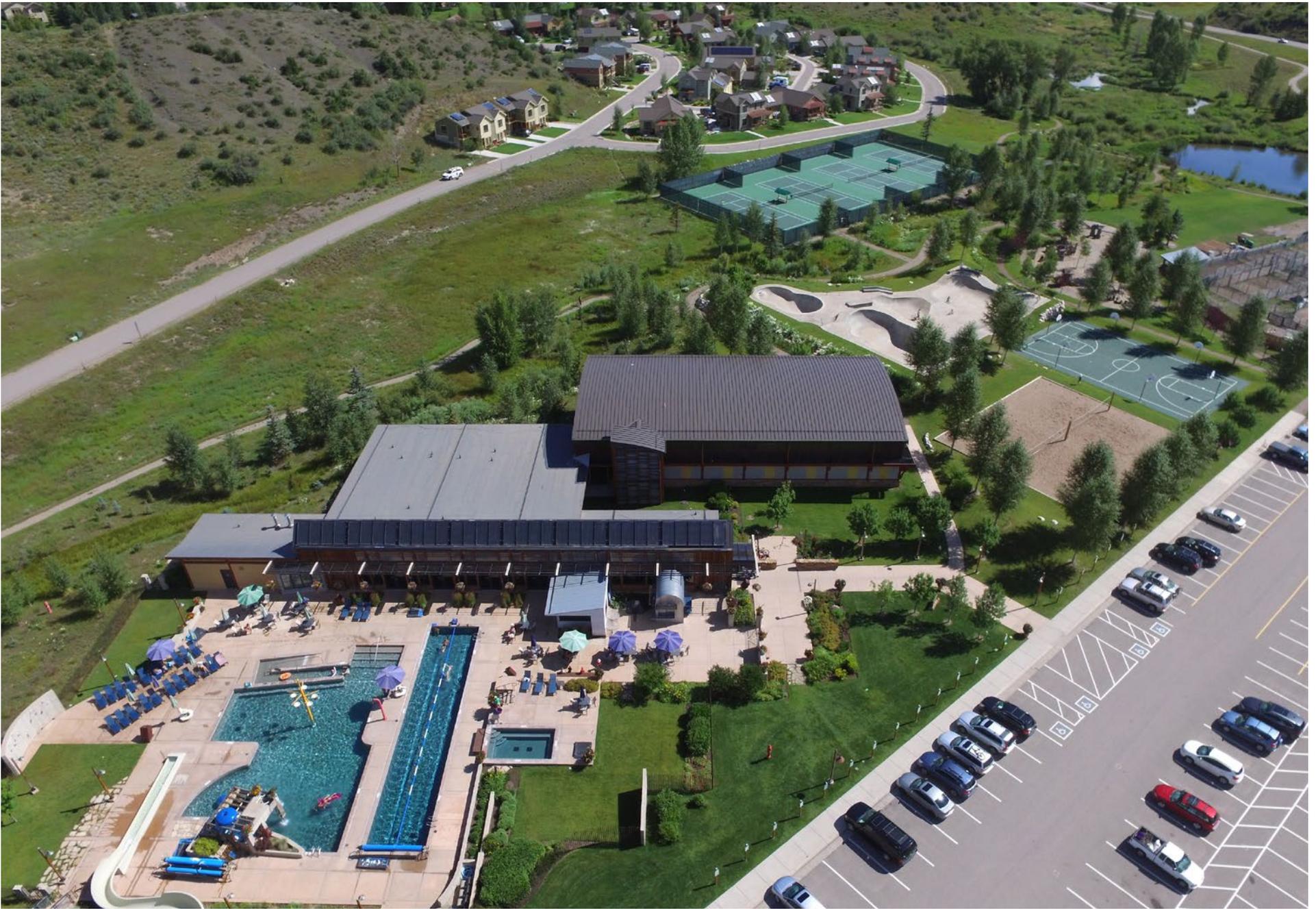
- National Recreational Trails Advisory Committee

Physical Responses:

- Provide a variety of trail opportunities.
- Build trails wide enough to accommodate the expected use, and for safe passing.
- Provide pullout areas where necessary.
- Design in adequate sight distances.
- Design to control speeds where necessary.
- Provide separate trailheads for different users.
- Provide separate trails when necessary and possible. This may be necessary only for problem sections.
- Design and construct trails to minimize erosion.

Management Responses:

- Information and Education
 - Communicate why the trail is shared.
 - Communicate who should yield to whom and why.
 - Communicate the consequences of problem behaviors (e.g., from impact on other users to loss of access for offenders).
 - Build consideration and trust.
 - Communicate physical and social trail conditions to help users have more accurate expectations of what and whom they are likely to find on a particular trail.
- User Involvement
 - Trail Planning
 - Management
 - Conflict Resolution
- Regulations and Enforcement





RECREATION GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

Recreation Goal 1: Teach, learn, and develop skills, abilities and talents for residents and visitors of all ages.

Objective 1.1: Attract and retain high-quality, passionate instructors and trainers

Objective 1.2: Ensure integration of the Recreation Center and POSTR network facilities with programming offerings and learning opportunities.

Recreation Goal 2: Develop new and refine existing programs, tournaments and leagues for families, kids, ladies, men, seniors, and more.

Objective 2.1: Review existing program offerings quarterly to assess success.

Objective 2.2: Quarterly convene program staff to explore new program opportunities that respond to market demand, current industry trends, and community engagement input.

Objective 2.3: Ensure the Town offers programs catering for residents of all ages and abilities, from children through seniors.

Recreation Goal 3: Increase participation in programs with offerings that complement the recreation opportunities provided elsewhere in the region.

Objective 3.1: Offer recreational experiences that differentiate TOSV from its competitors.

Objective 3.2: Coordinate the timing of program offerings to compliment offerings elsewhere in the region.

Objective 3.3: Offer incentives to improve pre-registration in all programming, especially youth programming.

Recreation Goal 4: Effectively promote and publicize recreational programs and events.

Objective 4.1: Expand the marketing capacity of the department in both digital and printed format.

Objective 4.2: Seek marketing partnerships with lodging, recreation-oriented businesses, event organizer and other providers to expand the reach of the department's marketing efforts.

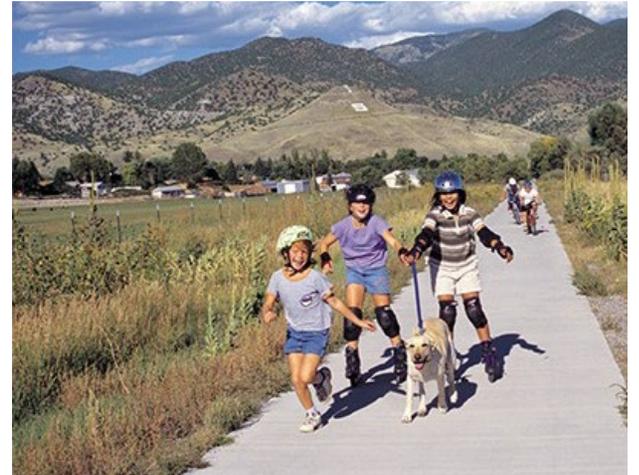
Recreation Goal 5: Continue to improve the existing recreation center and equipment, while pursuing opportunities for future recreational development and a balanced expansion of the facility.

Objective 5.1: Effectively and efficiently use the capacity of existing space to create more activity in the Recreation Center.

Objective 5.2: Group project implementation and carefully phase recreation center expansion to maximize funding and operations efficiencies.

Objective 5.3: Ensure maximum value of recreation facility improvements by coordinating equipment with program offerings and current demands.

Objective 5.4: Regularly survey residents and visitors to provide clarity on the ongoing recreational demands of the community.



Chapter 5: MASTER PLAN PROJECTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The POSTR Master Plan includes the following projects and recommendations, which reflect issues and opportunities identified by Snowmass Village residents and stakeholders. They are also responsive to the findings of the community survey, stakeholder and public outreach, market assessment, existing conditions analysis, and economic analysis. In addition to project description, relative cost, the implementation timing/priority (immediate, short-term, or long-term), implementation strategies and supported goals are provided. In general terms, implementation timing/priority is defined as follows: immediate refers to implementation in 0 to 2 years, short-term from 2 to 5 years and long-term at 5+ years. The POSTR projects identified are not listed in order of importance.

The POSTR projects identified are not listed in order of importance, but community priorities are included for each project. Projects were prioritized by the Town and Steering Committee using the following project priority criteria, which was developed through the steering committee engagement process and reflects the input and preferences of both the community and the Town.

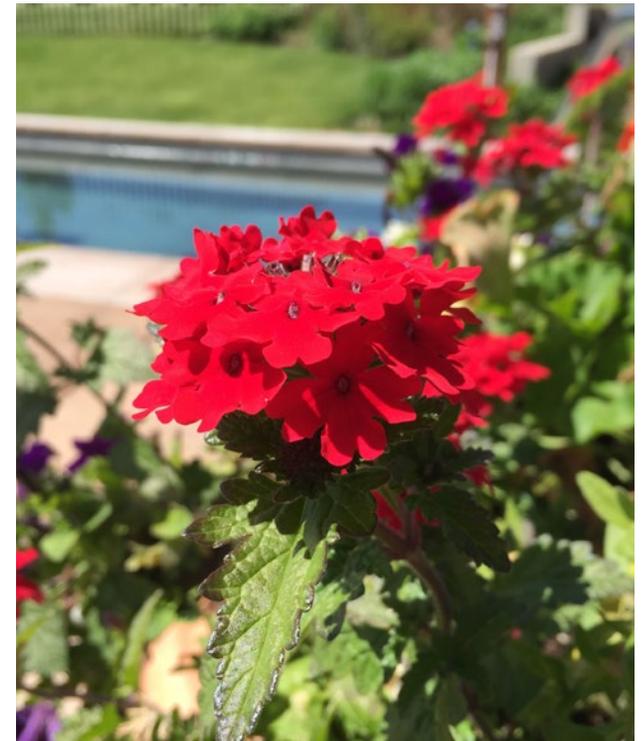
- Cost
- Who is served? Local vs. Visitor
- Need/demand for product
- Impact – overall Community good
- Complexity of project
- Sustainability of project - take care of existing infrastructure before building new

While most recommendations and some projects could be implemented with little or no additional planning, it is important to note that additional planning and design may be required

prior to implementation of some projects and recommendations. For example, proposed projects and trail alignments are conceptual in nature and only meant to demonstrate the need to provide a particular recreational experience or a connection between two points. Detailed design and construction documents for each project are not within the broad scope of this master plan and will need to be completed prior to implementation. The Town should continue to engage the public through open design processes wherever possible.

Estimates of site improvement costs are provided to inform the user (Town, public, developer, etc.) of what each project entails and will hopefully ensure that funding is allocated to improvements efficiently. Cost estimates are drawn from a variety of sources, including the State of Colorado Small Community Park and Recreation Planning Standards produced by the Colorado Department of Local Affairs (DOLA), materials from the Town, and from the experience of SE Group in designing and overseeing the construction of similar facilities in comparable communities. Given the uniqueness of the Jump Gym, personal interviews with operators of similar facilities were also conducted to assess construction costs and operational considerations for that project. These estimates are specific to Colorado communities that are at, or less than, 10,000 in population and represent the best available cost data for each project. As the DOLA Planning Standards document was published in 2003, cost estimates have been updated to 2016 dollars using the Consumer Price Index (CPI). The POSTR plan envisions utilizing Town-owned or publicly accessible land for all proposed projects and land acquisition costs are not included in the cost estimates.

It must be noted that site improvement costs can vary widely depending on the specific project, the project site, materials, environmental concerns, and other factors. Some projects may be able to constructed and/or implemented in house, potentially reducing overall costs, while other projects—such as the bike park—will require further concept and pre-design planning to better understand the design program (size, capacity, and specific features to be designed) before accurate costs can be estimated). Therefore, the cost information contained in this Master Plan should not be considered definitive, but rather a relative range of costs to be used only for budget and planning purposes and not necessarily for determining actual bid prices for a specific site improvement.





Legend

Typology

- MU** Multi-Use Trail
- TH** Trail Head
- R** Rugged Trail
- SI** Safety Improvements
- P** Parking

Priority

- P3** High Priority
- P2** Moderate Priority
- P1** Low Priority

Timing

- I** Immediate
- P** Pilot
- ST** Short-Term
- LT** Long-Term
- O** Ongoing

Goals

- OV1** Overall Goals 1-10
- P1** Park Goals 1-6
- OS1** Open Space Goals 1-4
- G1** Garden Goal 1
- T1** Trail Goals 1-5
- R1** Recreation Goals 1-5

Town Park Projects

Destination Bike Park

PRIORITY:

P3

TIMING:

LT

COST RANGE:

\$300,000-
\$600,000

SUPPORTED GOALS:

OV1

OV2

OV3

OV4

T5

OV6

OV7

P1

P3

P6

Project Description

A world-class bike park is envisioned for Town Park as a multi-discipline bicycle facility that would be free and accessible to all levels of riders, it should offer something for the whole family, from small children to the most avid adrenaline junkies.

The bike park could be designed to accommodate public day-to-day recreational use, programming, special events and races. It should include a range of features that are intended to provide experiences in each ability level, allowing for ideal learning progression and skills building. Features could include a pump track, progressive slopestyle lines, progressive dirt jump lines, a skills loop, and a “tot track” for tricycles and push-bikes.

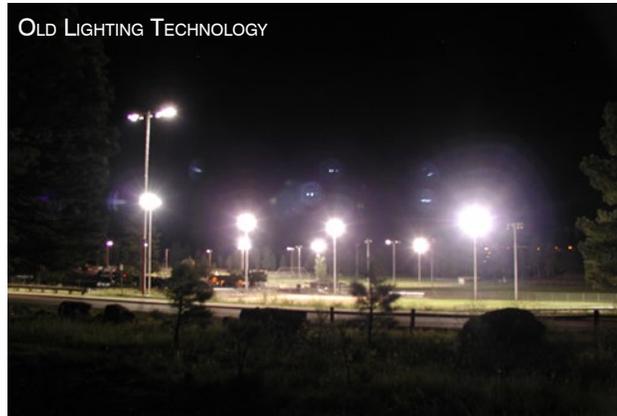
The bike park should include a range of features that are intended to provide experiences in each ability level, allowing for ideal learning progression and skills building. It could be designed as one or two progressive slopestyle lines and progressive dirt jump lines that encircle the perimeter of Town Park and weave through existing park amenities, which could contribute to enlivening the gateway experience for visitors to the Town.

Skill building features, a “tot track” and a pump track should also be considered. The park would accommodate public day-to-day recreational use, programming, special events and world-class races. Implementation Strategies

The bike park would contribute to the current efforts of Snowmass Tourism and other partners to further promote Snowmass as an international bicycle destination, acting as a powerful economic engine for multi-season visitation. The nature of the park would be markedly different than the downhill-oriented bicycling being pursued by the Aspen Ski Company and would complement, rather than compete, with activities happening at the resorts. The bike park would also contribute greatly towards the efforts of the Roaring Fork Mountain Bike Association (RFMBA) toward achieving both Silver and Gold International Mountain Bike Association (IMBA) Silver and Gold Ride Center, as a bike park was specifically identified as a priority in the 2014 IMBA study of the region as a bicycle destination

- Complete Pre-Design and Concept Planning
- Complete design and construction plans

- Coordinate with local partners such as RFMBA, ASC, and Snowmass Tourism to design, promote and program the facility
- Pursue grant funding from the People for Bikes Community Fund, Great Outdoors Colorado (GOCO) Program, Bell Built Grants, and other sources



Lighting for Multi-Purpose Field Space

PRIORITY: **P1** TIMING: **ST** COST RANGE: **\$340,000-\$500,000** SUPPORTED GOALS: **OV1, OV3, OV7, OV8, OV9, OV10**
P1, P2, P3, P4, P6

Project Description

A sports lighting system on the multi-purpose field space at Town Park could provide many benefits for players and spectators, including safety of the athletes, more flexible scheduling for games and practices, and improving the recreational and spectator experience. Lighted field space would expand opportunities and seasons for programming, allowing for the enhancement of existing programs and the creation of new programs. Lighted fields are relatively limited in the RFV, so lighted field space at Town Park would create an opportunity for complimentary program scheduling that would expand opportunities for regional participants who need greater flexibility in program offerings. Lighted field space would also improve the use of Town Park for community events and gatherings throughout the year.

Lights were reported as the best way the existing field space at Town Park could better meet the needs of respondents in the surveys and lights were also identified by department staff as important for improving operations and programming.

An important consideration in field lighting is ensuring the light stays “on the field” where it is needed. Field lighting has traditionally been a significant contributor of “light pollution”

in our communities, but new light control technology is available that can reduce glare and redirect light to the field playing surfaces. This results in uniform lighting, which is imperative for players’ safety, and more light on the field, which may reduce the number of fixtures needed. As shown in the images to left (from Flagstaff AZ’s Thorpe Park ballfields at the base of the Lowell Observatory), the average illumination level on the playing field with this new technology is twice the old lighting level, despite the “brighter” appearance of the older lighting. This new energy efficient technology also can help to lower the amount of electricity used and should be pursuing in implementation of this project.

Implementation Strategies

- Work with a lighting company to develop bid specifications, the field lighting design, and installation
- Pursue grant funding from the Great Outdoors Colorado (GOCO) Program, the MLB Baseball Tomorrow Grant Program, and/or the US Soccer Foundation
- Implement complimentary program offerings (see program projects)
- As potential operational benefits are similar, either artificial turf or field lighting should be implemented in the short-term, with the other being implemented in the long-term.

Platform Tennis

PRIORITY:

TIMING:

COST RANGE:

SUPPORTED GOALS:

P1

I

P

\$0; Pilot supported by local platform tennis group.

OV1

OV2

OV3

OV4

OV6

OV7

OV7

OV9

OV10

P3

P4

P6

Project Description

Platform Tennis is a racquet sport that is typically played outdoors in cold weather. The game is played on an aluminum deck about 1/3 the size of a tennis court and is surrounded by a 12' high superstructure with taut, 16-gauge "chicken wire" fencing which allows play off the walls, as in racquetball and squash. Historically, the court has been elevated or on a platform. The base of an elevated platform tennis court is usually enclosed, allowing for a heating system beneath the deck (propane, natural gas or kerosene.) The heating system melts ice off the aggregate deck surface, allowing athletes to play outdoors in all weather conditions. Most courts have lighting systems so the game can be enjoyed day or night.

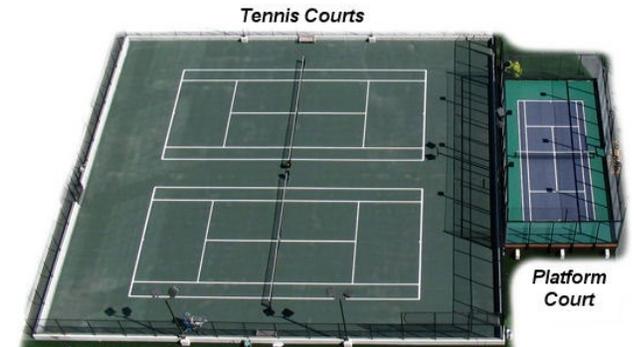
A group of interested RFV citizens have been pursuing development of a platform tennis facility in the valley for some years. Currently the closest platform tennis opportunity is provided at a private club in Eagle, while the only publicly available opportunity in Colorado is located in the front range. This project is conceived of as an initial pilot to be constructed in place of the existing basketball courts, which would be relocated to replace two of the underutilized tennis courts. The local platform tennis group has committed to provide full funding for the relocation of

the basketball courts and the construction of the pilot. Without this private support the project would likely not be pursued. If the pilot is successful, further expansion of the facility could be considered. Provisions for its removal if it proves unsuccessful should be included in the agreement.

Platform tennis is an attractive recreational opportunity for the Town because the facility would expand programming opportunities and could act as a catalyst for more racquet sport activity at Town Park throughout the year. The facility would also activate the outdoor space at Town Park in the winter, creating visual interest and foot traffic near the Recreation Center when other Town Park activities are relatively quiet. Finally, platform tennis would provide a recreation activity that is absent anywhere in the RFV, and would create an opportunity for local, regional and national events and competitions.

Implementation Strategies

- Complete MOU and funding agreement with local group
- Complete design and construction plans
- Implement complimentary program offerings (see program projects)
- Explore event and competition prospects
- Fees for use and programs should be similar to those in place for the existing tennis courts.





All Weather Artificial Turf on Multi-Use Field Space

PRIORITY: **P2** TIMING: **ST** COST RANGE: **\$760,000-\$860,000** SUPPORTED GOALS:

OV1 **OV3** **OV4** **OV7** **OV8** **OV9**
P1 **P2** **P3** **P4** **P6**

Project Description

All weather artificial turf could expand season length for leagues and programming, allowing for the enhancement of existing programs and the creation of new programs. It could also increase the capacity of field space vs traditional turf (all weather synthetic turf fields can support 30% more play than grass fields) while simultaneously improving the use of Town Park for community events and gatherings throughout the year. It would also improve the turnaround time between events and sporting uses, reducing needed rest time to zero.

While artificial turf typically costs 80% - 100% more than traditional turf fields at the outset, their payback against the costs generally begins after a shorter period due to reduced maintenance costs, often providing significant savings within 6 years. The funds saved on maintenance could be put into a maintenance endowment to replace the synthetic turf at the end of its life (generally replaced every 12-15 years).

Implementation Strategies:

- Work with a turf company to develop bid specifications, design, and installation
- Pursue grant funding from the Great Outdoors Colorado (GOCO) Program, the MLB Baseball Tomorrow Grant Program, and/or the US Soccer Foundation
- Implement complimentary program offerings (see program projects)
- As potential operational benefits are similar, either artificial turf or field lighting should be implemented in the short-term, with the other being implemented in the long-term.

Benefits of Synthetic Turf vs Natural Grass

Natural grass simply cannot remain lush and resilient if used more than three to four days a week, in snow or drought, or during months when grass doesn't grow. This, coupled with an escalating need for durable fields that accommodate multiple teams, events and activities, the high cost of maintaining a grass sports field or landscape, and the need to conserve water, have prompted a rising number of schools, parks and municipalities to turn to synthetic turf to meet their needs.

	High-Quality Artificial Turf	Natural Grass
Playing Time	3,000 hours play per year; no rest required	680-820 hours per year, rest required between heavy play or event use
Maintenance Required	Clearing debris, brushing the surface, topping infill levels	Mowing, watering, fertilizing, pesticides, aeration
Revenue Generation	Can be used 24/7/365 for sports, community events or other revenue generating activities	Less opportunities for events due to rest time needed between play time or inclement weather
Environment	Water savings, less pollution, no pesticides	Maintaining the natural environment, foliage and soil conditions
ROI	Payback is generally 3 to 4 years, up to 3x less expensive than natural grass over a 20 year period	Less upfront cost, slower ROI due to higher maintenance costs and few revenue generating events
Community Use	Enhanced accessibility due to increased playtime and all weather surface	Use can be limited due to necessary rest time
Land Utilization	Can achieve more use with same amount of space	Use can be limited due to necessary rest time
Sport Performance	Same as natural grass	Better than low-quality artificial turf
Safety	Same as natural grass	Better than low-quality artificial turf

Redesigned Rodeo Grounds to Finish Town Park

PRIORITY:

P3

TIMING:

LT

COST RANGE:

NA

SUPPORTED GOALS:

OV1

OV3

OV4

OV5

OV6

OV7

OV8

OV9

OV10

P1

P2

P3

P5

P6

Project Description

The current configuration of the rodeo grounds in Town Park is inefficient for both the Town and the rodeo operator (Snowmass Western Heritage Association; SWHA). The rodeo lot is an important component of skier parking in the winter and acts – inefficiently – as competitor prep space for the rodeo in the summer. However, the lot is not particularly aesthetically pleasing, and as part of the gateway into Snowmass Village it does not support the visual identity of the Town. A lack of covered spectator seating also detracts from the rodeo experience and the perimeter of the rodeo grounds acts as back of the house storage for the department, which places heavy equipment near the tree playground and other important areas of Town Park.

Given these issues, a reconfiguration of the rodeo grounds should be considered to improve how space is organized in this area. There are opportunities to shift and/or reorient the rodeo grounds within Town Park to make better use of the space. There is also the possibility for relocating the rodeo grounds to another location in the Town or valley.

If the rodeo grounds are reconfigured within Town Park, a redesigned facility should focus

on a flexible use of the space to achieve greater utilization throughout the year. A dedicated storage area should be incorporated into the design. A new facility should also be designed to better integrate with existing and proposed amenities at Town Park, allowing for paths and activities to access Brush Creek Road and trails in that area. The landscaping and aesthetic character of a new facility should also be paramount in the redesign, including consideration of the rodeo lot.

SWHA has expressed their interest in improving, reconfiguring, or possibly relocating the rodeo grounds to improve their operation and the spectator experience. A majority (73%) of respondents in the survey also indicated that a change in the way that Rodeo Grounds space is used should be considered, and many of those who said a change should not be considered suggested the incorporation of flexible use/ multi-purpose facilities in their write in comments, which is in fact a change in the use. Community members have expressed a desire to improve the aesthetics of the rodeo facility and the gateway throughout this planning process and in previous planning endeavors in the Town. As a result, further planning for a redesign of this facility should be pursued.

The Town is currently contemplating a “Gateway” planning process for the rodeo lot and entrance to Town, which would significantly impact the rodeo grounds. A master plan for the rodeo grounds and gateway should be pursued, perhaps beginning with informal planning discussions with SWHA, Pitkin County, and other stakeholders. Absent of a master plan for the rodeo grounds, any “Gateway” planning efforts for this area should consider the future recreational use of this portion of Town Park and build upon the recommendations provided here.

Implementation Strategies:

- Engage the community, SWHA, Pitkin County, ASC, and Aspen Junior Hockey in planning discussions
- Complete Gateway Site Master Plan
- Pursue Great Outdoors Colorado (GOCO) Grant Program and private funding
- Explore event, program and competition prospects

Community Garden at Cathy Robinson Park

PRIORITY:

TIMING:

COST RANGE:

SUPPORTED GOALS:

P2

ST

\$4,000-
\$10,000

OV2

OV3

OV4

OV5

OV7

OV8

P1

P2

P3

Project Description

Given the interest in community food production and gardening opportunities, Cathy Robinson Park should be considered for a community garden, which could also include a seasonal, temporary greenhouse structure to accommodate the limited growing season in the RFV and allow for gardening throughout the year. The access and connectivity at Cathy Robinson Park make it an ideal location for a community garden.

A community garden within the Town would also provide opportunities for integration with proposed cooking, food and other lifestyle program offerings.

Implementation Strategies:

- Partnership with community groups and volunteers to help maintain
- Explore partnerships with community groups and volunteers





Redesigned Ice Rink

PRIORITY:

TIMING:

COST RANGE:

SUPPORTED GOALS:

P1

LT

NA

OV1

OV3

OV4

OV6

OV7

OV8

OV10

P1

P2

P3

P4

P6

Project Description

Hockey, broomball and ice skating are important recreational opportunities for the Town to continue to provide. However, the existing ice rink is collocated with the rodeo grounds in Town Park and experiences some inefficiencies as a result. A lack of shading on the ice can make it difficult for the Town to maintain a consistent ice surface throughout the winter and there is no spectator seating, limiting the value of the facility for events and competitions.

Additionally, the department has been approached by Aspen Junior Hockey, who is considering the funding of a new, preliminarily indoor ice rink in the valley. While the potential for locating such a facility at Town Park has been discussed, the feasibility for the Town and Aspen Junior Hockey needs to be better understood. Given other opportunities in the RFV, a full size, year-round, indoor facility is not recommended at Town Park at this point, but funding and partnership opportunities with Aspen Junior Hockey may change this calculus. This opportunity should be further explored and discussed with Aspen Junior Hockey.

Regardless of the outcome of discussions with Aspen Junior Hockey, permanent home for the ice rink should be determined. The ice rink should continue to utilize seasonably flexible space to achieve greater utilization throughout the year, but congruence between the uses should be improved. The ice rink could share space with a redesigned rodeo grounds, a multi-purpose or softball field space, or on tennis courts. . It could also be located elsewhere in the Town, possibly in Base Village.

Implementation Strategies:

- Engage the community, Pitkin County, ASC, and Aspen Junior Hockey in planning discussions
- Pursue Great Outdoors Colorado (GOCO) Grant Program and private funding
- Complete Gateway Site Master Plan
- Explore event, program and competition prospects

Bike Wash and Repair Station

PRIORITY:

P2

TIMING:

I

COST RANGE:

\$5,000-
\$7,000

SUPPORTED GOALS:

OV2

OV3

OV4

OV5

OV7

P1

P2

P3

Project Description:

A bike wash and repair station at Town Park would contribute toward the communities' bike-friendliness and support the development of bicycle-related programs and classes in the department. A public wash and repair station is convenient for locals and can add a lot of value to tourists seeking a world-class bicycle destination.

A station typically includes a bike stand, an air pump, and all the tools necessary to perform basic bike repairs and maintenance, from changing a flat to adjusting brakes and dérailleurs.

Vendors typically provide necessary design and installation services. Estimated cost includes consideration of concrete slab, landscaping and benches/amenities that may be incorporated.

Implementation Strategies:

- Purchase and install bike wash and repair station.



Town Park Pond, Beach and Green Infrastructure Improvements

PRIORITY: **P2** TIMING: **LT** COST RANGE: **\$90,000-\$155,000** SUPPORTED GOALS:

OV1 **OV3** **OV4** **OV6** **OV7** **OV8**
OV9 **OV10** **P1** **P2** **P3** **P4**
P5 **P6** **OS1** **OS4** **OS5**

Project Description:

The pond at Town Park is a man-made catchment that facilitates storm water and wetland functioning at the park. Currently the pond is underutilized recreationally and does not have a consistent water flow throughout the year. The pond could be improved for ecological function, lounging, sunning and passive recreation, and fishing opportunities in conjunction with the development of other projects at Town Park, such as the bike park or the reconfigured ice rink. In this way, the pond could improve the ecological sensitivity of Town Park and accommodate additional recreational development, while simultaneously providing new recreational opportunities for the community.

In addition to ecological improvements, a sandy lounging area could be constructed to provide a beach-like recreation opportunity not offered elsewhere in the valley. This classic summer time experience is often hard to find in the mountains of Colorado and could provide a significant draw and marketing opportunity for multi-season tourism in the community. Many mountain communities like Breckenridge and Steamboat Springs have found great success in constructing outdoor

spaces that focus on lounging, sunning, and water play. The Steamboat Burgess Creek Promenade has proved so popular with both locals and visitors that plans for its expansion are already underway after only a few years of operation.

Other improvements could include an expansion of the pond, stream habitat improvements, pond habitat improvements, increased storm water management features, stocking of fish, landscaping, benches and possibly an Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) fishing access point.

The pond could also be developed as a children’s fishing area. A free annually-stocked fishing pond could create a valuable asset and learning opportunity for local families, as water improvements were the number one outdoor facility requested for Town Park in the youth and family survey. In addition, other Colorado mountain communities have found success in attracting tourists by providing a kids’ fishing pond that free for youth ages 14 and under with no need for a fishing license.

New, exciting programs, such as youth fishing or sunrise yoga in the sand could also make use of the expanded pond. The space would



also be ideal for community events and facility rental.

This project should also be incorporated into Town “Gateway” planning process

Implementation Strategies:

- Complete design and construction plans
- Pursue grant funding through the Colorado Parks and Wildlife (CPW) Fishing Is Fun Program and the Great Outdoors Colorado (GOCO) Program
- Complete Gateway Site Master Plan
- Implement complimentary program offerings (see program projects)
- Explore the possibility of children’s and family events at the site

Brush Creek Park

PRIORITY: TIMING: COST RANGE:

P3

ST

\$425,000-
\$840,000

OV2

OV3

OV4

OV5

OV7

P1

P2

P3

OS1

OS4

OS5

SUPPORTED GOALS:

Project Description:

This project envisions the development of a new, approximately five acre park in conjunction with stream restoration along Brush Creek from top of the Mayfly to the Snowmass Mall. Improvements could include an arts path trail, benches, landscaping and passive recreation amenities and stream habitat improvements.

As employee housing is concentrated in this area, this project would expand outdoor play and relaxation opportunities to residents of multi-family housing who typically have less yard and “private green space” for play.

The project would also provide an excellent opportunity for outdoor education and programming, reinforcing the Town’s commitment to sustainable management of

natural resources and education about and appreciation of the natural world.

Implementation Strategies:

- Prepare natural resources inventory, restoration plan, design and construction plans
- Seek community art contributions
- Explore partnerships with environmental education organizations to provide develop interpretive signage and programming
- Implement complimentary program offerings (see program projects)
- Pursue grant funding through the Great Outdoors Colorado (GOCO) Program



OPEN SPACE POLICIES AND ACTIONS

1) Seek acquisition of new open spaces that are multi-dimensional in the resource value they bring to the community with priorities in the following order:

- Water quality
- Trail opportunity
- Vegetation, habitat, wildlife and natural communities
- Scenic resources
- Adjacency to Brush Creek, National Forest or other existing open space

PRIORITY:

TIMING:



SUPPORTED GOALS:

- OV4
- OV5
- OV6
- OV7
- OV8
- OS1
- OS2
- OS3
- OS5

2) Provide latitude in policy to consider “other” opportunities for open space acquisition that, while still reflective of identified community value, may take advantage of unique circumstances to set aside parcels for future consideration.

PRIORITY:

TIMING:



SUPPORTED GOALS:

- OV5
- OV6
- OV7
- OV8
- OS1
- OS2
- OS4
- OS5

3) Evaluate private open space or set asides associated with planned residential development in light of this framework and consider where private open space resource value and function might align with broader community objectives.

PRIORITY:

TIMING:



SUPPORTED GOALS:

- OV5
- OV6
- OV7
- OV8
- OS1
- OS2
- OS4
- OS5

4) Complete a Town-wide Natural Resources Management Plan

- Establishes performance measures and site-specific plans for management to protect environmental quality of existing open space (and other town owned) parcels
- Comprehensive plan to protect wildlife, enhance natural areas from invasive species, protect water shed areas, and promote the value of open space in the Town.

PRIORITY:

TIMING:

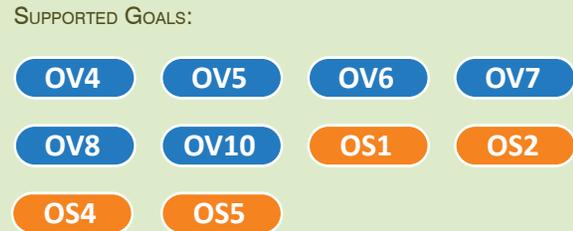


SUPPORTED GOALS:

- OV5
- OV6
- OV7
- OV8
- OS1
- OS2
- OS3
- OS4
- OS5

5) Continue to explore the role that partnerships might play in managing or acquiring open space parcels

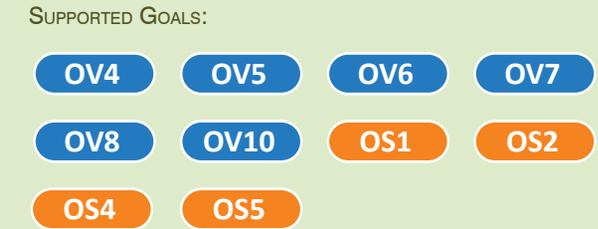
- Pitkin County OST
- City of Aspen
- USFS
- Aspen Valley Land Trust
- Roaring Fork Conservancy



6) Always consider the resource values supported by the open space when developing specific proposals or defining management objectives.



7) Maximize opportunities to expand the function of existing open space to more broadly address community values (i.e., finding ways to enhance recreation, habitat, conservation etc.).



GARDEN POLICIES AND ACTIONS

1) Manage Town-owned gardens and open spaces to reduce invasive, non-native species

- Develop a specific plan for the control of noxious weeds

PRIORITY:

TIMING:

P3

I

O

SUPPORTED GOALS:

OV6

OS1

OS2

OS3

OS4

OS5

2) Develop Landscape Maintenance Standards for Town Gardens utilizing xeric (low-water) species that are consistent with the Town's aesthetic character to maintain the currently high level of quality for town managed gardens

PRIORITY:

TIMING:

P2

I

SUPPORTED GOALS:

OV3

OV4

OV7

OV8

OV10

G1

3) Explore opportunities for sponsorship to help support flower landscapes in the Town where appropriate

- Consider benefit districts fees for merchants in specific areas to help support the nearby gardens and beautification efforts which they receive a direct benefit from

PRIORITY:

TIMING:

P2

I

SUPPORTED GOALS:

OV3

OV4

OV7

OV8

OV10

G1



TRAILS PROJECTS

The Trail Projects listed below correspond to #'s 1-25 listed on the future opportunities trail map. Trail projects are intended as generalized, conceptual alignments and are only meant to demonstrate the need for a connection between two trails or destinations. Trail alignments will require on-the-ground flagging and more detailed design treatments to implement, and some trails may require partnerships, acquisition or agreements to construct and maintain.



Understanding Trail Users

Trail users in Snowmass Village include a wide-range of groups from pedestrians walking for utilitarian purposes, for exercise, or to stroll and linger at Base Village, the Mall or Snowmass Center to bicyclists of varying skill and comfort levels to hikers, mountain bikers, and equestrians, primarily using trails for recreation. Proposed trail projects reflect the interests and needs of all user groups and individuals within the community.

This sidebar defines the different user types typically seen on trails and paths in Snowmass Village and the typology discussion describes the types of trails and facilities that are appropriate for each type of user. It also recognizes those users with mobility challenges and addresses ways to accommodate those users.



PEDESTRIANS



HIKERS



EQUESTRIANS



OTHER NON-MOTORIZED USERS



CASUAL/ROAD BIKERS



MOUNTAIN BIKERS

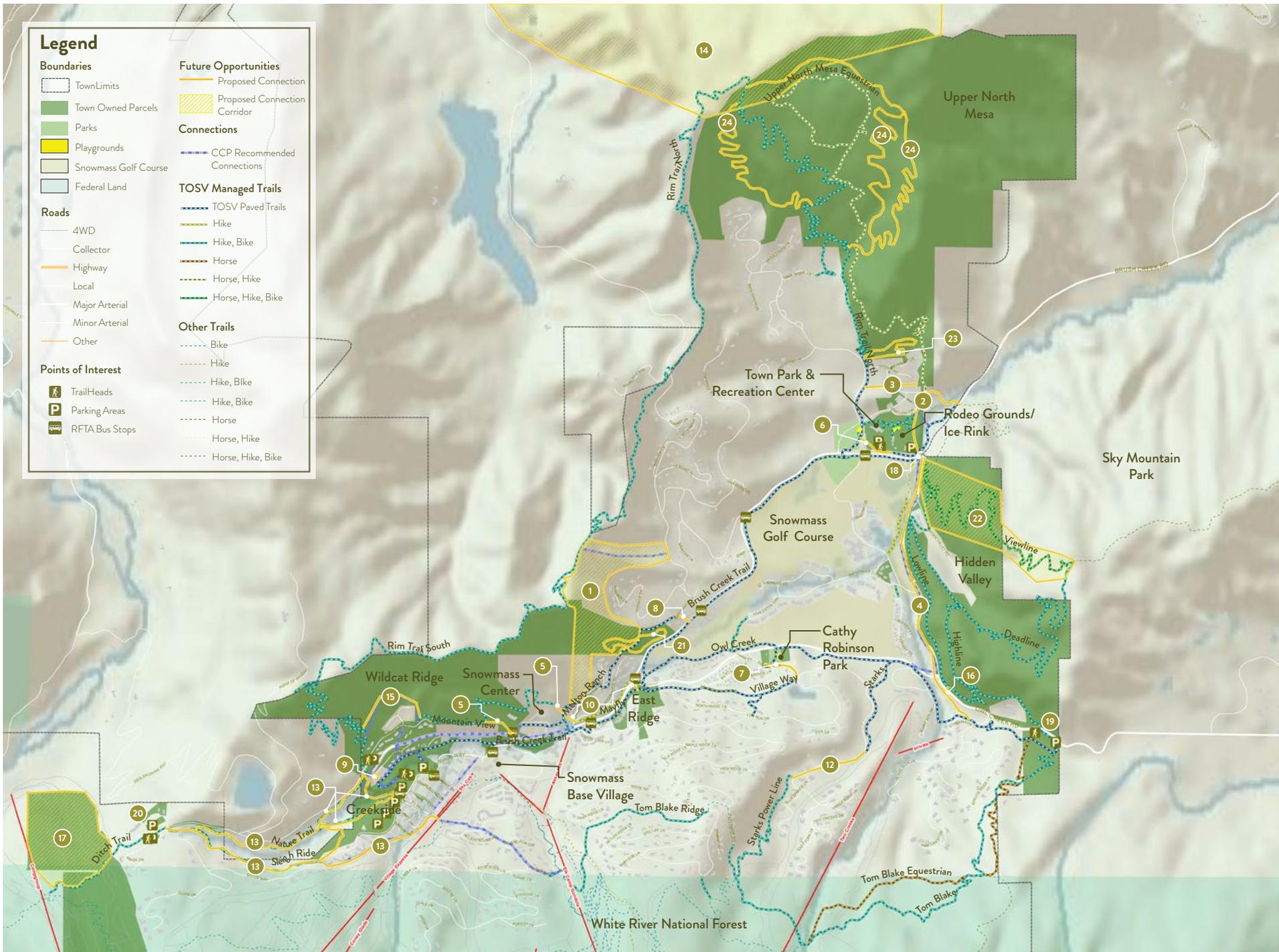


MOBILITY CHALLENGED



DOGS





Future Trail Opportunities Map



1) Rim Trail Connector

PRIORITY:	TIMING:	TYPOLGY:	USER GROUPS:	PROPOSED LENGTH:	COST RANGE:	GOALS:		

Project Description:

This rugged multi-use trail would provide greater connectivity to the popular Rim Trail by adding a connection in the area north of Brush Creek Road, east of Snowmass Center. Various alignments should be explored that could utilize a town/open space parcel or easement, depending on availability

2) Town Park Connector

PRIORITY:	TIMING:	TYPOLGY:	USER GROUPS:	PROPOSED LENGTH:	COST RANGE:	GOALS:		

Project Description:

This multi-use path should be unpaved, or if paved should provide a horse shoulder, to provide multi-use and equestrian connectivity around Town Park and the pond to connect to Ditch Line and the eastern part of the Brush Creek Trail. The trail would also provide access to the Upper North Mesa Equestrian Trail. The project would potentially include two road crossings and will need to be sensitive to wetlands and ponds in area. The trail should be integrated with the gateway planning effort.

3) Horse Ranch Connector

PRIORITY:	TIMING:	TYPOLGY:	USER GROUPS:	PROPOSED LENGTH:	COST RANGE:	GOALS:		

Project Description:

This multi-use path would increase recreational connectivity by providing access to Town Park, the Brush Creek Trail and the Ditch Line Trail via proposed connection #2 from the residential area to the north of Town Park off of Horse Ranch Drive.

4) Highline Road Path

PRIORITY:	TIMING:	TYPOLGY:	USER GROUPS:	PROPOSED LENGTH:	COST RANGE:	GOALS:		

Project Description:

This multi-use path should be unpaved, or if paved should provide a horse shoulder, to provide multi-use and equestrian opportunities to loop around the golf course and to connect to the Tom Black Trail parking area. The berm along the east side of the road would likely need to be cut to build the trail

5) Snowmass Center Connector

PRIORITY:	TIMING:	TYPOLGY:	USER GROUPS:	PROPOSED LENGTH:	COST RANGE:	GOALS:		

Project Description:

This rugged hiking and mountain biking trail would provide access to the Mountain View Trail from behind Snowmass Center, providing additional connections on the west or east side.

6) Underpass Alternative

PRIORITY:	TIMING:	TYPOLGY:	USER GROUPS:	PROPOSED LENGTH:	COST RANGE:	GOALS:		

Project Description:

This multi-use path would increase recreational connectivity by providing access to Town Park, the Brush Creek Trail and the Ditch Line Trail via proposed connection #2 from the residential area to the north of Town Park off of Horse Ranch Drive.

7) Gambel Way Trail

PRIORITY:	TIMING:	TPOLOGY:	USER GROUPS:	PROPOSED LENGTH:	COST RANGE:	GOALS:		
P2	ST	MU	     	0.2 Mile	\$45,000- \$75,000	OV1	OV2	OV4
						OV5	OV6	OV9
						T2	T3	T4
						T5		

Project Description:

This paved multi-use path would provide a small loop opportunity with the Brush Creek and Village Way Trails. Signage/wayfinding along Gambell Way could be installed in the interim to complete the connection.

8) Melton Ranch Connector

PRIORITY:	TIMING:	TPOLOGY:	USER GROUPS:	PROPOSED LENGTH:	COST RANGE:	GOALS:		
P2	LT	MU	     	0.1 Mile	\$15,000- \$30,000	OV1	OV2	OV4
						OV5	OV6	OV9
						T1	T2	T3
						T4	T5	

Project Description:

This paved multi-use path would provide improved access to the Melton Ranch Trail, improving the cohesiveness of the recreational experience. Signage/wayfinding along the sidewalk on Sinclair Road could also complete this connection.

9) Trailhead Improvements at Western Terminus of Brush Creek Trail

PRIORITY:	TIMING:	TYPOLGY:	USER GROUPS:	PROPOSED LENGTH:	COST RANGE:	GOALS:		
P3	I	MU	     	N/A	\$7,500-\$15,000	OV1	OV2	OV4
						OV5	OV6	OV10
						T1	T2	T3
						T4	T5	

Project Description:

This project would involve adding short spurs and signage/wayfinding to improve connections of the Brush Creek Trail with the trailhead parking lot, Snowmass Mall, and the Rim Trail.

10) Mayfly Spurs

PRIORITY:	TIMING:	TYPOLGY:	USER GROUPS:	PROPOSED LENGTH:	COST RANGE:	GOALS:		
P2	ST	R	 	0.1 Mile	\$20,000-\$55,000	OV1	OV2	OV4
						OV5	OV6	OV10
						T1	T2	T3
						T4	T5	

Project Description:

This project would create a short spurs at both ends of the Mayfly Trail to connect to the bridge/Melton Ranch trail junction and the Village Way Trail, which would improve the connectivity value of the Mayfly Trail. It would also provide a short loop opportunity and provide connections to the proposed Brush Creek Park. Road crossings at either end would be necessary to complete the connections.

11) Repave All Paved Pathways in the Town

PRIORITY:	TIMING:	TPOLOGY:	USER GROUPS:	PROPOSED LENGTH:	COST RANGE:	GOALS:		
			 	8 Miles	\$2.5-\$4 Million			

Project Description:

The pavement surface of Brush Creek Trail is in need of repair, as are most of the approximately 8 miles of paved pathways in Town. Repaving of these surfaces will improve the accessibility, safety and the recreational experience of these trails. Along with the repaving of the trails, an assessment and maintenance plan for the paved paths in Town should also be developed to ensure trails remain in good condition moving forward. When trails are repaved, the addition of a soft-surface jogging/horse shoulder should be considered where the right-of-way allows.

12) Stark's Connector

PRIORITY:	TIMING:	TPOLOGY:	USER GROUPS:	PROPOSED LENGTH:	COST RANGE:	GOALS:		
			 	0.25 Mile	\$85,000-\$150,000			

Project Description:

This connection could be completed as a paved multi-use path or a painted bike lane with signage/wayfinding. A multi-use path would increase continuity of the recreational experience and improve safety of the existing connection between Stark's Trail and the Stark's Powerline Trail, but access issues and topography may present a challenge to implementation. The trail would extend Stark's trail from where it currently stops to the intersection of Stark's powerline trail.

13) The Skill Builder Trails

PRIORITY:	TIMING:	TYPOLGY:	USER GROUPS:	PROPOSED LENGTH:	COST RANGE:	GOALS:		
P3	I	MU	  	2.5 Miles	\$800,000- \$1,350,000	OV1	OV2	OV4
						OV5	OV6	OV9
						T1	T2	T3
						T4	T5	

Project Description:

New connections and improvements to existing trails would create a rugged accessible trail loop opportunity along Nature-Trail and Sleigh Ride, Creekside, and South Rim Connection. Currently these trails connect further up at Divide Road. There is a desire to make a connection closer to the Mall and Village, possibly through Open Space property. Design of these improvements should be focused on creating a skill building area with options to ride over or around challenging sections or to take more challenging routes.

14) Brush Creek Regional Connection

PRIORITY:	TIMING:	TYPOLGY:	USER GROUPS:	PROPOSED LENGTH:	COST RANGE:	GOALS:		
P2	LT	R	  	Connectivity Corridor	N/A	OV1	OV2	OV4
						OV5	OV6	T1
						T2	T3	T4
						T5		

Project Description:

This regional connection would add a new trail north of where Ditchline turns and goes up the hill past the Town Limits, eventually connecting to Highway 82. The connection is a long-term, visionary idea and will require partnerships with Pitkin County Open Space and potentially private landowners to explore their interest in such a project.

15) Hawk Ridge Trail

PRIORITY:	TIMING:	TYPOLGY:	USER GROUPS:	PROPOSED LENGTH:	COST RANGE:	GOALS:		

Project Description:

This rugged trail would provide a connection between the Mountain View Trail and the Rim Trail behind employee housing and Hawk Ridge Lane

16) Owl Creek Spur

PRIORITY:	TIMING:	TYPOLGY:	USER GROUPS:	PROPOSED LENGTH:	COST RANGE:	GOALS:		

Project Description:

This short spur would provide a connection between the Owl Creek Trail and the Lowline Trail without having to cross at the Highline/Owl Creek Roads intersection. The trail would all connect to proposed trail #5 and would require a road crossing to reach Lowline. It should continue with the same trail experience (unpaved or paved with horse shoulder) as proposed trail #5.

17) Down the Divide Trail

PRIORITY:	TIMING:	TYPOLGY:	USER GROUPS:	PROPOSED LENGTH:	COST RANGE:	GOALS:		
P1	LT	R		Connectivity Corridor	N/A	OV1	OV2	OV4
						OV5	OV6	
						T1	T2	T3
						T4	T5	

Project Description:

New connections and improvements to existing trails would create a rugged accessible trail loop opportunity along Nature-Trail and Sleigh Ride, This rugged downhill mountain bike trail would create an opportunity for an expert trail loop above the current Ditch Trail. If the trail went all the way to Divide Road/ Ditch Trail, users could loop back on the road. This trail should be integrated with the Campground Connector trail to be redesigned in 2016.

18) Gateway Crossing

PRIORITY:	TIMING:	TYPOLGY:	USER GROUPS:	PROPOSED LENGTH:	COST RANGE:	GOALS:		
P1	LT	BR	  	N/A	\$120,000-\$650,000	OV1	OV2	OV4
			  			OV5	OV6	OV9
						T1	T2	T3
						T4	T5	

Project Description:

A non-motorized bridge accessible to walkers, bicyclists and equestrians is proposed to cross Brush Creek Road to provide access to the Hidden Valley Trails from the Gateway area. The connection should be integrated with the gateway planning effort.

19) Tom Blake Trailhead Improvements

PRIORITY:	TIMING:	TYPOLOGY:	USER GROUPS:	PROPOSED LENGTH:	COST RANGE:	GOALS:		
P3	ST	TH P	   	N/A	\$35,000- \$100,000	OV1	OV2	OV4
						OV5	OV6	OV10
						T1	T2	T3
						T4	T5	

Project Description:

Trailhead and parking improvements in this area would provide better parking and access for all users—particularly equestrians—at this popular trailhead. Parking should be expanded and flexible to accommodate horse trailers.

20) Upper Divide Lot Trailhead Improvements

PRIORITY:	TIMING:	TYPOLOGY:	USER GROUPS:	PROPOSED LENGTH:	COST RANGE:	GOALS:		
P1	LT	TH P	   	N/A	\$35,000- \$100,000	OV1	OV2	OV4
						OV5	OV6	OV10
						T1	T2	T3
						T4	T5	

Project Description:

Trailhead and parking improvements in this area would provide better parking and access for all users—particularly equestrians—at this popular trailhead. Parking should be expanded and flexible to accommodate horse trailers. Trailhead improvements should be integrated with development of proposed trails #14 and #18.

21) Snowmass Wild Dog Trail and Dog Park

PRIORITY:	TIMING:	TYPOLGY:	USER GROUPS:	PROPOSED LENGTH:	COST RANGE:	GOALS:		
			 	0.5 Mile Trail + 2-acre dog park and parking lot	\$330,000- \$515,000			

Project Description:

As a linear dog park this project would provide a more “wild” off-leash trail experience for dogs and their owners, while alleviating needs for enforcement of leash laws on other trails. The trail would be located in a flat area along Brush Creek Road on a Town-owned parcel, with connectivity to the Brush Creek Trail and a parking lot at Brush Creek Road. This location would provide convenient access to town and housing, while providing spatial and visual buffers from residences. The project would also include a fenced dog run traditionally associated with dog parks near the parking area/trailhead as well as a linear dog park/trail that specifically allows for off-leash use. The fenced dog run area should include amenities of a traditional dog park with pet fountains and water features, as well as other site furnishings and play features. The off-leash dog opportunity provided here should be promoted to users of other trails to alleviate non-compliance on other trails, and the intensity of leash law enforcement on other trails and parks should be increased in the short-term. Consultation with Colorado Parks and Wildlife (CPW) will be critical to the project, and any wildlife concerns should be fully understood and accommodated prior to implementation.

22) Multi-use Safety Improvements along Viewline Trail

PRIORITY:	TIMING:	TYPOLGY:	USER GROUPS:	PROPOSED LENGTH:	COST RANGE:	GOALS:		
				1.9 Miles	\$100,000- \$150,000			

Project Description:

This project would involve the design and construction of multi-use safety improvements along Viewline Trail to provide relief to user conflicts on this popular trail. Possible treatments should include minor trail realignments to improve line-of-sight, pull-offs in some steeper sections and potentially some downhill bicycle-only parallel routes. Signage alerting users to trail etiquette, trail conditions and other user groups they may encounter on the trail should be the first step.

23) Upper North Mesa Beginner Mountain Bike Loops

PRIORITY:	TIMING:	TYPOLGY:	USER GROUPS:	PROPOSED LENGTH:	COST RANGE:	GOALS:		

Project Description:

This project would provide beginner mountain bike loop opportunities near Town Park that link up to the existing paved trail system along Horse Ranch Road providing convenient off-road access for children and families. Beginner mountain bike trails were the most commonly requested trail type by the public in terms of learning progression and missing recreation opportunities, and would contribute towards IMBA Ride Center Silver Designation. Proximity to the Recreation Center and the proposed bike park/pump track proposed there would create opportunities for integration into bicycle programming.

24) Upper North Mesa Expert Mountain Bike Loops

PRIORITY:	TIMING:	TYPOLGY:	USER GROUPS:	PROPOSED LENGTH:	COST RANGE:	GOALS:		

Project Description:

New mountain-bike only rugged trails are proposed in the Upper North Mesa area to provide more “truly expert” mountain bike opportunities in the Town. These loops would connect with the Rim Trail, providing for day-long mountain bike excursions. The Upper North Mesa Equestrian trail should continue to prohibit bicycle use, but should allowing hiking access should be considered. Signage to use caution where mountain bike trails cross the horse trails should be implemented. This project would also contribute towards IMBA Ride Center Silver Designation.





TRAILS POLICIES AND ACTIONS

1) Encourage adherence to dog waste and leash policies

- Provide signage to explain why rules are what they are (wildlife, land access, etc.)
- Conduct increased education campaign with fliers, signs, social media about why rules are what they are (wildlife, land access, etc.) coupled with a more intensive enforcement
- Hold a trail cleanup day specific to pet waste to both clean up the trails and raise awareness for the issue
- Implement Dog Park and Linear Dog Walk project (Trail Project #22, above)
- Provide garbage cans and waste stations at all trailheads and many trail junctions

PRIORITY:



TIMING:



SUPPORTED GOALS:

- OV1
- OV2
- OV4
- OV5
- OV6
- T1
- T2
- T3
- T4
- T5

2) Implement a volunteer Trail Ranger Program

- Develop an orientation and training session for Trail Rangers that includes trail use etiquette and safety procedures, as well as wildlife and habitat identification information
- Trail Rangers can monitor the trails for maintenance issues and inappropriate or illegal activity and should be expected to provide other trail users with information and assistance as needed. Additionally, Trail Rangers should be asked to assist with picking up trash along the trails, and help with scheduled trail maintenance work days throughout the year.
- Develop swag materials for Rangers, such as a water bottle and a volunteer Trail Ranger t-shirt to proudly wear while using the trails.

PRIORITY:



TIMING:



SUPPORTED GOALS:

- OV1
- OV2
- OV4
- OV5
- OV6
- OV9
- T1
- T2
- T3
- T4
- T5

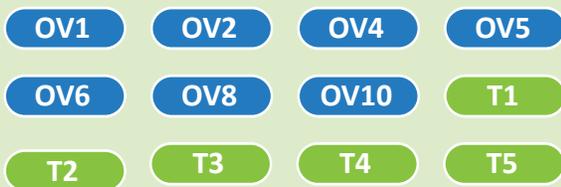
3) Ensure Sustainable Trail Design

- Build trails wide enough to accommodate the expected use, and for safe passing
- Design in adequate sight distances
- Design to control speeds where necessary
- Design and construct trails to minimize erosion
- Features and structures are in scale with the natural environment
- The visual quality of the landscape or specific landscape features is not diminished
- Soil resources are protected from human-caused erosion
- The introduction of invasive species is avoided

PRIORITY: TIMING:



SUPPORTED GOALS:



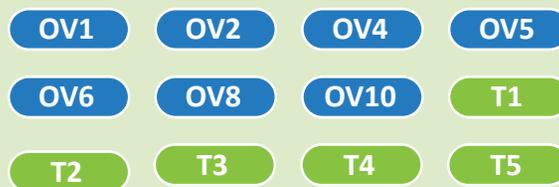
4) Remove the mountain bike trail closure on the South Rim Connector Trail

- Trail is currently closed to mountain biking from 10 AM to 3 PM to accommodate guided nature hikes
- Utilize safety and trail etiquette education to reduce trail user conflicts during this time

PRIORITY: TIMING:



SUPPORTED GOALS:



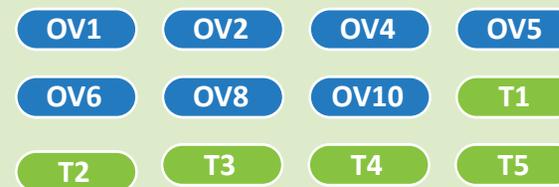
5) Acquire trail easements where necessary to facilitate a cohesive and connected system of trails.

- Work with private landowners and partner organizations to establish trail easements.
- Develop marketing brochure on easement donation opportunities.

PRIORITY: TIMING:



SUPPORTED GOALS:





Recreation Center Projects

Recreation center projects do not lend themselves to individual implementation, and will likely be designed and implemented in phases. To facilitate implementation and cost estimating, recreation center projects have been divided into three distinct implementation phases: Pool and Aquatics, Minor Recreation Center Improvements, and Major Recreation Center Improvements. Costs for individual project elements are not provided, but rather overall costs for each phase.

POOL AND AQUATICS

The pool and aquatics phase incorporates pool enlargement, an expanded lounging deck, replacement of the waterslide, and improvement of the pool control room. These pool and aquatics improvements could happen independently of other Recreation Center projects, but should be integrated with planning and design for the Minor Recreation Center Improvements, particularly concession area and locker room improvements, to maximize the benefit and revenue opportunities between the two phases. Total cost for this phase is estimated between \$185,000 and \$250,000.



Expanded Pool and Lounging Deck

PRIORITY: TIMING: IMPLEMENTATION PHASE

SUPPORTED GOALS:

P2

ST

Pool and Aquatics

OV1

OV2

OV3

OV4

OV7

OV8

OV9

OV10

R1

R2

R5

Project Description:

In the vein of fun, sun and water discussed above with the pond expansion, there is an additional opportunity to expand the pool deck at the Snowmass Village Recreation Center to include more lounge space and more passive recreation opportunity that would appeal to locals and visitors alike.

The existing pool and deck is already extremely popular, but this expansion would create a new amenity for local families and residents, as well as a significant draw and marketing opportunity for multi-season tourism in the community. The addition would provide a sun and fun lounging recreation opportunity not offered elsewhere in the valley, create additional revenue streams for the department, compliment other proposed improvements, and provide family and community gathering space, and help open up the Recreation Center to a new, more passive market of users.

In terms of existing facilities, the pool and deck area was commonly mentioned as being in need of expansion in the survey. Additional lap lanes and more pool space in general is desired by the community. The waterslide will also need to be replaced in the next few years (see below) and the pool expansion should include more water play features.

Implementation Strategies:

- Complete Pre-Design and Concept Planning
- Complete Pool and Aquatic design and construction Plans
- Pursue Great Outdoors Colorado (GOCO) Grant Program and USDA Rural Development Community Facilities Grant Program funding
- Implement complimentary program offerings (see program projects)





Waterslide Improvements

PRIORITY: TIMING: IMPLEMENTATION PHASE

P3 ST Pool and Aquatics
OV1 OV2 OV3 OV4 OV7 OV8
OV9 OV10 R1 R2 R5

SUPPORTED GOALS:

Project Description:

The existing waterslide at the Recreation Center is nearing the end of its lifecycle and will need to be replaced soon. Replacement should occur in conjunction with the expansion of the pool deck (see above).

When replacing the waterslide, consider the addition of two or three slides, providing varying levels of excitement for a range of ages, as well as a covered tube slide to expand season of use.

Although certainly larger in size, the Glenwood Springs Hot Springs Pool slides are good examples, and always in demand (lines on weekends and holidays).

Implementation Strategies:

- Complete Pool and Aquatic design and construction plans
- Pursue Great Outdoors Colorado (GOCO) Grant Program and USDA Rural Development Community Facilities Grant Program funding

Pool Control Room

PRIORITY: TIMING: IMPLEMENTATION PHASE

P1 ST Pool and Aquatics
OV1 OV2 OV3 OV4 OV7 OV8
OV10 OV9 R1 R2 R5

SUPPORTED GOALS:

Project Description:

An expansion of the pool (see above) would likely trigger the need for upgrades to the pool control room, which currently doubles as storage and administrative space, and houses the center's IT equipment. A new space should be sought for the IT equipment regardless of changes to the pool control room, and a redistribution of the storage space should also be considered.

Implementation Strategies:

- Complete Pool and Aquatic design and construction plans
- Pursue Great Outdoors Colorado (GOCO) Grant Program and USDA Rural Development Community Facilities Grant Program funding

EXISTING RECREATION CENTER IMPROVEMENTS

The Existing Recreation Center Improvements phase includes the sauna/steam room, locker room improvements, the improved concession area, and additional administrative and office space. While it could be constructed separately, planning and design of this phase should consider the other two phases to ensure seamless integration of the total recreation center experience. Square foot expansion for this phase is estimated at between 1,500 and 2,000 square feet and the total cost for this phase is estimated at between \$750,000 and \$1,000,000.

Sauna/Steam Room

PRIORITY:

TIMING:

IMPLEMENTATION PHASE

SUPPORTED GOALS:

P1

ST

LT

Existing Recreation Center Improvements

OV1

OV2

OV3

OV4

OV7

OV8

OV9

R1

R2

R5

Project Description:

The practice of partaking in gentle, persistent heat and steam dates back thousands of years and has been adapted by spas and health centers around the world. Saunas are thought to relieve stress, relax muscles and soothe aches/pains in both muscles and joints, flush toxins, cleanse the skin, induce a deeper sleep, improve cardiovascular performance, burn calories, and help fight illness. Saunas also just feel good and can provide an enjoyable experience for participants.

A sauna/steam room at the Snowmass Village Recreation Center could provide these benefits to the community, as well as complement the recreation and wellbeing activities at the center. A sauna/steam room would also fit well with the proposed expansion of the pool and deck (see below) to provide more lounging, après ski (or après hike, or après bike, etc...),

and passive recreation opportunities at the Recreation Center. A Sauna/Steam Room was also by far the most requested new facility/equipment that could be added to the Snowmass Village Recreation Center in the community-wide survey (more than double the next highest) and the highest ranked new facility discussed at the public meetings.

Implementation Strategies:

- Complete Pre-Design and Concept Planning
- Complete design and construction plans
- Pursue Great Outdoors Colorado (GOCO) Grant Program and USDA Rural Development Community Facilities Grant Program funding



Locker Room Improvements

PRIORITY:

TIMING:

IMPLEMENTATION PHASE

SUPPORTED GOALS:

P3 ST LT

Existing Recreation Center Improvements

OV1

OV2

OV3

OV4

OV6

OV7

OV8

OV9

R2

R5



Project Description:

In concert with the addition of the sauna/steam room and pool and deck expansion, improvement of the locker rooms should also be considered. While a substantial redesign of the locker rooms is not necessary, their integration into the other facilities at the Recreation Center could be improved. Privacy in the locker room showers was also mentioned in the survey as being in need of improvement.

Implementation Strategies:

- Complete Pre-Design and Concept Planning
- Complete design and construction plans
- Pursue Great Outdoors Colorado (GOCO) Grant Program and USDA Rural Development Community Facilities Grant Program funding

Improved Concession Area

PRIORITY:

TIMING:

IMPLEMENTATION PHASE

SUPPORTED GOALS:

P1

ST

LT

Existing Recreation Center Improvements

OV1

OV2

OV3

OV4

OV6

OV7

OV8

OV9

R2

R5

Project Description:

Food service is an increasingly important element in recreation centers, and can have a major impact on recreation departments' bottom lines and on the overall guest experience. Though typically small in size, concession areas have the potential to serve as the social hub of many recreation buildings.

There is an opportunity to improve the existing concession space and operation, potentially with an independent operator, to create additional revenue streams for the department and enhance the level of service at the Recreation Center. An outside operator could provide a novel approach to the concession operation and a fresh angle or a recognized name could stir interest in the Recreation Center and boost sales. If an outside vendor is selected to run the concession, there may be an opportunity for the vendor to contribute a capital investment to the operation and it will be important to spell out exactly who is paying for what in any operating agreement.

A redesign of the concession space should consider who will be running the operation and what food and refreshments will be offered. It should also incorporate the entryway into the facility to improve the

Recreation Center's first impression and "front-of-house" appearance. The concession should also be better integrated into the outdoor space to serve visitors to both the pool and Town Park. It is a good idea to make the concession operation available from both the free zone and the secure zone of the facility (indoor and outdoor), to increase availability for spontaneous purchases and to minimize the need to travel back and forth through the security point.

Concession offerings could include a smoothie/juice bar, coffees and hot beverages (particularly in the winter months when the rec center may serve more "warming hut" needs), more healthy and "grab-and-go" food options, and alcohol sales. Food and beverage options should be provided that cater to children, adults and all ages in between.

Implementation Strategies:

- Complete Pre-Design and Concept Planning
- Complete design and construction plans
- Pursue Great Outdoors Colorado (GOCO) Grant Program and USDA Rural Development Community Facilities Grant Program funding
- Explore partnerships with independent vendors for the concession operation





Administrative and Office Space

PRIORITY: **P3** TIMING: **ST** **LT** IMPLEMENTATION PHASE: **Existing Recreation Center Improvements** SUPPORTED GOALS: **OV1** **OV2** **OV3** **OV4** **OV6** **OV7** **OV8** **OV9** **R2** **R5**

Project Description:

Office space is currently constrained within the Recreation Center, especially during high staffing periods in the summer months, which can deteriorate the work environment for full time staff. Along with the expansion of the Recreation Center—or changes to the concession area—redesigned or additional office space should be considered.

Implementation Strategies:

- Complete Pre-Design and Concept Planning Complete design and construction plans
- Pursue Great Outdoors Colorado (GOCO) Grant Program and USDA Rural Development Community Facilities Grant Program funding

DISTINCTIVE INDOOR RECREATION OPPORTUNITIES

The Distinctive Indoor Recreation Opportunities Major Recreation Center Improvements phase includes the creation of unique, world-class facilities including the Jump Gym, field house and expanded multi-purpose gym space, additional cardio, fitness & spinning space, and the loading dock, staging and storage space projects. While it would be accessible from the existing recreation center, this phase is envisioned as a stand-alone addition with its own separate entrance. While it could be constructed separately, planning and design of this phase should consider the other two phases to ensure seamless integration of the total recreation center experience. Square foot expansion for this phase is estimated at between 25,000 and 30,000 square feet and total cost for this phase is estimated at between \$14 and \$15 million.

The Jump Gym

PRIORITY: TIMING: IMPLEMENTATION PHASE

SUPPORTED GOALS:

P1

LT

Distinctive Indoor
Recreation Opportunities

OV1

OV2

OV3

OV4

OV6

OV7

OV8

R1

R2

R3

R5

Project Description:

The Jump Gym is envisioned as a 10,000 square foot venue for recreational and competitive gymnastics, “woodward-style” action sports training, and indoor playground space. The facility would likely be attached to the existing Recreation Center, with its own dedicated entrance as well as an entrance from the Recreation Center proper. Similar venues often include spring floors, in-ground trampolines, 30-50 feet length tumble trampolines, foam filled practice pits, traditional gymnastics apparatuses, freestyle actions sports features, and dedicated areas for birthday parties and preschooler use. Some also include so-called “Ninja Warrior Training Elements.” The facility could also include a day care space to accommodate drop in day programing.

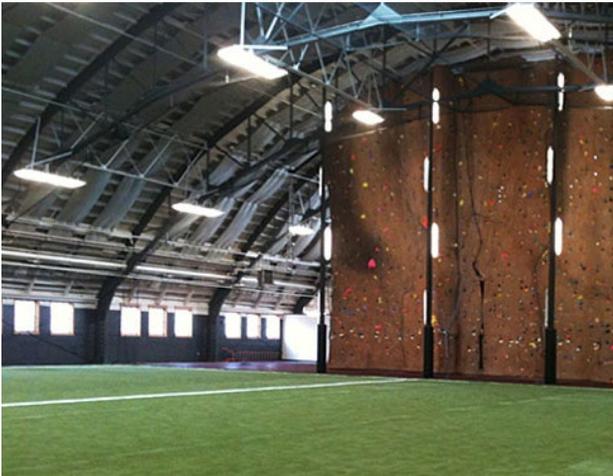
This facility would dovetail with the mountain and alternative recreation that Snowmass Village is known for, providing advanced training opportunities to local residents in the off-season as well as huge tourism promotion potential throughout the year. The facility could be programed to host competitions and other community events, and could be used in both existing and proposed programs in the department. There is also an opportunity for partnerships with local clubs and groups for gymnastics and action sports training and events.

As a unique facility in the RFV and the western slope, the visitation boost and revenue potential from such a facility is significant. The facility could be used by residents of all ages, but would be particularly attractive for regional youth residents and visitors with families. An indoor action sports facility was the second most requested new facility for the Recreation Center in the community-wide survey and youth/family surveys, and an indoor children’s playground was the most requested facility in the youth and family survey.

Implementation Strategies:

- Complete Recreation Center Improvement Master Plan Process
- Pursue Great Outdoors Colorado (GOCO) Grant Program and USDA Rural Development Community Facilities Grant Program funding
- Explore partnerships with ASC, local groups and clubs
- Explore event, program and competition prospects
- Implement complimentary program offerings (see program projects)





Field House

PRIORITY: TIMING: IMPLEMENTATION PHASE

SUPPORTED GOALS:

P1

LT

Distinctive Indoor
Recreation Opportunities

OV1

OV2

OV3

OV4

OV6

OV7

OV8

R1

R2

R3

R5

Project Description:

The current multi-purpose gym space does not provide any area for spectators, or much clearance between existing court lines and the walls. A new approximately 12,000 square foot field house could more comfortably accommodate existing uses, as well as a wider range of activities, and provide for spectator space. The field house could be incorporated with the Jump Gym construction to share spectator space, support areas, etc.

A new field house would expand opportunities for indoor sports and activities such as roller derby, indoor lacrosse, volleyball, indoor football, dodgeball, dance, etc.

In the interim, there may be an opportunity to re-line the court space in the existing gym to improve safety.

Implementation Strategies:

- Complete Recreation Center Improvement Master Plan Process
- Complete design and construction plans
- Pursue Great Outdoors Colorado (GOCO) Grant Program and USDA Rural Development Community Facilities Grant Program funding
- Implement complimentary program offerings (see program projects)

Additional Cardio, Fitness & Spinning Space

PRIORITY:

TIMING:

IMPLEMENTATION PHASE

SUPPORTED GOALS:

P3

LT

Distinctive Indoor
Recreation Opportunities

OV1

OV2

OV3

OV7

OV8

R1

R2

R3

R5

Project Description:

Additional cardio/weight space was frequently requested in the community survey and the existing “spinning hallway” was noted by many respondents as needing improvement. Expansion of this space would allow the department to provide equipment that is currently not offered at the center, such as rowing machines and stair climbers, and improve the quality of the spinning and fitness programs currently offered by the department.

Implementation Strategies:

- Complete Recreation Center Improvement Master Plan Process
- Complete design and construction plans
- Pursue Great Outdoors Colorado (GOCO) Grant Program and USDA Rural Development Community Facilities Grant Program funding
- Implement complimentary program offerings (see program projects)



Loading Dock, Staging and Storage Space

PRIORITY:

TIMING:

IMPLEMENTATION PHASE

SUPPORTED GOALS:

P1

LT

Distinctive Indoor
Recreation Opportunities

OV7

OV8

Project Description:

A loading dock, as well as improved staging and storage space, should be considered with an expansion of the Recreation Center. It is currently difficult to receive supplies at the Recreation Center, particularly large and/ or heavy deliveries. Once on site, movement and storage of supplies could also be improved by eliminating the split-level design between storage and other areas. IT

and other administrative space should also be incorporated into this redesign.

Implementation Strategies:

- Complete Recreation Center Improvement Master Plan Process
- Pursue Great Outdoors Colorado (GOCO) Grant Program and USDA Rural Development Community Facilities Grant Program funding



RECREATION PROGRAM RECOMMENDATIONS

The following recommendations outline a range of potential programs that could be implemented by the department. Many new programs are intended to dovetail with new facility improvements, and the final program list is expected to be further refined through implementation of improvements, coordination with instructors, etc. The final list of programs will likely not reflect ALL programs listed herein.



1) Offer more lunch time programs of all ilk

- This was a commonly expressed idea by community in survey and public meeting, but historically, the department has found a challenge in filling programs mid-day. Therefore, lunch-time programs should be instituted on a trial basis to “test the waters,” starting with Friday lunch programs. Work schedules often have more flexibility on Fridays (cutting out of work early in summer, etc.)
- Drop in opportunities are even more important for lunch time programs than they are for programs in general, and perhaps a price premium could be applied to account for this flexibility.

PRIORITY:

P2

TIMING:

I

SUPPORTED GOALS:

- OV1
- OV2
- OV6
- OV7
- R1
- R2
- R3

2) Expand Recreation Programs for Adults and Seniors

- Programs for all levels of participation from introductory and skill building to competitive leagues and tournaments
- “Test the waters” with the initiation of some relatively simple programs to see if they can become viable, regular programs
 - Hold informal tournaments or events of various potential programs to assess if interest exists for the continuation of these programs
 - Marketing these “start-up” tournaments or events as fundraisers for parks or cultural programs in the Town may also create an added benefit and increase the level of participation
 - Partnership with day care program to encourage participation

PRIORITY:

P3

TIMING:

I

SUPPORTED GOALS:

- OV1
- OV2
- OV6
- OV7
- R1
- R2
- R3

3) Drop-in Day Care

- A drop-in day care service should be explored at the Recreation Center, possibly integrating a new daycare space within the proposed Field House/Jump Gym expansion. Opportunities for partnerships with the Little Red Schoolhouse, or other day care providers should be explored. Rates should be competitive, with a price premium placed on the care to accommodate the drop-in nature of the activity.

PRIORITY:

P3

TIMING:

ST

SUPPORTED GOALS:

OV1 OV2 OV3 OV6
OV7 R1 R2 R3

4) Community Movies

- Weekly movie series throughout the summer
- Offers new and different types of community experiences
- Accessible for all
- Facilitates community cohesiveness
- Could occur outdoors if sunset and timing allows, or could occur in the multi-purpose gymnasium space

PRIORITY:

P1

TIMING:

I

SUPPORTED GOALS:

OV1 OV6 OV7
R2 R3

5) Expand yoga offerings

- a) Yoga offered at different times, lunchtime offering
- b) Sunrise, poolside, trailside (ying yang), yoga in the sand
- c) By far the existing program that most survey respondents said they do or would participate in

PRIORITY:

P3

TIMING:

I

SUPPORTED GOALS:

OV1 OV2 OV6 OV7
R1 R2 R3

6) Silver Sneakers/Senior Programs

- Significant and currently-increasing demographic group within the community, visitors and second home owners
- Social club: once or twice a month. Dinner with different themes (prom, hot august nights, etc), conversation café
- Tours: museums, historical, etc.
- Game nights
- Bocce ball or other sports nights, informal
- Wii for Seniors
- Lifestyle programs

PRIORITY:

TIMING:

P3

I

SUPPORTED GOALS:

OV1

OV2

OV6

OV7

R1

R2

R3

7) Expand Bicycling Programs

- Bicycle skills/training
- Organized bicycle rides
- Bicycle conditioning
- Bicycle repair and maintenance
- All scored within the top ten in survey results
- Partnerships with RFMBA, SkiCo, Snowmass Tourism

PRIORITY:

TIMING:

P3

I

SUPPORTED GOALS:

OV1

OV2

OV4

OV6

OV7

R1

R2

R3

8) Lifestyle Programs

- Cooking classes and wine/beer tasting/making classes (both “lifestyle classes”) were listed as the top two new programs that could be offered by the department
- Other lifestyle programs could include:
 - Arts and painting
 - Dancing
 - Dining and social clubs
 - Gardening classes
 - Music instruction and performance
 - Wildflower/Wildlife Identification Tours
 - Drawing and Painting
 - Mixed Media Art
 - Quilting
 - Date night opportunities: Wine and Easel nights, etc.
 - Brain Fitness: learn different exercises, games, computer programs

PRIORITY:

TIMING:

P2

ST

SUPPORTED GOALS:

OV1

OV2

OV6

OV7

R1

R2

R3

9) Informal or alternative sports

- Platform tennis
- Kickball
- Can jam
- Ultimate Frisbee
- Wallyball (rebound volleyball)
- Pickleball
- Roller derby
- Dodgeball
- “Ninja Warrior” events

PRIORITY:

TIMING:

P2

ST

SUPPORTED GOALS:

OV1

OV2

OV6

OV7

R1

R2

R3

10) Sports and Fitness

- Addition of field lighting and artificial turf will allow for expansion of existing, popular programs, such youth and adult soccer, softball, etc. Programs will be able to run longer in the evening with a longer overall season
- Explore a partnership with Aspen United to bring more youth soccer players to Snowmass Village
- Competitive gymnastics
- CrossFit
- Mud/Adventure run training
- Ski conditioning
- Running Skills/Training
- Indoor lacrosse
- Indoor volleyball
- Indoor football
- Dance
- Drop in adult and youth hockey
- Drop in broomball
- Drop in ice skating

PRIORITY:

TIMING:

P2

I

SUPPORTED GOALS:

OV1

OV2

OV6

OV7

R1

R2

R3

11) Outdoor Rec Programs

- Action sports training, programs and camps a la Woodward
- Fly fishing classes/clinics
- Youth fishing programs
- Bicycle programs (see above)
- Equestrian programs / Rides and skills
- Avalanche Rescue Training
- Nordic Skills/Training
- Group Hikes.

PRIORITY:

TIMING:

P3

I

SUPPORTED GOALS:

OV1

OV2

OV6

OV7

R1

R2

R3

ADMINISTRATIVE AND MANAGEMENT ACTIONS AND POLICIES

1) Implement Lifecycle Asset Management for all park and recreation center equipment so facilities can keep their image and value at a high level.

- Establish equipment replacement schedules for all equipment to ensure the replacement needs are well understood and adequately funded
- Develop a Preventive Maintenance Plan for all equipment that includes manufacture requirements for each asset and a preventive maintenance schedule

PRIORITY:

TIMING:

P2

ST

SUPPORTED GOALS:

- OV2
- OV3
- OV7
- OV8
- OV10

2) Develop an Operational Manual for the recreation center to maintain the site and establish consistent Recreation Center Facility Maintenance Standards. Facility Maintenance standards should be developed to apply to:

- Maintenance frequency
- Opening and closing
- Signage
- Aesthetics
- Equipment
- Performance measures

PRIORITY:

TIMING:

P3

ST

SUPPORTED GOALS:

- OV2
- OV3
- OV7
- OV8
- OV10

3) Develop Recreation Program Standards and Performance Measures to gauge performance. Recreation Program Standards should include:

- Customer retention
- Customer satisfaction toward the registration system
- Specific cleanliness ratings
- Instructor ratings
- Cost recovery rates
- Household percentage of program participation
- Program distribution by age group

PRIORITY:

TIMING:

P3

ST

SUPPORTED GOALS:

- OV1
- OV2
- OV3
- OV7
- OV8
- R1
- R2

4) Utilize a diversified funding structure for the department including maximization of existing sources and exploration of new ones

- Maintain real estate transfer tax funding as a baseline funding source for the department
- Expand revenue generating opportunities through the development of new facilities and programs with this goal in mind
- Continue to evaluate program and rental pricing strategies annually focused primarily on competitor prices and cost recovery rates. In general, current rates are slightly below market price; incrementally raise prices every 3-6 months for next 2-3 years
- Maximize Great Outdoors Colorado (GOCO) and other private and non-profit funding support by tracking available grants and reviewing opportunities annually
- Consider new sources such as funding support through school, sporting organizations, and non-profit partnerships, revenue from ancillary activities with special events such as parking, and benefit districts fees for merchants in specific areas to help support the nearby gardens and beautification efforts which they receive a direct benefit from
- Expand opportunities for philanthropic support of the department. Examples include “buy a brick” programs, facility and equipment naming opportunities for memorials, etc.

• Develop marketing brochures on the community improvement fund and easement donation opportunities. The brochures should include the process for negotiation, earmarking funds, and necessary agreements between Town and donor.

PRIORITY:

TIMING:



SUPPORTED GOALS:



5) Implement greater Price Segmentation in recreation programs pricing to maximize both yield and participation. Prices could be segmented based on:

- Residents and non-residents
- Senior and youth rates
- Early registration discounts
- Family registration discounts (discount on 2nd, 3rd and 4th registrations, etc)
- Lodging partnerships
- Program packages, select a few different programs. First one at regular price, discounts after that
- Friends and family benefits program, discounts when register all together
- Primetime / non-prime time rates could help alleviate some capacity utilization issues

PRIORITY:

TIMING:



SUPPORTED GOALS:



6) Encourage greater pre-registration in programs, particularly youth programs with a range of approaches, including:

- Improved marketing (see admin policy #15), as being unaware of the programs offered was mentioned as one of the top barriers to pre-registration
- Providing more flexible participation options, such as registration for any six sessions in an eight-week period
- Allowing complimentary access to recreation center facilities for children and caregivers before or after youth programs
- Offering increased early registration discounts for core program areas where community benefit is of paramount importance
- Offering discounts on packaged adult programs that run on the same days/times as youth programs

PRIORITY:

P2

TIMING:

I

SUPPORTED GOALS:

OV1

OV7

R1

R2

R3

7) Enhance mechanisms for continuous feedback from recreation center members and program participants

- Distribute follow up surveys after programs and events using a digital survey provider (e.g. survey monkey) and email follow ups
- Conduct standardized program reviews between department leads and instructors
- Provide digital and physical comment opportunities on the website and at the recreation center
- Include customer feedback as a regular discussion item in staff meetings
- Customer satisfaction processes should occur not only with the recreation center and programs, but also with general park maintenance and athletic field quality, new facility design, and community events

PRIORITY:

P3

TIMING:

I

SUPPORTED GOALS:

OV2

OV3

OV7

R3

R4

8) Develop an annual program review process

- Recreation staff present their yearly goals for program areas to other senior staff of the Department
- Include policy reviews, financial and registration performance, customer issues, and plans for the future.
- Helps to ensure good communication and cooperation across all program areas

PRIORITY:

P2

TIMING:

I

SUPPORTED GOALS:

OV2

OV3

OV7

R3

R4

9) Support the professional development of key department staff through membership in the Colorado Parks and Recreation Association and the National Recreation and Parks Association

- Provide for annual conference attendance by key staff
- Support professional accreditation at all staff levels, including instructor
- Establish a minimum of training hours per year per employee (best practices entail 40 hours of training per year per employee)

PRIORITY:

TIMING:

P3

I

SUPPORTED GOALS:

OV2

OV3

R1

R3

10) Establish Customer Requirements for each program area to identify those service and product attributes that are most important to customers

- Customer Requirements relate to each program area (aquatics, fitness, etc.) and should include a listing of approximately five key customer requirements
- Key requirements should be identified by customers through post program surveys and can be included as part of an importance/performance matrix (asking what is most important and asking how the Department is performing)
- For example, in a youth aquatics program, key requirements could include: overall safety of the program, instructional quality, convenience and ease of registration, cost of the program, and skill development
- Key requirements should be reinforced in the training process and consistently communicated to all instructors and staff that directly interface with customers

PRIORITY:

TIMING:

P3

ST

SUPPORTED GOALS:

OV1

OV2

OV3

OV7

R2

R5

11) Develop Customer Service Standards to reinforce to part-time and seasonal staff what is most important to customers and maintain quality customer experiences. Customer Service Standards should include:

- Facility cleanliness standards
- Safety standards
- Signage standards
- Program cancellation standards
- Instructional quality standards, such as instructor toolkits
- Internal communication standards for part time and seasonal staff, such as instructors
- Registration process standards
- Telephone answering standards

PRIORITY:

TIMING:

P2

ST

SUPPORTED GOALS:

OV1

OV2

OV3

OV7

R2

R5

12) Conduct an annual review of partners and partnership opportunities to encourage active management of the partnership relationships

- Recalibrate partnership outcomes and goals
- Determine missed opportunities

PRIORITY:

TIMING:

P2

I

SUPPORTED GOALS:

OV3

OV5

OV6

OV7

13) Develop a marketing plan to plan to lay out the overall marketing direction for the entire Department.

- Provide vision and direction for the individual program areas
- Develop separate marketing campaigns for residents and visitors. Quarterly town newsletter for locals and marketing piece for hotels and condos.
- Consider development of a recreation guide that merges town news, information and council updates with quarterly information about recreation programs
- Nationally, 48% of users rely on their park and recreation program guide as primary marketing communication
- Digital communications, including email blasts, websites, and social media were favored in survey. Continue frequent Facebook, Twitter, Pintrest and Instragram communications. Consider a department blog.
- Provide information in the entryway/ breezeway, could include fliers on each program, rack cards, trail maps, and bus schedules
- Build up on the success and momentum of recent trail guides and consider opportunities for a few different guides that blend facility and program information in various topic areas. For example, a new guide for tennis could be developed that highlights the new platform tennis

opportunity and the programs/leagues that go along with it

- Provide funding to expand the marketing capacity for the POSTR system, either within the Parks and Recreation department or within other Town auspices.

PRIORITY:

TIMING:

P2

I

SUPPORTED GOALS:

OV3

OV4

OV5

OV7

R4

14) Continue to maintain parks, gardens and outdoor spaces at a high level through support of the of the seasonal grounds-maintenance crew

- Develop a work order system to document park maintenance success and help track the true cost of maintenance of park and amenities
- Establish environmental maintenance standards and practices for natural areas management
- Consider a maintenance endowment to support maintaining existing assets
- Develop Park Maintenance Standards to tie available staff hours and equipment

requirements to the frequency of the task. Park Maintenance Standards should include:

- Equipment Maintenance
- Routine Park Janitorial Maintenance
- Athletic Use Area (tennis, basketball, skate park, etc.) Maintenance
- Turf Maintenance
- Security and Light Maintenance
- Playground Maintenance
- Park Amenities Maintenance
- Sign Maintenance
- Training Standards

PRIORITY: TIMING:

P2 **ST**

SUPPORTED GOALS:

OV2 **OV3** **OV8** **OV10**
P1 **P2** **OS3** **OS4**
OS5 **T2** **T5**

15) Develop a Special and Temporary Use Permit Application to manage and understand the nature of special uses of Town lands. Typical application information includes:

- If amplified voice or sound will be used and, if so, during what hours
- If artificial lighting or light projector after dark will be used
- Using commercial vendors. Date, hours and the duration of the event
- Serving of alcohol and a liquor license if required
- Serving food or drink and a food service license if required
- Insurance certificate from insurance agent if required
- Site plan illustrating the property boundary, existing conditions (e.g. parking) and that portion of the property where the event will be held including areas to be occupied by tents, structures and / or product display.
- Application fee

PRIORITY: TIMING:

P3 **I**

SUPPORTED GOALS:

OV3 **OV7** **P3**

16) Continue to respect sensitive wildlife resources through adherence to Town ordinance 10-29 and the intergovernmental agreement between the USFS, CPW, Pitkin County, Aspen Skiing Co and TOSV to close trails on Burnt Mountain each spring for elk calving.

- At trails that close seasonally for wildlife preservation, continue to provide signage at trail parking explaining the purpose of the closure and where similar open opportunities exist
- Enforce zero tolerance policy and fines for trail closure violations through the Town’s Animal Services Division, in partnership with Colorado Parks & Wildlife
- Utilize “Adaptive Management Techniques” to understand the value of closing the Tom Blake parking lot, which provides access to both open and closed trails
- Compare citations/warnings issued in the past few years with the parking lot closed, and a season’s worth of citations/warnings with the lot open to see if the closure, and consequentially a permanent gate, is worth it

PRIORITY: TIMING:

P3 **I**

SUPPORTED GOALS:

OV8 **OS2** **OS4** **OS5**



Chapter 6: POSTR STANDARDS

Park and Trail Standards

A sustainable POSTR system involves a commitment to environmental, economic, and social practices that enhance a community's quality of life and promote responsible management of resources. Most importantly, a commitment to sustainability requires us to think about the impact of our actions on future generations. The following park and trail standards are intended to ensure that the design and construction of parks and trails in Snowmass Village is balanced with long-term maintenance requirements, enhancing community living, and reducing consumption of resources. The standards adapted from numerous state and federal sources, including the US Forest Service, the National Park Service, the US Access Board, the National Recreation and Parks Association, the Colorado Department of Local Affairs (DOLA), and sustainable park system guidance from Oregon, among other sources.

ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY STANDARDS

Environmental sustainability promotes the efficient and responsible use and management of resources to provide long-term benefits to the community. To achieve environmental sustainability, the rate of renewable resource harvest, pollution, and non-renewable resource depletion must be reduced to the point of being sustainable over the long term. A sustainable park should, to the fullest extent possible, function within the ecosystem and its processes rather than separately. Healthy ecosystems provide direct benefits to communities which surround and rely on these ecosystems. Examples include water purification, clean air, groundwater recharge, food production, and viewsheds.

Air Quality

- Reduce carbon emissions in POSTR equipment and vehicles.
- Increase bike trail access and provide safe routes to parks.
- Provide transportation alternatives to motor vehicles.
- Increase plantings of trees within appropriate areas to improve air quality.

Habitat Enhancement and Restoration

- Ensure park and recreation facilities and uses do not harm adjacent natural areas and sensitive habitats.
- Reduce vulnerability to damage from flooding, storm surge, wildfire, and drought by reducing development of hazard prone areas.
- Develop an Integrated Pest Management program to reduce the use of chemicals and to ensure proper use/disposal of chemicals.
- Protect existing habitats by developing clear landscape protection plans and specifications

Recycling

- Conduct on-site green waste/composting of park materials.
- Recycle appropriate park waste.
- Provide public recycling containers at all developed park and recreation facilities.

Renewable Energy

- Replace or renovate obsolete energy or resource-inefficient infrastructure within park and recreation facilities.
- Develop demonstration projects that highlight

alternative energy sources and/or reduction in resource use.

- Utilize solar roof top collecting panels.
- Utilize wind generating equipment.

Utility Reduction

- Utilize right-sizing strategies for vehicles and equipment.
- Track water, electricity, natural gas use within buildings and other facilities
- Track fuel use for vehicles and equipment.
- Track water use through centrally controlled irrigation systems.
- Where appropriate, use treated water for irrigation of developed landscapes.
- Establish benchmarks for reduced use of utilities and fuel for vehicles
- Increase paperless electronic document storage in administrative work.
- Expand use of LED lighting.

Soils

- Acknowledge Soil as a Living System
- Perform Soil Analysis and Assessment
- Monitor and learn from local soil conditions
- Retain native soils that are relatively undisturbed
- Use structural soils to increase longevity of trees and adjacent pavements
- Design soils at paved areas to provide load-bearing capacity for pavements as well as nutritional components
- Protect native soils and future planting areas from compaction and contamination during construction

Native Habitat and Genetic Diversity

- Design landscapes based on principles of ecological succession, selecting appropriate, low maintenance native plants
- Remove invasive plants to avoid habitat degradation, particularly at edge conditions
- Design to encourage diversity of vegetation and to reinforce edge conditions

Water Resources and Flood Protection

- Respect natural drainage patterns and use stormwater as an asset and not as a waste
- Design parks to provide storm water retention.
- Design sites to maintain or restore beneficial drainage patterns
- Use infiltration trenches to slow run-off and allow infiltration to occur
- Develop bioswales within and adjacent to parks.
- Use pervious surfaces, where appropriate, for parking areas, walkways and other public spaces.
- Design and install centrally located irrigation systems in all new parks.
- Use recycled water for landscape irrigation where feasible.
- Provide erosion control or prevention measures at the source to reduce downstream impacts
- Provide temporary erosion control measures on partially completed projects or if soil is to remain exposed for more than 30 days
- Design for water conservation by grouping plants with similar water requirements; consider rainwater harvesting systems and water conserving irrigation systems

- Preserve and restore riparian corridors and wetlands by creating buffers
- Include floodplain areas in the riparian buffer for maximum wildlife benefit

Design, Green Building and Construction

- Align trails and locate improvements with consideration of the natural environment to protect ecosystems and sensitive habitat areas.
- Set a standard of LEED certification for all new and renovated buildings.
- Incorporate sustainable design principles in renovated and new construction, such as:
 - Ground water recharge
 - Solar power sources
 - Composting or low-flow restrooms
 - Low-water vegetation
 - Sustainable and recycled products
 - Energy efficient materials and processes
 - Local products

ECONOMIC SUSTAINABILITY STANDARDS

Economic sustainability within the field of parks and recreation primarily refers to ensuring a government agency's capacity to maintain public infrastructure and continue to achieve its public purposes into the future. Economic sustainability also involves consideration of government spending and its impact on the economy as a whole, including the private sector and the local community (i.e. economic impact and user spending).

POSTR System Development

- Prior to the start of construction determine annual operational costs and sources of funding for new or expanded projects.
- Incorporate sustainable practices into the design of new or renovated projects to limit resource use and reduce on-going maintenance and operation costs.

Fiscal Practices

- Ensure that funding for long-term maintenance and operations does not exceed costs of services.
- Evaluate the cost-benefit impact of sustainable practices and continue to set new benchmarks.



SOCIAL SUSTAINABILITY STANDARDS

Parks serve as valuable places for shared social activity and public interaction. For a community to enjoy a high quality of life and be sustainable, the basic needs of all residents must be met. A socially sustainable community must have the ability to build and maintain park facilities serving residents of all ages and abilities.

Education and Outreach

- Provide sustainability training for public park employees.
- Provide opportunities for the public to learn about park sustainability and natural resource protection.
- Provide demonstration gardens of native plantings within local parks.

Social Interaction with the Natural Environment

- Provide outdoor spaces designed and operated to encourage social interaction.
- Enhance the public's physical, mental, and social well-being by providing opportunities to interact with nature.
- Create volunteer opportunities for the public to be directly involved in the protection, maintenance, and enhancement of natural and open space areas.
- Provide public access to parks, recreational facilities and open space areas for all members of the community.
- Promote ecological values among TOSV residents through public education and interpretation of park and open space features.

Public Health

- Provide Community Gardens for local residents to grow edible food products and interact with other local residents.
- Provide edible landscape demonstration gardens within parks.
- Provide facilities and programs to encourage physical fitness and reduce the obesity rate among TOSV residents.

ACCESSIBILITY STANDARDS

Achieving accessibility in outdoor and recreation environments is often a challenge due to the constraints posed by terrain, the degree of development, construction practices and materials, and other factors. In response to this, the US Access Board has produced a series of guides regarding recreational facilities and their interface with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and the Architectural Barriers Act (ABA), both of which provide federal Accessibility Standards. In some cases, POSTR development will be required to follow these standards, and in others the standards can simply act as guidance for good inclusive design, depending on the particular aspects of each project, funding sources for the project and involved agencies. The provisions address access to trails, picnic areas, viewing areas, beach access routes and other components of outdoor developed areas when newly built or altered. They also provide exceptions for situations where terrain and other factors make compliance impracticable.

US Access Board guides are available here: <https://www.access-board.gov/guidelines-and-standards/recreation-facilities/guides>. Relevant guides include:

- Boating Facilities
- Fishing Piers and Platforms
- Play Areas
- Play Surfaces
- Sports Facilities
- Swimming Pools, Wading Pools, and Spas

The US Access Board intends to develop guidelines for non-federal outdoor sites covered by the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and areas developed with federal grants and loans covered by the ABA through a subsequent rulemaking. These anticipated rules will likely also apply to POSTR development, and should be incorporated into the department's design standards when available.



TRAIL STANDARDS

The trails included in this plan are designed for a milieu of user experiences and purposes. Each type of trail is therefore subject to a different set of standards and practices that will best accommodate the users on that trail. Multi-use paths should be wide-enough to accommodate the many users and user types that may be on the trail simultaneously, while natural surface trails should be designed in a manner that provides a more natural experience and follows the contour of the land

Typology

The Trail Typology presented on the following pages was developed to provide a common vocabulary for trail types within Snowmass Village, and summarize current policies relating to intended trail users and design specifications for each facility type. The Trail Typology is divided into two parts – one summarizing appropriate facilities for Rugged Trails and the other for Multi-Use Paths. The typology is based upon current department practices and national guidelines established by various organizations for the development of multi-use paths, bicycle facilities, equestrian facilities, and sustainable trails. The following documents have been used to develop the typology and related design and maintenance standards of POSTR Plan:

Equestrian Design Guidebook for Trails, Trailheads and Campgrounds, USDA Forest Service and FHWA Recreational Trails Program, 2009. Provides practical guidelines for developing recreation environments that are sensitive to the needs of riders and their stock.

Forest Service Trail Accessibility Guidelines (FSTAG), USDA Forest Service, 2003 draft. Provides guidance for maximizing accessibility,

while recognizing and protecting the unique characteristics of the natural setting of each trail.

Guide for the Development of Bicycle Facilities, American Association of State Highway Transportation Officials (AASHTO), Fourth Edition, 2012. National guidance on providing facilities that are safe, convenient, well-designed and well-maintained, with low-crash frequencies and severities. Addresses various riding environments, including design of on-road facilities and design of shared use paths.

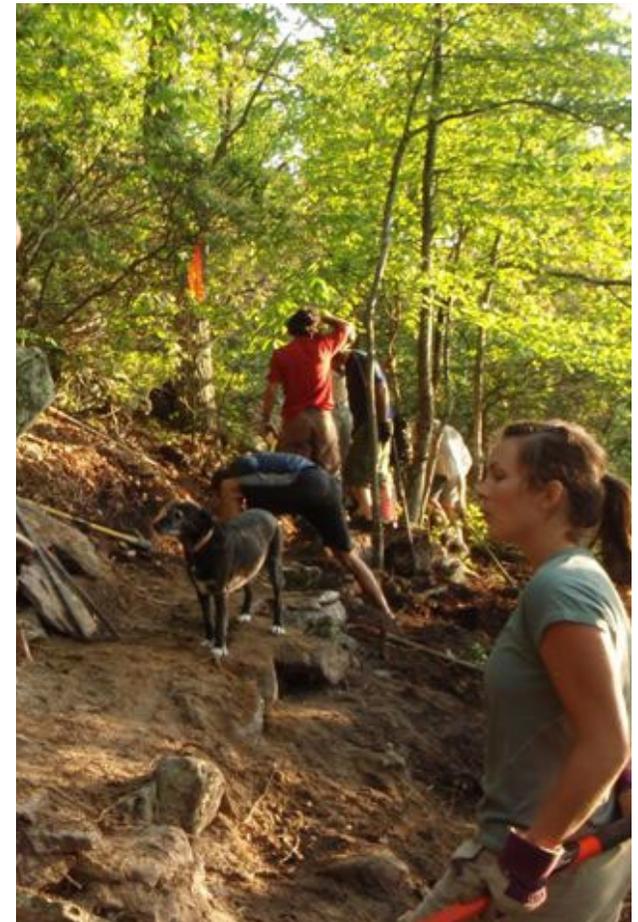
Guide to Sustainable Mountain Trails: Trail Assessment, Planning and Design Sketchbook, National Park Service, 2009 Edition. Presents sustainability criteria for assessment, planning, design, implementation and communication of mountain trail projects that minimize impact to natural and cultural resources.

Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD), Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), 2009 Edition. Defines the standards used by road managers nationwide to install and maintain traffic control devices on all public streets, highways, bikeways, and private roads open to public travel.

TRACS Trails Management Objectives, United States Forest Service (USFS), 2011. Specifies designed use objectives and travel management strategies for individual sections of local Forest Service trails.

Trails Management Handbook, USFS National Headquarters, 2008. Used to implement decisions regarding trail management within the Arapaho and Roosevelt National Forests and Pawnee National Grassland.

Trail Solutions: IMBA's Guide to Building Sweet Singletrack, International Mountain Biking Association (IMBA), 2004. Is a leading source of sustainable trailbuilding information (covering planning, design, tool selection, construction and maintenance) as well as how to successfully introduce natural objects (rocks, roots, logs, etc.) and man-made features (elevated bridges, teeter-totters, jumps, etc.) to add technical challenge to mountain biking experiences.



Rugged Trails



Multi-Use Paths



Natural Surface Trails

In general, natural surface trails are characterized as:

- Narrow mountain trails designed as sustainable, rolling contour trails that have minimal impact on natural systems
- Trail treads should include benching, outsloping, grade reversals, armoring, switchbacks, and other techniques to minimize erosion and wear by trail users
- Frequently smooth and flowing, with features like banked turns, rolling terrain, and consistent and predictable surfaces
- Tend to wind around obstacles such as trees, large rocks and bushes
- If intended for singletrack mountain biking, may also exhibit technical sections with features such as roots, logs and rocks, or man-made technical features such as elevated bridges, jumps, teeter-totters, and drop-offs

Rugged Accessible Trails:

Regional facilities are longer distance, multi-jurisdictional paths that may be used for a variety of These wide accessible trails provide rugged trail opportunities to a wider range of users, including handcycle and mobility assisted users, and are also user friendly for beginner level mountain biking and family style hiking. Most handcycles are built in a tricycle configuration and are powered by the riders' arms verses legs; therefore, these recreationalists need newly adapted trail systems.

- Handcycle
- Beginner Mountain Biking
- Hiking

Unpaved Graded Path

Multi-use or shared use paths are physically separated from motor vehicle traffic. They have a graded gravel fines treadway and provide accessible outdoor recreation and transportation opportunities for many user groups.

- adult/child bicyclists
- horseback riding
- walking
- jogging/running
- wheelchair use
- baby strollers
- dog walking
- snowshoeing
- cross country skiing
- Local facilities connect local destinations such as:
 - schools
 - shopping
 - employment

Paved Path

Regional facilities are longer distance, multi-jurisdictional paths that may be used for a variety of recreation and non-motorized transportation needs. Similar to the list above.

Are often located in the vicinity of linear features such as:

- river and stream corridors
- roads
- railroad grades
- utility corridors
- irrigation canals

Mowed Path

A mowed path is a soft surface trail that is light on the land and can accommodate a limited number uses. These paths typically serve as a recreation oriented facilities and are generally suitable for providing access to natural areas and some rural connections.

Mountain Biking

Tread Width

12"-48" narrow trail tread for singletrack experience

Corridor Width

5' - 7'

Average Grade

<10% grade desired for sustainable trails

Hiking

Tread Width

12"-36"

Corridor Width

4' - 6'

Average Grade

<10% grade desired for sustainable trails

Equestrian

Tread Width

24" - 48"

Corridor Width

8' - 12'

Average Grade

<10% grade desired for sustainable trails

Rugged Accessible Trail

Tread Width

36" - 60"

Corridor Width

6' - 12'

Average Grade

- 1% - 3%
- 5% - 8.33% for 200' Max
- 8.33% - 10% for 30' Max
- 10% - 12% for 10' Max



Trail Standards

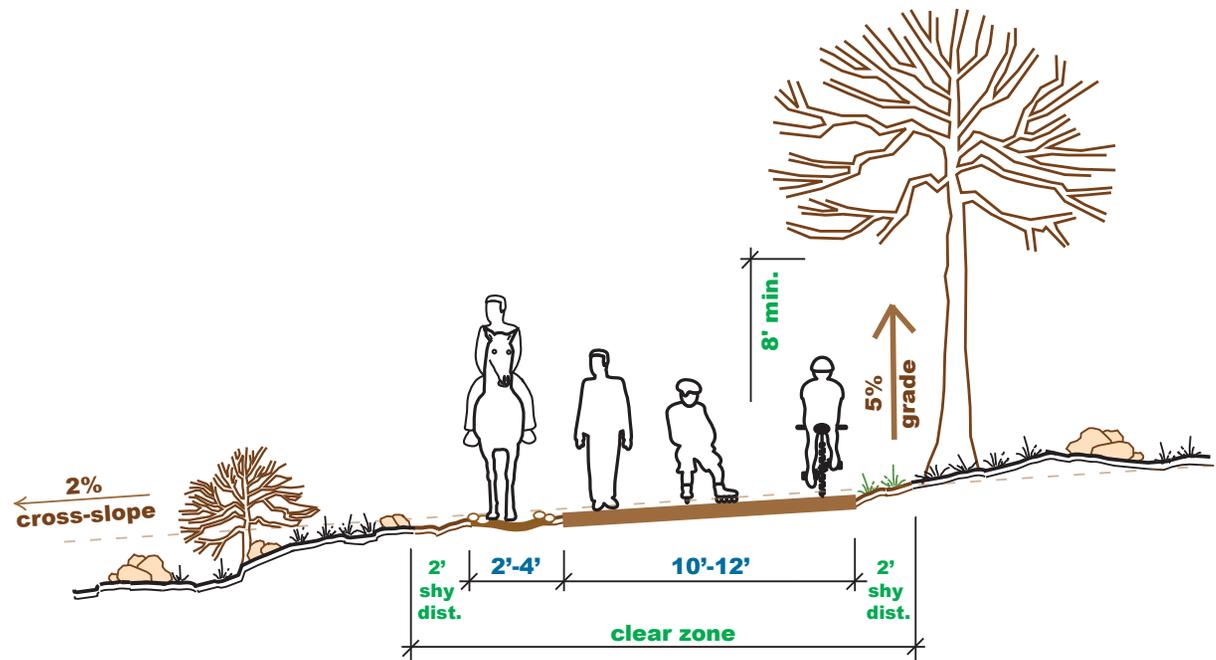
Multi-Use Paths

Off-road multi-use paths offer alternative routes removed from traffic for transportation purposes, as well as more casual recreational opportunities for walking, biking and other trail uses. Multi-use paths may be paved or soft-surface, but should be developed to widths that will allow bicyclists to meet and pass other cyclists, pedestrians, and other users of the trail system. Pedestrians tend to use paths in groups and may walk side-by-side and/or meander laterally. Pets on leashes and in-line skaters will take up additional lateral space on a multi-use facility. Joggers and equestrians prefer to travel on soft-surface path shoulders. Design and maintenance considerations shall therefore include:

- Multi-use paths are an appropriate facility type to be developed in linear open spaces, or parallel to higher volume roadways when adequate separation can be provided between multi-use path and road.
- Design to accommodate activity levels by a variety of non-motorized users including pedestrians, bicyclists, in-line skaters, joggers, equestrian users, etc.
- The AASHTO Bike Guide should be followed for designing all multi-use paths.
- The trail tread may be soft surface (crusher fines) or paved (asphalt or concrete). Trail width is 10' min. with a 5% grade. However, a 12' width is preferred to accommodate higher levels of multiple use.

- Standard MUTCD signage and pavement markings, including ladder-style crosswalks, should be installed at all street crossings.
- Widths and structural loadings of bridges and other trail structures are encouraged be designed to accommodate small emergency and maintenance vehicles.

- Where equestrian use is desired in a corridor with a paved multi-use path, provide a softer, separate tread for horses alongside the main path.
- Clear vegetation and maintain a 2' min. shy distance for lateral clearances and an 8' min. for vertical clearances (10' min. for equestrian use)

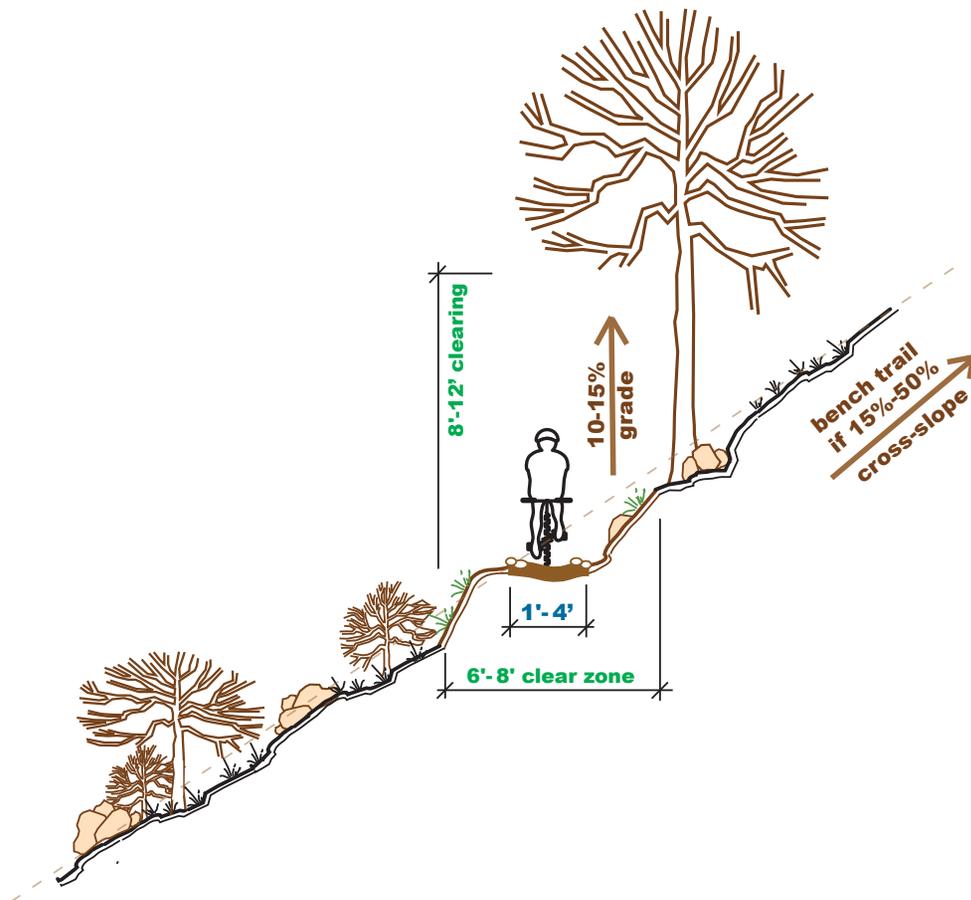


Rugged Trails

In contrast to multi-use paths, most rugged, natural surface trails should not be developed to wide standards in an effort to provide high-quality nature experiences and discourage use by motorized ATV users. Narrow trails laid out following the natural contours of the land are desired, with careful attention paid to slopes, tread compaction, and water drainage to promote sustainable trail design and maintenance.

- Rugged, natural surface trails are generally appropriate to be developed in open space areas as a series of stacked loop trails of varying lengths.
- The trail tread is compacted soil typically 12" - 48" wide and defined by using vegetation, boulders, and other natural features to create chokes and corrals that create an interesting, meandering hike or ride.

- Multi-use rugged trails should be designed as rolling contour trails - characterized by gentle grades, undulations called grade reversals, and an outsloped trail tread that allows water to drain off the surface without causing erosion.
- With proper design, a rugged trail can accommodate equestrians while minimizing user conflicts and damage to the trail surface. Vertical clearance for equestrian use should be at least 10 feet, with a horizontal clearance of at least 5 feet. Sight distance should be at least 100 feet, and proper signage is needed to indicate which user has the right-of-way priority.
- Horses often prefer water crossings to bridges. If this isn't practical, provide mounting blocks at the ends of bridges so that riders can dismount and lead their horses across the structure. In addition to the standard amenities for human users, parking and staging areas, water for horses and hitching posts at any area where the rider may stop to take a break (rest areas, restrooms, etc.) should be provided.



TRAIL SAFETY AND ETIQUETTE

The planning and design of a multiple use trail system entails facility design that takes the needs of each user into consideration while also balancing the manner in which these different users encounter one another. Trail safety remains a priority concern while high quality visitor experience for all users is the ultimate goal. Despite all efforts at designing to prevent user-conflict, it is important to communicate expectations for trail etiquette in order to minimize negative experiences. By providing information through programs, media and signs, trail users become accustomed to how best to interact with other users, land owners and land managers which enhances the trail experience for everyone.

Multi-Use Trail Safety Standards

“With time, patience, commitment, and cooperation among users and between users and managers as well as diligent and aggressive planning and management, shared-use trails can be an excellent way to accommodate many types of users with minimal conflict.”
- National Recreational Trails Advisory Committee

Physical Responses:

- Provide a variety of trail opportunities.
- Build trails wide enough to accommodate the expected use, and for safe passing.
- Provide pullout areas where necessary.
- Design in adequate sight distances.
- Design to control speeds where necessary.
- Provide separate trailheads for different users.
- Provide separate trails when necessary and possible. This may be necessary only for problem sections.
- Design and construct trails to minimize erosion.

Management Responses:

- Information and Education
 - Communicate why the trail is shared.
 - Communicate who should yield to whom and why.
 - Communicate the consequences of problem behaviors (e.g., from impact on other users to loss of access for offenders).
 - Build consideration and trust.
 - Communicate physical and social trail conditions to help users have more accurate expectations of what and whom they are likely to find on a particular trail.
- User Involvement
 - Trail Planning
 - Management
 - Conflict Resolution
 - Regulations and Enforcement

Trail Etiquette Guidelines

Following are guidelines for trail etiquette for multiple-use trails, developed by the Montana Chapter of the Continental Divide Trail Alliance. A broad coalition of user groups supported the effort:

RESPECT: Education about friendly respect for all users will diminish negative encounters on the trail for all users. It’s a simple concept: if you offer respect, you are more likely to receive it.

COMMUNICATION: Let folks know you’re there – before you’re there. Riding up on horses and stock can be dangerous even for the best-trained critters. For bikers and hikers; 1. Make yourself known to stock and rider. A simple “Howdy” works to get attention. 2. Step downhill and off trail.

HORSES UPHILL: Horses and mules are prey animals. That means they think everything wants to eat them; even the hiker with a large, scary backpack and especially the fast-moving biker “chasing” them. When startled, frightened critters go uphill. You should move downhill to avoid an encounter with a 1,000 pound panicked animal.

YIELD APPROPRIATELY: Do your utmost to let your fellow trail users know you’re coming - a friendly greeting is a good method. Anticipate other trail users as you ride around corners. Bicyclists should yield to other non-motorized trail users, unless the trail is clearly signed for bike-only travel. Bicyclists traveling downhill should yield to ones headed uphill, unless the trail is clearly signed for one-way or downhill-only traffic. In general, strive to make each pass a safe and courteous one.

RESPECT THE RESOURCE: Help protect your accessibility by playing nicely with your neighbors and treating trails with reverence. Always practice Leave No Trace ethics and pitch in to give back - pick up trash, volunteer on a trail project or become a member of your local trail club.

AVOID SPREADING SEEDS: Help keep weeds out of our forests. Noxious weeds threaten our healthy ecosystems and livelihoods. Stay on trails and designated roads, use weed seed free hay, check your socks, bikes and horse tails for hitchhikers when you get back to the trailhead.

BE INFORMED: Questions about where to ride, trail closures, outdoor ethics and local regulations are important to know before you head out on the trails. Contact your local land manager if you are unsure about what you can and can't do in a given area.



LANDSCAPE MAINTENANCE STANDARDS

- Plants should be selected based on their level of maintenance, durability, mature widths and heights, aesthetic appeal, and thematic qualities. Native species that maintain the Town's natural rural character should be preferred.
- Thorny plants should not be used where their placement could be hazardous to public safety such as near sidewalks or trails.
- Non-turf planting areas should be mulched to retain moisture, suppress weeds, and moderate soil temperature.
- Turf should be used as a functional recreational element rather than solely for aesthetic purposes wherever possible.
- Lower water use, warm season turf grasses should be used.
- Irrigation systems should be designed, constructed, managed, and maintained to achieve the highest overall efficiency possible. Efficiency is measured by the amount of water beneficially used to sustain plant life divided by the amount of water applied. Efficiency is affected by the attributes of the controller, method of irrigation, irrigation equipment, proper hydrozoning, site topography, condition and size of plants, and weather conditions.
- High efficiency irrigation methods (for example, drip, 'MP rotators', micro-sprays) should be encouraged.

- Rotors and spray heads should be designed and installed with minimized overspray onto paved surfaces, structures, and non-vegetated areas.
- Recycled water should be used for irrigation if available. Plans should also be designed for recycled water use.
- Perpetual landscape maintenance is paramount to water efficient landscaping and water conservation. Regardless of the efficiency of the irrigation design and installation, a landscape can quickly lose its efficiency with the lack of proper maintenance. The following list contains continual maintenance responsibilities:
 - Monitoring and adjustment of controllers
 - Repairing of broken/ leaking/ clogged/ malfunctioning irrigation equipment
 - Calibrating irrigation application equipment to provide maximum efficiency
 - Maintaining minimum mulch levels
 - Pruning plants to eliminate irrigation application interference
 - Replacement of equipment
 - Replacement of plant materials



Chapter 7: MAKING IT HAPPEN

Introduction

Implementation is where the rubber meets the road (or in this case trail)! This chapter weaves together all the work and inputs generated during the POSTR planning process into a prioritized implementation and action plan, complete with cost estimates, planning steps, and implementation timing. The chapter also considers the funding strategy of the TOSV Parks, Trails and Recreation Department, and identifies specific funding opportunities.



IMPLEMENTATION AND ACTION PLAN

Project or Recommendation	Site Improvement Cost		Planning Required					Implementation Timing			Priority
	Low	High	Site or Facility Master Plan	Pre-Design and Concept Planning	Design or Construction Documents	Develop Program or Policy	Cooperation/ Partnership	Immediate/ Ongoing	Short-Term	Long-Term	Community Priority (3=highest, 1=lowest)
PARKS PROJECTS											
Destination Bike Park and Pump Track	\$300,000	\$600,000		✗	✗	✗	✗		✗		3
Redesigned Rodeo Grounds to finish Town Park	N/A	N/A	✗		✗	✗	✗			✗	3
Brush Creek Park	\$425,000	\$840,000	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗			✗	3
All Weather Artificial Turf on Multi-Use Field Space	\$760,000	\$860,000			✗	✗		✗	✗		2
Bike Wash and Repair Station	\$5,000	\$7,000				✗		✗			2
Town Park Pond, Beach and Green Infrastructure Improvements	\$90,000	\$155,000	✗		✗	✗	✗			✗	2
Community Garden at Cathy Robinson Park	\$4,000	\$10,000			✗	✗	✗		✗		2
Platform Tennis	\$0	\$0			✗	✗	✗	✗			1
Lighted Field Space	\$340,000	\$500,000			✗	✗			✗	✗	1
Redesigned Ice Rink	N/A	N/A	✗		✗	✗	✗			✗	1
OPEN SPACE POLICIES AND ACTIONS											
Seek acquisition of new open spaces that are multi-dimensional in the resource value they bring to the community with priorities	N/A	N/A				✗	✗	✗			3
Complete a Town-wide Natural Resources Management Plan			✗			✗	✗		✗		3
Continue to explore the role that partnerships might play in managing or acquiring open space parcels	N/A	N/A				✗	✗	✗			3
Always consider the resource values supported by the open space when developing specific proposals or defining management objectives.	N/A	N/A				✗		✗			3
Maximize opportunities to expand the function of existing open space to more broadly address community values (i.e., finding ways to enhance recreation, habitat, conservation etc.).	N/A	N/A				✗	✗	✗			3
Provide latitude in policy to consider "other" opportunities for open space acquisition that, while still reflective of identified community value, may take advantage of unique circumstances to set aside parcels for future consideration.	N/A	N/A				✗	✗	✗			2
Evaluate private open space or set asides associated with planned residential development in light of this framework and consider where private open space resource value and function might align with broader community objectives.	N/A	N/A				✗	✗	✗			2
GARDENS POLICIES AND ACTIONS											
Manage Town-owned gardens and open spaces to reduce invasive, non-native species	N/A	N/A	✗				✗	✗			3
Develop Landscape Maintenance Standards for Town Gardens utilizing xeric (low-water) species that are consistent with the Town's aesthetic character to maintain the currently high level of quality for town managed gardens	N/A	N/A	✗			✗	✗	✗			2
Explore opportunities for sponsorship to help support flower landscapes in the Town where appropriate	N/A	N/A				✗	✗	✗			2
TRAILS PROJECTS											
1) Rim Trail Connector	N/A	N/A			✗		✗		✗		3
2) Town Park Connector	\$125,000	\$225,000			✗		✗			✗	3
3) Horse Ranch Connector	\$60,000	\$100,000			✗		✗			✗	3
5) Snowmass Center Connector	\$15,000	\$25,000			✗		✗	✗			3
9) Trailhead Improvements at Western Terminus of Brush Creek Trail	\$7,500	\$15,000			✗		✗	✗			3
11) Repave All Paved Pathways in the Town	\$2,500,000	\$4,000,000			✗		✗	✗			3

Project or Recommendation	Site Improvement Cost		Planning Required					Implementation Timing			Priority Community Priority (3=highest, 1=lowest)
	Low	High	Site or Facility Master Plan	Pre-Design and Concept Planning	Design or Construction Documents	Develop Program or Policy	Cooperation/ Partnership	Immediate/ Ongoing	Short-Term	Long-Term	
13) The Skill Builder Trails	\$800,000	\$1,350,000			✗		✗			✗	3
15) Hawk Ridge Trail	\$33,000	\$50,000			✗		✗			✗	3
19) Tom Blake Trailhead Improvements	\$35,000	\$100,000			✗		✗		✗		3
7) Gambell Way Trail	\$45,000	\$75,000			✗		✗		✗		2
8) Melton Ranch Connector	\$15,000	\$30,000			✗		✗			✗	2
10) Mayfly Spurs	\$20,000	\$55,000			✗		✗		✗		2
12) Stark's Connector	\$85,000	\$150,000			✗		✗			✗	2
14) Brush Creek Regional Connection	N/A	N/A			✗		✗			✗	2
16) Owl Creek Spur	\$14,000	\$21,000			✗		✗		✗		2
22) Multi-use Safety Improvements along Viewline Trail	\$100,000	\$150,000			✗		✗	✗			2
4) Highline Road Path	\$325,000	\$540,000			✗		✗		✗		1
6) Underpass Alternative	\$40,000	\$70,000			✗		✗			✗	1
17) Down the Divide Trail	N/A	N/A			✗		✗			✗	1
18) Gateway Crossing	\$120,000	\$650,000			✗		✗			✗	1
20) Upper Divide Lot Trailhead Improvements	\$35,000	\$100,000			✗		✗			✗	1
21) Snowmass Wild Dog Trail and Dog Park	\$330,000	\$515,000	✗		✗	✗	✗		✗		1
23) Upper North Mesa Beginner Mountain Bike Loops	\$50,000	\$80,000			✗	✗	✗		✗		1
24) Upper North Mesa Expert Mountain Bike Loops	\$410,000	\$615,000			✗	✗	✗		✗		1
TRAILS POLICIES AND ACTIONS											
Encourage adherence to dog waste and leash policies	N/A	N/A				✗	✗	✗			3
Implement a volunteer Trail Ranger Program	N/A	N/A				✗	✗	✗			3
Ensure Sustainable Trail Design	N/A	N/A				✗		✗			3
RECREATION CENTER PROJECTS											
POOL AND AQUATICS											
POOL AND AQUATICS	\$185,000	\$250,000		✗	✗	✗			✗		
Waterslide Improvements	Phase Cost	Phase Cost		✗	✗	✗			✗		3
Expanded Pool and Lounging Deck	Phase Cost	Phase Cost		✗							2
Pool Control Room	Phase Cost	Phase Cost		✗	✗	✗			✗		1

Project or Recommendation	Site Improvement Cost		Planning Required					Implementation Timing			Priority
	Low	High	Site or Facility Master Plan	Pre-Design and Concept Planning	Design or Construction Documents	Develop Program or Policy	Cooperation/ Partnership	Immediate/ Ongoing	Short-Term	Long-Term	Community Priority (3=highest, 1=lowest)
EXISTING RECREATION CENTER IMPROVEMENTS											
MINOR RECREATION CENTER IMPROVEMENTS	\$750,000	\$1,000,000		✗	✗	✗	✗		✗	✗	
Locker Room Improvements	Phase Cost	Phase Cost		✗	✗				✗	✗	3
Administrative and Office Space	Phase Cost	Phase Cost		✗	✗				✗	✗	3
Sauna/Steam Room	Phase Cost	Phase Cost		✗	✗	✗			✗	✗	1
Improved Concession Area	Phase Cost	Phase Cost		✗	✗	✗	✗		✗	✗	1
DISTINCTIVE INDOOR RECREATION OPPORTUNITIES											
MAJOR RECREATION CENTER IMPROVEMENTS	\$14,000,000	\$15,000,000	✗		✗	✗	✗			✗	
Additional Cardio, Fitness & Spinning Space	Phase Cost	Phase Cost	✗		✗	✗				✗	3
The Jump Gym	Phase Cost	Phase Cost	✗		✗	✗	✗			✗	1
Field House	Phase Cost	Phase Cost	✗		✗	✗	✗			✗	1
Loading Dock, Staging and Storage Space	Phase Cost	Phase Cost	✗		✗					✗	1
RECREATION PROGRAM RECOMMENDATIONS											
Expand Recreation Programs for Adults and Seniors	N/A	N/A				✗	✗	✗			3
Drop-in Day Care	N/A	N/A				✗	✗		✗		3
Expand yoga offerings	N/A	N/A				✗		✗			3
Silver Sneakers/Senior Programs	N/A	N/A				✗	✗	✗			3
Expand Bicycling Programs	N/A	N/A				✗	✗	✗			3
Outdoor Rec Programs	N/A	N/A				✗	✗	✗			3
Offer more lunch time programs of all ilk	N/A	N/A				✗		✗			2
Lifestyle Programs	N/A	N/A				✗			✗		2
Informal or alternative sports	N/A	N/A				✗			✗		2
Sports and Fitness	N/A	N/A				✗		✗			2
Community Movies	N/A	N/A				✗		✗			1
ADMINISTRATIVE AND MANAGEMENT ACTIONS AND POLICIES											
Develop an Operational Manual for the recreation center to maintain the site and establish consistent Recreation Center Facility Maintenance Standards.	N/A	N/A		✗		✗			✗		3
Develop Recreation Program Standards and Performance Measures to gauge performance.	N/A	N/A		✗		✗			✗		3
Utilize a diversified funding structure for the department including maximization of existing sources and exploration of new ones	N/A	N/A				✗	✗	✗			3
Enhance mechanisms for continuous feedback from recreation center members and program participants	N/A	N/A				✗	✗	✗			3
Support the professional development of key department staff through membership in the Colorado Parks and Recreation Association and the National Recreation and Parks Association	N/A	N/A				✗		✗			3
Establish Customer Requirements for each program area to identify those service and product attributes that are most important to customers	N/A	N/A		✗		✗			✗		3
Develop a Special and Temporary Use Permit Application to manage and understand the nature of special uses of Town lands.	N/A	N/A				✗		✗			3

Project or Recommendation	Site Improvement Cost		Planning Required					Implementation Timing			Priority
	Low	High	Site or Facility Master Plan	Pre-Design and Concept Planning	Design or Construction Documents	Develop Program or Policy	Cooperation/ Partnership	Immediate/ Ongoing	Short-Term	Long-Term	Community Priority (3=highest, 1=lowest)
Continue to respect sensitive wildlife resources through adherence to Town ordinance 10-29 and the intergovernmental agreement between the USFS, CPW, Pitkin County, Aspen Skiing Co and TOSV to close trails on Burnt Mountain each spring for elk calving.	N/A	N/A				✗	✗	✗			3
Implement Lifecycle Asset Management for all park and recreation center equipment so facilities can keep their image and value at a high level.	N/A	N/A		✗		✗			✗		2
Implement greater Price Segmentation in recreation programs pricing to maximize both yield and participation.	N/A	N/A				✗	✗	✗			2
Encourage greater pre-registration in programs, particularly youth programs with a range of approaches.	N/A	N/A				✗		✗			2
Develop an annual program review process	N/A	N/A				✗		✗			2
Develop Customer Service Standards to reinforce to part-time and seasonal staff what is most important to customers and maintain quality customer experiences.	N/A	N/A		✗		✗			✗		2
Conduct an annual review of partners and partnership opportunities to encourage active management of the partnership relationships	N/A	N/A				✗	✗	✗			2
Develop a marketing plan to plan to lay out the overall marketing direction for the entire Department	N/A	N/A				✗	✗	✗			2
Continue to maintain parks, gardens and outdoor spaces at a high level through support of the of the seasonal grounds-maintenance crew	N/A	N/A		✗		✗	✗		✗		2

Funding Strategy

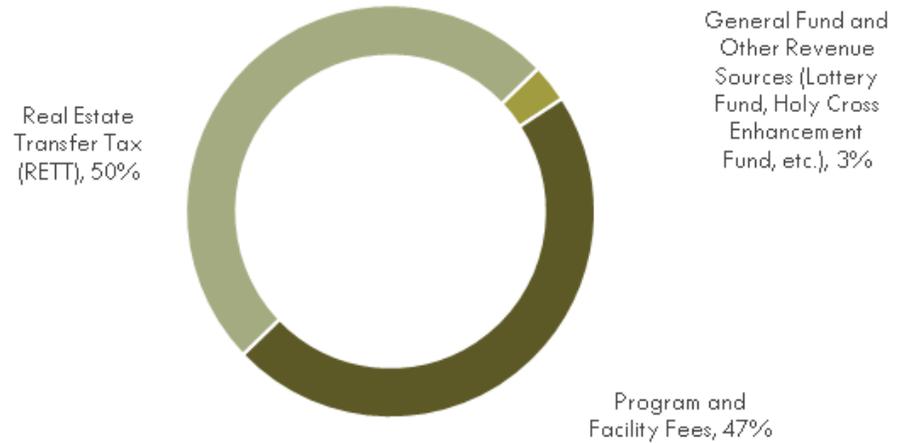
CURRENT AND HISTORIC FUNDING SOURCES

The TOSV Parks, Trails and Recreation Department in 2016 receives slightly less than half (46-48%) of its operational and capital funding from program and facility fees for the recreation center and recreation programs. This does not include debt service.

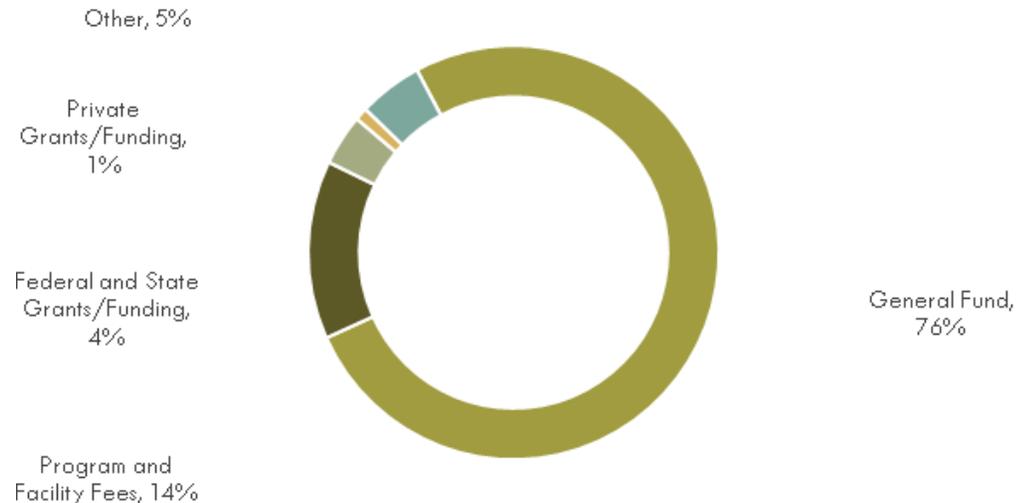
In addition to program and facility fees, about half (48-51%) of the department's funding comes from the Town's Real Estate Transfer Tax (RETT). Less than three percent of the department's revenues come from other transfers and revenue sources, such as transfers from the Lottery Fund or the Holy Cross Enhancement Fund. Bond issues and development impact fees have not been applied to any POSTR development since the completion of the multi-purpose gym in 2008, but were in used during the "seed period" of the department when the recreation center and pool were being established.

As illustrated in the charts to the right, the TOSV Parks, Trails and Recreation Department receives significantly less funding from general fund taxes than an average parks and recreation department as reported by the Resources For the Future report Current Challenges, Funding, and Popularity Trends in Local Parks and Recreation Areas.

Snowmass Village POSTR Funding Sources



Average POSTR Funding Sources



COST RECOVERY

As noted by Chis Dropinski in her article Cost Recovery in Public Parks and Recreation, “cost recovery is a complex subject. Essentially, it represents a park, recreation or conservation agency’s decision to generate revenues by charging fees for some, or all, of its programs and services in order to offset the expenses of providing those programs or services. Cost recovery does not imply that the target is total cost recovery; an agency establishes the target according to a variety of considerations, from 0 percent to more than 100 percent of direct costs.” The TOSV Recreation Center and Programs cost recovery ratio (the percent of costs covered by program and facility fees) has been between 46 and 48 percent of total costs over the past few years. The national average as reported by the National Recreation and Parks Association’s 2015 Field Report is significantly lower at 29.6%, meaning most park and recreation agencies recover less of their costs from program and facility fees than does Snowmass Village. This suggests that the Town operates a very financially successful and efficient department that is within the upper quartile of all parks and recreation agencies in the country. This POSTR plan recommends the expansion of revenue generating opportunities through the development of new facilities and programs and anticipates that the cost recovery ratio will grow over time, while allowing for fluctuations when projects arise. Overall, maintaining a cost recovery ratio of 50% or below should be a goal of the staff. See the discussion below for suggested target cost recovery ratios through the three phases of implementation.

OVERALL FUNDING STRATEGY

As laid out in the master plan recommendations, the overall funding strategy for the TOSV Parks, Trails and Recreation Department is to “utilize a diversified funding structure for the department including maximization of existing sources and exploration of new ones.” This involves maintaining the RETT as a primary funding source for the department, while expanding revenue generating opportunities through the development of new facilities and programs. Program and rental pricing strategies should continue to be assessed annually, focusing primarily on competitor prices and cost recovery rates. Great Outdoors Colorado (GOCO) and other private and non-profit funding sources should be maximized by tracking available grants and reviewing opportunities annually. Other new sources of funding support, such as school, sporting organizations, and non-profit partnerships, revenue from ancillary activities with special events such as parking, and benefit district fees should also be explored. Opportunities to expand philanthropic support of the department should also be pursued.

While the RETT is expected to continue to be a primary funding source for the department, the Cost Recovery Ratio is anticipated to grow over time as more revenue generating opportunities are realized through implementation of the plan. Early projects and recommendations in the “immediate period” (0-2 years) are anticipated to produce modest increases in program and facility revenues and expenses, with their full revenue potential being realized a few years after implementation. Growth in the Cost Recovery Ratio of about 1% by the end of the “immediate period” would be considered successful. Projects and recommendations from the “short-term period” (2-5 years) are anticipated to produce more

significant opportunities for new program and facility fees. Growth in the Cost Recovery Ratio of about 2-3% would be considered successful. Long-term projects (5+ years), combined with the cumulative benefit of short and immediate-term projects and recommendations, are expected to provide even more revenue generating opportunities, particularly given the program and facility revenue potential of the Jump Gym. By the end of the long-term period, total growth in the Cost Recovery Ratio of 4-5% would be considered successful, after factoring in increased operational costs from new facilities. Gains in Cost Recovery Ratios only consider operating costs and revenues, not capital expenditures and debt service.

Capital funds beyond the relatively modest capital projects that have been funded through the RETT in recent years will be necessary to implement the POSTR projects over time. If RETT funding to the department is maintained at current levels throughout the phased implementation described above (relative to normal CPI inflation), “excess” RETT funds resulting from the increased program and facility revenue can be utilized as seed money for projects or as matching funds for one of the 22 grant programs described below to implement projects from later phases (projects from the immediate phase have relatively modest costs, or are already anticipated in the department’s capital budget). Although grants and “excess” RETT funding are expected to minimize this need, it is likely that development impact fees, bond issues or other larger commitments of funding may be required for implementation of some larger-scale projects. These capital outlays should be budgeted across multiple years and will likely reduce the Cost Recovery Ratio in years they occur, but the ratio is expected to remain above the national average even in high spending years.

While cost recovery is important, the impact of these capital outlays must always be considered beyond just the revenue generating potential for the Town. The projects these capital expenditures represent are first and foremost intended to meet the parks, open space, trails and recreation needs of Town residents, which is a worthwhile goal and justification for capital spending in and of itself. They are also intended to strengthen economic development within the Town, and as noted in Chapter 3: Recreation Means Business, have the potential to generate significant sales and job creation in private businesses in Snowmass Village and the region, which again makes them worthwhile expenditures. When viewed in total the benefits of improvements to cost recovery, POSTR service provision, and economic development far outweigh the costs required to implement the plan.

NON-GRANT FUNDING SOURCES

RETT Funds

The Town of Snowmass Village imposes a Real Estate Transfer Tax (RETT) of 1% on the transfer of the title of real property within the Town. This tax helps fund town amenities and services such as transportation, landscaping and parks & recreation costs. Over the past few years, the RETT has provided about half of the department's budget (ranging between 48 and 51% of department revenues) and will continue to be a primary funding source for the department moving forward.

Program and Facility Fees

User and rental fees for the recreation center and recreation programs are another primary funding source for the department, ranging between 46% and 48% of the Recreation Center and Program

revenues. As the POSTR plan is implemented, the ratio of program and facility fee funding is anticipated to grow as more revenue generating opportunities are realized. While some of the planned projects include the potential for user fees and revenue generation, not all expenses, particularly site improvement costs, can be provided for through user fees.

Other Transfers and Revenue Sources

Other transfers and revenue sources, such as transfers from the Lottery, General Fund or the Holy Cross Enhancement Fund, provide additional funds for the department at a relatively minor scale. Generally less than 3% of department revenues are realized from these sources.

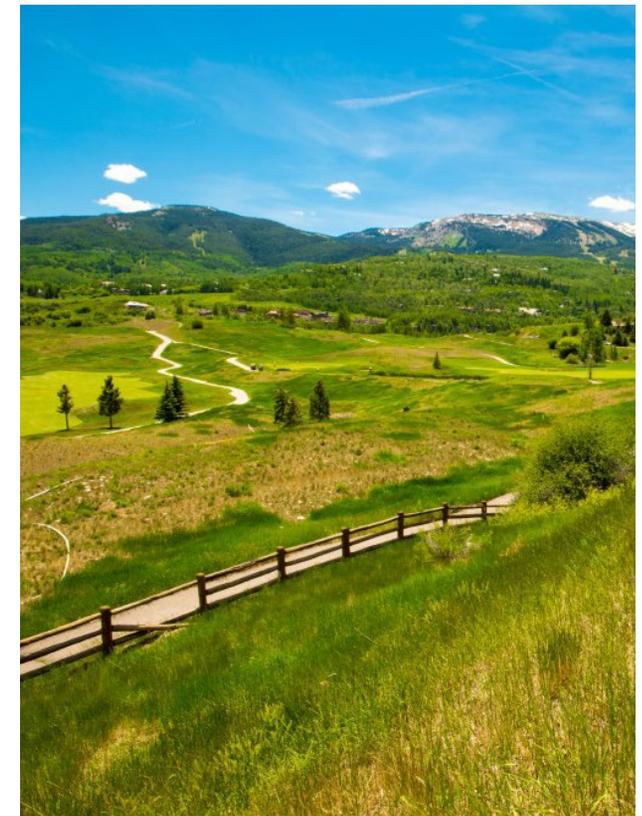
Bond issues

The Snowmass Village Town Council and Town residents have opted to issue bonds for capital improvements to the POSTR system in the past, including the initial funding for the recreation center and the pool in November of 2000. Although not anticipated to be a primary funding source for POSTR projects moving forward, bond issues may provide important opportunities to leverage other funds, such as required match amounts for federal or state grant programs, and may be needed for large projects such as the recreation center improvements.

Development Impact Fees

An impact fee is an assessment on development used to pay for its proportionate share of the impacts to public facilities. Some communities assign a standard dollar figure to the public sites, some use a park, trails and open space development impact fee, some give the developer an opportunity to arrive at a fee value based on projected impact, while others allow for the dedication of parkland, or fee-in-lieu, in place of the

impact fee. A full spectrum of leisure services which contain costs for recreation centers, trails and open space, in addition to parks, has been included in some communities' development impact fees. While the Town of Snowmass Village doesn't typically include park, trail and open space development impact fees, funds from developers have been applied to POSTR projects in the past. For example, as a part of the Base Village approval in 2004, Intrawest, the developer at the time, contributed \$1,000,000 towards the community pool at the Entryway. Moving forward, existing TOSV impact fee structures could be altered to create additional funding sources for POSTR projects.



GRANT FUNDING SOURCES

Federal

Land and Water Conservation Fund State and Local Assistance Program

The LWCF state assistance program provides matching grants to help states and local communities protect parks and recreation resources. LWCF funding has benefited nearly every county in America, supporting over 41,000 projects. From building hiking and biking trails, to improving community parks, playgrounds and ballfields, this 50:50 matching program is the primary federal investment tool to ensure that families have easy access to public, open spaces. <http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/search-grants.html>

National Park Service Rivers, Trails, and Conservation Assistance Program

The National Park Service Rivers, Trails, and Conservation Assistance program supports community-led natural resource conservation and outdoor recreation projects across the nation. Their national network of conservation and recreation planning professionals partners with community groups, nonprofits, tribes, and state and local governments to design trails and parks, conserve and improve access to rivers, protect special places, and create recreation opportunities. <https://www.nps.gov/orgs/rtca/index.htm>

FHWA Recreational Trails Program

The RTP provides funds to the States to support a wide variety of trail activities and related facilities, as well as environmental education and safety programs. The program is administered by the State Trails Program. http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/environment/recreational_trails/index.cfm

Federal Lands Access Program (FLAP)

Applicants may be state, county, tribal, or city government that owns or maintains the transportation facility. Project must be located on, adjacent to, or provide direct access to federal lands. <http://flh.fhwa.dot.gov/programs/flap/>

State

Great Outdoors Colorado (GOCO) Grant Program

This is a competitive grant program for park and open space land acquisition and development, outdoor recreation, environmental education, conservation, youth corps and capacity building that is derived from the Colorado Lottery. Grants are generally awarded in two funding cycles, with deadlines in the spring and fall. <http://www.goco.org/>

Colorado State Trails Program

This is a competitive grant program for trails. A 25 to 50% match is required. The state funding pool is relatively small, so this resource is proposed for a small component of the trails system. Grant deadline is typically in November. <http://cpw.state.co.us/aboutus/Pages/trails.aspx>

Fishing Is Fun Program

The Fishing Is Fun grant is a competitive program through Colorado Parks and Wildlife that provides matching grants to local and county governments, park and recreation departments, water districts, angling organizations and others for projects to improve angling opportunities in Colorado. Grant deadline is typically in March. <http://cpw.state.co.us/aboutus/Pages/FishingIsFunProgram.aspx>

Transportation Alternatives Program

The Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) is a competitive grant program administered by Colorado

Department of Transportation that provides funding for programs and projects defined as transportation alternatives, including on- and off-road pedestrian and bicycle facilities, infrastructure projects for improving non-driver access to public transportation and enhanced mobility, community improvement activities, and environmental mitigation; recreational trail program projects; and projects for planning, designing, or constructing boulevards and other roadways largely in the right-of-way of former Interstate System routes or other divided highways. <http://www.coloradodot.info/programs/statewide-planning/documents/transportation-alternatives-program-guidelines-and.pdf>

Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Program

The Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) program supports two important goals of the US Department of Transportation (DOT): improving air quality and relieving traffic congestion. CMAQ was developed to fund transportation projects or programs that will contribute to attainment or maintenance of the National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS). Bicycle and Pedestrian infrastructure and education/outreach projects are eligible under this program in areas that have been deemed in maintenance or needing attainment. Most CMAQ projects are selected by the Denver Regional Council of Governments (DRCOG), North Front Range Metropolitan Planning Organization (NFR MPO), and the Upper Front Range Transportation Planning Region (UFR TPR). <https://www.codot.gov/programs/commuterchoices/cmaq.html>

Safe Routes to School

While SRTS is a federal program, it is administered through Colorado Department of Transportation who can assist with the project identification and

application. Funding is available for infrastructure and non-infrastructure projects. Application trainings are available. School districts, schools, cities, counties, state entities and tribal entities are eligible to apply. <https://www.codot.gov/programs/bikeped/safe-routes->

State Historical Society Funds

A portion of state gaming revenues are transferred to the State Historical Fund and administered by the State Historic Society in a competitive process. Grants are available for projects of historic significance. Competitive and non-competitive grants available. All projects must meet the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties. Grant deadline is typically in October. <http://www.historycolorado.org/oahp/state-historical-fund>

Colorado Health Foundation Activating Places and Spaces Community Grant Program

Grants are not for infrastructure, but for planning, outreach, enhancements, programs, etc. that attract people to be active in public places. Applicant must be youth-serving entities. \$15-100k grants available. Cycles in February, June and October in 2016-2018. <http://www.coloradohealth.org/yellow.aspx?id=8101>

National Organizations

People For Bikes Community Fund

The People For Bikes Community Grant Program provides funding for important and influential projects that leverage federal funding and build momentum for bicycling in communities across the U.S. These projects include bike paths and rail trails, as well as mountain bike trails, bike parks, BMX facilities, and large-scale bicycle advocacy initiatives. <http://www.>

peopleforbikes.org/pages/community-grants

Bell Built Grants

Bell Helmets offers a \$100,000 technical assistance grant to fund a gravity mountain bike trail built by IMBA Trail Solutions. One grant is available for a gravity trail for black diamond/double black diamond level riding. The trail will feature a 300 foot minimum drop and include steep sections, jumps, rollers, and berms. It will be 100% optimized for mountain bikes and advanced riders. It may feature alternate lines to encourage rider progression. <https://www.imba.com/grants/bell-built>

MLB Baseball Tomorrow Grant Program

The Baseball Tomorrow Fund (BTF) is a joint initiative between Major League Baseball (MLB) and the Major League Baseball Players Association (MLBPA.) The fund awards grants to organizations involved in the operation of youth baseball and softball programs and facilities. http://www.mlbcommunity.org/programs/baseball_tomorrow_fund.jsp?content=about

US Soccer Foundation

The U.S. Soccer Foundation awards grants on both an annual basis (Program grants) and through a rolling process (Safe Places to Play grants) to support soccer programs and field-building initiatives nationwide. Grants are provided to support all aspects of the beautiful game — from assisting programs with operational costs to creating Safe Places to Play. <http://ussoccerfoundation.org/grants/>

American Rivers Connecting Communities to Rivers Grant Program - Intermountain West

Beginning on October 27, 2015, American Rivers began accepting proposals for the new Connecting Communities to Rivers Grant Program, which will

provide financial support for projects that connect communities in the Intermountain West to their rivers by improving family-friendly recreational opportunities and protecting rivers and surrounding lands. Grants ranging from \$5,000 to \$25,000 will be awarded to action-oriented projects that connect people to their rivers through recreation; establish a strong sense of river and land stewardship; and have clear and identifiable community, recreation, conservation and economic benefits. For more information and to access the grant application form, please visit BlueTrailsGuide.org/Grants.

Trails Connecting People with Nature: A program of the Sierra Club's Nearby Nature Initiative

In collaboration with Sierra Club Outdoors, Sierra Club's Nearby Nature Initiative broadens the conservation movement by protecting and establishing close-to-home natural spaces to ensure that access to the outdoors is increasingly equitable and available to all communities. Sierra Club Outdoors connects people to nature for the benefit of both, hosting over 265,000 people per year in the outdoors and inspiring millions more. The Sierra Club's Trails program aims to create, restore, and maintain trails in urban areas with limited access to nature and in more remote areas on public lands. The Sierra Club Foundation will award one-year Trails project grants ranging from \$5,000 to \$20,000 towards trail creation or maintenance project proposals that engage new leaders and provide opportunities for communities to connect with nature. https://content.sierraclub.org/ourwildamerica/sites/content.sierraclub.org.ourwildamerica/files/RFP_7-15_fill-outable.pdf

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Access Fund

The Access Fund's Climbing Conservation Grant Program funds projects that preserve or enhance climbing access and opportunities and conserve the climbing environment throughout the US. \$1-4,000 grants but up to \$10,000 for projects of national significance. <https://www.accessfund.org/>

Challenged Athletes Foundation

Grants are for supporting Challenged Athletes through: Coaching/training fees, competition expenses, or equipment. <http://www.challengedathletes.org/>

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