

Dick Cleveland 10/18/15 8:20 pm

1. Quality of the Vail Experience:

- As Vail reaches peak capacity, what needs to be done to maintain the quality of the Vail lifestyle?

We need to remember that nature is our biggest draw and thus protect and maintain our connection with natural environment.

- What is the probability of the Vail experience becoming too commoditized; for quantity to overtake quality?

I think it's unlikely. Change is inevitable and we can manage it with the community's input.

- What has to happen so that consumers and residents are still receiving premium level experiences?

“Consumer” and “residents” should one and the same though we may have slightly different expectations. Overall the experience is a “premium level” experience the vast majority of the time. If you look at the Urban Land Institute’s “Ten Principles for Responsible Tourism” you’ll see we are on the right track in almost every category. We are pushing up against overwhelming our staff and volunteers with the number and scale of special events.

2. Congestion:

- What can be done to reduce traffic congestion on the community’s roadways?

Congestion is a relative term. We, like any community, may experience periods of frenetic activity. In the great scheme of things we have little congestion the majority of the time.

- Is congestion creating public safety and other growth related issues that are being left unresolved?

No. While we may not have solved every issue, the community continues to seek solutions to reduce and minimize inconvenience for everyone, guest and resident alike.

- Should there be more/less parking on Frontage Road?

We would all like less frontage road parking. It’s not the experience we want anybody to have. The Town has improved the frontage road parking areas to increase the margin of safety and convenience for the users and further measures can be explored. Additional programs to ease access to town venues and amenities for those using the frontage road should be explored.

- Are the increases in street events and their impact upon available public parking adding to or diluting the Vail experience?

Special events are enhancing the Vail experience for the majority of our residents and guests. Just look to the increases in visitation, hotel occupancy and sales tax revenues that seem to track directly with our special event spending. Net promoter scores are up. The parking issue is an inconvenience at peak times which can be better managed.

3. Environment:

- Is the Vail experience being degraded by water, noise and visual pollution?

Yes

- What can be done to reduce noise pollution from I-70?

Realistically little can be done at the town level to make any significant impact on the I-70 problem. Proposals to bury or cover I-70, though creative, are financially unrealistic for the foreseeable future. One suggestion would be to look for grant money to provide funding assistance for homeowners who would like to replace windows and doors with more effective sound and thermal qualities.

- Are the plans for the Gore Creek clean-up adequate or does more need to be done and at a faster pace?

The plan is at such a preliminary stage it's impossible to know at this point. We can and should do all we can with the current limited resources to mitigate the Town's contribution to stream impairment that are readily apparent. Determining the many pollution sources and their impacts is going to take time and scientific examination to actually identify the appropriate fixes. Faster is better but action without a clear plan is a waste of time and money.

4. Governance/ Inclusivity:

- How can a higher degree of collaboration be encouraged among factional interests?

Assure that all segments of the community feel empowered to bring issues to the council and the community at large for discussion.

- What are the roles, advantages, and projects that should be address through public/private partnerships?

Public/Private partnerships in areas such as parking, employee housing and community amenities may lead to more financially viable projects with wider appeal.

- What can be done to expand community involvement in decisions for Vail's future?

Continue to provide the maximum transparency on all issues and truly welcome public comments, suggestions and dissent from every segment of the community.

- Should efforts be taken to increase voter participation in TOV elections, such as with the use of mail balloting?

In 2011 76% of the ballots cast were mail-in/early voter while 23% voted at the polls. In 2013 only 42% of the ballots cast were mail-in/early voter and 58% were cast at the polls. I'm not sure the electors have shown a preference. Let's ask them. I'm open to a mail-in-ballot system that the County is now using. The potential loss of the social aspect of voting in person at the polls (especially in municipal elections) is something that many voters will miss. If you don't vote, it's a choice you make. With early voting the TOV currently encourages convenient voting options for everyone.

- Does there need to be more transparency in Vail governance?

Of all the municipal governments I've worked with over the years, Vail is probably the most open and transparent. Can we do better? Absolutely.

5. Community Accessibility:

- How should air accessibility to the Eagle County Airport be financed?

A dedicated funding source would benefit the entire County. That means an additional tax of some kind (property or sales). It should be the responsibility of the Eagle Air Alliance to bring a proposal to the county's voters.

6. Summary of desired Council Agenda priorities:

Complete planning for the Chamonix Employee Housing project and initiate construction.

Begin Master Planning for the West Vail Commercial area.

Commence a Land Use Plan and Master Plan review and update for West Vail residential areas addressing outdated zoning and development requirements and regulations.

Mentor a new generation of leaders to take Vail into the future.

7. Please provide a brief biography: Education, employment, organization, qualifications, etc..

I'm a graduate of UCLA. I moved to Vail in 1978 for a job with the Vail Police Department. I retired in 2014 after a forty year law enforcement career, the last 22 years with the local District Attorney's Office.

My civic involvement over the past 25 years is extensive. In the past I have served on the Vail Housing Authority, the Vail Local Licensing Authority (the Liquor Board), the Vail Economic Advisory Council and twice on the Vail Planning and Environmental commission (currently serving).

I served two four-year terms on the Vail Town Council (2001-2005 and 2007-2011), four years as mayor (2007-2011).

While on the Town Council I represented Vail on the executive board of the Northwest Colorado Council of Governments (8 years) and the executive board of the Colorado Association of Ski Towns (CAST) for four years. I also served four years on the ECO Transit Board.

Since 1996 I have served as a member of the ECO/Eagle Valley Trails Committee, seventeen of those years as chairman (my current position). I also served on the Eagle County Open Space Advisory Committee.

I am currently the President of the Minturn Cemetery District where I have served the past three years. Since 2012 I have served on the Vail Valley Medical Center Board.