



Letters to Vail

VAIL HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION

August 10, 2023

Vail Town Council Electioneering underway.

Four seats are open in the fall Town Council election. Several individuals have expressed interest in running for Council and have begun to let their position be known. Circulation of council candidate petitions is underway, ending on August 28th. [Access to TOV election information and schedule.](#)

Vail, from its beginnings, has successfully designed and developed the community to be in harmony with its natural surroundings. Advances have been made under the current Council to balance wildlife protection with all development projects including work force housing needs. Responses to climate change are modifying practices for management of resources and essential services.

A prerequisite to public service should include a commitment to pursue the recently adopted Town of Vail Stewardship strategies and plans. Stewardship strategies provide for an analysis of carrying capacities necessary to balance the key factors shaping the community's future. The formulation of carrying capacities to be evaluated is a work in progress.

Disparities between cost and affordability throughout the community continue to widen. Business dealings involving government contracts, have come under greater scrutiny. Stewardship guidelines call for transparency in competitive bidding and high standards of ethical conduct. Enhancement of competitive bidding practices has revealed conditions warranting the downsizing or delay of certain government infrastructure projects.

Similarly, large private development projects are encountering delays caused by continuing anti-inflationary increases in borrowing costs. Locally, even with zoning incentives, a pullback in speculative development is predicted as the inventory of available properties continues to rise in value.

Overcrowding from tourism, which has adversely affected the Vail experience and lifestyle in recent years, may be lessening as global travel is being restored. Methods to limit tourism are taking hold in Europe further bolstering related discussions locally.

Winter sports towns are watching and emulating Vail's evolution as a resort and community. It has put the ski industry on edge and in a combative mood.

The decisiveness conveyed in voter and community sentiment strengthen negotiating positions. VHA recommends maximizing voter participation through mail-in balloting.

VHA's role over the course of the election as voiced in its communications intends to stimulate discussion of important issues and to provide insight into the candidates qualifications and perspectives. VHA is hosting a series of interviews and mentoring sessions with candidates and community leaders. Contact VHA for times and locations.

VHA provides clear and concise discussions of matters affecting the Vail community in the belief that an informed citizenry will be an engaged citizenry. Our intent is to promote more citizen involvement and community discussions of issues facing the Town. If these are issues that concerns you, please make your views known to candidates and [town officials](#). By joining with VHA, as a member, paid-subscriber or reader, you can add your voice to sustain what is good about our community and to shine a spotlight on important issues.

To receive VHA letters and reports as a Reader, Paid-Subscriber or Member.

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