

1. Quality of the Vail Experience:

- As Vail reaches peak capacity, what needs to be done to maintain the quality of the Vail lifestyle?
- What is the probability of the Vail experience becoming too commoditized; for quantity to overtake quality?
- What has to happen so that consumers and residents are still receiving premium level experiences?

In order to maintain a high quality Vail lifestyle it is paramount that the Vail Town Council partner with residents, businesses and nonprofits to refine the shared vision and goals for what it means to be a high quality mountain resort community. Maintaining a sense of community amongst all residents, prioritizing the health of our natural environment, maintaining high quality community parks and facilities, and providing ease of access to facilities throughout Vail Village and Lionshead are all important to preserving the high quality experience that our long-time residents and returning destination visitors have come to expect.

There is always a probability that the Vail experience could become too commoditized. People live in Vail and visit Vail because they want to experience the outdoor mountain lifestyle. They also want quality experiences within Vail Village and Lionshead Village. This includes providing unique quality stores, restaurants, entertainment, arts, athletic and learning experiences that are welcoming, friendly, authentic, meaningful and fun. Visitors want to connect with friends and family in the outdoors. Whether its skiing, hiking, biking or playing golf or other activities, providing high quality outdoor experiences is the core of what Vail is known for and will continue to be the key to our long-term success. While it is essential we maintain our economic vitality and provide consumers with the amenities, products and experiences that draw people here and into the Villages and onto the mountain, I don't believe we need to sacrifice quality for quantity.

In order to ensure that consumers and residents alike continue to receive premium level experiences we need to prioritize a sense of community pride and engagement to work together toward this common goal. No one truly wants to diminish the quality of the Vail experience but there are varying perceptions and opinions as to what this means and looks like.

2. Congestion:

- What can be done to reduce traffic congestion on the community's roadways?
- Is congestion creating public safety and other growth related issues that are being left unresolved?
- Should there be more/less parking on Frontage Road?
- Are the increases in street events and their impact upon available public parking adding to or diluting the Vail experience?

There is no silver bullet to reduce traffic congestion but there are a variety of ways this challenge can be tackled. A multi-pronged approach would include more regional collaboration to improve public transportation options, park-and-ride areas throughout the valley so down-valley residents and employees also have better access and experiences, and increasing year-round pedestrian and bicycle access. For example, the addition of two new pedestrian overpasses across I-70 at key locations could ease up congestion, improve safety and provide a higher quality of experience simply getting around town to the day-to-day facilities that are currently disconnected due to the highway.

There are currently public safety issues related to traffic that need to be resolved quickly. First, there

should be immediate safety measures put in place during periods of parking along the Frontage Road. There are a variety of actions that can be taken including signage, assistance, and placing restrictions near high volume traffic and areas. A list of proposed actions was presented to the Vail Council during the October 6, 2015 Council meeting and many of these can be implemented for the 2015-2016 winter season. Second, speed limits within our neighborhoods need to be re-evaluated, in some cases reduced, and always strictly enforced. As population density increases in our community neighborhoods it is imperative to ensure the year-round safety of residents and visitors alike.

Parking along the Frontage Roads should not increase. There may be a designated number of high use days when the Frontage Road can support access to skiing and events but we should not look to the Frontage Road as a long-term solution. Parking along the Frontage Roads is inconvenient for everyone and it is currently not safe. A long-term, multi-phased parking plan would include the above solutions in addition to building new parking spaces through public-private partnerships as existing buildings and facilities are redeveloped.

Street events can be attractors that support Vail businesses and in many cases, help build a sense of community in the core of Vail. At the same time, as more and more people park on the Frontage Road and as some events may become over-commercialized, the Vail experience can become diluted. As we move forward we must be vigilant to strike a good balance, offering high quality attractive events that are in keeping with our mountain environment and that don't encumber visitors or locals due to overcrowding.

3. Environment:

- Is the Vail experience being degraded by water, noise and visual pollution?
- What can be done to reduce noise pollution from I-70?
- Are the plans for the Gore Creek clean-up adequate or does more need to be done and at a faster pace?

The original Vail experience is being degraded. With growth and urbanization come increasing pressures on the natural environment. Gore Creek has been listed as "impaired" and there is increasing noise from a greater number of trucks traveling I-70.

In order to reduce noise pollution from I-70 we'll need to continue working closely with CDOT to ensure surface paving is not lending to the problem. We should also build two new wide pedestrian overpasses that include open space for wildlife movement as well as paths for walkers and bikers. Such overpasses have been implemented in other places. This could help dampen the noise in select places, support wildlife and create a more walk-able and bike-able sustainable and connected community.

In order to stay on track to get Gore Creek off of the "impaired" status more should be done at a faster pace. It will likely take the next ten years to this. We'll need to work closely with homeowners, businesses, contractors, CDOT, and others to ensure a shared vision and commitment to protecting Gore Creek into the future.

4. Governance/ Inclusivity:

- How can a higher degree of collaboration be encouraged among factional interests?
- What are the roles, advantages, and projects that should be addressed through public/private partnerships?
- What can be done to expand community involvement in decisions for Vail's future?
- Should efforts be taken to increase voter participation in TOV elections, such as with the use of mail balloting?

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

A higher degree of collaboration can be encouraged by making “collaboration” one of Vail’s core guiding principles and values. Opportunities for constructive dialogue can be facilitated more often with diverse voices represented, and people of all ages can be given training and coaching, as needed, to improve listening communication skills. In order to address complex and contentious issues together, we must be willing to set aside judgments and assumptions, strive to be respectful of one another, and work efficiently and effectively toward consensus.

Public-private partnerships can help our community accomplish more together. There are already great examples of facilities that have been funded by generous and visionary people in our community. This should continue. Vail will need to become better at creating compelling visions for new facilities and be open to sharing in the “ownership” and responsibility of facilities. The long-overdue proposed center for arts and education would serve community members, visitors, and businesses while creating a sense of community and economic vitality. A great example might be the Jackson Hole Center for the Arts in the heart of Jackson, WY.

This example facility serves both local community members and destination visitors and generates year-round economic development opportunities for local businesses that are consistent with the town’s culture and long term interests. The Town of Vail and private partners and philanthropists can do this kind of project together to ensure long-term success with thorough business planning and endowed funding for core programming and operations.

In order to expand community involvement Vail should continue to create opportunities for meaningful social engagement, community dialogue, learning, and accomplishing goals together. The availability of peoples’ time for participation will always be an issue, many people who live here fulltime, work full time and many part-time residents travel often, and all residents have many activities and responsibilities to keep them busy. We should creatively ask people how they would like to be involved and develop new opportunities for community engagement. Perhaps a town committee and/or staff person that is dedicated to community engagement and participation should be considered if this is to be a successful high priority. At a minimum, community members should be encouraged to attend Town Council meetings, other committee meetings, and continue and build upon town-sponsored events such as summer picnics in the parks and the annual “state of the town” gathering.

As people become increasingly mobile options for voting will become more and more important. Voting with mail ballots should be seriously considered in addition to on-going initiatives to engage residents to become more involved in the issues that impact them and the future of their community. Building a deeper sense of community and caring responsibility for our community is paramount. Voting by mail ballot won’t help if, in the end, the people who live here and can vote here stop caring.

Vail can do a better job with transparency with regular public announcements about participatory processes and timelines for projects and participation. People who live in the community must become dedicated to paying attention to regularly scheduled town news and prioritize attendance at opportunities for participation.

5. Community Accessibility:

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

All communities, municipalities, businesses, and residents of Eagle County will benefit with long-term sustainable air travel accessibility. Financing for the airport and reliable flights must be ensured by participation

across all beneficiaries. I will need to learn more about how other rural resort communities have found success in financing air travel to their destination in order for me to make a more specific recommendation for longterm sustainable success. I applaud the ongoing efforts of the organizations and businesses who are working on this issue.

6. Summary of desired Council Agenda priorities:

a) *Commitment to Community*: I will prioritize housing for local young professionals and families in order to maintain sense of community and sense of place for future generations while ensuring an engaged community and professional workforce.

b) *Vision for Sustainable Tourism*: I will support small businesses and sustain high quality visitor experiences; I will work to develop innovative programs and events incorporating arts, education and the outdoors; I will continue to promote and celebrate Vail's unique mountain culture and outdoor access; I will partner with businesses, nonprofits and homeowners to create a shared vision for success.

c) *Dedication to Collaborative Leadership*: I will listen to and respect all community voices while seeking win-win solutions; I will strive to create public processes that are inclusive, proactive and transparent; I have two decades of experience creating award-winning public-private partnerships for communities, the environment, and education.

d) *Proactive Environmental Stewardship*: I will prioritize restoring Gore Creek's water quality and fish populations working proactively with homeowners, government agencies, and solution-oriented partners; I will support projects that provide safe wildlife movement corridors and maintain high quality habitat; I will seek to increase energy conservation and recycling to reduce pollution and protect the climate.

e) *Solutions for Parking and Housing*: I will help create immediate safety solutions when Frontage Road parking is needed; I will help develop a phased plan to solve long-term parking challenges through public private partnerships, regional collaboration, park-and-ride, improved public transportation and trails; I will seek and support proactive community planning and partnerships to develop high quality local housing opportunities for young professionals and families who work in and participate in the community.

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

Kim currently serves as the Vice President and the Director of Sustainability and Stewardship Programs at Walking Mountains Science Center in Avon, CO. Kim is the founder and first Executive Director of Walking Mountains Science Center. She has been involved in environmental sustainability, collaborative conservation, place-based education, and nonprofit leadership projects in the Vail Valley since the early 1990s. Kim has also worked as the first Colorado Program Director for the National Forest Foundation where she oversaw the Hayman Fire Restoration Partnership to restore the Upper South Platte watershed with the US Forest Service, and other project public and private funding partners. Prior to that, Kim was the Graduate Program Director at Teton Science Schools in Jackson Hole, WY. Kim has also served on the faculty at Prescott College in Arizona in the Environmental Studies Master of Arts Program and the Sustainability Education PhD Program and she has taught courses as an Adjunct Professor at Colorado Mountain College. Kim worked for the Vail Recreation District 1991-1995 where she was the Director of the Vail Nordic and Nature Center Centers and the Outdoor Branch Supervisor with oversight of the Vail Rubber Duck Race and the Champion International Canoe and Kayak Race.

Kim served on the Environment Committee of the 1999 and 2015 World Alpine Ski Championships. She

currently serves on the boards of the Eagle River Water and Sanitation District, Walking Mountains Science Center, and Energy Smart Colorado. She is on the Community Advisory Council for Colorado Mountain College's Sustainability Studies Program, and she serves on Eagle County's Eco-Build Committee.

Kim holds a Bachelor of Science in Biology from Colorado State University, a Master of Arts in Environmental Studies from Prescott College, and a PhD in Environmental Studies from Antioch University New England. She was recently awarded the Women's Foundation of Colorado Vail Valley "WOW" (Women's Outstanding Work) Award for her dedication to providing science education for youth in the Eagle Valley. She has also been the recipient of a fellowship with the Center for Collaborative Conservation at Colorado State University and she is a graduate of the Colorado Nonprofit Leadership and Management Program. She has two decades of experience in executive-level nonprofit leadership, strategic planning, fund development, and business administration. She served on the capital campaign fundraising cabinet for Walking Mountains Science Center which led to the creation of the award-winning Tang Family Campus, and the Precourt Family Discovery Center LEED Platinum Certified environmental learning center.

Kim's grandparents moved to Vail in 1962 when they opened Vail's first ski shop and build one of the first homes on Beaver Dam Road. Kim's grandfather served on Vail's first Town Council and he helped spearhead the creation of the Vail Fire Department. Kim attended Vail Elementary School when it was located at the current Vail Medical Center. She attended Vail Mountain School. Her father owned Charlie's Gondola Ski Shop in Lionshead where Kim worked during school holidays during the 80s and 90s. Kim lives in Intermountain with her husband Peter Casabonne who has owned and operated the general contracting business Casabonne Enterprises, Inc. in Vail since 1989.