

# VAIL HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION

April 19, 2022

## TOV Community Meeting Notice: Commercial and Residential Sustainability

TOV Sustainability goals: The next step in the Vail community's sustainability discussion is being conducted by the Economic Development office of the Town of Vail. This is the first known opportunity for the public to have an exchange with government officials about adjusting tourism levels to match the carrying capacities of the community's services and facilities.

The Vail Homeowners Association is a long-standing advocate of balancing economic and environmental resources. VHA believes that Vail residential property owners should have the opportunity of access and be acknowledged and heard in full at public sustainability discussions.

The TOV, however, has yet to announce whether these sessions will be available live on Zoom and Channel 5 Public Access Television. It is important that the proceedings be accessible by the public, as the outcome will play a significant factor in guiding public policy with respect to equitably balancing the effects of tourism upon the community's commercial and residential interests. Non-resident property owners and traveling residents should be given the opportunity to express their views to those in attendance at these meetings.

Residential property owners are urged to attend these meetings and speak out on issues of crowding, public improvements, services and amenities. Participants should be specific and to the point.

Roundtable discussions will be held from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, April 27, and repeated from 12 to 2 p.m. Thursday, April 28. Both sessions will be held at Donovan Pavilion.

The TOV has been criticized for conducting its scoping sessions in a manner that favors the participation and position of special interest. During the course of the pandemic, the TOV has demonstrated that it has the media capability and technology to give the public the ability to have electronic access so that they may fully participate in public meetings. These media advancements should be used in the discussion and formulation of the community's sustainability goals and priorities.

Meeting formats for sustainability scoping sessions need to be accessible to all those who desire and make the effort to participate. Those who show up to the meetings are helping shape the decisions. Additional scoping sessions should be hosted on a variety of important topics including: environmental preservation, infrastructure, services and amenities.

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VHA provides clear and concise discussions of matters affecting the Vail community in the belief that an informed citizenry will be an engaged citizenry. We intend to promote more citizen involvement and community discussions of issues facing the Town. If these are issues that concern you, please make your views known to [town officials](#). Public discussion of current issues by concerned citizens creates an environment for VHA to further community initiatives. We heartily encourage your input in shaping the road ahead.

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Join VHA as a Paid-Subscriber or Member. Contact:

[vailhomeownersassoc@gmail.com](mailto:vailhomeownersassoc@gmail.com)

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Town of Vail 041222 Notice follows:

## Vail Invites Community Members to Share Priorities during April Visioning Sessions that will Launch Destination Stewardship Plan

*Aim is to advance sustainability goals, while building economy in step with local priorities*

The first in a series of community visioning workshops will take place later this month, kicking off a year-long planning process to create a Destination Stewardship Plan for Vail. The 'Steward Vail' roundtable discussions will be held from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, April 27, and repeated from 12 to 2 p.m. Thursday, April 28. Both sessions will be held at Donovan Pavilion, and light snacks will be provided.

Full- and part-time residents, business stakeholders, employees, nonprofits, governmental bodies, public land managers and others who care about Vail's future are encouraged to attend. Reservations are now being taken as space is limited. Attendees are asked to register no later than 5 p.m. Monday, April 25.

### **Please register by 5 p.m. Monday, April 25**

Visioning Session: 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, April 27

Visioning Session: 12 to 2 p.m. Thursday, April 28

Steward Vail project manager Mia Vlaar, the town's economic development director, says the April workshops will gather feedback and secure ideas for increasing benefits and minimizing impacts of tourism to optimize the value of Vail's top economic driver. For instance, discussion topics will include ways Vail could attract visitors who value sustainability and are inclined to protect community resources including the natural environment and built infrastructure. "We really want to hear from everyone who cares about Vail," said Vlaar. "These sessions provide a unique opportunity to join with a variety of members of the Vail community to explore what's important and bring it to the fore to inform the development of the plan."

The April sessions will be followed by two additional rounds of workshops. Discussions on Tuesday, June 28, and Wednesday, June 29, will center on sharing feedback to initial findings. Workshops on Wednesday, Oct. 19, and Thursday, Oct. 20, will give participants a chance to share thoughts on the plan's draft recommendations.

The goal of Steward Vail is to create a 10-year vision and management plan that will advance Vail's sustainability goals in step with local priorities while building Vail's tourism economy. Specifically, the town is seeking ways to attract visitors who will support and respect the destination, while encouraging more equitable access to all that Vail offers.

The plan is being facilitated by a consultant team representing three leading tourism organizations - Better Destinations, based in Denver, MMGY NextFactor of Vancouver, and the Travel Foundation, an international NGO focused on improving impacts of tourism. For additional details about Steward Vail, visit [engagevail.com/stewardship](http://engagevail.com/stewardship) or contact Vlaar at 970-479-2452 or [mvlaar@vailgov.com](mailto:mvlaar@vailgov.com).