



Today's Agenda

Need for Update and Planning Process

Overview of 2018 OLP Update

PEC Review

Key Discussion Points

Need for Update and Planning Process

'94 Open Lands Plan

Environmentally Sensitive Lands



Town lands/Use of lands



Trails



Need for Update and Planning Process

Research and analysis
Scoping Sessions
Community Meetings (2)
Trails Small Group Meetings
Trails Workshop
Technical Advisors
Draft Plan
Wildlife Forum
PEC Review (6)

Overview of 2018 Update

Environmentally Sensitive Lands

- 16 parcels for acquisition or protection
- Study use of conservation easements and Expanded use of DOS

Town-Owned Lands and Use of Lands

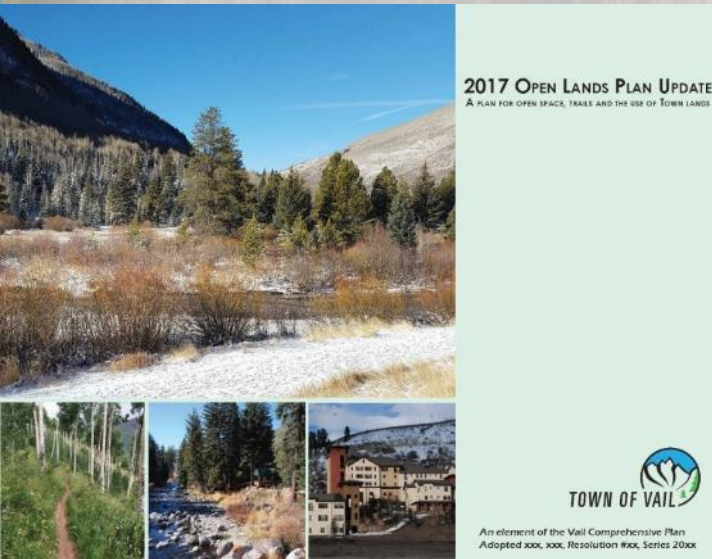
- Town-owned lands/future needs
- 4 potential parcels for acquisition
- Management of Town-owned lands

Trails

- 12 new trail “ideas”
- Wildlife considerations/initial steps
- Process for further study
- Management of USFS trails/trailheads
- Educational and outreach programs

Action Plan/Implementation Steps

- 28 Action Items
- 19 Implementation steps



Environmentally Sensitive Lands



Sensitive Lands

- Riparian areas
- Wetlands
- Geologic hazards
 - Rockfall
 - Debris flow
 - Avalanche
 - Floodplain
- Steep slopes
- Wildlife
- Neighborhood buffers

Environmentally Sensitive Lands

'94 Plan

- Protection of lands was top priority of Plan
- 30 of 51 Action Items for acquisition/protection
- Use of DOS process or conservation easements

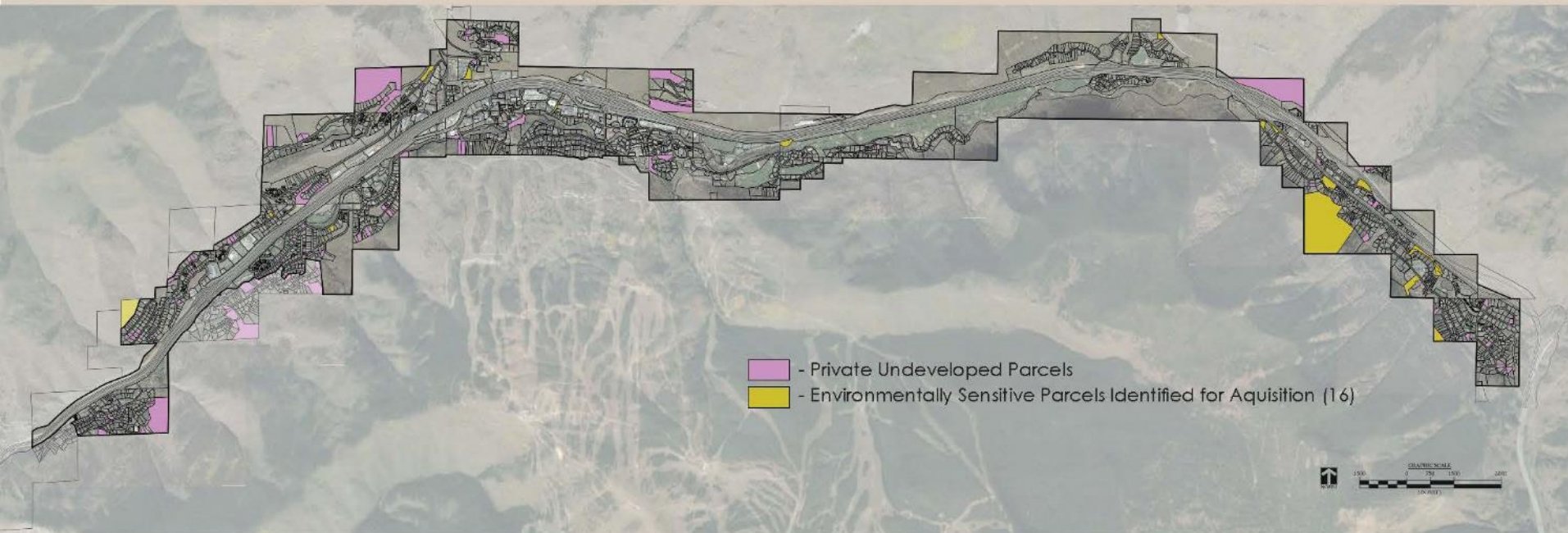
What we heard

- Protection of lands was top priority
- Stronger protection of lands

What we did

- Inventoried lands
- ID'ed 16 parcels

Environmentally Sensitive Lands



**PRIVATELY-OWNED LANDS/PARCELS FOR
ACQUISITION AND PROTECTION PLAN**

Approach to 106 Private/Undeveloped Lands

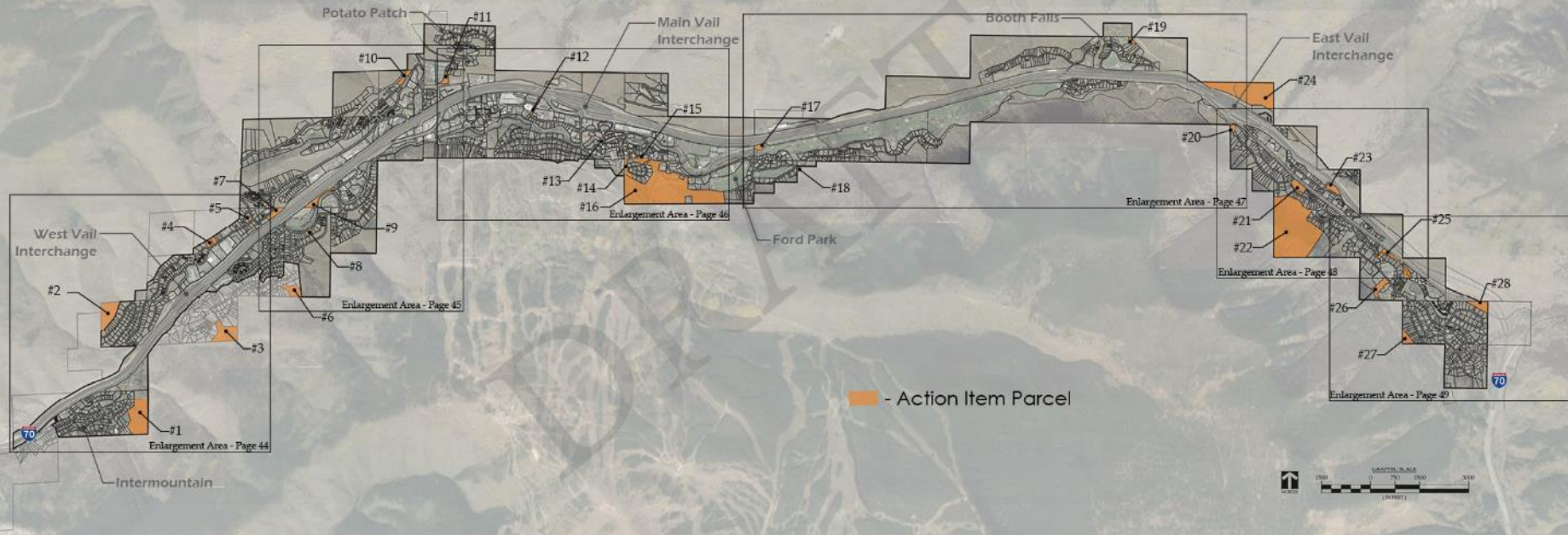
Isolated, low density lots

Water course parcels

Other env sensitive parcels

'94 Action Plan

Environmentally Sensitive Lands



ACTION ITEMS

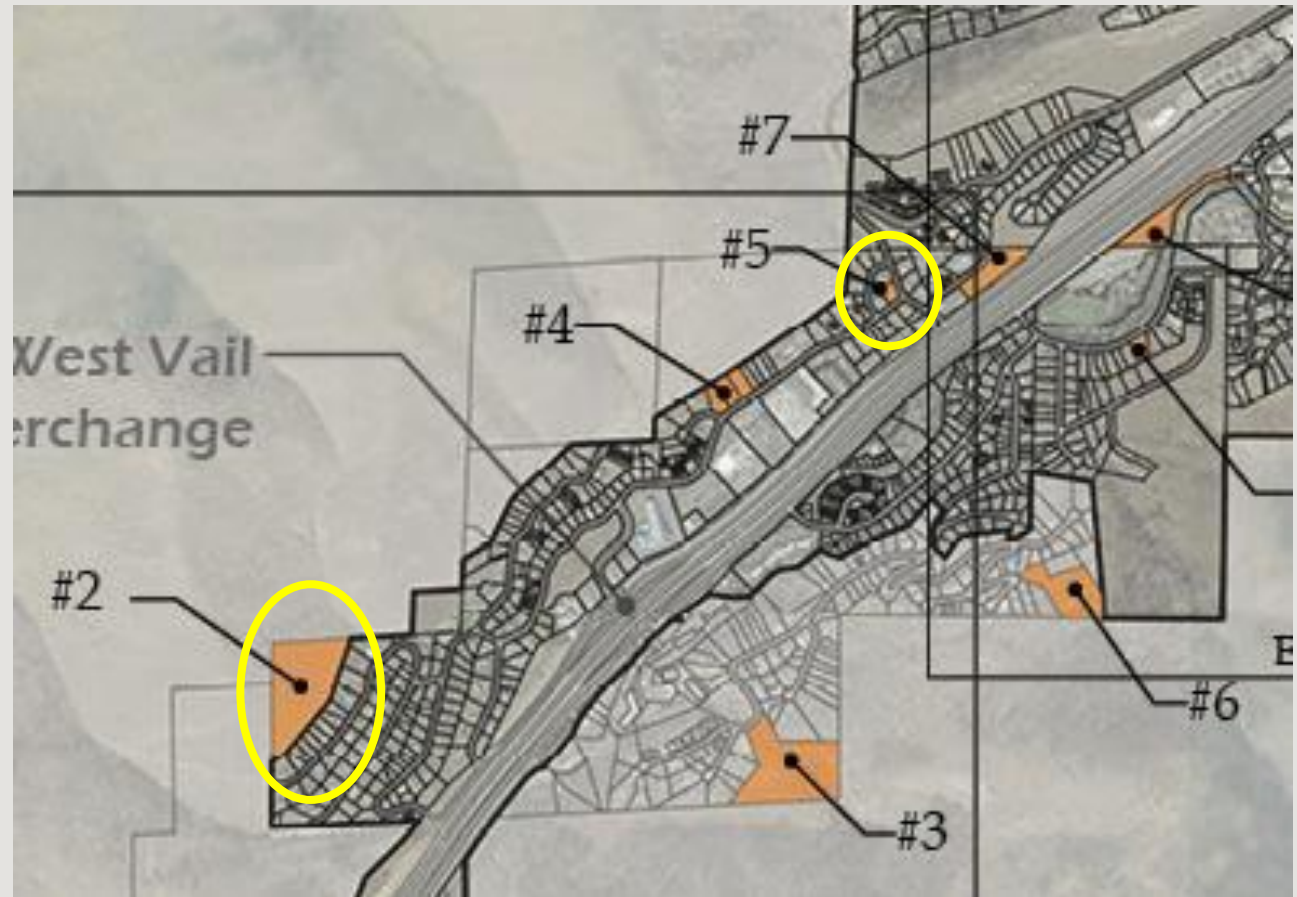
2017 Open Lands Plan - Update

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Chapter 5 - Action Plan

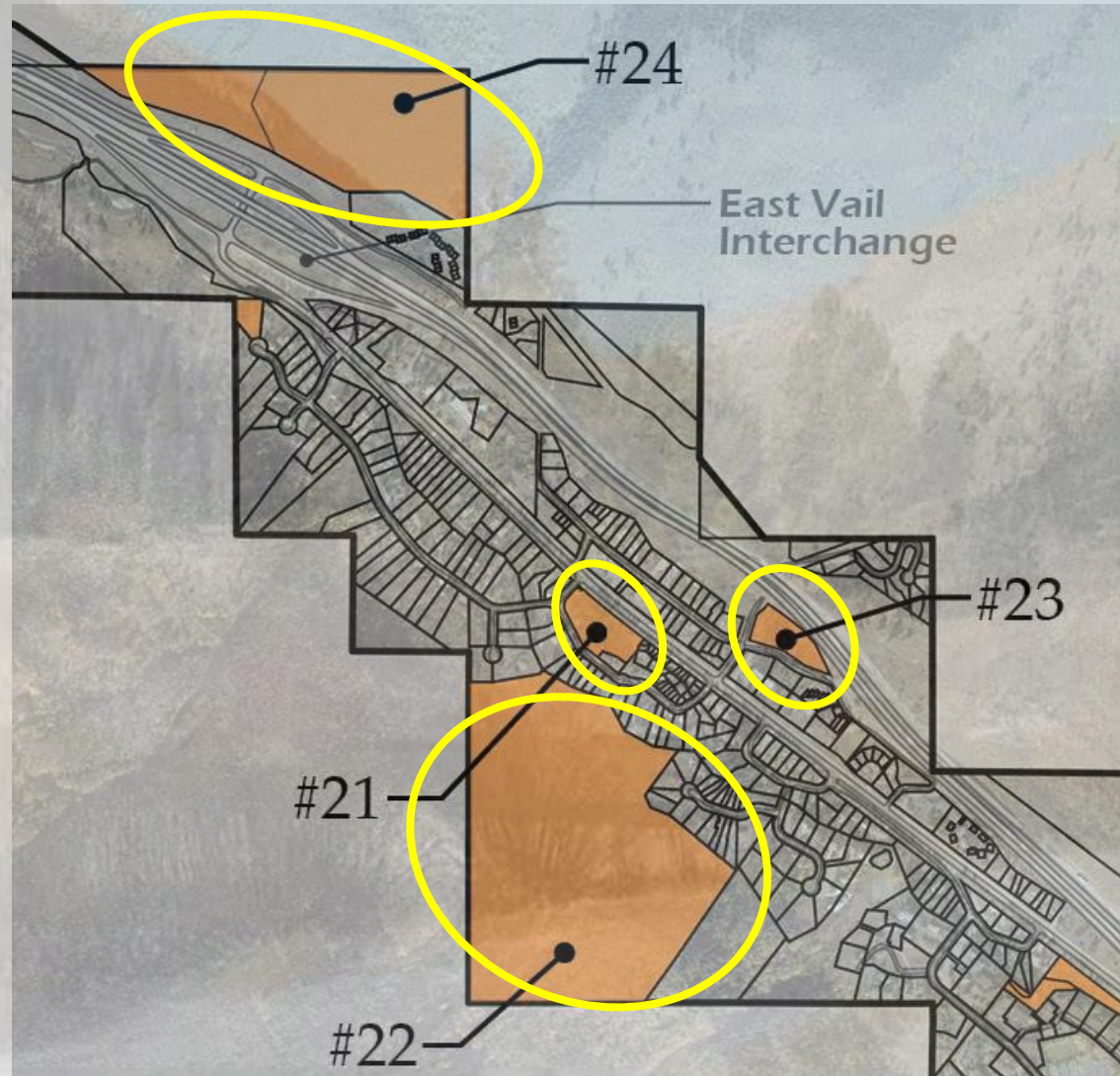
Environmentally Sensitive Lands

Examples of Action Plan Items



Environmentally Sensitive Lands

Examples of Action Plan Items



Environmentally Sensitive Lands

Protection of Lands

'94 Plan:

Conservation Easements

Designated Open Space

- Town-owned lands (57 parcels are designated)
- Eligibility:
 - Zoned NAP, OR or AOS
 - Either sensitive lands, hazard area or park/passive rec
- Open Space Board of Trustees
- $\frac{3}{4}$'s vote of Council to designate
- $\frac{3}{4}$'s vote of Council and voter approval to change

Environmentally Sensitive Lands

2018 Update/ Protection of Lands

Recommends Task Force to evaluate:

- **Designated Open Space**
- **Use of Conservation Easements on Town lands**



Town Lands

'94 Plan

- ID'ed 6 town needs
- Recommended uses for 8 Town-owned parcels
- ID'ed privately-owned parcels to acquire

What we heard

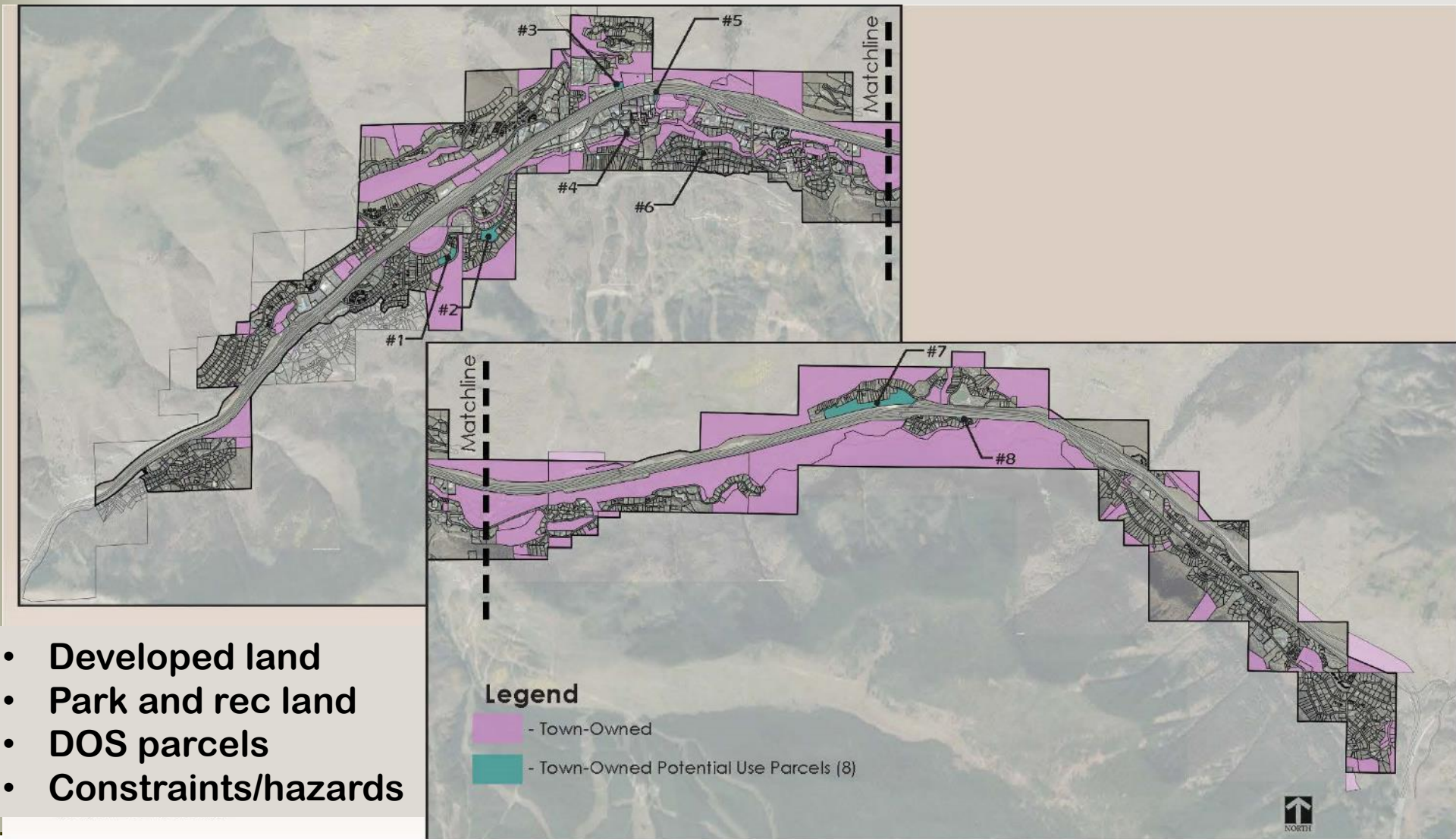
- Mixed opinions on use of town land and housing
- Protection of sensitive lands most important

What we did

- Evaluated town-lands
- Evaluated privately-owned lands

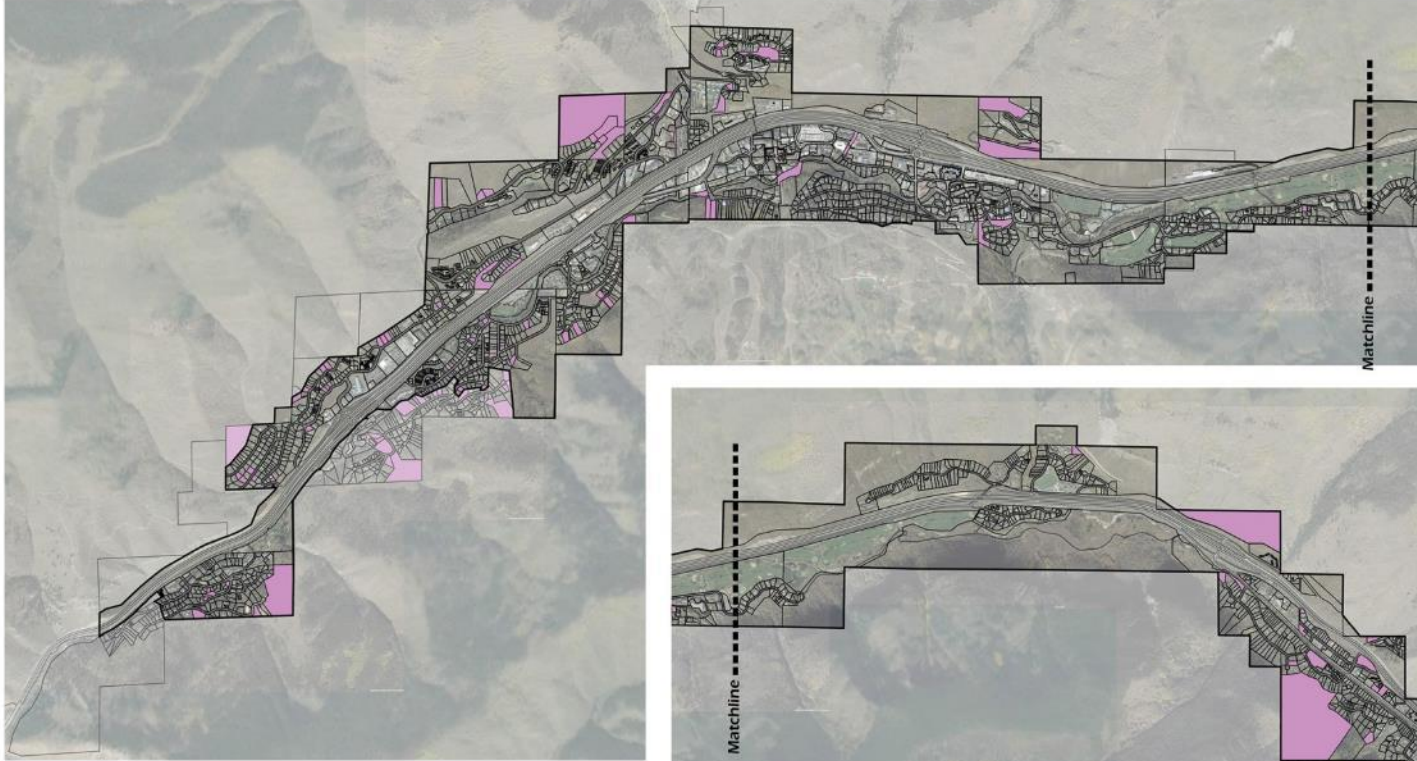
Town Lands

Evaluation of 161 Town-Owned Parcels



Town Lands

Evaluation of 106 Privately-Owned Parcels



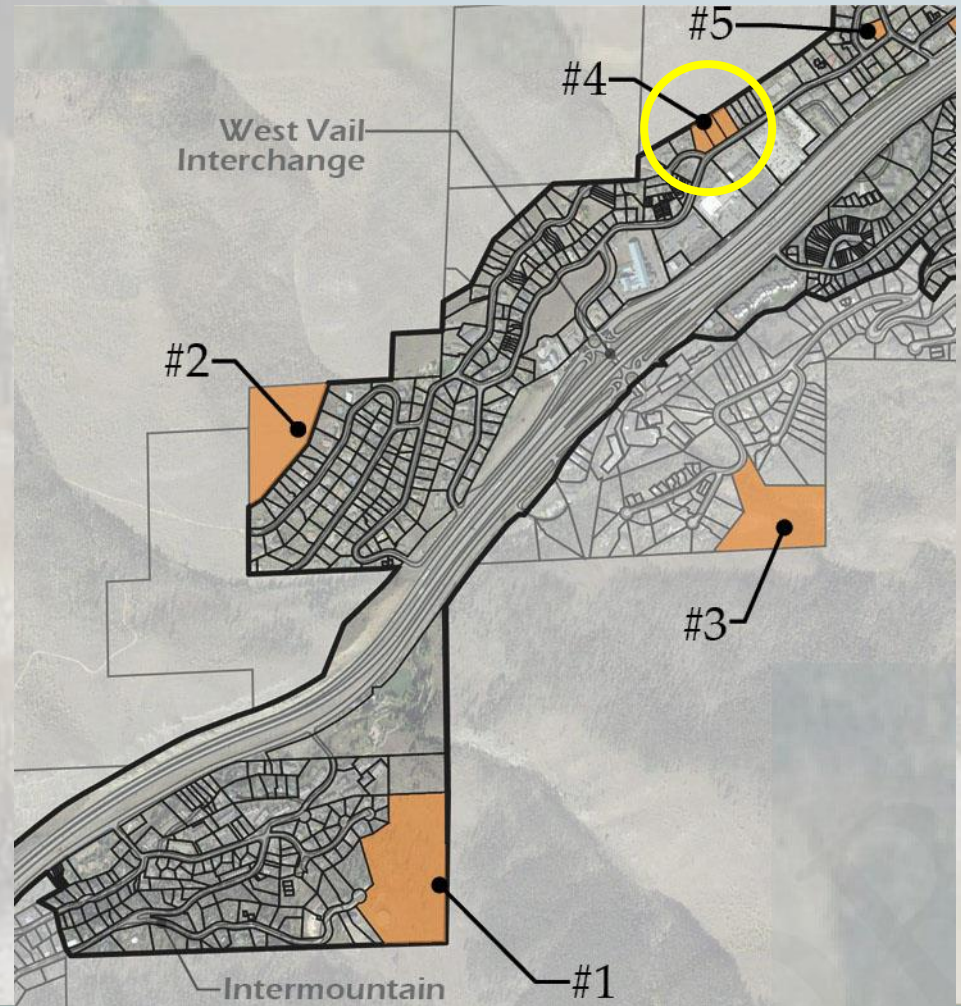
- Isolated/low density lots
- Location/context/Size
- Zoning

PRIVATE UNDEVELOPED PARCELS

Town Lands

Action Plan Items

#4 – Chamonix Parcels



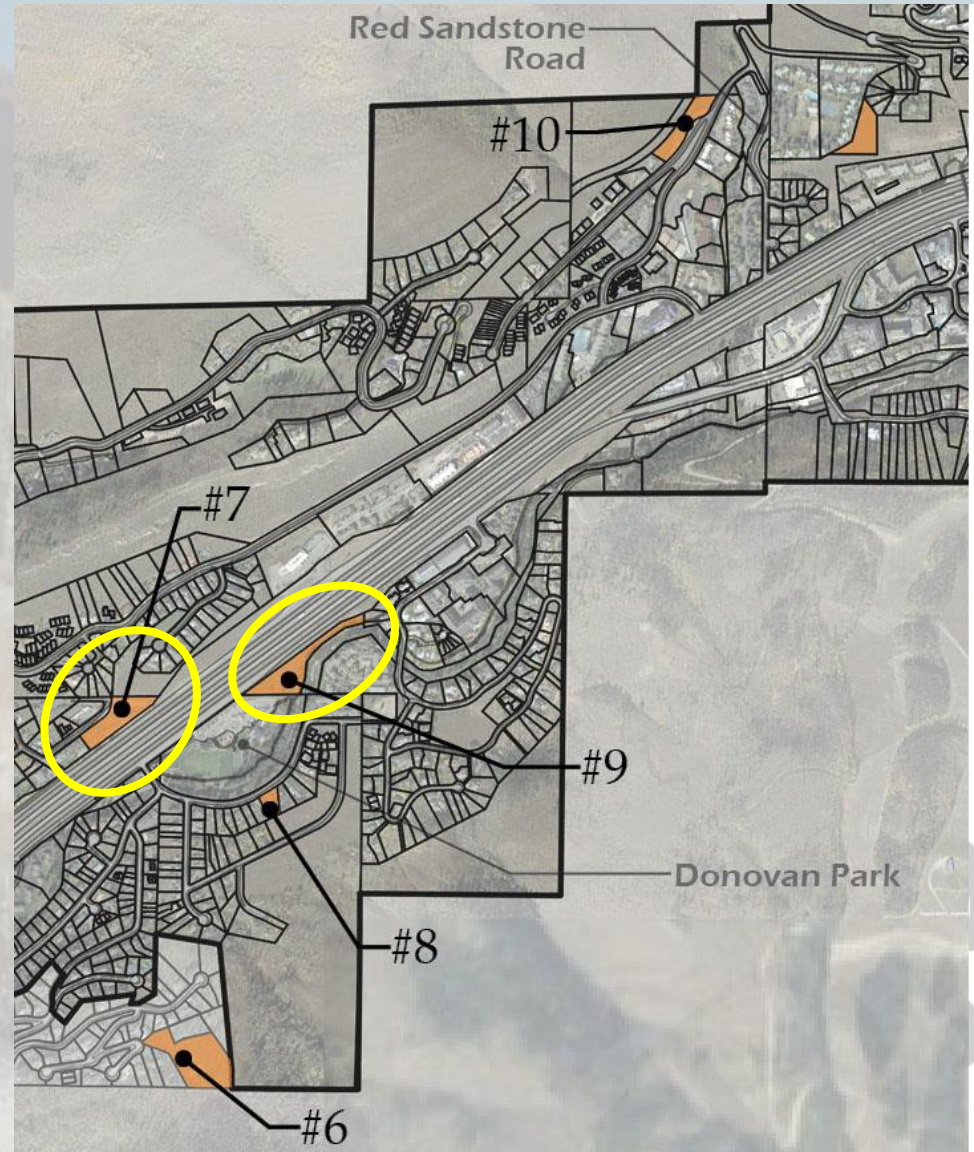
Town Lands

Action Plan Items

#7 – Old Roost Lodge/Marriott



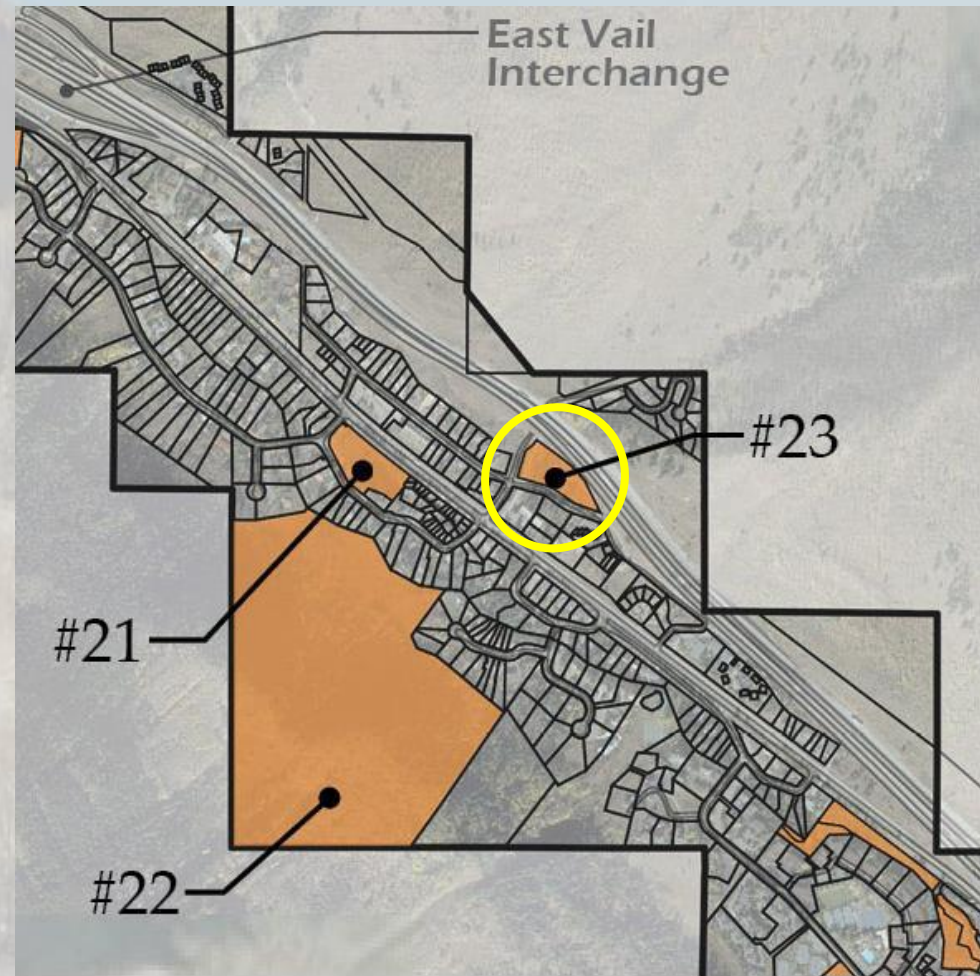
#9 – Talisa tennis courts



Town Lands

Action Plan Items

#23 – CDOT Parcel



Town Lands

2018 Update/ Implementation

- Monitor private parcels, initiate dialogue with owners
- Maintenance of Town Lands
- Managing lands for biodiversity

Trails

'94 Plan

- Recommendations for trail/trail improvements
- Very general direction

What we heard

- Interest in trails and trail improvements
- Priority – wildlife and environmental sensitivity

What we did

- ID'ed immediate actions, re: wildlife
- Conceptual plan for trail ideas
- Defined process for subsequent evaluation

Trails

“Vail can’t be all things to all people”

“Vail should be a mountain biking mecca”

“Build a loop trail around the valley for world-class connectivity”

“Make the Vail Trail hiking-only”

“We have an amazing place - let’s work with our existing trails with better signage and maintenance”

“Natural trails as Vail’s signature”

“Vail may not be a trails destination but we need a trails update to meet existing demand”

“Vail should be a place where kids can ride a bike safely”

Process

- Evaluated '94 Plan
- Community input
- Prepared initial concept plan of trail “ideas”
- SE Group
- Small group meetings
- Trails-specific workshop
- Technical advisors
- Wildlife forum

Draft Plan

- Focus on wildlife
- Initial/immediate recommendations
 - Conceptual plan for trail ideas
 - Defined process/next steps

Trails

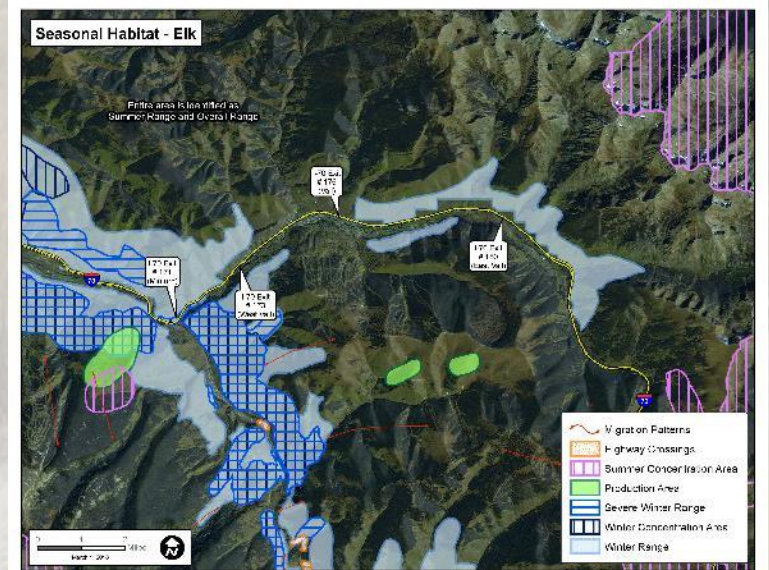
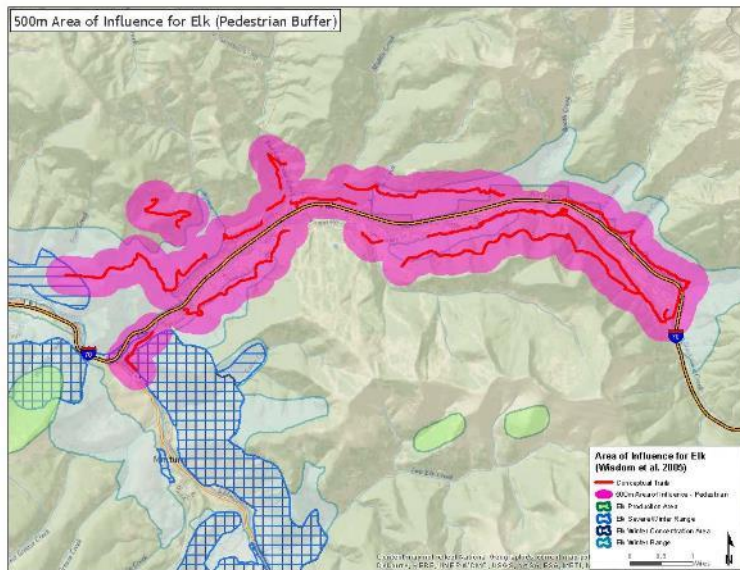
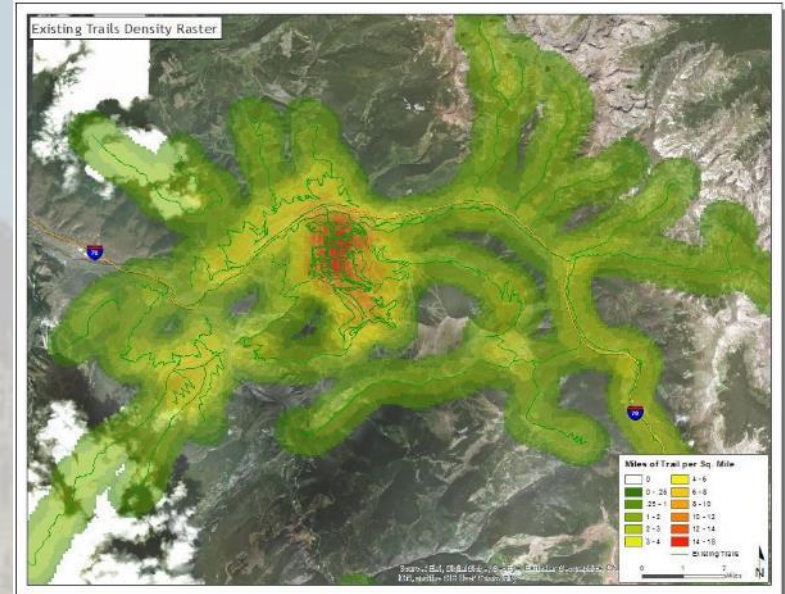
The Vision for Trails in Vail:

- System of paved and soft-surface trails safe for all users
- Sustainability/maintenance
- Respect sensitive wildlife habitat and terrain
- Variety, accessible to all user groups
- Trail connectivity
- Collaboration with others

Trails

2018 Update/ Focus on Wildlife

- Wildlife in the Gore Valley
- Wildlife and recreation trails
- Colorado Parks and Wildlife resources



Trails

2018 Update/ Immediate Recommendations

- **Define trail-free zones**
- **Public outreach/education**
- **Enforce seasonal trail closures**
- **Habitat enhancement**

Trails

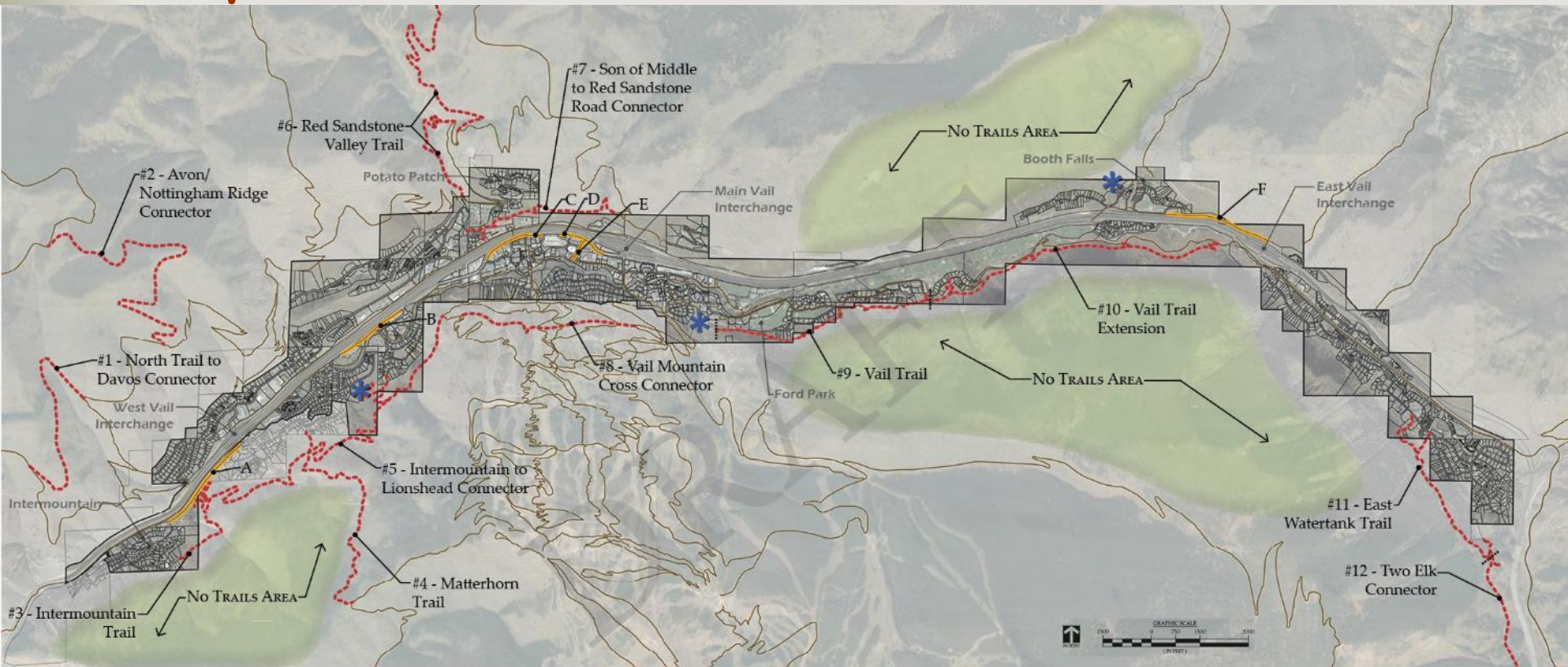
2018 Update/ Conceptual Plan of Trail Ideas

Parameters for decision-making:

- Wildlife considerations, potential for mitigation
- Safe for users, improve safety of existing trails
- Expand opportunities for user groups
- Provide neighborhood connectivity/trail linkages

Trails

2018 Update/ Conceptual Plan of Trail Ideas



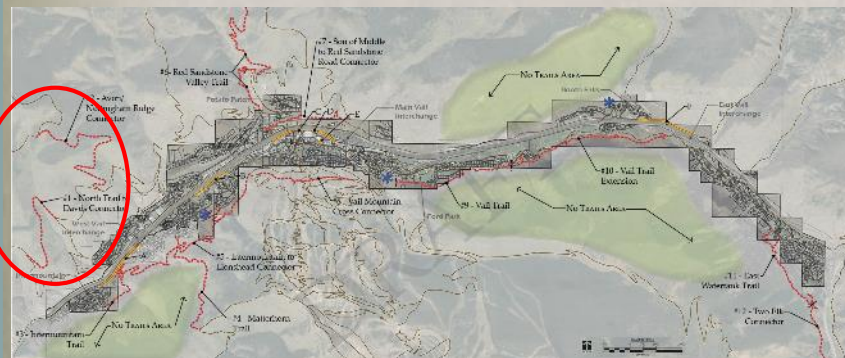
CONCEPTUAL TRAILS PLAN

Update to the
1994 Comprehensive Open Lands Plan



Trails

Trails #1 and #2



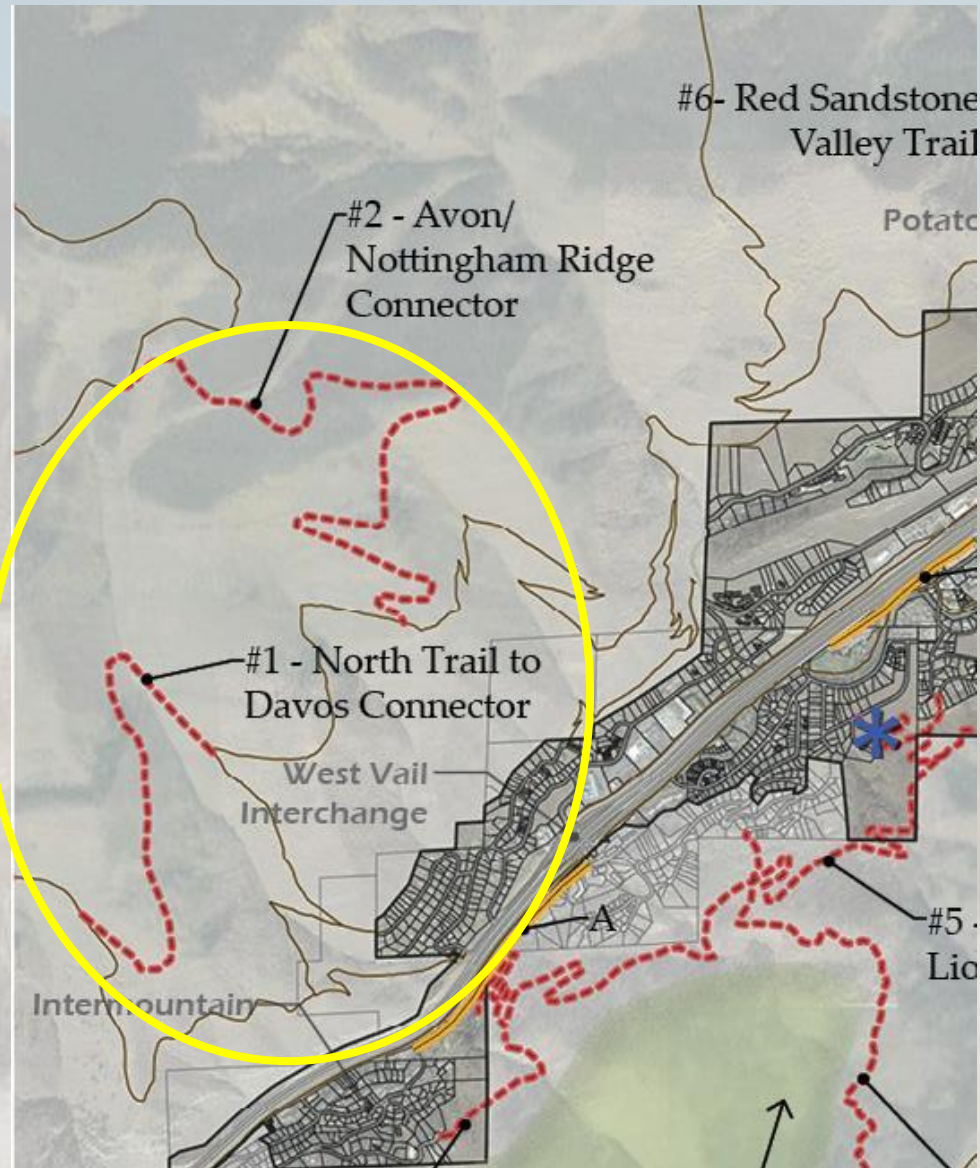
CONCEPTUAL TRAILS PLAN

2017 Open Lands Plan - Update

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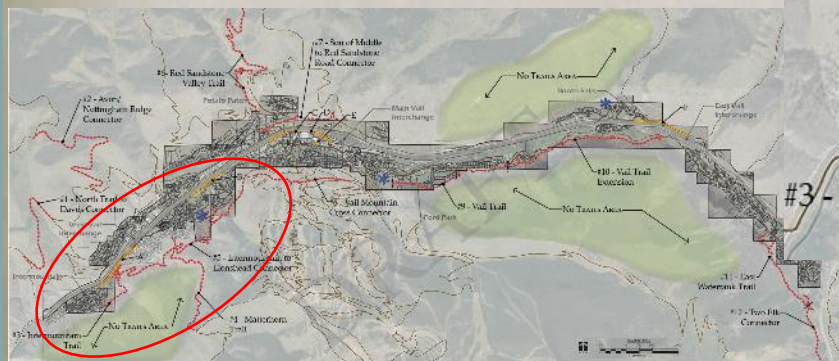
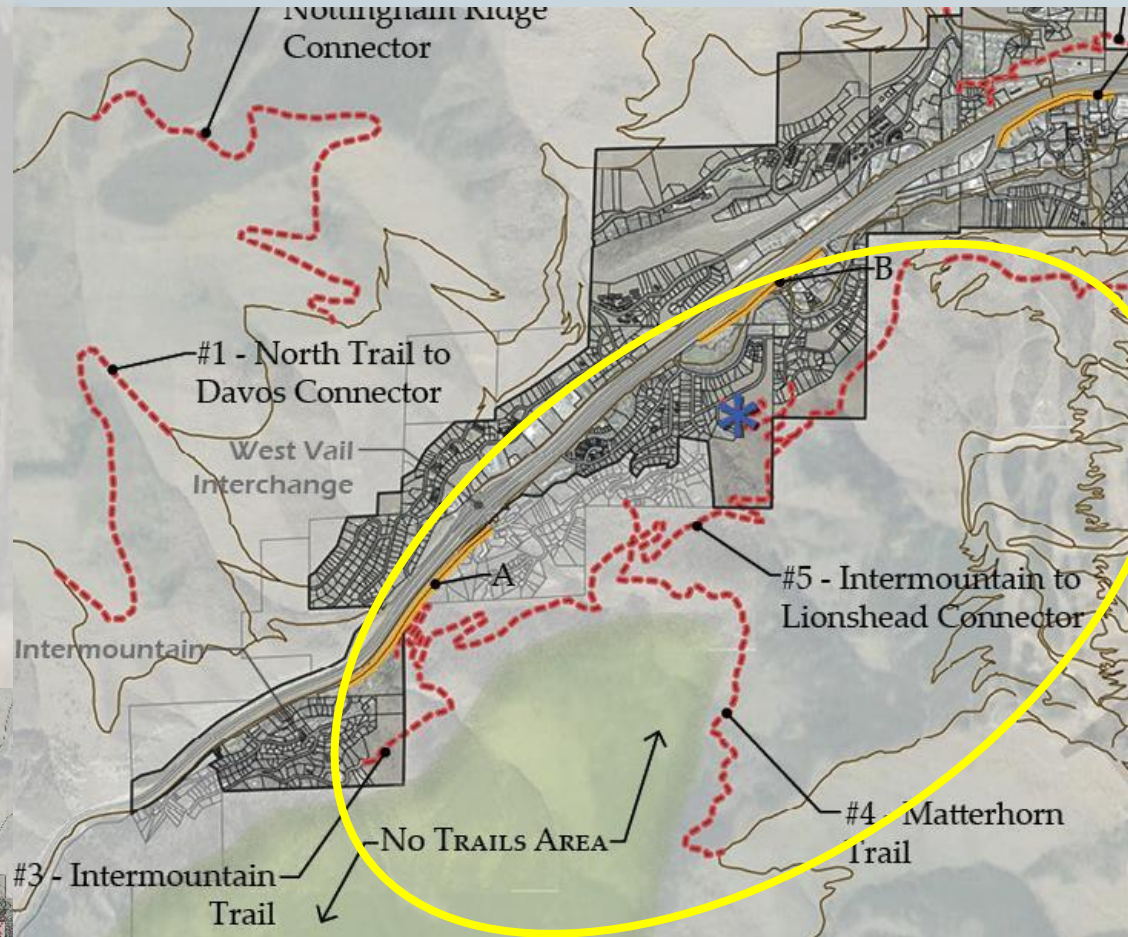
Chapter 4 - Trails

- Existing Trails
- Trail Ideas and Suggestions
- New Paved Paths
- Potential Children's Bike Facilities



Trails

Trails #3, #4 and #5



CONCEPTUAL TRAILS PLAN

2017 Open Lands Plan - Update

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Chapter 4 - Trails

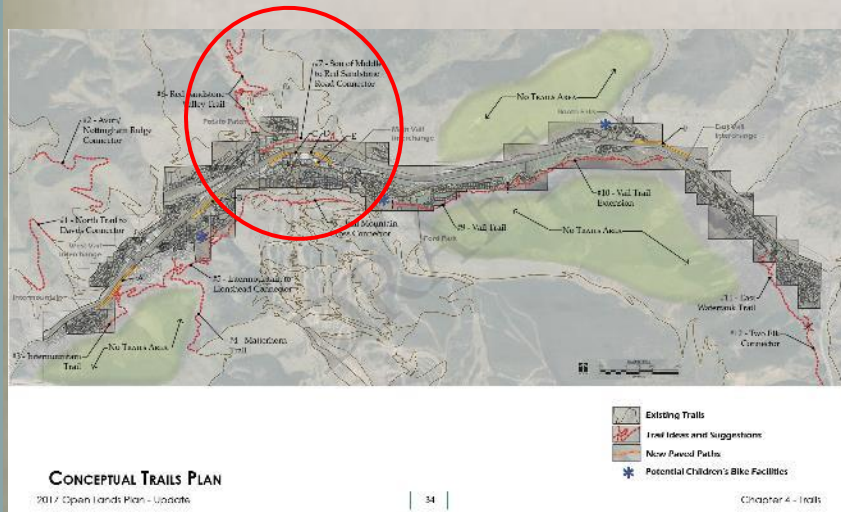
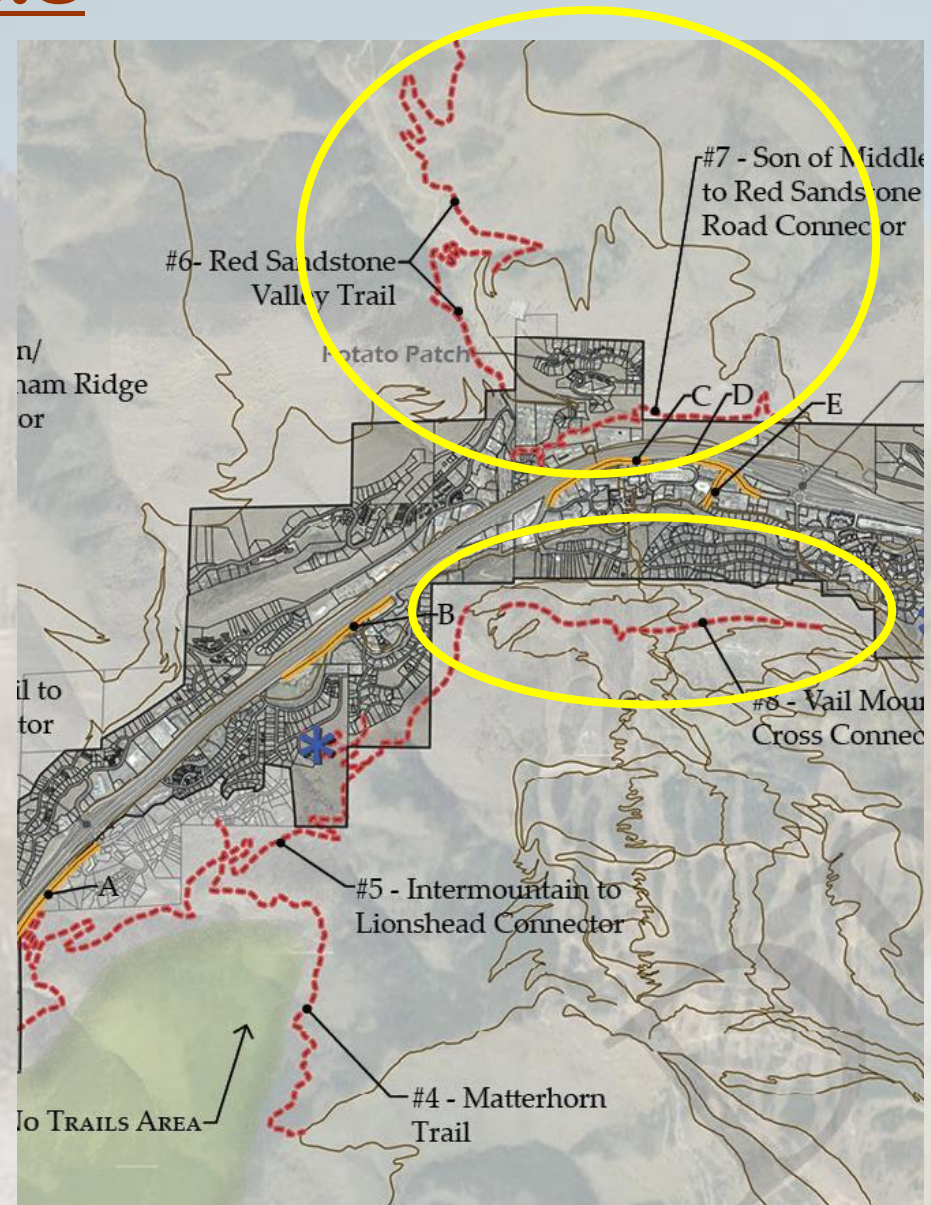


Update to the
1994 Comprehensive Open Lands Plan



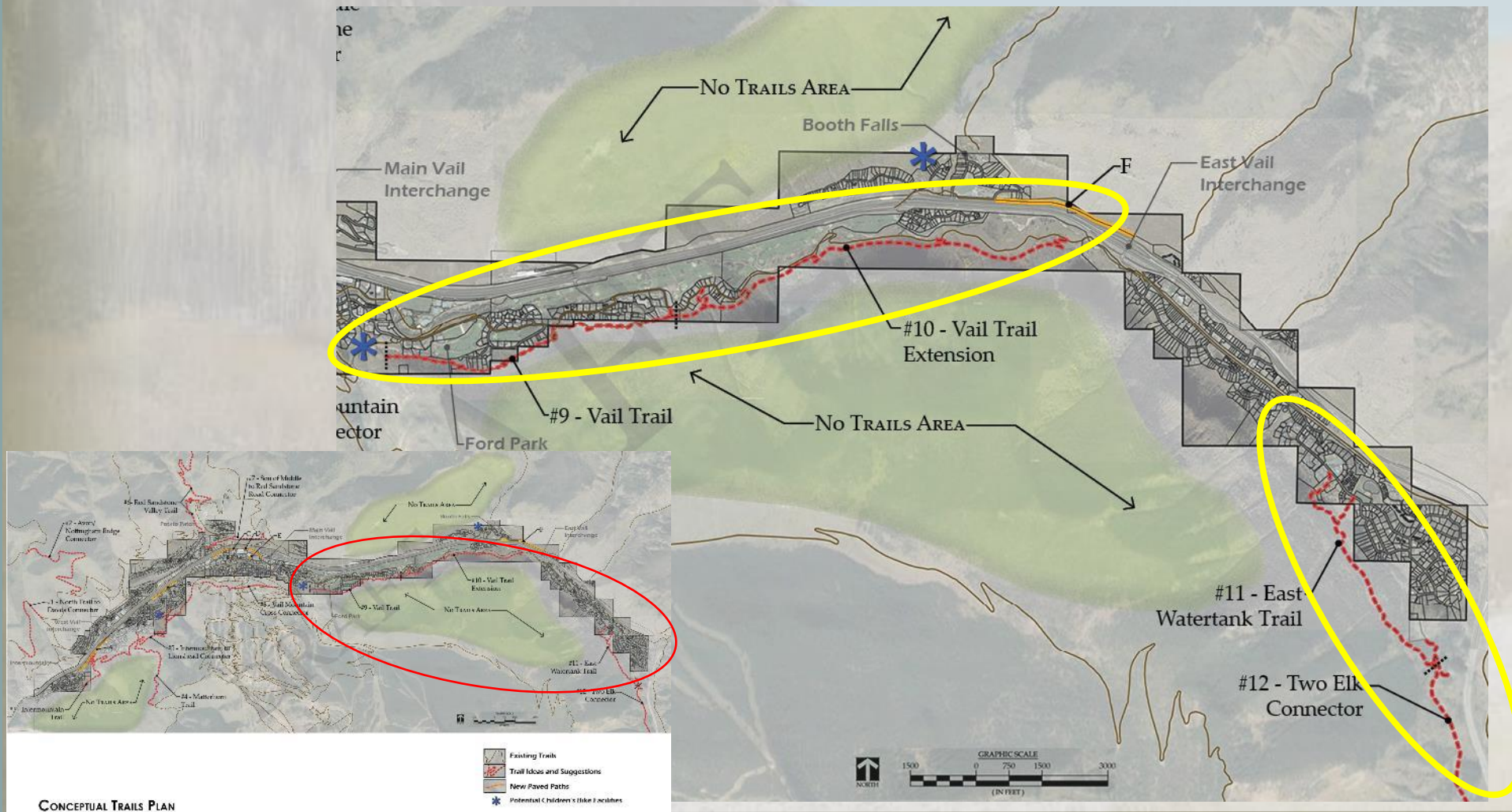
Trails

Trails #6, #7 and #8



Trails

Trails #9, #10, #11 and #12



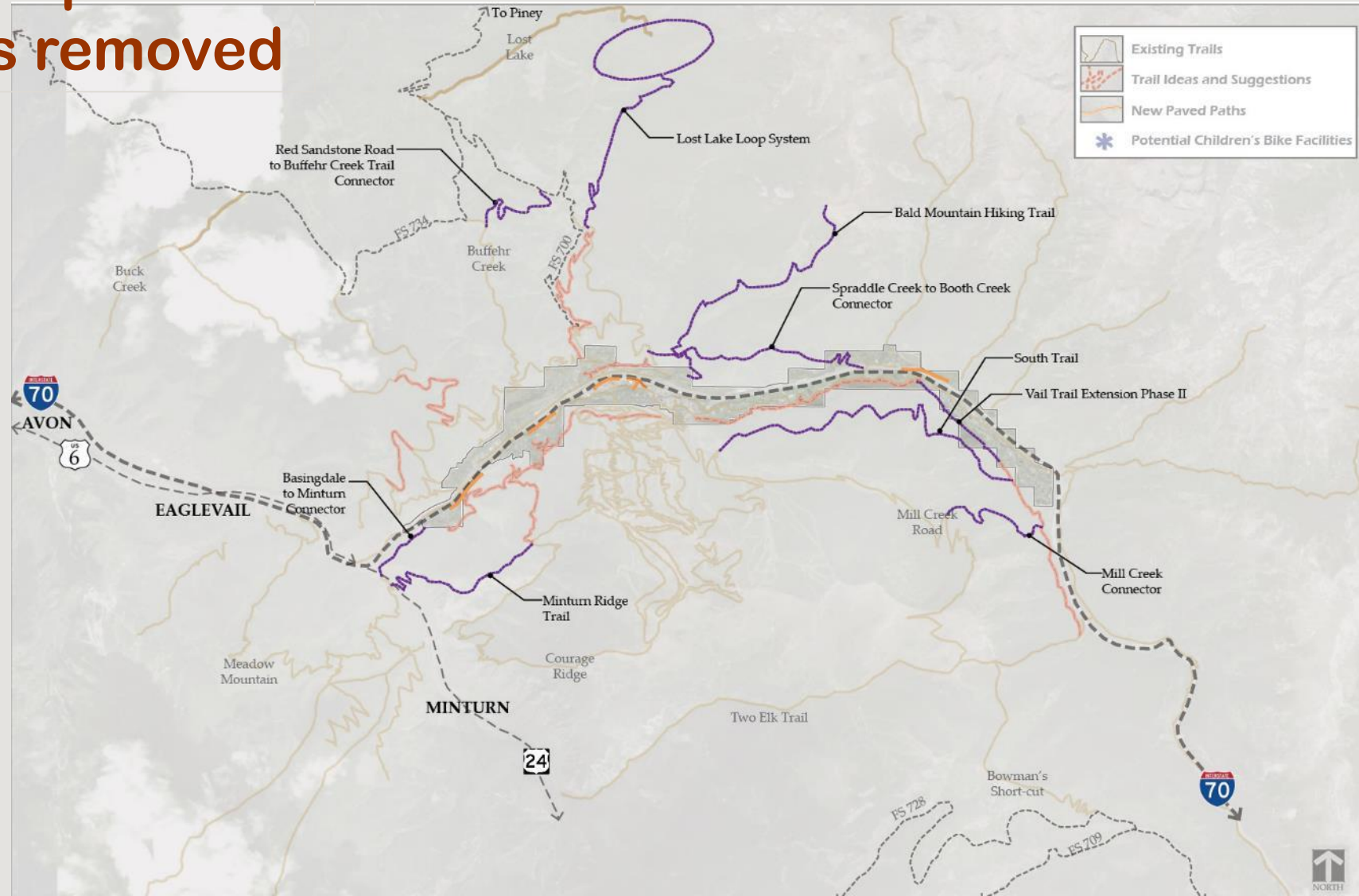
Update to the
1994 Comprehensive Open Lands Plan



BRAUN
ASSOCIATES, INC.

Trails

2018 Update/
Trails removed



Update to the
1994 Comprehensive Open Lands Plan



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ASSOCIATES, INC.

Trails

2018 Update/ Process and next steps

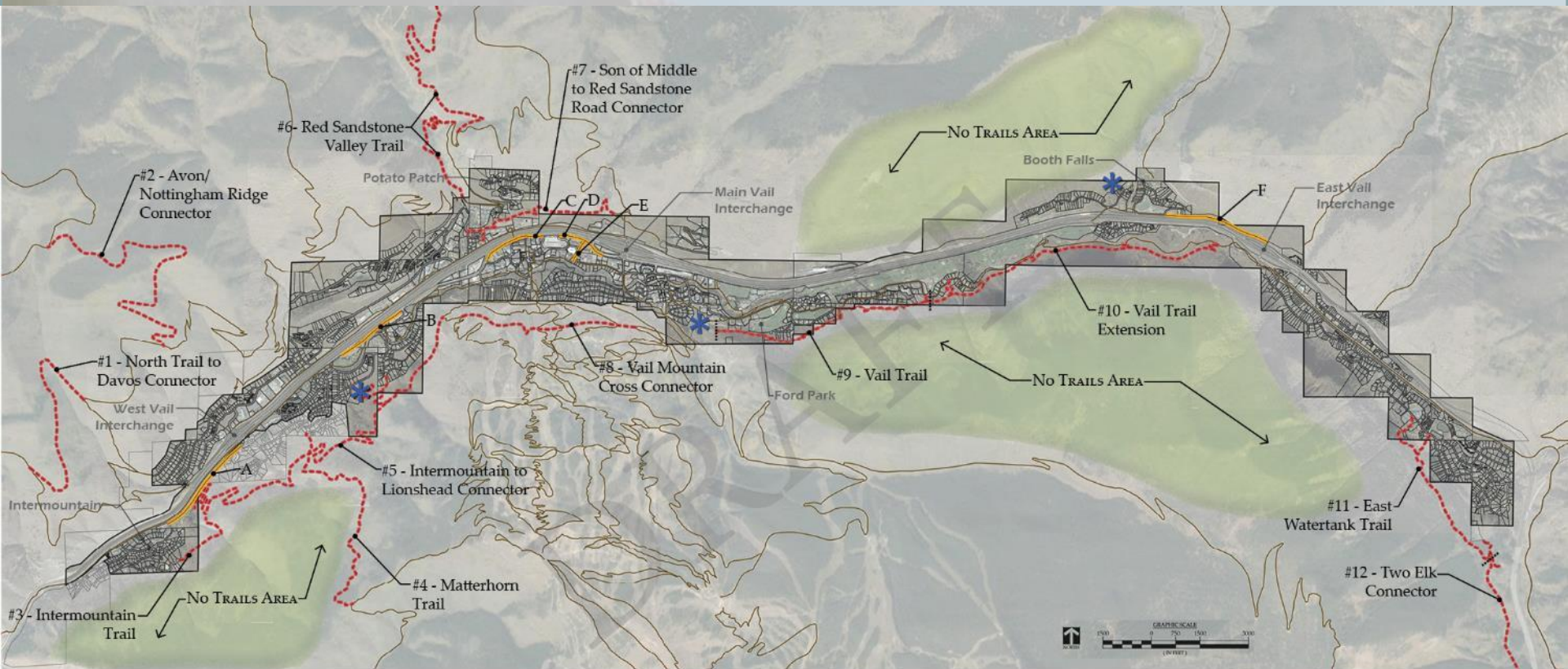
Initial Steps:

- Define trail-free zones
- Public education
- Enforce seasonal closures
- Habitat enhancement

Future Trail Development:

TC direction to initiate process
Environmental/Wildlife Analysis
Detailed Trail Planning
Cost/Benefit
Community Decisions
USFS Process/NEPA
Collaborations
Implementation

Trails



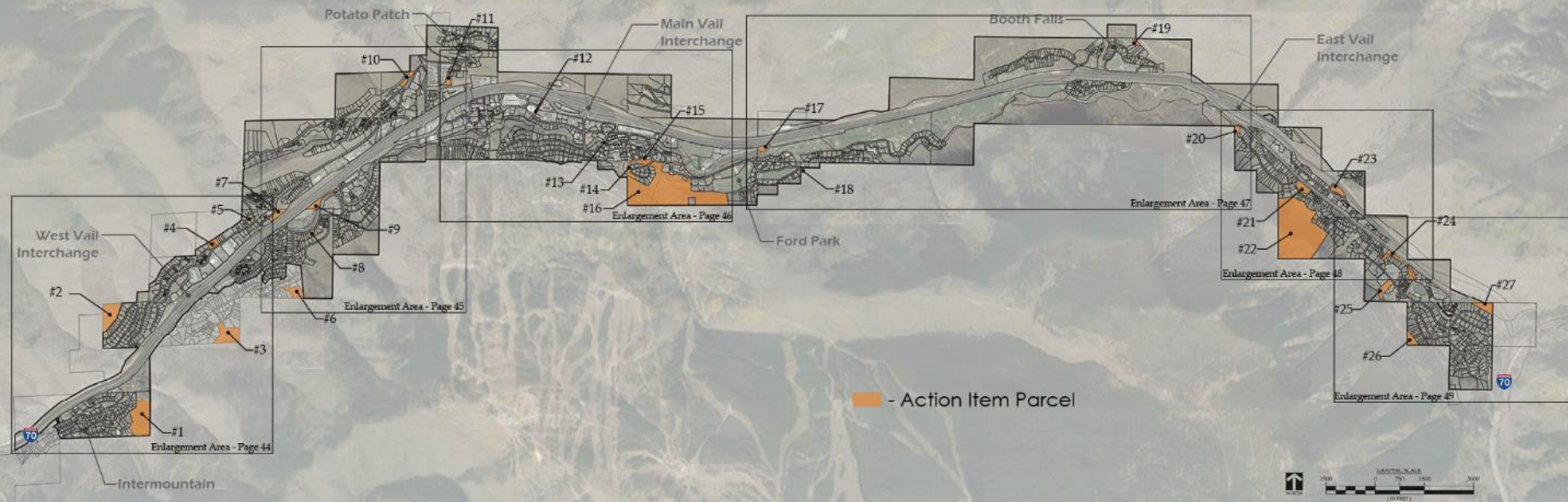
CONCEPTUAL TRAILS PLAN

2017 Open Lands Plan - Update

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Chapter 4 - Trails

Action Plan and Implementation Steps



ACTION ITEMS

2017 Open Lands Plan - Update

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Chapter 5 - Action Plan

Action Plan and Implementation Steps

SUMMARY OF RECOMMENDED IMPLEMENTATION STEPS	RESPONSIBLE PARTY	REVIEW AUTHORITY
<u>Work Program</u> - Town staff to meet annually with the Town Council to define priorities and establish a work program and budget for implementing the goals of the Open Lands Plan.	Environmental/Community Development, Public Works	Town Council
<u>Environmentally Sensitive Lands</u> <u>Designated Open Space Board of Trustees</u> - Assign members to, and reconvene, this Board.	Environmental/Community Development	Town Council
<u>Designated Open Space</u> - With assistance from a Citizens Task Force, analyze the 26 parcels that currently qualify to be Designated Open Space and make recommendations on which parcels, if any, should be considered for designated. Evaluate the Designated Open Space process to identify potential Charter amendments that could improve the effectiveness of the program.	Community Development, Public Works	Designated Open Space Board of Trustees, Town Council
<u>Conservation Easements</u> - With assistance from a Citizens Task Force, evaluate the appropriateness of establishing conservation easements on Town-owned lands and identify lands that could benefit from protection by conservation easement.	Environmental/Community Development, Public Works	Town Council
<u>Action Plan</u> - Reach out to owners of environmentally sensitive lands identified for acquisition or protection on the Action Plan, monitor the availability of such parcels.	Environmental/Community Development	
<u>Town-Owned Lands and Use of Lands</u> <u>Biodiversity</u> - Initiate a comprehensive study of lands containing important biodiversity values, such as vegetation, aquatic resources, riparian and wildlife habitat, to understand existing conditions to identify programs for the enhancement of these resources. Develop formal policies for the management of Town-owned lands for biodiversity.	Environmental/Community Development, Public Works; Consultant	PEC, Town Council
<u>Maintenance of Town-owned Lands</u> - Develop a program for maintenance of the Town's open lands, open space and trails. Identify funding requirements for such programs.	Environmental/Community Development, Public Works; Consultant	Town Council
<u>Wildfire and Safety</u> - Coordinate the efforts of Vail Fire & Emergency Services to manage vegetation to minimize the potential threat of wildfire in and around Vail with other Town management efforts.	Environmental/Community Development, Public Works, VFES	
<u>Action Plan</u> - Reach out to owners of parcels identified for acquisition on the Action Plan, monitor the availability of such parcels.	Environmental/Community Development	
<u>Trails</u> <u>Public Education</u> - Implement a public education program addressing how trail use affects wildlife, the importance of respecting trail closures, and how to be respectful and sensitive to wildlife resources when using trails.	Environmental/Community Development, Public Works, Community Information Officer	Town Council
<u>Wildlife Habitat Enhancement</u> - Work with Colorado Parks and Wildlife and the United States Forest Service to collaborate on programs to enhance wildlife habitat.	Environmental/Community Development, Public Works	Town Council
<u>Seasonal Trail Closures</u> - Work with Colorado Parks and Wildlife and the United States Forest Service to improve compliance with seasonal closures via education, enforcement and installation of gates at trailheads.	Environmental/Community Development, Public Works	
<u>Trails Plan</u> - Initiate a comprehensive trails plan process to include the evaluation and further study of trail ideas identified in this Plan and a comprehensive environmental and wildlife analysis to be used in future decision-making regarding any new trail development.	Environmental/Community Development, Public Works, Consultant	Town Council
<u>Trail-free Zones</u> - As an element of the comprehensive environmental and wildlife analysis, refine the recommended trail-free zones identified on the Conceptual Trails Plan and coordinate with the United States Forest Service on actions that could be taken to establish trail-free zones.	Environmental/Community Development, Public Works, consultant	Town Council
<u>Action Plan</u> - As may be necessary depending upon the outcome of detailed trail planning, reach out to owners of parcels identified for the acquisition of easements necessary for trail development.	Environmental/Community Development	
<u>Collaborations</u> - As may be appropriate, coordinate with other organizations such as Vail Resorts and Eagle County on the planning and evaluation of potential new trails.	Environmental/Community Development, Public Works, Consultant	
<u>Community Outreach</u> - Establish outreach programs targeted to both locals and visitors to provide information on trail use, trail etiquette and trail opportunities in the area.	Environmental/Community Development, Public Works, Community Information Officer	Town Council
<u>Signage and Wayfinding</u> - Evaluate existing signage, wayfinding and maps and prepare a comprehensive program for improving signage.	Environmental/Community Development, Public Works, consultant	PEC, Town Council
<u>Existing Trailheads</u> - Work with the United States Forest Service on the maintenance and management of existing trails and trailheads. Involve other stakeholders in this effort.	Environmental/Community Development, Public Works	Town Council

PEC Review

- 2 PEC updates
- 5 PEC hearings
- Unanimous recommendation for approval

Key Discussion Points

- Protection of Sensitive Lands
- Vail Resorts/East Vail Parcel
- Middle Creek Parcel
- Middle Bench of Donovan Park
- Vail Trail extension

Key Discussion Points

Protection of sensitive land



Gore Creek Corridor



Katsos



Donovan Park Upper Bench



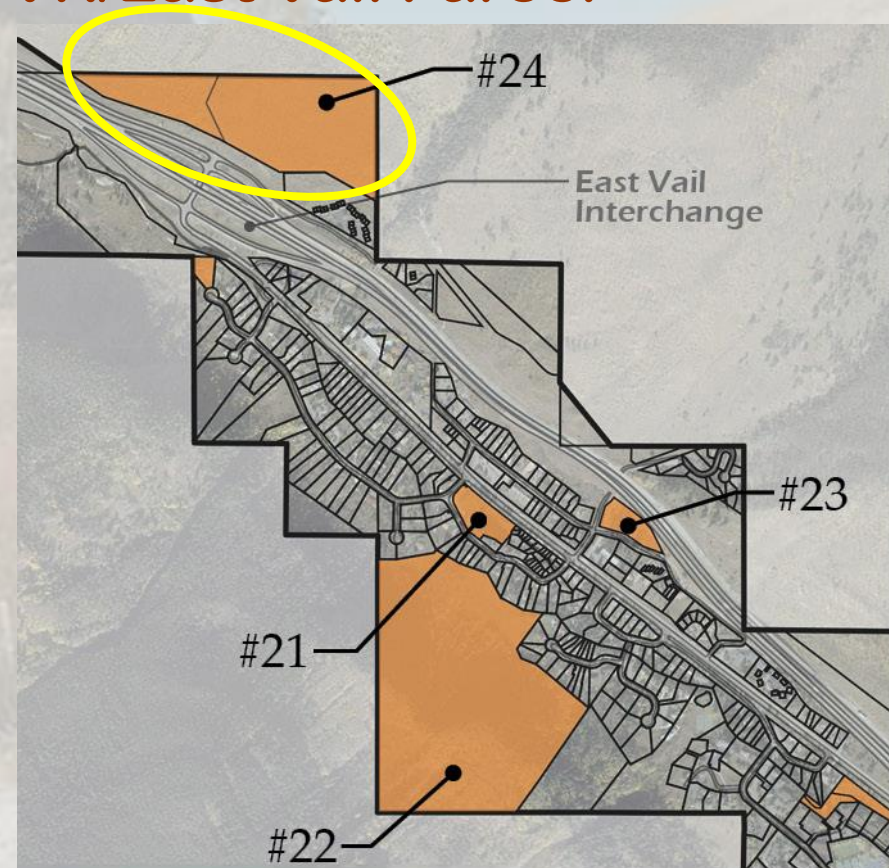
Booth Falls

Key Discussion Points

Middle Creek Parcel



VR/East Vail Parcel

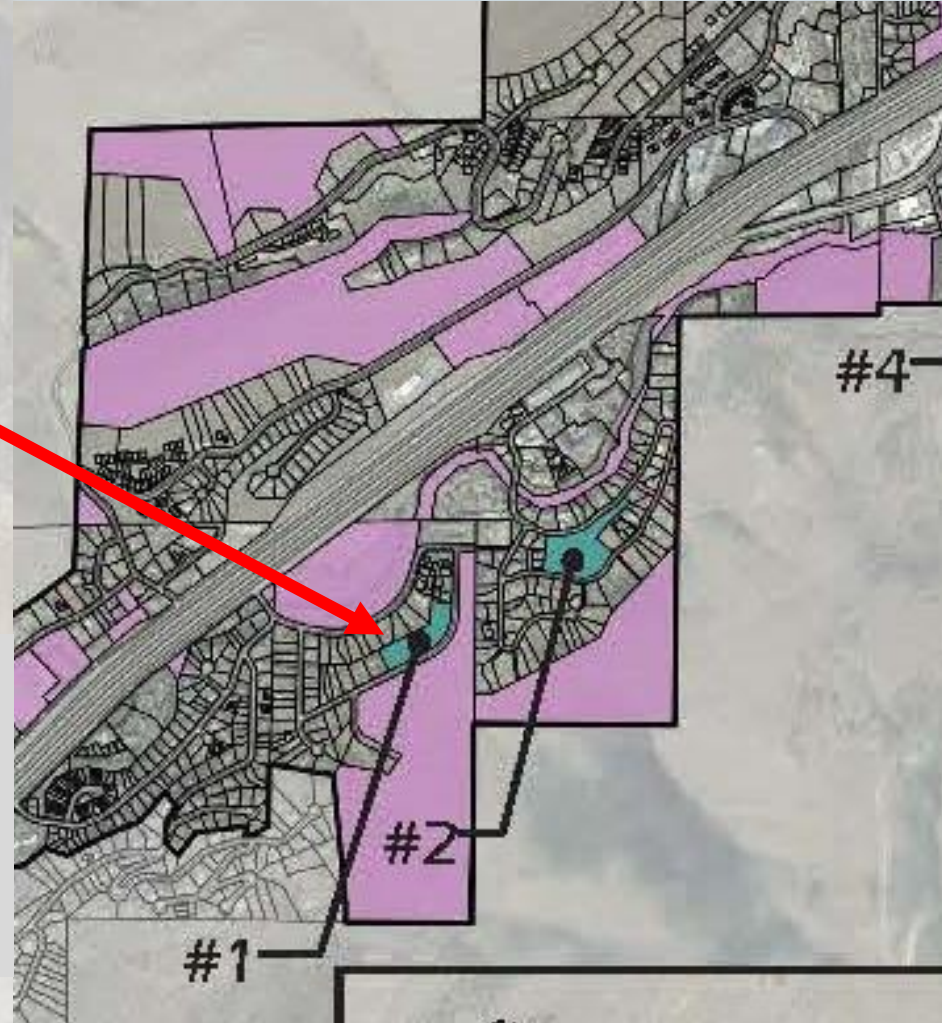


PEC Review/Key Discussion Points

Middle Bench of Donovan Park

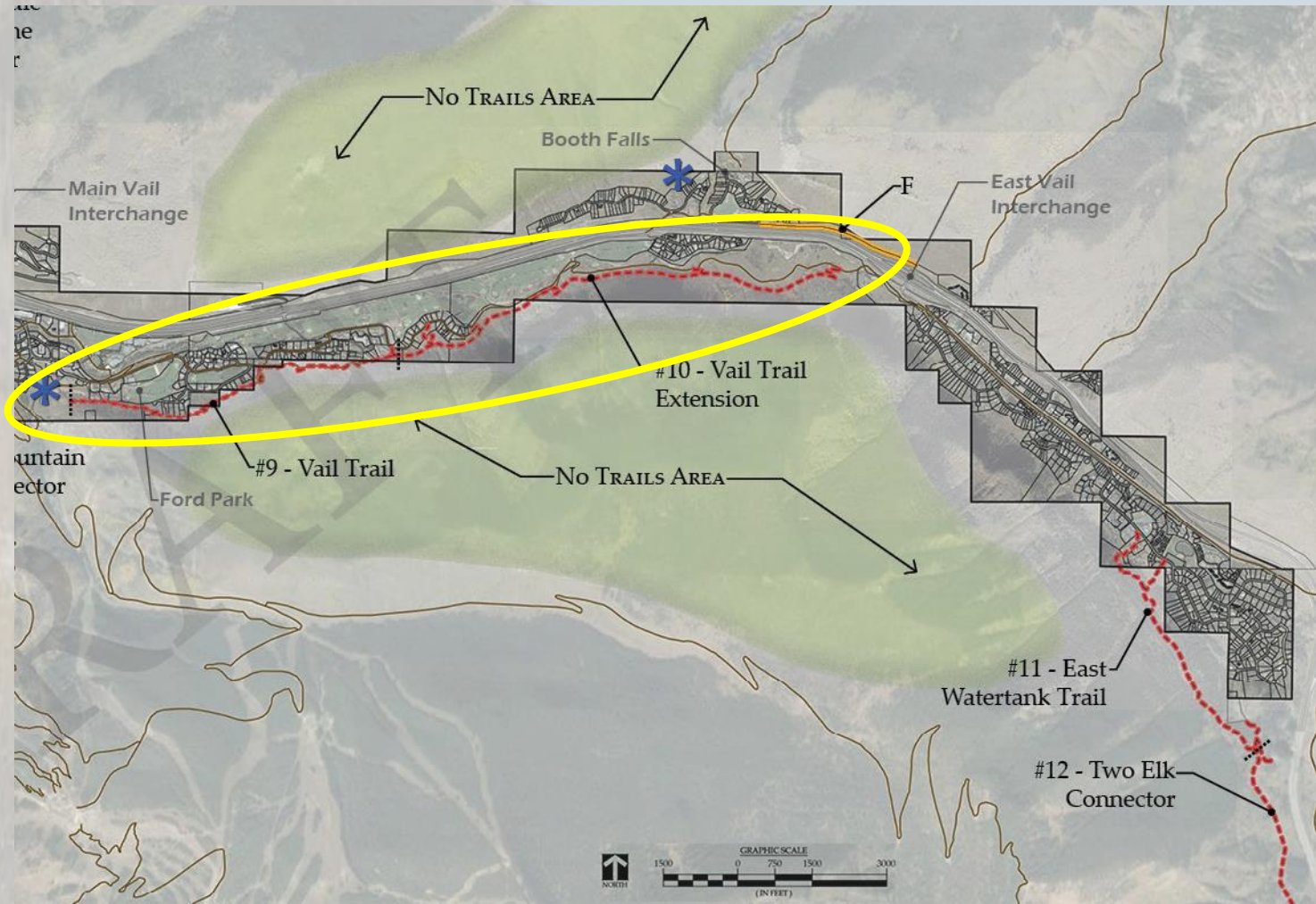


Middle Bench of Donovan Park
2.17 acres
Agriculture and Open Space
Designated “Park”
Purchased with RETT funds



PEC Review/Key Discussion Points

Vail Trail extension



Next Steps



2018 OPEN LANDS PLAN UPDATE

A PLAN FOR OPEN SPACE, TRAILS AND THE USE OF TOWN LANDS

Text in **red** reflects refinements made during the Planning and Environmental Commission review process and presented to the PEC on:

November 27, 2017

March 26, 2018

Text in **green** reflects refinements presented to the PEC on:

April 23, 2018



An element of the Vail Comprehensive Plan
Adopted xxx, xxx, Resolution #xx, Series 20xx

End of Presentation