

### VAIL LOCAL HOUSING AUTHORITY COMMUNITY SURVEY

May 22<sup>nd</sup> – June 5<sup>th</sup>, 2019

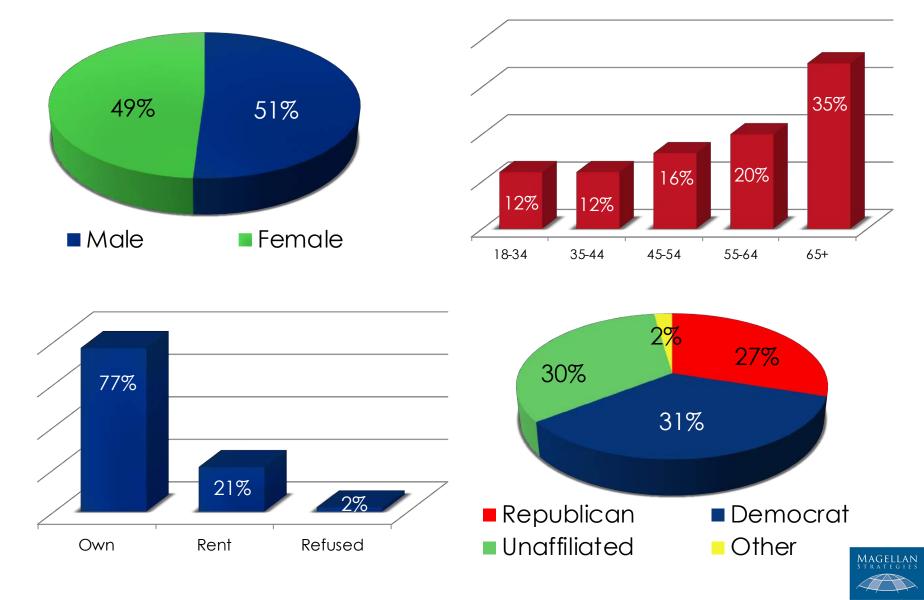


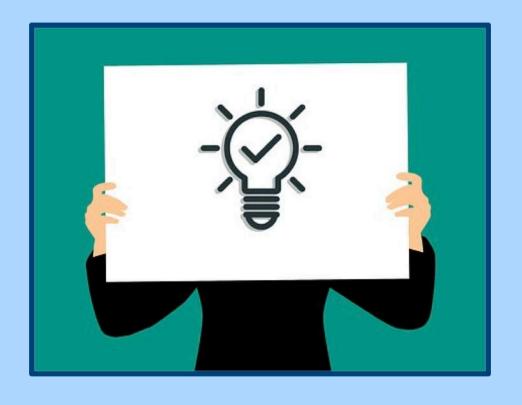


### Methodology

- > Magellan Strategies are pleased to present the results for a 400n live and online survey of registered voters in Vail, Colorado.
- ▶The online interviews were conducted from May 22<sup>nd</sup> June 5<sup>th</sup>, 2019. The phone interviews were conducted from June  $3^{rd} - 5^{th}$ , 2019.
- ➤ The overall survey has a margin of error of +/- 4.61% at the 95% confidence interval. Subgroups of voters will have higher margin of error than the overall population.
- >The survey results were weighted based upon past off-year voter turnout demographics for a general election in Vail, Colorado.
- > David Flaherty was the principal researcher on this project, and Courtney Sievers was the project director.

### Survey Demographics





### KEY FINDINGS





#### Key Findings:

- A majority of respondents, 51%, think the lack of available and affordable homes in the Town of Vail is a big problem and 32% say it is somewhat of a problem. Among voters aged 44 and younger, 76% think the lack of affordable homes is a big problem compared to seniors, aged 65 and older, with only 29% thinking it is big problem.
- Seventy-five percent of Vail voters agree, and 46% strongly agree with the viewpoint that local governments in mountain resort communities like the Town of Vail should make reasonable efforts to maintain and increase the supply of available resident-occupied, deed-restricted homes for residents.
- Fifty-two percent of respondents approve of the actions the Town of Vail is taking to provide and secure available homes for residents and 36% disapprove of them. Thirty-nine percent of respondents have a favorable opinion of the Vail Local Housing Authority, 34% have an unfavorable opinion, and 21% have heard of the Vail Local Housing Authority but do not have an opinion of it.

#### Key Findings:

- There is little voter support for a possible sales or property tax increase to fund the town's mission of maintaining and increasing the supply of resident-occupied deed restricted homes. Among all respondents, only 28% said they would be willing to support an unspecified sales or property tax increase and 51% of voters would not be willing to support a tax increase.
- Ninety-four percent of respondents are aware the Town of Vail sponsored and developed the Chamonix Vail Neighborhood and 51% were aware the town purchased deed-restrictions at 6 West Apartments in Edwards. Voter familiarity with the "Vail InDEED" program was relatively strong, with 25% being very familiar with the program and 34% somewhat familiar.

#### Key Findings:

- Many voters blame the growth and adoption of Airbnb and VRBO for the lack of housing for full-time residents. They think the long-term rental market has decreased significantly and short-term rentals have increased due to 2<sup>nd</sup> home owners using these services. Because of this, some voters suggest putting a limit on the total number of short-term rentals or applying a hotel tax to short-term rentals.
- Many voters think Vail employers both big and small need to pay their employees more, so they can afford housing. Others believe employers should be more accountable for finding housing for their employees instead of the Town of Vail taking the lead in addressing the housing problem.
- Some voters have an unfavorable opinion of deed-restricted housing because they think deed-restricted homes lower the property value of non-deed restricted homes within the same area.



# OPINION OF AVAILABLE HOMES IN TOWN OF VAIL

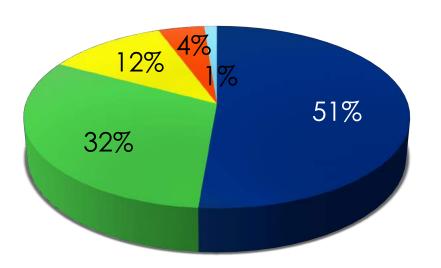






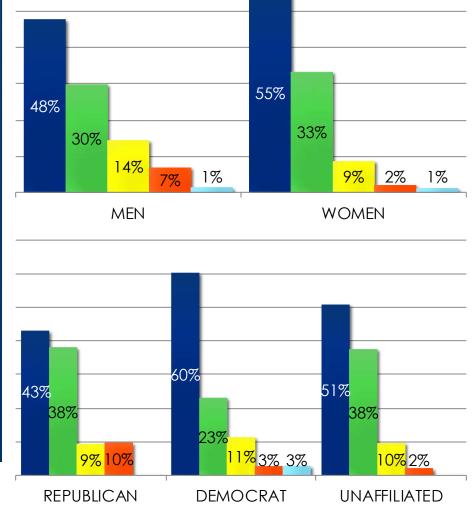
How much of a problem is the lack of the availability of homes, including townhomes, condominiums, and apartments for residents in the Town of Vail? Would you say the lack of available

of homes is a...



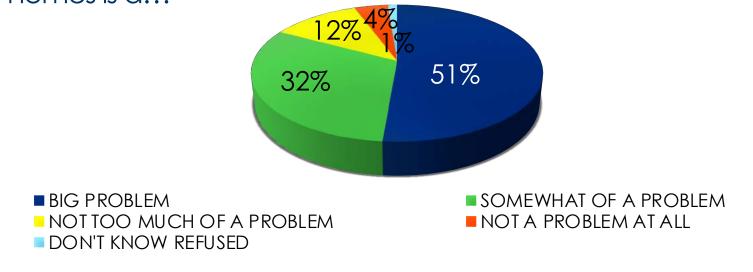


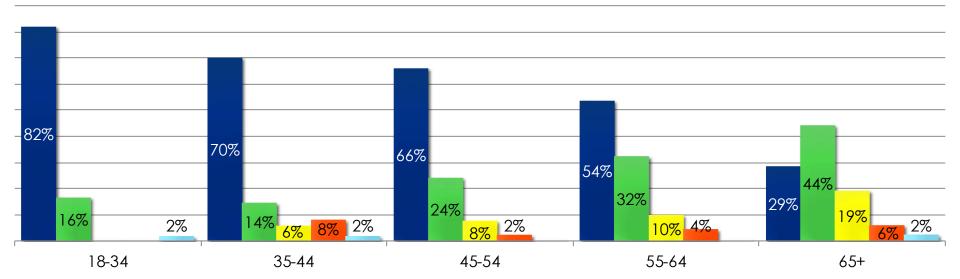
- SOMEWHAT OF A PROBLEM
- NOTTOO MUCH OF A PROBLEM
- NOT A PROBLEM AT ALL
- DON'T KNOW REFUSED





How much of a problem is the lack of the availability of homes, including townhomes, condominiums, and apartments for residents in the Town of Vail? Would you say the lack of available of homes is a...







VOTER OPINION OF WHAT TOWN OF VAIL SHOULD DO TO ADDRESS HOUSING PROBLEM





Regardless if you agree or disagree with the view that the availability of homes for Vail residents is a problem, in your own words please tell me what you think the Town of Vail should or should not do to address the shortage of available homes for residents.

"Only allow home sales if it is a primary residence. There are far too many homes that sit empty for 50 weeks a year. You want to come here for only two weeks a year, rent a hotel room like everyone else." -Male, 35-44

> "Market forces have always driven this problem. More supply is not always the right answer but perhaps subsidies that allow locals to buy is one way." -Male, 55-64

"Work with local business and development companies to increase the availability of employee housing, throughout the county and not just down valley. Housing needs to increase close to Vail Village."

-Male, 65+

#### **Top Issues**

Work with Local Business

Limit/Tax Short Term Rentals

Only Build Long-Term Locals

Affordable for Workers

"Outlaw short-term rentals. At the very least, the town should charge hotel tax to all short- term rentals. The town should also increase the property tax rate on 2<sup>nd</sup> home owners and decrease the property tax rate on primary home owners." -Male, 35-44

"Many similar towns limit the percentage of home that can be [a] short-term rental, (Airbnb, VRBO), The percentage available to workers should be equal to those for short-term rental." -Female, 55-64

"Work with Vail Resorts and local businesses to develop a plan for more employee/local housing in Vail and the Valley as a whole."

-Female, 45-54,

"Tax second home owners with a certain amount of square footage, require them to build or pay for employee units depending on how much jobs and work that would generate.

-Female, 45-54

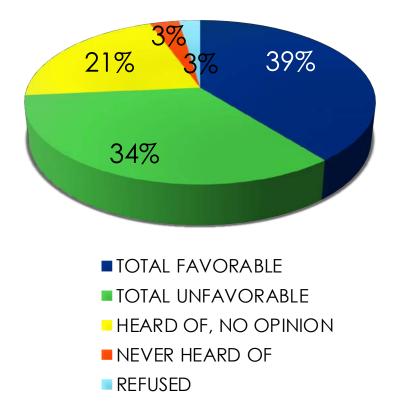


# VAIL LOCAL HOUSING AUTHORITY IMAGE RATING TOWN OF VAIL

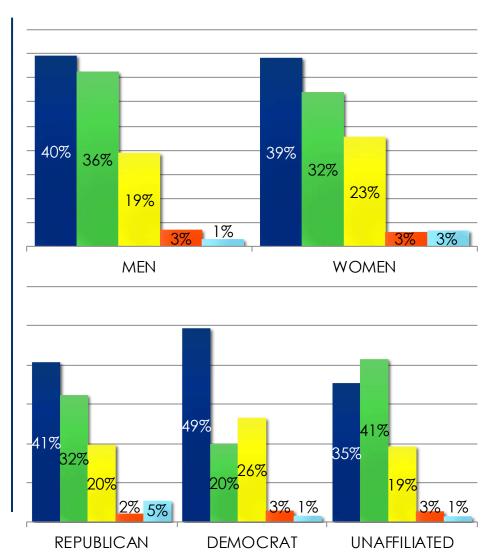




## Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of the Vail Local Housing Authority?

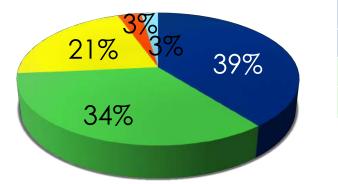


Very Favorable	11%
Somewhat Favorable	28%
Very Unfavorable	20%
Somewhat Unfavorable	14%





## Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of the Vail Local Housing Authority?



Very Favorable	11%
Somewhat Favorable	28%
Very Unfavorable	20%
Somewhat Unfavorable	14%

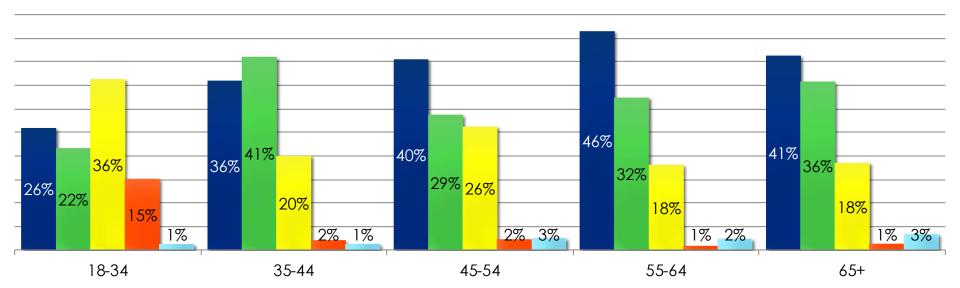


■ NEVER HEARD OF



REFUSED

HEARD OF, NO OPINION
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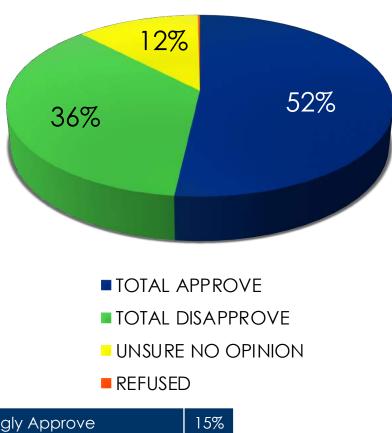


# VOTER APPROVAL/DISAPPROVAL OF TOWN ACTIONS TO SECURE HOUSING

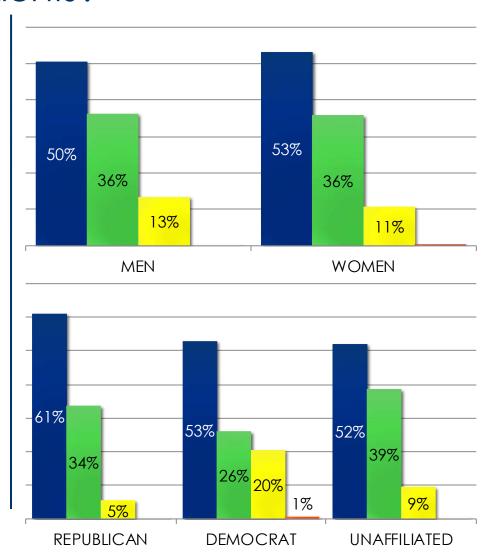




# Do you approve or disapprove of the actions the Town of Vail is taking to provide and secure available homes for residents?

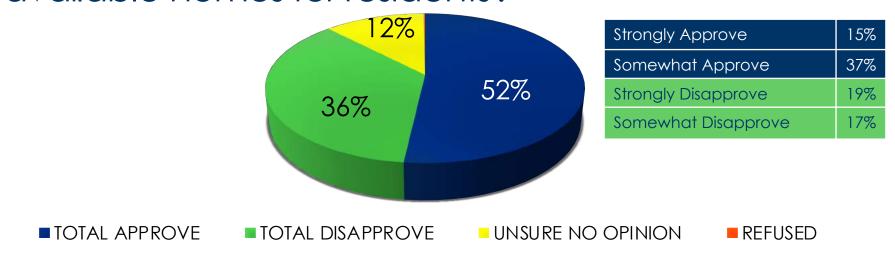


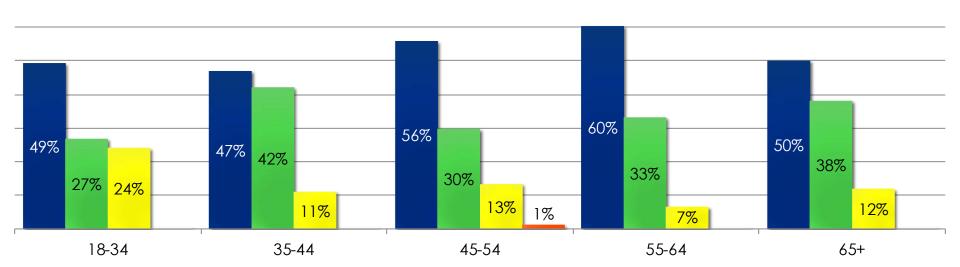
Strongly Approve	15%
Somewhat Approve	37%
Strongly Disapprove	19%
Somewhat Disapprove	17%





# Do you approve or disapprove of the actions the Town of Vail is taking to provide and secure available homes for residents?







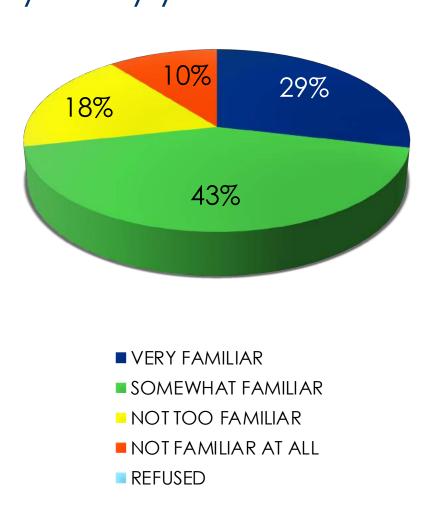
# VOTER FAMILIARITY OF VAIL LOCAL HOUSING AUTHORITY'S MISSION

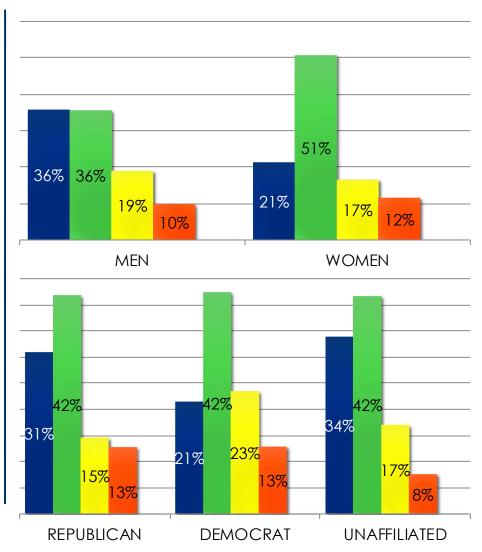






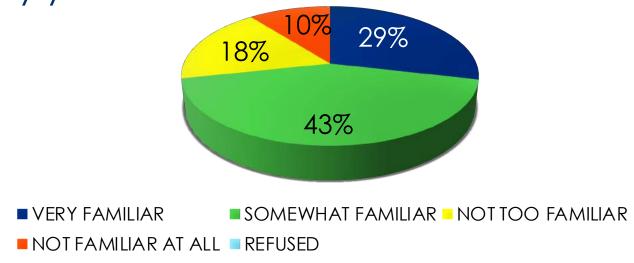
How familiar would you say you are with the mission of the Vail Local Housing Authority? Would you say you are...

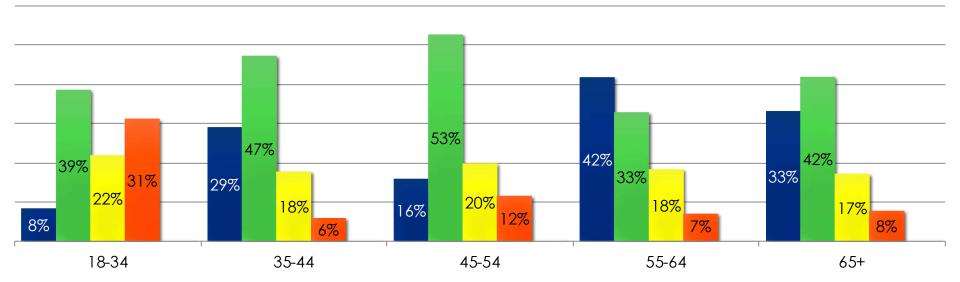






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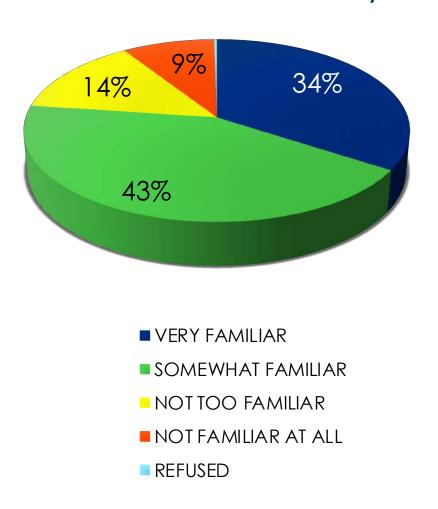


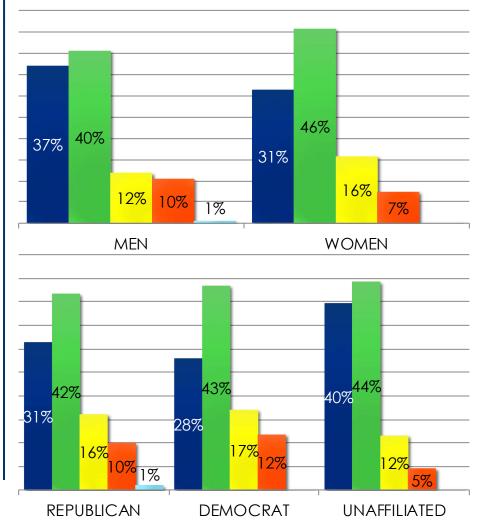
# VOTER FAMILIARITY WITH TOWN OF VAIL'S HOUSING MISSION





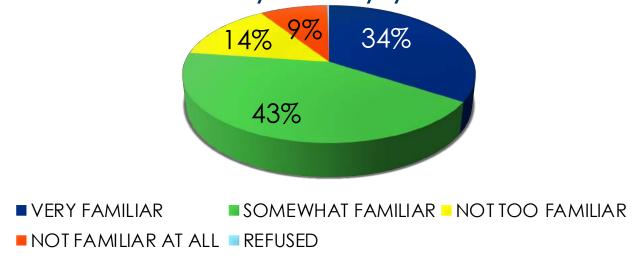
How familiar would you say you are with the Town of Vail's mission of providing and securing homes for residents? Would you say you are...

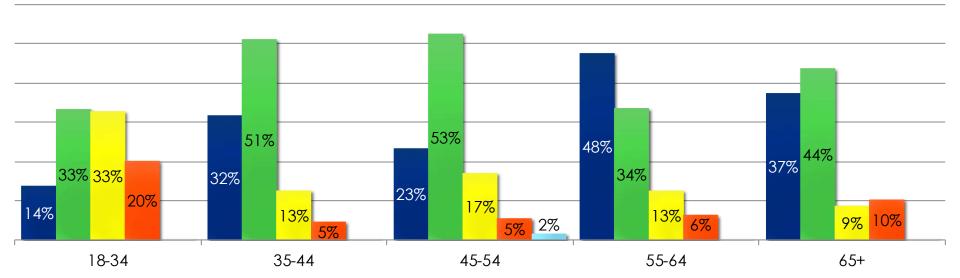






How familiar would you say you are with the Town of Vail's mission of providing and securing homes for residents? Would you say you are...







## VOTER OPINION OF WHAT A DEED RESTRICTED HOME IS







# In your own words, being as descriptive as possible, please tell me what you think a "deed-restricted" home is.

"It is housing that can only be sold or leased to a full time Eagle County employee and may include limits on yearly appreciation."

-Female, 65+

#### **Top Issues**

Accurate Understanding

Owners Being Limited with the Property

"It is a home that is only allowed to be appreciated by a controlled small amount each year."

-Female, 65+

"A home to be purchased at a lower sales cost or with incentives (like down payment assistance) that can then only be sold with a certain percentage profit and maybe only to a full-time resident."

-Male, 18-34

"A home that can be on the free market but isn't because it has been "deed-restricted" in order to temper the price and keep it as "affordable" as it can be for those living and working in the Town of Vail."

-Male, 35-44

"The community does not allow the property owner to do anything they want with it or rent to whomever they want."

-Female, 45-54



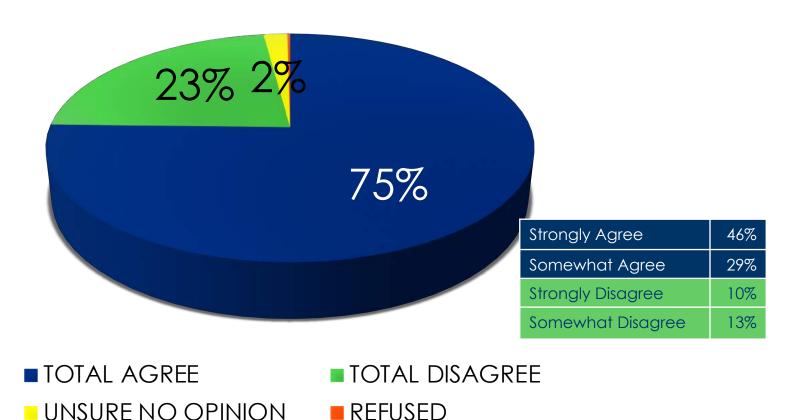
## Town of Vail Efforts to Maintain Deed Restricted Homes

As you may know, a resident-occupied, deed-restricted home limits the occupancy of the residence to a number of people that make the home their primary residence and are employed a minimum of 30 hours per week on an annual basis at a business located within Eagle County.

Understanding what a deed-restricted home is, do you agree or disagree with the viewpoint that local governments in mountain resort communities like the Town of Vail should make reasonable efforts to maintain and increase the supply of available resident-occupied, deed-restricted homes for residents?



Understanding what a deed-restricted home is, do you agree or disagree with the viewpoint that local governments in mountain resort communities like the Town of Vail should make reasonable efforts to maintain and increase the supply of available resident-occupied, deed-restricted homes for residents?





In your own words being as descriptive as possible, please tell me why you agree with the viewpoint that local governments in mountain resort communities should make reasonable efforts to maintain and increase the supply of available deed-restricted homes for residents.

"Because otherwise there won't be anyone living here who also works in their community. The town will suffer for it if it becomes untenable to raise a family here."

-Female, 18-34

"Too much of our housing is second homes owned by nonresidents who rent at inflated levels."

-Male, 65+

"The town and community are built around our mountain. The town and resort have a duty to help people that work hard to keep everything moving. How can we not help those people? Hard workers are being forced down valley because the wages cannot support living in this town."

-Male, 18-34

#### **Top Issues**

Concern and Sympathy for Workforce

Fundamental Requirement

Need for Better Pay – Higher Wages

"Without affordable housing we will not have employees to keep our businesses running. We strive for a high level of customer service in Vail as we are a first-class resort. Without deed restricted homes the second homeowners will purchase all available and affordable options."

-Female, 55-64

"It's hard to find good employees. Creating more housing allows for our growing town to help employ our businesses."

-Female, 35-44

"It is hard to find affordable housing for typical residents of that area. The fact that they offer deed-restricted housing for people in that area who aren't millionaires is important."

-Female, 35-44

"We need workers in jobs that do not necessarily pay well. Vail is an expensive community. Deed-restricted housing would help to reduce our problems in this regard."

-Male, 65+



In your own words being as descriptive as possible, please tell me why you disagree with the viewpoint that local governments in mountain resort communities should make reasonable efforts to maintain and increase the supply of available deed-restricted homes for residents.

"Deed-restricted properties are impacting the value of other units in complexes that often end up staying on the market much longer, again impacting the sales of non-deed restricted properties. Given deed-restricted properties can still be quite pricey, for example over \$600K for a 2-3BR in Vail, this price point is still very difficult for a new home buyer or lower economic bracket which keeps it on the market longer and is not serving the purpose it was meant to serve but does end up hurting the non-deed restricted properties."

-Female, 45-54

"The town of Vail should not be engaging it's municipality in buying and selling real estate. It should be done by professional real estate people and developers. It is in conflict with their fiduciary duty to the citizens."

-Male, 65+

#### **Top Issues**

Local Employers Should Pay
More

Deed-Restricted Housing Reduces Property Values

Responsibility of Local Business

"Vail Health and Vail Resorts should be paying the bulk of the cost of providing more deed-restricted housing. The Town of Vail can be a partner but should not should majority of the financial burden."

-Female, 55-64

"Because the town then ramrods these projects into neighborhoods where they may not be suitable; size or density-wise. It is time for private business to pay a living wage for their circumstances. Or, at least assist their employees with transportation."

-Male, 65+

"Deed-restriction robs the owner of the opportunity to gain property value. Being stuck in a lower valued property would decrease incentive to maintain the property. As years pass the deed restricted homes will look out of place and potentially bring the town down."

-Female, 45-54



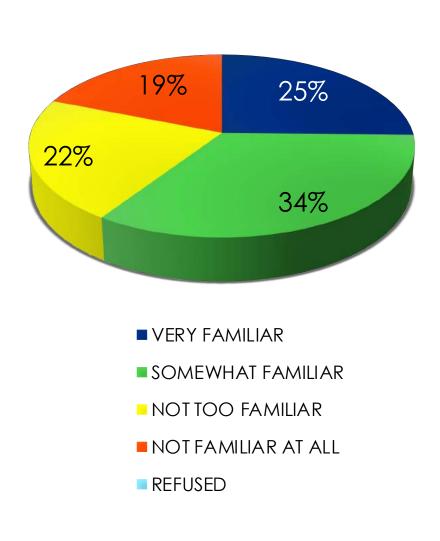
# VOTER FAMILIARITY WITH THE VAIL INDEED HOUSING PROGRAM

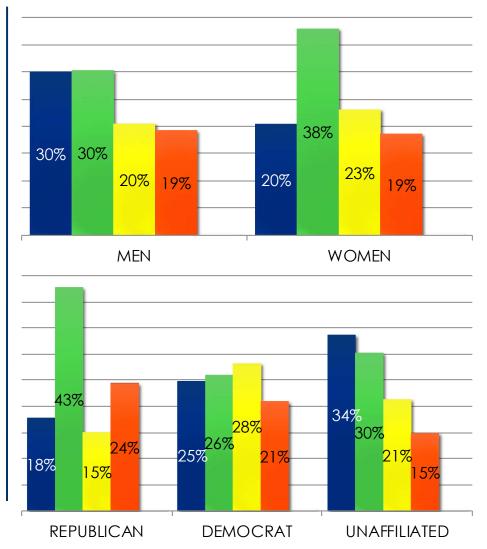






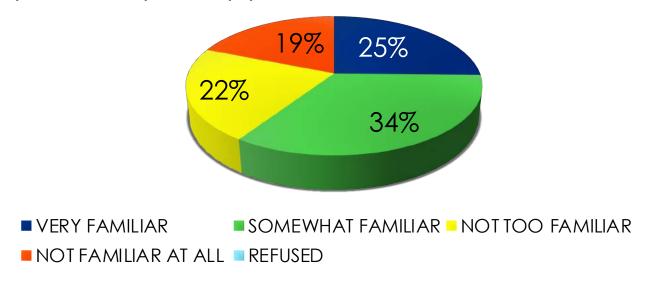
How familiar are you with "Vail InDEED", the deed-restriction purchase program that is managed by the Vail Local Housing Authority? Would you say you are...

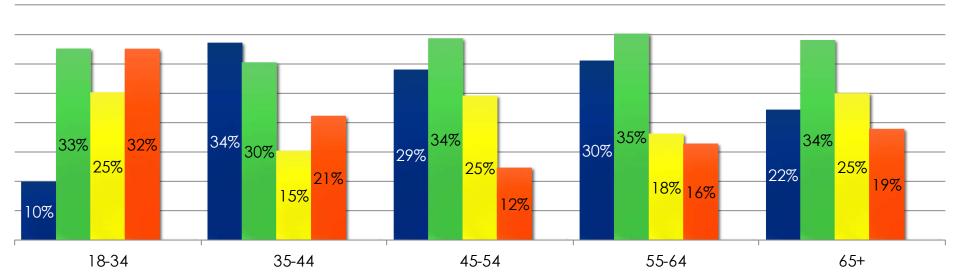






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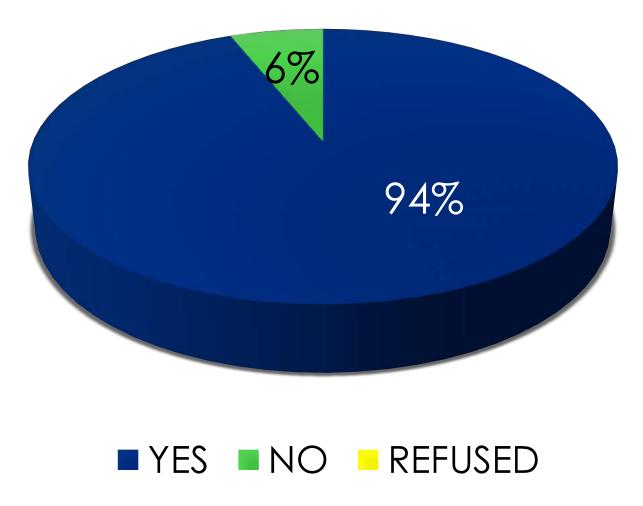


# VOTER AWARENESS OF TOWN'S INVOLVEMENT WITH CHAMONIX AND 6 WEST APARTMENTS





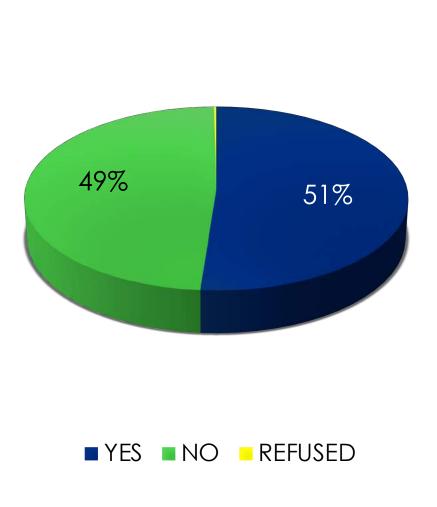
Are you aware the Town of Vail sponsored and developed the deed-restricted community Chamonix Vail Neighborhood?

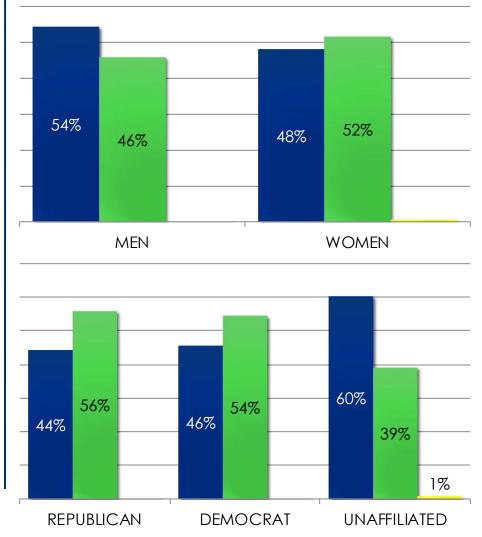




Are you aware the Town of Vail purchased deedrestrictions at the 6 West Apartments in Edwards that grants leasing preference to people employed in the Town of



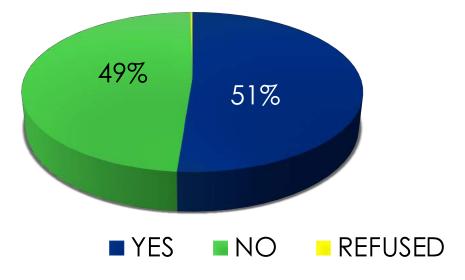


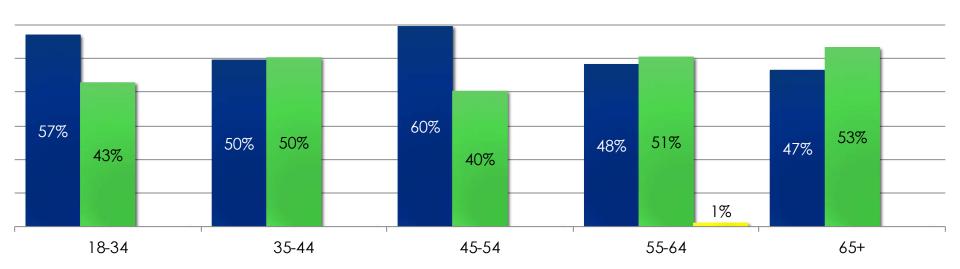




Are you aware the Town of Vail purchased deedrestrictions at the 6 West Apartments in Edwards that grants leasing preference to people employed in the Town of

**Vail**?







# VOTER OPINION OF VAIL LOCAL HOUSING AUTHORITY'S MISSION





### Opinion of Vail Local Housing Authority <u>Mission</u>

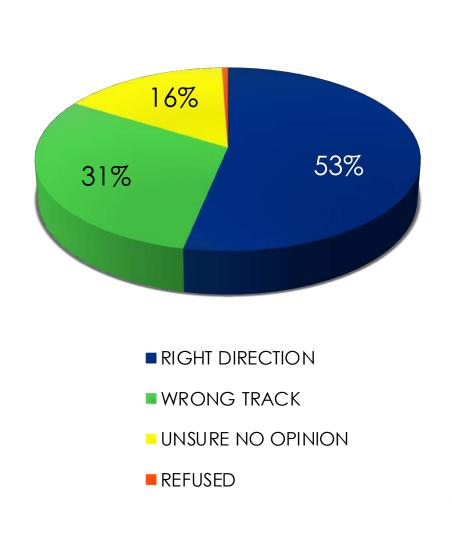
The mission of the Town of Vail and the Vail Local Housing Authority is to maintain and increase the supply of resident-occupied, deed-restricted homes for residents through the acquisition of deed restrictions. They do this with the goal of maintaining and sustaining community in Vail.

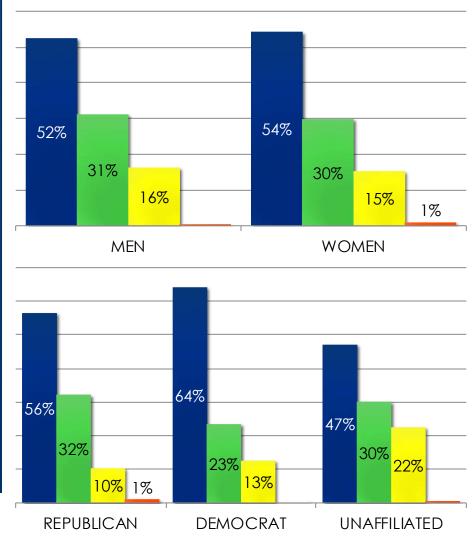
To advance their mission, they apply an "all of the above" approach to identifying, acquiring and building future deed-restricted homes. This is done by researching and pursuing public-private partnerships, strategic initiatives, innovative programs and collaboration within the community. Recent examples of approaches taken to achieve their mission include Chamonix Vail Neighborhood, Vail InDEEd and 6 West Apartments.

Understanding their mission, do you think the Town of Vail and the Vail Local Housing Authority is headed in the right direction in working towards their mission or do you feel they are off on the wrong track?



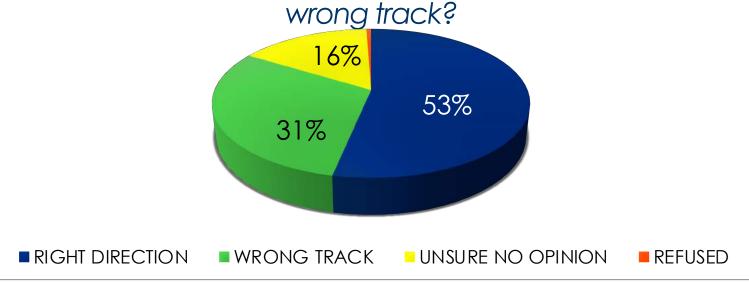
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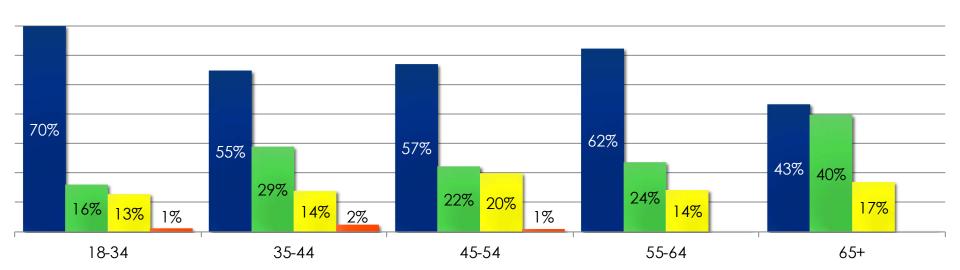


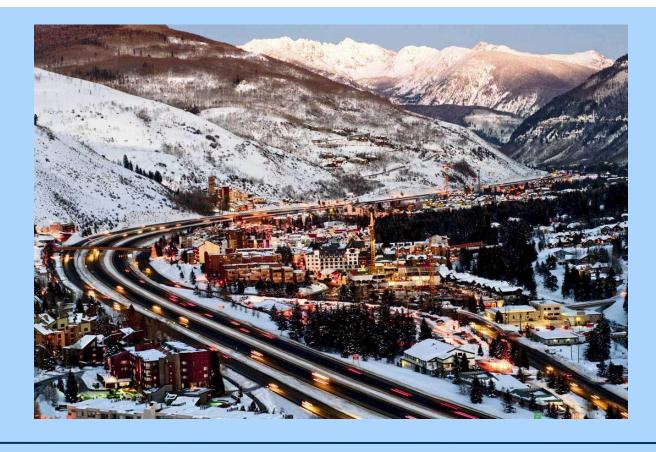




Understanding their mission, do you think the Town of Vail and the Vail Local Housing Authority is headed in the right direction in working towards their mission or do you feel they are off on the







# VOTER OPINION SUPPORT OF TAX INCREASE FOR VAIL LOCATION HOUSING AUTHORITY



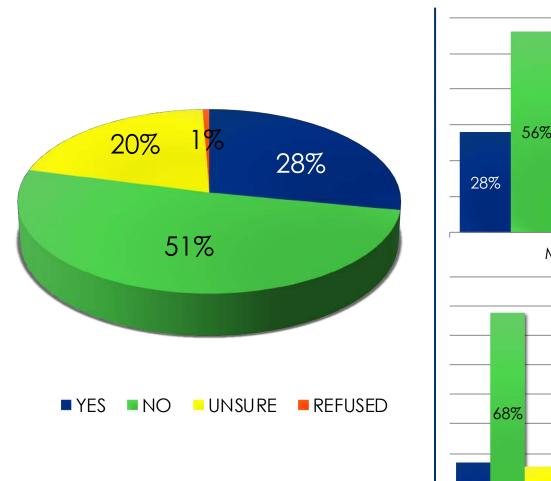
## Voter Opinion of Tax Increases to Fund Vail Local Housing Authority

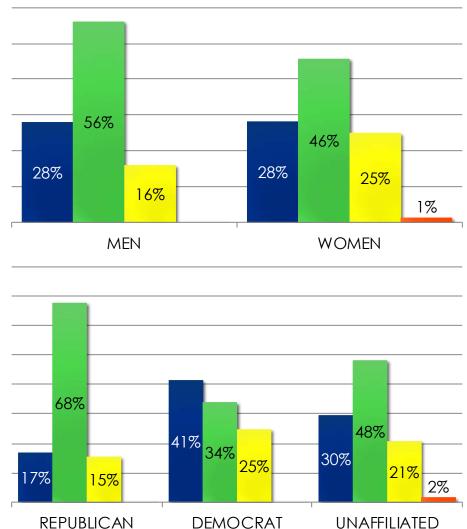
The Vail Local Housing Authority, working at the direction of the Vail Town Council, is just beginning to have discussions with the community to listen, learn and understand what voters think of a possible sales or property tax increase to fund the housing authority's mission.

Knowing this, are you willing to support a sales or property tax increase to fund the Town of Vail and the Vail Local Housing Authority's mission of maintaining and increasing the supply of resident-occupied, deed-restricted homes for residents?



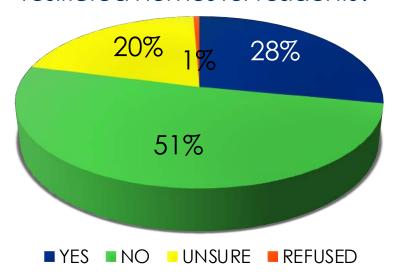
Knowing this, are you willing to support a sales or property tax increase to fund the Town of Vail and the Vail Local Housing Authority's mission of maintaining and increasing the supply of resident-occupied, deed-restricted homes for residents?

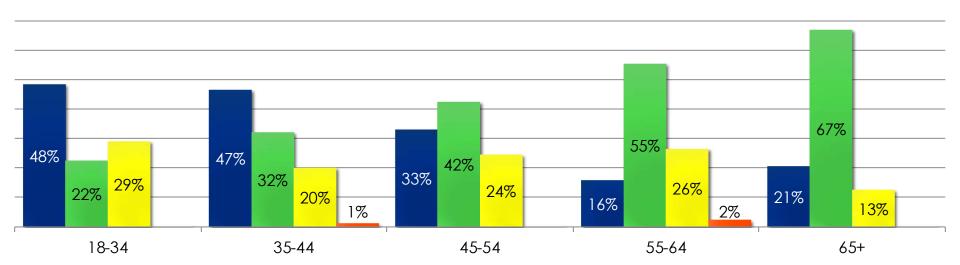






Knowing this, are you willing to support a sales or property tax increase to fund the Town of Vail and the Vail Local Housing Authority's mission of maintaining and increasing the supply of resident-occupied, deed-restricted homes for residents?

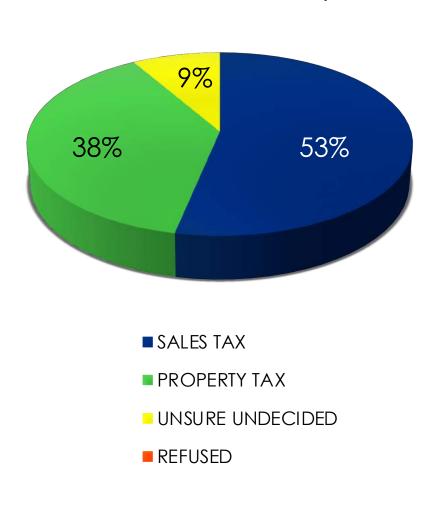


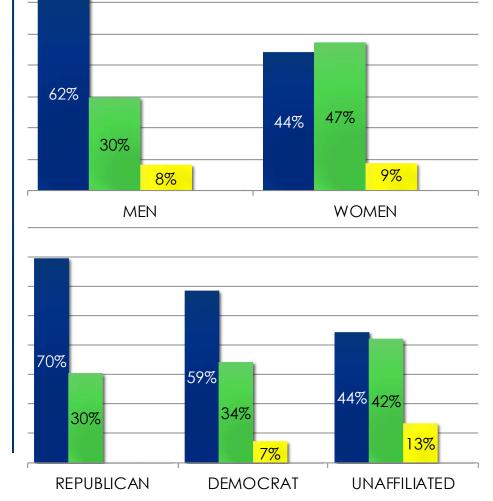




And would you prefer the tax to fund an increase in the supply of available homes for residents to be a sales tax or a property tax? (Asked only to 112 respondents that would consider a tax

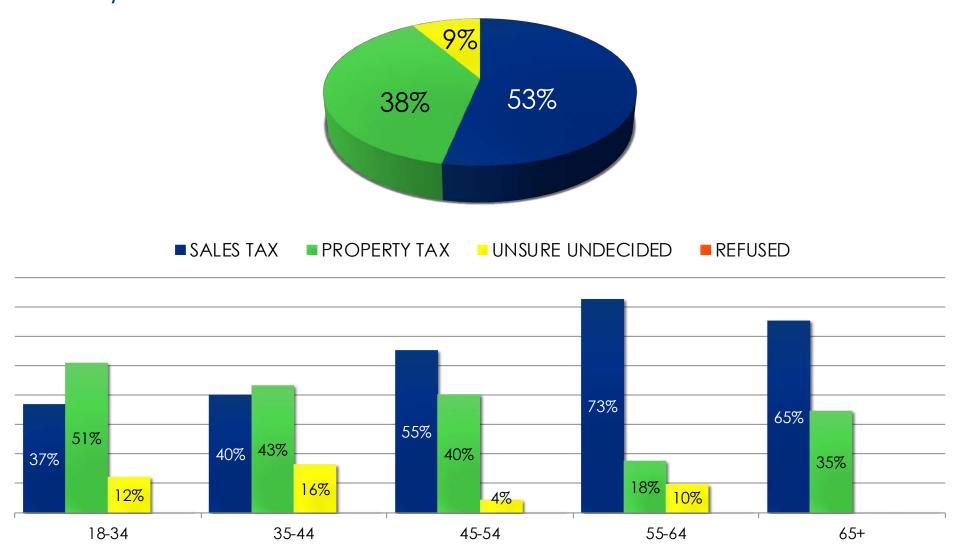
increase, MoE +/- 9.1%)





MAGELLAN

And would you prefer the tax to fund an increase in the supply of available homes for residents to be a sales tax or a property tax? (Asked only to 112 respondents that would consider a tax increase, MoE +/-9.1%)





### In your own words, please tell me why you would support a sales tax rather than a property tax.

"A couple of reasons. 1. I think you may have a very difficult time getting people to vote in favor of a property tax, particularly in light of the newest round of assessments that just came out. 2. I think that it is important not only for our residents but also visitors to buy into the idea that housing is infrastructure."

-Female, 45-54

"Sales tax will capture all the visitors who come to the valley, which is why everything is so expensive in this county."

-Female, 45-54

### **Top Issues**

Takes Away the Burden of Just **Property Owners** 

Makes the Tourists Pay As Well

"I think a sales tax would encourage our community to buy local, knowing where that extra tax is going. It would also allow us to benefit from Vail's tourism. Peoples vacations depend on the employees in Vail." -Male, 18-34

people." -Male, 45-54

on the tourist than the local which seems more appropriate." -Female, 65+

"The primary beneficiary of affordable housing is the tourism industry serving our visitors. These visitors should contribute to the expense of house the people serving them. It will be a smaller amount spread among more

"The increase in property

taxes further burdens the

local worker living in Vail

which is already a strain for

most financially. A sales tax

puts that cost/burden more



## In your own words, please tell me why you would support a **property tax** rather than a sales tax.

"Sales taxes are already very high.
Property taxes bring income to the second homeowners."

-Female. 35-44

"Would tax commercial and second home owners. Could exempt full time residents employed in Eagle County."

-Female, 65+

"It's more reasonable to me."
-Female, 35-44

#### **Top Issues**

Tax Only Those with Second Homes

Personal Preference

"Leave the locals alone and tax the owners of empty, unrented homes. I support a property tax on homes that sit empty."

-Female, 45-54

"I believe part of the root of the problem is second and third homeowners who have relatively low property taxes and aren't in town enough to contribute to the sales tax base measurably. We already tax our visitors at a ratio that is high, this is designed in my opinion in part to keep property taxes low.. most areas have a higher property tax to sales tax ratio and I believe this is the best way to improve revenues in order to improve infrastructure and subsidize housing."

-Male, 35-44, Republican

"A very large number of second homes exists in the area, especially Vail. The fact that those homes are vacant most of the time has contributed to the housing crisis we now face. As a homeowner, I'm willing to pay my share to help make Vail more sustainable for the long term."

-Male, 45-54



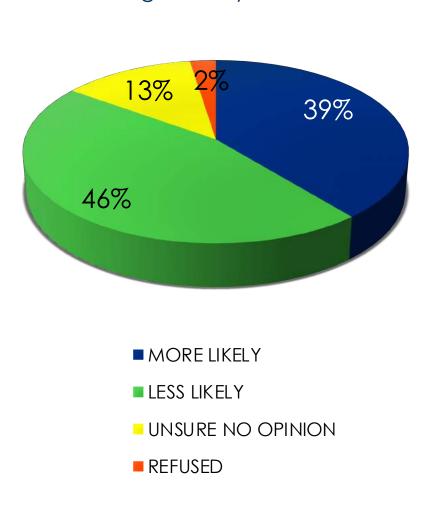
## VOTER OPINION OF ONE MILL INCREASE TO FUND VAIL LOCAL HOUSING AUTHORITY

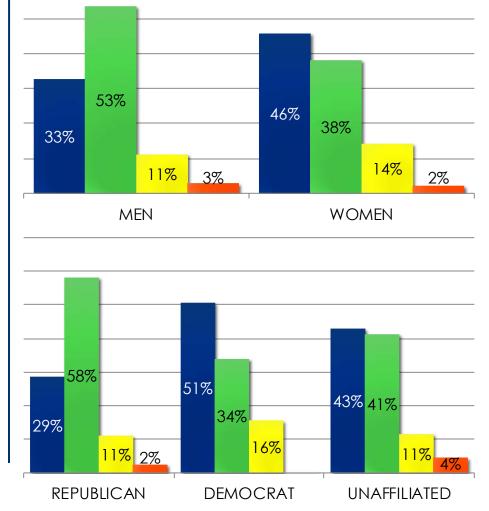






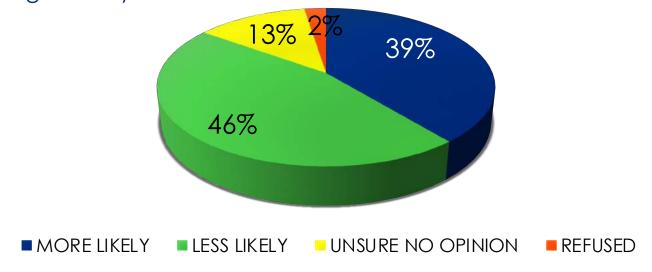
To better understand the cost of a property tax increase, a 1 mill increase on a residential property in the Town of Vail with a value of a \$500,000 would cost a homeowner an additional \$36 dollars per year. Knowing this information, are you more likely or less likely to support a property tax increase to fund the Town of Vail and the Vail Local Housing Authority's mission?

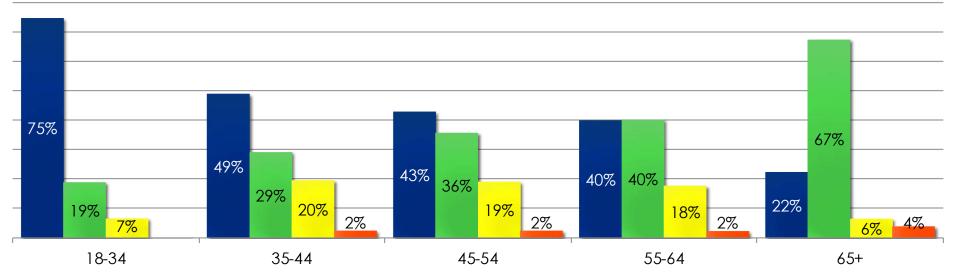


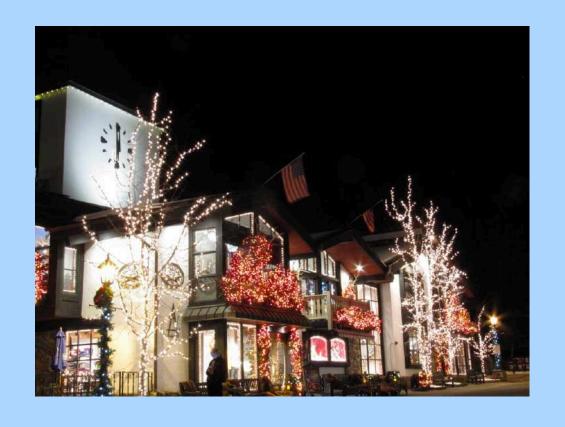




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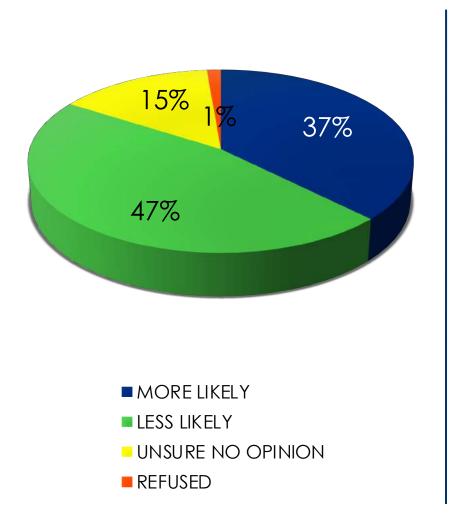


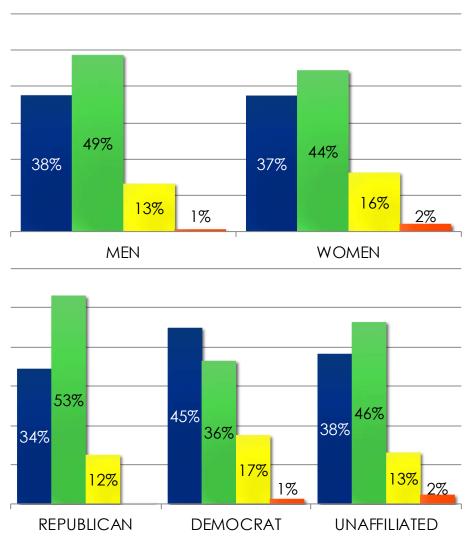


## OPINION OF SALES TAX INCREASE TO FUND VAIL LOCAL HOUSING AUTHORITY



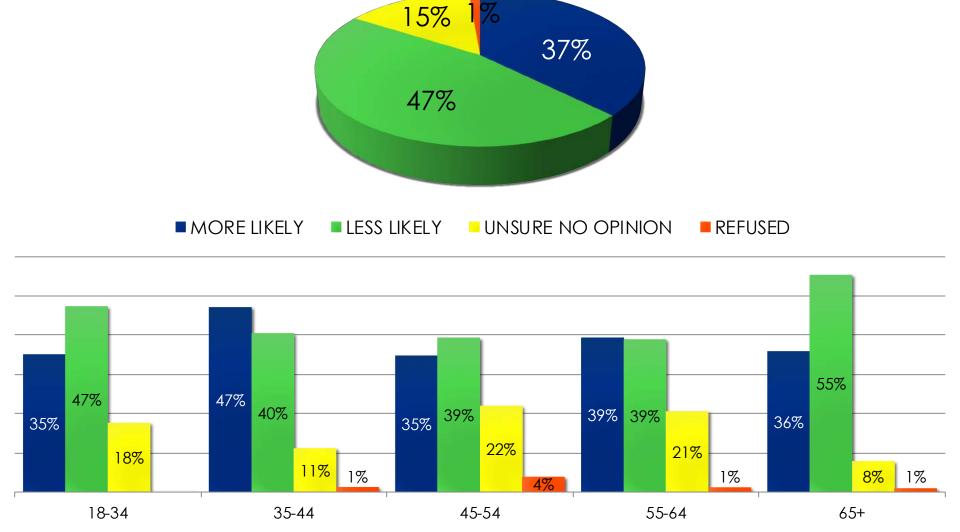
To better understand the cost of a sales tax increase to you as a consumer, the current local sales tax for purchases in the Town of Vail is 4.0%. The overall sales tax rate including state and county taxes is 8.4%. The cost of a 0.25% sales tax increase on a \$100- dollar purchase is twenty-five cents. Knowing this information, are you more likely or less likely to support a sales tax increase to fund the Vail Town Council/Vail Local Housing Authority's mission?





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### David Flaherty | Courtney Sievers Ryan Winger



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