



## Memorandum

To: Vail Town Council

From: Todd Oppenheimer

Date: November 5, 2019

Subject: Gore Valley Trail - Lionshead Realignment Feasibility Analysis Contract Award

### I. PURPOSE

Staff is requesting approval of a Professional Services Agreement with Otak for a feasibility analysis for the realignment of the Gore Valley Trail through the Lionshead ski base area.

### II. BACKGROUND

The Gore Valley Trail is the primary recreation path through Vail from the connection with the Dowd Junction trail in the west and the Vail Pass trail in the east. The recreation path is managed by the Town and passes through Vail Corporation owned property in the Lionshead area. The route of the recreation path through the Lionshead ski base area creates conflicts with other uses in the area and creates safety concerns. Please see attached aerial image.

The purpose of the feasibility analysis is to identify possible opportunities and costs for the realignment of recreation path. Realignment of the recreation path is intended to reduce conflicts and improve user safety.

Staff released a Request for Proposal for professional services with 3 firms responding. All 3 firms would be capable of performing the work and have experience with the Town. The range of fees in the 3 proposals is \$79,900 to \$103,600. The firm Otak presented considerable experience on recreation path projects with similar challenges for a proposed fee of \$86,641. The Town and Vail Corporation have agreed to share the cost of the feasibility analysis. Vail Corporation will reimburse the Town \$20,000 to pay for a portion of the fees.

### III. PROJECT BUDGET

The Gore Valley Trail Realignment project is budgeted at \$50,000 for 2019 in the Real Estate Transfer Tax Fund. The total proposed fee of \$86,861 will be paid for from this project and supplemented with a \$20,000 reimbursement from Vail Corporation. The

remaining \$16,861 will use savings from the 2019 Recreation Path Maintenance project budget. The next supplemental budget discussion is scheduled on December 3, 2019.

#### **IV. STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS**

Staff recommends approval of the Professional Services Agreement with Otak in the amount of \$86,861 for the Gore Valley Trail - Lionshead Realignment Feasibility Analysis.

#### **V. ACTION REQUESTED BY COUNCIL**

Staff requests that the Council authorize the Town Manager to enter into a Professional Services Agreement with Otak in the amount of \$86,861 for the Gore Valley Trail - Lionshead Realignment Feasibility Analysis.