



Memorandum

To: Mayor and Town Council

From: Town Manager's Office

Date: May 5, 2020

Subject: Vail Economic Recovery Efforts in response to the Public Health Crisis

I. PURPOSE

The purpose of the memo and presentation is to summarize the Vail Recovery Efforts in response to the Public Health Crisis by sharing updates in key areas of planning, as follows:

- Municipal Operations Recovery Plan
- Special Events Update
- Vail Economic Recovery Team (VEAC)
- Community Relief Fund Update
- Recession Plan and Budget Impacts

II. BACKGROUND

Town staff will present updates about ongoing planning efforts in key areas in response to the updated public health orders from Eagle County. Town staff have been updating and defining next phases in its Municipal Operations Recovery Plan along with reviewing event programming with event promoters that were slated throughout the summer. There will be an introduction of the recently formed Vail Economic Recovery Team whose mission will include studying and making recommendations on how Vail will reboot its business economy. The Community Relief Funding has been awarded in the first round and a recap will be provided. And finally, the finance department will present a revised budget taking into consideration the major/critical stages of the recession plan.

III. Municipal Operations Recovery Plan

Town of Vail Municipal Operations continue to evolve based on Eagle County's Public Health Order Phase I Plan for Sustaining Social Distance, effective April 27 through May 31. The recently released Eagle County "Transition Trail Map" (attached) provides benchmarks for sustainable social distancing protocols and the town's management team has revised some operations based on both the public health order and the established protocol. Some updates to municipal services, which is categorized as an essential service, is provided below:

Transit Operations

Transit services in Vail will return beginning Monday, May 4 with free outlying and in-town routes offered for passengers who comply with safety requirements to protect the health of drivers and riders. All passengers must follow the current practices implemented by ECO and Avon Transit. This includes wearing face coverings, entering and exiting through the rear door, practicing social distancing and limiting the number of passengers to 10 per bus. The summer bus schedule is anticipated to begin June 29 and run through mid-November.

Vail Public Library

The Library will offer additional daily curbside pickup by appointment as allowed by Eagle County public health orders. Patrons may select their materials by using the online catalog at www.vaillibrary.com and placing a hold on the items. Staff will make contact via email or phone to arrange a time to collect the materials and materials will be placed in a bag just outside the door for pickup by the patron. The Vail Public Library has also been hosting Virtual Story Time, Virtual Book Discussion, Virtual Gentle Yoga and Virtual Zumba. Patty: Do we want to say under what conditions we will reopen the library to the public?

Welcome Centers

The Welcome Centers are open virtually with staff on premises weekdays 9am-5pm. May 18 the Vail Village Welcome Center will be re-open to the public. Social distancing protocols will be posted; followed by employees and visiting public that will include appropriate PPE.

Parking

Daily and overnight parking will remain free in the Vail Village and Lionshead structures until Sunday, June 28. Beginning Monday, June 29, there will be a \$25 charge for overnight parking. www.vailgov.com/parking

Vail Municipal Building Administrative Offices

The east side of the building includes general information, finance, municipal court, police and the west side includes the Community Development (planning, building, economic development, housing and environmental offices). Beginning May 11 administrative offices will open with some staff working on the premises and on May 15 the offices will be open to the public. Social distancing protocols will be posted and followed by employees and visiting public and will include the wearing of face coverings.

Public Meetings

Vail Town Council, Board & Commissions will be held according to the [Town of Vail Remote Meeting Policy](#) until further notice. These meetings will be a Zoom webinar feed and most will be recorded by High Five Media. Quasi-judicial proceedings before the Vail Town Council have been suspended until in-person public hearings of more than 10 people are allowed under future public health orders.

Public Works and Vail Fire Stations

Operations for Public Works and Vail Fire Department will open with some staff working on the premises and on May 15 the offices will be open to the public. Social distancing protocols will be posted and followed by employees and visiting public and will include the wearing of face coverings.

For more details about municipal services offered via remote access and additional resources related to COVID 19 crisis in general, please visit the Town of Vail website at www.vailgov.com.



UPDATE: Eagle County Public Health and Environment has issued an updated public health order to help meet several key goals in the local response to COVID-19. The new order is effective April 27. [Read the full order here](#). For COVID-19 updates from Town of Vail, visit Vailgov.com/Covid-19. For other COVID-19 updates, go to ECEmergency.org.

Businesses which meet the compliance criteria of the [Eagle County COVID-19 Transition Trail Map](#) and can comply with the [Social Distancing Protocol](#) can operate as part of the first phase of reopening. [COVID-19 Business Reopening Questions and Answers: Phase 1 Guidance](#)

[Vail Community Relief Fund](#) is available to qualifying nonprofit organizations to provide food, shelter and other emergency assistance to individuals who live or work in Vail and are most in need. To support businesses during an unprecedented slow-down in the economy, the [Town Council has elected to extend payment due dates for sales tax returns to August 20](#).

IV. Special Events Update

Staff is working with event producers to reschedule, reformat, and/or reimagine their events within current or anticipated public health orders, later this summer and into fall where possible. In some cases, events will cancel, and staff is working closely with producers to coordinate the public release of event cancelation to ensure consistent messaging and avoid confusion. At the May 6 CSE meeting, the commission will be brainstorming with event producers to explore creative ideas to gather in small numbers this summer. The America Days celebration is part of this brainstorming with the goal of – recreating a July 4th celebration to remember within public health order restrictions and guidelines.

V. Vail Economic Recovery Team (VEAC)

The Town Manager's Office and Economic Development Office are collaborating with the Vail Economic Advisory Commission members to setup a focus group, the Vail Economic Recovery Team, that will include representatives from the different industries of retail, restaurants, lodging, health, and nonprofit organizations as well VVP and VCBA. The team will support the work of Eagle County's regional task forces and stakeholders lead by the VVF. There is a myriad of issues that present unique challenges to Vail in the recovery efforts in response to the public health crisis. The Vail team will be focused on efforts specific to Vail businesses to supplement the regional efforts. The focus of the group will address ideas about relief/abatement programing, education and support and is intended to align with the regional efforts.

VI. Community Relief Fund Program

On March 31, Town Council approved the allocation of \$500,000 in grant funding to provide relief in the general areas of food, shelter and health impacts associated with the COVID-19 public health crisis. The Town of Vail has awarded \$283,000 to 10 qualifying nonprofit organizations in its first allotment of Vail Community Relief Funds. The \$500,000 fund was established by the Vail Town Council to provide local financial relief associated with COVID-19 impacts in the areas of food, shelter and health for those who live or work within Vail. A review committee evaluated 14 funding applications and awarded the following:

- \$100,000 toward food relief efforts
- \$123,000 toward medical and behavioral health
- \$60,000 toward rental relief for residents

Recipients are: Bright Future Foundation, Catholic Charities, Eagle Valley Behavioral Health, Salvation Army, Suicide Prevention Coalition, Swift Eagle Charitable Foundation, The Eagle Valley Community Foundation, The Hope Center of Eagle River Valley, United Way and the Vail Valley Charitable Fund. Residents and employees in need of assistance are asked to contact the funding recipients directly to apply for aid. Details are available on the town's website www.vailgov.com.

VII. Recession Plan Budget Update

The Finance Department will present updates on budget impacts that are in accordance with the town's recession plan, see separate memo.

Attachments:





- ✓ Transition Trail Map



TRANSITION TRAIL MAP

Sustainable social distancing protocols are critical to each phase of our planned reopening. To be successful, your behaviors and commitment to effective social distancing are critical. Please be vigilant in protecting yourself, your family, your employees and your community by pledging to the **5 Commitments of Containment**:

1. I will maintain 6 feet of social distance.
2. I will wash my hands often.
3. I will cover my face in public.
4. I will stay home when I am sick.
5. I will get tested immediately if I have symptoms.

Phased Approach to Lift Restrictions			
 Activities	 Beginner Initial Steps to Reopen	 Intermediate <ul style="list-style-type: none"> About 4-8 weeks after "Beginner" reopen No significant Increase in Cases 	 Expert <ul style="list-style-type: none"> About 4-8 weeks after "Intermediate" reopen No significant Increase in Cases
Gathering Size	10	25-50	250
Essential Business	Operate with social distancing protocol and exempted from gathering size		
Retail, Offices, Personal Services & other businesses not listed below	Social Distance Protocol required	Social Distance Protocol required	Social Distance Protocol required
Elective & Preventative Medical Care	Open with Guidance	Continued Guidance	Continued Guidance
Childcare	Open with Guidance	Continued Guidance	Continued Guidance
K-12 Education	No Change - Distance Learning	Reopen with Guidance	Continued Guidance
Restaurants & Bars	No Change - Takeout and Delivery Only	Social Distance Protocol required	Social Distance Protocol required
Low-risk recreation (golf / disc golf / non-contact sports)	Social Distance Protocol required	Social Distance Protocol required	Social Distance Protocol required
High-risk recreation (playgrounds / contact sports / activities with high-touch equipment)	No Change - Closed	Social Distance Protocol required	Social Distance Protocol required

Senior Centers	No Change - Closed	No Change - Closed	No Change - Closed
Gym / Fitness Centers	Social Distance Protocol required	Social Distance Protocol required	Social Distance Protocol required
Lodging / Short Term Rentals	Open only for local residents, essential business, medical care, & emergencies	Reopen with Guidance	Open
Non-Resident Visitors	Strictly limited to essential business	Limited	Open

*Social Distancing protocols for businesses: [English](#) | [Spanish](#)