



To: Mayor and Town Council  
From: Clint Kinney, Town Manager  
Date: November 7, 2025  
Re: Info Update

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#### HIRING A LOBBYIST

The Colorado Association of Ski Towns (CAST) decided it was in our association's best interest to contract with the lobbying firm Bowditch & Cassell to represent CAST interests and advocate for policies that support and sustain mountain communities in the Colorado State Legislature. CAST has been very successful at stopping bad state- legislation in recent years, but we wanted to be better prepared to be both proactive and reactive to happenings in the State Legislature. CAST will still heavily rely on the Colorado Municipal League and their strong lobbying team, but we look forward to having direct representation on the bills that are of significant importance to CAST members. The CAST legislative agenda has stayed pretty stable over the years and includes topics such as lobbying for 1)creating authority for local empty home taxes, 2) protecting authority to regulate and tax short-term rentals, 3) authorizing the implementation of real estate transfer fees, and 4) addressing a wide variety of transportation, housing and childcare issues. So, between CML and CAST, TOSV should be well represented in Denver come January.

#### PLAN WE MUST FOR A SAFER COMMUNITY

We have a couple of initiatives continuing underway. The mapping/modeling project for wildfire risk is moving forward. We continue to ask property owner to fill out information about their homes and property to help make the model more accurate. We are getting the word out the best we can, but in case you haven't filled out the form yet for your property, here is the link:

[https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1q\\_DyU5MSgcc8rDP0\\_NkJUttNIwBhTm6MhtEgxZnoQOs/viewform?edit\\_requested=true](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1q_DyU5MSgcc8rDP0_NkJUttNIwBhTm6MhtEgxZnoQOs/viewform?edit_requested=true)

In addition to this project, we are continuing work with other area Public Safety agencies and our Dispatch Center to utilize the Genasys Evacuation tool. This is the software we invested in last year that assists law enforcement to plan evacuation scenarios (not just for wildfire, but all sorts of public safety needs for evacuation). Happily, we did not have to use this tool in the valley this year, however, our neighbors in Eagle and Garfield Counties were not as fortunate. As we continue to work with this tool, we will improve potential evacuation zones by expanding them, thinking more all-hazard and incorporating lessons learned from our neighbors. We will also be improving/ clarifying evacuation language (such as pre-evacuation/ evacuation vs ready, set, go, etc) Our partners at Dispatch and Pitkin County Emergency Management will continue to lead us in these efforts.

## MELTON RANCH TRAIL

With the approval of the budget, the Melton Ranch trail project will get back underway with trail reconstruction and retaining wall replacement. As part of this project, the Town is teaming up with Black Hills Energy (BHE), who will also be performing work in the area starting next week. The main construction schedule is planned to start in April 2026, but BHE will be removing the asphalt on the trail to prep for next year's construction season starting Monday, November 10. They will remove the asphalt, compact the subgrade, and re-grade for drainage and tie-in's on the trail in the area highlighted in blue below. The trail will be closed for approximately two weeks and re-open for Thanksgiving. Trucks will be accessing the site via Martingale Lane during this fall work. The trail will re-open and be functional for the winter by Thanksgiving. This fall work will allow for a decreased impact next spring/summer.

## MOMMA AND BABY MASTADON ART PROJECT

Nothing has been easy about getting this project underway. Since the artwork has been selected, we spent a large part of this year, securing a location to place the sculptures. We worked with both the previous and current owners of the Viewline to receive permission to place the sculptures on their property near Gorsuch Coffee. What was budgeted to be about a \$50,000 install has increased in price as we learn more about the foundation needs (these things are heavy) and electrical needs for the sculpture, and the the lack of easily available power in the area. We are still working on details, but we are becoming more concerned about the timing of this project. Not knowing the future of the Viewline building (those rumors are running rampant), we are concerned about investing in a location that may not be available in the future. To that end, we are continuing to explore options. The current location may continue to work out well or perhaps the sculptures could/should be located at the other end of the Mall on Town-owned property near the RFTA Depot. We fully expect to have this project complete before the next Ice Age, but we want to make sure the eventual location is good in the long-term, not just short term. Many more details to come.

## TID BITS

- We will be working with Pitkin County to distribute free radon detectors here in Snowmass Village once the County program starts up again.
- The Planning Commission will be considering an ordinance to increase the employee generation / mitigation rate on November 19. The rate is proposed to go from 60% to 100%. Once the Planning Commission makes a recommendation, we will bring the ordinance to the Council for further consideration.
- We are continuing to coordinate with the Fire Authority and develop the state required wildfire resiliency code. A new code needs to be adopted by April 2026.
- It was a resounding success, but all good things come to an (temporary) end. The Snowmass Village We-cylce stations closed this week. They will be back next Spring.
- Speaking of winter starting up, we are training new drivers in Transportation, have started indoor sports leagues like futsal, volleyball and pickleball, and have assembled the outdoor ice rink. Now we just need some cold temperatures and more moisture.
- Wednesday December 3 is the next Tourism Talk.

CC: Department Directors