

Appendix: Chapter 5—Community Services, Facilities, and Amenities

Existing Conditions and Guiding Principles

To respond to the public desires for a vital, social, and healthy community, the Town should develop a detailed plan for amenities. To provide appropriate amenities, the plan should identify and prioritize desired ones such as the following:

- Ice skating rink
- Multipurpose performing arts center
- Sports playing fields
- Additional trails
- Playground for children (pirate ship, climbing wall)
- Zip lines
- Indoor play area
- Dog park
- Public spaces

To be fiscally responsible for the provision of amenities, the plan should be referred to in the Town's Capital Improvement Plan and other budgeting programs and also reviewed during land use and development review for opportunities with new development.

The community values athletics and sports. Two other items to be included in the plan are a strategy for the expansion of events and an approach to community health needs. A strategy for the expansion of events allows for an active and vital social environment for all age groups. The strategy should include public and private funding of events. Such activities or amenities could include:

- Ice sculptures
- Environmental hikes
- Sound and light shows
- Sustainability education
- Concerts
- Mountain events
- Competitions (e.g., bike race l'Alp d'Huez)
- Variety of restaurants and bars

An approach to address community health and medical needs of a full community demographic spectrum should list the essential services, that is, pharmacy, medical, and dental offices. After essential services are identified, Town Staff should ensure zoning allows the group services in one location (new Center, Offices at Snowmass).

Existing Facilities

Snowmass Water and Sanitation District

The Snowmass Water and Sanitation District is a special district and was formed in June 1966. The District's 1966 Service Plan targeted a buildout population of 29,000 people. The district has acquired water rights to meet the average-year and dry-year estimated peak water demands for that population. This equates to a capacity of 6,200 equivalent residential units (EQRs). Currently, the facility is meeting 4,700 EQRs. The District has 5.2 mg (16 acre-feet) of water storage.

For Snowmass Village, water is a limited resource and an element that should be watched while the community grows. It is identified as limiting factor for the Town's carrying capacity. There is some stress in winter when there's a larger local population, and also in later summer when outdoor use increases. The issues for the District are raw water supply and storage capacity. Current storage capacity is 36 percent below the amount needed to serve demand anticipated for Base Village development.

At the time of this report, the District was attempting to securing additional storage at the Ziegler Reservoir to accommodate existing and future growth. The water district has received preliminary approval to move forward to secure this water storage area. This additional storage site would allow additional flexibility for future development and expansion of existing uses, including community amenities and employee housing. If the location is not approved, the Town will need to increase its efforts to work with the District to meet its needs. With this comes an opportunity for the Town and District to develop a common correlation between water use and land use so that water needs can be measured and tracked as future development occurs.

The District's water treatment plant capacity and potable water storage were established by analyzing peak demand for water, fire flows, and emergency storage during a major system failure. The water treatment plant can treat 4.7 million gallons per day (mgd) and has an ultimate design capacity of 5.1 mgd. At capacity, a flow of 6.5 cubic feet per second could be treated by the District. The District operates a sanitary sewage plant that performs primary, secondary, and advanced treatment at a capacity of 3.2 cubic feet per second. Sewer capacity appears adequate to accommodate growth.

Snowmass-Wildcat Fire Protection District

The Snowmass-Wildcat Fire Protection District was organized in 1971 as an all-volunteer department. Since that time, population demands have increased the need for prompt reliable emergency services; this has gradually transformed the Snowmass-Wildcat Fire Protection District into a professional agency with 16 full-time employees and 11 resident firefighter emergency medical technicians (EMTs). The Snowmass-Wildcat Fire Protection District uses nine fire suppression units and three "advanced life support" ambulances that serve the community's citizens, tourists, and day-skier population. The Snowmass-Wildcat Fire Protection District encompasses 21 square miles, which includes the Town of Snowmass Village, Snowmass Creek drainage, and Wildcat Ranch areas. Emergency services mutual aid is offered with cooperation by the Aspen, Basalt, and Carbondale Fire Departments.

Other Districts

Snowmass Village is also a part of the Aspen Public School District RE-1, the Roaring Fork School District RE-1, the Aspen Valley Hospital District, the Colorado River Conservation District, and Colorado Mountain College.

Telecommunication and Transmission Devices

Snowmass Village embraces technology and should continue to in order to proceed as a world-class resort. The Town should evaluate cell phone and other technology needs such as wifi within the community, especially the Town Core.

As technology advances, there will be greater demand for locating new telecommunication reception devices. These devices must be carefully sited to mitigate visual impacts and impacts to environmentally sensitive areas.

Little Red Schoolhouse

The Little Red Schoolhouse is one of the Town's few historic structures. Built more than a century ago, the schoolhouse is owned by the Town and leased to a day-care center for local residents.

Projections for Roaring Fork Valley indicate a 30–80 percent growth in child-care demand over the next 20 years. With these projections, child-care capacity will be exceeded between 2007 and 2012. The Little Red Schoolhouse is at capacity with 10 children in the early childhood facility and 22 children in the preschool facility.

Tree House Adventure Center

The Tree House Adventure Center, a new, state-of-the-art 25,000-square-foot kids ski facility, is located in the Base Village. The Treehouse stands as the first of its kind in the snow sports industry, and will contain a family-friendly climbing gym, teen activities, kids' retail stores, and a host of themed rooms for ages eight weeks and older.

The Aspen School District does not currently have a school or other facilities in Snowmass Village. The current capacity of the district schools includes 25 students at the high school, 140 students in middle school, and 40 students in the elementary schools. The capacity limits are set by policy and not necessarily the capacity of facilities or their ability to expand. An additional Capacity of 300 students could be gained by limiting down-valley enrollment.

Snowmass Village Recreation Center and Gym

The 9,000-square-foot Snowmass Village Recreation Center was opened in 2007. State-of-the-art amenities include Matrix cardio equipment, a weight room, four outdoor pools with water features for kids, and an adult hot tub.

Town Hall Facilities

A new Town Hall was opened to the public in 2008. The facility holds the majority of Town services, including Town Manager/Administration; Police; Finance; Building and Planning; and Marketing, Special Events, and Group Sales. The facility also houses the

Town Council chambers and community meeting rooms. A branch of the Pitkin County Library has been opened in the facility.

The Housing Office is located in Mountain View employee housing complex, Public Works has a facility just east of Town off of Owl Creek Road, and the administrative offices of the Transportation Facilities are located in the Snowmass Mall. The Bus Barn and Shuttle Drivers' Lounge are located in Town-owned condominiums in the Mall.

Snowmass Village Conference Center

In 1984–1985, the Town of Snowmass Village financed the construction of a conference center adjacent to the Snowmass Village Mall. The Town of Snowmass Village manages the 30,000-square-foot conference center but leases the space. The Conference Center hosts a wide variety of conferences and specializes in seminars for medical professionals. (See Chapter 3 for more information).

The Conference Center is viewed as an important facility to the community. There is some threat to the continuance of the facility as it is today. In addition, the need for more large meeting rooms and an expanded facility has been expressed.

Snowmass Chapel and Community Center

In 1987, the Snowmass Chapel and Community Center (SCCC) was constructed to provide counseling services and wedding, worship, and memorial services to residents and guests. Protestant and nondenominational services are held throughout the year, with weekly Catholic mass in the winter months. The SCCC offers 20,000 square feet of chapel and community space.

Synopsis of Public Input

A sense of community is highly valued in Snowmass Village. Participants expressed a desire for liveliness and energy. Snowmass Village was envisioned as a place where residents, guests, and employees could work, retreat, and exist; a healthy place with diversity of age groups. Services, facilities, and amenities build the framework for a healthy, energetic community. Participants supported local-oriented services such as medical and dental offices and more gathering places where our residents can encounter the same people consistently and serendipitously. The expansion of cultural offerings was also strongly expressed.

Vitality and age diversity can be created by meeting other goals of this plan. One prime method is allowing the workforce to live in the community. This brings a broader, younger group into the village to support retail businesses and restaurants year-round.

Below are community values and key issues conveyed during the public process for this update:

Vitality

- Lively place to live, work, retreat, and exist,

- Health promotion
- In-town/on-site employee housing
- Gathering places (errands, events, recreation) provided with development or by the Town
- Create a “Snowmass fun” identity

Culture

- Multipurpose facility (for movies, concerts, conferences, theater, other cultural events)
- Increased cultural opportunities—music, arts, film
- Increased and expanded educational opportunities
- Establish Snowmass Village as the “Arts Education Center of the Valley”

Age

- More age diversity of full-time residents
- Five-star nursing home
- Age-targeted events
- Work center
- Telecommuting program/outreach to companies

Recreational Amenities

- Adequate facilities for aging community members
- Greater diversity of recreation and sporting activities
- Expanded athletic events
- Necessary amenities for all ages to use
- More than just resort-based facilities; also community-based facilities

Government

- Political will/leadership
- Fair, balanced local government
- Balance of resort and community representation {Okay?}

Cohesiveness

- Small population
- Safe
- Social involvement/know your neighbor
- Family friendly
- Community events

Snowmass Village Partnerships

Aspen Skiing Company

The obligations of the Aspen Skiing Company and the Snowmass Land Company—the major property owner and developer in the Town—are contained in various land use approval ordinances and agreements. Under the land use approvals for Two Creeks and the Pines subdivisions, the Land Company is obligated to build specific trails and roads,

to pay specified development mitigation fees, to mitigate wildlife impacts, and to provide a specific number of affordable housing units within the Town. Under the land approval for the ski area expansion, the Aspen Skiing Company must pay mitigation fees to the Town to compensate for transportation and other impacts on the Town.

Roaring Fork Transportation Authority

The Town cooperates with the Roaring Fork Transportation Authority to provide transit services, and is a member of the RFTA board. The Aspen Skiing Company contracts with RFTA to provide base-to-base skier transportation services.

Snowmass Village Resort Association

Prior to the Town's incorporation, Snowmass Village Resort Association (SVRA) was the resort's first governing body. The SVRA provided basic services to the Mall area. It also managed the town's recreation assets as well as marketed the resort. When the Town incorporated, SVRA was relieved from services such as garbage collecting and snowplowing. More recently, the Town's Marketing, Special Events, and Group Sales Department has taken over many of the resort marketing/public relations roles along with marketing and managing the Snowmass Conference Center. Marketing and lodge taxes are the association's funding sources.