



Chapter 4: ENVISIONING THE FUTURE

This chapter conveys the aspirations of the community for future management and investments in parks, open space, trails and recreation resources through a shared **Vision, Goals and Objectives**. While Chapters 1-3 introduced the process and reason for the POSTR Plan, examined current conditions, trends, and opportunities, and considered the economic value of the POSTR system, Chapter 4 defines the direction for the future. Chapter 5 then builds off of that direction to identify specific projects and

recommendations to realize the vision while Chapter 6 provides guidance on how to effectively set the plan in motion.

As this is a policy document, the **Vision, Goals and Objectives** provide guidance for decision-makers and Town leaders in the development of Snowmass Village's POSTR resources. The Vision is a broad, overarching statement relating what the Snowmass Village POSTR system is all about. All goals, objectives, projects and recommendations should

support the **vision**. Goals are more specific than the vision and focus on a particular idea or direction for resources. The **Goals and Objectives** found in Chapter 4 are oriented toward development, design, and implementation of POSTR amenities. They describe "what to do." The **Projects and Recommendations** in Chapter 5 are oriented toward specific projects or management actions related to achievement of the Goals and Objectives. They outline "how to do it."

A POSTR VISION FOR SNOWMASS VILLAGE

The POSTR Plan Vision is an expression of the Town and the community's desired future for parks, open space, trails and recreation in Snowmass Village. The POSTR Plan Vision captures what community members most value about parks, open space, trails, recreation and their community, and articulates a shared image of what they want their POSTR system to become.

At the first Open House for the Snowmass Village POSTR Plan on August 6, 2015, the public was asked about their vision for the POSTR network. The following vision statement encapsulates that feedback, as well as input from the Town and other stakeholders.

To create a fun, diverse and connected system of parks, trails, and open spaces within Snowmass Village that builds upon the vast potential of the Town's already successful recreational environment and that considers a wide range of recreational experiences, programs, and activities for all user groups.

Open House Vision Word Cloud



**Parks, Recreation and Trails
Department Mission Statement:**

“Provide safe, expertly managed recreation programs and facilities that promote community cohesion, physical fitness, as well as family and individual well-being.”

OVERALL POSTR GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

Overall Goal 1: Provide safe and exciting recreation opportunities that reflect the interests and needs of all user groups and individuals within the community.

Objective 1.1: Balance the needs of diverse user groups within the community, focusing first and foremost on the needs of locals.

Objective 1.2: Serve an aging population with social, recreational, active and healthy opportunities.

Objective 1.3: Bring children and families into our parks and give them great reasons to stay and play for a lifetime.

Overall Goal 2: Provide amenities and facilities that offer progressive recreational opportunities and provide learning experiences to new recreational activities.

Objective 2.1: Promote park, open space and trail design that supports the exploration and appreciation of the surrounding natural environment.

Objective 2.2: Explore opportunities for learning through play, introductory experiences of activities, and skills development.

Objective 2.3: Include opportunities for passive recreation that supports the enjoyment of the natural environment.

Objective 2.4: Facilitate opportunities that encourage exploration of new activities (e.g., equipment rentals, skills camps, special events, educational programs).

Objective 2.5: Support exploration of progressive recreational opportunities with relevant programming (e.g., bicycle skills classes, action sports training, etc.).

Overall Goal 3: Engage the community throughout the development and on-going operation of the POSTR network to ensure dynamic community needs are being met and community resources are appropriately utilized.

Objective 3.1: POSTR development should first and foremost meet the needs of locals, which will evolve over time. Continue to use relevant community data to guide selection of amenities.

Objective 3.2: Maintain meaningful public engagement as projects from the POSTR Plan are implemented.

Objective 3.3: Make decisions with consideration of the varied needs of the community, with an emphasis on facilities and amenities that serve multiple uses.

Objective 3.4: Encourage volunteerism and provide clear avenues of participation for community members, including financial, volunteer labor and other areas of support.

Objective 3.5: Promote positive customer service and ensure customer feedback loops.

Objective 3.6: Maintain the momentum created during the POSTR planning process and create a Parks Commission/Committee/Board to represent the varied interests of the Town.

Objective 3.7: Regularly survey residents and visitors to provide clarity on the ongoing recreational demands of the community.

Overall Goal 4: Support the appeal and local benefits of multi-season parks, open space, trails and recreation first and foremost, while recognizing the context of a tourism-driven community.

Objective 4.1: Recognize the potential economic development benefits that may come from drawing in visitors, and that those benefits can help offset the cost of providing resources and facilities to locals, when considering the development of the POSTR system.

Objective 4.2: Integrate POSTR planning with other Town planning efforts.

Objective 4.3: Consider the potential need for additional facilities to serve non-resident users (i.e., signage, parking, rest rooms, Town-wide trail map).

Objective 4.4: Foster opportunities for secondary (local business) revenue generation by considering adjacency of POSTR amenities to commercial development.

Objective 4.5: Incorporate art, history and cultural resources into POSTR designs to celebrate the unique qualities of the Town of Snowmass Village.

Objective 4.6: Capitalize on partnerships with the USFS, ASC, Pitkin County and others to provide complementary attractions within the POSTR recreation network.

Objective 4.7: Encourage local recreation-oriented businesses to support Town-led POSTR initiatives.

Objective 4.8: POSTR development should enhance the Snowmass Village brand identity as a world-class venue for mountain recreation and culture for residents and visitors alike.

Overall Goal 5: Coordinate the development of POSTR components to build a cohesive network of recreational opportunities within the Town boundaries and connect those opportunities to recreation and values beyond the Town boundaries.

Objective 5.1: Carefully integrate the POSTR network so that it is readily accessible from homes, places of employment and key destinations.

Objective 5.2: Prioritize the development of new POSTR amenities that improve the connectivity of recreational activities.

Objective 5.3: Wherever feasible, establish connections between POSTR amenities using the Brush Creek Trail, or other connectivity amenities.

Objective 5.4: Ensure that future larger-scale residential developments include POSTR components that continue connectivity within the community. Development plans should illustrate proposed connectivity to existing and/or proposed POSTR networks.

Objective 5.5: Pursue partnerships that will enhance the POSTR network.

Objective 5.6: Explore partnerships to provide camping opportunities closer to the Town.

Overall Goal 6: Establish and maintain an active partnership with the USFS, ASC, Pitkin County and the City of Aspen that promotes collaboration and access to a broad system of recreational opportunities.

Objective 6.1: Pursue recreational offerings that provide new opportunities in the region and that tend to complement rather than compete with opportunities provided elsewhere in the valley..

Objective 6.2: Conduct regular check-ins with partner organizations to ensure opportunities are realized.

Objective 6.3: Establish a Roaring Fork Valley Recreation Council that includes all regional recreation partners to facilitate holistic, region-wide collaboration.

Overall Goal 7: Utilize financial resources of the POSTR network efficiently and equitably.

Objective 7.1: Meet recreational needs with maximum effectiveness and with minimum expense.

Objective 7.2: Strike a balance between service provision and cost recovery.

Objective 7.3: Overall, maintaining a cost recovery ratio of 50% should be a goal of the staff.

Overall Goal 8: Encourage environmentally sensitive design in order to minimize impacts to each site's natural characteristics.

Objective 8.1: Identify distinctive scenic areas where viewing opportunities or view corridors could be established.

Objective 8.2: Identify environmentally-relevant areas that could become an amenity through the use of innovative design techniques.

Objective 8.3: Where practical, avoid construction in environmentally sensitive areas.

Objective 8.4: Identify key areas with high quality native vegetation, wetlands, or wildlife habitats, and manage them to reduce invasive, non-native species.

Objective 8.5: Utilize non-irrigated landscapes, native species, and low maintenance plant materials when feasible and appropriate for the designated use.

Objective 8.6: Manage POSTR features to prevent overuse that could result in irreparable damage to natural landscapes.

Overall Goal 9: Promote projects and designs that expand access to the POSTR network.

Objective 9.1: Ensure design plans meet all applicable Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) requirements.

Objective 9.2: Prioritize POSTR Plan projects that address identified the gaps in recreational access identified in this plan.

Objective 9.3: Consider use of the Universal Trail Assessment Process (UTAP) to enhance trail access and use for a wide variety of users, including older populations, inexperienced trail users, families and people with disabilities.

Overall Goal 10: Prioritize preventative maintenance and repair of existing facilities, trails and equipment over construction of new facilities to ensure they remain viable community assets long into the future.

Objective 10.1: Assess and inventory existing facility, trail and equipment conditions on an on-going basis.

Objective 10.2: The most heavily used facilities, trails and equipment should be focused on first.

PARKS GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

Parks Goal 1: Design and build parks and recreational facilities that integrate with, and enhance the quality of the community.

Objective 1.1: Consider the Town's brand when developing new or refurbishing old park facilities.

Objective 1.2: Establish connections between parks to create a community-wide network of amenities.

Parks Goal 2: Develop and maintain parks at a level of service that is appropriate for the location and type of use.

Objective 2.1: Follow Establish standards established in the POSTR plan and management plans, and annually assess the need for maintenance and renovation.

Objective 2.2: Provide adequate staffing, maintenance and operations funding to maintain acceptable standards, and adjust to keep pace with the addition of future amenities.

Parks Goal 3: Maximize the community value of Town parks.

Objective 3.1: Integrate park facilities and investments with programming needs and opportunities.

Objective 3.2: Pursue public/private partnerships that leverage Town park facilities and equipment for the greatest benefit to the community.

Parks Goal 4: Provide sufficient park acreage to meet the needs of current and future populations and recreational demands.



Objective 4.1: Regularly survey residents and visitors to provide clarity on the ongoing recreational demands of the community.

Objective 4.2: When determining recreational demands consider the increased user population resulting from non-resident users.

Parks Goal 5: Development of new parks and recreational facilities should be designed in conjunction with the existing trail network to ensure they promote accessibility from surrounding neighborhoods and commercial development.

Objective 5.1: New facilities should expand upon and enhance the existing POSTR network.

Objective 5.2: Development plans should illustrate connectivity of proposed parks to proposed development and existing trail networks.

Objective 5.3: Emphasis should be placed on connections between proposed parks and the Brush Creek Trail.

Parks Goal 6: Improve the efficiency of the limited park land in the Town throughout the year

Objective 6.1: Utilize flexible space to achieve greater utilization of facilities by combining activities that operate in different seasons or at different times of the day.

Objective 6.2: Explore solutions that expand the efficiency of existing resources and space, such as artificial turf or field lighting at Town Park.

Objective 6.3: Emphasize community values and priorities when planning for the Rodeo Grounds/ gateway area.

Objective 6.4: Effectively and efficiently use the capacity of existing space to create more activity in the parks.

OPEN SPACE GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

Open Space Goal 1: Create a network of open space that and celebrates the natural environment and culture of the community.

Objective 1.1: Periodically identify community needs and desires to inform and prioritize new and expanded open space resources through surveys and community outreach efforts.

Objective 1.2: Identify critical areas to be prioritized for conservation and preservation, including environmentally sensitive areas, scenic view and wildlife corridors, riparian areas and wetlands, river corridors, natural filtration and storm water drainage areas, and other community-valued natural resources.

Objective 1.3: Prioritize the acquisition of new open spaces that are multi-dimensional in the resource value they bring to the community.

Open Space Goal 2: Foster cooperative working relationships with adjacent communities, Pitkin County, USFS, and others who share common interest in open space preservation and management.

Objective 2.1: Understand the open space plans and objectives of other regional partners and determine where shared interests exist for improving the overall regional system for residents and visitors.

Objective 2.2: Proactively communicate with regional partners so that unique opportunities for acquisition of important open space are not lost.

Objective 2.3: Partner on grant funding applications to improve chances of success and to leverage financial resources.

Open Space Goal 3: Manage Open Space lands to provide high levels of potential habitat of wildlife species with emphasis on protecting and retaining unique wildlife habitats and key use areas.

Objective 3.1: Implement restorative treatments to create high quality habitat that provides a diversity of age classes and species to benefit all wildlife habitat that makes TOSV open space home.

Objective 3.2: Minimize wildlife fragmentation through appropriate recreation planning.

Objective 3.3: Monitor habitat over time to adapt management practices to the future needs of wildlife.

Objective 3.4: Continue to protect wildlife and their habitat through closures and coordination with Colorado Parks and Wildlife.

Open Space Goal 4: Promote a diverse array of vegetation types on TOSV open space.

Objective 4.1: Promote structural, species, and age class diversity.

Objective 4.2: Restore old roads and disturbed areas back to native vegetation.

Objective 4.3: Eliminate noxious weeds.

Objective 4.4: Protect and restore special habitats like the Upper North Mesa.

Objective 4.5: Restore degraded sections of Brush Creek and other wetlands and riparian areas.

Objective 4.6: Manage open space and vegetation on Town-owned land to achieve fire mitigation goals and objectives.

GARDENS GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

Gardens Goal 1: Continue to maintain Town-managed gardens to the currently high level of quality consistent with the Town's aesthetic character.

Objective 1.1: Follow Landscape Maintenance Standards set forth in the POSTR Plan for Town Gardens.

Objective 1.2: Seek to reduce invasive, non-native species.

Objective 1.3: Design and maintain median gardens within Town to provide a natural appearance.

TRAILS GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

Trails Goal 1: Provide a world-class multi-use trails system that accommodates the needs of **all** user groups and individuals within the community.

Objective 1.1: Provide a range of trail typologies to accommodate all user groups, ages and ability levels.

Objective 1.2: Establish trails in a variety of settings, that provide an experience, connect places of interest, or serve both purposes.

Objective 1.3: Establish a variety of trail lengths that encourage exploration of recreational activities in Snowmass Village, and provide a range of recreational experiences from short to day long outings.

Objective 1.4: Provide rest stops at regular intervals with seating and interpretive features and place rest stops in locations that have long distance views, are adjacent to scenic open space, and/or allow for additional recreational activities.

Objective 1.5: Look for opportunities to connect to regional trail systems (i.e., Sky Mountain Park, USFS, ASC, etc.) to support a continuous network that extends beyond the Town of Snowmass Village.

Trails Goal 2: Encourage sustainable design of trails to ensure safety on multi-use trails and minimize impacts to natural resources.

Objective 2.1: Consider safety on multi-use trails with a focus on design, education, and management, while providing separate facilities where necessary.

Objective 2.2: Utilize current standards and POSTR Plan Trail Typologies for trail surface design that responds to the specific location and ground conditions.

Objective 2.3: When practical, avoid trail construction through environmentally sensitive and/or habitat areas.

Objective 2.4: Design the trail system in response to type and volume of use, to avoid user conflict and overcrowding.

Objective 2.5: Encourage adherence to trail use policies and trail etiquette.

Objective 2.6: Objective 2.6: Maintain the character of trails in natural settings. Do not mow natural surface trails.

Trails Goal 3: Provide a progressive system of trails for all abilities that encourages learning and skills development.

Objective 3.1: Ensure the provision of trails for all ability levels from true beginner through world-class expert trails to allow for residents to progress through each ability level and move on to the next one.

Objective 3.2: Seek synergies within trail opportunities that can provide both beginner experiences and accessible experiences for persons with disabilities.

Objective 3.3: Encourage the integration of the trails system with program offerings.

Trails Goal 4: Ensure the integration of POSTR Plan Trails Projects and Community Connectivity Plan (CCP) Projects to capture both the recreation and transportation aspects of trails in Snowmass Village.

Objective 4.1: Capitalize on the transportation value of recreational trails and walkways while leveraging connectivity improvements for recreation by looking at both as part of the same network.

Objective 4.2: Coordinate implementation of connectivity improvements with POSTR trail connections to ensure both transportation and recreation objectives are being met.

Trails Goal 5: Promote and develop Snowmass as a world-class multi-use trail destination catering to local, regional and destination visitors.

Objective 5.1: Ensure integration of efforts of Snowmass Tourism, ASC, Pitkin County and the City of Aspen to promote Snowmass and the region as a trail tourism destination.

Objective 5.2: Consider how trail and POSTR improvements might contribute to improving the regional International Mountain Bike Association (IMBA) Ride Center Designation from the current “Bronze” designation to “Silver” or “Gold” level designation.

Objective 5.3: Recognize the economic development benefits that come from drawing in trail tourists, and that those benefits can help offset the cost of providing resources and facilities to locals, when considering the development of trails.

Objective 5.4: New trail development should enhance the Snowmass Village brand identity as a world-class venue for trail activities and bicycling.

Adhere to These Standards to Ensure Safety on Multi-Use Trails

“With time, patience, commitment, and cooperation among users and between users and managers as well as diligent and aggressive planning and management, shared-use trails can be an excellent way to accommodate many types of users with minimal conflict.”

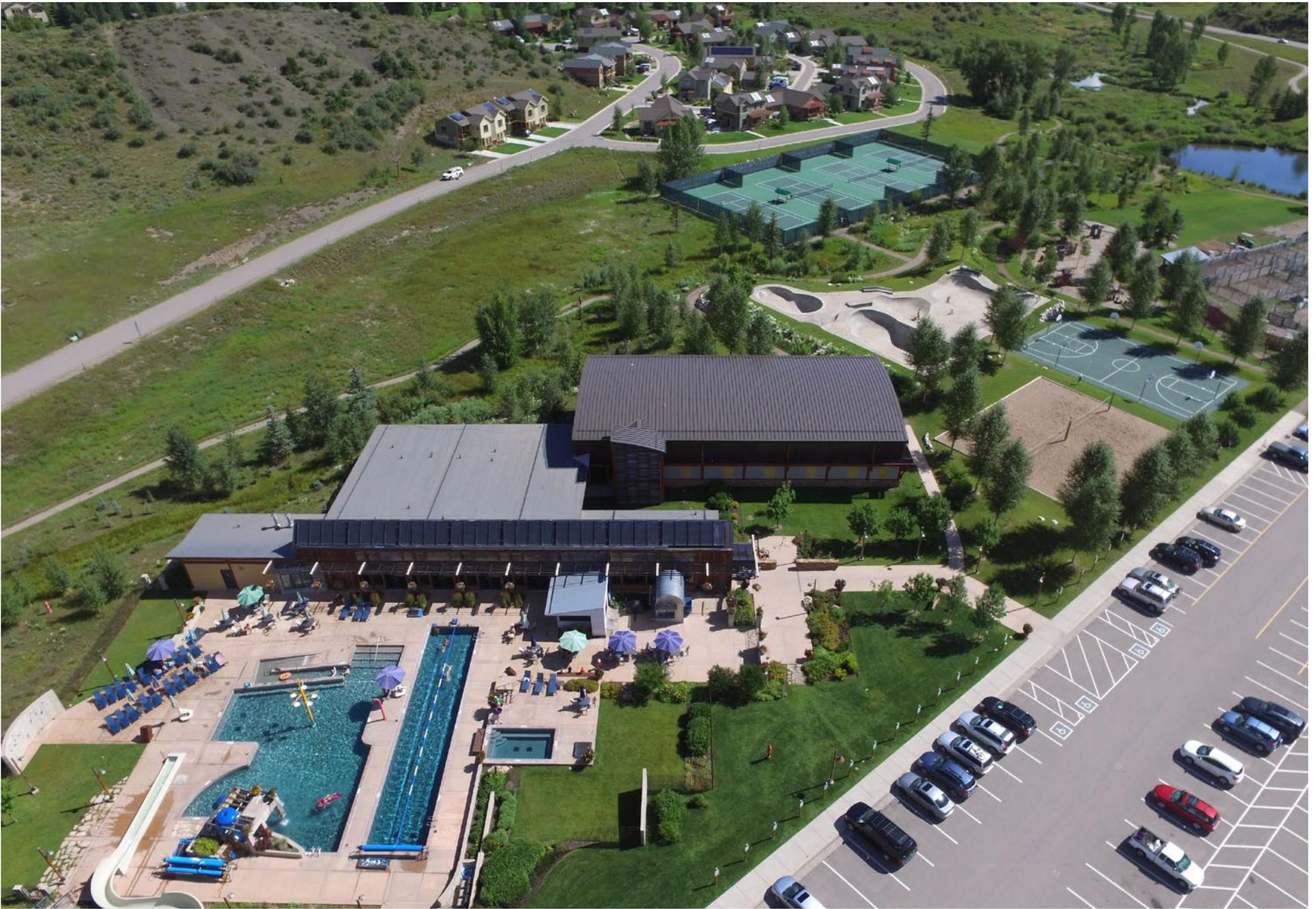
- National Recreational Trails Advisory Committee

Physical Responses:

- Provide a variety of trail opportunities.
- Build trails wide enough to accommodate the expected use, and for safe passing.
- Provide pullout areas where necessary.
- Design in adequate sight distances.
- Design to control speeds where necessary.
- Provide separate trailheads for different users.
- Provide separate trails when necessary and possible. This may be necessary only for problem sections.
- Design and construct trails to minimize erosion.

Management Responses:

- Information and Education
 - Communicate why the trail is shared.
 - Communicate who should yield to whom and why.
 - Communicate the consequences of problem behaviors (e.g., from impact on other users to loss of access for offenders).
 - Build consideration and trust.
 - Communicate physical and social trail conditions to help users have more accurate expectations of what and whom they are likely to find on a particular trail.
- User Involvement
 - Trail Planning
 - Management
 - Conflict Resolution
- Regulations and Enforcement





RECREATION GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

Recreation Goal 1: Teach, learn, and develop skills, abilities and talents for residents and visitors of all ages.

Objective 1.1: Attract and retain high-quality, passionate instructors and trainers

Objective 1.2: Ensure integration of the Recreation Center and POSTR network facilities with programming offerings and learning opportunities.

Recreation Goal 2: Develop new and refine existing programs, tournaments and leagues for families, kids, ladies, men, seniors, and more.

Objective 2.1: Review existing program offerings quarterly to assess success.

Objective 2.2: Quarterly convene program staff to explore new program opportunities that respond to market demand, current industry trends, and community engagement input.

Objective 2.3: Ensure the Town offers programs catering for residents of all ages and abilities, from children through seniors.

Recreation Goal 3: Increase participation in programs with offerings that complement the recreation opportunities provided elsewhere in the region.

Objective 3.1: Offer recreational experiences that differentiate TOSV from its competitors.

Objective 3.2: Coordinate the timing of program offerings to compliment offerings elsewhere in the region.

Objective 3.3: Offer incentives to improve pre-registration in all programming, especially youth programming.

Recreation Goal 4: Effectively promote and publicize recreational programs and events.

Objective 4.1: Expand the marketing capacity of the department in both digital and printed format.

Objective 4.2: Seek marketing partnerships with lodging, recreation-oriented businesses, event organizer and other providers to expand the reach of the department's marketing efforts.

Recreation Goal 5: Continue to improve the existing recreation center and equipment, while pursuing opportunities for future recreational development and a balanced expansion of the facility.

Objective 5.1: Effectively and efficiently use the capacity of existing space to create more activity in the Recreation Center.

Objective 5.2: Group project implementation and carefully phase recreation center expansion to maximize funding and operations efficiencies.

Objective 5.3: Ensure maximum value of recreation facility improvements by coordinating equipment with program offerings and current demands.

Objective 5.4: Regularly survey residents and visitors to provide clarity on the ongoing recreational demands of the community.