



View of proposed changes to Gore Creek Promenade Park in the heart of Vail Village.

Letters to Vail

VHA Works to Strengthen the Vail Community.

Meeting Notice: Modification to the Park on the Gore Creek Promenade in Vail Village
February 4, 2025

Please see correct information below that include zoom attendance link.

https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_bAKS68BERc2RR1kKIFN6qg#/registration

DRB@vailgov.com

DESIGN REVIEW BOARD MEETING

Agenda

Vail Town Council Chambers

2:00 PM, February 5, 2025

1.

Virtual Meeting Link

Register to attend [Design Review Board Meetings](#). Once registered, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining this webinar.

3.4

DRB25-0006 - Gore Creek Promenade

Conceptual review of a renovation

Address/ Legal Description: Gore Creek Drive/Lot A, Block 5B, Vail Village Filling 1

Planner: Greg Roy

Applicant Name: Gore Creek Promenade, represented by Gregg Barrie

[DRB25-0006 Conceptual Plans 2-5-25.pdf](#)

The Town of Vail (TOV) is considering a Town staff plan to modify the park adjacent to the Gore Creek Promenade. The plan involves removal of trees and modification of the stream bank to increase the capacity of the park to handle increased tourism in the area. The park is adversely affected by intensive use during the summer months from competitive kayaking, fly fishing demonstrations, children’s play and other activities.

To increase space for these activities the TOV’s proposal would remove several large trees (as indicated on the plan outlined in red circles) and require the paving over of turf and landscape areas near the bank of Gore Creek. The Vail Homeowners Association (VHA) is concerned that the proposal would change the character and nature of the area. Rather than changing the park’s character, steps can be taken to reduce congestion brought on by the intensity of activities hosted in and near the park. VHA urges concerned property owners to express their views to the Vail Town Council as it is within the Council’s purview to put the matter to rest.



Proposed redevelopment plan for the park adjacent to the Gore Creek Promenade. Red circles indicate trees to be removed.

A group of concerned property owners have organized Protect the Park to preserve what is referred to as Gore Creek Promenade Park. Their views follow.

Protect the Park. The Town staff has submitted their revised/current proposal for the Gore Creek Park for review at the Design Review Board (DRB) meeting on Wednesday, February 5 at 2 p.m. at Vail Town Hall. We encourage you to attend the meeting in person or via zoom and share your thoughts on the plan. After hearing public input at the DRB meeting in January, the planners were directed by the DRB to maintain the evergreen trees in the park. While good news, that is the ONLY change that has been made to the plan. Terrible elements of the plan still remain, including the paving of 65% of the park and the cutting away the creek bank to create a beach.

As you can see from the plan, the park would basically be paved over with just a small bit of grass left at the eastern side of the park. What can be seen on the illustration is a plan to create raised steps of some sort in the grass area, so it would no longer be useable as it is now. We believe there is still much that needs to be changed in this plan to reflect the wishes of the Vail community, who were very clear in stating that they did not want significant changes made to the Gore Creek Park. We encourage you to attend the DRB meeting if possible, email the DRB at DRB@vailgov.com and contact the Town Council at publicinput.vailtowncouncil@vail.gov.

We believe more Vail residents need to learn about the plans the town of Vail has for Gore Creek Park before they become irreversible. This park is the lovely slip of greenery that lies along Gore Creek, east of the International Bridge. Despite years of “Restore the Gore” education to protect the severely threatened Gore Creek, the plan calls for cutting away 6 or more feet of the embankment of Gore Creek to create a “beach area” on the creek side. The potential harm to the creek here has gone unaddressed.

Many residents of Vail have only recently learned of these plans which we think can be fairly characterized as not well-communicated to Vail residents and voters. To many of us, these plans feel extreme and do not reflect the desires of the Vail community and are concerningly irreversible.



Aerial view of Gore Creek and Promenade.

A reader wrote, “I’m writing to say that I hope the VHA continues to serve its very important role as a watchdog and advocate. The VHA’s efforts have been invaluable at keeping folks “honest” and letting local government and officials know that someone is watching. The bigger Vail gets, the more the VHA is needed.”

VHA is a member and reader-supported non-profit funded by voluntary annual dues from condominium associations and individual property owners. Members are largely the part-time resident property owners from

Vail's founding generations. As Vail grows, traditional assumptions of political activism have become more complicated and costly.

Memberships and contributions fuel the VHA reports, *Letters to Vail* and help VHA respond to important issues, expand our reach and ensure transparency. VHA is thankful for the support and participation from the Vail community. We pledge to remain at the forefront of advocating on behalf of the mutual interests of full and part-time residents and property owners.

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