



MEMORANDUM

P.O. Box 4100 ♦ FRISCO, COLORADO 80443

TO: MAYOR AND TOWN COUNCIL
FROM: GILLY PLOG, ENVIRONMENTAL PROGRAMS COORDINATOR
DIANE MCBRIDE, RECREATION DIRECTOR/ASSISTANT TM
RE: FRISCO ADVENTURE PARK – NATIONAL SKI AREAS ASSOCIATION SUSTAINABLE SLOPES
COMMITMENT
DATE: MARCH 9, 2021

Summary and Background: The Frisco Adventure Park is a member of the National Ski Areas Association (NSAA). In 2000, NSAA founded a program called Sustainable Slopes as a way for ski areas to commit to sustainable practices across their operations. Sustainable Slopes is a framework for ski areas to improve sustainability and environmental performance.

If the Town of Frisco decides to commit the Adventure Park to the Sustainable Slopes program, the Town pledges to the following:

- Incorporate sustainability into all aspects of our resort;
- Lead by example, and educate employees and guests about sustainability;
- Place collaboration over competition when it comes to sustainability; and
- Advocate for climate protection.

The Town will also address the following in the Adventure Park operations:

Climate Change: Action and Advocacy	Track target, and reduce carbon emissions; support climate policy that will result in broad-scale carbon emission reductions, promote energy innovation, and support the transition to a clean energy economy.
Energy	Implement energy efficiency measures, increase the use of renewable energy and support decarbonization of the grid to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and address climate change impacts.
Waste	Manage waste in a manner that reduces or eliminates greenhouse gas emissions and protects natural resources.
Transportation	Promote transportation initiatives that ease congestion and reduce greenhouse gas emissions, including support of electric and low emission vehicles.

Education & Outreach	Take a leadership role in sustainability education and outreach.
Supply Chain	Source energy and materials with low or no carbon footprint and encourage suppliers to decarbonize.
Water	Value water as a natural resource by using it as efficiently and effectively as possible.
Design & Construction	Design and construct facilities and trails to minimize impacts and complement the natural landscape.
Forest Health & Habitat	Be responsible stewards of fish and wildlife habitats and managing the forests and vegetation that support ecosystems, exceptional public recreation opportunities, and carbon sinks for greenhouse gasses.

The framework for Sustainable Slopes is built around a digital badge program that reflects existing efforts while also allowing for ongoing improvement. The digital badges can be displayed on the Town's website as well as on the NSAA website.

Analysis: The Town of Frisco's Community Plan outlines the community's desire to "lead by example on efforts to advance community sustainability and the region's ability to prepare for, and adapt to, the impacts of climate change." Committing to NSAA's Sustainable Slopes would be another affirmation of the Town's leadership in this area and would connect the Adventure Park to other like-minded ski areas.

Financial Impact: Sustainable Slopes does not require any financial commitment, it is a framework for future decisions to be made. However, it does open the Adventure Park up for potential grants offered by NSAA's Sustainable Slopes program.

Alignment with Strategic Plan: While this commitment is not specifically called out in the 2020-2021 Council Strategic Plan, it falls under the following goals: implement Peninsula Recreation Area improvements, implement environmental stewardship goals, and continue implementation of Climate Action Plan.

Environmental Sustainability: Participating in the NSAA's Sustainable Slopes program reaffirms the Town's commitment to environmental stewardship and sustainability and provides a framework for all future planning decisions at the Adventure Park that incorporates environmental sustainability at the core of the Adventure Park's operations.

Staff Recommendation: Staff recommends that Council approve the Frisco Adventure Park commitment to NSAA's Sustainable Slopes.

Approved By:

Nancy Kerry, Town Manager
Bonnie Moinet, Finance Director

Attachments:

Attachment 1 – Sustainable Slopes Pledge