

2018 TOWN MANAGER'S BUDGET TRANSMITTAL MESSAGE

The Honorable Mayor, Town Council,
and Residents and Owners of Mountain Village

Submitted herewith is the Town of Mountain Village 2018 Budget and Long Term Financial Plan. This document represents the Town's financial priorities for the fiscal year and it reflects a comprehensive process of allocating resources to programs that have been prioritized as identified by the community and the Town Council.

The importance of setting priorities and focusing on key results lies with the recognition of the cyclical nature of the economy and its impact on annual revenues collected by the Town. Post-recession, the Town was challenged by reduced development related fees and a decrease in property tax revenues. Those new revenue realities resulted in a realization that new strategies were needed to achieve long term continued financial stability. **The Town Council and staff implemented aggressive expense polices, prioritized funded initiatives based on the benefit provided to the community, and a more efficient tax collection process and thereby created a reserve substantially greater than that required by its own budgetary policy.**

In 2017 Town revenues from tourism and related sales and other excise taxes remained stable and demonstrated growth rates commensurate with a stable economic base reflecting the strong state of the Colorado economy. The assessed value for property tax in the Town of Mountain Village has recovered in market value and with recent new construction now hitting the County Assessor's rolls. The development sector in 2017 continued to be busy in the residential sector and the 2018 Budget reflects a conservative fiscal policy balanced to revenues with no plans for new debt.

The surplus generated since 2014 has powered the growth of reserves as a percentage of operating budget to 67% for the 2018 aggregated Town budget.

In summary, the 2018 Town of Mountain Village Budget is sound with investments to keep our economy stable, protect our natural environment and keep our infrastructure in good repair while not increasing debt.

GOALS AND MEASURES

The 2018 Budget represents the tenth year since the initiation of goals and measures into the budget accountability process. Each year since 2009, the town departments have improved upon the measures and continue to focus on improving the services provided to our residents, homeowners, businesses and visitors. By focusing on programs and results rather than line item departmental expenditures, the Town Council can make decisions for resource allocation by evaluating each program and service.

SUMMARY AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Town employees continue to strive for a high level of public service and meeting the demands of the community and visitors. The management team and employees have made it their highest priority to concentrate on our service delivery being of the highest quality.

In closing I wish to commend Mayor Laila Benitez, the Town Council, Department Directors, management staff, Finance Director Kevin Swain, Chief Accountant Julie Vergari, and the Budget and Finance Committee members Dan Caton and Jack Gilbride for responding to the challenges of maintaining the fiscal health of the Town of Mountain Village. This budget represents the Town's continuing effort to provide quality programs and services within revenue constraints while still investing and reinvesting in our facilities and infrastructure.

Kim E. Montgomery
Town Manager