

# Eagle County Regional Transportation Authority Formation Process

## About Eagle County RTA:

The proposed Eagle County Regional Transportation Authority (RTA) formation process is a collaboration between Eagle County, the towns and metro districts in the Eagle River Valley, and the Vail Valley's business community to discuss the viability of formally working together to fund and provide comprehensive transportation services to the residents, businesses and visitors across our community.

- RTA process will engage other stakeholders – including metro districts, business groups, local employers and employees, nonprofits and community members – to identify the region's top transportation needs.
- Stakeholders will discuss how an RTA can provide transit and mobility services – as well as support for EGE air services – to meet the workforce, economic and climate goals of our communities.

## Regional Collaboration:

This process began in response to regional business leaders wanting better solutions for employees and visitors. Similar areas in Colorado, including the Roaring Fork Valley and Gunnison County, have used RTAs and regional cooperation to fund transit needs and improve their transportation services for local users and visitors.

- Now is the time for Eagle County to work toward collaborative solutions that will increase transit and transportation options, while helping employees get to work safely and visitors to enjoy their Eagle County experience.
- RTA members may decide to ask voters in November 2022 to formally approve the RTA and allow it to have funding through dedicated tax.

## RTA Formation:

Establishing an RTA is a formal process set forth in state statute. Over the next year, Formation Committee and Technical Committee members representing Eagle County and the town and metro districts that want to be part of the RTA will work through the legal, financial and technical details of creating and funding an RTA with the goal of crafting an agreement that can gain broad acceptance from the community.

- As a component of this process, we will be engaging in community outreach to ensure that the final agreement reflects the needs and interests of our community.
- RTA members may decide to ask voters in November 2022 to formally approve the RTA and allow it to have funding through a dedicated tax.
- As the RTA process begins, we are looking forward to working collaboratively across our community to plan for, develop, and fund effective transportation solutions that will strengthen our local economy and improve our quality of life.

## RTA Formation Committee

**Jeanne McQueeney**  
Eagle County  
Commissioner

**Sarah Smith Hymes**  
Mayor of Avon

**TBD**  
Town of Eagle

**Tom Edwards**  
Gypsum Mayor Pro Tem

**Lynn Feiger**  
Minturn Council

**Andy Fobair**  
Red Cliff Trustee

**TBD**  
Town of Vail

## RTA Technical Committee

**Tanya Allen**  
ECO Transit Director

**Jen Brown**  
Beaver Creek Resort  
Company

**Paul Gorbold**  
Vail Resorts

**Greg Hall**  
Vail Public Works

**Eric Heil**  
Avon Town Manager

**Melissa Matthews**  
Town of Red Cliff

**Michelle Metteer**  
Town of Minturn

**Brian Nolan**  
Business Owner

**Brandy Reitter**  
Eagle Town Manager

**Jeremy Rietmann**  
Town of Gypsum

**Scott Robson**  
Vail Town Manager

**Chris Romer**  
Vail Valley Partnership

**Bill Simmons**  
Beaver Creek Metro District

**Eva Wilson**  
Avon Mobility Director

### **Memorandum of Understanding (MOU):**

The first steps in the RTA formation process have already begun with the adoption of a Memorandum of Understanding by the participating local governments. Specifically, the MOU:

- Adopted by Eagle County and the towns of Avon, Eagle, Gypsum, Minturn, Red Cliff and Vail in September and October.
- Sets goals, tasks and leadership for RTA formation discussions with local governments, employers, nonprofits, the public and other key stakeholders.
- Creates a public process that will provide numerous points for input and engagement. The process will include public meetings, updates to the BOCC, councils and boards, and a web site with materials available for review.

### **RTA Planning Goals:**

The potential RTA will be focused on regional collaboration and resource sharing to address the following transit goals:

- Enhancing transit service and increase ridership
- Creating broader multimodal integration across the county
- Developing administrative and operational efficiencies across the valley's four transit agencies
- Exploring the ability to expand in the future to areas like Lake County/Leadville, as well as interconnections with neighboring transit systems

### **Specific Transit Enhancements Under Consideration:**

The potential RTA will consider many upgrades to the valley's transportation, transit and mobility options. Below are some of the initial considerations for the RTA's Technical Committee members:

- Improvements to frequency and pricing for ECO Transit routes
- Free and frequent transit between Vail and Beaver Creek ski resorts
- Establishing an Eagle to Gypsum route
- Climate action goals, including electric busses, increased ridership and car trip reduction
- Support for air services at EGE airport

### **Join the Conversation:**

Please forward any questions or requests for information or presentations to:

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**Learn more and sign up for updates at [EagleCountyRTA.org](http://EagleCountyRTA.org)**