

Echo / Bataan Parking: ACC Call for Support

How to support the ACC

Recently, the ACC submitted a rezoning application to change their lease at the base of Grotto Mountain from the designation of "conservation of wildlands" to "direct control" zoning. If approved, this change will allow ACC to develop their lease - one such proposed development is a major parking lot to service the Echo Canyon and Bataan trailhead. You can read more about their plans [here](#).



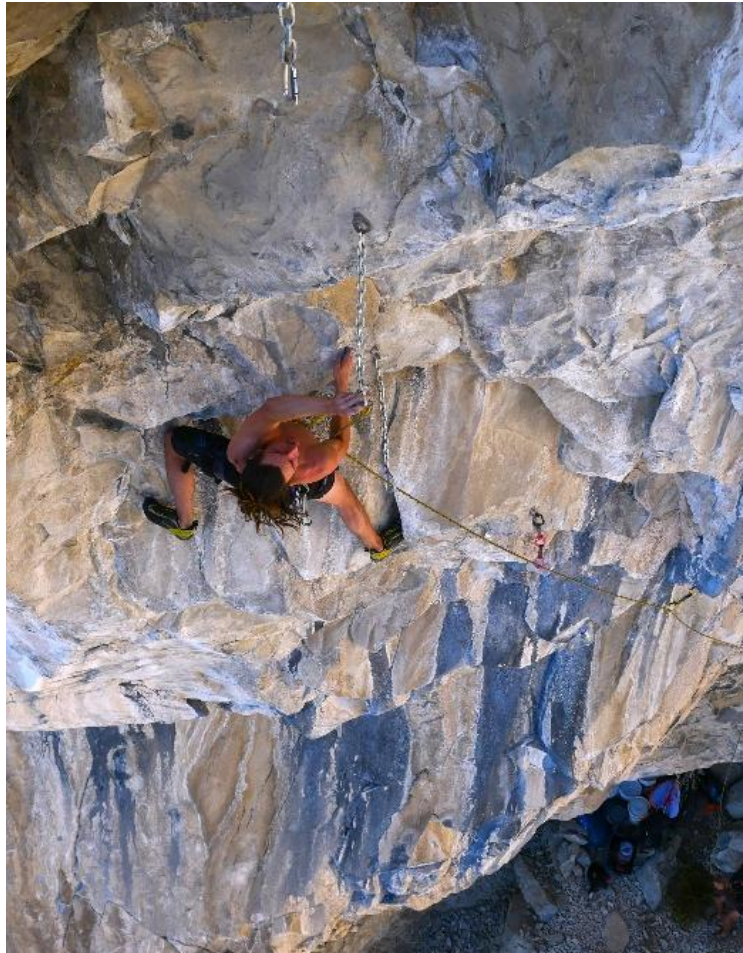
At this stage in the approval process, the ACC needs to convince Canmore Town Council that this rezoning will lead to exceptional community benefit. There are two ways that you can support this:

1. Submit a letter of support to shared.legislativeservices@canmore.ca before 9:00 am on 26.06.2026. BVCAS has put together a template form [here](#).
2. Speak at the upcoming public hearing on 30.06.2026 at 9:00 am at the Canmore Civic Center (or by Zoom). You must register by 12:00 pm on 29.06.2026 to speak. Register by emailing shared.legislativeservices@canmore.ca, visit [here](#) for more details.

We urge you to take a few minutes to voice your support for the rezoning. We believe the rezoning will help legitimize climbing access in the Bow Valley and contribute to a sustainable future for the climbing community.

Key Points

- Include the phrase "exceptional community benefit" and your take on how the rezoning will benefit the climbing community. You can use the BVCAS template and add your own thoughts: <https://www.bvcas.ca/supportacc>



- The ACC is uniquely positioned at the trailhead for Echo Canyon and Bataan, two of the most iconic climbing areas in Alberta, cumulatively hosting nearly 500 routes. Popularity of climbing and these destinations has rapidly grown over the past decade and is under acute pressure due to access restrictions imposed by mine activity. Now, parking constricts Indian Flats Road where larger vehicles, including trucks with horse trailers, jeopardize safe public access to the trailhead.
- The ACC is a longstanding non-profit that has contributed to and supported mountain culture in Canmore for over 50 years, and Banff for another half century before that. To continue to support the evolution of climbing and handle new challenges in sustainability with growing popularity, the ACC needs to be able to update its infrastructure.
- The rezoning will contribute to the legitimization of climbing, which will lead to better access, safety, sustainability and community growth. A recent report suggested rock climbing brings more than \$25 million into the local Squamish economy annually. The Bow Valley may expect similar numbers if it embraces the sport and the community with improved infrastructure and spaces.