

# **Visit Estes Park**

# AGENDA FEBRUARY 23, 2023



- Call to Order by Chairperson Sean Jurgens
- Approval of Agenda and Minutes
- Town Board Comments
- Call for Board Member Updates
- Public Comments
- Reports by Ex Officio Board Members
- Report by CEO Kara Franker
- Frozen Dead Guy Days Update
- Visit Estes Park Staff Updates
- Acceptance of Financial Statements
- Strategic Plan Review
- Additional Items & Discussion
- Adjourn

# Call to Order by Board Chair

- 1. Motion to approve agenda.
- 2. Motion to approve minutes.
- 3. Call for Town Board updates.
- 4. Call for Board Member updates.
- 5. Call for public comment.

#### **BOARD VOTING ROSTER**

Chair Sean Jurgens
Vice Chair Deborah Gibson
Treasurer & Town Trustee Scott Webermeier
Secretary McShan Walker
Director Pat Murphy
Director Rich Chiappe
Director Jerusha Rice

# Ex Officio Board Member Updates



# Kyle Patterson



# ESTES Adam Shake



# Colleen DePasquale





# Official Festival Poster

Listen to lineup here:





# eNewsletters







#### Lineup Announcement

• 41.5% open rate

#### **Event Highlights**

• 32.6% open rate

#### Industry Average Open Rate:

• 21.33%



# Frozen Dead Guy Days Paid Media



JUST ANNOUNCED

Kyle Hollingsworth Band

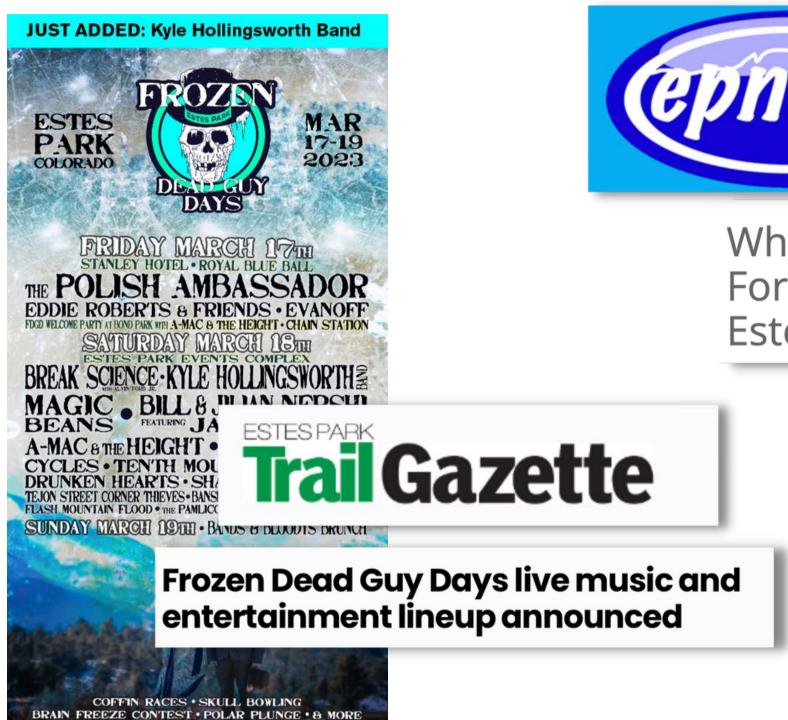
March 17-19 | Estes Park, CO

FrozenDeadGuyDays.com





### Local Media Sponsorship



FROZENDEADGUYDAYS.COM



Who's Playing Dead? Live Music Lineup Revealed For Inaugural Frozen Dead Guy Days Festival In Estes Park







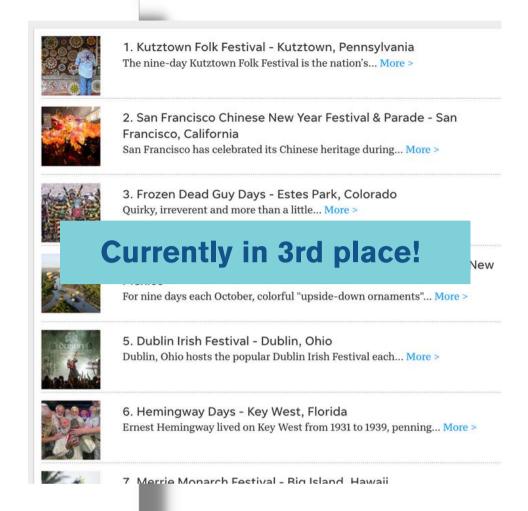
Shakespeare's The Tempest Instructor At The Community Cente



#### **Vote for Frozen Dead Guy Days**

**Best Cultural Festival** 

Quirky, irreverent and more than a little macabre, Frozen Dead Guy Days in Estes Park,
Colorado centers around the cryogenically frozen corpse of Bredo Morstoel, a Norwegian
patiently awaiting reanimation in the town of Nederland. Events include coffin races,
frozen T-shirt contests, a Blue Ball held at Stanley Hotel, and a deadman fashion show.





# Media Coverage



# **Spin Right Round Into Spring with These Travel Ideas**

From Pi Day to St. Patrick's Day, plus one frozen dead guy.

#### Party with the cryogenically frozen in Colorado

Seems they'll celebrate anything in Colorado—including the cryogenically frozen Grandpa Bredo Morstoel, who died of a heart attack in Norway (so the story goes) in 1989. He was transported to a cryonics facility in California by his daughter and grandson, both advocates of cryogenics, where he was stored in liquid nitrogen. He was then brought to stay with them in Colorado, and is now the reason it's illegal in Nederland to store a dead guy on your property.

The son was deported, the daughter evicted (details get murky here), but Grandpa Bredo was grandfathered in, as it were, and is currently kept inside a Tuff shed on a bed of dry ice replenished every so often by an iceman named Brad. And since 2002, the community has honored him with the Frozen Dead Guy Days festival (March 17–19), a morbidly rambunctious weekend of coffin races (BYOC), a hearse parade, frozen t-shirt contest, costumed polar plunge, human foosball, bands, and a brain freeze contest where you slurp down icy slushies. This year, in the festival's new location of Estes Park, they've also added roaming circus acts and a deadman fashion show. Might we suggest some frozen hairstyles?



# TV Commercials

Date	Air Time	Show	Time Period
2/21/23	11:54:34 AM	Today Show 4th Hour	11a-12p
2/21/23	12:14:10 PM	9News at Noon	12-1230p
2/21/23	2:01:04 PM	NBC News Daily	1-2p
2/21/23	2:20:32 PM	Dateline	2-3p
2/22/23	11:31:19 AM	Today Show 4th Hour	11a-12p
2/22/23	1:55:04 PM	NBC News Daily	1-2p
2/22/23	2:30:31 PM	Dateline	2-3p
2/22/23	4:25:06 PM	Local News @ 4p M-F	4-5p
2/22/23	4:44:45 PM	Local News @ 4p M-F	4-5p
2/23/23	10:38:40 AM	Colorado & Company	10-11a
2/23/23	12:13:40 PM	9News at Noon	12-1230p
2/23/23	2:49:44 PM	Dateline	2-3p
2/23/23	3:24:50 PM	Daily Blast Live 3-4p	3-4p
2/24/23	10:19:52 AM	Colorado & Company	10-11a
2/24/23	10:58:00 AM	Today Show 4th Hour	11a-12p
2/24/23	12:59:15 PM	NBC News Daily	1-2p
2/24/23	3:12:00 PM	Daily Blast Live 3-4p	3-4p



# FOMO Campaign for Lodgers

Dear Lodging Partners,

We need your help. We want to be able to demonstrate that bringing in new and exciting events during the off season, like Frozen Dead Guy Days, will have a direct correlation to heads in beds at your property.

We are executing a marketing campaign to promote the festival and we are targeting folks in the Front Range. We're using paid social media, programmatic digital ads, billboards and more.

However, we also want to specifically target loyalists that have already been to YOUR property. With that said, those guests may not fully get the whole Frozen Dead Guy Days vibe and the quirkiness of it. It is all kinda weird! And that's totally fine. So we have a specific campaign for them saying that they will miss out, if they don't come to town to be a part of the festive and fun atmosphere. We're playing up the FOMO aspect. And that this is the first of what we hope will be more fun events to come.

#### Here's my ask of you:

- 1. Would you send out our FOMO campaign email blast to your list for your property?
- 2. If you don't have the time or resources for that, can my team send it out to your list for you?

The email for you to cut and paste is below. Or, <u>here is a PDF</u> that you can use to drop into your email system, along with a few <u>photos</u>, if you'd like to use them.

And would you mind letting me know if you send it out, when and how many are on your list? We'd love to help keep track of the community's efforts!

Thank you! Kara You do not want to miss St. Patrick's Day weekend in Estes Park this year or you will have serious FOMO.

You've heard about that quirky Frozen Dead Guy Days music festival, right? The one revolving around the Norwegian guy in Nederland who asked his family to cryogenically freeze his body in the mountains back in the 90s? Only in Colorado folks!

Well, after being canceled in Ned, the festival is now happening in Estes Park and this first year is going to kick off a brand new era in our beloved mountain town. You don't want to miss this and you should come stay with us.

#### 9 Reasons To Come Back to Estes Park on this Crazy + Fun Weekend

- It's the dawning of a new era for festivals and musical events in Estes Park. And you need to be part of that history or you will have serious FOMO.
- Where else in the world can you celebrate St. Patrick's Day weekend AND a music festival as quirky as Frozen Dead Guy Days? Estes Park, of course.
- Music lovers unite! Festival organizers have produced a line-up of really great local and regional bands for the big Saturday event. There is something for everyone, especially if you love Colorado jam bands.
- Music, food and beer, oh my! Our home grown Lumpy Ridge Brewery and others around town are crafting specialty beers, cocktails, packages and all kinds of quirky stuff.
- 5 Live like a local. Whether you attend the music festival at the Estes Park Events Complex or not, imagine all of the people watching you can do around town because this festival draws an interesting crowd!
- Have you ever tried a polar plunge!? One of those is happening! Here's your chance to join the fun at Coffee on the Rocks and show your friends how brave you are.
- 7 Get ready to throw a pint back at Cousin Pat's on Friday where they'll have bands and their own twist on an Irish Wake.
- Brunch with a twist! Yep, restaurants all around town are hosting a Sunday event called Bands and Bloodys to cap off a fun-filled weekend.
- 9 Free shuttles! Get around town all weekend for free.
- 10 We have a killer lodging package for you, so make sure you book before we're sold out!

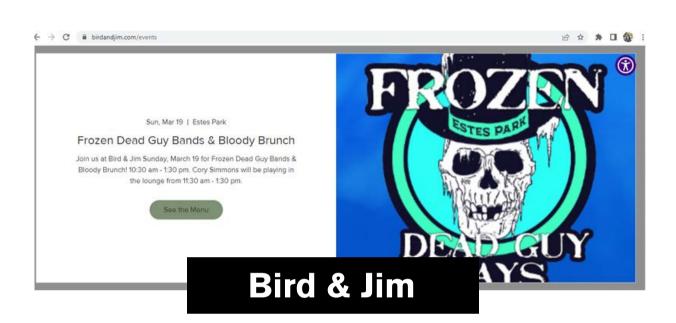
For more info about everything that's happening Friday March 17 through Sunday March 19, go to frozendeadguydays.com.

See you on St. Patrick's Day Weekend!



### Partner Shoutouts!





Rocky Mountain Hotel FROZEN DEAD GUY DAYS
ESTES PARK
MARCH 17-19, 2023

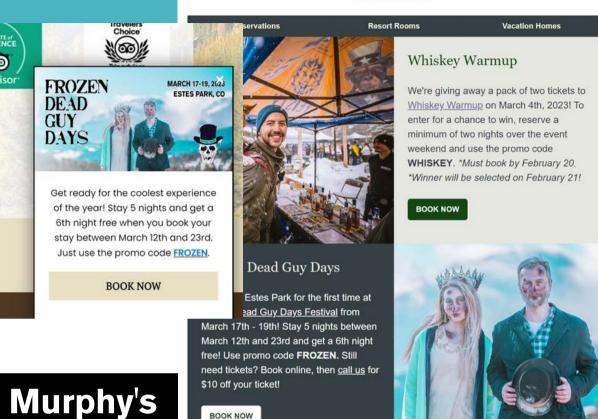
FROZEN

DEAD-GUY
DAYS

STAY WITH US FOR THIS
SPECIAL EVENT USE RATE
CODE DEAD75 TO RECEIVE A

DISCOUNT

CALL 970-586-5363
ROCKYMOUNTAINHOTEL.COM



#### Windcliff



#### FROZEN DEAD GUY DAYS

ONE OF COLORADO'S MOST BELOVED ANNUAL EVENTS FOR MORE THAN 20 YEARS

Taking place over St. Patrick's Day weekend on March 17-19, 2023, the reborn **Frozen Dead Guy Days** will feature live music and entertainment all weekend long, and will be held at the **Estes Park Events Complex** and The Stanley Hotel, with satellite events occurring around town

Book a reservation with us staying over one or more of these dates to receive two complementary tickets to Frozen Dead Guy Days Festival!

BOOK NOW - GET TWO COMPLEMENTARY

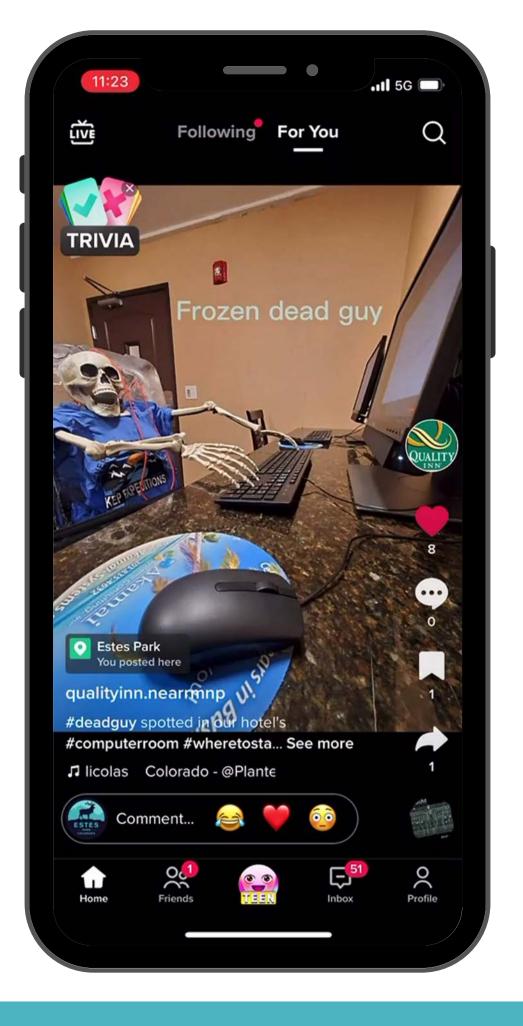
#### Ram's Horn



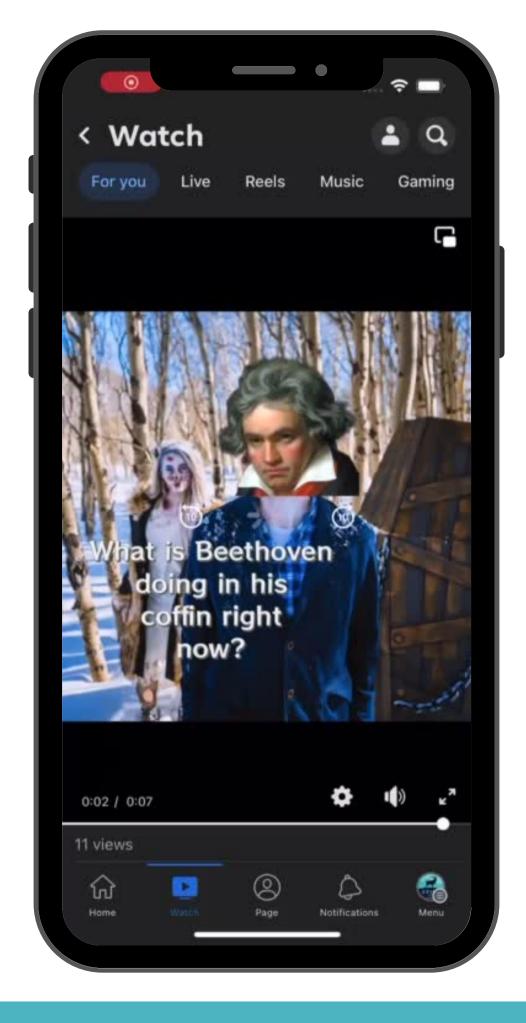
Join is for the First Ever Frozen Dead Guy Days in Estes Park!



# Special Shoutout to Quality Inn...



# & to Estes Park Ride A Kart!





## **BookDirect Widget**

#### **Top Packages Receiving Referrals to Lodger Websites**

PROPERTY	PACKAGE	
YMCA of the Rockies - Estes Park Center	\$89 Lodging Festival Specia	
The Ridgeline Hotel Estes Park	2 Night Frozen Dead Guy Days Package	
Cabins at Rams Horn Village Resort	Don't Wake the Dead Two Night Special	
Quality Inn - Estes Park	FDGD Package	
Quality Inn - Estes Park	FDGD Package	
Mountain Village at Lake Estes	Frozen Dead Guy Days	
Fall River Village Resort	Frozen Dead Guy Days Nederland Resident Discount	
Colorado Cottages	Frozen Dead Guy Days Special!	
Estes Lake Lodge	Frozen Dead Guy Days Special!	
The Stanley Hotel	Frozen Dead Guy Room Package	
Windcliff Luxury Vacation Rental Homes	Two Free Tickets with Luxury Home Rental	
The Rustic Acre	Two free tickets with stay at The Rustic Acre	

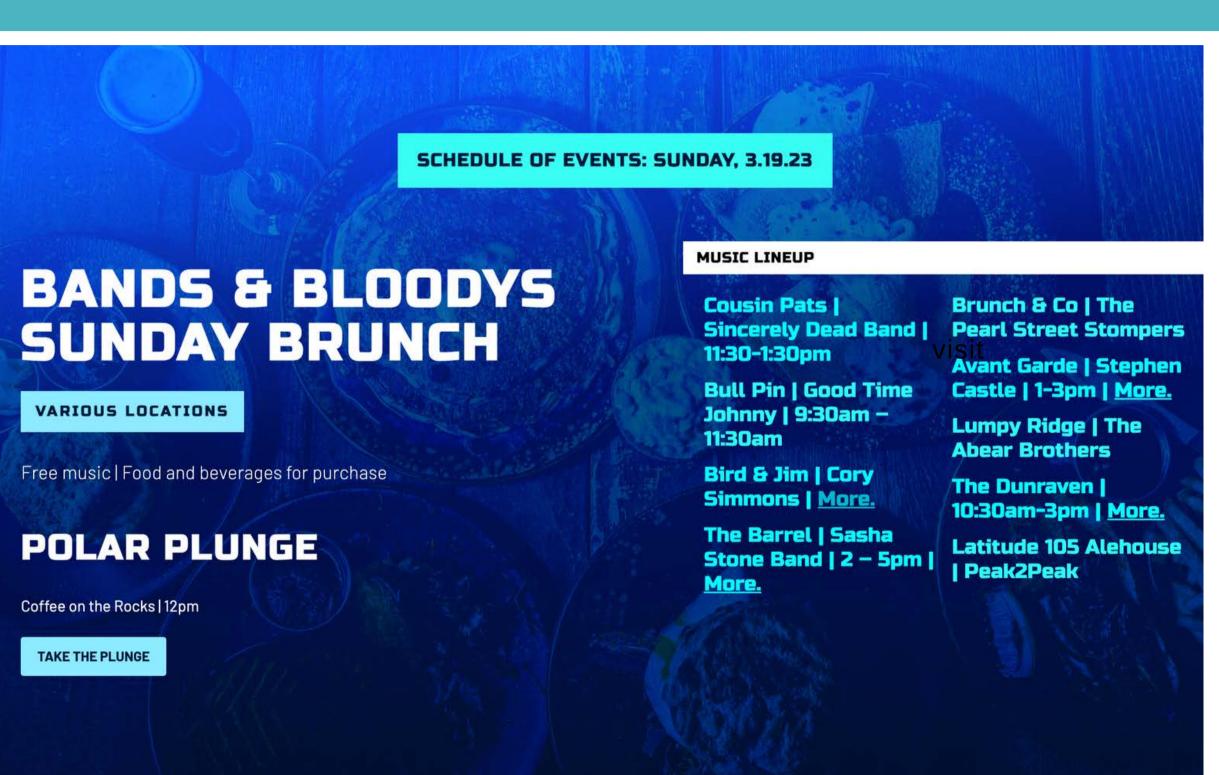
#### **Amount of Referrals to Stakeholder Websites**

TOTAL	ALL LODGING	CABINS & COTTAGES	PET FRIENDLY
444	436	2	6

#### **Amount of Lodging Searches on FDGD.com**

TOTAL	ALL LODGING
1329	1329

### Phase II of Website







## **Lodging Tax Extension**

# DENVER BUSINESS JOURNAL

What is unique about Estes Park's action, however, was that rather than just asking if it could divert a portion of its existing tax-revenue stream for these new purposes, it convinced voters to add onto that tax to help with the housing shortage. That is why many eyes in Colorado's sprawling tourism industry are on the 5,900-person Larimer County town to see how much of a difference its efforts can make toward boosting its tourism industry — not by bringing in visitors, but by helping the workers who welcome those visitors.

# Can workforce housing boost Colorado's tourism economy? Estes Park is about to find out.

The town diverted lodgers' tax revenues away from marketing to housing in November.



### **U.S. Travel Association**



After perhaps experiencing revenge-travel fueled pandemonium in 2022, there appears some wariness of the travel industry among traveling consumers. Further price gouging (25%), labor shortages (24%) and an increasingly frustrating domestic travel experience overall (22%) are among the top scenarios we tested that Americans feel are likeliest to occur in 2023.

### **Skift Take**

# Pandemic Tourism Boost to Less-Crowded Locations Is Slowing Down Pural and outdoor

Rural and outdoor destinations were banking on the brand awareness they built during the years that major urban destinations were out of the competition. But return-to-normal may be eroding the visitor numbers from the pandemic years as tourists return to more crowded locations. Still, out-of-the-way places are confident travelers will still seek that breath of fresh air.

Dawit Habtemariam

# **Expedia Traveler Insights Report**



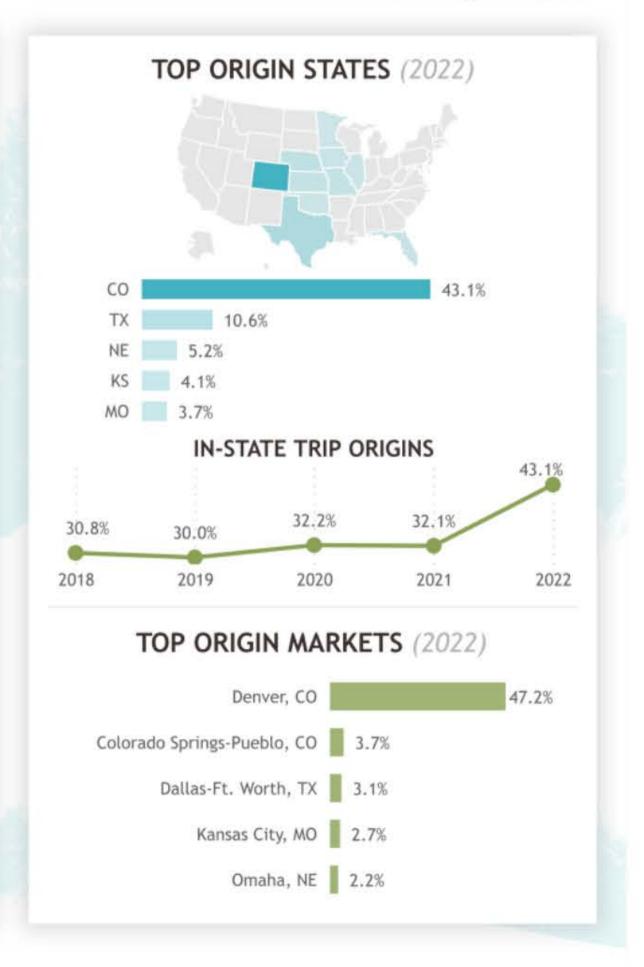
Usage of the Expedia.com and Hotels.com "business-friendly" accommodation filter in Q4 2022 increased by triple digits year-over-year.

#### **KEY FINDINGS**

- Although device trip counts are not any estimation regarding volume, 2022 as a year reported the least amount of devices recorded since 2018.
  - In regards to device trips across the 12 months, an overall positive trend arose as the year progressed. With a slight dip in November, trip counts climbed back to this trend in December.
- Length of stay reached the highest since recording began this year. 2022 estimated a mean of 2.4 days spent in-destination, and this metric steadily grew since 2018.
- The amount of trips touching a hotel POI stays within the 70-80 percent range throughout recorded years, but the proportion of trips that touched an airport POI decreased by -31% from 2021 reporting.
  - 17.4 percent of trips in 2022 touched an airport, which is similar to 2018-2020's approximate 19 percent.
  - 2021 stood out with 25.2 percent of trips visiting an airport POI.
- · 43.1 percent of all trip devices originated in-state in 2022, which is the highest recorded in-state origins for a year since reporting began.
  - When compared to prior years, 2018-2021 reported around 31 percent of devices sourced from Colorado.
    - Denver and Colorado Springs-Pueblo were the top in-state, and overall, markets recorded.
  - · Top out-of-state origins for Estes Park include Texas, Nebraska and Kansas.
    - . The out-of-state markets of Dallas-Ft. Worth, Kansas City and Omaha are in the top five source metros for Estes Park.
- In regards to time spent in destination touching any POI, the time spent at attraction POIs is similar to prior years. However, time spent at hotels/lodging POIs has risen since 2020.
- An interesting note is the decrease in average attraction and region POIs visited. Trips visited a mean of 3.6 attractions and 3.0 regions while in Estes Park this year.
  - This metric has declined slightly quarter by quarter since 2022 began, for 2022 began in Q1 with a reported 6.9 average attractions and 6.5 regions which decreased slightly then on.







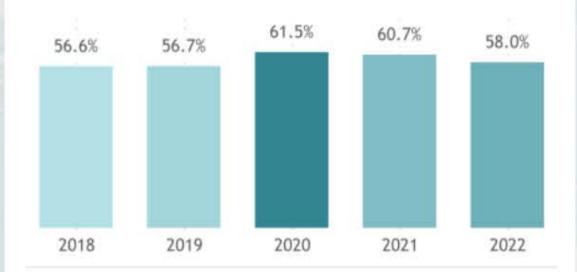
#### VISIT ESTES PARK 2022 Year End



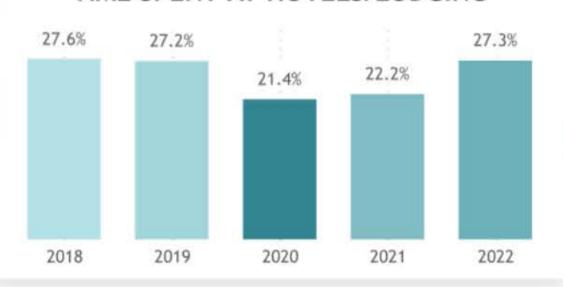
#### TIME SPENT AT EACH PO



#### TIME SPENT AT ATTRACTIONS



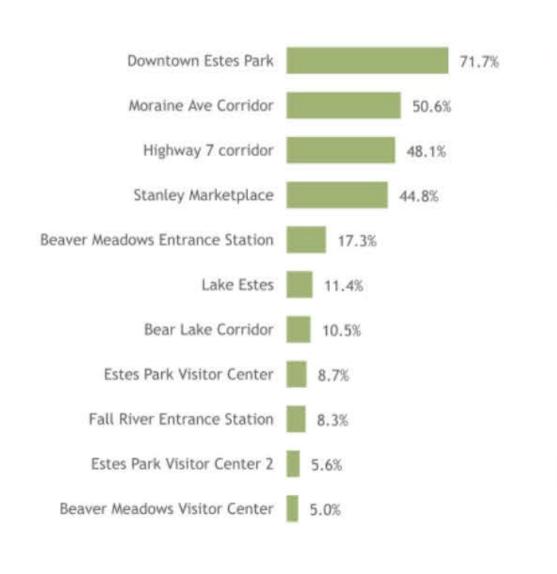
#### TIME SPENT AT HOTELS/LODGING



#### **AVERAGE ATTRACTIONS VISITED**



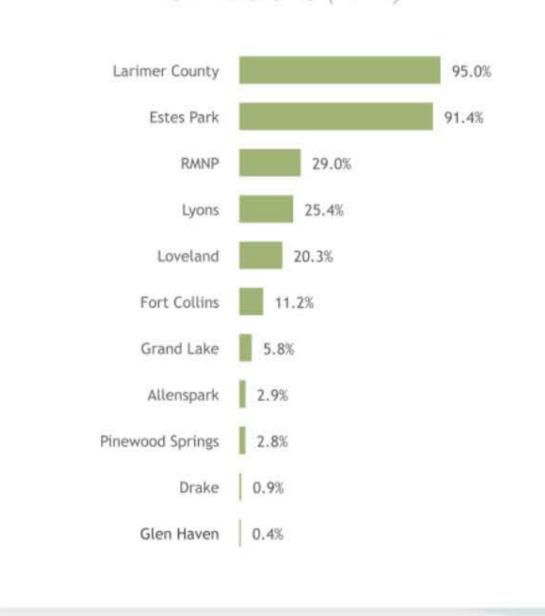
#### **TOP ATTRACTIONS (2022)**



#### **AVERAGE REGIONS VISITED**



#### TOP REGIONS (2022)



# Visitor Intercept Surveys

RRC Associates (based in Boulder) will conduct intercept surveys during 4 seasonal periods:

- March 15 April 15
- July 1 July 31
- September 1 October 1
- November 24 December 23

## Visitor Intercept Surveys

The research program includes the following components:

- Focus on visitor experience & behavior in Estes Park
  - Three to four additional questions customized for the following events:
     Frozen Dead Guy Days, Rooftop Rodeo, Elk Fest, ScotFest, Catch the Glow
- Post-visit surveys sent to intercept respondents who provide a valid email address
- Seasonal reporting following each 30-day period
- Final report and presentation to VEP stakeholders
- All survey comments will be received in a formatted excel spreadsheet
- Goal is to complete 1,300 surveys over the 4 seasonal periods



# Rebecca D. Gelsinger



# Connecting with Partners

- Chamber Events
  - Business After Hours
  - Coffee Connections
  - Estes Next
  - Food for Thought
- EPNRC Queen's Ball





# **Community Support**

#### Isabella Bird:

Save the Date: November 10, 2023 at The Stanley Hotel

#### **Community Picnic:**

MacGregor Ranch is turning 150 this year and they've reached out to us and the Chamber to help plan a Community Picnic to celebrate. Hope to see you on August 23!

#### **Restoration Ranch and Valor Vacations:**

Providing support to dispatchers, first responders, emergency department personnel, members of the judiciary and their families by providing access to opportunities for relaxation, reflection, recreation, health and wellness.



# Transportation

Dana has begun connecting with local and regional partners to learn how we can support transportation efforts to help provide a better visitor experience and reduce greenhouse gas emissions. Dana met with the Colorado Tourism Office (CTO) and Bustang to see how we can help support this initiative. Due to our interest in this program a marketing committee has been created. Dana is also working with the Town of Estes Park Public Works Department, Vanessa Solesbee and Dana Klein in ways to help support the transportation needs in Estes Park.



# Community Roundtable

#### **Topic: The Workforce**

#### Speakers from:

- Larimer County Workforce and Development
- CSU Career Center
- Adecco Recruitment Agency
- Larimer County Work-Based Learning
- CSB International
- Estes Chamber of Commerce

#### WHEN?

March 1, 2023, 3pm - 5pm

#### WHERE?

Estes Valley Community Center 660 Community Dr, Estes Park, CO 80517

RSVP to colleen@visitestespark.com by February 24.

# **Beyond Winter**

Our focus for January was snowshoeing and other outdoor recreation activities. We also started collecting Frozen Dead Guy Days offers, in addition to other winter/event-related offers. Here are our special offer metrics for January:

- Total Number of Special Offers: 122
- Total Number of Website Click-throughs: 1,823
- Top Performing Specials:
  - The Stanley Hotel's Frozen Dead Guy Days Room Package 140
  - Kent Mountain Adventure Center's Half-Day and Full-Day Snowshoe Packages - 118
  - Backbone Adventures Jeep Special 108
  - Kirks Fly Shop & Mountain Adventures Guided Snowshoe Hikes - 102
  - Yellow Wood Guiding Guided Snowshoe Tours 101



## Tradeshows

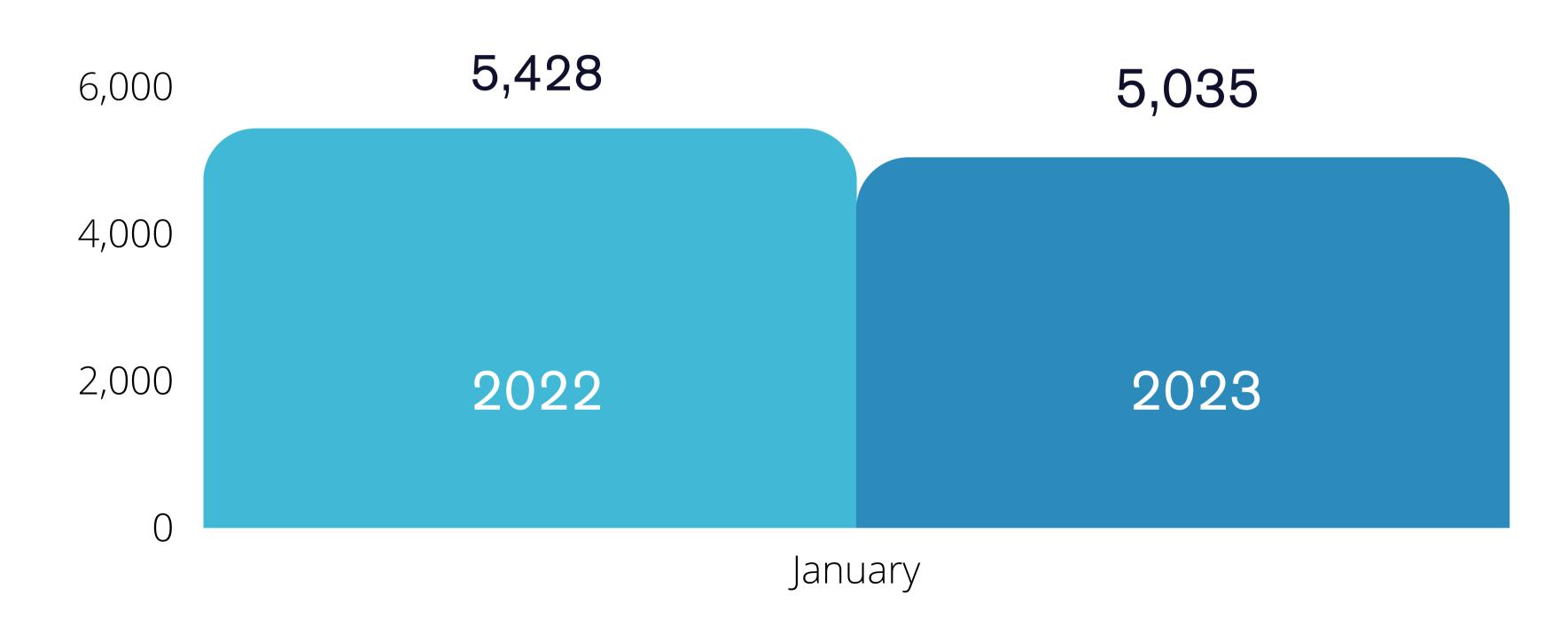
- Colleen attended the Rocky Mountain Bridal Show on January 29 and Estes Park Wedding Association on February 5.
   Upcoming industry events that Visit Estes Park
  - March 2-3 MIC Educational Conference & Trade Show – Denver

is attending:

March 9 – Destinations International Sales
 & Services Summit – National Harbor,
 Maryland



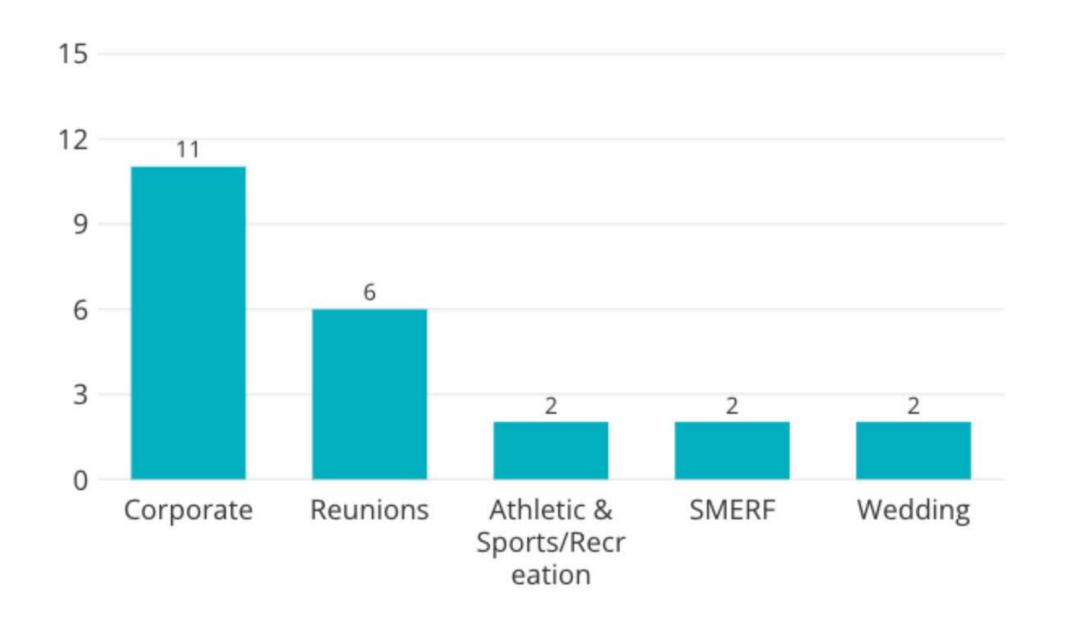
# Estes Park Visitor Center: Guest Count



# Group Sales: January 2023 Leads

23 leads were received in
January equating to 5,784
requested room nights with an
estimated economic value of

\$1,021,040



SMERF stands for social, military, educational, religious and fraternal groups



# Heidi Barfels



#### **Destinations International**

### Marketing & Communications Summit - Norfolk, VA

#### **Key Takeaway**

- Visit Estes Park is ahead of the curve. Many of the key communications recommendations made are things we are already doing, including:
  - Incorporating advocacy work into communications positions
  - Taking on "non-traditional" projects or contributing to projects that benefit the community as a way to build relationships and earn a seat at the table for important conversations
  - Sending a regular e-newsletter to stakeholders
  - Advocating for issues that are related to the tourism economy
  - Creating an internal task force or committee to work on issues of equity, diversity and inclusion
  - Creating a resource bank for partners
  - Facilitating community sounding boards/fireside chats to understand the current situation and how to plan for the future
  - Becoming involved in community organizations
  - Using data to make strategic decisions





#### The Rundown: January Video Digest

Watch this short video from Visit Estes Park CEO Kara Franker to hear marketing, organizational and financial updates.

Highlights include updates on Frozen Dead Guy Days, VEP's Q1 media strategy and an overview of community initiatives.



## January Stakeholder eNews

#### Frozen Dead Guy Days Marketing Toolkit

#### ICYMI: Utilize our Frozen Dead Guy Days marketing toolkit in your promotions

Find photos, logo variations, social captions and the official press release announcing the event in our marketing toolkit. A FAQ sheet that answers the who, what, when and where of the event is located there as well. **Access the toolkit** here.

#### **Digital Marketing Consultations**



#### Schedule a free digital marketing consultation with DTN

DTN, Visit Estes Park's partner for paid content opportunities on VisitEstesPark.com, is currently offering free digital marketing consultations. Consultations include a surface audit of your website, SEO, reviews and the consistency of your brand.

If any of these thoughts resonate with you:

- Are budget conscious but know your digital marketing strategy needs some love.
- Have limited digital marketing expertise and don't have the time to become an expert.
- Are not connecting with customers in the way they want to connect (instantly and in real-time),
- . Have a website but aren't able to transact with your customer online,
- Are not managing your reviews, good or bad, which means you're missing out on opportunities to cultivate advocates for your business,
- Or want to have confirmation that you are doing the things you need to do digitally,

Schedule your free 60-minute meeting here.

#### **Now You Know Videos**

#### A partnership with Nick Mollé Productions will produce short videos to educate quests

Visit Estes Park is working with Nick Mollé to create short "Now You Know" videos. The goal is to share his wealth of knowledge with Visit Estes Park social followers and blog readers as a way to help guests learn about the history, culture and natural environment of the area. Please feel free to share them with your guests as well.



watch the first Now You know video produced for visit Estes Park by Nick Molle, where he discusses the early days of Estes Park and how it contributed to the creation of Rocky Mountain National Park.

#### Resources

#### Upcoming events to help you plan

Use this list when planning staffing, promotions, entertainment or inventory for the next few months.

	Upcoming Events:	February 1 - March 31, 2023			
Event	Date	Location	Estimated Attendee		
Wine & Chocolate Festival	February 4, 2023	Estes Park Events Complex	1,000		
Whiskey Warm Up	Merch 4, 2023	George Hix Riverside Plaza	550		
Frozen Dead Guy Days	March 17-19, 2023	Estes Park Events Complex, The Stanley Hotel, and other locations around town.	4000		

#### Partner Events & Happenings

#### Opportunities to attend educational, informational or professional development events around town

Check out these upcoming events from the Estes Chamber of Commerce.



#### Food for Thought: Exchange Visitors and High School Interns

When: February 15, 5:30 - 7 p.m. Where: Mama Rose's Restaurant

Enjoy a delicious meal as speakers discuss staffing options in Estes Park including high school interns and J1 visa students.

Find more information here.



#### Estes Next: The Arts

When: February 22, 5 - 7 p.m. Where: The Arts Center of Estes Park

Learn about the Arts in Estes Park at Estes Next, an event giving the community's workforce a place to learn and meet peers in a casual environment.

Find more information here.

Open Rate: 48.5%

Avg Industry Open Rate: 21.33%

## Paid Media: Travel + Leisure

#### TRAVEL+ LEISURE

View on the Web

#### TRAVEL+ LEISURE



Dear Travel + Leisure subscriber:

We're always searching for special offers to benefit Travel + Leisure subscribers. Here's an offer from one of our partners that we thought might interest you.



#### **Explore Estes Park, Colorado**

A mountain getaway to Estes Park offers endless options for outdoor adventure and the opportunity to spot wildlife wandering through a pristine white landscape. Whether you're seeking a picturesque main street or simply want to enjoy crisp fresh air infused with the smell of pines, you can have it all and more with a winter trip to Estes Park. Here are nine reasons why this snowy wonderland makes for the perfect getaway.

**EXPLORE NOW** 

#### **Stay Awhile**

When choosing your home away from home, you can't go wrong when mountain views are included in every stay. Looking for a romantic riverside cabin? A place that will entertain your kids for days? Estes Park has a place for everyone.

**BOOK NOW** 





#### **Explore Downtown**

Everything you need to know about where to eat, drink, shop and play in idyllic downtown Estes Park.

**EXPLORE NOW** 

#### **Get Outside**

While most of the country is gearing up for spring, we still have a couple months left of playing in the snow. From snowshoeing to sledding to cross country skiing, the backcountry is waiting for you.

EXPLORE NOW



# Paid Media: Expedia Launch





#### Escape to Estes Park, Colorado

#### The view from here is... Whoa.

It's hard to put into words the feeling you get when you visit Estes Park. This picturesque town is the basecamp for Rocky Mountain National Park and is home to endless adventure, awe-inspiring views and your cozy home away from home.



#### Adventure

From snowshoeing to sledding to backcountry skiing, explore the endless ways to experience the outdoors in Estes Park.

Learn more



#### Dining

The eclectic mix of locally owned restaurants in Estes Park offers unique, authentic dining experiences that go beyond just a great meal.

Learn more



#### Sightseeing

Estes Park is the perfect basecamp for adventure, boasting more than 300 shops ranging from handmade goods to outdoor gear. It has become a destination for art-lovers, foodies & craft-beverage enthusiasts alike.

Learn more



#### **Activities**

Pack your itinerary with snowmobiles, massages and other fun activities to complement your outdoor adventures.

Learn more

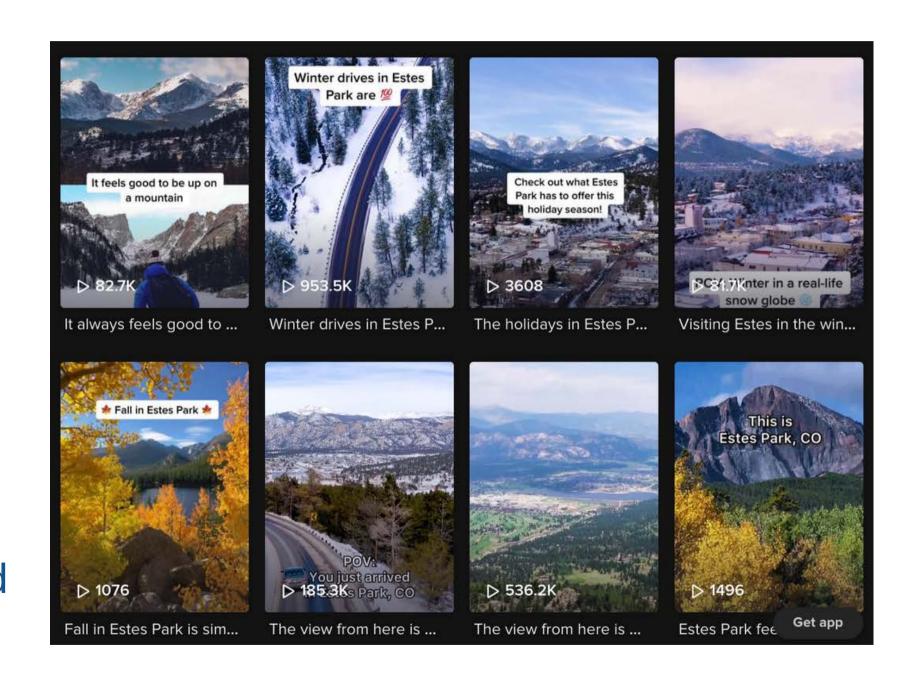
## Paid Social Media: TikTok

#### Campaigns delivered:

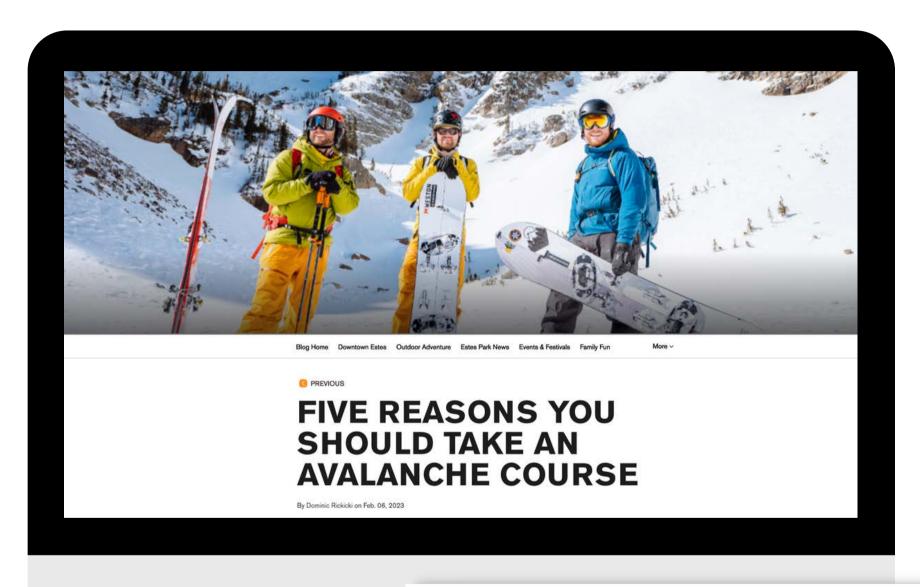
- 1,160,588 impressions (+34% MoM)
- 8,804 clicks (+42% MoM)

#### Top Engaged Markets

- California
- Texas
- Florida
- 18-24 age demographic was top engaged



# KMAC Guest Blog



Author

#### DOMINIC RICKICKI

Dominic is the Head Guide at Kent Mountain Adventure Center in Estes Park, Colorado. Climbing, coupled with a sense of adventure led Dominic around the country before landing in Estes in 2014 where he has worked as an environmental educator for the Nature Conservatory as well as a rock climbing guide.



# Sweet Tooth's Guide

#### A SWEET TOOTH'S GUIDE TO ESTES PARK

By Claire Molle on Feb. 06, 2023

It's February and love is in the air, and it just wouldn't be complete without a little bit of sugar. With cozy venues set against stunning mountain views, Estes Park is an ideal place for a romantic getaway, but perhaps the sweetest part of all, its array of sweet shops offering unique goodies that are sure to spread the love. Specializing in ice cream, fudge and of course, taffy, sweet shops are an icon of Estes Park. Check out our local sugar-stops below and take your sweetheart on a sweet-tooth-shopping-spree.

#### **ICE CREAM & FUDGE**





# Winter Dining Specials Promotions







## HOW TO DO ESTES ON A BUDGET

By Claire Molle on Ian 24 2023

Nothing gets you out of the winter blues like a trip to a Rocky Mountain winter wonderland, and doing that affordably is a win-win.

Businesses all throughout Estes Park are working to do just that, giving you a trip with all the awe of the mountains, that won't break the bank.

#### LODGING

First you'll need somewhere to lay your weary head.

Indulge in some luxury at Taharaa Mountain Lodge where you can book for a Wednesday and Thursday night and receive Thursday night for half-off. At River Stone Resorts & Bear Paw Suites, get 20-dollars off per night when you stay two or more nights. Ready to get cozy? Warm-up after a day of playing in the snow at McGregor Mountain Lodge or Castle Mountain Lodge in a comfy hot tub cabin for a discounted price.

Check out our Winter Events page for a full list of winter lodging specials in Estes Park.

#### SIP IN THE HOLIDAY CHEER WITH THESE FESTIVE DRINKS

And this is just the first sip into the holidays in Estes Park. Explore other ways Estes Park is celebrating the holidays in its breweries, shops, restaurants and more. Toast with us all winter long at these local happy hours:

Elevations Eatery - Happy Hour all day every day - 2 for 1 selected drinks

You Need Pie - Weekdays 3-5pm - 1/2 price Apps, 1/2 price alcoholic drinks, Pie Flight - 3 slices for \$13.50

Cousin Pat's - 4-6 pm daily - Multiple well drink, house wine and draft beer specials

Lonigan's – Every Day 4-7pm - \$6 chef apps, \$1 off draft beer & well drinks, \$6 wine, margs, mimosa, bloody mary. Or – 10% off food when mentioning Visit Estes Park ad.

Bull Pin - Weekdays 4-6 pm and 8-10 pm. \$2 off all apps and bar drinks

Smokin' Dave's BBQ - Weds & Thurs 2-5pm Drink & App specials - \$2 off apps & draft beers, \$5 of pitchers, \$1 off bottled beers, wells and wines, \$6 double shot margs (need coupon found in EP News)



\$2 OFF PBR AND RANCHO LAGER

O The Bull Pin

Valid: Starting December 5, 2022



15% OFF TOTAL BILL

Smokin' Dave's BBQ & Brew

Valid: Starting December 5, 2022



75 CENT WINGS AND \$1 DRAFTS

Smokin' Dave's BBQ & Brew

Valid: Starting December 5, 2022



ALL YOU CAN EAT BREAKFAST BRUNCH

Valid: January 3, 2023 - May 19, 2023



ALL YOU CAN EAT TACO BAR

You Need Pie Diner & Bakery of Estes Park

Valid: January 3, 2023 - May 19, 2023



ALMOND CHICKEN WITH FETTUCCINI POMODORO SPECIAL

O Mama Rose's Restaurant

Valid: Starting December 5, 2022



BLOODY MARY SPECIAL

The Bull Pin

Valid: Starting December 5, 2022

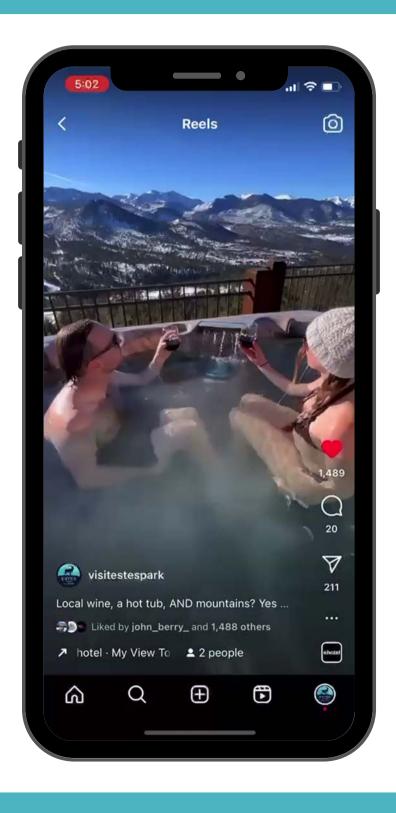


BOGO 1/2 OFF BBQ SANDWICH

Smokin' Dave's BBQ & Brew

Valid: Starting December 5, 2022

# Social Media Highlights

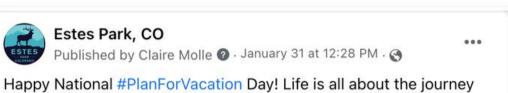


Hot Tub
Windcliff

34K views1,490 likes



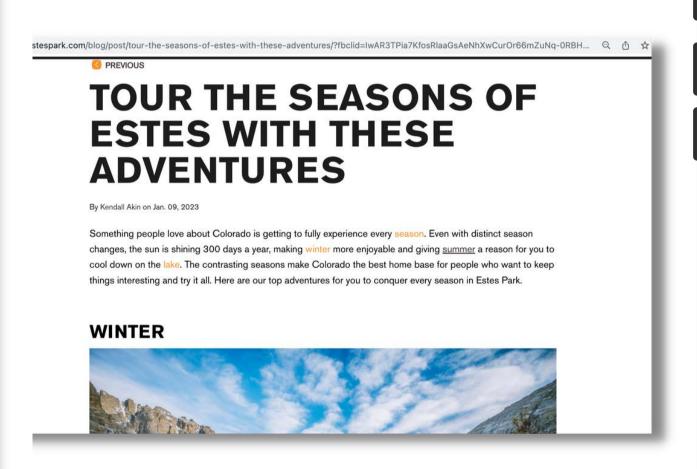
# National Plan for Vacation Day



Happy National #PlanForVacation Day! Life is all about the journey and this year, let the journey take you to the Rocky Mountains! Estes Park is stunning in the winter and is an amazing destination all year long. Read more about what Estes has to offer all four seasons of the year.

U.S. Travel Association http://bit.ly/3jij679







**30K views 2,403 likes** 

# Media Coverage



From exploring ice caves in Iceland to fly- fishing in North Carolina – Spring Break trip options abound

> Result from hosting journalist Terry Ward

by: Maggie Rodriguez

# Media Coverage



# 8 national parks that are spectacular in winter

Wildlife, scenery, and adventures made for snowy splendor.



By Kathryn Romeyn • Feb 15, 2023 • 5 minutes read

#### **Rocky Mountain National Park**

Dramatic, majestic, and rugged are all fitting descriptors for this 415-square-mile stretch which spans the Continental Divide. There are areas of the Rocky Mountain National Park that cars can't reach in winter, but you can still experience the stunning scenery via snowshoe, even if you're a beginner (Kirks Flyshop & Mountain Adventures offers tours based on skill level). For sporty types, Kent Mountain Adventure Center offers classes in splitboarding, which combines elements of snowboarding and cross-country skiing for remote backcountry escapades. Learn to ice climb at Jewel Lake with Colorado Mountain School, sled at Hidden Valley, or simply stroll (and elk-spot) along the Colorado River. Nearby accommodations in Estes Park include the YMCA of the Rockies, perfect for families with miles of trails onsite, as well as activities such as ice skating and sledding. For those traveling without kids, try the Della Terra Mountain Chateau, which features 14 suites with private hot tubs and unspoiled views, plus a spa.

# Media Coverage



#### The Estes Park Resort

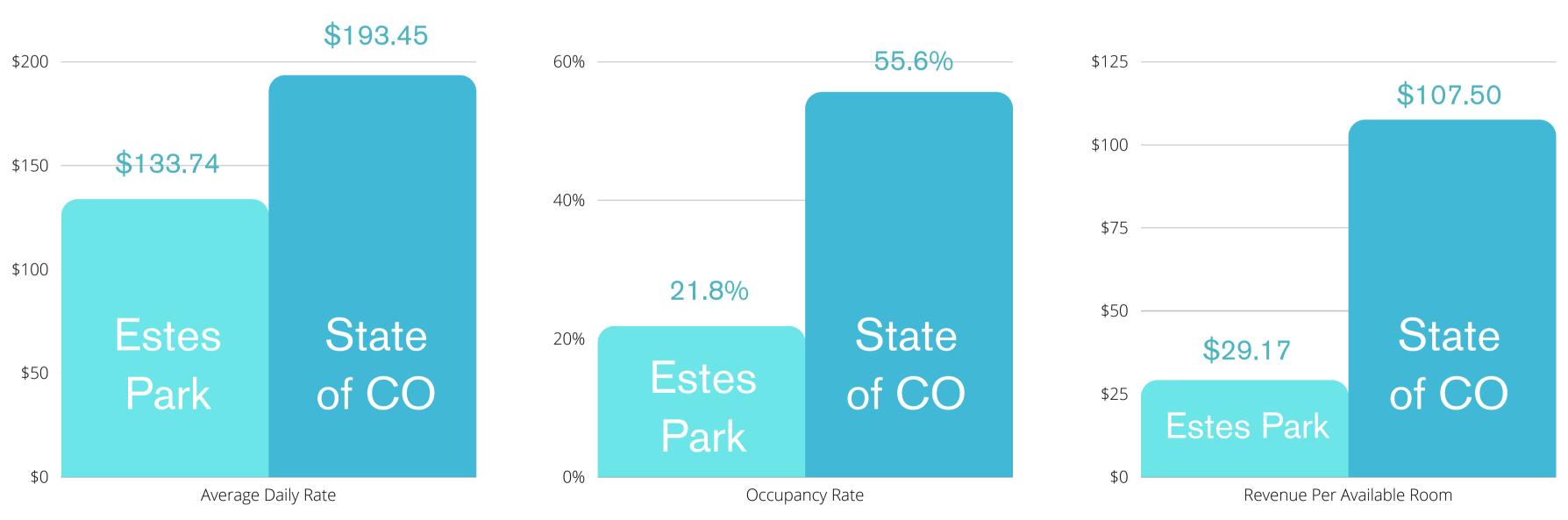


Estes Park, Colo.

Colorado — maybe not the first place one imagines when thinking of a waterside retreat. But at the Estes Park Resort you'll breathe in crisp Colorado air, take in breathtaking views of the larger-than-life Rocky Mountains and stroll by the glittering waters of Lake Estes lapping at the grassy shoreline. The resort puts you right in the middle of the beauty and serenity of the mountains and provides rentable paddleboards in the summer months, as well as barbecue pits and fire pits for s'more making and relaxation. Rent a hotel room, suite or cabin to enjoy days filled with hiking around the property and nights of gazing at the western stars above.



# Rocky Mountain Lodging Report January 2023



Reminder: Low reporting rate for Estes Park (25 properties)



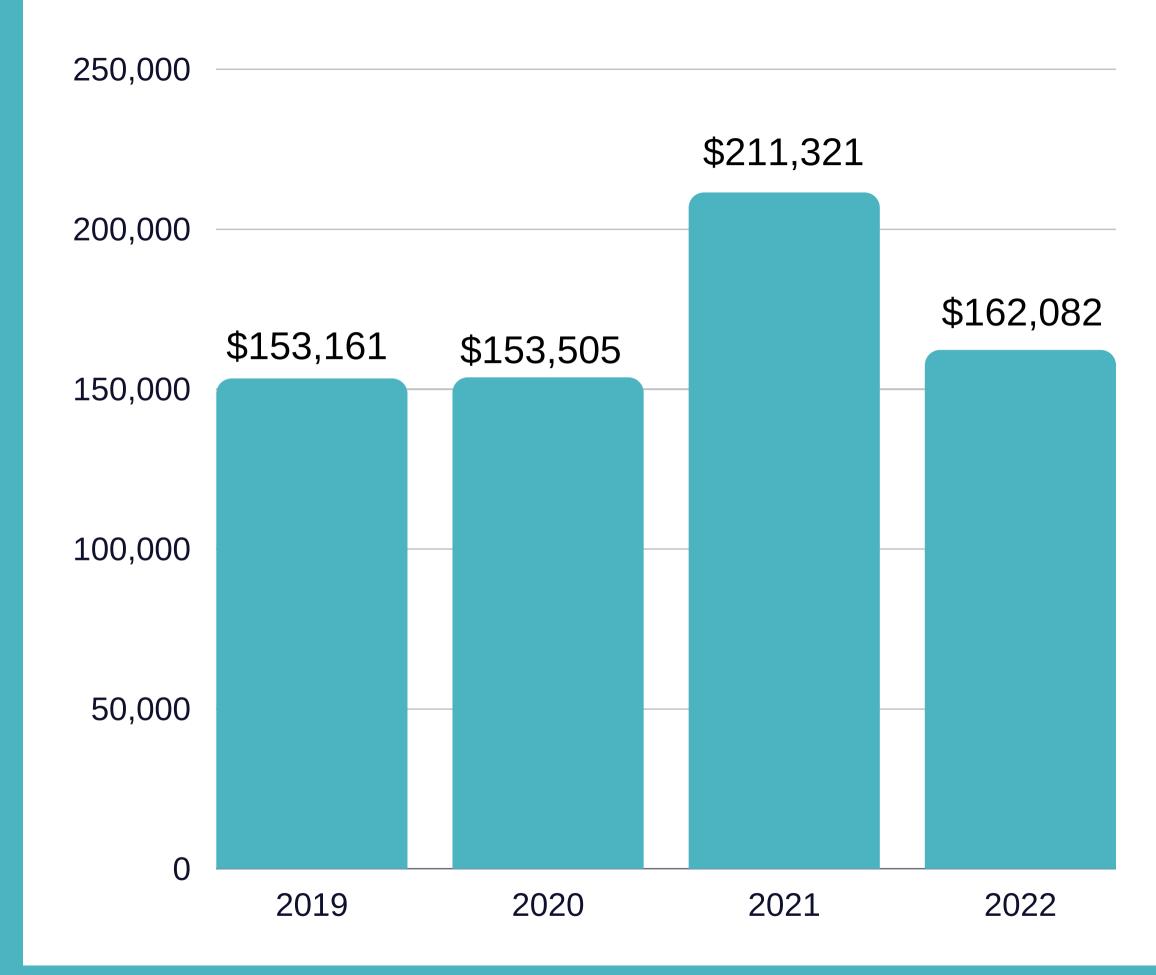
# Mike Zumbaugh



# DECEMBER

# Lodging Tax Revenues\*

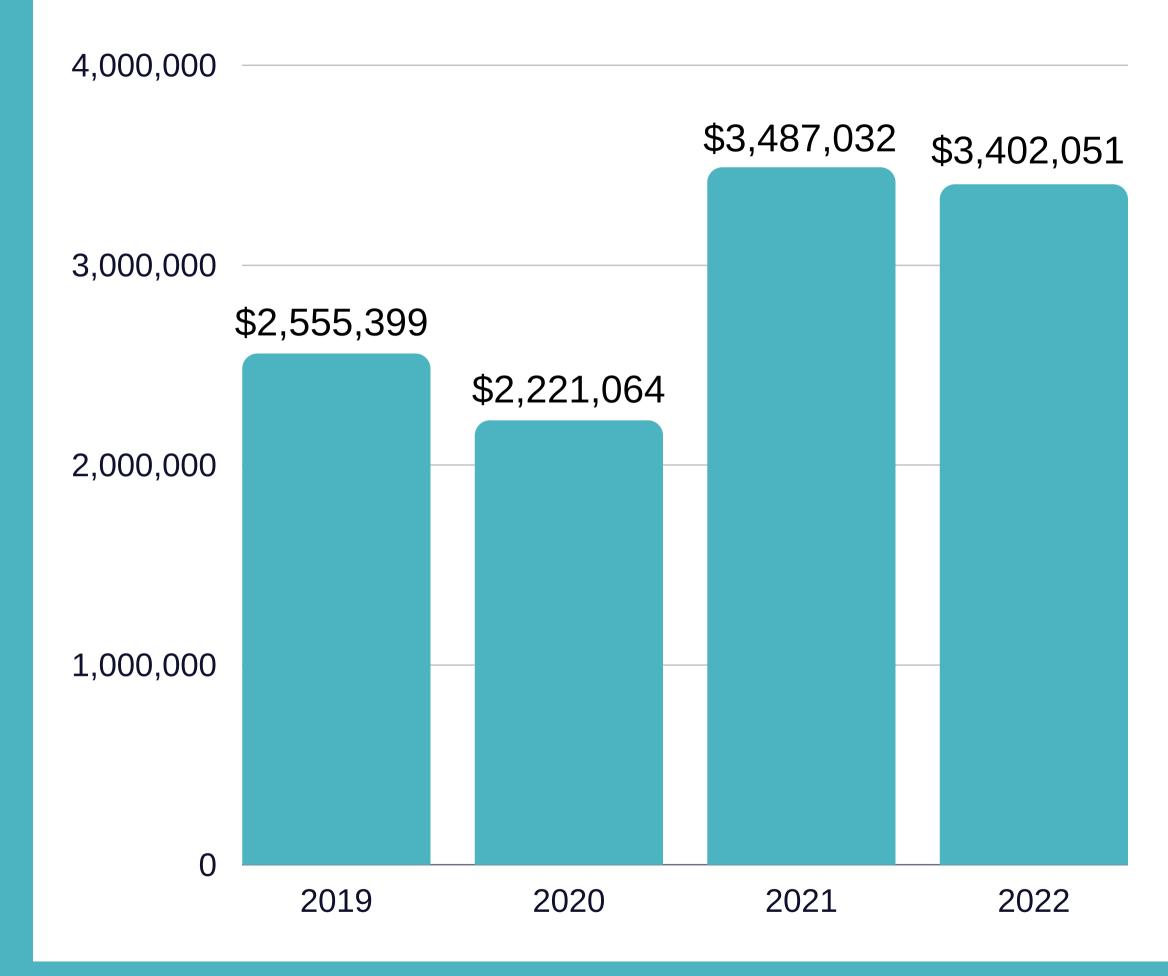
\*based on actual month of stay



# DECEMBER YEAR-TO-DATE

# Lodging Tax Revenues\*

\*based on actual month of stay



# DECEMBER Lodging Tax Revenues\*

\*based on receipts from the State of Colorado



## DECEMBER YEAR-TO-DATE

# Lodging Tax Revenues\*

\*based on receipts from the State of Colorado



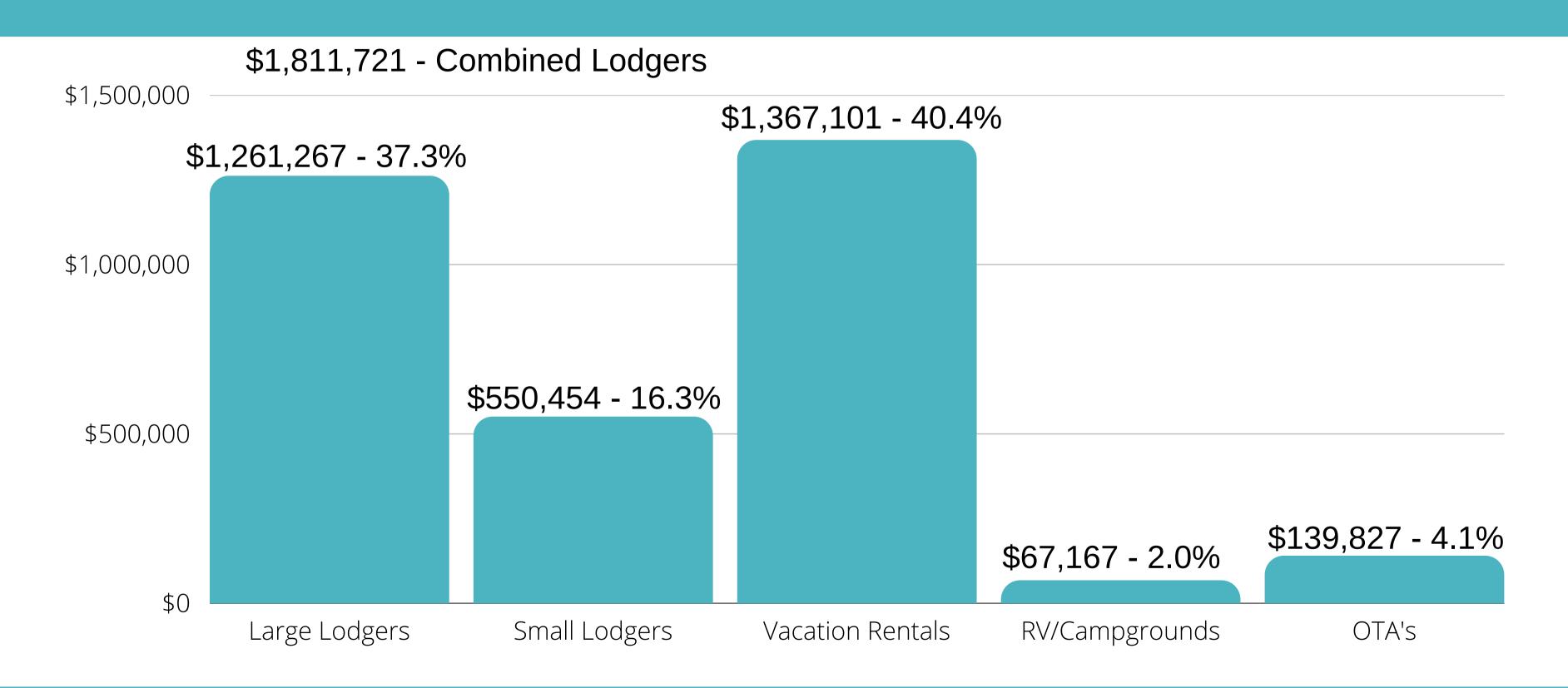
# Lodging Tax Revenues



# Historical Percentages of Total LMD Taxes

	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Large Lodger	54.7%	53.6%	54.8%	53.0%	48.2%	35.6%	36.7%	37.3%
Small Lodger	18.7%	19.2%	19.4%	19.2%	19.6%	18.2%	16.6%	16.3%
Vacation Rentals	23.3%	23.1%	21.7%	24.3%	28.1%	38.3%	38.9%	40.4%
RV/Campgrounds	3.3%	4.1%	4.1%	3.4%	3.3%	4.2%	3.1%	2.0%
OTA's	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.7%	3.7%	4.7%	4.1%

# 2022 Lodging Tax Collections by Category



# Call to Action by Board Chair

Motion to Accept financial statements as presented

#### **BOARD VOTING ROSTER**

Chair Sean Jurgens
Vice Chair Deborah Gibson
Treasurer & Town Trustee Scott Webermeier
Secretary McShan Walker
Director Pat Murphy
Director Rich Chiappe
Director Jerusha Rice

# Strategic Plan Review



#### **BOARD VOTING ROSTER**

Chair Sean Jurgens
Vice Chair Deborah Gibson
Treasurer & Town Trustee Scott Webermeier
Secretary McShan Walker
Director Pat Murphy
Director Rich Chiappe
Director Jerusha Rice

# **Board Comments & Closing**

- 1. Requests for future agenda items
- 2. Any additional items for discussion?
- 3.In Person Board Meeting: March 16th, 2023 at the Ridgeline Hotel; 2-4pm a.Zoom option available
- 4. Frozen Dead Guy Days Kick-Off: March 16th, 2023 at the Ridgeline Hotel; 4pm; Invitation Pending
- 5. Adjourn

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