VISIT ESTES PARK

NOVEMBER 30, 2023 BOARD MEETING



AGENDA



NOVEMBER 30, 2023

- Call to Order by Chairperson
- 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
- Visit Estes Park Staff Updates
- Acceptance of Financial Statements
- 2024 Budget 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.

Director & Town Trustee Frank Lancaster



BOARD VOTING ROSTER

Chair Sean Jurgens

Vice Chair Deborah Gibson

Secretary/Treasurer McShan Walker

Director Pat Murphy

Director Rich Chiappe

Director Jerusha Rice

Ex Officio Board Member Updates



Kyle Patterson



ESTES John Schnipkoweit

Colleen DePasquale





Kara Franker



HSMAI Adrian Awards

- Estes Park will receive a Bronze Adrian Award for its winning entry (Bringing Frozen Dead Guy Day Back to Life) in the Public Relations/Communications Special Event category and a Silver Adrian Award for its winning entry (Standing Up For Workforce Housing & Childcare) in the Trending – Environmental, Social, Governance category.
- The Adrian Awards, now in their 67th year, are the largest and most prestigious competition in global travel marketing. This year's theme, WanderLOVE, highlights the stories of remarkable ads, campaigns, and experiences that sparked a love for travel, igniting a desire for exploration among travelers worldwide.





Colorado's Stanley Hotel will host Sundance Institute's Signature Directors Lab in 2024

sundance institute



Colorado Dark Sky Certification Mentor Program



COLORADO

Office of Economic Development & International Trade

 Participants in the Colorado Dark Sky Certification Mentor program will receive 70 hours of free consulting support from DarkSky Colorado to implement activities that reduce light pollution and protect access to Colorado's incredible night skies.





VISIT ESTES PARK INVITES YOU & YOUR FAMILY TO A FESTIVE HOLIDAY DINNER

DECEMBER 15

THE VIEW RESTAURANT 300 RIVERSIDE DR.



5-7 PM



JOIN US

for the inaugural Glow in the Park Family Day & Sweets Stroll on December 16!

You and your family are cordially invited to a special VIP experience at Glow in the Park Family Day. Join us to sip cocoa, meet Hallmark movie star Nikki DeLoach, and help brighten the town's glow by giving out prizes to residents and guests.

When:

Where:

VIP tent is handing out prizes from 12-4p.m. Nikki will be introduced at 2p.m.



GLOW IN & SWEETS THE PARK & SWEETS FAMILY DAY



Bond Park



Glow in the Park Family Day

SATURDAY DECEMBER 16 1-4 P.M. BOND PARK

- Meet beloved Hallmark movie star, Nikki DeLoach, as well as frozen princesses. And of course, Santa will be there for your must-have photo-op!
- Walk through a display of Catch the Glow Parade floats
- Take photos and feed the animals at the petting zoo
- Take a ride down a giant inflatable slide and step into Santa's shoes on the reindeer ride!



Glow in the Park Sweets Stroll

SATURDAY DECEMBER 16 1-4 P.M. AROUND TOWN

- Pick up your free punch card in Bond Park at the Glow in the Park Family Day event
- Your punch card will lead you to candy stores, ice cream shops, chocolatiers and bakers - each promising a free treat to punch off on your card.
- Get 10 punches and return it to Bond Park for a prize!



Frosty Beer Fest

SATURDAY DECEMBER 9 2-5 P.M. **BOND PARK**

- Craft beverages from local breweries and a local winery
- Live music from Chain Station and **Stepmother Nature**
- Food trucks
- Ice cream eating contest
- Ugly sweater fashion show





Catch the Glow Creative



× :

Step into a winter wonderland at Estes Park's Catch the Glow, Nov 18-Jan 1! Enjoy festive markets, a holiday parade, Santa sightings and more.







ESTES PARK UNVEILS ITS GRANDEST HOLIDAY CELEBRATION YET WITH CATCH THE GLOW SEASON.

BRIGHTER WITH YOU

Step into a mesmerizing scene as the streets come to life, ushering in a season of pure enchantment. Highlights include a feative parade, appearances by Hallmark move star Nikki DeLoach, a Frosty Beer Fest, and a delightful Sweets Stroll through Eates Park's vintage candy shops. Come revel in a one-of-a-kind weekly winter wonderland celebration under our magical glow.

For event details visit VisitEstesPark.com/holidays

FROSTY BEER FEST December 9 2-6 p.m. Bond Park

CATCH THE GLOW SWEETS STROLL December 10 1-4 p.m. Around Town

GLOW IN THE PARK FAMILY DAY December 16 1-4 p.m. Bond Park



Holiday Guide



We Glow Brighter with You

7 WEEKS OF IMMERSIVE EXPERIENCES AT BOND PARK

The "Catch the Glow" holiday season From November 18 to January 1, you're experience, spanning seven full weeks Meander through awe-inspiring light come alive, including two special weekends brimming with pure fun.

in this charming town is a truly magical cordially invited come Glow in the Park. of unending celebrations. There are so displays, strike poses in front of life-sized many holiday-inspired events awaiting photo opportunities, and be amazed by you. Get ready to witness Bond Park the colossal light tree that mesmerizes with synchronized light and music shows, dazzling every 30 minutes each evening!



Weekend One November 17-19

TREE LIGHTING CEREMONY SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 18

The holidays in Estes Park kick off the annual Tree Lighting Ceremony! Join us for festive live music, Santa photo ops, holiday crafting, horse-drawn wagon rides, hot chocolate and more. Stick around for the official lighting at 5:30 p.m. All activities are free of charge.

ORNAMENT MAKING WORKSHOP SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 18

Take a break from the holiday rush and join Bear & Bee Maker's Studio & Boutique for an Ornament Making Workshop. Come away with a stunning collection of handmade ornaments that are sure to brighten up your home or make the perfect holiday gift.



Wait! Have you grabbed your Holiday Passport?

The Estes Park Holiday Passport is your go-to resource for discovering exclusive special offers and leading you to businesses that are embracing the holiday spirit like never before. As you explore our charming town, be sure to "check-in" for a chance to win exciting prizes, all from November 17th through December 31st.



Tree Lighting





Catch the Glow Parade





Northern Colorado Destinations Awarded Tourism Marketing Grant from the Colorado Tourism Office

Visit Longmont, was awarded a \$39,996 grant on behalf of a regional collaboration among Northern Colorado destination marketing organizations (DMO). The grant funds will support promotion of regional winter activities available to visitors in Boulder, Estes Park, Fort Collins, Greeley, Loveland, and Longmont.







Indigenous Connections Newsletter Feature

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

For this week's Advocacy Spotlight, we wanted to highlight the great work of Estes Park, CO on the creation of their podcast: <u>Indigenous Connections</u>. Throughout the podcast, travelers are guided through the rich history of the native people who call this land home.



ADVOCACYINSIGHTS



For the first podcast <u>episode</u>, Aaron talks to the Director of the Cheyenne and Arapaho Historic Preservation office about the original names of common places around Estes Park. Learn More and Join the Conversation

U.S. Travel Key Insights

Enthusiasm to travel remains at record levels yet higher costs are weighing on American's decisions.

Perceptions of economic pressure and uncertainty are starting to impact travelers' mindsets.

- Nearly four in 10 (38%) say now is NOT a good time to spend money on travel vs. 28% who believe it is.
- Additionally, 40% say the expense of travel is the top travel deterrent preventing Americans from traveling as much as they would have liked in the past six months.
- Affluent, urban and younger travelers are more optimistic about their current financial situation and will likely continue to prioritize travel.

U.S. Travel Key Insights

Still, nearly half of Americans (48%) intend to travel over the holiday season, up from 31% last year.

- Of those planning to travel, six in 10 plan to take a vacation including paid lodging while the remainder plan to only travel to visit friends and family.
- The duration and frequency of holiday travel this year is expected to be slightly shorter than last.
- Americans expressed a greater desire for urban destinations than the prior two years. More than half (51%) prefer city destinations for holiday travel vs 41% in 2021.
- Many travelers are planning on blending work and leisure to extend their time away. One-third of travelers' plan to work at least partially during their holiday travels.



Heidi Barfels





CU Boulder Masters in Environment Networking Event

League of Women Voters Panel -Sustainability Projects



Visit Denver Annual Partnership Meeting



Frozen Dead Guy Days VIP Sale and Documentary



You brought us back from the dead and earned the right to a secret sale of Frozen Dead Guy Days tickets before the public knows about it!

FIRST SNOW IS HERE

MARCH 15-17, 2024

Early-bird tickets for Frozen Dead Guy Days 2024 are now on sale for the thrilling weekend of March 15-17, St. Patrick's Day weekend! There are a limited number of early-bird tickets available, and they're sure to disappear faster than frost on a sunny day. Don't miss your chance to be part of the Frozen Dead Guy Days experience!

BUY EARLY-BIRD TICKETS



Did you know Frozen Dead Guy Days was inspired by Mike the Headless Chicken Festival? Join us as we delve into the origins of this beloved Colorado festival, where it all started with the frozen body of Bredo Morstøl and a small shed in Nederland. Witness the quirky events and activities that brought the festival to life over the years, attracting thousands of attendees.

WATCH NOW

Watch the documentary:



Travelzoo Sponsored Gallery

Estes Park: A Colorado mountain getaway for all seasons



indsay Benso

olorado is home to a vast array of mountain towns that range from the rugged to the sophisticated, but few offer the variety of year-round adventures that you'll find available in and around Estes Park. Just a 90-minute drive from Denver, you'll find a charming downtown, outdoor activities and cozy lodges, all set at the base of Rocky Mountain National Park.

With nature experiences from mild to wild, there's no shortage of things to do in Estes Park. Hiking, biking, fishing, skiing and even cliffside camping are all in easy

reach here. If you want to step out of your comfort zone and try something new,

you can also take a guide along on almost any type of excursion.

Set an alert for Estes Park



TRAVELZOO®

- 23, 2023.
- Story 1 minute above target.
- Phoenix, Dallas and Chicago



And while Colorado gets 300 glorious days of sunshine per year, it also experiences all four seasons to the fullest, so the time of year you plan to travel will greatly shape your trip. To help you plan your Rocky Mountain escape, we've compiled the highlights of Estes Park for each season-whether it's magical holiday celebrations in winter, searching for Bigfoot in the spring, a sunrise hike in the summertime or taking in peak fall foliage views.





• Travelzoo Campaign ran September 11 - October

• 60% of clicks drove to the lodging page,

indicating members are ready to take action once inspired by our awareness content.

• Readers were highly engaged with the Estes Park Gallery. We saw a scroll rate 16% above target, a click-through rate double the target and a time on

• Top DMAs for page views: Denver, Los Angeles,

Holiday Blog Content



THE ULTIMATE GUIDE TO HOLIDAY SHOPPING IN ESTES PARK

By Kendall Akin on Nov. 19, 2023

Shop at one of the many boutiques in Estes Park this holiday season and find truly unique gifts for everyone on your list. And the best part? You'll feel good about all that gift-giving because you'll also be supporting small businesses in our mountain community. Mad Moose From reindeer napkin rings...



Continue Reading →

ALL THINGS FROSTY BEER FEST

By John Berry on Nov. 16, 2023

Mark your calendars for Saturday, December 9, 2–5 p.m., for the ultimate event to celebrate our fantastic local beer and wine. The Glow in the Park Frosty Beer Fest is a can't-miss FREE Event for beer enthusiasts and party animals. Here are five reasons you don't want to miss out on the Frosty Beer...





Continue Reading →

EXPERIENCE HOLIDAY ENCHANTMENT THIS SEASON WITH CATCH THE GLOW FAMILY DAY IN ESTES PARK

By Claire Molle on Nov. 15, 2023

Gear up for an unforgettable celebration as Estes Park decks the halls for the inaugural Catch the Glow Holiday Season. For 7 weeks, the town transforms into a dazzling wonderland, welcoming families to celebrate with joyous festivities. Bundle up your kiddos and join us at Bond Park on Saturday...

Continue Reading -

DISCOVER YOUR PERFECT HOLIDAY ITINERARY IN ENCHANTING ESTES PARK

By Claire Molle on Nov. 03, 2023

Estes Park has something magical in store for you this holiday season with the launch of the very first Catch the Glow Holiday Season! With 7 full weeks of holiday events and experiences, we have something special waiting for every type of traveler. With so many things to choose from, we decided to...

Social Media Highlights



First Snow

75.1K views 4,326 likes



Tree Lighting 21.8K views 633 likes

Media Coverage: Travel + Leisure

HOTELS + RESORTS > HOTEL OPENINGS

This Gorgeous New Hotel Next to Colorado's Rocky Mountain National Park Just Opened With 2 Pools, Hammocks, Fire Pits, and Epic Views

New hospitality brand Trailborn opens its first outpost in Estes Park, Colorado — and we got a sneak peek at the property.

By Dobrina Zhekova





Media Coverage: The New York Times

The New York Eines

FIELD NOTES

Vowing Till Death Do Us Part at the Hotel That Inspired 'The Shining'

The Stanley Hotel, which inspired the fictional hotel in the 1980 horror classic, has become a hot spot for couples seeking a spooky setting for their weddings.



Media Coverage: PureWow

KrelNow



5. Rocky Mountain National Park, Colorado

BEST OFF-SEASON SECRET

January Perks: fewer crowds, winter activities, acod flight deals

The 5 Best Places to Travel in January



The article includes the following partners: Rocky Mountain National Park

- Femme Trek
- Kent Mountain Adventure Center
- Bird & Jim
- Dunraven



TRAVEL

OUICK: BEACH OR SLOPES?

By Shauna Farnell • Published Sep 15, 2023

Result of hosting writer Shauna Farnell for the Isabella Bird FAM

Media Coverage: Round Trip Industry Podcast



This week on Round Trip, Colleen Kelly and Megan discuss the inevitable future of travel, artificial intelligence in the travel industry. Together they explore how AI can used to further better one's travel experience by talking to CMO Heidi Barfels with Visit Estes Park.





Rebecca D. Gelsinger



Connecting with Partners

- Monthly Meetings with the Visitor Center, Simpleview, EPNRC, Estes Next, Town Events team and Chamber Board Meeting
- Isabella Bird event at Park Theatre
- Coffee Connections
- EPNRC DEI Workshop sessions
- Cryonics Museum Grand Opening at The Stanley Hotel
- Sunrise Rotary Meeting
- Trailborn Rocky Mountains
- Avant Garde Aleworks
- Peaked Estes Park Cruise Weekend
- Seed & Sage Studio
- Bear & Bee Maker's Studio & Boutique
- The Bird's Nest
- Cousin Pat's
- KMAC
- Hike Rocky Magazine
- Stanley Home Museum
- Rocky Mountain Hotel & Conference Center (new owners)



ESTES PARK Trail Gazette News & New Businesses

ENVIRONMENT

SUBSCRIBER ONLY

Rocky Mountain Conservancy's Conservation Corps marks successful 2023 season



Conservation Corps members with one of the burn piles they helped construct with RMNP counterparts.(Rocky Mountain Conservancy/Courtesy Photo)

By ROCKY MOUNTAIN CONSERVANCY | For the Trail-Gazette



VACATION RENTALS



Trail Gazette VEP Editorials

It's spooky season – here's why you should spend it in Estes Park



A spooky time of year in Estes Park.(Visit Estes Park/Courtesy Photo)

By CLAIRE MOLLÉ, VISIT ESTES PARK | For the Trail-Gazette PUBLISHED: October 23, 2023 at 8:57 a.m. | UPDATED: October 23, 2023 at 5:51 p.m.



HEADLINE NEWS

Update: Includes Catch the Glow flipbook – How to catch the glow this holiday season



An overlook of downtown Estes Park in the wir



ark in the winter season.(Visit Estes Park/Courtesy Photo)

By KENDALL AKIN, VISIT ESTES PARK | For the Trail-Gazette and VISIT ESTES PARK | For the Trail-Gazette PUBLISHED: October 23, 2023 at 10:17 a.m. | UPDATED: November 22, 2023 at 5:59 a.m.
Beyond Fall

Our Fall Events webpage highlights featured events like Elk Fest, Pumpkins & Pilsners, the Rocky Mountain Craft Spirits Festival, and a growing number of special offers.

We designed and distributed a Fall in Estes Park poster, which is also accessible through OLIVE or the Visit Estes Park Partners Toolkit if businesses need additional copies. The poster directs visitors to our website, resulting in nearly 3,000 special offer click-thrus in the month of October.

- Total offers active: 119
- Total click-thrus: 2,448
- Top performing offers:
 - Explore Estes Experience the Elk Rut
 - Explore Estes 25% off souvenir stickers!
 - McGregor Mountain Lodge Old Fashioned 5 Night Christmas Package



EXPERIENCE THE ELK RUT

Explore Estes

Valid: September 1, 2023 - October 31, 2023

Catch the Glow Updates

- 14 partners are participating in the Sweets Stroll on December 16
- 482 signed up for Family Day
- 274 signed up for Frosty Beer Fest
- Created an email for lodgers to send to their lists about the holidays!
 - Thanks to The Ridgeline Hotel, Castle Mountain Lodge, McGregor Mountain Lodge, and Murphy's for sharing on their channels! The YMCA and The Stanley have also informed us that they will use the information.



all of the festive fun happening around town. Show your passport, earn point social media and have the chance to win prizes! Sign up for the holiday pass



Holiday Passport is Live!



- 474 sign-ups
- 427 check-ins



Welcome to the ultimate map for navigating the holiday season in Estes Park! The Estes Park Holiday Passport is your go-to resource for discovering exclusive special offers and leading you to the businesses that are embracing the holiday spirit like never before. VisitEstesPark.com/Holiday-Passport



How it Works: NOVEMBER 18 - JANUARY 1



Scan the QR code to sign up for FREE! Receive a text or e-mail with a link to your passport

Estes Park Holiday Passport





Check in at participating locations for a chance to win prizes



stes Park Holiday Passpor

ra points if you ... there have

re in! As you explore Estes Park, don't forge eck-in* for a chance to win exciting prizes (and

Present your phone to staff members to redeem available discounts

Group Sales: October 2023 Leads

13 leads were received in October, equating to 1,379 requested room nights with an estimated economic value of





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



Mike Zumbaugh





Rocky Mountain Lodging Report October 2023



Reminder: Low reporting rate for Estes Park (22 properties)





Rocky Mountain Lodging Report YTD October 2023



Reminder: Low reporting rate for Estes Park (22 properties)



Estes Park Lodging Summary October 2023

Aggregated Lodging Summary Source: CHLA & KeyData

Occupancy		ADR	
Oct 2023	61.2%	\$235.46	
% Change vs. Oct 2022	-6.9%	11.0%	
% Change vs. Sep 2023	-25.2%	-14.0%	
CYTD 2023	54.9%	\$246.26	
% Change vs. CYTD 2022	-8.1%	4.7%	

Hotel Performance

Source: CHLA

	Occupancy	ADR	
Oct 2023	61.8%	\$212.52	
% Change vs. Oct 2022	-5.7%	12.9%	
% Change vs. Sep 2023	-27.4%	-12.2%	
CYTD 2023	54.9%	\$214.74	
% Change vs. CYTD 2022	-7.3%	3.1%	

Short Term Lodging Source: KeyData

	Occupancy	ADR	
Oct 2023	59.4%	\$298.73	
% Change vs. Oct 2022	-10.2%	-4.9%	
% Change vs. Sep 2023	-17.8%	-21.0%	
CYTD 2023	55.2%	\$349.21	
% Change vs. CYTD 2022	-11.7%	-2.0%	

Sources: CHLA and KeyData

RevPAR
\$144.00
68.9%
-35.7%
\$135.30
-3.8%
RevPAR
\$131.35
6.4%
-36.3%
\$117.84
-4.4%
RevPAR
\$177.52
-14.7%
-35.1%
\$192.63
-13.5%

Estes Park Visitor Center: Guest Count



38,829

2022



Estes Park Visitor Center: Guest Count



2023

350,000 300,000 250,000 150,000 100,000 50,000

> Year-To-Date through October 16% ahead of 2022

292,281

2022

SEPTEMBER & YTD 2023

Total Tax Revenues*

* based on receipts from the State of Colorado LMD 2% 10% of 3.5% 3.5% Passthrou

Total Received

	Current	YTD
	\$625,365	\$2,900,159
	109,163	494,236
gh	<u>982,466</u>	<u>4,448,126</u>

\$1,716,994 \$7,842,521

SEPTEMBER Lodging Tax Revenues*

2% LMD collections, based on actual month of stay 600,000 500,000 \$453,356 400,000 300,000 200,000 100,000 0 2020



SEPTEMBER YEAR-TO-DATE Lodging Tax Revenues*

2% LMD collections, based on actual month of stay 3,000,000 2,500,000 \$1,807,474 2,000,000 1,500,000 1,000,000 500,000 0 2020



SEPTEMBER Lodging Tax **Revenues***

*2% LMD collections, based on receipts from the State of Colorado

700,000 600,000 500,000 400,000 300,000 200,000 100,000 0



SEPTEMBER YEAR-TO-DATE Lodging Tax Revenues*

*2% LMD collections, based on receipts from the State of Colorado 3,000,000

2,500,000

2,000,000

1,500,000

1,000,000

500,000

0



2023 Lodging Tax Collections by Category

Estes Park Lodging Tax Collections

Jan - Sep 2023 | Penalties & Interest Excluded | 2% Amount



Large Lodgers are greater than 25 rooms

All \$2.8M -1.2% YOY

100.0% of Total

Lodging Tax Revenues (based on month received)



Call to Action by Board Chair Motion to Accept financial statements as presented







BOARD VOTING ROSTER

Chair Sean Jurgens

Vice Chair Deborah Gibson

Secretary/Treasurer McShan Walker

Director Pat Murphy

Director Rich Chiappe

Director Jerusha Rice

Director & Town Trustee Frank Lancaster

Public Budget Hearing

2024 Budget Review

Proposed Budgeted Revenues by Category



6E passthrough funds have been excluded from the calculations

Proposed Budgeted Expenses by Department



6E passthrough funds have been excluded from the calculations

Proposed Budgeted Expenses by Type



6E passthrough funds have been excluded from the calculations

Proposed 2024 Budget of Revenue & Expense

		2023	2023	Variance Between Budgets	
Revenues	2024	Budget	Actual/Proj	Amount	%
Lodging Tax (2%)	3,421,630	3,415,432	3,521,319	6,198	0.18%
6E - 10% of 3.5%	598,785	597,701	602,939	1,085	0.18%
6E - Passthrough Portion	5,389,067	5,379,305	5,426,453	9,762	0.18%
Web Listing Sales	275,000	225,000	290,221	50,000	22.22%
Investment Interest	12,000	600	16,655	11,400	1900.00%
Miscellaneous	0	0	750	0	0.00%
Total Operating Revenues	9,696,482	9,618,038	9,858,336	78,444	0.82%
Expenses					
Personnel & Related Expenses	1,357,491	1,359,289	1,287,553	(1,798)	-0.13%
Program Expenses	2,803,991	3,316,010	2,734,506	(512,019)	-15.44%
Indirect Expenses	145,933	153,434	145,420	(7,501)	-4.89%
6E Passthrough	5,389,067	5,379,305	5,426,453	9,762	0.18%
Total Operational Expenses	9,696,482	10,208,038	9 <mark>,</mark> 593,930	(511,556)	-5.01%
Net Revenues from Operations	0	(590,000)	264,406	590,000	

Board Comments & Closing

1. Requests for future agenda items 2. Any additional items for discussion? 3. Next Board Meeting: December 14, 2 p.m. online a. Includes final budget approval vote 4. Holiday Gathering at the View: December 15, 2023, 5-7 p.m. 5. Adjourn



BOARD VOTING ROSTER Chair Sean Jurgens Vice Chair Deborah Gibson Secretary/Treasurer McShan Walker **Director Pat Murphy Director Rich Chiappe Director Jerusha Rice Director & Town Trustee Frank Lancaster**