



Dear Evergreen Legacy Fund Members,

As we enter a new year and reflect on past accomplishments, I wanted to take a moment to extend a sincere and heartfelt thank you to all of you who form the foundation of the important work that we are doing for Evergreen – you, our members of the Evergreen Legacy Fund.

I had the opportunity this past week to present the history and the future of the projects and efforts that we have taken on, and it filled me with tremendous pride to be able to share how our small mountain business community has been able to come together to support a program that enables us to take on projects that improve the safety of our locals and guests, improve our built environment in order to attract more business and increase our local economy, and improve our collective overall quality of life.

Over the past few years, we have built meaningful relationships with our local governments and districts that enable us to partner on critical tasks and influence priorities at the executive level to focus on our local community needs. We have competed, won and executed two major grants for our Elevated Trail and our Trails Master Plan which addresses safe access and linked connections throughout the Greater Downtown Evergreen area. Some of the projects outlined in this Master Plan are already getting the attention of other groups who would like to move forward with them, which is great to see. We have also supported several other organizations with grant applications that are in alignment with our overall mission.

Last year, we lobbied directly with Jefferson County Planning and Zoning to ensure that the needs of our business community are addressed in the Evergreen Area Community Plan for every commercial Activity Center in all of Evergreen from El Rancho to Marshdale and every commercial zone in between. The resulting outcome in the Comprehensive Plan finalized at the end of last year will influence policy making and land use decisions for years to come with our economic objectives as a top priority.

Moving forward, we are currently assisting the Evergreen Parks and Recreation District with the redevelopment of the North Lake Trail that has been closed since last Summer for public safety. Reopening this trail in the short term is a top priority while working toward long term solutions to address the increased bicycle and pedestrian use we have seen over the years. In addition to that, we are also working on a partnership with Jefferson County Transportation and Engineering on the development of a multi-use River Trail on the East end of Downtown, linking Downtown and Meadow Drive businesses in a safe and beautiful way. Bear in mind that these projects often take multiple years to realize as we are not an incorporated government of our own and are at the mercy of our partner agencies. As I have said before, this is most certainly a marathon and not a sprint.

We will also continue our ongoing efforts on smaller cleanup and beautification efforts and to advocate strongly with private property owners where we can to take action on improving their properties in disrepair. We also have taken on the ongoing responsibilities of the maintenance of the defibrillators located in Downtown as that too is core to our purpose.

Without your involvement in the Evergreen Legacy Fund, none of this would be possible. The DEED board is made up of all volunteers and we don't have the benefit (or expense) of a publicist or visible PR campaign. But know that your ELF elves are hard at work every day, week and month pushing the mission we have taken on. So thank you ELF members for your continued involvement and support. We wish you all a successful and very prosperous New Year!

Sincerely,

Dean Dalvit, AIA, PE  
President, Downtown Evergreen Economic District

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**DEED Board, elected by our community business and property owners:**

Dean Dalvit, Evergreen Mountain Village; Gail Riley, Highland Haven; Bob Cardwell, Stillwater Partners;  
Kathleen Davis, Evergreen Players; Eric Gill, Bearpaw Management; John Seevers, Valentine Seevers and Associates;  
Brad Bednar, Evergreen Park and Rec District; Rachel Emmer, Detritus Group; Jim Sherwood, Evergreen Clothing Co  
Legal Council : Richard Toussaint, Toussaint Nemer & Coaty, PC

**Evergreenlegacyfund.org**

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