



Mountain Town COVID-19 Programs & Actions

This is not an exhaustive list of CAST Member emergency relief efforts but rather a sampling of programs/orders. Send a summary of your local program, especially if it is unique, and it will be added to this document.

Business Assistance

Breckenridge: \$1 million for the Small Business Relief Program to provide immediate rent support for the Town's entrepreneurial small businesses. Intended to be a bridge grant allowing the business tenant to get through the next 30 days while other relief options are pursued. Funds will be distributed electronically to qualifying applicants' landlord as a direct deposit. No checks can be issued. Details [here](#).

Frisco: \$500,000 for the Business Assistance Program to help independently-owned businesses bridge the gap in funding while waiting for Federal and State assistance by providing immediate funds to pay for essential business-related expenses such as rent or mortgage payments, utilities, payroll, and other business expenses. Grant amounts of up to \$5,000/business determined based on and not to exceed a business's monthly rent or mortgage payment. In the event a business has no landlord and no mortgage, the maximum amount of any grant under this program shall be a reasonable estimate of the amount of rent that the business would pay for its space under prevailing market rents. Checks distributed by appointment. Details [here](#).

Silverthorne: Provided \$350,000 to fund Sustain Silverthorne Business Emergency Relief Grant (SSBERG) to assist independently-owned businesses that have been closed or severely impacted. Intended for retailers and service providers to pay for essential business-related expenses like payroll, rent or mortgages, utilities and supplies. Short term rental owners and corporate-owned businesses were not eligible.

Grand County: Small Business Emergency Grant Fund to assist in the area of rent, mortgage and or utility assistance for businesses with 50 or less employees. Contributions of \$100K from the County, Fraser and Winter Park, \$50K Granby, \$25K Grand Lake and \$15K Kremmling. Mountain Parks Electric and Grand Foundation contributed \$30K. A committee made up of one individual from each municipality and county manage the fund.

Resident/Nonprofit Assistance

Frisco: Residential Rental Assistance Program to support individuals working or living in Frisco. This \$250,000 program will offer rent relief for qualifying individuals through the Family and Intercultural Resource Center (FIRC). Grants are up to \$1,500 and may not exceed the amount equal to the

individual's monthly rent payment or their share of the monthly rent payment if they reside with others. Individuals contact FIRC to complete a needs assessment then FIRC contacts landlords. Details [here](#). (Breckenridge, Dillon, Silverthorne and Summit County are also contributing to this program, at varying levels.)

Vail: Rent relief for residents of town-owned apartment complexes, home to about 500 year-round residents, to defer April rent until end of lease term, then reduce rent by 50% during the months of May and June.

Vail: Vail Community Relief Fund is \$500,000 toward food security, housing and health related needs. Fund is open to nonprofit 501c3 organizations that serve Eagle County residents. Details [here](#).

Estes Park: Allocated \$250,000 in community relief funds to help fill critical needs in the form of food, housing and business/organizational support. Details [here](#).

Vail: Paying all municipal employees through the end of April regardless of if they can work remotely or not.

Telluride: Up to one month's rent forgiveness for all renters in Town-owned deed-restricted housing.

Telluride: Created fund to support regional residents (within our school district) with 50% of rent or mortgage payments, capped at \$1000 per household. Town put \$25,000 into the fund based on decreased travel and training from Town General Fund, and residents are encouraged to contribute to the fund based on an offer from a local couple to donate their IRS relief checks. This is not restricted to deed restricted housing.

Silverthorne: Donated \$160,000 to Family and Intercultural Resource Center to use at their discretion.

Avon: Meal Voucher Program provides \$20 meal vouchers to affordable housing residents that can be used at participating Avon restaurants that provide take-out or delivery meals. Details [here](#).

Sales Tax Collection Deferral

Vail: Extended payment due dates for sales tax returns. Beginning with February 2020 sales tax collections that were due in March, due dates for payment have been extended to August 2020. Returns must still be filed by their regular due date but need not be accompanied by a payment of the tax.

Crested Butte: Deferring due date on unpaid February taxes until April 2020 for Town of Crested Butte sales tax only. Tax forms will still be due. If February taxes were already filed/paid, reimbursement is available.

Avon: Deferral of sales tax collection until mid-June.

Telluride: Relief from paying sales taxes for the months of March and April until businesses can get back on their feet, or until September 30, 2020. Penalties and interest for unpaid sales taxes waived for this period. They still have to report sales and taxes collected.

Visitors/Second Homeowners

Gunnison County: A public health order in Gunnison County prohibits all visitors, including non-resident homeowners from remaining in the county for the duration of the order. Click [here](#) for the full order.

Summit County: All lodging businesses, including hotels, motels, timeshares and short-term rentals were required to close per a March 27, 020 [Public Health Order](#). In effect through April 30, 2020 (extended to May 31) , but subject to change. Failure to comply is subject to penalties including fines up to \$5,000, up to 18 months of jail time, and revocation of the short term rental permit. The STR Complaint Hotline can be used to report violations.

Telluride: Strengthened prohibition against short-term rentals through beefed up notification, and added that any owner and/or property management company caught renting short-term during the period of the emergency can result in the permanent loss of their business license. Redefined "Visitor" as someone not permanently residing in County. This allows people to still move within the county, including short-term rental, to facilitate a move during the stay-at-home period. Also redefined "short-term" as up to 90 days, again only during the restricted period, to prevent people from renting to "shelter-in-place" out-of-county people.

And from a non-CAST mountain town - **Mammoth Lakes, CA** set up a highway checkpoint to turn away tourists. "... the story isn't really a road checkpoint," Dr. Boo, Mono County's public health officer wrote in a recent email. "It's about a little mountain town and its little hospital on the verge of getting crushed."

Other Resources

Summit County: Developed a [chart to compare](#) local orders to the Governor's orders to assist individuals and businesses in determining which provisions from each order apply to them.

Estes Park: The broadband utility, Trailblazer Broadband is offering free WiFi zones, understanding that some in the community have little or no internet access. Regarding electric and water utilities, they are not shutting off accounts or assessing late penalties at this time and are working with individuals and businesses to establish payment plans if necessary.

Estes Park: The Accelerated Recovery Team (ART) is one of four Town-led teams working on COVID-19 recovery. ART is focused on planning for a quick recovery after the end of physical distancing orders implemented by the State and County. The group is focused on sharing resources with each other and the business community; and strategizing specific ways to support a faster and more robust economic recovery. Members of the ART include: Town of Estes Park, Estes Park Economic Development Corporation (EDC), Estes Park Chamber of Commerce, Visit Estes Park, Rocky Mountain National Park, YMCA of the Rockies and the Estes Valley Area Lodging Association. Details [here](#).