

Business List

2007 Pitkin County Community Survey

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Responses for Open Ended question # 4 - Resident of Pitkin County?

20 yr valley resident. 13 yrs in Blue Lake, Eagle Co stupid enough

"full-time res of Eagle County"

Owner of small rental professional building

"This is a tiny business, 1 person who has answered Q's on personal form"

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Responses for Open Ended question # 5 - Neighborhood

Aspen Airport Business Center

Blue lake, See Above

Basalt, Eagle County

Carbondale

North Forty

Basalt= "mailing"

Carbondale

"Eagle County"

"Garfield Co."

Unincorporated Eagle County

"Brush Creek"

Snowmass

"Old Snowmass"

New York

"Unincorporated Garfield Cty."

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Responses for Open Ended question # 7 - Why live in Pitkin County?

No Crime, healthy lifestyle

Business opportunities

Nowhere else to go

Decided to raise my family here

Have a good business

I own a business

Schools

off season and small town appeal

good public schools

skiing

can to ski and never left

opened satellite dermatology clinic

"I was born in Colorado. I came to Aspen in 1976. This is my homeland."

"Crating toote place in Aspen too."

business

"work"

"Satilite office main office in GJ"

"have been here 27 yrs"

"have business here"

"Clean healthy enviroment"

"got stuck here"

"Raise family"

"Clean air progressive community"

"moved w/ husband"

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Responses for Open Ended question # 8 - Recreation

sailing

swimming too

Curling

paragliding

Paragliding

Horsebackriding

uphill races

"snow mobiling"

dog play at parks

"trap & skeet shooting, equestrian, rodeo, Note: No mentioning of any equestrian facilities!! No 4H"

"Theatrical/music"

"beauty"

training

"swimming"

"dog hiking"

snomobiling

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Responses for Open Ended question # 9 - Cultural activities

Wheeler Opera House Offerings

Political events

Curling

Scientific lectures, eg. Aspen Global Change, Physics Institute, etc

organizations

"Choir at Church"

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Responses for Open Ended question # 19 - Growth control

Less size, more growth (limit to 5,000 sq. ft living space)

Managed growth based on need

because of employee housing, the growth is way too much, otherwise the growth controls would work

Like Portland, OR, infill first within the "ring" around the municipality

growth that benefits the county no more fractional ownerships

NO/NONE Spec homes should be built at this time

"Smaller sizes rather than smaller quantity"

"not sure"

"to zero sizes does matter"

Responses for Open Ended question # 25 - Comments or suggestions

It seems like many of caucuses are controlled by individuals who do not truly and fairly represent the make-up of their areas rather their own misguided opinions as how things such be.

Not sufficient notice about meetings.

I would like to know what the objective/tasks of the caucuses are. How to get involved. Seems sort of exclusive

I used to participate. But since it seemed we were not listened to I stopped participating.

I think we need bike path on Castle Creek in spite of destruction. Safety more important. I regretted the demise of my favorite lupine patches on Maroon Creek, yet realize the bike path to ARC from Highlands is good for safety. I wish more bikes would use the bike paths. Bikes in the roundabout should get tickets!

#24= "?"

"It stinks- Caucus should not determine development"

"Special interest group only- Not. good for the county,"

#'s 23 and 24= "?"

"Let county vote in city issues"

"get msg. out better"

"Useless!"

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Responses for Open Ended question # 26 - Forming caucus area

AABC Business Owners - we pay taxes!

fashionable east end of aspen

"?"

"Brush Creek"

"Aspen"

"mt. valley"

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Responses for Open Ended question # 32 - Water supply

AABC - building 209 though landlord

Community Water System

Metro District Water System

diversion ditch

"City"

"bottled drinking water"

"?"

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Responses for Open Ended question # 33 - Sewage treatment system

Community wastewater treatment system

Private septic and leachfield

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Responses for Open Ended question # 53 - Find out

attending meetings

commissions-hpc1prz"

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Responses for Open Ended question # 54 - Streaming

No TV reception

People who need to watch BOCC meetings on their computer really need to get a life.

use Grassroots

" but they need to fix the tv system"

"no"

Responses for Open Ended question # 55 - Improve communications

More surveys like this one.

offer registered voters and those who are residents who can not vote (but can use the internet and register for alerts) email alerts to come to the website

Be truthful.

I think that you have a very difficult task and do it remarkably well considering all of the issues that compete for my attention. Thank you.

Through internet, newspapers

Connect the four lane highway from the airport to main street. Unrestricted use of all lanes. No tunnel.

reduce staff and overhead and spend our money on roads or public safety services

During City Council meetings when topics are voted on give a summation at the end of the meeting as to what the next steps may be. Many of the meetings leave me hanging as to what is actually going to happen now that some topic has been voted for or voted down.

it does a pretty good job with Grassroots and papers. Mostly, it is there if a person wants to find it.

Create an opt in email blast that we can sign up for if interested in specific things within the County that we can sign up for on the county website.

Newsletter.

"Neighborhood meetings are V. Imp. This is the 4th survey I've filled out in 3 months. None of my comments have made any diff. so far. I would like to see follow-up."

"Most things are being covered in the Newspapers"

"email"

"Let county vote on city impact"

"Don't allow Boll meetings to go on so long."

"E newsletter by Email"

"town meetings"

"KJAX talk shows- more local people."

"Listen carefully at mays crive evyou on grvding who want to be here to be here"

"Get people more involved"

"Listen"

"Don't know"

"Newspapers"

"Master plan process for the entire valley (Garfield & Eagle)."

Responses for Open Ended question # 79 - Comments - services

The board of county commissioner talk the talk but do not walk the walk. Their housing mitigation program is a joke. How can they expect to provide housing when mitigation is only \$5-10,000/employee? The county doesn't have a housing mitigation program

The dog laesh law is not being enforced at all. All of the wealthy snobs who use are trails are assuming they are above the leash law. It's horrible. I'm affraid to use most of the trails in area because I have been bitten twice. Your weak laws even protect dog owners who's dogs have only bitten one person. It is an epidemic.

Get the building department under control and make it efficient. It is ridiculous what it takes to get plans approved or to get a building permit for simple things.

Better education and stiffer fines for pet owners regarding dog feces on our trails and parks.

Get an airline who does not cancel flights because of low passagers count and blame the cancelation on weather conditions when the weather is good and not the problem.

recycling/precycling - of course more needs to be done start charging for plastic bags at the markets and merchants around town market bags should explain how to efficiently recycle in the valley

enforce leash laws in all parts of the county

It would be nice if another ailine could come into Aspen. The airport shuts down too often. I fly out of Eagle often, but would prefer to fly out of Aspen. Also - Smuggler Raod should be maintained. Wilk took much better care of it than the government. It needs to be graded.

Connect the four lane highway from the airport to main street. Unrestricted use of all lanes. No tunnel.

I think the delays in issuing permits and costs is a problem. Do not hire more staff, streamline the process and make the codes simple. YOur constituents have more at stake than the elected officails so let the market decide! Cut staff to fix the roads.

allow bicycle tires and tubes at Recycling centers

Building Permits regulations and rules are too Strict. Makes our life more difficult unnecessarily.

Enforce the weed and noise control laws.

I have witnessed selective enforcement of leash laws by Animal control as well as building code enforcement.

Snowplowing and street sweeping should not be done around hotels before 7am. This presents major disruption for high paying guests. This intern discourages them from staying in the core of town because of noise and thus contributes to the sprawl and lack of density in the commercial core. This also creates some of the traffic and parking problem in town.

Clerk office personnel are sometimes not as pleasant as they could be 1

Too many control freaks, to much politics!

Animal Control seems more concerned with the animals than the people they bite.

Building inspections are very good. Building permit time is terrible.

quick killing bears

"Poor drug & alcohol reinforcement w/ teenagers!"

"Build 4- lanes into Aspen straight shot"

"Prevention- new information on bone health & osteoporosis" #77-"0 no prevention program"

"Cope Enforcement you are in violation"

"Too much unenforced construction not following rules impact on residents"

"don't use many of the services"

"Master planning!"

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Responses for Open Ended question # 81 - Trails- activities

I would love a dog park where my dog could legally be off leash!

commuting

"Dogs need off leash area"

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Responses for Open Ended question # 92 - Family Status

baby on the way

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Responses for Open Ended question # 94 - Attend school

"Art school"

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Responses for Open Ended question # 97 - Ethnicity:

White/Jewish

"Although I prefer the term below= Indigenous American (Native American)"

"All"

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Responses for Open Ended question # 99 - Employment status

Business owner in Aspen

non profit director/volunteer

owner business

"Employed almost full time & supplemented w/ self employment"

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Responses for Open Ended question # 100 - Worker job location:

Missouri

"The Roaring Fork Valley"

"Roaring Fork Valley"

Responses for Open Ended question # 102 - Sources of income

local business

Aspen Saturday Market

rental income

commission income

"commission only"

business profits

"Private practice"

"Business"

Responses for Open Ended question # 122 - Suggestions:

the traffic at the entrance to Aspen (coming and going) is the #1 problem in Pitkin County. It is tarnishing Aspens reputation as a tourist destination, damaging the visual beauty of the area, and hurting air quality (100s of idling cars for miles, twice a day?) It seems ridiculous (sp?) that only Aspen voters have the fate of this huge problem in thier hands, as it surely hurts everyone who lives and works in Pitkin County.

We need parking lot for service trucks. Park trucks ride bus. Sort of the opposite of ride and park (night time use of empty parking lots. We would pay to park as a company with 9 service trucks used only in Pitkin County. Services are moving down valley, and in addition to housing Pitkin County should help the service industry support Pitkin County. Electricians, Plumbers, Spa Techs, even landscaping guys, plows, etc. These people cannot take the bus!

When the hell is some body going to get their head out of their ass and fix the goddamn traffic problem, it make you all look like you are either A. Incompetent B. Don't give a damn C. Are completely insulated from the needs of your constituency.

We need AFFORDABLE housing, not housing that wealthy retirees can realistically afford. This is a crisis for Pitkin County and must be addressed at a more rapid rate or you will lose a great deal of your workforce. You've got to get on the ball...NOW!!! To the wuestion below: Hell, I can't even afford to be a first homeowner.

Please clean up the recycle area. It is a huge eyesore. It should be paved and made attractive.

Something needs to be done about the airport lack of affordable flights,the canceling what flights they have and expanding destinations and chose airlines which service Aspen. Or maybe we should just close it to commercial airlines and support a good regional airport like Eagle County has.

We simply have to get better air service into Aspen to keep it vital.

bears.....step it up and be an example to the whole wilderness country we can not be attracting bears and killing them

Maintain and grade Smuggler Mountain Road

Connect the four lane highway from the airport to main street. Unrestricted use of all lanes. No tunnel.

Air quality is an issue with so many vehicles (trucks etc) in town.

Build a 4 lane highway across Marolt on to M<ain Street. Lower the mill rate on real estate with the very large property value assessment increases you will be recieving a winfall in tax revenue.

If Pitkin County really is honest about green house effect, they will stop allowing large mansions being built and not being built following the LEED's guidelines. There are enough large homes in the area, how 'bout some small ones, or selling off all of the large/specs before any more are built!

"Slower growth. Fewer high-end propeties. We need a train. Mitigate construction vehicles"

"Fix Main Street in Aspen to way it was ("the Lives")"

"Wider highways will not enhance Pitkin Cty."

"Better planning with Bears next summer"

"Straight shot into town"

Complete the paving of Rio Grande Trail all the way to Woody Creek to complete the valley-wide trail system and allow road bikers to commute without using the dangerous McLain Flats Road.

"Capitalism."

"Increase school funding Colorado 47th in nation!"

"Work even more to stop the effects of global warming"

"2nd home owners need to be taxed at a higher rate"

"Too much construction poor air & sound quality"

"smaller homes"

#111= should be blank.

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Responses for Open Ended question # 131 - Direction

the traffic problem MUST be fixed SOON.

Why is taxes for someone in Woody creek w/2 acres only paying 2500 a year?

Depends on each category

mired in concrete-

If we can keep growth under control, we will be okay.

Both.

some right, some wrong

this question is too general

See comments on 132 below

some areas are good others are not so good

study less, act more, support decisions

There still needs to be a cap on spec homes and large homes.

Headed in "some" direction.

except w restrictions on home sizes

"Fix transportation into town."

"xxx"

"need to renew master plan"

"fair"

"Should anticipate in all aspects working forces problems to survive financially in this area-"

"Debateable- growth looks over whelming"

"All the aid is for special interest"

"don't know"

Responses for Open Ended question # 132 - Suggestions:

Have I mentioned that I really think Pitkin County NEEDS to address the traffic problem at the entrance to Aspen? By the way, since I can not vote on the issue, I will use this forum to say that I support the "preferred alternative", straight-shot, or split-shot. Please notice that I ranked open space as "very important" in the survey above, but I do not think that keeping the Marlot property as 100% open-space, at the expense of the TREMENDOUS costs of the traffic-jams as they are now, is practical. A change is needed. As an owner of 2 Aspen businesses, I hear my clients/customers complain, almost daily, about the traffic. It is hurting the county.

We need to build the Castle Creek bridge as soon as possible, We need to address the traffic issue after skiing

Perhaps more for City, but entire Rafta bus stops need to be revamped. If you want people to use buses you need to make them convenient for the people and have them go all over. Why not run shuttle buses year round for workers and use shuttle buses in off season not hugh buses that are rarely full.

The operation of the traffic corridor in Aspen is pathetic and should be a priority for your attention. The fact that you have no questions in this survey on traffic is a little disheartening since it is a major issue for every business owner in the county.

Make this community truly affordable for us worker bees.

Stop seeling out to the greedheads.

As a business owner, I feel that there is alot more to do in this valley so that we do not loose all of the local businesses. In 20 years I have seen countless surveys, studies and votes on numerous subjects that impact our quality of life and business. Tons of money spent with very little gained. Here are a few of the things that seem to me to have obvious and easy sololutions. 1 We need alot more affordable housing, very close to Aspen. We need places for legal workers to live, that they can afford on the pay scales and prices that we have in this valley. We have this great lot right on the bus line called Cozy Point. There could be hundreds of units built there, all affordable. Who cares what it looks like. If we do not have workers to keep our businesses running, we won't be able to live here anyway. 2 Speaking of business, has anyone seen what the increase in property values has done to the commercial rent scale. Not to mention property tax increases that just get passed directly to the renters in the form of triple net leases. Perhaps we can pass a law here that states each and every landlord is entirely responsible for the taxes and all maintainence on their buildings and do away with the triple net part. This would actually make my business profitable if I could keep what I give to the landlords to pay for all of the things I pay for as homeowner, property taxes, etc.. I guess they would just raise the rents further, but at least they may consider the prices charged to them as well. 3 OK, lets beat a dead horse. Four lanes or a roundabout to replace any stoplight upvalley from the AABC lights. You don't have to be a rocket scientist to understand a Bottle Neck. And what about the environmental impact on the air quality during all of the traffic jams. Don't we have a law against idling in this town? It seems to me that I even voted for a straight shot before I moved down valley. The biggest opponents are the people that don't get stuck in traffic because they never leave town. I know this is mostly City of Aspen, but it is a huge problem. I take McClain Flats most peak driving days, even when I come to town at 10:00 am. That's a county road isn't it? 4 Keep up the good work on things like the bicycle path. The newest link from hooks bridge to Catherines Store is extra special. I guess that is why the few tried to keep the masses out, they don't like to share. Oh well, it could be a coal fired locomotive chuggin up the tracks. Did anyone hear the Ride The Rockies people rave about the Roaring Fork Valley leg this year? It may have changed some minds on where to take their next vacation. Thanks for letting me vent

When Pitkin County or the COA change their land use codes what happens is real estate prices go up. I believe we need let the marketplace find its own equilibrium by allowing moderate growth. Remember well over 85% of land in Pitkin County is already open space which can not be developed.

Expensive houses are not paying enough tax, especially the ones with the agricultural tax rate. This lower rate is being abused and the government is looking the other way and doing nothing about it.

Four-lane the entrance to Aspen already and quit playing silly games aimed at making people abandon their cars in favor of bus service...it does not and will not work. Four lanes of moving cars/trucks is a far greater entrance experience than two lanes of bumper-to-bumper traffic.

We need less government involvement in personal real estate issues but on-going supervision in commercial development.

build more housing, put more signage on backcountry roads and entry points, and please declare more ski holidays

The Department of Community Development requires redirection- it is too activist at the staff level. Staff is too entrenched and resentful of free market virtues. Also the bear population must be reduced.

the massive limelight + dancing bear are obstructive to the scenery and aspen small town feel plus they are fractionals! no approval for the lodge at lift 1A, meaning no hotel space & no rejuvenation for lift 1A area. bad planning indeed.

I think that the county is so concerned about affordable housing for BUYERS, that they have lost sight of the fact (and it is a fact) that not everyone wants to, nor can AFFORD to purchase a property. We have lost hundreds of rental units to huge new homes, and local workers have moved downvalley. I have not been able to find a person to work in my office anymore for the past three years. Many potential employees have said that they would love to work for me, but unless I move my office downvalley, they are unable to find affordable housing options, including rentals, even at a pay start of \$50,000 per year. Rather than just razing these older apartment buildings or hotels and allowing a \$10 million dollar home that also has to have an affordable housing ADU, why can't we see our way to refurbishing these units and renting them out to locals who would be perfectly happy to continue renting rather than moving out of this valley? Our values have gone the way of big money, and it is disappointing to see the changes that have taken place so rampantly in the past five to ten years. The Denver Post has had numerous front page articles stating that approximately 67% of the residential square footage in Aspen are actually the vacant carbon footprints of monster vacation homes that are vacant 277 days per year. We are focusing on more development at the base on Aspen Mountain, rather than how to deal with a global warming crisis and finding ways for our community to do our share in eliminating such waste. Why think about building additional ski facilities with the Highlands Village and Snowmass Village base villages being HUGE, when the future of our snowpack is in such danger right now that adding this much more to the carbon emissions is insane? We have several first class hotels in Aspen as it is, a new lift, excellent runs, and we can keep it that way longer if we start thinking twice before we start developing once.

Perhaps it is impossible, but keep restricting growth & encourage energy & resource efficiency

Connect the four lane highway from the airport to main street. Unrestricted use of all lanes. No tunnel.

House size should be restricted more...they are not homes...they are 2nd or 3rd houses that nobody is in most of the year and we have to tolerate how ugly they are in our mountain views.

Less and less unique Aspen stores, virtually no restaurant choices for reasonably priced food for locals, no sense of community in Aspen when everyone leaves for downvalley at end of workday, flight from Denver to Aspen too expensive (bring back the \$100 skiers-from-Denver weekend--it brought so much business to town)--if Aspen/Denver flight were cheaper, it would make big difference in number of tourists and also make it possible for locals to get out of town and to a city once in awhile--I always feel trapped in the mountains when I'm in Aspen area, and it's too expensive to take emergency trips home (back East) if there are family emergencies.

Four lane highway 82.

Atmosphere in government is encouraging division in the community. Property rights are being taken away and micro-managed. Land Use should be overall, not microscopic. Public services like roads, utilities, schools, health should be higher priorities than development regulations that don't accomplish goals of locals. Traffic is key. If the City and the County won't address the needs of its own citizens who NEED better traffic flow, they are not serving the electorate. Traffic congestion hurts us all. Government should address the needs of the many, not just the desires of the few.

The rapid over growth has got to be slowed

Pitkin county is run like a communist regime. There needs to be a lot less regulation and more freedom. I cannot stand the way the city is run politically, like everyone is entitled to something.

Enforce the noise laws regarding the motorcycles that roar through.

No moratoriums. Understand cars are here to stay. Stop continually trying to stop, restrict, and down size building

see Q.131

Not enough being done to keep the workforce close to work which lead to all of the other problems.

Pitkin County needs to get tough about global warming. It is so very sad to have the influence of Amery Lovins and the RMI and to have our city, county and ski officials pat themselves on the back when in reality they are namby pamby and not tough on water, air, gas BUILDING and wild life protection. Wild life are the last thought on building/rural development protection--like not really any protection at all.

The workforce and community are being pushed further and further down valley by the wealth and greed of realtors, 2nd homeowners and money in general. businesses are also being effected by these consequences are are slowly being pushed out. The County and BOCC in particular are not helping out local businesses and people that consistantly live in the valley.

I think that the large fractional buildings and developments are out of scale. The influx of fractional owners compromise the character of the community and sense of commitment people have to Pitkin County, Aspen and Snowmass Village.

Slow development

"I am so tired of growth & construction and construction vehicles on the road. Nothing is being done in Aspen to Mitigate this. The valley needs a train from Glenwood to Aspen." #90= "This is my 1st deed restricted year in over 30 yrs. #123= "Because my name has never been picked in the housing lottery!"

"Stright shot on enterage to Aspen & fix the Live on Main Street"

Written at top of front page: "Les Dames a' Aspen Take us OFF the list - the questions have no bearing to us"

#49= Both 1 and 3 are marked. #66= "Took them 6 hours to re j pant"

#130= "Too high for workers - too low for 2nd homeowners!"

#s 89 and 91= "Eagle County"

"Too much building in the rural area." #64= Should be blank.

"I have to move down valley to afford to live here. Local citizens are leaving Aspen for Basalt"

Property values increased by 45% since the last tax assessment. Property tax mill levys should be decreased accordingly to match an actual budget, with consideration for increased service costs.

"St. shot into town"

"Aspen Vig taxes are very high for the services received!"

Only the cover sheet was sent back with this written on the front: "Fix the entrance 4 lane Eliminate HOV lane or put it on the correct side!!!"

#6= "never"

"Housing is a big problems for work force"

Affordable housing is critical to the future of Pitkin County. With the current level of economic development we will have an increasingly difficult time attracting and retaining employees unless we can creat more affordable (both rental and for purchase) housing. In my opinion, housing priced at \$400,000 and up is not affordable.

"Need imput from locals who reside outside city limits"

"Taxes to high for seniors forces you to sell & move"

Written at top of first page and on cover letter: "I do not own property in Pitkin County. I only work here! Thanks"

Written on envelope: "This survey seems to be directed from an ex county commissioner" Written on front page: "****a glaring ommission of equestrian activities!!"

Written on sticky note attached: "This is a satilite office- the property is owned by Dr. Robert Om 500 Petterson Rd Grand Jct, Co 81506"

"Traffic management, air quality"

#109= both 4 and 5 are marked.

"Focus on sustainability" #6= "3-5=my wife 11-20=myself" #12= "Its better to be dense rather than spread out."

"Too much money, not enough REAL people..."

"Sr. services do not involve prevention- only surgery, medications, radiation chemotherapy- need cancer specialist here Denver too far away!"

"No more golf courses! Slow growth down"

"We do not make it easy for guests to move here. Pull ke"

#90= "Business" #96= "Both"

"Less of a gov't pay roll for an area this size. Downsize it"

professionals are being forced out of town due to high cost of doing business in Aspen"

"Build to house seniors in small independent coommunities" #18= "Could be more" #30 and 31="could do better" #43= "bicycle" #67= "only city"

"Listen to the people" #70= "Your always wrong" #108= "going" #120= "Too large"

#130= "don't know- I rent"

"To much building to big of houses TDR bad idea" #22= "Never knew one existed" #43= "Should not be free pd by taxes should be pd by users."

"Development in Aspen has gotten out of control"

"Hotel rooms are needed. Congestion on Hwy 82 HOV does not work and has created problems not helped"

#6= "20"

"Allowing too many, too large homes waste energy & need more workers." #88= "Should be a truck usage tax for all the construction traffic"

Aspen should be treated as sanibel isalnd, florida or nantucket, mass is treated and have all non-residents and other non-essentials (TOURISTS) should have to pay a toll to cross the maroon creek bridge (just like up at the maroon bells). the same should be done for retail employess to force them to carpool or take the bus. realtors, and any other employee (construction) who will need their cars should pay the toll as a cost of doing business.