October 26, 2023

Dear Neighbors,

In just over a week, we will decide whether, or not, we want Vail to be a town. It is an important and historic decision.

For more than two years, our group has discussed, studied, analyzed, and debated the merits of the issue of incorporation. In the end, we decided that incorporation would provide the best way to control our own future as a community and to ensure that Vail remains a great place to live, not only for ourselves, but also for our children and grandchildren.

We are a citizens committee. We have devoted thousands of hours of our time with no thought to personal or financial gain because we love Vail. In advocating for incorporation, we have tried to honor the values and traditions of our community – respect for each other, honesty, transparency, cooperation and collaboration, and respectful discussion and debate.

We have made a serious effort to engage the community in this decision We held a series of public meetings open to everyone where we outlined the legal process and discussed the pros and cons of incorporation. We held several forums with presentations from experts including the mayors of Benson and Sahuarita. We administered several surveys to solicit input on the issues of concern to the residents of Vail. Finally, we held two townhalls where we responded to questions and comments from the public.

There are members of the Vail community who oppose incorporation and we respect their right to do so. However, in recent weeks, **some** of the opponents have deployed campaign tactics that do not honor the values of our community.

They have disrupted public meetings and used profanity. They have vandalized, stolen, and defaced our signs. More troubling, they have engaged in personal attacks against members of our committee and volunteers; they have intimidated and harassed individuals and organizations that have endorsed incorporation; and they have even threatened physical harm to some of our supporters.

These tactics have no place in Vail.

We will accept the outcome of the election. We all love Vail, and we will continue to be neighbors after the election. Let ‘s finish the final days of this campaign on a high note through civil discourse and a respect for one another.

Let’s honor the democratic process and decide this issue through our votes on election day.

Respectfully,

Incorporate Vail Arizona (IVA)