

NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

University of Colorado at Denver Graduate Students Presenting Findings of Eagle River Valley Sustainability Studies to Community

The sustainability studies used the findings of last September's Sustainable Design Assessment Team Study

AVON, Colo. (April 28, 2010) – Graduate planning students from the University of Colorado at Denver Center for Sustainable Urbanism (UCCSU), who have been studying sustainability issues within the Eagle River Valley, will present their findings to the public on Thursday, May 6, at 6 p.m., at the Town Council Chambers, in Avon, Colo. These studies follow up the findings provided by the Sustainable Design Assessment Team (SDAT) for the Eagle River Valley area, including Vail, Minturn, Red Cliff, Avon and the Eagle corridor on Colorado's Western Slope. The SDAT report was funded in part by the Towns of Avon and Vail, Eagle County and The American Institute of Architects (AIA) and AIA Colorado West.

The students have reviewed the findings of the SDAT, which were submitted to the community in September 2009, and have worked with the members of the SDAT steering committee and key members of the Eagle River Valley community. They have developed a series of in-depth, comprehensive studies that build on the SDAT findings and provide additional substance to help the valley move toward a sustainable future.

"These presentations and studies are important", cites SDAT Steering Committee Chair, Chris Green, AIA, LEED AP, of Avon, Colo. "These are fresh and provocative perspectives that will add significantly to the dialogues taking place within our communities. I look forward to seeing the results of these studies and providing our community with a comprehensive folio of sustainability options, recommendations and potential directions. "

The student teams have researched existing documents, strategies and policies, and are building on these current issues to contribute their conclusions to the future of the valley. The UCCSU graduate planning teams will present their study findings on subjects including resource use, planning projections, intergovernmental relationships, the future character of the region and current perceptions, concepts and ideas relating to sustainability within the valley.

About AIA & AIA Colorado West

For more than 150 years, members of AIA have worked with each other and their communities to create more valuable, healthy, secure and sustainable buildings and cityscapes. AIA members have access to the right people, knowledge and tools to create better design, and through such resources and access, they help clients and communities make their visions real. AIA Colorado West is one of four chapters within the AIA Colorado component. This chapter is comprised of members from 27 counties in western Colorado and among others includes the cities of Aspen, Breckenridge, Vail, Grand Junction and Steamboat Springs.

About the SDAT

This study was undertaken in part as a celebration of the 150th anniversary of AIA in an effort to give back to the communities in which our members live and work. The report provided by the SDAT can be found at:
<http://aia.org/aiaucmp/groups/aia/documents/document/aiab082763.pdf>