



COMMUNITY EVENT SUMMARY

TOWN OF RIDGWAY

September 27, 2018

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INTRODUCTION

RIDGWAY MASTER PLAN: CREATING OUR FUTURE

On Thursday, September 27, 2018, approximately 100 people gathered at the 4-H center to talk about Ridgway's future. The evening kicked off at 5pm with an open house, during which participants were able to view snippets of community input gathered by Town staff and the steering committee over the course of the summer, and background information on the plan. At 6pm, participants were welcomed by Mayor John Clark and Evan Weissman, who facilitated the discussion for the evening. Participants were treated to an introductory poem, prepared by special guest, Adrian Molina, to kick things off. Participants then:

- Heard from the project team about some of the key takeaways from the results of the Community Survey, completed by over 660 people
- Tested their knowledge about Ridgway by responding to a series of key pad polling questions, and in the process learned about population estimates, demographics, and other fun facts about the community and region
- Worked in groups to envision their ideal Ridgway. Although this started as a traditional brainstorming type mapping exercise, facilitators assumed different "hats" and introduced a variety of challenges for the groups to respond to. (e.g., big box store, affordable housing project, or major employer coming to town)
- Reviewed and provided input on the Town's current vision statement and values
- Provided input on some of the key policy choices that will be important to consider as the Master Plan process moves forward

A comprehensive summary of input received at the September 27 Ridgway Master Plan: Creating our Future Event is included below. The overall presentation for the evening and the key pad polling results are available at the end of this document. This input will be used to help inform the Town's new Master Plan, which is expected to be ready for review early next year.

MAP EXERCISE SUMMARY

OVERALL SUMMARY AND TAKEAWAYS

While each of the 16 groups who participated in this activity had a different take on what would make Ridgway an ideal community, there were a number of topics where most groups agreed. Things like preventing sprawl, preserving open space and wildlife habitat/corridors, directing growth to the town core, building a trail connecting Ouray and Montrose, building a community center, and building a dog park appeared on many of the maps. A number of groups wanted to see a new hotel in Ridgway, and a bypass around Ridgway for traffic traveling between Montrose and Telluride (although alignments of this differed). An even greater number of groups wanted to see an affordable grocery store (although some groups were fine driving to Montrose to buy groceries and opposed any sort of chain/big box store locating in Ridgway). There also seemed to be consensus that the area north of town (and west of Cora Street) is suitable for additional growth and development. However, there were differences regarding the density of development that should occur. Some advocated for higher density development in this area, while other wanted to see lower density development, or clustered development to preserve open space.

In terms of differences, groups seemed split on whether or not the Town should continue to pave more streets, and whether or not big box stores should be allowed in the community. There were also a number of unique suggestions offered by groups such as wind turbines, a pedestrian mall on Clinton Street, and adding greenhouses and space to grow food wherever possible throughout Ridgway.

Large Subdivision Obstacle

This obstacle required residents to respond to a 200-unit subdivision being built somewhere in the Town of Ridgway (locations varied by group). Since, per the exercise instructions, groups were unable to simply say “no” to the new development, most came up with a set of conditions they would like to see the project meet. There was considerable consensus among the groups with this obstacle that:

- The development should include affordable/workforce housing (some groups said as much as 20% of units)
- The development should include open space or greenspace of some sort, either to buffer the development from surrounding existing development and/or as a community benefit
- That the (fictional) developer should pay for the infrastructure needed to serve the subdivision

One of the groups was also curious to know what the homes would look like in terms of their design, color, and size, a comment made by groups facing other obstacles as well.

Apartment/High-density Housing Obstacle

This obstacle required residents to respond to a proposed 50-unit multifamily/apartment development being built somewhere in the Town of Ridgway (the location varied by group). Common questions/conditions proposed by groups included:

- The development should match the surrounding architecture, particularly in the historic town core.
- At least 20% of units should be affordable
- Height limits should be maintained (2 to 3 stories depending on location in Ridgway) if not lowered to a maximum of 2 stories
- Parking should be provided on site to preserve the availability of street parking along surrounding streets

Groups differed on the types of units that should be included in the development, and hence the target market for the new housing units. One group wanted to see more 1 bedroom apartments, as they felt there were few places in town for single people to live. On the other hand, another group was opposed to 1 bedroom and studio units, characterizing potential tenants as worker in pot shops (and hence, undesirable).

Big Box Store Obstacle

This obstacle required residents to respond to a proposed big box store locating somewhere in Ridgway. While all of the groups were initially opposed to this proposal, they developed a list of criteria that they wanted the project to adhere to. Some shared criteria included:

- Most groups said that if a big box store was going to come to Ridgway, they’d prefer it to be a grocery store rather than a retailer like Walmart or Home Depot
- Limit the size of the store to be as small as possible

While not shared across groups, the following were also suggested as considerations for big box stores by different groups:

- Increased design standards to ensure the development fits in with the community
- Only big box tenants that support good health, the environment, and small/local businesses should be allowed

New Employer Obstacle

The final obstacle asked groups to respond to a new employer coming to Ridgway. The employer would be in the outdoor recreation industry, and employ around 200 people. The groups that were given this obstacle thought:

- The architecture of the building should blend in with the surrounding architecture
- Employer should provide some sort of public benefit as part of the development, such as affordable housing or by using alternative energy to power the building

Obstacles Takeaways

- Residents are concerned about how new development will look. They want development to match the surrounding architecture. This is true for both residential and non-residential development.
- Residents want new residential development (i.e., subdivisions or multifamily projects) to include affordable housing.
- Development should provide some sort of community benefit, including open space, parks, affordable housing or incorporating green building practices.

INDIVIDUAL AND GROUP FEEDBACK

Group 1

- In town transport/shuttle to/from hotels to town
- Bike trail w/ underpass Vista Terrace to town
- Parking lot downtown
- Parking garage with transportation to town
- More open space/parks
- Keep businesses parking in businesses
- Recreation center
- Keep out big-box stores
- More pedestrian ways—later close Clinton (?) to traffic; pedestrian mall
- Hotel
- More bike hills at Athletic fields
- Bypass south of River Park subdivision to Telluride (w/ under/overpass at Cora)
- Parking at BMX course north of library
- Hotel north of Frederick Street or on Ouray County parcel east of 550

Group 2

- No development/conservation easement south of town boundary
- Bocce and Frisbee golf in Cottonwood Park
- Underpass at Hwy 550 and Sherman St
- Business growth east of 550, but NOT on highway
- Get rid of microwave tower at Lena and Clinton
- Like Rollans Park, more of it
- Potential for growth in northwest corner of town – could move high density here
- Extend Laura Street
- Less development northwest of UGB; they're not making land anymore, can't get the land back.
- Minimal to no development north of Vista Terrace, too visually critical
- 200 unit subdivision obstacle
 - 20% deed restricted workforce housing
 - Under pass (i.e., connected to the rest of town)
 - Ration of greenspace to development 30% to 70%
 - Density with open space around (cluster development)
 - Curious to know what the homes will look like; design, color, size
- Affordable Workforce housing
 - High density is key, maybe allow 1 house per 25 ft lot in HR
- Inclusionary zoning (require 15% to 20%)
- Encourage local businesses
- Town should be subject to skyline regulations
- Dark sky is critical
- Rec center
- More water in cottonwood creek
- More trees
- Drill wells?
- Water is also critical (if the drought continues we may have to stop allowing any development)

Group 3

- No big box stores: destroys the small town character that makes Ridgway so special
- Park/greenspace corridor on both sides of the river through entire town limits
- Big box store would negatively impact the historical and real feel of Ridgway
- No to big box
- Big box obstacle
 - Grocery store
 - Limit size to smallest possible
 - Make it look like community – historical nature and design
 - Increase design standards for commercial
 - Make sure standards make sure no Walmart, Costco, etc.; yes to Trader Joe's

Group 4

- Ranching heritage – don't alienate, keep cattle drive through town
- Connect elementary school to high school
- 50 unit MF obstacle
 - 50 units is too many, how about 5 pods of 10 throughout town
 - 20% should be affordable
 - Height limitations
 - Parking off street
 - Water?
 - Encourage family housing, not transient (lean on ADUs for singles)
 - Open space
 - Match area architecture (what is it?)
- Amelia Street bypass to Elk Meadows
- Connect open spaces with paths
- Dust mitigation on streets
- Protect open space for dogs

Group 5

- UGB takes too much of current ranch land
- Relax regulations
- No minimum housing size restriction
- Restrict maximum housing size, create max height/footprint
- Growth needs to be restricted to what town infrastructure can afford
- Ensuring water capacity available for planned growth
- Environmentally sustainable orientation, sola, water catchment, electric town vehicles
- I feel too many laws/regulations are created to bring income to a financially burdened town
 - Town financial condition must be evaluated
 - People should feel free—not like they will be ticketed for simple living/lifestyle (i.e., dog leash laws and bear-proof trash cans)
- Big box store obstacle
 - Only that supports good health and environment and small/local businesses (ex. No Walmarts that drive small businesses out of business)
 - Competitive business policy that supports affordable prices for food etc. while not jeopardizing small/local business
 - Say less than 20,000 square feet allowed for example, would allow say a small City Market store but not a massive Walmart-type store

Group 6

- Tourism money but want them to leave
- Xeriscape
- Trees/regulations need to promote water usage (conservation)

- Quiet neighborhood in historic residential zone, but lack of parking
- Eastern growth
 - Water concerns
 - Dump station concerns
- Only 6% of business owners represented
- Ouray County should help pay for growth if we invest in infrastructure
- Live/work is good, but there are tradeoffs (conflicts)

Group 7

- Tiny house community, location TBD

Group 8

- Disagreement: Keep residential areas unpaved/paved

Group 9

- Tiny homes – need apartment houses
- Vibrant community needs all ages
- Connect bypass
 - Truck traffic
 - Dallas Meadows to Hwy 62 west of town
- Sources for more water, viable water rights
- Housing in lawns; others think not viable
- General grocery store
- Transportation system
 - Mass busses
 - To services
 - To work in Telluride
- Housing for younger people to be able to live here
- More paved streets/no more paved streets
- Connect Vista Terrace to town
- Designate dog park – fenced
- Height limits need to be enforced, blocks out mountain views
- Less height in town

Group 10

- Protect wildlife habitat
- Maintain wildlife habitat. Concentrate any new trails in areas that *already* have trails
- Consider returning some land to Ute Tribes!
- Help ranchers use their lands differently as climate change happens
- Ranchers welcome in their town

- Greenhouses for 8 ½ month usage
- Review water rights and needs with Ranch Committee
- Develop food sources year round
- Let municipal water supply be limit to growth
- Businesses that don't impact the environment – like iSun, arts, Panji Bags, etc. "light manufacturing"
- Worker-owned food coop with in-season local food
- Emphasis on healthy air, water, environment
- Create historic preservation district. Revisit to protect visual for building growth. Historical character. Tougher codes and building codes. Revised
- Consider allowing tiny houses. Need to reduce minimum square footage
- Limit growth (housing)
- Increased water sources
- Add childcare for affordable housing clients
- All parks chem free. No extermination of prairie dogs
- More flexible transportation methods (starting with more bike lanes around town)
- Plan ahead for future trees
- Bring back our laundromat and other services for low income folks
- Community center with focus on integration of diverse residents
- Incorporate Ute culture in our town
- Building codes that emphasize green building, renewable energy
- Housing spacing, like Solar Ranches
- PUDs and subdivisions
 - 25% affordable housing
 - Access for people with disabilities
 - Encourage ethnic and racial diversity as well as diverse class structure
- Greenhouses/community gardens or growing space for farmers in every developed area
- Cohousing and assisted living

Group 11

- Assisted living here...
- Fed qualified health clinic
- Dark skies!
- Fiber optics
- Workforce housing
- Electric town vehicles (?)(%)
- Mechanical water treatment plant (that generates its own electricity)
- Move town shop to edge of town, build housing there
- High density/tiny/small homes – mixed density
- Better/new parking lot in town
- Community composting unit

- Greener town – solar on schools and town buildings, better insulation
- Greener building code

Group 12

- “Affordable housing” cap on earning to qualify
- Q: Why come to Ridgway? What is the draw? Have a feature thing to see or do – “recreation” (bike, camp, hike)
- Add a small (satellite) vo-tech or community college. Educate young and old of trade skills needed. Agriculture/ranching skills to support our region. Could provide more income to town, could stimulate/facilitate more housing/rentals.
- Subdivision obstacle
 - Enhanced traffic enforcement
 - Greenbelt through the neighborhoods
 - Developer pays for roads
 - Big new developments have to help w/ additional infrastructure (wastewater, sewer)

Group 13

- Various types of affordable housing (dispersed)
- Affordable grocery store (aka City Market)
- Personally I want to avoid chain big box stuff (e.g., City Market). I don’t mind going into Montrose for that.
- Nor more paving streets (disagree with this!)
- Keep roads on the grid. No weird bent roads like River Park
- Perimeter trail for walk/bike around town
- Zone entire town (or at least the high density area) to allow mobile homes and smaller homes. This especially impacts low-income folks. This may help prevent gentrification also (maybe modular instead of mobile?).

Group 14

- Fill in town core

Group 15

- Employer obstacle
 - Blend in/modern aesthetic
 - Carbon neutral
 - Solar panels
 - 2 stories max offices, third story deed restricted for Ouray County residents only

Group 16

- Community center with recreation, pool, courts, conference room, elder center, pre-school, after school, teen center, indoor sports, small theater
- Housing/commercial infill of town center
- Trails directly from town

- More money for capital improvements
- Dog park
- More small manufacturing

LIVE SCRIBE POETRY

As part of the Ridgway Master Plan Creating Our Future event, poet Adrian H Molina was invited to attend, listen, and create poetry on-the-spot that captured the ideas, stories, hopes, and fears of event attendees. The live-scribe poems are included below.

In the City's Master Plan: Ridgway's Kings and Queens

A live-scribe poem by Adrian H. Molina

In the City's Master Plan
the 2nd and 5th graders are equal parts
futurist and historian, and they are
as important as the elders,
who are as important as the mayor.

Speaking of, could you imagine an evolving 21st century town
where the mayor had time to chat with you for an hour
under century-old trees in the middle of the park? You might
get the feeling, in-between rusting landmarks,
a railroad museum, the Rocky Mountains,
Sneffels and Uncompahgre Peaks,
new school eateries and old school mentalities,
a river that contains the town's soul,
paved and dirt roads—
you get the sense you could be a man or a woman,
a sprouting seed or a weathered weed,
an artist, a rancher, a construction worker,
plant lover, descendant of miners,
futurist or old timer, a chef, a designer,
a ruffneck, a city councilwoman,
a cowboy or an indian—
and Mayor John would give you the same time of day.

A moment when the winds could carry pollen
from what all the diverging folk may have to say—
an opportunity when other towns are dying,
to see a future where the children
of today's children
may want to stick around and play.

The children want:
a bigger skatepark,
preservation of their river,
more flowers and fewer "smoke shops,"
animal rights,

a program for the disabled,
ski benches,
books and music shops like in Denver
("but not like Denver, like Ridgway!"),
less drugs,
more play,
a Starbucks, a gymnasium, a Gucci store,
a mall, another market—
but all agreed, NO MORE BUILDINGS!
(I wondered if the adults might find all of this familiar.)

A fifth grade surfer wants a "wave maker thing" for the river
like they have out in California
("but not like California, like Ridgway!").
Another wants a dog park, a JC Penney's, and a football field,
but none of this should attract more people!

And for all these many ideas
the number of cheers to jeers was equal.

The second graders want to be artists,
musicians, builders, and believers
who may one day play
in the beloved summer concert series
and they themselves get paid.
One with bright ideas wants a Ridgway Pride Parade!

As I walked through the town's history,
the old baseball diamond told me it was a field of dreams
that somebody had memory of. The fence falling down,
the dandelions and weeds had claimed patches of grass,
the earth underneath holding the mass
of laughter, grit, and "simpler times."

At the edges of change
there were rhymes in the alleys
like the poems in the leaves,
the shifting dreamscapes
that had brought the world's photographers to see
what is just an everyday thing to you and me—
Beauty.

But the baker can't live here
(she lives in Montrose). She can't afford the rent,
even though she feeds dozens daily
and delights them with her craft.
Why is it that even in a place so beautiful
where the land demands sustainability,
we humans can't seem to do the most basic math?

Could it be true that it was neither
the miner's nor the rancher's ill intents,

nor the fault of the laborers or the immigrants
or the city government...
but the bigger forces and structures
that got in the way of possibility...
even though everyone could imagine
living in an affordable, gorgeous, vibrant,
historic and future forward town-city,
where the trees and the Fourteeners
remained the kings,
and the wildflowers and fall leaves
still presided as queens
over the wonder and awe of all living beings?

(Look around.)

What was truly possible
on that warm late-September evening
when the village revealed its dreams?

The Beautiful Finale?

a live-scribe poem by Adrian H Molina

Excitement builds.
The hopeful and skeptical gather.
Smiles, handshakes and eye rolls—
Political landscapes. Democracy matters.

Insiders. / Outsiders.
Bridges. / Dividers.
Familiar Patterns. / Outliers.
The land reflects it all.

Little walls fall. Breath. Poetry.
Surveys. Trivia. “Bear with me.”

Projected growth is lower than we had all thought!
For the town... WAIT.
Shhhhhiiiiiee...ooouuuut! The country size could double?!
Trouble.

Upturns. / Downturns.
Backspins. / U-turns.
You can look around
and see all the wheels turn:

questions burning,
calculations,
transformations—What do you want?

New roads. Walking trails. Bike paths.
Parking. Healthy food. Reaction.
And Space to Create fill the collective imagination.

But, “Who is missing from the conversation?”
Who notices?
Who has reservations?

How might the conversation about jobs,
housing, services, and transportation change
if *they* were here?

(Questions to follow up on.)

For now, play the role.
Dream BIG. Before the authority
comes to scale dreams down to size.
They always come. They take big bites.
And some pay with their lives.

“But this is just an exercise,” right?
Until it gets real. Wheh! “It’s getting real.”
“Where are the comedians?” Why didn’t we bring the circus?
Work with us. “If they try to bring Home Depot
we’ll either burn it down or stamp ‘N.F.W. in the ground”
(Resident’s quotes).

Let’s talk vision: *Ridgway is a welcoming,
community-minded rural small town
situated in a beautiful mountain valley...*
“and it’s going to stay that way!”

Can I get a witness?!
How about a handclap??

Switch gears. Change clothes.
Deep breath. Go.
Who, again, are we missing from this conversation?

“The animals.”
“The water.”
“The youth.”
“The poor.”
The eccentrics who quite fit the mold—
 (“Screw the mold.”)

And closing questions from the floor:

How do we set the table for honest and authentic inclusion?

What is the tradeoff when we let the money talk?

When do we as community walk?
(away... and forward, not back)

And will the leadership have our back?

You can answer with a clicker and one eye closed
but the questions open doors—

a fitting dark sky place to end
as Ridgway opens up a star portal
and the next adventure begins.

PRELIMINARY VISION AND COMMUNITY VALUES FEEDBACK

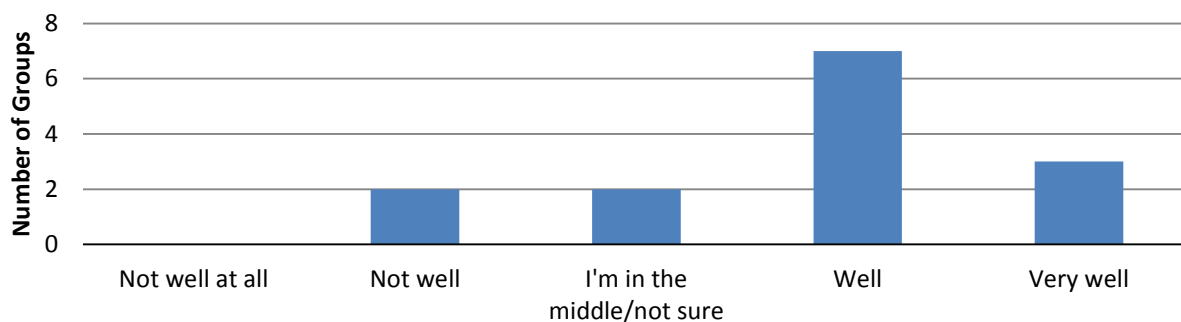
Community members were asked to review the preliminary vision and community values, and provide input on how these parts of the Master Plan should be revised moving forward. Participants were asked to consider the previous map exercise activities, and whether or not the vision and values aligned with the type of community they envisioned, and if these would provide Town staff, Town Council, and other decision-makers with the guidance they would need to address obstacles such as the ones raised in the previous exercises.

Community members were given the following Preliminary Vision Statement:

Ridgway is a welcoming, community-minded rural small town situated in a beautiful mountain valley. We support learning, creativity and culture. We share a deep connection to the outdoors and our ranching heritage. We are committed to being economically sustainable and ecologically responsible.

Q1: How well does this vision statement align with your vision for Ridgway?

While the sample size was small, approximately 71% of participants said the vision statement aligned either “Well” or “Very Well” with their own vision for Ridgway.



Q2: How should the vision statement be revised to better align with your vision for the future? Include aspects you think are no longer relevant or new topics/considerations that you feel are missing. Feel free to provide comments in the space below, or make edits directly to the vision statement above.

- Add culturally + economically DIVERSE
- More "railroad" than "ranching", add outdoor sports, fly fishing, skiing - cross country, rafting, biking
- Revise "economically sustainable and ecologically responsible" to "economically and environmentally sustainable"
- We share a deep connection to the outdoors and a commitment to local ranching
- Ecologically responsible includes small houses, permaculture - *self-reliance* as home/community (back to Earth). I am so tired of dominant "artist community". We support learning, self-reliance, culture. Promote "real business" such as Bennet Forgeworks, ISUN - support small business
- Define "small town" - leave it in. Change to Local heritage to include ranching, railroad, and other heritages
- We support (\$) our ranching community and heritage
- Make creativity learning an add-on not primary vision for Ridgway - creative district and ranching are of equal importance.. Change to value and support both/all ranching, creative
- change "our ranching heritage" to "our active ranching community". Keep town in town, keep the country country. Compact town
- Edit "we share a deep connection to the outdoors and our ranching heritage" to "we share a deep connection to the outdoors, open spaces, and our ranching heritage", change "economically sustainable and ecologically responsible" to "support economical initiatives and conservation of our unique community"
- Replace "ranching" w/ "western" ranching = country not town
- Outdoors > ranching connections. What does that mean? How do we tie them in? Very well 1) very well connected to first sentence - small, rural, welcoming. In the middle/don't know 2) varied connection to creativity + culture - some events very well attended, others barely so. (many people stay home?) what brings people out? Town supports education very highly. Very well 3) very connected to outdoors. Newer residents unaware of ranching heritage. High commitment to economic stability + environmental responsibility
- "ranching, railroad, and farming heritage" Some concern/interest to incorporate reference to/language related to indigenous history (perhaps not in vision statement) but publicly recognized
- "economically sustainable and diverse" (e.g. all income levels Discussion of what does "small" actually mean? Does having that word limit us? Discussion of ranching heritage Is it really our ranching heritage or is actually just the county open space that we think of as important? We seem to like the Idea of cows more than actual cows. Maybe change "ranching"

for "rich" heritage. We feel like the majority of the visions statement have been met well except for economic sustainability. We'd like to see vision toward economic sustainability AND diversity

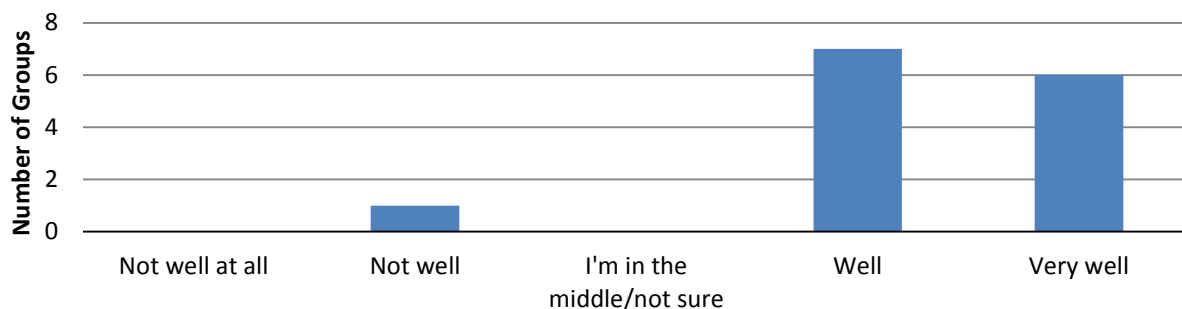
- *Enabling access to current and new residents - choices! *access to water sources, capacity, and usage *consider capacity vs existing resources *community disconnect - town of Ridgway <---> Log Hill
- Keep "our ranching heritage" Bla Bla? Let the pros do it. Less welcoming

Community Members were then asked for feedback on the following Preliminary Community Values:

- Civility, Diversity, and Inclusivity
- Creativity, Innovation, and Lifelong Learning
- Responsible Economic and Environmental Practices
- Our Incredible Natural Surroundings and the Opportunities they Provide
- A Viable Agricultural Community
- A Vibrant and Sustainable Local Economy
- A Pedestrian- and Bicycle-Friendly Environment
- Well-Managed Growth
- Our Strong Sense of Community
- Our Small Town Character

Q3: How well do the community values align with what you value about our community?

All but one of the survey respondents answered that the values aligned either "Well" or "Very Well" with what they personally valued about the community.



Q4: How should the community values be revised to better align with your group's values? Include aspects you think are no longer relevant or new topics/considerations that you feel are missing. Feel free to provide comments in the space below, or make edits directly to the core values above.

- Well managed and limited growth or well thought out growth, balance between agriculture and mountains community "a crossroads"
- Agriculture viability not appropriate outside of Ouray -
- We are between well and very well because of the undefined nature of the term "well managed growth". What does this mean? Open for interpretation depending on what your financial goals are. Another example: "well-managed" could address construction management. Is that what we mean? (NO) Goals of growth need to be very well-defined. How to define our ultimate capacity? Maybe define by "density per area"? Like - the density in downtown Ridgway. Don't give concessions to developers, especially re: H2O. P.S. Planning Commission needs beefed up
- Well managed growth - how is the density being (lot size) & per person sq ft. being decided. *types & sizes of affordable housing should be diverse & dispersed. How much parking required? --> Disperse growth - vary densities throughout the incorporated area
- *Responsible Economic and Environmentally sustainable practices *Limited growth with more town input on what is allowed in
- We need small business to provide employment. A town administration (salary, budget) that fits our population. Our admin salary/budget is comparable to Vail/Telluride. Policy/law consistent with small town. Transparent government. Policy/law re-evaluation consistent with global issues: small houses support affordability. We need representation in Town Council. We need professional, independent audit of town finances periodically.
- Define values somewhere - more definition. Like what is "small town character"? Or what is "responsible economic and environmental practices?"
- water considerations need to be front and center, infrastructure
- Define and limit "well-managed growth". Need childcare, eldercare, public transportation, rec center/community hangout. VRBO rules - more limits. Need apartments
- Change "a viable agricultural community" to "Invest in accessible and viable agricultural community", (enforcement of traffic laws), Trade Schools (like Germany) --> 4H Center --> @ High School Reach out to younger demo 24-38, speak w/ other towns... Carbondale & others
- Add "volunteerism" to "our strong sense of community" We approve suggested additions
- "Civility, Diversity, and Inclusivity" - what does this mean to look like?
- change "well-managed growth" to "limited well-managed growth", needs to include "Heritage"
- Consider Wild Animal Population

EVENT PRESENTATION MATERIALS

Please see the following pages to view the PowerPoint presentation that was shown during the event. The key pad polling results to Ridgway trivia questions are also included in the presentation.



Town of Ridgway Master Plan

Creating our Future
September 27, 2018

Agenda

- About the Master Plan
- Ridgway Trivia
- Group Activities:
 - Part 1: Envisioning your Ideal Ridgway
 - Part 2: Confirming Vision and Core Values
- Key Policy Choices
- Next Steps



ABOUT THE MASTER PLAN

Role of the Master Plan

- Long-range plan (10-20 years)
- Guides the future growth and development of the Town
- Establishes Town policies—advisory, not regulatory
- Serves as an “umbrella” document for other more detailed plans
- Used to inform the Town’s annual strategic plan and capital investments

WHAT TYPES OF TOPICS WILL THE MASTER PLAN ADDRESS?

- Land Use and the Built Environment
- Housing
- Historic Preservation
- Transportation and Mobility
- Economic Development/Recreation and Tourism
- Community Facilities and Services
- Natural Resources
- Hazard Mitigation
- Regional Coordination
- And others that emerge from community input...



The Planning Process



Community Engagement to Date

- Focus groups
- Intercepts at community events and activities
- Steering Committee meetings
- Community Survey



Community Survey Results

- **More than 660 people participated!**
- **Of those respondents:**
 - Nearly half were residents of the Town of Ridgway
 - Most of the remaining half live in areas surrounding Ridgway
 - Most are full-time residents
- **Responses broken out to reflect resident vs. non-resident responses**
- **Over 200 pages of free-response comments collected**



Community Survey Results

- **Generally representative of population as a whole, with some exceptions**
 - Older residents tended to be over-represented
 - Residents 24 and younger not represented
- **Additional outreach underway to target younger population**



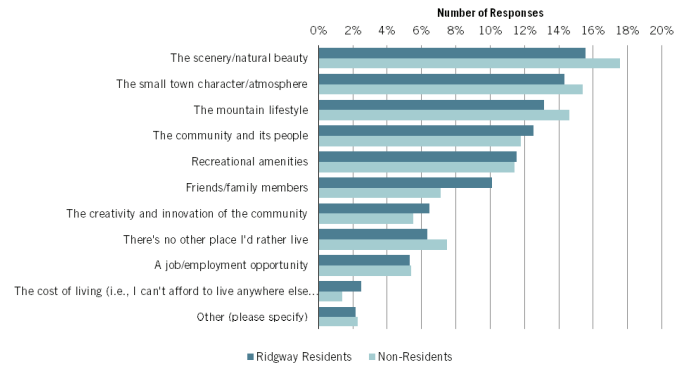
Community Survey Results

Top 5 Issues Ranked GOOD or EXCELLENT (Ridgway Residents)	Top 5 Issues Ranked POOR or NOT VERY GOOD (Ridgway Residents)
1. Condition of walking/biking paths and trails	1. Access to/availability of affordable food (not including restaurants)
2. Quality of our natural environment	2. Availability of housing for rent
3. Cultural/music/art events/activities	3. Availability of a range of housing types
4. Quality of our parks	4. Availability of housing units for sale
5. Ease of travel by biking	5. Availability of housing my household can afford



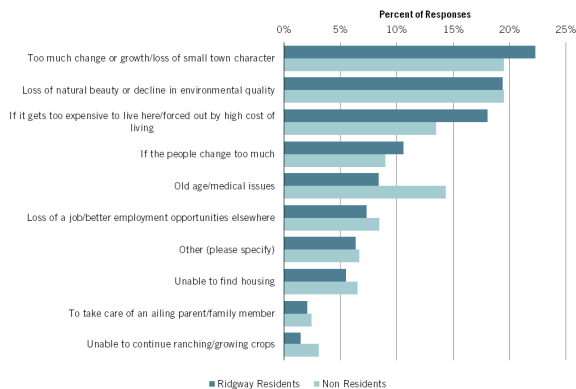
Community Survey Results

Q:5 What keeps you here? (select all that apply)



Community Survey Results

Q7: What might make you leave Ridgway? (select all that apply)



Community Survey Results

What are the biggest/most pressing issues, challenges, or threats Ridgway faces over the next 10-20 years?

- Loss of character and sense of community
- Cost of living/jobs
- Access to services
- Housing costs
- Rate and extent of growth
- Infrastructure and public services

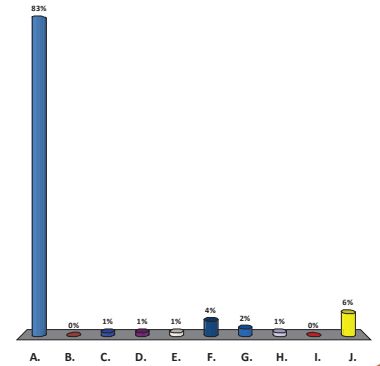


TELL US ABOUT YOURSELF



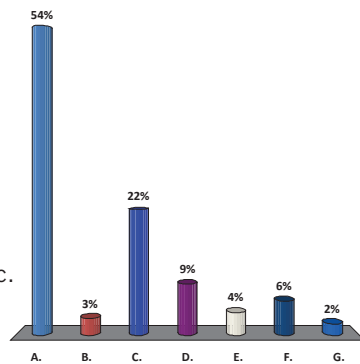
Where do you live?

- A. Town of Ridgway
- B. City of Ouray
- C. Log Hill Mesa
- D. Pleasant Valley
- E. East of Hwy 550
- F. Dallas Meadows/Dallas Creek
- G. Eagle Hill
- H. Elk Meadows
- I. Miller Mesa
- J. Elsewhere in Ouray County



Which category below best describes you? (Please select all that apply.)

- A. Full time resident of Ridgway
- B. Part time resident/ second home owner
- C. Land owner
- D. Business owner
- E. Work in Ridgway but live elsewhere
- F. Live outside Ridgway, but go there to shop, dine, etc.
- G. Other

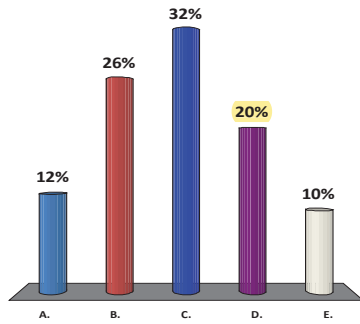


RIDGWAY TRIVIA: HOW WELL DO YOU KNOW YOUR COMMUNITY?



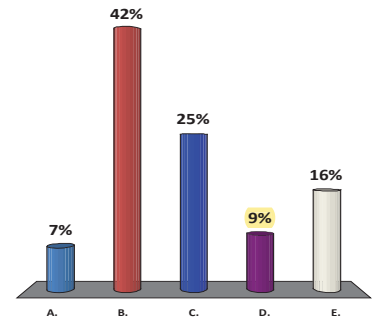
Ridgway's current population is 1,016. In what range is the Town's population estimated to fall within in 2050?

- A. 6,052 – 10,075
- B. 3,112 – 4,525
- C. 1,125 – 2,566
- D. 1,170 – 1,730**
- E. 3,345 – 5,455



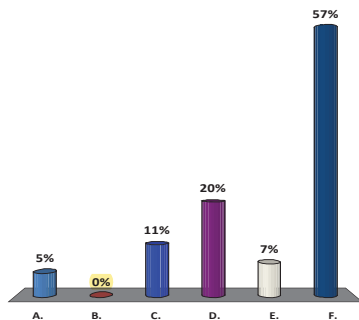
What is the estimated population for the three-county region (Montrose, San Miguel, and Ouray counties) by 2050? (current population is 54,265)

- A. 58,288
- B. 70,307
- C. 84,224
- D. 97,252**
- E. 103,567



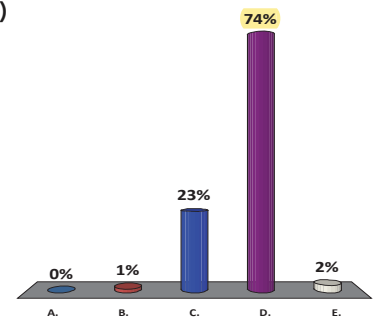
Net migration is the primary driver of population growth Ouray County. Which state is NOT one of the top 5 locations from which new residents to Ouray County move?

- A. Colorado
- B. California**
- C. New York
- D. Wisconsin
- E. Michigan
- F. North Carolina



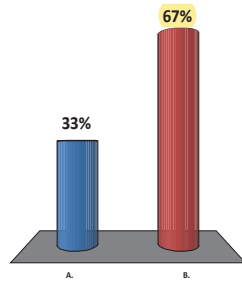
Which generation makes up the largest percentage of Ridgway's population?

- A. Post Millennials (under 19)
- B. Millennials (20-39)
- C. Generation X (40-54)
- D. Baby Boomers (55-74)**
- E. Silent (75+)



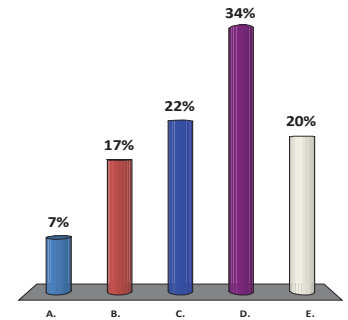
True or False?
Median Incomes in Ridgway increased between 2010 and 2016.

- A. True
- B. False**



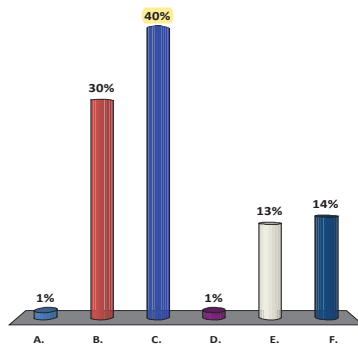
As of 2016, what percentage of Ridgway residents lived below the poverty line?

- A. 4%
- B. 6%
- C. 11%
- D. 16%**
- E. 21%



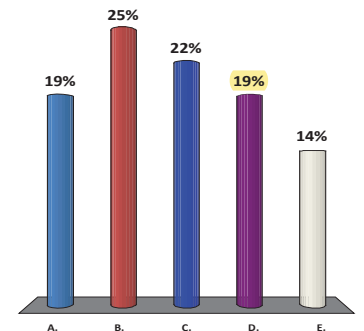
What was the median home value in Ridgway in 2016?

- A. \$182,300
- B. \$351,400
- C. \$368,400**
- D. \$794,800
- E. \$399,400
- F. \$264,600



What percentage of Ridgway housing units are owner-occupied?

- A. 75%
- B. 69%
- C. 62%
- D. 56%**
- E. 50%

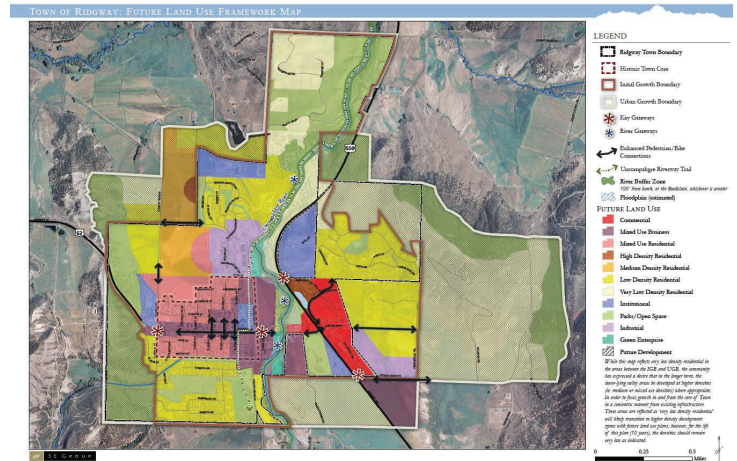


Key Takeaways

- Ridgway could add between 150 and 700 new residents by 2050
- Regional growth will continue to have direct and indirect impacts on Ridgway's housing, transportation system, environment, and quality of life
- Growth limitations in the City of Ouray and Ouray County will amplify growth pressures on the Town of Ridgway



The extent to which—and the rate at—which Ridgway can absorb future growth depends on a variety of factors...



Want to learn more?
Check out the draft Community Profile!

- Population & Demographics
- Growth & Development
- Housing
- Economy
- Natural Environment
- Infrastructure & Services
- Parks & Recreation
- Transportation
- Municipal Governance

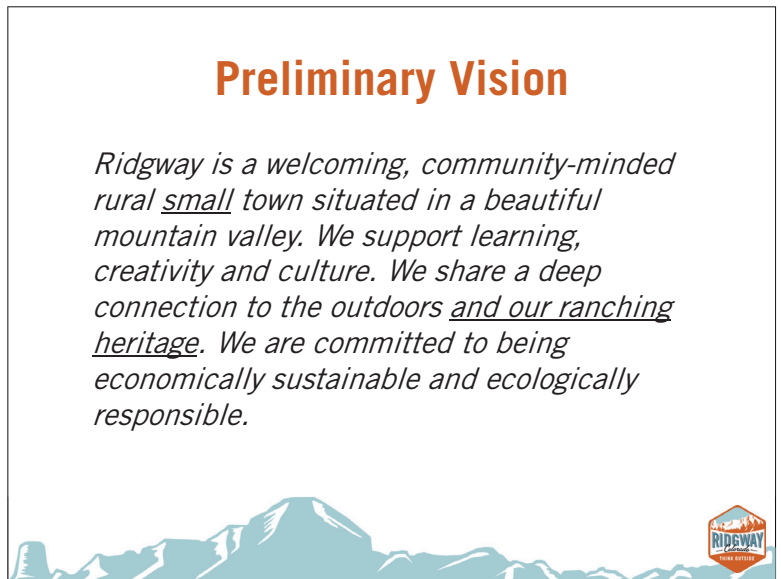
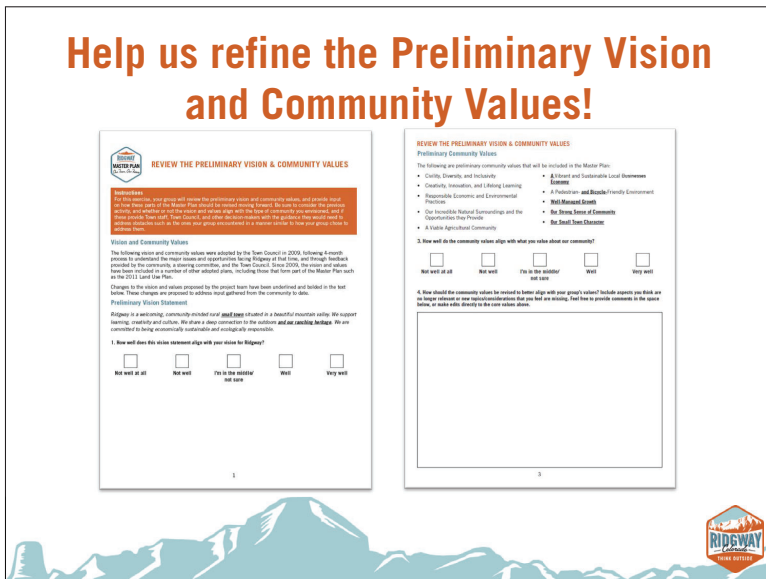


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(Scroll to bottom of page)



ACTIVITY 1:
ENVISIONING OUR IDEAL RIDGWAY





Preliminary Community Values

- Civility, Diversity and Inclusivity
- Creativity, Innovation and Lifelong Learning
- Responsible Economic and Environmental Practices
- Our Incredible Natural Surroundings and the Opportunities they Provide
- A Viable Agricultural Community
- A Vibrant and Sustainable Businesses Local Economy
- A Pedestrian-and Bicycle-Friendly Environment
- Well-Managed Growth
- Our Strong Sense of Community
- Our Small Town Character

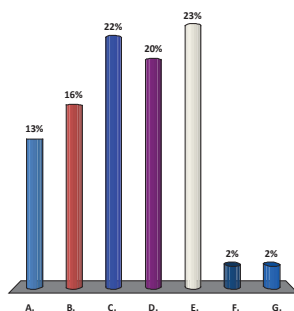


KEY POLICY CHOICES: WHAT STEPS ARE WE WILLING TO TAKE TO GET THE FUTURE WE WANT?



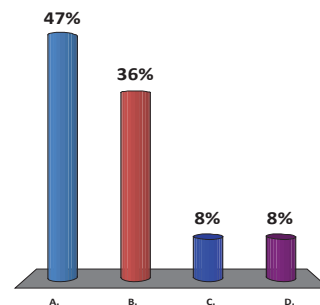
Should the Town consider incentivizing development in priority locations through one or more of the following? (Select all that apply)

- Invest in infrastructure to make it easier and cheaper for development to occur
- Public/private partnerships
- Codify density bonuses recommended by current Land Use Plan
- Work with property owners to proactively rezone land in advance of development
- Designate area(s) where growth may be more appropriate but do not spend public funds
- None of the above.
- Not sure/no opinion



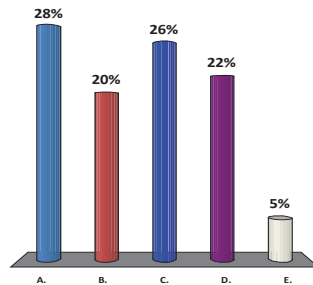
Should the Town work to secure additional water supplies to help support the ultimate buildout of the Town's Land Use Plan?

- Yes
- Potentially, but it depends on cost to existing residents
- No
- Not sure/no opinion



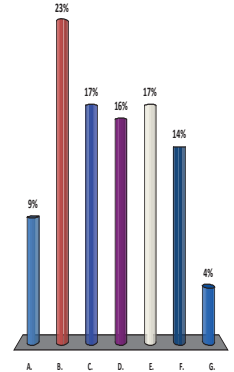
Which of the following should be the Town's approach to managing future growth? (select all that apply)

- A. Explore ways to manage the overall rate of growth
- B. Limit future annexations until undeveloped areas within the Town boundaries are built-out
- C. Continue to encourage growth primarily within the developed core of town rather than at the periphery
- D. All of the above
- E. None of the above. Let the market control the rate or location of growth



Which of the following economic development efforts do you think the Town of Ridgway should be involved in? (select all that apply)

- A. Attracting more retail and commercial services to increase sales tax revenue
- B. Continuing to work to expand broadband internet service
- C. Continuing to support the Main Street and Creative District programs
- D. Identifying and removing potential regulatory barriers to light manufacturing or similar businesses
- E. Continuing to collaborate with regional partners on economic development and tourism initiatives
- F. All of the above
- G. None of the above



Next Steps

- **Community Survey Results released by Oct. 5**
- **Stay tuned for next online input opportunity**
- **Steering Committee meets monthly through the fall**
- **Draft Plan released early next year!**

