



COMMUNITY MEETING: SHORT-TERM ACTION PRIORITIZATION EXERCISE

TOWN OF RIDGWAY

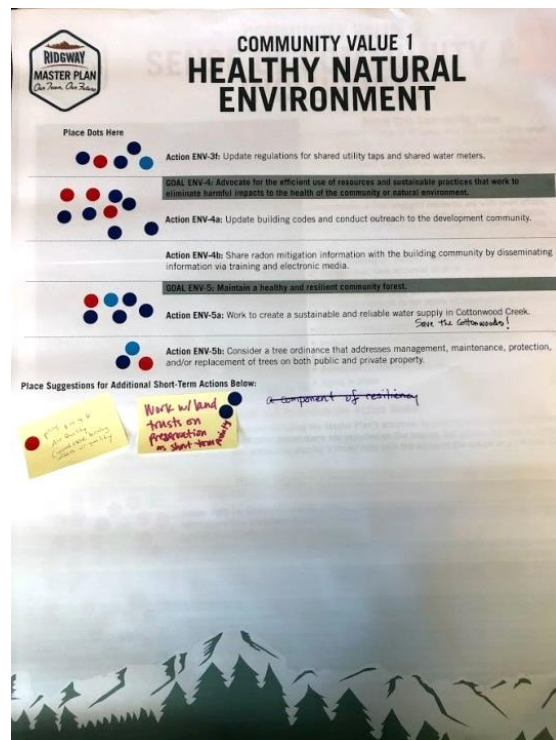
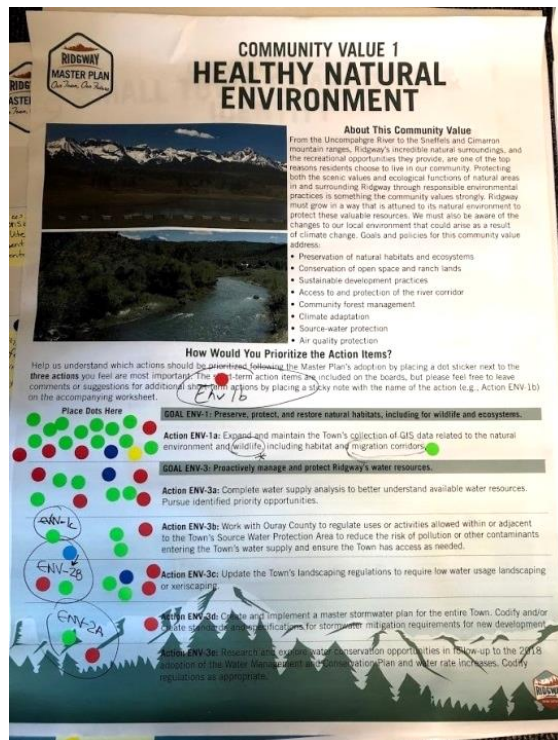
FEBRUARY 27, 2019

ABOUT THIS SUMMARY

In June 2018, the Town of Ridgway launched a year-long effort to update and consolidate the Town's Master Plan. A master plan is a community's primary long-term planning document, defining the community's big picture vision for the future and presenting a road map for achieving that vision.

On February 27, 2019, Ridgway community members were presented with the Public Review Draft of the Ridgway Master Plan at a public meeting. As a part of this meeting, community members participated in a break out exercise that sought to gain community feedback on the proposed list of short-term actions. As broken down by each of the five Community Values, participants were asked to review the short-term actions listed and place sticky dots by the three actions they felt should be the highest priority. Participants were also asked to write down any missing actions that they felt should be prioritized as short-term and provide general comments. Some of the feedback gathered for Community Value 1 is displayed below.

Community Value Board



Both the dot count data and detailed comments from this exercise are provided below.

HOW WOULD YOU PRIORITIZE SHORT-TERM ACTION ITEMS?

COMMUNITY VALUE 1: HEALTHY NATURAL ENVIRONMENT

GOAL ENV-1: PRESERVE, PROTECT, AND RESTORE NATURAL HABITATS, INCLUDING FOR WILDLIFE AND ECOSYSTEMS.

Action ENV-1a: Expand and maintain the Town's collection of GIS data related to the natural environment and wildlife, including habitat and migration corridors. (23 dots)

GOAL ENV-3: PROACTIVELY MANAGE AND PROTECT RIDGWAY'S WATER RESOURCES.

Action ENV-3a: Complete water supply analysis to better understand available water resources. Pursue identified priority opportunities. (27 dots)

Action ENV-3b: Work with Ouray County to regulate uses or activities allowed within or adjacent to the Town's Source Water Protection Area to reduce the risk of pollution or other contaminants entering the Town's water supply and ensure the Town as access as needed. (18 dots)

Action ENV-3c: Update the Town's landscaping regulations to require low water usage landscaping or xeriscaping. (17 dots)

ACTION ENV-3d: Create and implement a master stormwater plan for the entire Town. Codify and/or create standards and specifications for stormwater mitigation requirements for new development. (5 dots)

Action ENV-3e: Research and explore water conservation opportunities in follow-up to the 2018 adoption of the Water Management and Conservation Plan and water rate increases. Codify regulations as appropriate. (9 dots)

Action ENV-3f: Update regulations for shared utility taps and shared water meters. (5 dots)

GOAL ENV-4: ADVOCATE FOR THE EFFICIENT USE OF RESOURCES AND SUSTAINABLE PRACTICES THAT WORK TO ELIMINATE HARMFUL IMPACTS TO THE HEALTH OF THE COMMUNITY OR NATURAL ENVIRONMENT.

Action ENV-4a: Update building codes and conduct outreach to the development community. (16 dots)

Action ENV-4b: Share radon mitigation information with the building community by disseminating information via training and electronic media. (0 dots)

GOAL ENV-5: MAINTAIN A HEALTHY AND RESILIENT COMMUNITY FOREST.

Action ENV-5a: Work to create a sustainable and reliable water supply in Cottonwood Creek. (7 dots)

Action ENV-5b: Consider a tree ordinance that addresses management, maintenance, protection, and/or replacement of trees on both public and private property. (4 dots)

SUGGESTIONS FOR ADDITIONAL SHORT-TERMS ACTIONS

- Action ENV-1b: Prioritize the conservation and preservation of community valued natural resources such as environmentally sensitive areas, view and wildlife corridors, riparian areas and wetlands, river corridor, natural filtration and storm water drainage areas. (1 dot)
- Action ENV-1c: Work with Land Trust organizations and other partners to identify opportunities for land preservation. (1 dot)
- Action ENV-2b: Coordinate with regional partners to identify and pursue sources of funding for the completion of the Uncompahgre RiverWay Trail from Montrose to Ouray. (3 dots)
- Action ENV-2a: Continue to acquire property or easements along the Uncompahgre River using, among other strategies:
 - Fee simple purchases;
 - Options to buy or rights of first refusal;
 - Land exchanges;
 - Donations;
 - Dedications; and
 - Partnerships with land trusts. (2 dots)
- “Plant additional fruit trees!” (2 dots)
- “Strengthen Unicorridor”
- Work with land trusts on preservation as short term priority (2 dots)

COMMUNITY VALUE 2: SENSE OF COMMUNITY & INCLUSIVITY

GOAL COM-1: MAINTAIN RIDGWAY AS A COMMUNITY THAT IS ACCESSIBLE TO A RANGE OF INCOME LEVELS, AGES, AND HOUSEHOLDS.

Action COM-1a: Continue to plan, design, and construct Ridgway Space to Create to provide long-term affordable workforce housing in Ridgway’s downtown, in conjunction with State, regional, and local entities. (16 dots)

Action COM-1b: Update Planned Unit Development Regulations to require community benefits—such as, but not limited to— the dedication of a portion of planned units to affordable or workforce housing. (15 dots)

Action COM-1c: Update the Ridgway Municipal Code to promote housing affordability (i.e.: reducing lot size requirements, increasing allowed densities, and reducing parking requirements). (14 dots)

Action COM-1d: Develop and consider adopting a policy on deed restriction language for affordable units. (10 dots)

Action COM-1e: Explore and pursue a variety of mechanisms to help fund affordable housing, including but not limited to: residential and commercial linkage policies that

require paying a fee, constructing units, or other contributions to housing affordability for new development; real estate transfer tax (RETT); use tax; lodging and occupancy taxes; dedication of a portion of marijuana tax revenue; and/or a potential mill levy. **(6 dots)**

GOAL COM-2: ENCOURAGE A DIVERSITY OF HOUSING OPTIONS THAT MEET THE NEEDS OF RESIDENTS.

Action COM-2a: Review and update the Town's zoning regulations as necessary to ensure desired housing types are defined and allowed in locations designated for residential uses by the Land Use Plan. **(10 dots)**

Action COM-2c: Study recent innovations in modular home and small home construction and revise land use and building codes to allow in appropriate locations. **(11 dots)**

GOAL COM-4: STRIVE TO BE A MODEL FOR TRANSPARENCY, EFFICIENCY, AND GOOD GOVERNANCE.

Action COM-4a: Expand efforts on official record and electronic file organization. **(1 dot)**

Action COM-4b: Update fee schedules for all of Town services, applications, fees, etc. **(0 dots)**

Action COM-4c: Acquire and utilize a new integrated software system for the Marshal's Office. **(0 dots)**

GOAL COM-6: SUPPORT EDUCATION AND LIFELONG LEARNING IN OUR COMMUNITY.

Action COM-6a: Develop a "Local Government 101" presentation or series of presentations which introduce residents to the basic functions, services, and responsibilities of the Town of Ridgway and inspire participation in local government. **(2 dots)**

GOAL COM-7: PROVIDE PUBLIC SAFETY AND EMERGENCY RESPONSE SERVICES TO ENGAGE AND PROTECT THE COMMUNITY.

Action COM-7a: Develop a set of metrics for the Marshal's Office, including call response times, to help track performance over time, and to understand when additional deputies or other staff may be needed to meet the needs of Ridgway as the community grows. **(2 dots)**

Action COM-7b: Monitor and improve traffic calming initiatives. **(2 dots)**

Action COM-7c: Develop and maintain a local emergency response and management plan, as well as a plan for the continuation of government operations during and following an emergency event. **(4 dots)**

SUGGESTIONS FOR ADDITIONAL SHORT-TERMS ACTIONS

- Action COM-5b: Assess community needs related to seniors and an aging community and identify gaps in existing programs and services that Town services could address. Develop and implement an action plan to address gaps or other identified priorities. "Health care for our community should be concern especially if we want affordable housing affordable living"
- "Infill development even if it means amending the zoning. For that variance the Town can ask for deed restricted housing."

- Action COM-1f: Develop and adopt guidelines or standards for universal design that encourage the use of design features or strategies that create housing that is usable by all people, particularly those with limited mobility. “Universal Design create housing ADA”
- “Promote local schools and the extracurricular activities”
- Action COM-5a: In collaboration with local and regional organizations, seek to support the expansion of programming and community spaces for youth in the community, focusing in particular on evening programs, weekend programs, programs serving teens, and programs serving infants and toddlers. (1 dot)

COMMUNITY VALUE 3: SMALL TOWN CHARACTER & IDENTITY

GOAL CHR-1: SUPPORT VIBRANT, DIVERSE, SAFE, AND WELL-CONNECTED NEIGHBORHOODS.

Action CHR-1a: Consider updating the Single Family Home Design Standards for residential infill and redevelopment to protect the character of these areas. (14 dots)

Action CHR-1b: Work to prioritize, plan and construct a pedestrian and bicyclist underpass/overpass across Highway 550. (21 dots)

GOAL CHR-3: PROMOTE RIDGWAY’S IDENTITY AS A RANCHING AND AGRICULTURAL COMMUNITY AND PRESERVE THE RURAL CHARACTER OF LANDSCAPES SURROUNDING RIDGWAY.

Action CHR-3a: Revise subdivision regulations and/or PUD regulations to encourage the retention of agricultural land or the incorporation of small-scale urban agriculture as community benefits where appropriate or desirable. (17 dots)

Action CHR-3b: Provide information to residents and visitors about ranching activities that periodically occur in and around Town, such as cattle drives, and how they can safely view such activities without creating hindrances to ranchers. (3 dots)

GOAL CHR-4: PROMOTE RIDGWAY’S IDENTITY AS A CREATIVE AND INNOVATIVE COMMUNITY WHERE CREATIVE INDIVIDUALS AND ENTERPRISES THRIVE.

Action CHR-4a: Continue to engage in creative placemaking that increases the vibrancy and quality of life for residents and visitors to town. (10 dots)

GOAL CHR-6: MAINTAIN AND ENHANCE RIDGWAY’S GATEWAYS, ENTRY-CORRIDORS, AND SCENIC VISTAS.

Action CHR-6a: Develop a gateway concept plan for Heritage Park, to address gaps left by departure of Railroad Museum assets, including funding options, and implementation phases. (9 dots)

GOAL CHR-7: DEVELOP AN INTERCONNECTED SYSTEM OF PARKS, TRAILS, OPEN SPACE, AND RECREATIONAL FACILITIES THAT MEETS THE NEEDS OF RIDGWAY’S RESIDENTS AND VISITORS.

Action CHR-7a: Work with local, regional, state, and federal partners to promote recreational amenities within the Town and throughout Ouray County, including the collaborative development of outreach materials and mapping. (12 dots)

Action CHR-7b: Identify and work to address needed trail linkages and recreation paths that would expand access to existing and future parks, open spaces, public facilities and schools within the Town. (33 dots)

Action CHR-7c: Continue to work with the community to develop the Green Street Park plan, including the community garden. (9 dots)

Action CHR-7d: Improve trails in Cottonwood Park. (0 dots)

Action CHR-7e: Replace picnic tables town-wide in parks. (0 dots)

Action CHR-7f: Create multi-purpose tennis and pickleball courts in the Athletic Park. (2 dots)

SUGGESTIONS FOR ADDITIONAL SHORT-TERMS ACTIONS

- “High-speed internet is vital for education, business, + connection to other areas – NOW” and “+1!” (2 dots)
- Action CHR-7k: Analyze current use and demand for recreational facilities and amenities and identify priority projects. “Move up Action CHR-7k Community Rec Facility”
- Action CHR-3d: Continue to support events and activities such as the Ouray County Fair and Rodeo, 4-H programs, Skijoring competitions, and others that celebrate and help educate and inspire others about Ridgway’s ranching heritage. “Action CHR-3d Fair + Rodeo Activities” (3 dots)
- Action CHR-3f: Continue to collaborate with neighboring ranching and agricultural operations to facilitate their interface with the town. (1 dot)
- “Action: Provide for Several Parks E. of Hwy 550. Presently there are Zero parks E. of 550.”
- “Adopt new outdoor lighting ordinance to protect our Dark Night Sky” (7 dots)
- Action CHR-4b: Explore opportunities to activate underutilized spaces or buildings, with a particular emphasis on those in the Historic Town Core. (1 dot)
- Policy CHR-5.1: Community Spaces, Emphasize the importance of community spaces throughout Town to reinforce Ridgway’s character, identity, and social fabric and continue to creatively develop these spaces. (1 dot)
- Policy CHR-7.6: Facility Maintenance, Ensure Town staff can reasonably manage and finance the long-term maintenance of existing parks, trails, open spaces, and facilities prior to dedicating, building, or assuming ownership or maintenance responsibilities of additional amenities. (3 dots)
- “Coordinate with CDOT to install signs entering Ridgway: ‘Trucker: Engine Brake Muffler Required’ to eliminate noise pollution from Jake Braking”
- “Promote + Assist Ridgway School Athletic + weight lifting opportunity
 - Baseball field
 - Basketball Court in Hartwell

- Administration help for utilizing facility's"
- "Help develop Agritourism" (1 dot)
- Action CHR-7i: Establish and codify requirements for developing parks, trails, open spaces and amenities to ensure community spaces are compatible, appropriate, connected and have a plan for long-term maintenance. (3 dots)

COMMUNITY VALUE 4: VIBRANT & BALANCED ECONOMY

GOAL ECO-2: SUPPORT THE RETENTION AND EXPANSION OF LOCAL BUSINESSES.

Action ECO-2a: Continue to assess the value of establishing a system for business licensing to better track business retention, transitions, and closures, implementing this as indicated. (3 dots)

Action ECO-2b: Strengthen the Town zoning code to support industrial and commercial uses in appropriate zones. (17 dots)

SUGGESTIONS FOR ADDITIONAL SHORT-TERMS ACTIONS

- Action ECO-3a: Work with the community to identify mechanisms to improve food accessibility. (8 dots)
- Action ECO-3b: Identify gaps in the local economy envisioned to meet the needs of local residents. (5 dots)
- Action ECO-1a: Continue to engage marketing partners in local government conversations, meetings and planning relative to sustainable tourism and shoulder season efforts, economic development, and supporting small businesses. (11 dots)
- Action ECO-1c: Encourage entrepreneurial and learning opportunities for creative individuals and businesses so that they can economically thrive and continue to live in town. (3 dots)
- Action ECO-2d: Engage local businesses and employers to better understand and respond to local economic conditions, space needs, or similar issues. (4 dots)
- Action ECO-1e: Continue to collaborate with Region 10 on its Broadband Project. (7 dots)
- Action ECO-2c: Engage the business community to review development regulations as they apply to light industrial development in future locations. (1 dot)
- Action ECO-1b: Encourage innovative small business development and an entrepreneurship culture. (3 dots)
- Action ECO-3c: Incorporate creative and innovative approaches to community improvements to engage visitors in a way that also meets the needs of the community. (2 dots)
- Policy ECO-3.3: Sustainable Tourism (2 dots)
- "High-speed internet is vital for everyone in town" and "Links to ECO 1-c + possibly ECO 1-e" (2 dots)

- “Broadband!” (written twice) (3 dots)
- “1. Local Business/Mfg./Service
2. Outdoor Recreation
3. Creative Industries + Innovation”

COMMUNITY VALUE 5: WELL- MANAGED GROWTH

GOAL GRO-1: MANAGE GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT IN ORDER TO MAINTAIN RIDGWAY’S SMALL TOWN CHARACTER, SUPPORT A DIVERSE COMMUNITY, AND CREATE EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES.

Action GRO-1a: Update the Town’s zoning code and map, as needed, to align with the Master Plan. (32 dots)

Action GRO-1b: Evaluate the desirability of creating an incentive system whereby developers and property owners are given density, height, or other bonuses in exchange for community benefits, such as affordable housing. Codify the incentive system if found desirable. (18 dots)

GOAL GRO-2: ENSURE PUBLIC INFRASTRUCTURE, UTILITIES, FACILITIES, AND SERVICES ARE SUFFICIENT TO MEET THE NEEDS OF RESIDENTS AND BUSINESSES AS THE TOWN GROWS.

Action GRO-2a: Develop operational plans for all infrastructure systems in Ridgway detailing the Town’s intended approach to maintenance, operation, and expansion of systems and facilities over time. (26 dots)

Action GRO-2b: Review and update the Town code’s regulations regarding adequate water supply for new development. (22 dots)

Action GRO-2c: Develop and maintain the water and sewer utility systems GIS database. (9 dots)

GOAL GRO-4: DEVELOP A SAFE AND EFFICIENT MULTI-MODAL TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM, BALANCING THE NEEDS OF ALL USERS.

Action GRO-4a: Update Town specification and engineering standards to incorporate ADA guidelines and standards for the design of sidewalks and other pedestrian facilities. (6 dots)

Action GRO-4b: Establish pedestrian trail connections along Railroad Street to the south of Highway 62 in a manner that will connect Regional Athletic Park with the center of Town. (17 dots)

GOAL GRO-5: USE RIDGWAY’S PARKING RESOURCES EFFICIENTLY.

Action GRO-5a: Educate downtown employees about the best places to park in order to free up nearby customer parking and implement other education recommendations per 2018 Parking Assessment recommendations. (5 dots)

Action GRO-5b: Prioritize and implement event parking recommendations from the 2018 Parking Assessment. (10 dots)

SUGGESTIONS FOR ADDITIONAL SHORT-TERMS ACTIONS

- “A component of resiliency mentioned in goal 3.6 is local food production which needs to be highlighted as a short term goal - backyard + neighborhood gardens as well as encouraging small scale food producers”
- Policy GRO-1.3: Mixed Used Development, Promote vertically or horizontally mixed-use development, where appropriate, to encourage more opportunities to live and work in Ridgway, and to add vibrancy and diversity to existing centers. (2 dots)
- Policy GRO-4.6: Connectivity of New Development, Encourage new development to include paths, trails, and other connections to facilitate biking and walking throughout town. (written twice) (1 dot)
- Policy GRO-1.1 Directed Growth, Direct growth to occur in a concentric fashion from the core outward, in order to promote efficient and sustainable Town services, strengthen the Historic Town Core and existing neighborhoods, and preserve the rural character of the surrounding landscape. (1 dot)
- Policy GRO-1.4: Underutilized Areas, Encourage infill development on vacant parcels and the redevelopment or adaptive reuse of underutilized parcels or structures in the Historic Town Core or other areas where infrastructure and services are already in place. (1 dot)
- “Parking in residential & business is out of control! Limit resident's constant on-street parking. Remove un-registered vehicles from the streets. Regulate Recreational Vehicles that are parked EVERYWHERE!”
- Action GRO-2d: Pursue IGAs with other local districts or agencies as may be appropriate to assure that new development does not burden their service delivery capacities or place additional costs on existing residents. “New development does not add additional costs on existing residences” (2 dots)
- Action GRO-4g: Identify opportunities for adding sidewalks and bicycle lanes on existing roadways and establish a plan for implementation. This includes, but is not limited to, connections between the secondary and elementary schools and to other recognized pedestrian routes. “GRO-4g sidewalks/bicycle lanes on existing roadways” (2 dots)

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS COLLECTED

COMMUNITY VALUE 1: HEALTHY NATURAL ENVIRONMENT

- “Fix the map so Cottonwood Creek doesn't run thru the houses on Chipeta”
- On Action ENV-1a wildlife is circled with an asterisk and migration is circled with (1 dot)
- On Action ENV-5a, “Save the Cottonwoods!”
- “Partnerships...\$; ‘Parcels into town boundaries’ ?; ‘preservation of sensitive areas”
- “ENV-2 Wildlife Habitat” (crossed out) and “ENV-2” (3 dots)
- “Policy Env 4:6 Air Quality (wood stove burning affects air quality)” (1 dot)

COMMUNITY VALUE 2: SENSE OF COMMUNITY & INCLUSIVITY

- On Action COM-1b, "+ Play Space!" (2 dots) and "Acreage devoted to growing food for residents" (1 dot)
- On Action COM-7b, "Ticket speeders and stop sign runners!"
- "No sunset on deed restrictions" (1 dot)

COMMUNITY VALUE 3: SMALL TOWN CHARACTER & IDENTITY

- On Action CHR-1b, "Underpasses are not welcoming."
- On Goal CHR-3, "Advocate for inclusion of indigenous culture not just as history but current significance to native people (2 dots)
- On Action CHR-3a, "Community food production - neighborhood gardens" and "+ apple trees on town land" (3 dots)
- On Action CHR-3a, Underlined "incorporation of small-scale urban agriculture" and wrote "**ability to split larger ranches into small farms to allow more locally produced agriculture"
- On Action CHR-6a, "Protect our dark skies" (2 dots)
- On Action CHR-6a "2c? Consider inclusion of Ute history + present day culture @ Heritage Park" (3 dots)
- On Action CHR-7b, "Concern re: proliferation of trails in light of wildlife habitat fragmentation" (1 dot)
- On Action CHR-7c, "[C]HR 7.3 Low-Impact Trails" (1 dot)
- "Consideration of Diversity of population - Economics \$ -"
- "CHR-4b - Underutilized spaces/buildings - Room for affordable housing?"

COMMUNITY VALUE 4: VIBRANT & BALANCED ECONOMY

- "Encourage community to understand and work with needs of local ranches (drives, etc.)"
- "High-Speed internet throughout town is vital for education, business, + connection to all areas"
- Note pointing to tourism, "Promote Astronomy Tourism, -- clean, nonpolluting, -- Quiet, ideal tourists: just want to gaze at our beautiful dark skies" (1 dot)
- Supporting diversified economy (bullet point) (1 dot)
- Supporting ranching and agriculture (bullet point) (8 dots)
- Note pointing to ranching and agriculture, "Allow larger farms to be broken up into smaller farms to encourage local produce"
- Supporting the outdoor recreation industry (bullet point) (3 dots)
- Supporting creative industries and innovation (bullet point) (1 dot)

COMMUNITY VALUE 5: WELL- MANAGED GROWTH

- On Action GRO-1b (after affordable housing), “*and neighborhood gardens - dedicated acreage in each PUD”
- “Folio-1 GRO 4.5 links to goal GRO-4g, 4b + 4c”
- On Action GRO-5b, “Do not turn the historic residential areas into a parking lot for town business. Provide proper parking! (3 dots)”