PART III
GOALS & POLICIES

The Master Plan's goals and policies provide guidance for how the Town of Ridgway will work towards achieving the community vision set forth in the previous part of the Master Plan as part of its day-to-day actions and decision-making processes. The goals and policies are reflective of the community's vision and the community values they share. As such, goals and policies are organized by the five community values:

- Healthy Natural Environment;

- Sense of Community & Inclusivity;

- Small Town Character & Identity;

- Vibrant & Balanced Economy; and

- Well-Managed Growth.

The community values, goals, and policies are not presented in any order of importance or priority—each are equally important to achieving the community's vision for the future. Actions to support the implementation of the goals and policies are provided in Part V of the Plan.

HEALTHY NATURAL ENVIRONMENT

GOAL ENV-1: Preserve, protect, and restore natural habitats, including for wildlife and ecosystems.

POLICY ENV-1.1: Environmentally Sensitive Areas

Limit new development in environmentally sensitive or constrained areas, such as steep slopes, the river floodway and floodplain, riparian areas, wetlands, and other areas that contribute to the ecological health and diversity of the valley.

POLICY ENV-1.2: Wildlife Habitat

Use clustering, open space corridors, conservation easements, and other techniques to minimize development impacts in wildlife movement corridors and areas with critical or important wildlife habitat.

POLICY ENV-1.3: Invasive Species

Manage noxious weeds and other invasive species using techniques and best practices that have the least harmful impact on human health, wildlife, wetlands, gardens, riparian and ditch corridors, and individual ecosystems.

GOAL ENV-2: Strengthen the Uncompahgre River corridor as a community asset and environmental resource.

POLICY ENV-2.1: Regional River Corridor Vision

Work with regional partners, neighboring communities, and private property owners to establish and implement a cohesive vision for the protection, management, and use of the Uncompahgre River corridor.

POLICY ENV-2.2: Corridor Access and Uses

Balance protection of the riparian zone, floodplain, waterway, and wildlife habitat areas along the river corridor; protection of private property rights; and the desire to expand public access and recreational opportunities along the Uncompahgre River. Ensure that concerns from all stakeholders are heard and valued.

GOAL ENV-3: Proactively manage and protect Ridgway's water resources.

POLICY ENV-3.1: Source Water Protection Area

Monitor and manage development, economic activities, and other activities that pose potential risks to Ridgway's drinking water supply and access to it within the source water protection area (SWPA).

POLICY ENV-3.2: Water Supply

Secure and retain a supply of water adequate to meet the expected demands for growth and development within the Initial Growth Boundary (IGB), taking into consideration seasonal fluctuations in water use, the reliability of sources during a drought, potential impacts of climate change on water resources in the region, and potential savings from conservation and improved efficiency.

POLICY ENV-3.3: Water Quality

Ensure that storm water drainage does not negatively impact the water quality of local aquifers, tributaries and rivers.

POLICY ENV-3.4: Low-Impact Development

Design street layouts, grades and site developments to avoid excessive runoff concentrations and minimize the need for storm sewer infrastructure. On-site natural percolation, detention, or retention should incorporate vegetation, vegetated swales and other low-impact development strategies where possible to minimize the need for off-site infrastructure improvements.

POLICY ENV-3.5: Natural Waterway Features

Incorporate the natural features of waterways into storm water systems, using indigenous vegetation in storm water management to promote filtering and slowing storm water runoff to maximize the settling of particulate pollutants and materials.

POLICY ENV-3.6: Water Conservation

Actively manage the Town's water resources to conserve water, especially in times of limited availability.

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.

POLICY ENV-4.1: Green Buildings

Encourage the use of proven and durable green building technology in all new developments in order to increase energy efficiency, water conservation, human health, and use of local materials while balancing the impact of costs.

POLICY ENV-4.2: Renewable Energy

Encourage the use of carbon-free and renewable energy systems within the Town and support the goal of carbon neutrality for Colorado. Support the inspiration and innovation of those who live, work, and visit Ridgway to create a low-carbon economy and lifestyle that improves the health, shared prosperity, and long-term security of our unique mountain community.

POLICY ENV-4.3: Emerging Technologies and Practices

Encourage the use of innovative building practices and materials (e.g., straw-bale construction) when such methods would increase energy efficiency, ease greenhouse gas emissions, and reduce home costs.

POLICY ENV-4.4: Dark Skies

Continue to prioritize efforts to reduce light pollution and enhance the appearance of the night sky.

POLICY ENV-4.5: Waste Management

Continue to support efforts and programs that reduce the amount of solid waste entering the waste stream, such as recycling and composting.

POLICY ENV-4.6: Air Quality

Continue to support efforts to maintain and improve air quality within Ridgway and the surrounding region.

GOAL ENV-5: Maintain a healthy and resilient community forest.

POLICY ENV-5.1: Community Forest

Protect, preserve, and enhance Ridgway's community forest, maximizing tree canopy cover across the community where financially and ecologically possible.

POLICY ENV-5.2: Tree Diversity

Strive to increase the diversity of tree species in the community forest as existing trees are replaced and new trees are added.

POLICY ENV-5.3: Community Forest Management

Select, situate, and maintain trees in public rights of way and on Town-owned properties to maximize ecological, aesthetic, and economic benefits and minimize hazard, nuisance, hardscape damage, and maintenance costs.
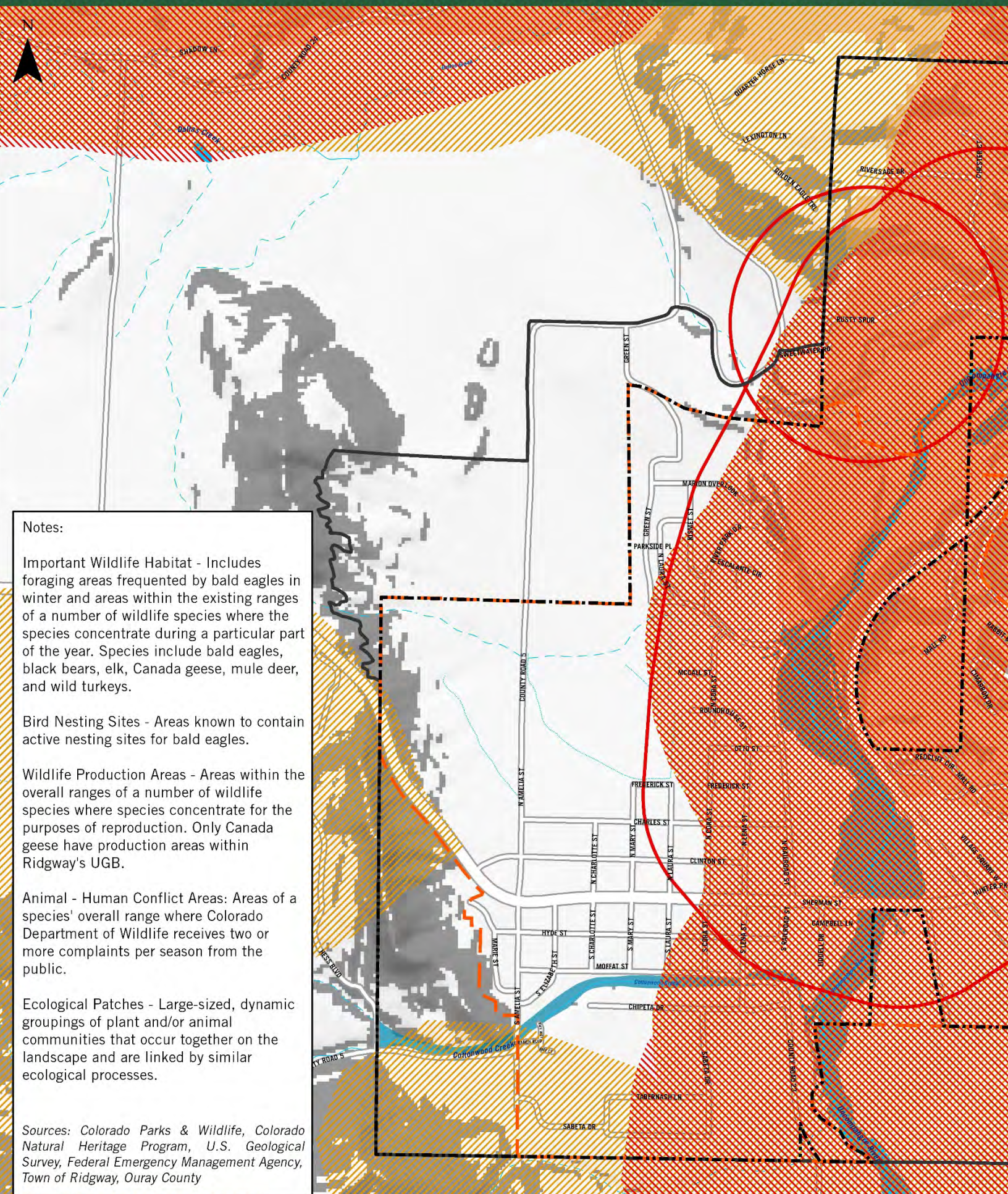
POLICY ENV-5.4: Community Support

Foster community support for the local community forestry program and encourage best tree management practices by private property owners.
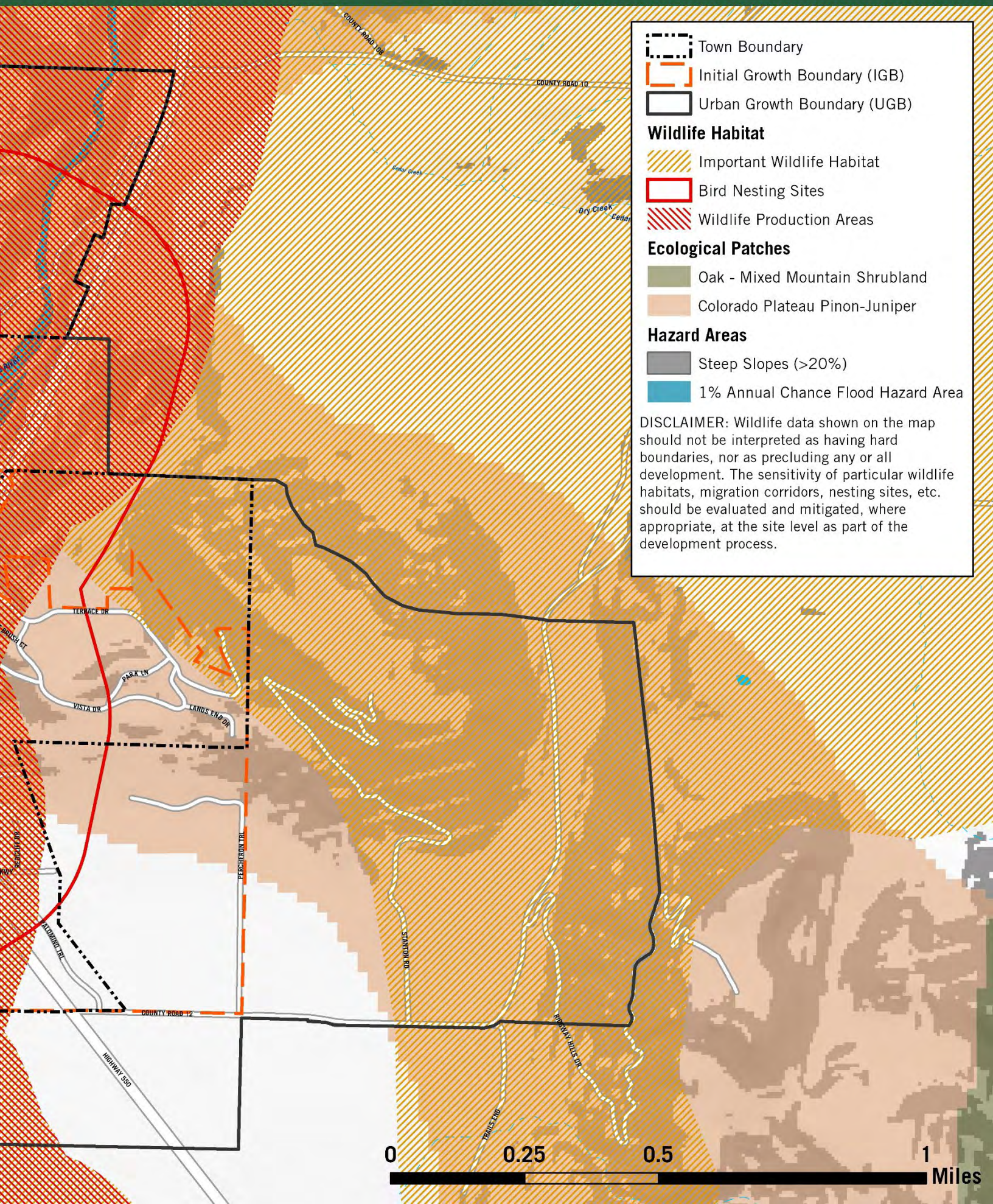
POLICY ENV-5.5: Tree Retention and Replacement

Support the retention of healthy, mature trees and the addition of new trees in both public improvement projects and private development. Encourage the replacement of trees where retention is not feasible.

Sensitive Natural Areas - Town of Ridgway

Notes:

Important Wildlife Habitat - Includes foraging areas frequented by bald eagles in winter and areas within the existing ranges of a number of wildlife species where the species concentrate during a particular part of the year. Species include bald eagles, black bears, elk, Canada geese, mule deer, and wild turkeys.

Bird Nesting Sites - Areas known to contain active nesting sites for bald eagles.

Wildlife Production Areas - Areas within the overall ranges of a number of wildlife species where species concentrate for the purposes of reproduction. Only Canada geese have production areas within Ridgway's UGB.

Animal - Human Conflict Areas: Areas of a species' overall range where Colorado Department of Wildlife receives two or more complaints per season from the public.

Ecological Patches - Large-sized, dynamic groupings of plant and/or animal communities that occur together on the landscape and are linked by similar ecological processes.

Sources: Colorado Parks & Wildlife, Colorado Natural Heritage Program, U.S. Geological Survey, Federal Emergency Management Agency, Town of Ridgway, Ouray County

Legend

Town Boundary

Initial Growth Boundary (IGB)

Urban Growth Boundary (UGB)

Wildlife Habitat

Important Wildlife Habitat

Bird Nesting Sites

Wildlife Production Areas

Ecological Patches

Oak - Mixed Mountain Shrubland

Colorado Plateau Pinon-Juniper

Hazard Areas

Steep Slopes (>20%)

1% Annual Chance Flood Hazard Area

DISCLAIMER: Wildlife data shown on the map should not be interpreted as having hard boundaries, nor as precluding any or all development. The sensitivity of particular wildlife habitats, migration corridors, nesting sites, etc. should be evaluated and mitigated, where appropriate, at the site level as part of the development process.

COUNTY ROAD 10B

COUNTY ROAD 10

Cedar Creek

Dry Creek

TERRACE DR

PARK LN

VISTA DR

LANDS END DR

PERCHERON TRL

STANTON RD

HIGHWAY HILLS DR

COUNTY ROAD 12

HIGHWAY 550

ALDOMINIC TRL

TRAILS END

0   0.25   0.5   1
Miles

SENSE OF COMMUNITY & INCLUSIVITY

GOAL COM-1: Maintain Ridgway as a community that is accessible to a range of income levels, ages, and households.

POLICY COM-1.1: Workforce Housing

Work with Ouray County and the City of Ouray to develop housing units designed and priced for employees living and working in Ouray County. The Town of Ridgway should initially focus on those living and working in Ridgway.

POLICY COM-1.2: Private Sector Responsibilities

Acknowledge the role of the private sector as a necessary partner in addressing the community's affordable and workforce housing needs.

POLICY COM-1.3: Public-Private Partnerships

Continue to explore opportunities to partner with private or non-profit developers on the construction of affordable and workforce housing.

POLICY COM-1.4: Annexation

Use annexations as an opportunity to expand Ridgway's supply of affordable and workforce housing.

POLICY COM-1.5: Distributed Approach

Take advantage of all opportunities to add needed affordable and workforce housing to Ridgway and the surrounding area while being mindful of the community's desire to avoid overconcentration in any one neighborhood.

POLICY COM-1.6: Multi-Generational Housing

Support the development of housing options designed to accommodate multi-generational needs to allow residents the opportunity to age in place.

POLICY COM-1.7: Accessibility

Require new development to provide for full accessibility under the Americans with Disabilities Act for all new and improved infrastructure on public properties.

WHAT IS AFFORDABLE & WORKFORCE HOUSING?

- **Affordable Housing:** Housing affordability comes down to the relationship between the price of housing in a region (either sale price or rent) and the incomes of households in that region. Generally, for housing to be affordable, housing costs (including utilities) for any given household should not exceed 30 percent of the household's gross annual income. When households must spend more of their incomes on housing, it means they have less income to spend on essential services (such as healthcare) and discretionary items that benefit the local economy (such as meals at a local restaurant).

- **Workforce Housing:** Workforce housing is a subset of affordable housing, and generally refers to housing that is affordable to households earning between 80 percent and 120 percent of the area median income (AMI). In other words, housing costs for households earning between 80 percent and 120 percent of AMI should not exceed 30 percent of those households' gross annual incomes. Typically, workforce housing is targeted toward workers who are vital for the everyday function of the community, such as teachers, public safety workers, first responders, and workers in retail, food/beverage, hotel, and other core industries.

GOAL COM-2: Encourage a diversity of housing options that meet the needs of residents.

POLICY COM-2.1: Diversity of Housing Types

Encourage new developments to accommodate a variety of housing sizes, household types, tenure types, densities, and prices.

POLICY COM-2.2: Housing Options

Support the development of a range of housing options in Ridgway, as appropriate in different parts of the community, including, but not limited to small homes, accessory dwelling units, townhomes, live/work units, and small-scale apartments or condominiums.

POLICY COM-2.3: Resident-Occupied Housing

Support strategies that help maintain resident-occupied housing in Ridgway, rather than housing occupied by second-homeowners.

POLICY COM-2.4: Accessible Housing

Expand the supply of housing in Ridgway that is accessible to seniors, persons with disabilities, or persons with mobility limitations through the use of universal design and visitability principles in the construction of new housing and the rehabilitation of existing homes.

GOAL COM-3: Encourage citizen participation and dialogue with elected and appointed officials and town administration in order to foster broad-based representation and input for local government decisions.

POLICY COM-3.1: Multi-Media Outreach

Use a variety of media types for public outreach and to inform the community of upcoming Town events, meetings, Town Council votes, and other meetings.

POLICY COM-3.2: Youth Outreach

Explore opportunities for engaging local youth in local government and actively soliciting input from local youth. Explore and promote additional opportunities to work with Ridgway Schools on special projects and education on local government.

POLICY COM-3.3: Relationship Building

Develop and maintain mutually beneficial relationships with local and regional civic and volunteer organizations such as church groups, non-profit organizations, and other groups.

POLICY COM-3.4: Boards and Commissions Representation

Seek to fill appointed positions on Town boards and commissions with diverse and qualified candidates that are reflective of the community's demographics.

POLICY COM-3.5: Volunteer Opportunities

Encourage and provide opportunities for residents to volunteer in projects, initiatives, programs, and other Town activities.

GOAL COM-4: Strive to be a model for transparency, efficiency, and good governance.

POLICY COM-4.1: Community Outreach

Regularly reach out to the community to understand citizen satisfaction with Town services, programs, and facilities and to identify potential gaps or needed improvements.

POLICY COM-4.2: Town Government Sustainability

Continue to implement policies and programs to reduce greenhouse gas emissions related to the functions and operations of town government. In addition, the Town will seek to conserve water, reduce waste, promote recycling, and procure environmentally responsible products and materials in government operations where feasible.

POLICY COM-4.3: Budget Priorities

Ensure that the budgeting process promotes Town expenditures and investments that reflect community priorities, including those set forth in this Master Plan.

POLICY COM-4.4: Fiscal Sustainability

Ensure that the Town's budget adequately covers the costs of public services that are provided by the Town. Proactively plan to ensure that adequate funding can be maintained over the long-term and can keep pace with future cost increases.

POLICY COM-4.5: Technology

Utilize modern technology where appropriate to ensure town services are efficient and convenient.

GOAL COM-5: Encourage a range of health, human, youth, senior, and other community services in Ridgway.

POLICY COM-5.1: Accessible Local Health Care

Continue to support local options for the provision of medical services in Ouray County, whether through the Ouray County Regional Service Authority or other opportunities.

POLICY COM-5.2: Services for Youth and Seniors

Work with community partners to address gaps in programming and other services for youth and seniors in the community.

POLICY COM-5.3: Awareness of Available Services

Collaborate with local, regional, and state partners to raise awareness of health and human services, including mental health services, available in Ridgway and elsewhere in Ouray County and the region.

POLICY COM-5.4: Improved Transportation Access

Promote efforts which improve residents' access to regional health and human services through reliable and affordable transportation options.

GOAL COM-6: Support education and lifelong learning in our community.

POLICY COM-6.1: Coordination with Schools

Coordinate with and support Ridgway's public and private schools to provide a high-quality education for all Ridgway students.

POLICY COM-6.2: Youth Opportunities

Support opportunities for children and youth to gain skills and experiences outside of a traditional classroom setting.

POLICY COM-6.3: Library

Continue to support the Ridgway Public Library in its mission to provide opportunities to explore, discover, learn, grow, and dream.

POLICY COM-6.4: Lifelong Learning Opportunities

Encourage the growth of programing and events that provide opportunities for learning throughout all stages of life.

POLICY COM-6.5: Local Government 101

Provide opportunities for the community to learn about local government functions and services, including opportunities to participate in government decision-making processes.

GOAL COM-7: Provide public safety and emergency response services to engage and protect the community.

POLICY COM-7.1: Law Enforcement Services

To the extent possible, ensure that the Ridgway Marshal's Office has the staff, facilities, equipment, resources, and training necessary to provide the community with the desired level of public safety services.

POLICY COM-7.2: Community Partners

Facilitate open communication between the Marshal's Office and residents to ensure the Marshal and deputies maintain the public trust and provide an approachable and visible presence in Ridgway and to engage the community in developing solutions to public safety issues.

POLICY COM-7.3: Regional Coordination

Collaborate with surrounding jurisdictions to ensure public safety and emergency response services have a coordinated plan and are provided in the most efficient and effective manner.

POLICY COM-7.4: Data and Metrics

Use data and metrics to evaluate performance, identify areas for improvement, and better understand how public safety providers should adapt over time as the community changes.

POLICY COM-7.5: Emergency Management

Ensure Town government is prepared to respond to and continue providing services during emergencies, such as natural hazard events. Strive to return to normal operations as soon as is feasible following such events.

GOAL CHR-1: Support vibrant, diverse, safe, and well-connected neighborhoods.

POLICY CHR-1.1: Neighborhood Character

Encourage the development of neighborhoods that enhance and reflect the character of Ridgway through quality design, cohesive materials, and integration of natural features.

POLICY CHR-1.2: Neighborhood Walkability and Bikeability

Enhance walkability and bikeability within existing neighborhoods and between existing neighborhoods and other areas of town. Ensure safe on- and off-street pedestrian and bicycle connections are provided in all new neighborhoods.

GOAL CHR-2: Protect and preserve Ridgway's historic assets.

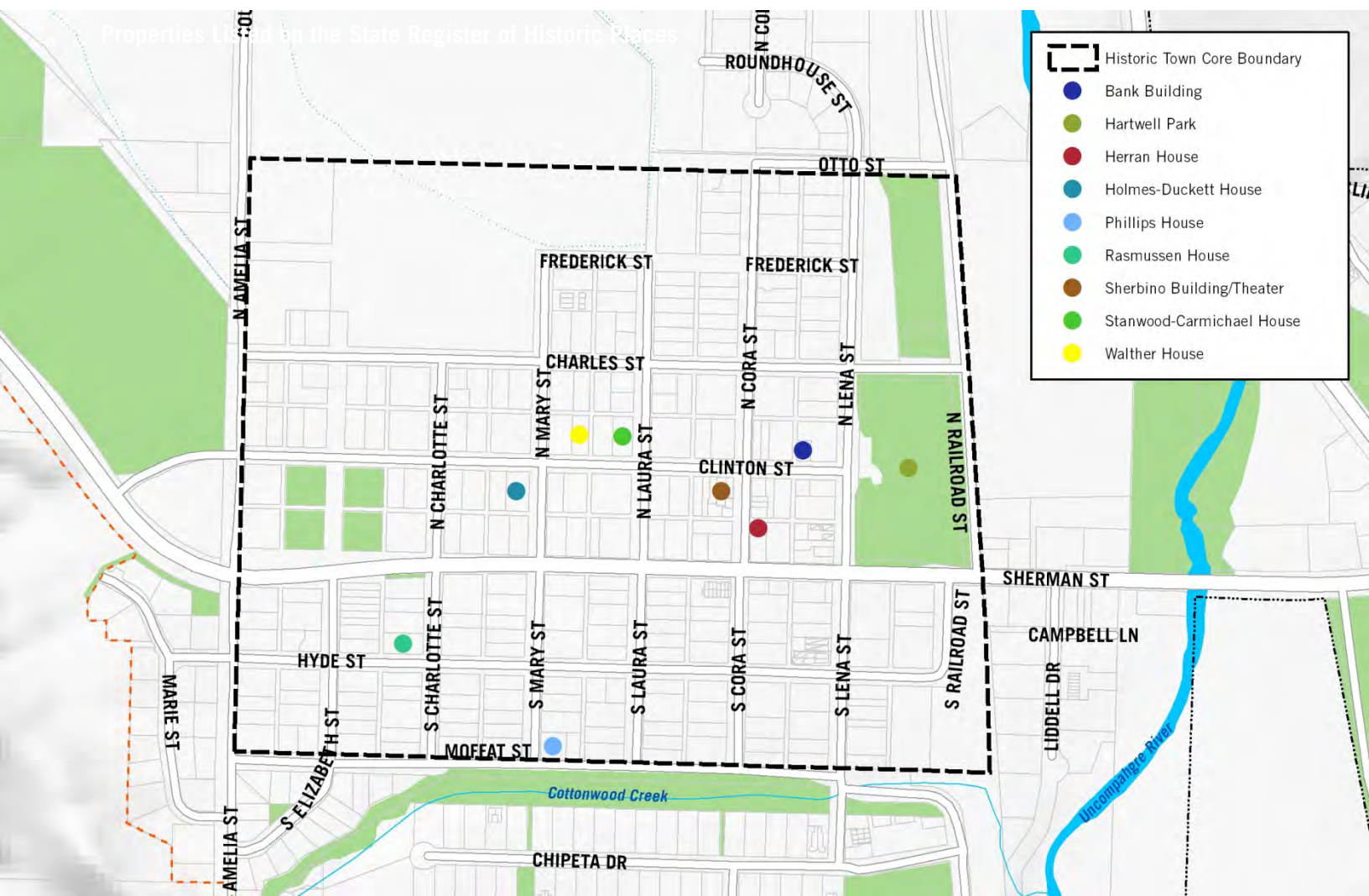### POLICY CHR-2.1: Historic Resources and Heritage

Promote and build awareness of significant resources associated with people and events important to the Town's, County's, or State's history.

POLICY CHR-2.2: Historic Preservation

Encourage the designation of historically significant buildings and districts to the county, state, and national registers of historic places.

POLICY CHR-2.3: Preservation Tools

Support protection of the Town's historic resources, including the original Town Core.

Properties Listed on the State Register of Historic Places

Legend:
- Historic Town Core Boundary
- Bank Building
- Hartwell Park
- Herran House
- Holmes-Duckett House
- Phillips House
- Rasmussen House
- Sherbino Building/Theater
- Stanwood-Carmichael House
- Walther House

GOAL CHR-3: Promote Ridgway's identity as a ranching and agricultural community and preserve the rural character of landscapes surrounding Ridgway.

POLICY CHR-3.1: Land Use Conflicts

Actively engage and work with ranch owners and operators to minimize or mitigate land use conflicts or undue interference created by existing or proposed development outside the Town Core.

POLICY CHR-3.2: Ranching Operations

Continue to accommodate activities within the Town that are essential to daily and seasonal operations of ranch owners and operators, and that do not compromise public health and safety—such as the ability to drive cattle through Town, tie up horses, or maneuver and park trailers or other equipment while conducting business in Town.

POLICY CHR-3.3: Conservation Mechanisms

Collaborate with willing property owners and the County on opportunities to establish conservation easements, land trusts, or other mechanisms designed to preserve agricultural land outside the UGB in perpetuity.

GOAL CHR-4: Promote Ridgway's identity as a creative and innovative community where creative individuals and enterprises thrive.

POLICY CHR-4.1: Strengthen the Creative District

In collaboration with Creative organizations in the region, encourage and promote events, activities, and strategies that strengthen Ridgway's Creative District and creative sector.

POLICY CHR-4.2: Collaboration with Partners

Collaborate with partner organizations on activities and events that help foster innovation and the creative identity of Ridgway and the region, or support Ridgway's creative community. Formalize partnerships when possible.

POLICY CHR-4.3: Creativity in the Community

Continue to highlight Ridgway's status as a creative place by pursuing opportunities to display art installations and other creative projects throughout the community and continuing to engage Ridgway's creative sector.

POLICY CHR-4.4: Creativity in Capital Projects

Strive to include artistic or innovative design elements in capital improvement projects. Where possible, involve artists and other Creatives early in the design process.

GOAL CHR-5: Promote a range of opportunities and spaces for community gatherings and interactions.

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.

POLICY CHR-5.2: Community Dialogue

Convene and facilitate community-wide discussions to seek input and build consensus on important or controversial issues. Ensure that all sides or perspectives have an opportunity to be heard and understood.

POLICY CHR-5.3: Community Events

Support community events that cater to a range of community interests, backgrounds, and ages.

POLICY CHR-5.4: Place-making

Continue working to create a cohesive, unique community with strategic place-making efforts and investments.

GOAL CHR-6: Maintain and enhance Ridgway's gateways, entry-corridors, and scenic vistas.

POLICY CHR-6.1: Corridor and Gateway Character

Highway corridors and gateways to Ridgway should enhance and benefit the community's small-town character and preserve mountain vistas.

POLICY CHR-6.2: Near-Gateway Development Considerations

Encourage aesthetic improvements for existing and new developments bordering highways. Consider context, configuration, and design in evaluating development on properties adjacent to gateway areas to ensure new development contributes to the desired character of the gateway.

POLICY CHR-6.3: Ridgeline Protection

Encourage the use of clustering, flexible setbacks, height limitations, and other site planning techniques to minimize the visual impact of ridgeline development when viewed from public rights of way.

POLICY CHR-6.4: Highway Signage

Balance the need to limit signage and visual clutter along highway corridors and at gateways with the need of commercial businesses to have signage that is adequately visible. All highway signage should contribute to the Town's overall place-making efforts.

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.

POLICY CHR-7.1: Dedicating Parks, Trails, and Open Spaces

Establish an equitable basis for dedicating parks, trails, and open spaces associated with new and proposed development including annexations and subdivisions, with "payment in lieu" and land donation options for dedicated parks, trails, and open spaces that considers land values, park land development costs, and long-term maintenance.
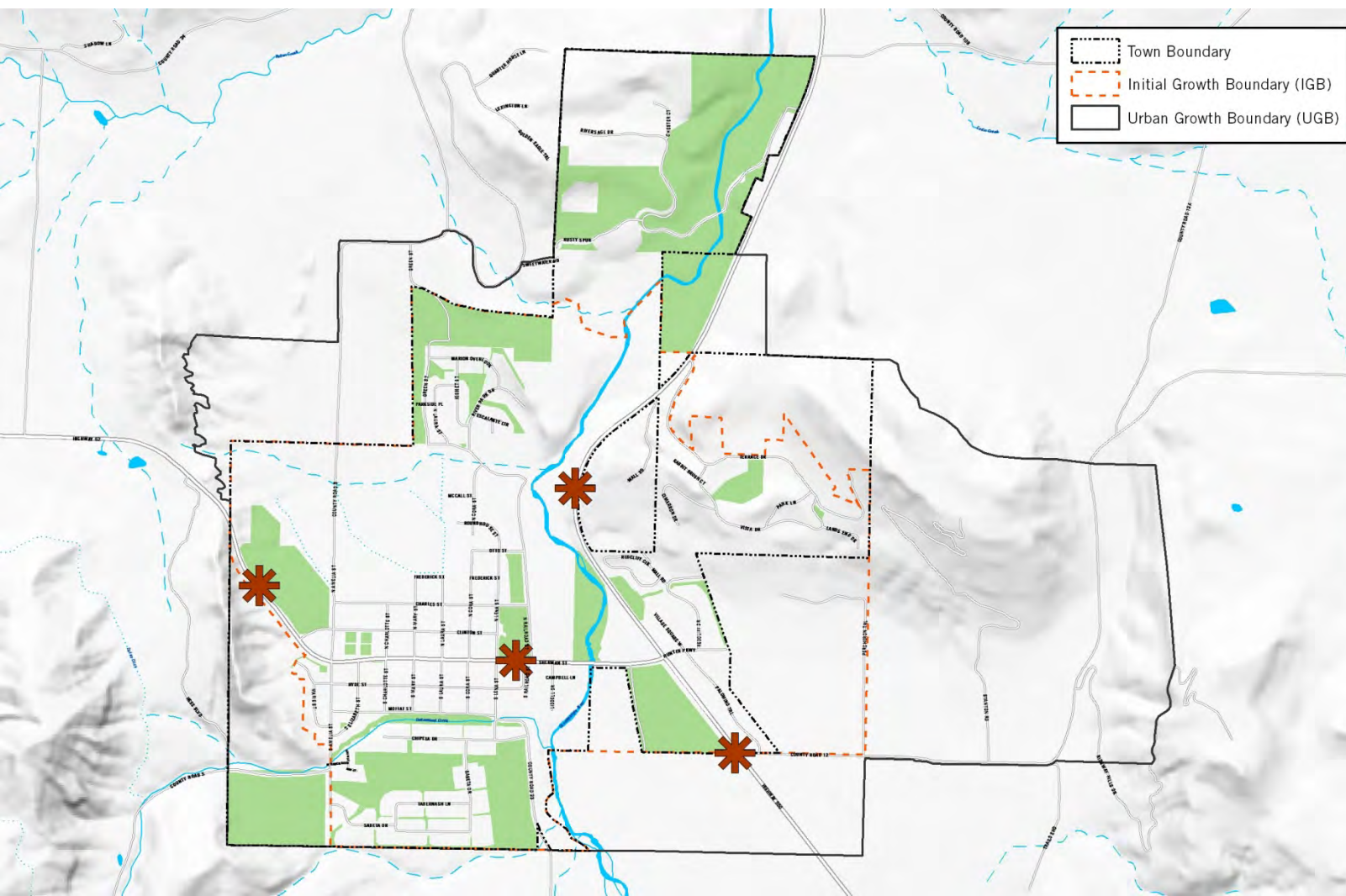
POLICY CHR-7.2: Trail Development

Encourage and support trail development within and surrounding Ridgway, particularly trails that fill gaps or key trail linkages in the Town's current system and improve continuity and connectivity. Where feasible, create trails that support walking, hiking, biking, and other non-motorized uses. Trail development should not impede existing agricultural uses or cross private property unless arrangements have been made with the property owner.

POLICY CHR-7.3: Low-Impact Trails

Balance the desire to build additional trails in Ridgway and the surrounding area with the need to protect environmentally sensitive areas from human disturbance, and the need to maintain the viability of ranching and agricultural operations in cases where the landowner has given permission for a trail to cross private property.

POLICY CHR-7.4: Future Growth

Observe, monitor, and respond to the Town's growth and community demands for increased or improved services, including the functions and duties of Town personnel, to ensure efficient and effective operations that are adequately funded.

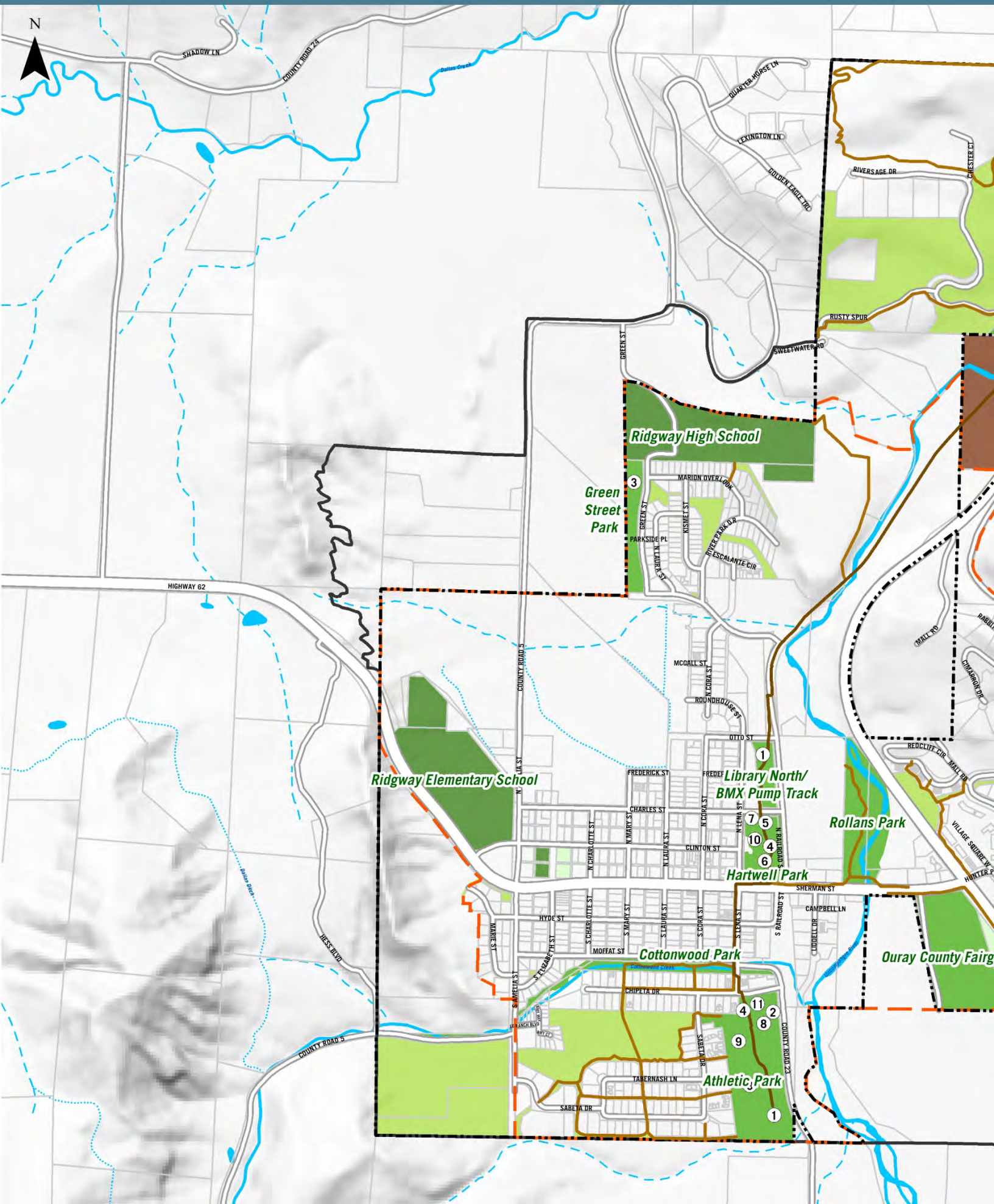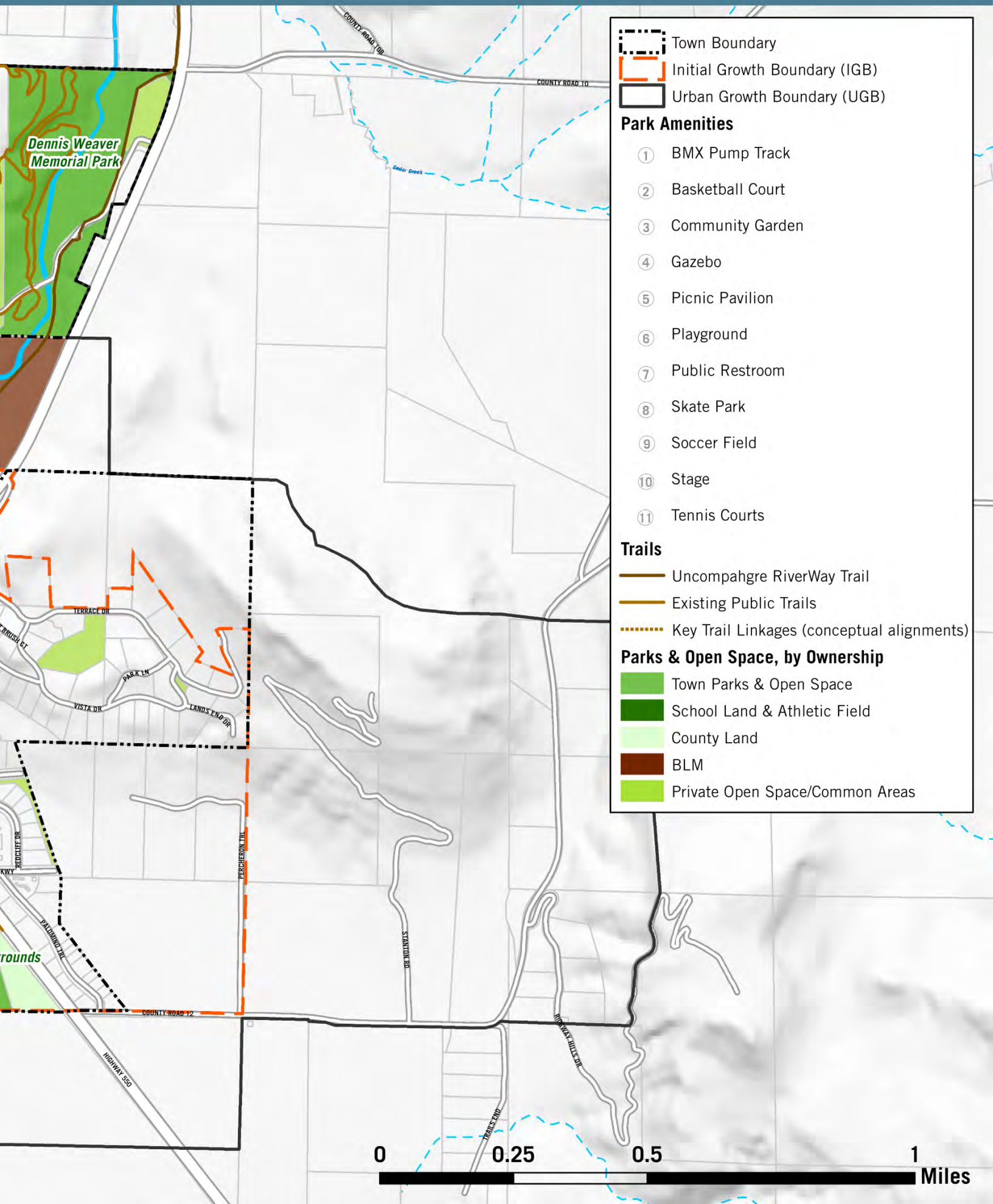**POLICY CHR-7.5: Community Involvement**

Involve the community in the preservation and care of existing facilities and amenities.

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.

N

SHADOW LN

COUNTY ROAD 24

Dallas Creek

QUARTER HORSE LN

LEXINGTON LN

GOLDEN EAGLE TRL

RIVERSAGE DR

CHESTER CT

RUSTY SPUR

SWEETWATER RD

GREEN ST

Ridgway High School

MARION OVERLOOK

③ Green Street Park

GREEN ST

KISMET ST

N LAURA ST

RIVER PARK DR

ESCALANTE CIR

PARKSIDE PL

HIGHWAY 62

COUNTY ROAD 5

MCCALL ST

N CORA ST

ROUNDHOUSE ST

MALL RD

RABBI

CIMARRON DR

OTTO ST

① REDCLIFF CIR

MALL RD

Ridgway Elementary School

FREDERICK ST

FREDER

Library North/ BMX Pump Track

N LENA ST

N RAILROAD S

Rollans Park

VILLAGE SQUARE W

CHARLES ST

N CHARLOTTE ST

N MARY ST

N LAURA ST

N CORA ST

⑦ ⑤

⑩ ④

CLINTON ST

⑥

Hartwell Park

HUNTER P

SHERMAN ST

HYDE ST

S CHARLOTTE ST

S MARY ST

S LAURA ST

S CORA ST

S LENA ST

S RAILROAD ST

CAMPBELL LN

LIDDELL DR

MARIE ST

MOFFAT ST

Cottonwood Park

Ouray County Fairg

S ELIZABETH ST

S AMELIA ST

Cottonwood Creek

CHIPETA DR

④ ⑪ ②

⑧

HESS BLVD

Dallas Creek

AMY RD

RM4 RD

SABETA DR

⑨

TABERNASH LN

Athletic Park

COUNTY ROAD 23

COUNTY ROAD 5

SABETA DR

①

Dennis Weaver Memorial Park

Cedar Creek

COUNTY ROAD 10B

COUNTY ROAD 10

Legend

	Town Boundary
	Initial Growth Boundary (IGB)
	Urban Growth Boundary (UGB)

Park Amenities

1. BMX Pump Track
2. Basketball Court
3. Community Garden
4. Gazebo
5. Picnic Pavilion
6. Playground
7. Public Restroom
8. Skate Park
9. Soccer Field
10. Stage
11. Tennis Courts

Trails

— Uncompahgre RiverWay Trail
— Existing Public Trails
······· Key Trail Linkages (conceptual alignments)

Parks & Open Space, by Ownership

- Town Parks & Open Space
- School Land & Athletic Field
- County Land
- BLM
- Private Open Space/Common Areas

TERRACE DR

BRUSH CT

PARK LN

VISTA DR

LANDS END DR

REDCLIFF DR

KWY

PALOMINO TRL

PERCHERON TRL

STANTON RD

RIDGWAY HILLS DR

COUNTY ROAD 12

HIGHWAY 550

TRAILS END

rounds

0	0.25	0.5	1

Miles

COMMUNITY VALUE 4

VIBRANT & BALANCED ECONOMY

GOAL ECO-1: Create a vibrant, diverse, and sustainable year-round local economy that reflects Ridgway's social fabric, values, and character.

POLICY ECO-1.1: Regional Partnerships

Strengthen partnerships with others in Ouray County and the region to manage economic development. Consider formalizing regional partnerships in order to better coordinate economic development efforts across jurisdictions and organizations.

POLICY ECO-1.2: Community and Economic Development

Continue to participate in and support initiatives, such as the Main Street and Creative District programs, to maintain and enhance a thriving environment for businesses, entrepreneurs, and creative enterprises.

POLICY ECO-1.3: Economic Diversity

Encourage light manufacturing, creative industries, renewable energy, outdoor recreation, and agricultural-or ranching-related industries that complement the community's vision for Ridgway and do not negatively impact the community or environment.

POLICY ECO-1.4: Broadband Internet Service

Continue efforts to improve the speed, reliability, and redundancy of broadband internet service available in Ridgway, including a variety of end-user options for service.

POLICY ECO-1.5: Historic Downtown Ridgway

Continue to enhance the Historic Town Core as the economic center of Ridgway, enriching its vibrancy.

POLICY ECO-1.6: Data Collection and Assessment

Explore ways to improve the collection and tracking of data related to the local economy and economic development in order to better understand local economic dynamics and assess the impacts of economic development initiatives.

Ridgway Creative Main Street
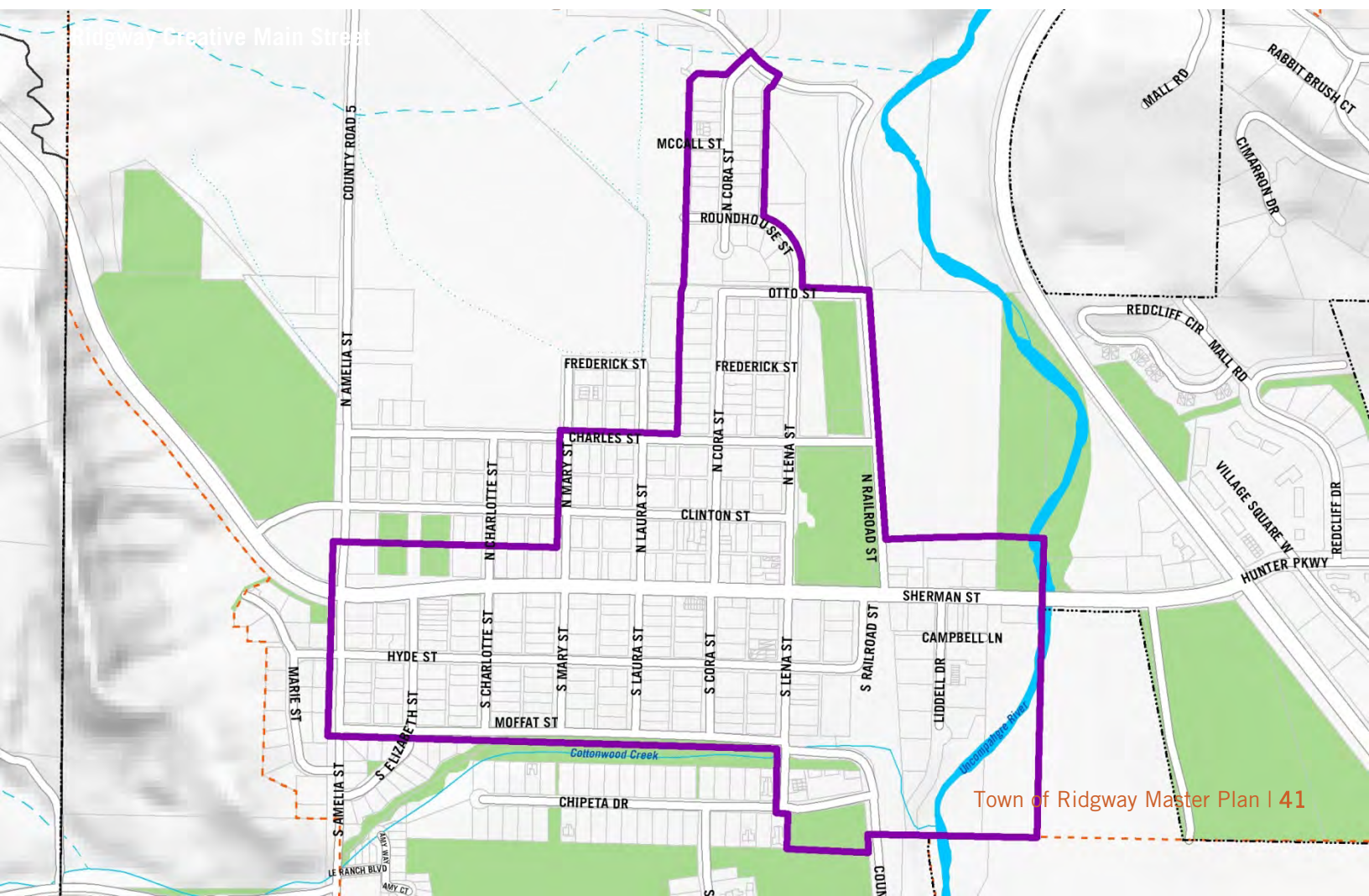
GOAL ECO-2: Support the retention and expansion of local businesses.

POLICY ECO-2.1: Land Designated for Employment

Protect light industrial, manufacturing, and other employment lands from encroachment by potentially incompatible land uses. Discourage the conversion of employment lands to other uses, unless doing so helps achieve another Master Plan goal.

POLICY ECO-2.2: Space Needs

Encourage the creation and retention of industrial or employment spaces or building sites that meet the needs of existing local businesses as they look to grow or expand.

POLICY ECO-2.3: Resource Awareness

Ensure local businesses are aware of local, regional, state, and federal resources available to businesses, particularly small businesses.

POLICY ECO-2.4: Ease of Doing Business

Improve the ease of doing business in Ridgway through transparent and predictable regulations and development review/permitting processes.

POLICY ECO-2.5: Regulations

Ensure regulations, including land use regulations, support and nurture a successful business environment and do not unnecessarily impede desirable industrial or employment uses, or compromise other community goals and priorities.

GOAL ECO-3: Balance the need to preserve quality of life for residents with business needs.

POLICY ECO-3.1: Locals-Serving Businesses and Services

Develop strategies to grow or attract appropriately-scaled businesses that provide needed goods and services to local residents and "fit" the character of the community.

POLICY ECO-3.2: Local Goods, Products, and Services

Support the creation and expansion of businesses that create desired goods and products or provide services within Ridgway.

POLICY ECO-3.3: Sustainable Tourism

Participate in community conversation about sustainable tourism to better understand current tourists and visitors while considering what is desired for the future. Potential questions to explore include:

- Types of visitors to target;
- Off-season visitation;
- Levels of visitation needed to sustain local businesses; and
- Others as identified.

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.

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.

POLICY GRO-1.2: Balanced Mix of Uses

Accommodate a balanced mix of residential, employment, retail and commercial services, and institutional uses that allows residents to live, work, play, learn, and conduct more of their daily business in Ridgway.

POLICY GRO-1.3: Mixed-Use 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.

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.

POLICY GRO-1.5: Design of New Development

Ensure new development and infill/redevelopment is compatible with the surrounding area or neighborhood, particularly in the Historic Town Core where maintaining the historic character of Ridgway is desired.

POLICY GRO-1.6: Clustered Development

Encourage clustering of residential development where appropriate to preserve open space, agricultural land, wildlife habitat, visual quality and other amenities.

POLICY GRO-1.7: Transitions

Provide clear guidance to developers to ensure smooth transitions and/or compatibility between distinct land uses (i.e., between industrial or commercial and residential, including areas with mixed uses) or development densities/intensities.

POLICY GRO-1.8: Development and Annexation Impacts

Evaluate all development and annexation proposals in order to understand the expected economic impacts, demand for services, impact to water resources, as well as if the proposal is compatible with Ridgway's character, improves connectivity, and provides significant community benefits or enhancements.

GOAL GRO-2: Ensure public infrastructure, utilities, facilities, and services are sufficient to meet the needs of residents and businesses as the town grows.

POLICY GRO-2.1: Growth Pays for Growth

Ensure that the costs of extending or expanding Town infrastructure and services to support new development are borne by the developer and not the Town or residents. This includes the impacts new development will have on Town facilities and utilities.

POLICY GRO-2.2: Adequate Public Facilities

Proposed development should demonstrate that existing Town facilities and infrastructure have the capacity to serve the development while still maintaining an acceptable level of service, as determined by the Town, or, if supported by the Town, development shall fill in any infrastructure, utility, facility, and service gaps.

POLICY GRO-2.3: Development Capacity

Monitor the Town's capacity to support development based on existing infrastructure and facility capacity, population projections, and community desires.

POLICY GRO-2.4: Public Works Services

To the extent possible, ensure that the Public Works Department has the equipment, facilities, resources, and staff needed to provide the community with the desired level of services.

GOAL GRO-3: Proactively mitigate natural and human-made hazards.

POLICY GRO-3.1: Hazardous Areas

To the extent feasible, prevent development in high risk areas, such as in floodplains and on steep slopes. Where such development may be inevitable, encourage the incorporation of measures or design techniques that help mitigate risks.

POLICY GRO-3.2: On-Site Stormwater Management

Encourage new development to manage stormwater on site, using low impact development techniques or other best practices.

POLICY GRO-3.3: Hazard Mitigation Planning

Continue to participate in maintaining and updating the *Ouray County Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan, Ouray County Community Wildfire Protection Plan,* and other local, regional or statewide hazard mitigation planning efforts. Participate in implementation as plans are adopted.

POLICY GRO-3.4: Community Awareness

Promote efforts and programs that build awareness of the Town's emergency response protocols and how residents can help mitigate, prepare for, and respond during and after disaster events, such as wildfires or flooding.

POLICY GRO-3.5: Resilient Infrastructure

Site and design new Town facilities and infrastructure to avoid and/or mitigate exposure to hazards. To the extent possible, use redundancies or back-up systems in the provision of critical services such as water.

POLICY GRO-3.6: Hazards and Climate Change Considerations

Consider hazard mitigation, resiliency, and anticipated climate change impacts in Town planning and decision-making processes.

GOAL GRO-4: Develop a safe and efficient multi-modal transportation system, balancing the needs of all users.

POLICY GRO-4.1: Existing Block Pattern

Extend the existing grid of blocks and streets as the Town grows to the north, consistent with the Master Streets map. North of Otto Street, and throughout the northwest portion of the UGB, continuation of the grid is recommended. However, a modified grid may be considered where topography, natural features, or other site limitations exist.

POLICY GRO-4.2: Traffic Impacts of Development

Ensure that future development does not create traffic volumes or patterns that will create traffic hazards or interrupt traffic flow.

POLICY GRO-4.3: Traffic Calming

Consider the use of context-sensitive traffic control and calming devices where appropriate to enhance automobile, pedestrian and cyclist safety, including raised cross walks, neck-outs, raised medians, landscaping, beacons and signage. Take into account the need to accommodate larger trucks and trailers in conjunction with any traffic calming improvements.

POLICY GRO-4.4: Speed Limits

Maintain speed limits on all streets within Ridgway and, where reasonable, its three-mile area which reflect the residential and pedestrian nature of the community and prioritize safety at pedestrian crossings, near parks, and in school zones.

POLICY GRO-4.5: Traffic Signals

Traffic signals within Town boundaries should be avoided unless and until needed as established through carefully evaluated traffic studies and infrastructure demands.

POLICY GRO-4.6: Non-Motorized Transportation

Promote non-motorized transportation throughout Ridgway by enhancing connections between key destinations within the community, improving sidewalks and pathways, developing parking where appropriate, and utilizing a variety of environmentally-friendly inviting surface treatments, streetscape improvements, landscaping, and context sensitive design.

POLICY GRO-4.7: Connectivity of New Development

Encourage new development to include paths, trails, and other connections to facilitate biking and walking throughout town.

POLICY GRO-4.8: Crosswalks and Sidewalks

Crosswalks should be clearly marked and designed to enhance safety and minimize walking distances across roadways, especially along highway corridors and near schools and parks. Sidewalks should be built and maintained along both Highways 62 and 550 within the Town boundary. Overpasses or underpasses across these highways should be considered where needed to enhance pedestrian safety.

POLICY GRO-4.9: Additional Roads

Work cooperatively with the County to study the need and feasibility of additional roads to serve a wider area around the community and to determine other effective transportation improvements within the Town's area of influence.

POLICY GRO-4.10: Regional Transportation

Continue to collaborate with jurisdictions in the region and Region 10 to explore the feasibility of expanding public transit services in Ouray County and the region, particularly between Ridgway and Montrose and between Ridgway and Telluride.

POLICY GRO-4.11: Alternative Commuting Options

Promote telecommuting and bicycle/pedestrian commuting, ridesharing and public transportation and identify locations for future park and ride facilities.

GOAL GRO-5: Utilize Ridgway's parking resources effectively.

POLICY GRO-5.1: Diagonal Parking

Encourage diagonal parking, where rights-of-way allow, on residential streets within the Historic Town Core as downtown needs for parking increase.

POLICY GRO-5.2: Accessible Parking

Ensure an adequate supply of Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) compliant parking spaces.

POLICY GRO-5.3: Wayfinding

Use signage and other wayfinding to direct visitors to parking, particularly locations within the Historic Town Core that are typically vacant or underused. Use wayfinding to direct residents and visitors to trailer and RV parking.
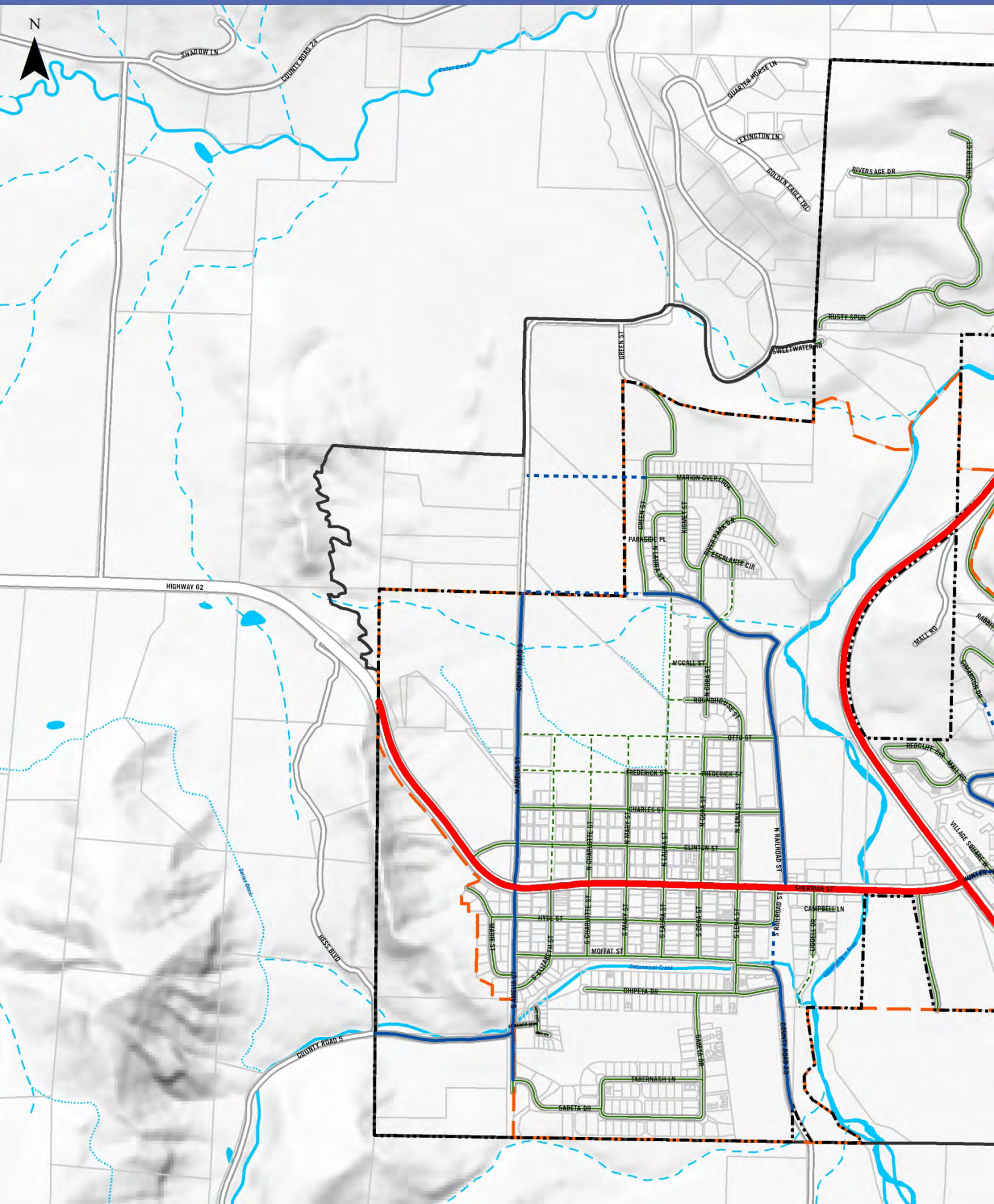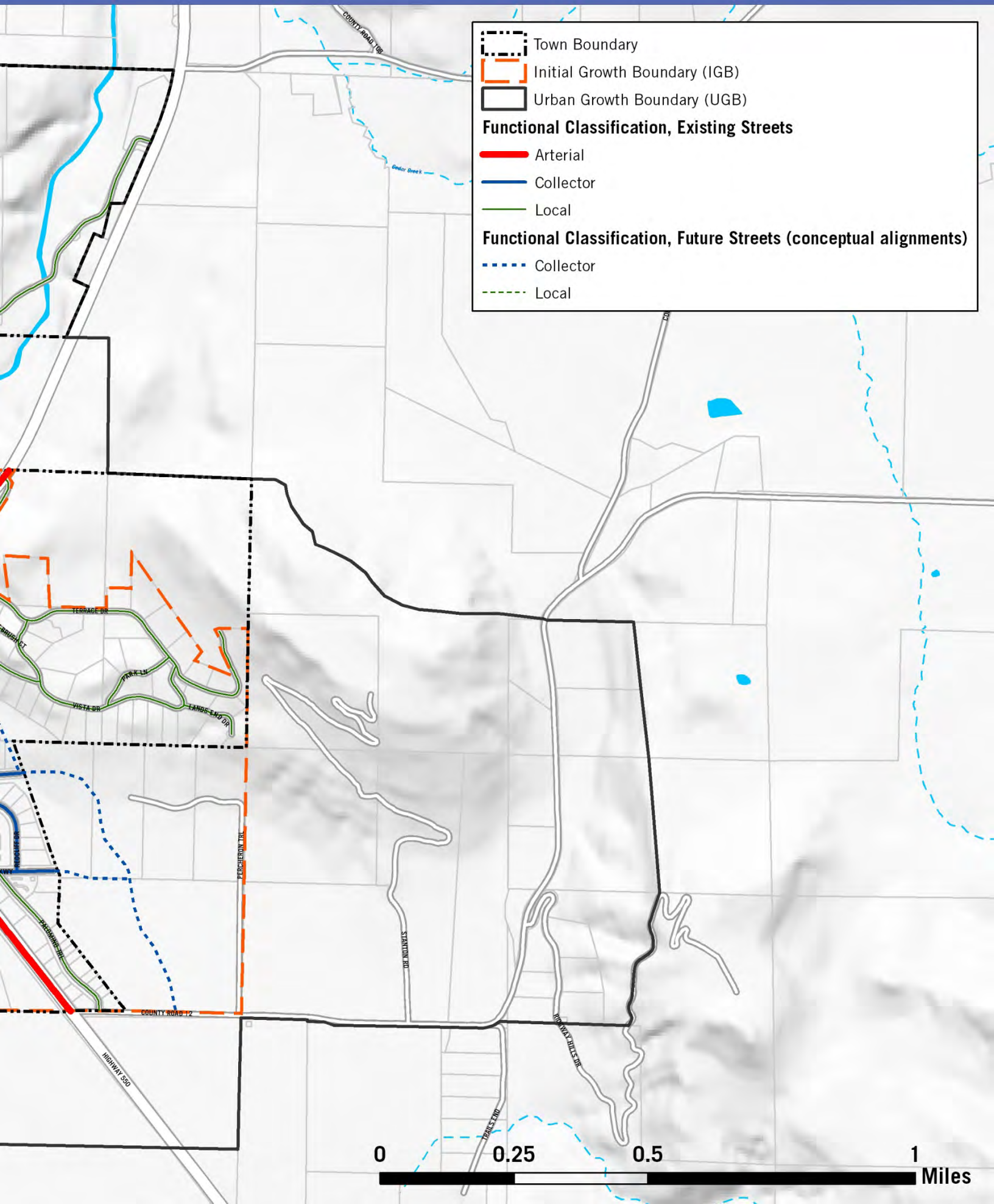
POLICY GRO-5.4: Parking Requirements

Support the use of shared parking, on-street parking, and other strategies to maximize the use of available resources and support local business.

POLICY GRO-5.5: Employee Parking

During peak tourist season, encourage businesses located in the Town Core to direct their employees to park in public parking lots or on streets that typically experience low occupancy (such as Lena Street between Clinton Street and Charles Street; Laura Street between Sherman Street and Clinton Street) in order to free up parking for customers.

Master Streets Map - Town of Ridgway

N

SHADOW LN

COUNTY ROAD 24

Dallas Creek

QUARTER HORSE LN

LEXINGTON LN

GOLDEN EAGLE RD

CHESTER CT

RIVERSAGE DR

RUSTY SPUR

SWEETWATER RD

GREEN ST

HIGHWAY 62

MARION OVERLOOK

PARKSIDE PL

GREEN ST

KISMET LN

PIGEON PARK DR

T FULLER ST

ESCALANTE CIR

MCCALL ST

REDCLIFF DR

ROUNDHOUSE ST

OTTO ST

MALL RD

RABBIT

REDCLIFF DR MALL RD

FREDERICK ST

FREDERICK ST

CHARLES ST

SHERMAN DR

COUNTY ROAD 5

Dallas Ditch

HESS BLVD

N AMELIA ST

CHARLOTTE ST

N MARY ST

N LENA ST

N RAILROAD ST

N LENA ST

CLINTON ST

VILLAGE SQUARE

SHERMAN ST

HYDE ST

HARRIS ST

S CHARLOTTE ST

S MARY ST

S LENA ST

S LENA ST

S RAILROAD ST

CAMPBELL LN

LIDDELL DR

MOFFAT ST

S ELIZABETH ST

Cottonwood Creek

CHIPETA DR

HART LN

TABERNASH LN

SABETA DR

Legend

- Town Boundary
- Initial Growth Boundary (IGB)
- Urban Growth Boundary (UGB)

Functional Classification, Existing Streets

- Arterial
- Collector
- Local

Functional Classification, Future Streets (conceptual alignments)

- Collector
- Local

COUNTY ROAD 168

Cedar Creek

TERRACE DR

BRUSH CT

PARK LN

VISTA DR

LANDS END DR

PERCHERON TRL

STANTON RD

RIDGWAY HILLS DR

TRAILS END

PKWY

PERSHING TRL

COUNTY ROAD 12

HIGHWAY 550

0   0.25   0.5   1

Miles