



To: Honorable Mayor Clark and Ridgway Town Council
From: Preston Neill, Town Manager
Date: April 12, 2022
RE: **Town Manager's Report**

INTRODUCTION

This monthly report serves as an update to Council on key projects, activities, and community issues.

RIDGWAY SPACE TO CREATE IN-PERSON INFO SESSION HELD ON APRIL 7TH

Artspace, the non-profit developer of the Ridgway Space to Create Project, hosted an in-person leasing information session for Ridgway Space to Create on Thursday, April 7th at Ridgway Town Hall. Attendees learned about the upcoming application process and met the property management and operations teams. Applications for the 30 one- and two-bedroom units of low-income workforce housing will become available later this month and will be due in early May.



TOWN TO BEGIN CURBSIDE BRANCH COLLECTION SERVICE STARTING MAY 4TH



The Town will roll out its curbside branch collection service starting on Wednesday, May 4th. From May through September, collection will be conducted by Public Works staff on the first and third Wednesday of each month. The criteria for collection remain the same as prior years and are as follows:

- Branches between 1" and 4" in diameter and 8 ft. in length will be accepted.
- No willow branches, sage brush, yard clippings, twigs, noxious weeds, vegetation with thorns, dirt, trash, kitchen waste or anything contained in bags will be accepted.
- Branches must be placed in the front yard by the street, not the alley, before 8:00 a.m. on Wednesday morning.

This service is intended to facilitate small routine maintenance by homeowners. Professional arborist work, commercial properties, HOAs, and entire tree removals are not eligible for branch collection.



ANNUAL STREET GRADING OPERATIONS TO BEGIN MAY 9TH

The Town will commence annual street grading operations on May 9th and the process will continue through May 25th. The street grading will consist of using a street grader to restore the driving surface and drainage attributes to the Town’s unpaved streets. The process will also include the application of a dust suppressant agent, known as magnesium chloride, to the unpaved streets.



The full schedule is as follows:

2022 Street Grading Schedule

<i>May 9</i>	<i>Solar Ranches – Chipeta Dr. and Tabernash Ln.</i>
<i>May 10</i>	<i>Solar Ranches – All of Sabeta Dr.</i>
<i>May 11</i>	<i>Liddell Dr., then move to Vista Terrace</i>
<i>May 12</i>	<i>Vista Terrace</i>
<i>May 13</i>	<i>Magnesium Chloride above streets</i>
<i>May 16</i>	<i>Lena St. and Clinton St.</i>
<i>May 17</i>	<i>Hyde St. and Laura St.</i>
<i>May 18</i>	<i>Cora St. and Moffat St.</i>
<i>May 19</i>	<i>Charles St. and Frederick St.</i>
<i>May 20</i>	<i>Elizabeth St. and Charlotte St.</i>
<i>May 23</i>	<i>S. Amelia St.</i>
<i>May 24</i>	<i>Mary St. and N. Amelia St.</i>
<i>May 25</i>	<i>Magnesium Chloride above streets</i>

Motorists are asked to exercise extreme caution when driving in the area of a grading operation. Residents are asked to have vehicles removed from streets that are scheduled to be graded by 6:00 a.m.

NEW ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT HIRED

Deb Overton has joined the Town as the new, full-time Administrative Assistant. Deb comes to us with extensive municipal government experience and familiarity with our processes and procedures. She is performing a wide variety of administrative support and clerical duties to assist with day-to-day operations and services of the town. Welcome, Deb!



ADOPT-A-HIGHWAY CLEANUP EVENT

In 2021, the Town Council entered into an agreement with CDOT to “adopt” a segment of Highway 62 from milepost 20 to milepost 22 for a period of two years. As part of that agreement, the Town Council committed to picking up litter a minimum of two times each year. The Town Council will hold its first ever Adopt-A-Highway Cleanup Event for mileposts 20 to 22 on Highway 62 on Saturday April 23rd from 10:00 a.m. to noon. CDOT has been notified about the event and has supplied the Town with safety vests and trash bags. All participants are required to watch the required safety videos available at <https://www.codot.gov/programs/adopt-a-highway/videos.html>.

ANNUAL CLEANUP DAY EVENT

The Town will hold the annual Cleanup Day event on Saturday, April 30th in the lot behind the Ridgway Public Library on Railroad Street. The Town will provide dumpsters and residents are encouraged to bring their refuse to the site between 8:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m.

WATER METER REPLACEMENT PROGRAM

The Town budgeted approximately \$67,000 in the FY2022 Budget for the second year of the Town’s Meter Replacement Program. Randy Barnes has been spearheading the efforts to get the new water meters and MXUs ordered and installed. MXUs are radio signal devices which permit off-site meter reading via radio signals. Last year, 150 meters were replaced and 200 are slated for replacement this year. Unfortunately, nationwide supply chain issues are affecting the delivery of the water meter parts and MXUs.

UPDATE RE SOLAR ARRAY ON ATHLETIC PARK RESTROOMS

A “Solar Array at the Athletic Park Restrooms” was identified as a Capital Improvement Project in the 2022 Annual Budget. The budgeted amount for this project is \$10,000. To meet the requirements of Town’s Procurement Policy, staff is soliciting quotes from companies to furnish the labor and equipment for a 2.66 kW photovoltaic system to be installed on top of the Athletic Park restrooms. We’re hoping to receive all requested quotes soon.

UPDATE RE SPEED MITIGATION ON AMELIA STREET

Back in February, resident Lucy Boody suggested to the Town Council that planter troughs be installed on Amelia Street in an effort to slow down motorists. Council directed staff to look into the idea, as well as other speed mitigation tactics, to potentially deploy on Amelia Street. Staff conferred internally and is recommending that a portable speed bump be tested on S. Amelia St. There was concern among our Public Works crew and our traffic engineer that S. Amelia St. is not wide enough to accommodate planter troughs. Two 19’ portable speed bumps have been purchased and will hopefully arrive soon. Once grading operations conclude in late May, Public

TOWN OF RIDGWAY Annual Clean Up Day

(for Town residents only)

Dumpsters will be provided

Saturday, April 30th
from 8:00 am to 1:00 pm
(or until filled)

**in the lot behind the library
off Railroad Street**

**PLEASE NO DUMPING of
appliances, furniture, toxic liquids
(ie: paint, stain, oil, etc.),
tires, or commercial trash**



Works staff will install one of the speed bumps on S. Amelia St. and it will run the entire width of the street.

UPDATE RE OURAY RECREATION & CONSERVATION ALLIANCE

The Ouray Recreation & Conservation Alliance (ORCA) is a new Community Stakeholder Cooperative and Colorado Outdoor Partnership comprised of multi-agency representatives to provide adaptive leadership to balance competing local and national demands for quality outdoor recreation opportunities and stewardship of our public lands. Ouray County has released a Request for Proposals (RFP) soliciting proposals from individuals, consultants or businesses interested in providing Coordination, Administration and Facilitation services to ORCA. The RFP is available [HERE](#). Proposals are due April 25th.

COLORADO EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS ASSESSMENT

On March 24th, a number of people from various agencies in our region participated in a Colorado Emergency Preparedness Assessment (CEPA) at the Ouray County 4H Event Center. A total of 32 FEMA core capabilities were assessed. Participants also examined the threats and hazards in the State Hazard Mitigation Plan and determined whether each risk and hazard is a high, medium or low risk for our region.

GRAYWATER CONTROL REGULATION STAKEHOLDER PROCESS UPDATE

Staff attended the Regulation 86 Stakeholder Kickoff meeting on March 21st. The desired outcomes of the stakeholder effort are to 1) Reach consensus among interested parties for the division's draft proposal (regulation) to the WQCC, 2) Encourage graywater use through flexible, clear regulations that use science-based approaches to protect public health and the environment and consider the nexus with other commissions, boards, and agencies' requirements, and 3) Meet the legal requirements and intent of the statutory and broader policies set forth by the state legislature and WQCC. The next Stakeholder meeting is scheduled for April 18th and will focus on the "operational" topical area in an effort to clarify graywater control program requirements and address how local graywater programs will address changes in regulatory requirements.

UPDATE RE PARKS, TRAILS, AND OPEN SPACE COMMITTEE

The Parks, Trails, and Open Space (PTOS) Committee met on March 22nd and discussed the possibility of the PTOS Committee being repurposed to a Sustainability Committee. Staff gathered input from the group on what the role and responsibilities of the Sustainability should be. Consensus among PTOS Committee members was that the PTOS Committee serves a purpose that generally falls outside of the scope of a Sustainability Committee and should remain intact, albeit informally. As a reminder, staff has not located any documentation that the PTOS Committee was formally established by Council and the group does not have any bylaws in place. The group committed to meeting, only if needed, on the first Tuesday of every other month.



MONTHLY SPACE TO CREATE PROJECT UPDATE WITH STRYKER & COMPANY

Each month, the Town hosts a virtual project update meeting on the Ridgway Space to Create Project. The next meeting will take place on April 27th at 5:30 p.m. Reps from Stryker & Company, the contractor for the project, attend each meeting to provide the updates and answer questions. The recurring Zoom meeting information can be found below. For more background information on this project, visit <https://townofridgway.colorado.gov/i-want-to/space-to-create-ridgway>.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81166252778?pwd=VElvVWZlYllwSXY5ajRBZzhraY2UT09>

Meeting ID: 811 6625 2778

Passcode: 778450

Dial by your location

+1 346 248 7799 US

+1 312 626 6799 US

MARSHAL'S OFFICE UPDATE

From Shane Schmalz, Town Marshal:

Deputy Marshal Position

After a competitive recruitment and hiring process, Jim Duncan was the selected candidate for the full-time Deputy position. He will move from the part-time position to the full-time position starting on May 1st.

Victim Services Program

On April 7th, Victim Advocate Elaine Wood and I had an opportunity to talk with Beth Lakin's class at the Ouray School. We had a good discussion with her students about the Ouray County Victim Services Program and law enforcement operations. On Monday, March 14th, Elaine and I gave a presentation to the Youth Advisory Council on the Ridgway Marshal's Office, law enforcement operations in our region, and the Ouray County Victim Services Program.

CLERK'S OFFICE UPDATE

From Pam Kraft, Town Clerk/Town Treasurer:

Annual Election Results

The annual election was held at the polling place on Tuesday, April 5th and results were canvassed the following day by the Town Clerk. There were 208 ballots placed into the ballot box.

The persons elected to Councilmember seats were Kevin Grambley with 157 votes receiving a two-year term, Terry Schuyler with 146 votes receiving a two-year term, JT Thomas with 137 votes receiving a two-year term, and Polly Enoch receiving 134 votes for a one-year term.



There was one candidate for Mayor, and John Clark was re-elected with 165 votes for a two-year term.

The newly elected officials will be sworn into office at the regular Council meeting on April 13th at which time the Council will vote to place one of their members into the role of Mayor Pro Tem.

COMMUNITY INITIATIVES UPDATE

From Tera Wick, Community Initiatives Facilitator:

Key activity from the Community Initiatives Facilitator:

- Convening the Creative Main Street committee, actively developing projects via four sub-committees (see flyer at right)
- Supporting the Space to Create in-person info session April 7 at 6PM in Town Hall. Applications are due to open the first week of May. In-person application assistance will be offered in Town Hall by Artspace that week.
- Supporting the implementation of the Main Street Open for Business grant at the Bank Building.
- Preparing to organize First Fridays in June, July, and August
- Calling for volunteers for the Ridgway Independent Film Festival. Volunteer info session will be held April 12 at 5:30 via Zoom
- Gathering community input on the Heritage Park new concept design, developing a report about Ridgway's Ute heritage – expect to see this at the committee in June
- Helping organize Rural Philanthropy Days June 6-8 with Community Resource Center. This will include an affordable housing tour, a creative district tour along with a wide variety of workshop sessions. We are expecting up to 250 regional non-profit leaders and state level philanthropic leaders. Scholarships will be



Creative Main Street is a group of volunteers with the Town of Ridgway dedicated to nurturing a welcoming, thriving, ecologically responsible community and main street environment that is creative, unique, and unified. We accomplish this through facilitating community connections, storytelling, learning, gatherings, and place-building.

2022 Committees – and some of our projects

Community Connecting

Facilitate cross-sector connections to ensure work is not being replicated and that all members of the Ridgway community feel welcomed, valued, and nurtured. **Creative community social hour, anyone!?**

Gatherings

Support and plan events that showcase Ridgway's creative and entrepreneurial spirit and bring the community together. **Think First Fridays, Ridgway Independent Film Festival....and?!**

Place-building

Champion initiatives that make Ridgway accessible, navigable, and "one-of-a-kind" for generations to come. **Think public art, parks, Space to Create!**

Storytelling

Broadcast through digital, physical (reports, etc.), and community channels, the impact that the Council and creatives have in Ridgway. **We're working on a snazzy new creative district website & interactive map!**

Want to get involved?

Contact Tera Couchman Wick (she/her), Community Initiatives Facilitator, Town of Ridgway 970-626-5308 ext. 215 twick@town.ridgway.co.us

Volunteer Committee members: Alison Etheridge, Arielle Bielak, Ashley Perkins, Clifford Pastor, Guthrie Castle, Jill McCord, Joan Chismire, Kevin Grambley, Sue Husch, Vanessa Backer





available and Spanish language interpretation will be provided. For more information and to be alerted when registration opens, visit this link: [San Juan – CRC America](#)

- Exploring a potential new platform for a new Creative District website to include interactive maps and business directories.

UPCOMING MEETINGS AND EVENTS

- **Ridgway Youth Advisory Council Meeting** – April 13, 2022 at 3:20 p.m. in-person at Town Hall and virtually via Zoom
- **Ridgway Town Council Regular Meeting** – April 13, 2022 at 5:30 p.m. in-person at Town Hall and virtually via Zoom
- **Ridgway Creative Main Street Group Meeting** – April 19, 2022 at 5:30 p.m. on Zoom
- **Adopt-A-Highway Cleanup Event** – April 23, 2022 at 10:00 a.m. at Hwy 62 Mile Post 22
- **Ridgway Planning Commission Regular Meeting** – April 26, 2022 at 5:30 p.m. in-person at Town Hall and virtually via Zoom
- **Monthly Space to Create Project Update Meetings with Stryker & Company** – Last Wednesday of every month at 5:30 p.m. on Zoom. The next meeting will be on Wednesday, April 27th.
- **Annual Cleanup Day** – April 30, 2022 from 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. behind the Ridgway Library
- **COVID-19 Multi-Agency Coordination Group Meeting** – May 4, 2022 at 2:00 p.m. via Zoom
- **Town Council Regular Meeting** – May 11, 2022 at 5:30 p.m. in-person at Ridgway Town Hall and virtually via Zoom

JOKE OF THE DAY

From Steven Schroeder, Public Works Maintenance Operator II:

What kind of music do planets like?

Neptunes