



To: Honorable Mayor Clark and Ridgway Town Council
From: Preston Neill, Town Manager
Date: September 13, 2022
RE: **Town Manager's Report**

INTRODUCTION

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

OURAY COUNTY WORKFORCE TRANSPORTATION PROJECT

Update: The Ouray County Workforce Transportation Project has been awarded \$533,091 of Multimodal Options Funding (MMOF) by the Gunnison Valley Transportation Region! Ouray County has a 25% match requirement, and, per Resolution No. 22-07, the Town of Ridgway expressed a commitment to provide our share of the 25% match requirement which is estimated at \$28,000 during year one (2023) and \$15,616 for years two and three (2024 and 2025) of the grant project.

Background: The City of Ouray assembled a grant application to the Colorado Department of Transportation's MMOF Program requesting funding to create a regional transportation service between the City of Montrose, the Town of Ridgway, and the City of Ouray. The total estimated cost of the project over a three-year period is \$710,788. The amount requested of the MMOF Program was \$533,091 with a 25% match rate pulled together by the Town of Ridgway, City of Ouray, and Ouray County. That puts the needed contribution from the Town, City and County at \$59,232 over three years. The estimated contribution from each entity is \$28,000 in year one and \$15,616 in years two and three.

All Points Transit was identified as being able to provide this service based on a contract at a cost of \$5.00/round trip for ridership. All Points Transit has also agreed to be the program manager and fiscal agent for this grant. Based on the survey data, the service needs to run 7 days per week with multiple trips between the municipalities each day. To make this a reality and assist with alleviating the workforce issues in Ouray County, a budget has been put together with All Points Transit and through a partnership between the Town, City and County.

Reps from the three participating jurisdictions and All Points Transit recently met to discuss next steps and the purchase of the ADA accessible van. The service is anticipated to begin in April of 2023.



RIDGWAY SPACE TO CREATE UPDATE

Construction is nearing completion and should be wrapped up in early October! Artspace is continuing to receive applications for the units and Artspace’s ongoing message for applicants is to continue working with Asset Living, the property management company, to promptly answer questions and deliver follow up documents. In total, Artspace has received around 60 applications. Artspace’s compliance team is now in the process of reviewing applications and other associated files to ensure qualifications are met. Applicants will begin finding out about their status shortly.



LENA STREET NORTH PROJECT

Ridgway Valley Enterprises is continuing their work on the Lena Street North Project. The Project, although shaping up nicely, was delayed at the onset in late July due to inclement weather. The contractor is hoping to be wrapped up by September 23rd.

UPCOMING TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES AT COLORADO MUNICIPAL LEAGUE

To check out the webinars and events coming up at CML, visit <https://www.cml.org/home/networking-events>.

NEXT TRI-AGENCY DINNER

The Town of Ridgway is hosting the next Tri-Agency Dinner on October 27th at Ridgway Town Hall. The social gathering will begin at 6:00 p.m., followed by introductions, dinner, and guest speaker at 6:30 p.m. Chantal Unfug, Director of the Division of Local Government, will be the guest speaker.



DIVISION OF HOUSING RESORT/RESORT ADJACENT/SMALL TOWN FOCUS GROUP MEETING

Enterprise Community Partners and Community Builders are working with the Colorado Department of Local Affairs, Division of Housing in the development of HB 1271 Affordable Housing Local Officials Toolkit. The Local Officials Toolkit is intended to provide training and technical assistance to local officials and staff to help communities better understand their



housing needs, impacts of land use policy on housing development, and strategies to reduce barriers to the development of affordable housing.

The Community Builders team is holding a series of focus group meetings in September with a variety of community types (mountain, rural/ag, resort, urban, etc.) to better understand the diverse housing issues and needs affecting different markets, regions, and communities across the state. Meetings will take place online via Zoom, and will cover affordable housing policy, funding and financing, and programs. These focus groups will help inform the Affordable Housing Toolkit, including Trainings and Technical Assistance support for elected officials and local government.

I am participating in the Resort/Resort Adjacent/Small Town focus group on Wednesday, September 14th from 3:00 to 4:30 p.m.

SECURITY FENCE AT WATER TREATMENT PLANT INSTALLED

Taylor Fence Company of Grand Junction has finished installing a security fence around the Water Treatment Plant. This capital project came in well under budget.



BUSTANG OUTRIDER STOP

Last summer, Town staff worked with CDOT and Bustang Outrider reps to transition the Bustang Outrider stop location in Ridgway from the Visitor Center/Heritage Park/Fairgrounds parking lot to an area on Palomino Trail in front of Family Dollar. This bus stop location went into effect on August 1, 2021 and serves as Ridgway’s stop on the Durango – Grand Junction route, as well as the Telluride – Grand Junction route.

Staff recently met with CDOT representatives to discuss the stop and the prospect of moving it again. The idea came up of moving it somewhere along Sherman St./Hwy 62. While it was identified as feasible to have a stop on westbound Hwy 62 adjacent to Hartwell Park, it was determined that there’s not a viable location on eastbound Hwy 62. CDOT said they would look into this and evaluate more options before arranging another meeting to discuss alternative options.



RIDGWAY SEEKING CANDIDATES FOR 2022-2023 YOUTH ADVISORY COUNCIL

The Town of Ridgway is now accepting applications from area youth for appointment to the 2022-2023 Town of Ridgway Youth Advisory Council. The Town is seeking five high school youth to fill the available positions on the Youth Advisory Council. The Town Council aims to appoint members after candidates complete an application and interview with the Town Council during the October 12th Town Council meeting.



The application materials, which include application submittal requirements and eligibility criteria, are available [HERE](#). Applications must be submitted by 5:00 p.m. on Monday, October 3rd.

For questions, contact Preston Neill, Town Manager, at 970-318-0081 or pneill@town.ridgway.co.us.

RIDGWAY BANK BUILDING GETS BOOST BY THE COLORADO DEPARTMENT OF LOCAL AFFAIRS

The Colorado Department of Local Affairs (DOLA) has helped to restore and upgrade the façade of the Bank Building in Ridgway. In 2021, the Bank Building was named a Heritage Energy Pilot Project by the Colorado Main Street Program within DOLA and received the benefits of a Main Street: Open for Business (MSOB) program grant award of \$250,000. The Town of Ridgway, through its Creative Main Street initiative, was awarded and administered the grant.



The Bank Building is one of three Heritage Energy Pilot Projects across the state, which were competitively selected by an interagency team in January 2021. The MSOB program set aside \$750,000 to split evenly between the three projects. The grant funds were intended to support façade improvements and energy efficiency projects and the initiative is designed to increase sales and revenue for rehabilitated buildings, reduce energy consumption and lower utility bills, and create jobs while retaining existing ones.

Constructed in 1911, the two-story, Richardsonian Romanesque-style building is an iconic structure on Ridgway's Main Street. It was home to the Bank of Ridgway which operated until 1931 and has since housed many businesses including a post office and pharmacy. In 2021, the stately brick and stone building was purchased by Greg Young, who worked with the Town of



Ridgway to apply for the MSOB grant for help with improvements. The \$250,000 of funds granted were used to restore the building’s masonry façade and convert the original glass windows and doors to comply with today’s standards for energy efficiency. Young also contributed matching funds to the project. The project was completed in the time allotted by DOLA. The grant ended on June 30, 2022.

“The grant provided the funds needed to repoint and tuck mortar throughout the west, east, and south sides of the building,” said Young. “Broken and cracked bricks were replaced along with a few large sandstone blocks that face the south side elevation. The remainder of the grant money was used to replace and repair the windows and exterior doors. The new double windows will provide better insulation and reduce energy consumption throughout the year.”

All the work was performed by local contractors with businesses on Colorado’s Western Slope including the general contracting firm, Maven Construction. Other contractors were Power Source Electric, Summit Sealants, The Glass Guru, Strictly Repairs, Mr. Lock, Inc., and Cascade Woodwork.

“Aesthetically, the restoration of the southeast transom windows is the most striking,” said Young. “The original windows were removed many years ago after weather took its toll. The new windows comply with today’s energy guidelines, so we will be able to appreciate them for a very long time.”

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 held its first ever Adopt-A-Highway Cleanup Event on April 23, 2022. **The time has come to arrange the next event for 2022!** All participants are required to watch the required safety videos available at <https://www.codot.gov/programs/adopt-a-highway/videos.html>.

HIGHWAY 62 CROSSWALKS

CDOT recently repainted the Highway 62/Sherman St. piano key crosswalks!

STANDARD RESPONSE PROTOCOL AND STANDARD REUNIFICATION METHOD TRAIN THE TRAINER FULL DAY WORKSHOP

Introduction: This is a full day training on October 6th at the Ridgway Secondary School Library (1200 Green Street, Ridgway, CO 81432). The following will be covered: Standard Response Protocol and





Standard Reunification Method with the expected outcome that participants will have the ability to implement the programs, perform classroom training, train teams, and handle advanced questions. The Colorado School Districts Self Insurance Pool (CSDSIP) and The “I Love U Guys” Foundation are working together to bring essential safety training to Colorado schools and districts to help address safety challenges they face every day.

SRP/SRM Full Day Train the Trainer Workshop introduces the concepts and history of the SRP and the SRM and how to train the programs. See the I Love U Guys website for details: <https://iloveguys.org/Training-and-Events.html#Full-Day-Train-the-Trainer>

Course Description: Introduced in 2009, the Standard Response Protocol is a proven enhancement to school safety planning. Thousands of schools in the US and Canada have adopted the program.

Introduced in 2012, the Standard Reunification Method fills a critical void in school safety planning: How to reunite students with their parents after a crisis.

Also included in the training is a segment on Incident Command and how it relates to crisis management for educators.

Target Audience: Educators, Administrators, School and District Safety Teams, Campus Supervisors, Law Enforcement, Fire/EMS, Emergency Managers, and Victim Advocates

Registration Information: To register, email Susan Lacy, Ridgway School District Superintendent, at slacy@ridgway.k12.co.us.

October 6th Schedule:

Sign in: 8:00 a.m.

Start Time: 8:15 a.m.

End Time: 3:45 p.m.

(Snacks and lunch provided)

Sponsors: Ridgway School District, Ouray School District, UnBOCES, Ridgway Marshal’s Office, Ouray County Sheriff’s Office, Ouray Police Department, Colorado School Districts Self Insurance Pool

NEW DIVISION OF HOUSING GRANT FUNDING SOURCES

The Colorado Department of Local Affairs (DOLA), through its Division of Housing (DOH) Office of Housing Finance and Sustainability (OHFS) and Office of Homeless Initiatives (OHI), has announced the creation of two separate but related programs: (1) the Transformational Affordable Housing, Homeownership, and Workforce Housing Grant Program; and (2) the



Transformational Homelessness Response Grant Program both of which were created by House Bill 2022 1304 (HB22-1304) (\$138,000,000) and House Bill 2022 1377 (HB22-1377) (\$105,000,000).

The aim of these programs is to increase the number of affordable housing units and the availability of housing opportunities across Colorado to ensure everyone has a safe, stable, and affordable place to live and thrive.

[Guidelines, policies, and procedures](#) have been drafted that were informed by HB22-1304 and HB22-1377, which followed the recommendations of the Affordable Housing Transformational Task Force and Governor Polis' affordable housing and homelessness priorities, as well as the State of Colorado's Playbook on Making Homelessness History in Colorado. In addition, DOH launched a statewide public engagement process alongside Housing Colorado and the Colorado Housing and Finance Authority (CHFA) during the summer of 2022. These engagement sessions as well as numerous other meetings with stakeholders around the state provided ideas and feedback regarding the rollout and parameters of the new funding.

DOH welcomes public comments regarding the [guidance, policies, and procedures](#). Input will be received during the following Public Comment Meetings:

September 22, 2022
3:00 - 4:30 p.m. MST
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88460171369>
Or join by phone: (719) 359-4580
Webinar ID: 884 6017 1369

October 11, 2022
10:30 - Noon MST
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88277375492>
Or join by phone: (719) 359-4580
Webinar ID: 882 7737 5492

COLORADO GRAND CLASSIC CHARITY TOUR

The Colorado Grand® is an annual charity tour for 1960 and earlier sports and race cars of distinction. The tour attracts entrants from around the world and always includes several 1920's and 1930's cars. The tour starts on Monday, September 12th and runs through Saturday, September 17th. On Friday, September 16th, the tour will come through Ridgway, and some of these cars will park along N. Laura St. and Clinton St.



WESTERN SLOPE COMMUNITY EDUCATION ON NICOTINE AND VAPING

On September 16th and 17th, an event will be held at the Ouray County 4H Events Center in an effort to educate, prevent, and control the consequences of tobacco use on the Western Slope of Colorado. All are welcome. For more information, including a full itinerary, and to register, visit <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/western-slope-community-education-on-nicotine-vaping-tickets-375364323797>.

BRIGHT FUTURES EVENTS

Lindsay Dickinson from Bright Futures will share information regarding how to become a licensed family childcare home provided at two upcoming events in Ridgway and Ouray (see below). She can answer questions and help guide possible caregivers on the pathway toward offering high quality licensed childcare. Bright Futures will be present before and after story time to discuss childcare business opportunities. For more information, visit www.BrightFuturesforChildren.org.

When: Monday, September 19, 2022 from 11:00 a.m. to Noon
Where: Ridgway Library, 300 Charles St.

When: Tuesday, September 20, 2022 from 11:00 a.m. to Noon
Where: Ouray Library, 320 6th Ave.

MARSHAL'S OFFICE UPDATE

From Shane Schmalz, Town Marshal:

- We have been notified that we have been approved for the 2023-2024 VOCA Grant funding in the amount of \$53,799.00, for the Ouray County Victim Services Program. Without all of Elaine Wood's hard work putting together the extensive grant application and her meticulous grant monitoring and submittals for the 2021 – 2022 grant cycle, we would have to be looking at other funding sources. This was also a very competitive year for the grant money with a larger need and less money to go around.
- Deputy Jeff Pickle and I on 08-01-2022 had a group of 5-to-7-year-old students from Voyager over to the Marshal's Office to talk about what we do and answer their questions about law enforcement. On 08-02-2022 we had the 8–10-year-old students from Voyager over to the Office for the same discussion. It was great working with both groups.
- On 08-02-2022 we had National Night Out and had a larger crowd than last year. We had great food and conversations with community and county residents. The last two years the Ridgway Market has made donations for the event, which we really appreciate. The Ridgway Fire Department also has let us use the large grill the last two years. We have already started planning for next year.



- The Ridgway Marshal's Office hosted an Active Shooter Training for our employees and elected/appointed officials on August 17th. We covered what happens during an active shooting event, the natural responses of people and what actions law enforcement takes during these events.
- At right is a photo of our new patrol vehicle with graphics.



CLERK'S OFFICE UPDATE

From Pam Kraft, Town Clerk/Town Treasurer:

- The Town held another successful concert series with four shows in July, ending our 15th year! Major sponsors donating \$2,500 in cash or in-kind services included Billings Artworks; Todd W. Hoffman Foundation; Ridgway Real Estate; Mountain Annie's Cannabis; Colorado Boy Pub and Brewery; Rocky Mountain Cannabis; San Juan Wine and Liquors; Swiftern Productions; Ridgway Lodge; and Clearnetworkx. Minor sponsors donating \$1,000 or more were Orvis Hot Springs; Alpine Bank; The Market at Ridgway and Julie and Dave Duff.
- The Town oversaw the alcohol tent this year, and four local non-profits were chosen randomly to work in the tent, and received a portion of the proceeds. The second and fourth show saw lower attendance due to rain in the surrounding areas, and I believe also music venues which were held in Grand Junction on those nights. The attendance numbers impacted the sales in the alcohol tent, but, interestingly, the highest number of tips were received at the last show, the one with the lowest attendance, and most of those being locals.
- Staff is heading into budget preparations, and the mid-year figures ended on August 1st. The sales tax revenues on that date, which include receipts through May, indicate a 6% increase from the same time last year.

UPCOMING MEETINGS AND EVENTS

- **Ridgway Town Council Regular Meeting** – September 14, 2022 at 5:30 p.m. in-person at Town Hall and virtually via Zoom
- **FUSE Strategic Planning Retreat** – September 20, 2022 at 9:00 a.m.



- **Ridgway Planning Commission Special Meeting** – September 22, 2022 at 5:30 p.m. in-person at Town Hall and virtually via Zoom
- **CML District 10 Meeting** – September 27, 2022 at 4:00 p.m. at Sauvage Spectrum (hosted by City of Ouray)
- **Ridgway Planning Commission Regular Meeting** – September 27, 2022 at 5:30 p.m. in-person at Town Hall and virtually via Zoom
- **Ridgway Sustainability Advisory Board Meeting** – October 5, 2022 at 5:00 p.m. in-person at Town Hall and virtually via Zoom
- **Town Council Regular Meeting** – October 12, 2022 at 5:30 p.m. in-person at Town Hall and virtually via Zoom

JOKE OF THE DAY

From Jim Duncan, Deputy Marshal:

I once had a job smashing cans. It was soda pressing!

I used to work at a calendar factory, but I got fired for taking a couple days off.

2023 FISCAL YEAR BUDGET PREPARATION SCHEDULE (NEXT PAGE)



Date	Description	Responsible Parties
September 13 – September 29, 2022	Meetings with Town staff: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strategic Plan • Town-wide initiatives • Levels of service • Fees • Goals and objectives • Personnel requests • Capital Outlay requests • Line-item justifications 	Preston, Pam
October 12, 2022	Draft 2023 Fiscal Year Budget Submitted to Council	Preston, Pam
October 29, 2022 9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.	Budget Retreat: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduction of Draft 2023 Fiscal Year Budget • Introduction of Draft 2023 Strategic Plan Outcomes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Council direction for revisions • Council direction for Capital Improvement Projects • Council direction for revenue projections • Council requests for additional information, analysis or options 	Council, Preston, Pam
November 9, 2022	Council Budget Hearing: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Staff Presentation of 2023 Fiscal Year Proposed Budget • Presentation of 2023 Strategic Plan • Follow-up on any Council directions or requests • Council discussion and public comment 	Council, Preston, Pam
November 17, 2022	Council Budget Workshop: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Overview of 2023 Fiscal Year Proposed Budget • Follow-up on any Council directions or requests • Council discussion and public comment 	Council, Preston, Pam
December 14, 2022	Council Budget Hearing: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adoption of 2023 Fiscal Year Budget, including Capital Projects Plan and 2023 Strategic Plan • Approval of Resolution Certifying Mill Levy 	Council, Preston, Pam