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Ridgway Bank Building gets boost by the Colorado Department of Local Affairs

Ridgway, CO – 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.



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“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.”

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