

Ridgway Sustainability Advisory Board Meeting Agenda



Monday, November 11, 2024

Pursuant to the Town's Electronic Participation Policy, the meeting will be conducted both in person and via a virtual meeting portal. Members of the public may attend in person at the Community Center, located at 201 N. Railroad Street, Ridgway, Colorado 81432, or virtually using the meeting information below.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88549293985?pwd=woS6OvneZjyygla5XuebsaCfKJRasI.1>

Meeting ID: 885 4929 3985

Passcode: 464722

Dial by your location

+1 346 248 7799 US

+1 253 215 8782 US

+1 312 626 6799 US

5:00 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER & ROLL CALL Angela Hawse, Joyce Huang, Dana Ivers, Dave Jones, David Kehmeier, Terry Schuyler

ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA

NEW BUSINESS

1. **Review of Authority & Procedures and the purpose of the Sustainability Advisory Board**
2. **Discussion regarding meeting dates**
3. **Review of 2024 work plan items and discussion regarding projects/initiatives to recommend to Town Council for the 2025 work plan.**
4. **Approval of minutes from the August 7, 2024 meeting**
5. **Approval of minutes from the September 10, 2024 meeting**

ADJOURNMENT

AGENDA ITEM #1

RESOLUTION NO. 22-06

**A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF
RIDGWAY, COLORADO, ESTABLISHING THE TOWN OF
RIDGWAY SUSTAINABILITY ADVISORY BOARD**

WHEREAS, the Town of Ridgway, Colorado (“Town”) is a home rule municipality and political subdivision of the State of Colorado (“State”) organized and existing under a home rule charter (“Charter”) pursuant to Article XX of the Constitution of the State; and

WHEREAS, the Town Council has determined that it is appropriate to formally establish the Town of Ridgway Sustainability Advisory Board and set forth its duties, which shall include consideration of environmental issues and making recommendations with respect to such issues to the Town Council; and

WHEREAS, the establishment of a Sustainability Advisory Board would help the Town meet GOAL ENV-4 of the Town of Ridgway Master Plan that states, “Advocate for the efficient use of resources and sustainable practices that work to eliminate harmful impacts to the health of the community and natural environment.”

WHEREAS, the Town Council recognizes that establishing a Sustainability Advisory Board to serve as an advisory body to the Town Council, will help to effectuate improvements to the Ridgway Municipal Code, Town operations and Town facilities on matters regarding sustainable practices, resource conservation, renewable energy and waste reduction, and will help advance and encourage environmentally sustainable practices and ideas within the Town.

WHEREAS, Section 5-3 of the Ridgway Charter states that the Town Council may create any commissions and boards as it deems appropriate and specify their duties, terms and responsibilities; and

WHEREAS, the Town Council finds that the establishment of a Sustainability Advisory Board will promote the health, safety and general welfare of the Ridgway community.

NOW THEREFORE, the Ridgway Town Council hereby **RESOLVES** to establish the Town of Ridgway Sustainability Advisory Board as set forth in **Exhibit A: Town of Ridgway Sustainability Advisory Board Authority and Procedures**, attached hereto.

ADOPTED AND APPROVED this ____ day of May 2022.

ATTEST:

John Clark, Mayor

Pam Kraft, Town Clerk

EXHIBIT A

TOWN OF RIDGWAY SUSTAINABILITY ADVISORY BOARD AUTHORITY AND PROCEDURES

1. **Establishment, Purpose and Duties.** There is hereby established the Town of Ridgway Sustainability Advisory Board (Sustainability Advisory Board). The purposes and duties of the Sustainability Advisory Board are as follows:
 - a. To advance and encourage environmentally sustainable practices and ideas within the Town;
 - b. To advise the Town Council in an effort to effectuate improvements to the Ridgway Municipal Code, Town operations and Town facilities on matters regarding sustainable practices, resource conservation, renewable energy and waste reduction;
 - c. To collaborate with Town staff to continue implementing the goals and objectives in the *Ouray County & San Miguel County Regional Climate Action Plan*;
 - d. To make recommendations to the Town Council concerning the establishment of Town-wide greenhouse gas emissions reduction targets and other goals;
 - e. To work in cooperation with other Town boards and committees to promote sustainability policies and programs;
 - f. To promote sustainability awareness and practices at Town events and assist interested individuals or groups in promoting their own sustainability practices;
 - g. Makes recommendations to provide opportunities for young people to broaden their understanding of sustainability practices and the effects they have.
 - h. Performs other tasks related to environmental sustainability as the Town Council may direct.
2. **Membership and Term.** The Sustainability Advisory Board shall be composed of not less than three (3) members, not more than seven (7) members. One (1) member shall be an Ex-Officio Town Council member appointed by the Town Council. The Ridgway Town Council shall appoint members after candidates complete an application and interview with the Town Council.

All Sustainability Advisory Board appointees shall be appointed to terms of three (3) years. In the event a vacancy should occur during the term of any member, their successor shall be appointed in the same manner for the unexpired portion of the vacated term.

3. **Qualification of Members.** Ouray County residents shall be eligible for appointment to the Sustainability Advisory Board.
4. **Removal from Office.** Any member of the Sustainability Advisory Board may be removed for just cause at the pleasure of the Ridgway Town Council by a majority vote of the entire Council in office at the time the vote is taken. Just cause shall include misconduct, conduct unbecoming of a Town official, or more than two (2) unexcused absences within a twelve-month period. Prior to removal, the Ridgway Town Council shall conduct a hearing and shall provide written notice to the Sustainability Advisory Board member stating the grounds for removal at least three (3) days prior to the hearing.
5. **Officers.** The Sustainability Advisory Board shall select its own Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson. The Chair, or, in the absence of the Chair, the Vice-Chair, shall be the presiding officer of its meetings. In the absence of both the Chair and the Vice-Chair from a meeting, the members present shall appoint a member to serve as Acting Chair at the meeting.
6. **Meetings.** Sustainability Advisory Board members shall attend regular meetings held once a month at Ridgway Town Hall, or as designated by the Sustainability Advisory Board. Sustainability Advisory Board members may be required to attend other meetings during their terms, including Ridgway Town Council meetings or presentations to local groups or organizations. Meetings of the Sustainability Advisory Board shall be duly noticed and open to the public.
7. **Appropriation Authority.** The Sustainability Advisory Board shall not have authority to appropriate or spend Town of Ridgway funds. The Sustainability Advisory Board may provide recommendations to the Town Manager and/or Ridgway Town Council with regard to any annual budget.
8. **Council Amendments.** The Ridgway Town Council reserves the right to amend, increase, reduce or change any or all of the powers, duties and procedures of the Sustainability Advisory Board.

AGENDA ITEM #2

AGENDA ITEM #3

Community Value 1

Healthy Natural Environment

From the Uncompahgre River to the Sneffels and Cimarron mountain ranges, Ridgway’s incredible natural surroundings, and the recreational opportunities they provide, are some of the top reasons residents choose to live in our community. Protecting both the scenic values and ecological functions of natural areas in and surrounding Ridgway through responsible environmental practices is something the community values strongly. Ridgway must grow in a way that is attuned to its natural environment to protect these valuable resources. Ridgway residents must also be aware of the changes to our local environment that could arise as a result of climate change.

Goals:

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

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

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

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.

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



	Healthy Natural Environment: 2024 Strategy	Responsible Party
1	Develop, as required by the EPA’s finalized Lead and Copper Rule Revisions, a Service Line Inventory and Lead Service Line Replacement Plan to submit to the Water Quality Control Division by October 16, 2024.	Manager/PW
2	Advance goals of the Town’s Source Water Protection Plan including working with Ouray County on setbacks to the Town’s water supplies in the unincorporated areas of Ouray County.	PW/Manager
3	Review Adequate Water Supply Rules in RMC 7-6 and update regulations.	Manager/Eng.
4	Ensure the cost of water is understood and user fees are in line with costs.	Manager/Eng.
5	Pursue appropriate actions to change the newly acquired water rights to municipal and augmentation purposes.	Attorney/Eng/Manager
6	Make available educational materials on radon mitigation, and water and energy conservation, and periodically communicate this information via the Town website and other communication channels.	Building
7	Participate on the Sneffels Energy Board and work with the Board and EcoAction Partners to implement the objectives and supporting actions detailed in the <i>San Miguel & Ouray County Regional Climate Action Plan</i> in order to help our community continue to reduce our greenhouse gas emissions from our 2010 GHG emissions baseline.	Manager
8	Continue working with Ouray County Vegetation Management on implementation of the Town’s Integrated Weed Management Plan and to manage weeds in Ridgway more aggressively. Continue following the policy set forth in Resolution No. 22-01, Amending the Policy Relative to Noxious Weed Management. The policy now allows for the application of chemical-based herbicides when deemed necessary by Town staff and Ouray County Vegetation Management personnel, as long as the application falls in line with the Chemical Application and Protocol Recommendations found in the Integrated Weed Management Plan.	Manager/PW
9	Implement the items identified in the first phase/first year of the Town’s newly established Growing Water Smart Action Plan.	Manager/PW
10	Support and promote the Sustainability Advisory Board as members work to, among many other things, advance and encourage environmentally sustainable practices and ideas within the Town. Some of the priorities and work plan items for 2024 may include but are not limited to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Enhance education on regional sustainability/climate action efforts. ● Explore establishing a Town goal to reach net-zero GHG emissions. 	Manager/Clerk

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Explore a mandate for all new construction (commercial and residential) to be all-electric ready and solar ready. Explore enactment of an energy code that achieves equivalent or better energy performance than the 2021 international energy conservation code and the model electric and solar ready code developed by the energy code board. 	
11	Work with SMPA to install a microgrid on the roof of Ridgway Space to Create to achieve redundant backup power for the Decker Community Room. Assist SMPA as they explore grant funding opportunities like the Microgrids for Community Resilience Program through the Colorado Department of Local Affairs.	Manager
12	Work with SMPA to further the concept of a Solar Garden Microgrid at Green Street Park to serve the Ridgway community. System characteristics may include: four-hour batter bank to provide backup power for community circuits at the point of interconnect, solar array output can be secured for Ridgway residents who participate in SMPA's Totally Green Program, and up to 50% of solar array output can be reserved for low-and moderate-income residents.	Manager
13	Identify a consultant to undertake a master planning process for Green Street Park and to develop a master plan document for the Town to follow and implement.	Manager
14	Make available educational materials on tree species recommendations and the Town's landscape regulations to encourage water conservation and require low water usage landscaping or xeriscaping.	Planner/Building
15	Perform state-mandated requirements for backflow prevention and cross-connection control outreach, reporting and tracking.	Manager/PW
16	Research and develop regulations or a policy specific to grease traps.	Manager/PW
17	Research and continue evaluating the development of regulations to establish a graywater control program that meets the requirements of Regulation 86.	Manager
18	Install water meter at water tanks.	PW
19	Repair and maintain wastewater lines; replace pond liner; complete recirculation project.	PW/Manager
20	Develop a Preliminary Needs Assessment that makes recommendations for improvements to the current wastewater treatment system and identifies future needs.	Eng.
21	Remove gravel from Uncompahgre River in Rollans Park and continually improve the area.	PW
22	Evaluate results of <i>Uncompahgre River Corridor Ecological Assessment and Technical Report</i> and explore implementation of the recommended restoration opportunities and river management actions.	Manager/PW
23	To support operations and when needed, acquire roll-off bins for green waste and composting from local companies that manage organic waste.	PW
24	Ensure the Town's responsibilities, as described in <i>Resolution No. 21-09 Rights of Nature</i> , are met, and ensure good stewardship of the Uncompahgre River, its tributaries, and its watershed.	Manager
25	Host annual Town Cleanup Day event and Adopt-A-Highway Cleanup events.	Manager/PW
26	Explore and better understand the financial implications, impacts, and overall viability of procuring electric vehicle(s) to serve as patrol vehicles for the Ridgway Marshal's Office. Establish an Asset Management Plan, complete with a replacement schedule, for the existing fleet of police vehicles.	Marshal

Community Value 2

Sense of Community & Inclusivity

Another aspect of living in Ridgway that residents highly value is the community, its inclusivity, and its diversity. Ridgway's residents represent a range of age groups, income levels, cultures, lifestyles, and political persuasions, and describe each other as friendly, welcoming, and close-knit. Residents also value how the community comes together in times of crisis or need to help one another. This strong sense of community is also demonstrated in how engaged residents are with Town affairs. Trends like increasing housing costs and a lack of affordable childcare make it difficult for many people to live in Ridgway. Looking to the future, residents would like to see Ridgway remain a diverse and inclusive community, not one that is homogeneous and unwelcoming of "others." Residents want to avoid the kinds of changes that have occurred in other small mountain towns, such as an influx of second homeowners.

AGENDA ITEM #4



Ridgway Sustainability Advisory Board Meeting Minutes

Aug 7, 2024

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

The meeting was called to order at 5:03 p.m. Ridgway Sustainability Advisory Board (SAB) members present were, Joyce Huang, Ken Mihelich, Dave Jones, David Kehmeier and Terry Schuyler. Staff representative Deb Overton was also present. Angela Hawse and Dana Ivers were absent.

2. Review Updated Design Concept for the Green Street Park Master Plan

There was discussion regarding the 50% reduction of solar that was depicted in the new concept. The Board expressed their concerns that the solar that was in the plan, was placed around the Park in a manner that was no longer cost effective.

Terry provided the history of the project and noted that the DOLA grant funds expired for a solar array, but SMPA will be looking for other funding opportunities.

Dave and Joyce suggested that the Board attend the next Council meeting and voice their concerns about the new design and recommend that the solar be increased and that it be moved to the south end of the Park to make it more cost efficient for the Town and for SMPA's consideration for future funding.

3. Update regarding the EV Ride & Drive Event

Dave noted that EcoAction Partners prepared the poster for the event that will happen on Saturday, Aug 10th in the parking lot of the Railroad Museum. He said an ad in the local paper will come out on Thursday and he is hoping that he will have some help putting up signs around Town Park during the Arts & Crafts Fair that day, directing people to the event. He said SMPA will also be there to talk about the rebates that are available. He is expecting to have 4 Electric car dealers as well as some electric motorcycles, scooters, snowblowers etc available.

4. Review and prioritize SAB Pending Action Items

The Board reviewed the current list of pending action items and agreed to prioritize them as follows;

1. **Request to Council - 2025 Budget** – The Board discussed the need for funding for upcoming events and projects for the 2025 budget year. It was agreed that they would like to ask Council for the following funding.
 - \$1000.00 – EV Ride & Drive - advertising, printing costs for flyers/posters, snacks & refreshments.
 - \$1000.00 – 2025 MT2030 Annual Conference - registration, food and lodging for 1-2 SAB Board members.
 - \$200.00 – Website hosting (\$50), promotional materials for electrification
2. **Provide Information to Builders regarding Electrification and upcoming Code Changes**
3. **Update SAB website** – Dave and David. Ken Mihelich will also assist upon request.
4. **Electrification of Town fleet and equipment**
5. **Request to Council - Change of Board terms and increasing the number of Board Members**
6. **Quarterly Update of Regional Climate Action Plan (CAP)**



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7. Request to Council – Idling Vehicle regulations – Dana Ivers

The Board agreed to remove the request to Council regarding adoption of a Net Zero Resolution at this time.

5. Other Item

Ken Mihelich informed the Board that he is resigning from the SAB effective immediately. He said he would be willing to help with the website as needed and plans on attend meetings occasionally.

6. Approval of minutes from the June 5, 2024, meeting

Dave made a motion to approve the minutes from the June 5, 2024, meeting. Joyce seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously by all members present.

7. Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned. The time was 6.53 p.m.

AGENDA ITEM #5

Ridgway Sustainability Advisory Board Meeting Minutes

September 10, 2024



1. Call to Order and Roll Call

The meeting was called to order at 5:03 p.m. Ridgway Sustainability Advisory Board (SAB) members present were, Angela Hawse, Dana Ivers, Dave Jones, David Kehmeier and Terry Schuyler. Joyce Huang was absent. Staff member Deb Overton was also present.

2. Review Final Design Concept for the Green Street Sustainability Park Master Plan

All Board member present were in favor of the proposed concept that would be presented to the Town Council at the Sept. 11th Council meeting. Terry stated that he would be working with San Migual Power obtain grant funding for the solar array on the south side of the Park. There was discussion on why the green space located across the street was not included in the Master Plan. Staff and Terry thought the HOA owned that property.

3. Recap on the EV Ride & Drive Event – Aug 17th

Dave gave a recap of the event, stating that it was a successful event and hopes that attendance will increase. He suggested that the event be held next year in the same location and again coincide with the Arts & Crafts Rendezvous. He asked that the SAB focus on promoting the event earlier next year in hopes of bringing in more electric vehicles, tools and machines as well as increasing attendance. There was discussion about reserving the Community Center for additional vendors, educational booths etc.

4. Update on Turf Replacement Project – Hartwell Park

Staff update the Board on the progress of the Turf Replacement Project stating that half of the turf has been removed in a small area on the northeast side of Hartwell Park. The remaining turf will be removed in a few days. Alpine Properties will then start putting in the hardscape with native plantings. Staff stated that 5 sprinklers were removed for the project.

5. Prioritize projects/initiatives for the 2025 work plan

Staff presented the adopted 2024 Strategic Plan to the Board for reference, noting that the Town Council would be preparing the 2025 Plan during the upcoming Budget work sessions. The SAB was asked to review the 2024 Plan and make any updates to the current Plan and decide if they would like those items to be included again on the 2025 Plan. They were also asked if there were any new priorities/initiatives they would like to add to the 2025 Strategic Plan. The Board agreed that they would like the following to be included in the 2025 Plan.

- Provide educational information on regional sustainability/climate action efforts.
- Establish a Town goal to reach net-zero GHG emissions.
- Provide educational opportunities for builders and homeowners for the upcoming mandate for all new construction (commercial and residential) to be all-electric ready and solar ready.
- Support EcoAction Partners on the enactment of an energy code that achieves equivalent or better energy performance than the 2021 international energy conservation code and the model electric and solar ready code that has been developed by the energy code board



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- Explore available options to accelerate the development of the Green Street Sustainability Park.
- Explore implementation goals for the electrification of Town operations, including vehicles and equipment.

The Board asked staff to prepare a draft Plan for their review.

6. **Finalize recommendation to change SAB terms and number of Board members.**

Due to time restraints, this item will be moved to a future meeting.

7. **Other Items**

Dana stated that she would be going before Town Council on Sept. 11th to present the letter she wrote regarding idling cars in Ridgway. She is asking that the Council adopt an ordinance that does not allow vehicles to idle more than 3 minutes within the Town. Angela asked that members of the SAB attend the meeting to support her recommendation. Dave made a motion to request that Council adopt an ordinance limiting the amount of time a vehicle can idle within the Town limits to 3 minutes. Angela seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously by all those present.

8. **Approval of minutes from the August 7, 2024, meeting**

Three Board members left the meeting early, resulting in a lack of a quorum. The approval of the Aug 7, 2024 meeting minutes will be moved to the next meeting on Oct. 3rd.

9. **Adjournment**

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned. The time was 6:53 p.m.