

Ridgway Sustainability Advisory Board Meeting Agenda



Monday, January 27, 2025

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/85391545640?pwd=UwKQ4JdNpY5QxaFkscaL1uvr6ha5QE.1>

Meeting ID: 853 9154 5640

Passcode: 133401

Dial by your location

+1 346 248 7799 US

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5:00 p.m.

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

WORK SESSION:

1. Review of adopted 2025 work plan items
2. Review and discussion re draft *Resolution Reaffirming Ridgway's Commitment to Climate Action, Establishing a Goal for Net Zero Carbon Emissions, and Establishing an All Electric, Net Zero Energy Use Policy for Housing Projects with Financial Investment from the Town of Ridgway*
3. Discussion re other work plan items, including but not limited to, prioritization and schedule of various work plan items

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

4. Minutes from the December 10, 2024 meeting

ADJOURNMENT

AGENDA ITEM #1

SAB WORK PLAN ITEMS FROM TOWN OF RIDGWAY 2025 STRATEGIC PLAN

- Advise the Town to adopt a resolution formally establishing a net-zero goal to be achieved by 2030. Once in place, explore initiatives to promote within the community.
- Establish a “road map” to net zero.
- Provide quarterly progress updates to the Town Council.
- Draft and recommend adoption of idle-free (i.e., no idling) regulations.
- Organize and hold two educational outreach meetings/public engagement events in 2025 to promote SAB educational campaigns.
- Participate on the Sneffels Energy Board Energy Code Cohort by working with EcoAction Partners, Lotus Engineering & Sustainability and NORESCO to align our region on an approach and code package for 2024 International Energy Conservation Code adoption (this includes the model electric and solar ready code).
- Evaluate establishment of a goal/date for all new construction projects to be all-electric.
- Work to decrease festival and event waste by encouraging local management contracts and event organizers to provide for composting, recycling, etc. at Ridgway events.
- Evaluate and recommend options for instituting incentives/rebates for residential and commercial participation in local composting programs.
- Increase local organic/natural food production and consumption.
- Evaluate and recommend options for instituting a turf replacement program that could include rebates or incentives.
- Explore identifying where wildlife corridors are and possibilities for mitigating speeding on US 550 and SH 62. Explore deployment of additional signage.

AGENDA ITEM #2

RESOLUTION NO. 25-XX

**A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF
RIDGWAY, COLORADO REAFFIRMING RIDGWAY'S
COMMITMENT TO CLIMATE ACTION, ESTABLISHING A
GOAL FOR NET ZERO CARBON EMISSIONS, AND
ESTABLISHING AN ALL ELECTRIC, NET ZERO ENERGY USE
POLICY FOR HOUSING PROJECTS WITH FINANCIAL
INVESTMENT FROM THE TOWN OF RIDGWAY**

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

WHEREAS, the Town has long been committed to sustainability and to preserve natural resources for current and future generations, and endeavors to be a leader in responsible stewardship of the environment; and

WHEREAS, the impacts of climate change affect everyone regardless of age, gender or socioeconomic background; and

WHEREAS, addressing climate change equitably requires transition from fossil fuels to emission-free, renewable energy that is ecologically sustainable for all people, especially those most impacted by climate change today and those who will be most impacted in the future; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Ridgway Master Plan, adopted on June 12, 2019, contains ***POLICY ENV-4.2: Renewable Energy***, which states: “Encourage the use of carbon-free 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.”; and

WHEREAS, on June 14, 2023 the Ridgway Town Council adopted the ***San Miguel and Ouray County Regional Climate Action Plan***, which has a goal to reduce greenhouse gas emissions 50% by 2030 and 90% by 2050; and

WHEREAS, the State of Colorado has created a roadmap to reach 100% renewable energy by 2040, and in 2019, passed HB19-1261, which sets a statewide goal to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 50% by 2030 and 90% by 2050; and

WHEREAS, carbon-free energy resources paired with energy storage, and microgrids, where feasible, are important strategies to build disaster resilience into our communities and will assist with disaster recovery; and ensuring equitable distribution of the benefits of these resources is imperative to adequately prepare for disasters, particularly those exacerbated by climate change; and

WHEREAS, the Town desires to establish a goal for net-zero greenhouse gas emissions and to promote all electric, net zero energy use in residences around the Town of Ridgway.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF RIDGWAY, COLORADO the following:

1. The Town hereby updates its greenhouse gas emission goals to reach net-zero greenhouse gas emissions by 2030; and
2. Housing projects that receive financial investment from the Town of Ridgway, including but not limited to tax and fee waivers, shall be all electric and shall not include natural gas service or any appliances or equipment which use natural gas; and
3. Housing projects that receive financial investment from the Town of Ridgway, including but not limited to tax and fee waivers, shall achieve net zero energy use, which is preferred to be achieved on-site to the extent economically practicable and may be achieved by enrolling in San Miguel Power Association's Totally Green Program from 100% renewable sources.

APPROVED AND ADOPTED this _____ day of _____, 2025.

TOWN OF RIDGWAY, COLORADO

John I. Clark, Mayor

ATTEST:

Pam Kraft, Town Clerk

AGENDA ITEM #4

Ridgway Sustainability Advisory Board Meeting Minutes

December 10, 2024



1. Call to Order and Roll Call

The meeting was called to order at 5:06 p.m. Ridgway Sustainability Advisory Board (SAB) members present were Angela Hawse, Joyce Huang, David Kehmeier, and Terry Schuyler. Dave Jones was absent. Dana Ivers joined the meeting at 5:15 p.m. Town Manager Preston Neill, Mayor John Clark, and Ridgway resident Sheridan Ribbing were also present.

2. Presentation of gift from Mountain Towns 2030 Summit

John presented SAB members with a book titled, "What If We Get It Right?" by Ayana Elizabeth Johnson. The books were gifted from the Mountain Towns 2030 organization during the recent Mountain Towns 2030 Climate Solutions Summit held in Jackson, WY.

3. Discussion regarding November 11, 2024 meeting

Angela brought up for discussion several pieces of information conveyed during the November 11, 2024 SAB meeting concerning the *Authority & Procedures*, goal setting, and making recommendations to the Town Council. The group talked through the various concerns she has about the processes being followed and trajectory of the SAB.

4. Review of 2024 work plan items and discussion regarding projects/initiatives to recommend to Town Council for the 2025 work plan

Preston presented the items that were on the SAB's work plan for 2024 that were memorialized in the Town's 2024 Strategic Plan. The group held a substantial amount of discussion to come up with work plan items for 2025 to recommend to the Town Council for adoption on December 11, 2025. They are as follows:

- Advise the Town to adopt a resolution formally establishing a net-zero goal to be achieved by 2030. Once in place, explore initiatives to promote within the community.
- Establish a "road map" to net zero.
- Provide quarterly progress updates to the Town Council.
- Draft and recommend adoption of idle-free (i.e., no idling) regulations.
- Organize and hold two educational outreach meetings/public engagement events in 2025 to promote SAB educational campaigns.
- Participate on the Sneffels Energy Board Energy Code Cohort by working with EcoAction Partners, Lotus Engineering & Sustainability and NORESO to align our region on an approach and code package for 2024 International Energy Conservation Code adoption (this includes the model electric and solar ready code).
- Evaluate establishment of a goal/date for all new construction projects to be all-electric.
- Work to decrease festival and event waste by encouraging local management contracts and event organizers to provide for composting, recycling, etc. at Ridgway events.
- Evaluate and recommend options for instituting incentives/rebates for residential and commercial participation in local composting programs.
- Increase local organic/natural food production and consumption.

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- Evaluate and recommend options for instituting a turf replacement program that could include rebates or incentives.
- Explore identifying where wildlife corridors are and possibilities for mitigating speeding on US 550 and SH 62. Explore deployment of additional signage.

5. Approval of minutes from the August 7, 2024, meeting

6. Approval of minutes from the September 10, 2024, meeting

7. Approval of minutes from the November 11, 2024, meeting

Terry made a motion to approve the minutes from the August 7, 2024 meeting, the September 10, 2024 meeting, and the November 11, 2024 meeting. Dave seconded the motion, and the motion carried unanimously by members present.

8. Resignation announcement

Angela announced her resignation from the SAB but expressed that she would be willing to continue volunteering, as time allows, to advance the various goals and objectives of the SAB.

9. Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned. The time was 7:10 p.m.