



To: Honorable Mayor Clark and Ridgway Town Council
From: Preston Neill, Town Manager
Date: August 7, 2023
RE: Town Manager’s Report

INTRODUCTION

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

ATHLETIC PARK MASTER PLANNING PROJECT

The Town and DHM Design kicked off the master planning process for the Ridgway Athletic Park last Thursday with a public meeting at Town Hall. The purpose of the meeting was for members of the public and various stakeholder groups to meet the DHM Design team and provide thoughts and ideas on the future of the Ridgway Athletic Park. Over 60 people attended the meeting! A survey will be released soon, with responses due at the end of August. The next public meeting will be held in September. Stay tuned for more info!



PRESERVE PUD MASTER PLAN AMENDMENT COMMUNITY MEETING

Dalwhinnie Group, LLC is requesting an amendment to the Ridgway Master Plan (“Plan”) to include land south of the Preserve PUD into Town limits that is already approved for subdivision infrastructure under the Preserve PUD Preliminary Plat. The Preserve PUD is located east of CR 23 and the Ridgway Athletic Park/Frontier Field. The proposed Plan amendment proposes the Future Land Use Map be changed to include the currently unincorporated area into the Town with the Residential Zoning District classification and include such land within the Town’s Urban Growth Management Area. There is no increase in density for the Plat, and the Plan amendment is being proposed to meet Town Plat conditions of approval and allow for the relocation of a sewer lift station as approved under the Plat. The public meeting will be held on August 10, 2023 at the Ridgway Community Center, 201 N. Railroad St. Ridgway, CO from 6:30 to 7:30 pm. Please contact Alpine Planning, LLC with any questions at (970) 964-7927.

GROWING WATER SMART WORKSHOP

Town staff is in the process of preparing an application to participate in the upcoming Growing Water Smart Workshop in October. The Growing Water Smart Workshop brings key community



decisionmakers on water and land use planning together to collaborate on sustainable water use. The workshop utilizes a range of public engagement, planning, communication, and policy implementation tools to help community teams realize their water efficiency, watershed health, and water resilience goals.

The Workshop offers each participating team the time to collaborate and focus on the water resource challenges that are influencing each community's growth and development. The program is comprised of the following elements:

- Team-Oriented Work Sessions
- Learning Best Practices
- Peer-to-Peer Networking

UPDATE RE ENERGY CODE UPGRADES

Town staff is working with Kim Wheels at EcoAction Partners to put together a timeline/public meeting schedule related to the adoption of the **2021 International Energy Conservation Code** and the **Colorado Model Electric Ready and Solar Ready Code**. Stay tuned!

HERITAGE PARK FENCE

England Fence Company will be in town this week to put up the new split-rail fence at Heritage Park.

RFP FOR CONSTRUCTION DOCUMENTS FOR NEW RIDGWAY VISITOR CENTER

The Colorado Main Street Program is seeking proposals to provide design services and construction drawings for a new Visitor Center in Ridgway! Proposals are due by August 25, 2023.

UPDATE TO GRAYWATER CONTROL REGULATION (REGULATION 86)

Background

On February 2, 2022, the Water Quality Control Commission (WQCC) held an informational hearing to obtain feedback regarding a proposed rulemaking scope to update the Graywater Control Regulation (Regulation 86). At that time, the WQCC agreed with the proposed rulemaking scope that included the consideration of ten key areas. These items are listed as follows:

1. Align formatting and organization with other codes and reuse regulations to the greatest extent possible
2. Improve organization, clarity, and readability of Regulation 86
3. Clarify the "graywater control program" requirements
4. Address how local graywater programs will address changes in regulatory requirements (updates to the regulation; updates to treatment and existing systems)
5. Consider the adoption of Log Removal Targets (LRTs)
6. Address special considerations for local graywater control programs within phosphorus control basins



7. Consider whether to add, the scope of, and the process for regulatory variances
8. Review the subsurface use framework
9. Evaluate additional graywater uses
10. Encourage small-scale graywater use by clarifying “laundry to landscape” requirements

These improvements are part of an ongoing continuous improvement process required for the evolving landscape of reuse in Colorado.

Over a dozen meetings of the stakeholder group have taken place since the kickoff meeting on March 21, 2022.

Public Rulemaking Hearing

The WQCC recently posted the “Notice of Public Rulemaking Hearing” for consideration of the adoption of revisions to the Graywater Control Regulation, Regulation #86 (5 CCR 1002-86). Revisions proposed by the Water Quality Control Division, along with a proposed Statement of Basis, Specific Statutory Authority and Purpose, are available [HERE](#). Proposed new language is shown with underlining and proposed deletions are shown with ~~strikeouts~~. The Rulemaking Hearing is currently scheduled for November 13, 2023 at 9:00 a.m.

EXPERTS SHARE TIPS, INSIGHT INTO WATER-SAVING STRATEGIES

Click [HERE](#) to check out a recent article in The Colorado Sun about ways to cut back on water use at home, including some Colorado-specific programs. From shorter showers to new faucets, the article covers the role of at-home water use in the Colorado River’s limited supply.

PROPOSED COLORADO CLEAN CARS RULE

Colorado will soon consider a new rule to expand access to low- and zero-emission vehicles. These include battery-electric, plug-in hybrid electric, and fuel cell electric vehicles. The state health department’s Air Pollution Control Division is proposing the rule to reduce greenhouse gases and other air pollution emissions.

On July 20, the division requested a rulemaking on the Colorado Clean Cars rule. The Air Quality Control Commission agreed to hold a rulemaking hearing on the proposal in October 2023.

The proposed rule would:

- Set sales standards for manufactures to make incrementally more zero-emission vehicles available in Colorado.
- The sales standard would start with model year 2027. By 2032, manufacturers would need to sell about 80% electric vehicles.
- Establish tighter standards for car emissions that can form harmful ground-level ozone.

The proposed rule would not:



- Ban the sale of cars that run on gas.
- Require consumers to buy electric vehicles.
- Apply to used car sales.
- Apply to off-road vehicles or equipment, including construction and farm equipment.

For more information, please see the Air Quality Control Division's previous [press release](#), visit their [website](#), and read their [fact sheet](#).

YOUTH ENTREPRENEURS CAMP

The Ouray Economic Development Committee, City of Ouray, Wright Opera House, and Voyager are proud to offer a Youth Entrepreneur Camp for ages 12-18. Hear from local guest speakers and learn the basics of starting and running a business including vision and product development, budgeting and finance, branding and marketing, and more. The camp will take place on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays between August 8th and 24th from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m.

Space is limited. Click [HERE](#) to register.

FREE LEGAL CLINIC FOR OURAY COUNTY

On the second Thursday of every month from 2:00 to 5:00 p.m. there is a free legal self-help clinic for parties who have no attorney. The next clinic is on Thursday, August 10th at Ouray Library (320 6th Ave.). By telephone, volunteer attorneys will meet one on one with clinic patrons to answer questions, help fill out forms, and explain the process and procedure for civil legal issues, including family law, civil litigation, property law, probate law, collections, appeals, landlord tenant law, veteran's benefits, and civil protection orders.

The volunteer attorneys do not represent you just because they help you at this clinic. This clinic is informational only and is no substitute for legal representation. You have the right to retain an attorney of your choice at any time and are advised to do so. Call the Ouray Library at (970)325-4616 to get signed up. ALL FREE, BUT SPACE IS LIMITED.

CLERK'S OFFICE UPDATE

From Pam Kraft, Town Clerk/Town Treasurer:

Retirement Party

To celebrate Mike Jenkins' retirement, a party will be held on Thursday April 24th. Invitations were recently sent out. Please mark your calendars!

Staff Holiday Party

The annual staff and council holiday party will be held on Saturday, December 9th. Please mark your calendars. Invites will be sent out this fall.



COMMUNITY INITIATIVES UPDATE

From Tera Wick, Community Initiatives Facilitator:

Space to Create Grand Opening Celebration and dedication of the Decker Community Room

- a. On June 22, 2023, over 200 people attended the grand opening celebration for the Ridgway Space to Create building and the dedication of the Decker Community Room, organized in collaboration with Artspace.
- b. Diedra Silbert was honored with a belated retirement celebration as part of the celebration and was recognized by mayor Clark and appreciative volunteers and colleagues for her years of service.
- c. Dee Dee Decker was present to participate in the dedication of the Decker Community Room, named in honor of Peter and Dee Dee Decker. A plaque was created by John Billings to honor the Deckers, now on display in the Decker Community Room. Mr. Billings also created a plaque in honor of the many contributors to the Space to Create building which is on display in the lobby of the building.
- d. Residents of Space to Create contributed ideas and talent to the event; playing traditional Indian and Bluegrass music, and DJing for an after party in the lobby.
- e. In preparation for the event, four retrospective posters were developed by the CIF, with assistance from local graphic designer, Kylee Firlit, to communicate the history and impact of the Creative District and Main Street programs.
- f. As part of the grand opening celebration, the CIF organized a community art exhibition of 47 area artists, which is on display in the Decker room until August 27.
- g. And, in time for the grand opening, Jimmy Descant's arts and crafts style piece, which was commissioned for the building, was permanently installed on the west side of the building.





Decker Room – Open Hours, Next Steps, Film Festival

a. In response to community requests to have art available to view, the CIF, with the assistance of volunteers, has opened the Decker room Tuesday – Friday 10AM – 2PM and Saturday 11AM – 2PM through the end of the art show. Hours are subject to change pending staff and volunteer availability and will likely be reduced after Labor Day.



- b. Spending time in the room and hosting events allows staff to learn more about the precise needs of the space in terms of furnishings, programming, and management.
- c. The Decker room has also hosted several community meetings and events including Ouray County Pride art show and reception, Spirit Fest, a breathwork class, a Ridgway Ouray Community Council meeting, theater rehearsal and several FUSE events. Some community members have recommended a more streamlined application and payment process and have requested an hourly rental rate be made available. The addition of additional security measures is also advisable.
- d. The FUSE committee will focus on continuing to furnish and program the space for the remainder of the year, including developing a mission, vision, and policies for the new public gallery and equipping the room for as a secondary venue for the Ridgway Independent Film Festival this November.

First Fridays

In response to initiative from the art gallery owners in the community, the FUSE program is supporting the First Friday Art Walk again this year. The event has been narrowed to focus on the art galleries (rather than more broadly on downtown retailers) and has been a success so far this summer. The Decker room saw 87 unique visitors at the August 4 art walk.

Creatives Directory

- a. Local graphic designer, Kylee Firlit, created a logo to brand the Ridgway Area Creatives Directory, along with a design for a postcard that will be printed and distributed this month.



- b. To date, we have 51 creatives listed. Check it out and SIGN UP at <https://www.ridgway-fuse.org/creativesdirectory>.

UPCOMING MEETINGS AND EVENTS

- **Town Council Regular Meeting** – August 9, 2023 at 5:30 p.m. in-person at Town Hall and virtually via Zoom
- **Preserve PUD Master Plan Amendment Community Meeting** – August 10, 2023 at 6:30 p.m. at Town Hall
- **FUSE Creative Main Street Committee Meeting** – August 15, 2023 at 5:30 p.m. in-person and virtually via Zoom
- **Retirement Part for Mike Jenkins!** – August 24, 2023 at 4:00 p.m. (more details in the invitation)
- **Planning Commission Meeting** – August 29, 2023 at 5:30 p.m. in-person at Town Hall and virtually via Zoom
- **Parks, Trails & Open Space Committee Meeting** – September 5, 2023 in-person at Town Hall and virtually via Zoom
- **Sustainability Advisory Board Meeting** – September 6, 2023 at 5:00 p.m. at Town Hall and virtually via Zoom
- **Town Council Regular Meeting** – September 13, 2023 at 5:30 p.m. in-person at Town Hall and virtually via Zoom

JOKE OF THE DAY

Waiter: Do you wanna box for your leftovers?

Customer: No, but I'll wrestle you for them.