



To: Honorable Mayor Clark and Ridgway Town Council
From: Preston Neill, Town Manager
Date: November 10, 2025
RE: **Town Manager's Report**

INTRODUCTION

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

REMEMBERING JENNIFER & SUPPORTING JEFF

A memorial service for Jennifer Nelson will be held on Friday, November 14, 2025, at 11:00 a.m. at St. Daniel's Catholic Church in Ouray. The address for the Church is 614 5th St., Ouray, CO 81427. Following the service there will be a reception at the Ridgway Firehouse. All who knew and loved Jennifer are welcome. Ridgway Town Hall will be closed at 10:30 a.m. on November 14th so that members of Town staff can attend the memorial service and reception.



The Ridgway Fire Protection District is spearheading a GoFundMe campaign to raise funds to help support Jeff Rivera with funeral expenses and the difficult days ahead as he grieves and begins to heal. Any donation, no matter the amount, or even a simple share of the link below, would mean a lot.

Let us continue to keep Jennifer's loved ones, particularly her husband, Jeff, in our thoughts during this difficult time.

<https://gofund.me/774c79a84>

PUBLIC PRESENTATION: 2025 TOWN OF RIDGWAY & OURAY COUNTY REGIONAL HOUSING NEEDS ASSESSMENT

Join us at 675 Clinton Street at the Decker Community Room on November 20th at 6:00 p.m. to learn about the 2025 Town of Ridgway & Ouray County Regional Housing Needs Assessment (HNA). Points Consulting will be presenting their final report, its findings, and their recommendations for how to address housing needs in our community and our region. To view the draft HNA or to attend the meeting virtually via Zoom, please reach out to Angie Kemp, Senior Planner for the Town of Ridgway by emailing akemp@town.ridgway.co.us or by calling 970-626-5308 ext. 214.



UPDATE ON BEAVER CREEK DIVERSION RESTORATION PROJECT

From Ron Alexander, Owner's Advisor and Engineer:

Prior to commencing construction on the Beaver Creek Diversion Restoration Project, the Town crew installed some restrained joint pipe in Beaver Creek to divert some of the stream flow into the Ridgway Ditch to feed the Town. That water is being diverted in the two yellow pipes at right. The blue pipe is transporting the spring water the Town has right to use from the opposite side of Beaver Creek.



Construction commenced on August 11th with Meridian Contracting (Meridian), the CMAR contractor the Town selected in early 2025, setting up erosion control, making minor improvements to the Wolf Cattle ranch road, and installing a culvert where water is a continual problem. Once access was practical for construction equipment, Meridian set up a temporary system to pump the Town's water supply around the work area and began installing the 20" pipe, designed to carry up to 10 cubic feet per second (cfs), along the southern most section of the Ridgway Ditch. The pipe is so large because of the desired flow capacity and because the slope of the pipe is very flat. Work on the piping of the ditch where the road is adjoining the ditch continued through the rest of August, all of September, and into the beginning of October when most of the work to pipe the first approximately 1,200 feet of the Ridgway Ditch was completed.



In early October Meridian worked in the transition area between the 20" pipe and the open area for the measuring device which is a 10 cfs ramp flume.

Upstream of the flume the pipe transitions to 18" because the slope is steeper. A section of the 18" pipe is still in the more open area, but then bends to the west and starts up a 2-track road. Work in that area is even more challenging due to the narrow confines and the need to get materials into the work area while the full width of the work area is part of the trench of the pipe. They are currently working on the approximately 450 feet of work in the very restricted space and all work in the creek is yet to be started.





UPDATE ON DUCTILE IRON PIPE REPLACEMENT PROJECT

From Joanne Fagan, Town Engineer:

Work on the Ductile Iron Pipe Replacement Project is progressing, moving north from the gate at the south end of Amelia. The project includes two different sections. The upper section, which is very steep, is very thick-walled HDPE pipe and the lower section, below the gate to Moffat St. on S Amelia St. will be C900 PVC pipe. The old ductile iron pipe is being removed and the new pipe is being installed mostly in the same location as the old to facilitate reconnecting existing main line and service lines. The project also includes installing a master meter at the south (top) end of the project. The meter will allow staff to better monitor how much water is going to town and compare that to the water sold to help determine how much water being delivered is being accounted for.

Because the line from the water plant to Elizabeth St. is not looped, meaning that it's the only water main that supplies town, Ridgway Valley Enterprises (RVE) started construction by installing a temporary bypass line from the south end of the project to the gate on S Amelia St. Once it was in place they began installing the HDPE down the steep slope. The public likely has been aware of the need to shut off the water to connect the new pipe to the old in phases. The water shut offs have been scheduled at night to minimize the impact to Town residents. The first was to connect the temporary bypass line into the existing line just below the gate at the south end of S Amelia St. Once the bypass was in place, RVE began removing the old ductile iron pipe from about 400 feet below the water tanks to the pressure reducing station (PRV) just below the gate on S Amelia St. Once that was completed, there was the need for a second shutdown





to connect the new HDPE line down the hill from the water plant to the PRV. With the new HDPE line in service, RVE installed a temporary bypass from the downstream side of the PRV station to Sabeta Dr. in order to be able to replace that section of the ductile iron pipe. Construction of the new PVC segment from the PRV to Sabeta Dr. was completed and tested and was successfully connected to the existing pipe at Sabeta Dr. on the night of November 4th. With winter approaching, RVE is now preparing to shut down for the winter. The balance of the work, from Sabeta Dr. to Moffat St., will take place in the spring of 2026.

UPDATE ON SH62 BANNER STRUCTURE PROJECT

Due to some long lead times on a few of the parts for the project and the fast approaching no dig date (November 15), the project has been postponed to March of 2026.

BUILDING ENERGY CODE UPDATE

From Angie Kemp, Sr. Planner, and Jordan Batchelder, Building Official:

EcoAction Partners, in partnership with Lotus Engineering & Sustainability, is working with the Town of Ridgway and other regional jurisdictions as the Energy Code Cohort (ECC) to create a building energy code package for adoption in early 2026. EcoAction Partners has facilitated multiple ECC meetings, trainings, surveys, and targeted discussions. The amendment package for Ridgway has been drafted. The proposed remaining timeline for outreach and adoption of the code and amendment package is below. Additional learning opportunities will be available for the construction community: builders, contractors, architects, etc.

Timeline

- December 17th: Planning Commission Text amendment public hearing at Ridgway Town Hall Community Center, 201 N. Railroad St. or via Zoom. The meeting begins at 5:30pm
- January 14th: First reading and introduction of the Ordinance by Town Council at Ridgway Town Hall Community Center, 201 N. Railroad St. or via Zoom. The meeting begins at 5:30pm
- February 11th: Second reading of the Ordinance, a public hearing for adoption consideration by Town Council at Ridgway Town Hall Community Center, 201 N. Railroad St. or via Zoom. The meeting begins at 5:30pm

This work is funded by The Colorado Energy Office with the Energy Code Adoption & Enforcement Grant Program. For more information visit <https://www.ecoactionpartners.org/> and <https://energyoffice.colorado.gov/building-energy-codes-toolkit#energy-code-board>.



For more information, please contact Jordan Batchelder, Building Official, at jbatchelder@town.ridgway.co.us or 970-626-5308, ext. 216

LOCAL IMPACT ACCELERATOR GRANT APPLICATION UPDATE

The Local Implementation, Mitigation, and Policy Action (Local IMPACT) Accelerator will provide a total \$50 million in grants to support local governments with policy adoption to bolster local resilience, reduce emissions, and advance other state priorities, such as improved air quality. Funding for this program comes from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Climate Pollution Reduction Grant program.

The Accelerator is designed to maximize emissions reductions by promoting policies that extend beyond state requirements in four categories: Buildings, Land Use, Transportation, Waste. Applicants can apply for funding to support policy adoption only or policy adoption and project implementation.

The Colorado Energy Office notified the Town, after reviewing the Letter of Intent that the Town submitted on August 1st, that we are encouraged to submit a full application for Round 1. The full application was submitted in advance of the deadline on November 5th. A huge shout out and thank you goes to Siobhan Montoya Lavender, Climate Action Development Direction with EcoAction Partners, for all her hard work writing the grant application on the Town's behalf!

SMALL TOWN, BIG VISION: RIDGWAY, COLORADO HONORED AT 2025 MOUNTAIN TOWNS 2030 SUMMIT

From Mountain Towns 2030:

The Town of Ridgway, Colorado, was recognized this year at the Mountain Towns 2030 Summit in Breckenridge as a model of ambitious climate action, receiving the 2025 "Small Towns Doing Big Things" award. In addition, Ridgway's long-serving Mayor, John Clark, was honored with the "Individual Catalyst" award, spotlighting his two-decade leadership and vision in transforming Ridgway into one of the most forward-thinking small towns in the Rockies.

These honors celebrate not just isolated achievements but Ridgway's integrated, long-term approach to sustainability, economic resilience, and community identity.

A Track Record of Impactful Action

Over the past few years, Ridgway has:

- Ridgway approved a Net Zero by 2030 resolution, pledging to address climate change at the speed and scale that it demands by committing to achieve net-zero carbon emissions for all municipal operations by 2030.



- Plans to adopt progressive building codes through participation in the Colorado Energy Office's Building Codes Program.
- Partnered with EcoAction Partners to strengthen local energy efficiency and renewable programs.
- Implemented projects focused on solar development, energy conservation, water stewardship, and climate resilience.
- Promoted electrification through community education and planning.

Ridgway's achievements serve as a powerful example of how small communities can deliver outsized results through collaboration, consistency, and creative policy.

Mayor John Clark: The Long Game of Local Leadership

John Clark has served Ridgway for more than 20 years, championing sustainability as both an economic strategy and a moral responsibility. At the MT2030 Summit, Clark was recognized for his steady, visionary leadership in weaving climate goals into every facet of community planning.



Under Clark's leadership, Ridgway has pursued practical, innovative strategies while maintaining its small-town character.

Symbolic Commitment: Embracing the International Flag of Planet Earth

Earlier this year, Ridgway made headlines by becoming one of the first towns in the U.S. to officially adopt the International Flag of Planet Earth. Designed as a symbol of planetary unity and stewardship, the flag now flies alongside the American and Colorado flags at Ridgway Town Hall.

"I just think it's really important to stand up for what we believe in, and we approve what we believe in," Mayor Clark said.

The flag display reflects the town's broader worldview: local actions, global impact. It also serves as a visual reminder of Ridgway's place in a growing network of communities redefining sustainability as a civic value.

What Other Towns Can Learn from Ridgway



- Start local, think long: Ridgway's progress stems from a clear vision, consistent leadership, and community involvement.
- Partnerships matter: Leveraging technical expertise and resources from state agencies and nonprofit partners helped accelerate progress.
- Symbolism strengthens identity: The adoption of the Planet Earth flag reflects how values can be embedded into civic culture.
- Set bold goals: Net Zero by 2030 is an ambitious but necessary commitment that guides local policy and prioritization.

As the climate crisis deepens, Ridgway's story offers both a hopeful roadmap and a call to action: small towns are not too small to lead. On the contrary, they may be exactly the scale where the most meaningful change begins.

BIOSOLID REMOVAL PROJECT

From Chris Bolane, Ridgway Operator in Responsible Charge:

The sludge removal crew has finished up our project and moved on to their next one. Overall, the project went very well with only a couple of small hiccups in moving the dredge from one pond to the next. TerraGenesis is reporting that they processed 654,000 gallons of septic liquid and were able to remove 6 truckloads (approximately 450,000 total pounds) of dried sludge. The majority of the sludge was removed from the "polishing pond" (the northernmost section of Pond 3). The crew was able to make a few passes in Pond 2 on the southern side of the curtain baffle before hitting our budget limit. We can now expect much better/lower effluent sampling results.



In brief the process involved just a few steps. The first step involved using a floating dredge that was pulled back and forth along cables across the ponds while a sludge vacuum was lowered



down into the sludge blanket. The sludge that was pulled up was sent through a large trailer mounted centrifuge that was used to remove the sludge that was suspended in liquid. The separated sludge that was removed by the centrifuge was the consistency of slightly damp coffee grounds, and was conveyed into a rear-dump trailer. Once the trailer was full it was driven to a facility in Delta that is set up to further process (into compost, or land applied to fallow crop fields) the waste. The liquid that remained after separation in the centrifuge was pumped back into Pond 2.

MARSHAL'S OFFICE UPDATE

From Shane Schmalz, Town Marshal:

As part of being a member of the Colorado Association of Chief's of Police I have been appointed and excepted the position of Chairman of the Membership Committee. This committee works with membership and non-members to promote the association, along with offering suggestions to better the association. The Colorado Association of Chief's of Police provides training and support for its members and other law enforcement partners throughout Colorado.

With the support of area law enforcement partners and Colorado POST, I was able to attend the International Chief's of Police Conference which was held in Denver this year. The Conference was attended by 16,000 of the 35,000 members from all over the United States and the world. The conference had the largest vendor show that the association has ever had, along with training on all aspects of law enforcement and administration. While at the conference I attended 21 hours of training from lessons learned on critical incidents like the midair collision of black hawk helicopter and commercial aircraft in the Washington DC area, to Kansas City Parade incident. Other topics included officer wellness and in the line of duty deaths and general sessions with Axon, Lexipol, Motorola and Verizon, on AI technology and benefits and protections agencies need to have in place.

On November 3rd - 5th Sergeant Ryan Hanson and I attended an Executive Leadership Development Training which was held at the Montrose Police Department. The training covered all aspects of leadership within a law enforcement agency. Some of the main topics during the three days were Officer Wellness, Employee Assistance Programs, In The Line of Duty Deaths, Officer involved shootings, Media relations, Budgeting, Critical Incident and Emergency Management preparedness.



COMMUNITY INITIATIVES UPDATE

From Tera Wick, Community Initiatives Facilitator:

Localist Calendar

The Town of Ridgway and City of Ouray are moving ahead on the new county-wide Localist calendar. The City of Ouray has approved a two-way cost share with the Town, and our joint kickoff with the Localist team is set for November 11.

Anticipated timeline is:

- Fall/Winter 2025— execute the Localist contract; develop policies and define admin roles; complete branding/build-out, and train admins and organizers;
- Spring 2026—go live with the calendar and launch a coordinated marketing push.

Staff are working to integrate this project with the Town's new Marketing Strategist and Visitor Touchpoints/Business Engagement contracts to align communications, business engagement, and visitor experience across the community.

Colorado Main Street Managers Summit

The 2025 Colorado Main Street Managers Summit was held in Lyons, Colorado, on October 1–2, 2025, with support from a \$1,000 professional development scholarship from Colorado Main Street/DOLA. The summit provided valuable inspiration, connection, and practical ideas for Ridgway's ongoing work. Ridgway's mini-grant program was noted for its simplicity, modest awards, and flexible use of funds—qualities that stood out among statewide peers. Presentations on other communities' programs offered strong models for possible future expansion, including enhanced business support or façade improvement components.

Sessions on volunteer engagement highlighted effective approaches to cultivating belonging through visual recognition—such as branded shirts or vests—and intentional opportunities for social connection. These insights will inform continued efforts to sustain Ridgway's volunteer program. Participants also shared diverse organizational structures, funding mechanisms, and partnerships among Main Street programs, chambers, creative districts, and municipalities. These comparisons continue to offer valuable perspective for Ridgway's evolving approach.

Overall, the gathering reaffirmed the shared commitment among Colorado's small-town leaders to strengthening local pride, connection, and creativity, and underscored Ridgway's meaningful role within the statewide Main Street network.

Western Colorado Creative District Convening

I. Event Overview

The Town of Ridgway successfully hosted the Western Colorado Creative District Convening on October 9–10, 2025, at the Decker Community Room. The two-day event,



themed Igniting Collaboration Across Creative Communities, convened leaders from across the Western Slope for participant-driven discussions.

Participating Creative Districts:

Carbondale Arts • Crested Butte Creative District / Center for the Arts • Durango Creative District • GJ Creates (Grand Junction) • Gunnison Creative District • Ignacio Creative District • Mancos Creative District • North Fork Valley Creative Coalition (Paonia) • Ridgway FUSE Creative Main Street • Silverton Creative District • Telluride Arts • Town of Ignacio

Partnership & Funding:

The summit was presented in collaboration with Colorado Creative Industries (CCI). CCI and Colorado West contributed \$2,000 in event support, and participants helped cover food and material costs. The Colorado Tourism Office (CTO) also participated as a guest presenter.

II. Key Discussion Themes

Sessions were self-organized with major topics including:

- Artist Opportunities and Exchanges
- Creative District Messaging
- Artist Residencies
- Economic Development & Sustainable Funding
- Partnerships within Communities
- Space to Create / Capital Campaigns / Historic Renovation
- Operational Collaboration
- Programming & Asset Mapping
- Tourism Corridor Strategies

The gathering reinforced a shared commitment to strengthen and connect creative districts across Southwestern Colorado through collaboration, shared learning, and collective promotion. Participants reported feeling energized, connected, and inspired.





III. Learning from the Colorado Creative Corridor

Participants revisited the Colorado Creative Corridor—a 331-mile route linking Carbondale, Paonia, Crested Butte, Gunnison, Ridgway, and Salida. Launched in 2017–2018 with Colorado Tourism Office (CTO) support, the Corridor was to promote regional creative tourism but is now inactive and in need of a more sustainable model.

Key Lessons:

- Role Clarity: Responsibilities between Creative Districts (CDs) and Destination Marketing Organizations (DMOs) were often unclear.
- Efficiency: Consultant-managed media duplicated local efforts despite \$5,000 community contributions; future efforts could leverage Colorado.com listings instead.
- Limited Scope: Participants favored expanding the Corridor to include additional communities.

Next Steps for CTO/CCI Collaboration:

- Explore partnership coaching to strengthen CD/DMO coordination.
- Assess the feasibility of a statewide tourism network (like the Agritourism Association) to qualify for future CTO funding. Continue CCI collaboration.

IV. Emerging Network and Future Planning

To apply these lessons, participants agreed to explore forming a Southwest Colorado Creative Districts Network for stronger regional collaboration.

Planned Actions:

- Vision Committee: An ad hoc group—including seven communities, and Colorado Creative Industries (CCI)—will draft a shared framework for review by June 2026, ahead of the CCI Summit in Trinidad.
- State Summit Session: Mayor John Clark, staff and fellow participants will co-host a session on the Ridgway gathering at the June 2026 CCI Summit.
- Annual Gatherings: The group plans to meet yearly, with the next summit planned for October 2026 in Ignacio.
- Ongoing Support: CCI staff expressed strong interest in supporting the emerging network as a potential statewide model.
- Documentation: The Town of Ridgway compiled all notes and materials in a shared Google Drive folder.



Ridgway Independent Film Festival 2025

The 11th annual Ridgway Independent Film Festival (RIFF) took place October 16–19, 2025, as a partnership between the Sherbino Theater and the Town of Ridgway / Ridgway FUSE Creative Main Street. Centered at the Sherbino Theater, with supporting events at nearby venues including the Decker Room, the Festival featured more than 90 short films and several feature screenings, drawing filmmakers and audiences from across the region and the country.



Festival details are available at sherbino.org/event/ridgway-independent-film-festival-2025.

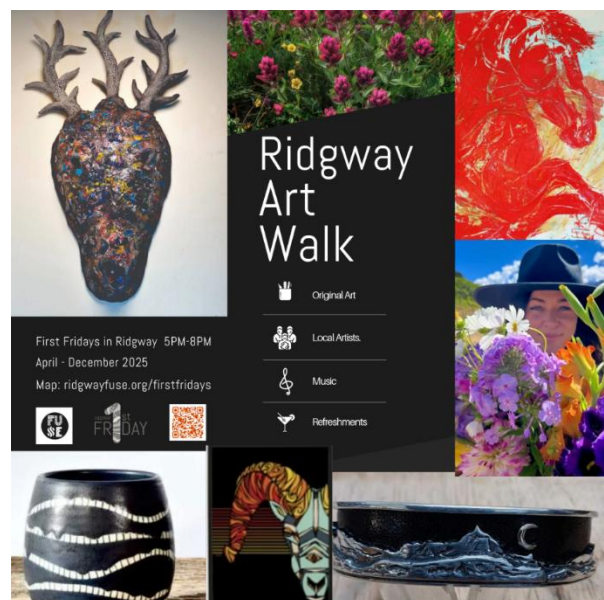
RIFF continues to strengthen Ridgway's reputation as a creative hub and directly supports the Town's goals for cultural and economic vitality.

The Sherbino team will provide a full report and data summary following the post-festival debrief on November 11th.

Ridgway First Friday Art Walk – 2025

Ridgway's First Friday Art Walk has seen remarkable growth and community impact in 2025, expanding from a seasonal summer and early fall event into a nine-month series (April–December) that provides a consistent platform for cultural and economic activation, supports local artists, and drives steady foot traffic to downtown creative spaces. As a cornerstone initiative of FUSE—Ridgway's Creative District and Main Street program—First Friday advances the organization's mission to nurture the town's cultural and economic vitality.

Running from 5–8 PM on the first Friday of each month, First Friday offers a dependable schedule for residents and visitors to experience Ridgway's creative energy. Each event features new exhibitions, visiting artists, live





entertainment, and free refreshments that foster a lively, welcoming atmosphere. Downtown venues are simultaneously activated across multiple locations, including:

ArtSpace Gallery · Art by the Park · Chloe's Charcuterie & Wine · Decker Community Room · · Fabula · San Juan Blooms · 610 Arts Collective · Jan Lewis Gallery · Kane Scheidegger Fine Art Photography · Mountain Girl Gallery · Ouray Image Photography Gallery · Ridgway Pilates · Rootwing Arts at Herran House · The Sherbino · Sticks & Stones Co. · Timber Creek Gallery · The Vault Vintage x J. Dewey Designs · White Buffalo at the Chipeta.

First Friday continues to showcase the breadth of Ridgway's creative talent and the impact of FUSE's mini-grant program. Highlights include "Portraits of Ridgway" by Emma Kalff—featuring 30 oil paintings of beloved local scenes—exhibited in the Decker Room in July and August with artist and history talks, and a philanthropic component benefiting the Ridgway Ranch History Museum. The Ignited by FUSE mini-grant made this show possible by funding key materials.

The Decker Room Gallery hosted rotating exhibits such as Souvenir (June), while FUSE staff gathered artist feedback to inform future programming and gallery management. Other diverse offerings included Into the Soul of the Endangered by Stephanie Rody at 610 Arts Collective and a solo show by Stacia Backer at ArtSpace Gallery.

FUSE maintains strong promotion through monthly news releases and coordinated outreach, ensuring broad community awareness and consistent participation. The growth of First Friday into a nearly year-round series marks a major milestone for Ridgway's cultural programming—strengthening creative engagement, economic vitality, and the town's reputation as a thriving arts destination.

Community Meet and Mingle

For entrepreneurs, creatives and all the locals who love them! Join us Thursday November 13th 4:30-6:00 pm at San Juan Blooms, upstairs at the Old Firehouse. This event is free and open to all. Light bites from local restaurants, music by a local musician and plenty of spirit from the community! Sponsored by Ridgway FUSE and The Ridgway Area Chamber of Commerce.

Calendar Sync Up

Do you organize community events in Ridgway? Please mark your calendars for Tuesday, November 18 at 5:30 PM at the Chipeta (304 S Lena St) The Town of Ridgway and the Ridgway Area Chamber will host a Community Calendar Planning Session to debrief 2025 events, map out 2026's anchor events, identify any gaps, and work toward a vibrant, year-round calendar that engages both locals and visitors. Includes refreshments!



BLUE LAKES TRAILHEAD UPDATE

From Dana Gardunio, District Ranger:

The new parking lot and bathroom have been completed along with over 45 days of crew time conducting restoration work at the lower blue lake, including de-compacting soils at over 100 sites, removing user-created trails, re-establishing native vegetation, and tree planting. Additionally, our team was able to identify the four designated campsites at the lower blue lake for the planned permit system, including mitigating hazard trees and completing the archaeology clearances.



Given that the work is now completed for the season, I went ahead and opened the gate, so the public is now able to access the area.

As we lift this closure, we are asking the public for their support in protecting the restoration work that has been completed. We are asking visitors to be mindful of posted signage both in the new parking area and at the lower blue lake and avoid entering marked restoration zones, as even small disturbances can undo months of progress.



We're planning on spending the winter months planning for Phase II and we will have more details to share about what's ahead soon including new kiosks, a hardened stream crossing to access the upper basin, signage, and a permit system rollout (still TBD on dates).

WASTEWATER SURVEILLANCE PROGRAM SITE VISIT

Allison Wheeler, CDPHE Wastewater Surveillance Unit Manager, Abby Wharton, CDPHE Wastewater Surveillance Unit Coordinator, and Kristin Kelley, Ouray County Public Health Director, took a tour of Ridgway Wastewater Treatment Plant on October 21st. A special thanks goes out to Rodney Paulson for taking the time to give the tour!





CML POLICY COMMITTEE SUPPORTS INITIATING LEGISLATION ON TRAFFIC CAMERAS, BACKGROUND CHECKS

From Beverly Stables, CML Interim Legislative Advocacy Manager:

CML's Policy Committee met Oct. 17 to review proposals for CML-initiated legislation. Members voted to recommend CML's support for the following six proposals, which were approved by the CML Executive Board on Oct. 24.

- **Placement of Sex Offenders in Mental Health Transitional Living Facilities:** This proposal would require the Colorado Department of Human Services to continue its current policy of refraining from placing registered sex offenders in Mental Health Transitional Living Facilities (authorized by HB22-1303) within 1,000 feet of a school.
- **Lodging and Vacancy Taxes:** There are three separate, but related proposals concerning to lodging and vacancy taxes — 1) Authorize municipalities to refer short term rental taxes to voters, with revenues dedicated to workforce housing; 2) Authorize municipalities to refer residential vacancy tax questions to voters; and 3) Authorize municipalities to adopt real estate transfer fees, with revenue dedicated to local affordable housing and workforce housing.
- **Municipal Exemption from Massage Facility Background Check Requirements:** This proposal would amend HB24-1371 (More Uniform Local Massage Facility Requirements) by exempting municipalities from the law's requirement that local governments adopt a local process for conducting background checks for massage facility owners and employees.
- **Expand Municipal Use of AVIS:** This proposal would allow municipalities to use automated vehicle identification systems (AVIS) on interstates within their jurisdiction and collect revenue generated from its use.
- **Regulation of Noise:** CML staff proposed an amendment to the Noise Abatement Act in response to the recent decision of the Colorado Supreme Court in *Hobbs v. City of Salida*. The proposal would clarify the exception to remove the limit on the use of government property (including by a permittee or lessor); retain the exception for any cultural, entertainment, athletic, or patriotic event on nonprofit property; and specifically allow for local permitting of similar events on private property that can exceed the limits of the Act.

CDOT WINTER SEASON

From Julie Constan, CDOT Region 5 Regional Transportation Director:

The fall colors are fading and there are areas of the high country that have already received dustings of snow. As winter approaches, I'd like to take this opportunity to inform you of a significant change in our CDOT online resources.



This past summer, 22 vendor-managed cameras were removed from COTrip.org in southwest and south-central Colorado. But please note, more than 40 regional cameras are still available on COTrip. (COTrip has more than 1000 cameras statewide.)

CDOT is actively working to replace the removed cameras by investing in permanent, more reliable camera infrastructure to better serve travelers. Our goal is to minimize this gap in coverage and restore cameras as quickly as possible, starting with high-priority areas. While an exact timeline is not currently available for each camera's replacement, at least one camera has already been restored on CO 62 Dallas Divide, and a project is underway to install 15 other new cameras at prioritized locations across the region. These camera upgrades are expected to continue through October 2027. Please visit [this Map Site](#) to see the cameras that were removed and how we are working toward replacing the cameras designated a priority. To see all current and functioning cameras, visit COTrip.org.

Despite the decrease in the number of cameras, please be aware there are other online resources you can access with COTrip.org. These interactive features will help travelers plan safe routes this winter.

- Use the 'Road Conditions' layer. This map layer features real-time reports from our maintenance crews and will show if roadway surfaces are dry, wet, snowy or icy. It will also indicate if there is poor visibility or if high winds are present.
- Use the weather layers on COTrip. By selecting these three layers, you can see the 'Weather Radar,' 'Weather Alerts' or visit 'Weather Stations' across the region. As well, we always encourage travelers to know before they go and view local forecasts by visiting weather.gov.
- Follow our CDOT plows by using the 'Plow Tracker' layer. By clicking on the plow icons in your area, you can see the plows' current locations, their travel speed and direction of travel.

Regarding our "boots-on-the-ground" services, highway maintenance and construction projects are wrapping up for the 2025 season. You are likely aware of Governor Polis' executive order mandating a state hiring freeze. Please note, essential positions in our maintenance and engineering divisions are exempt from the freeze. The exemption allows for critical business and operational needs to be addressed and our dedicated service to the traveling public to remain unchanged.

Please feel free to share this information with your colleagues and community members. If you have any questions or highway needs, the best way to reach our regional staff is through our customer service hotline, 970-385-1423.



UPCOMING MEETINGS AND EVENTS

- **Sustainability Advisory Board Meeting** – November 11, 2025 at 5:00 p.m. at Town Hall and virtually via Zoom
- **Town Council Regular Meeting** – November 12, 2025 at 4:30 p.m. in-person at Town Hall and virtually via Zoom
- **FUSE Creative Main Street Committee Meeting** – November 18, 2025 at 5:30 p.m. at the Decker Room
- **Planning Commission Meeting** – November 19, 2025 at 5:30 p.m. at Town Hall and virtually via Zoom
- **Housing Needs Assessment Public Presentation** – November 20, 2025 at 6:00 p.m. at the Decker Room
- **Sustainability Advisory Board Meeting** – December 2, 2025 at 5:00 p.m. at Town Hall and virtually via Zoom
- **Town Council Budget Workshop** – December 3, 2025 at 5:30 p.m. at Town Hall and virtually via Zoom
- **Town Council Regular Meeting** – December 10, 2025 at 5:30 p.m. in-person at Town Hall and virtually via Zoom

JOKE OF THE DAY

From Polly Kroger, Town Council member:

Got chased by a skeleton but when they caught me, they just gave me a kiss and hug.

Turns out it was an xoskeleton.