

**AGENDA
OURAY CITY COUNCIL**

Monday, December 1, 2025 - 6:00 PM

**Ouray Community Center
320 6th Ave
Ouray, CO 81427**

VIRTUAL OPTION - <https://zoom.us/j/9349389230>

Meeting ID: 934 938 9230 Passcode: 491878 Or dial: 408 638 0968 or 669 900 6833

Ouray City Council Regular Meeting

- Changes to this agenda can be found on the bulletin board at City Hall
- Electronic copies of the Council Packet are available on the City website at www.cityofouray.com. A hard copy of the Packet is also available at the Administrative Office for interested citizens.
- Notice is hereby given that a majority or quorum of the Planning Commission, Ouray Economic Development Committee, Beautification Committee, Tourism Advisory Committee, Main Streets Committee, and/or Parks and Recreation Committee may be present at the above noticed City Council meeting to discuss any or all of the matters on the agenda below for Council consideration

1. CALL TO ORDER
2. ROLL CALL
3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES - August 11, 2025, September 10, 2025, October 6, 2025, November 3, 2025, November 17, 2025, and November 25, 2025
5. CEREMONIAL/INFORMATIONAL
 - a. Recognition of Service on the Council - Mayor Funk, Mayor Pro Tem Smith, Councilor Gulde
 - b. Oath of Office
 - Mayor Underwood
 - Councilor Hart
6. CITIZENS' COMMUNICATION
7. CITY COUNCIL REPORTS/INFORMATION - Peggy Lindsey, Jenny Hart, Michael Underwood
8. DEPARTMENT REPORTS
 - a. City Administrator
 - b. Interim Police Chief
 - c. Fire Chief
 - d. Public Works Director
 - e. Parks and Recreation Director
 - f. Marketing & Communication Director
9. CONSENT AGENDA
10. ACTION ITEMS
 - a. Selection of Mayor Pro Tem
11. DISCUSSION ITEMS
 - a. Pedestrian Wayfinding Signage Feedback
 - b. Process for the Filling of Vacant Council Seats
 - c. Process for Selection of a Permanent City Attorney
 - d. Future Agenda Items
12. ADJOURNMENT



Ouray City Council Special Meeting

Monday, August 11, 2025 1:00 PM
Ouray Community Center, 320 6th Ave, Ouray, CO 81427

Ethan Funk: Present
Tamara Gulde: Present
Peggy Lindsey: Present
Josh Smith: Present
Michael Underwood: Present

Also present was City Attorney Carol Viner

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Funk called the meeting to order at 1:00 pm.

2. ROLL CALL

3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

4. EXECUTIVE SESSION - For discussion of a personnel matter under C.R.S. 24-6-402(2)(f) regarding the 6-month review of the City Administrator, who has not requested discussion of the matter in open session

Motion to go into executive session at 1:03 pm. This motion, made by Peggy Lindsey and seconded by Tamara Gulde, Carried.

Ethan Funk: Yea, Tamara Gulde: Yea, Peggy Lindsey: Yea, Josh Smith: Yea, Michael Underwood: Yea

5. ADJOURNMENT

The executive session ended at 3:43.

Motion to adjourn at 3:43 pm. This motion, made by Peggy Lindsey and seconded by Tamara Gulde, Carried.

Ethan Funk: Yea, Tamara Gulde: Yea, Peggy Lindsey: Yea, Josh Smith: Yea, Michael Underwood: Yea

Ethan Funk, Mayor

ATTEST:

Michelle Metteer, City Administrator

CERTIFICATION

I, Michelle Metteer, do hereby certify that I am the City Administrator for the City of Ouray, Ouray County, State of Colorado, and that the above minutes are a true and correct summary of the meeting of the Ouray City Council held on Monday, August 11, 2025. I further certify that the meeting was duly called and held, and that a quorum was present.

Dated this Monday, August 11, 2025.

Michelle Metteer, City Administrator



Ouray City Council Special Meeting

Wednesday, September 10, 2025 4:30 PM
Ouray Community Center, 320 6th Ave, Ouray, CO 81427

Ethan Funk: Absent
Tamara Gulde: Present
Peggy Lindsey: Present
Josh Smith: Absent
Michael Underwood: Present

Also present were: City Administrator Michelle Metteer and Finance and Administration Director Melissa Drake.

1. CALL TO ORDER

Councilor Gulde called the meeting to order at 4:30 pm.

2. ROLL CALL

3. ACTION ITEM - Ratification of Declaration Rescinding Stage 2 Fire Restrictions

Motion to ratify Declaration 3, Series 2025. This motion, made by Peggy Lindsey and seconded by Michael Underwood, Carried.

Tamara Gulde: Yea, Peggy Lindsey: Yea, Michael Underwood: Yea

4. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn at 4:33 pm. This motion, made by Peggy Lindsey and seconded by Michael Underwood, Carried.

Tamara Gulde: Yea, Peggy Lindsey: Yea, Michael Underwood: Yea

Ethan Funk, Mayor

ATTEST:

Michelle Metteer, City Administrator

CERTIFICATION

I, Michelle Metteer, do hereby certify that I am the City Administrator for the City of Ouray, Ouray County, State of Colorado, and that the above minutes are a true and correct summary of the meeting of the Ouray City Council

held on Wednesday, September 10, 2025. I further certify that the meeting was duly called and held, and that a quorum was present.

Dated this Wednesday, September 10, 2025.

Michelle Metteer, City Administrator



Ouray City Council Regular Meeting

Monday, October 6, 2025 6:00 PM
Ouray Community Center, 320 6th Ave,
Ouray, CO 81427

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Funk called the meeting to order at 6:00pm.

2. ROLL CALL

Ethan Funk:	Present
Tamara Gulde:	Present
Peggy Lindsey:	Present
Josh Smith:	Present
Michael Underwood:	Present

Also present were: City Administrator Michelle Metteer, Public Works Director Joe Coleman, Parks and Recreation Director Joe Brown, Interim Police Chief Daric Harvey, Community Development Director Dan Murphy, Destination Marketing Director Kailey Rhoten, IT Director Rich Willis and Interim City Attorney Harper Powell.

3. Consideration of a Request from Mayor Pro Tem Josh Smith to Participate in this Meeting Remotely, per Resolution 4, Series 2022 - Remote Participation Policy for Council Members

Motion to approve the participation of Mayor Pro Tem Smith remotely. This motion, made by Tamara Gulde and seconded by Peggy Lindsey, Carried.

Ethan Funk: Yea, Tamara Gulde: Yea, Peggy Lindsey: Yea, Josh Smith: Abstain (With Conflict), Michael Underwood: Yea

4. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The pledge of allegiance was recited.

5. CEREMONIAL/INFORMATIONAL — Facilities Needs Assessment Update

Jim Keo provided an update on the ongoing facility assessment work. Addendum 1 includes most park facilities, public works but not police. Police will be under Addendum 2. The OPD will be meeting with the team on 10/07/25 and will have structural engineering onsite. Jenny Hart asked about overnight sleeping for on-call police. Deric is looking into making this space more functional. Jim Keto stated that a lot of times it's a waste of space.

Additionally, Jim Keo gave a report on 333 6th Ave as this is a top priority. He also stated the building needs to be rehabbed structurally. Mayor Funk asked what the minimum amount would be needed for budget year 2026. Jenny Hart asked if there was an on-call room? Police Interm Chief Harvey stated that it's hard to have a separate space for overnight housing.

6. APPROVAL OF MINUTES — Meeting of September 15, 2025

City Administrator Metteer indicated the minutes from September 15, 2025, will be added to a future agenda for approval.

7. CITIZENS' COMMUNICATION

No citizen's communications.

8. CITY COUNCIL REPORTS/INFORMATION - Tamara Gulde, Peggy Lindsey, Michael Underwood, Josh Smith, and Ethan Funk

Councilor Gulde on the 18th went to an all-day regional recovery symposium in Montrose with the sheriff's department and emergency services. On Sept 23rd there was a TAC meeting and Ann Fellin resigned from the Committee. Dolgio Nergui was voted in as the new chair. The Committee is concerned about the TAC grants program and one specific area of concern is supporting local arts programming. Some of the TAC members are considering attending the next Main Street Committee meeting in order to understand if there's a value in merging committees. On September 25th, she attended the volunteer appreciation at Rotary Park, indicating the food was great and special thanks to Jay Lauderdale. On September 29th, she went to the CML District Meeting at the Twin Peaks restaurant. She also took time to solicit support for the Crystal Reservoir Conveyance Act. On the 1st of October, she attended IPAT where the group looked for ways to streamline clinic fees and utilize more terrain during Ice Fest. On October 2nd, she attended the Mass Fatalities Response Training held here in the Community Center, where attendees learned the importance of how to address an emergency situation involving more fatalities than the local response team can handle. On the 6th of October she will be in Breckenridge learning about climate change. Wayne Dempksi asked why the Councilor went to Breckenridge. He asked why they used city taxpayers' money, to which Councilor Gulde explained the benefits of understanding climate change in order to address issues such as wildfire mitigation, evacuations, building codes, and other issues related to preparedness for a changing climate.

Councilor Lindsey also went to the CML District Meeting and the volunteer appreciation. She said the Beautification Committee will be using the tree at the Elk's Club for the City's Christmas tree this year. Christmas decorations will be done in October and Christmas lights go up in early November. Councilor Underwood also went to the volunteer appreciation dinner, the CML District Meeting and the Ouray Economic Development Committee's grant recipient reception.

Mayor Funk also went to the volunteer appreciation event at Rotary Park. He has also been working on an Agreement to address the heat exchange testing involving OX2/OX6.

9. DEPARTMENT REPORTS

a. City Administrator

Susette Warnick asked about the wayfinding signs and if photos showing the size of the signs could be included for those who need to provide feedback online.

Paul Smith asked for an update on the hiring of the Chief of Police and Ms. Metteer indicated the community meet and greet is being scheduled, POST has been contacted and the City is working through the steps of Rule 29 which outlines the process for the hiring of a police officer.

b. Interim Police Chief

Interim Chief Harvey apologized for not having an update in the Council packet as he was focused on the PD vehicle leases and the newly purchased property at 333 6th Ave. The evidence management system is now fully implemented. He has also been working with the juvenile services program within the County. Paul Smith was appreciative of the youth

intervention. John Hart said he has concerns about the materials being stored at the Biota building and requested follow-up given there is a safety concern for neighboring children.

c. Fire Chief

Adam Kunz is planning a volunteer appreciation. See packet for complete report.

d. Public Works Director

See packet.

e. Parks and Recreation Director

See packet.

f. Marketing & Communication Director

See Packet.

10. CONSENT AGENDA

I make a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. This motion, made by Peggy Lindsey and seconded by Michael Underwood, Carried.

Ethan Funk: Yea, Tamara Gulde: Yea, Peggy Lindsey: Yea, Josh Smith: Yea, Michael Underwood: Yea

a. Black Bear Manor Liquor License Renewal

b. Elks Club Liquor License Renewal

11. ACTION ITEMS

a. Resolution 23, Series 2025 — Rescinding Stage 1 Water Restrictions

Motion to Approve Resolution 22, Series 2025, A Resolution Rescinding Stage 1 Water Restrictions. This motion, made by Michael Underwood and seconded by Peggy Lindsey, Carried.

Ethan Funk: Yea, Tamara Gulde: Yea, Peggy Lindsey: Yea, Josh Smith: Yea, Michael Underwood: Yea

b. Resolution 24, Series 2025 - EQR Offset Program Renewal

Staff indicated the program is capped at \$30,000 and that currently the utilization of the program is at a cost of approximately \$15,000, so there is room for the program to grow. Josh Smith asked to consider raising the AMI in the fourth Whereas in the Resolution up to 120%.

Motion to Approve Resolution 24, Series 2025 with an amendment to set the AMI to 120%. This motion, made by Josh Smith and seconded by Tamara Gulde, Carried.

Ethan Funk: Yea, Tamara Gulde: Yea, Peggy Lindsey: Yea, Josh Smith: Yea, Michael Underwood: Yea

c. Ouray Waterview Deed Restricted Housing Unit — Notification of Right of First Refusal

Wayne Dempsey, 2101 Main Street, asked if within the documentation of the City that the City has the ability to purchase property. The question was addressed and confirmed that the City does have the legal right to purchase property.

Motion to not accept the first right of refusal for the purchase of 2260 Namichi Way. This motion, made by Peggy Lindsey and seconded by Michael Underwood, Carried.

Ethan Funk: Yea, Tamara Gulde: Yea, Peggy Lindsey: Yea, Josh Smith: Yea, Michael Underwood: Yea

d. Ratification of City Administrator's Signature on Agreement for On-sight Building Inspection

City Administrator Metteer explained that this option allows for on-site building inspection services as opposed to the SafeBuilt building inspection services, which are virtual only. Further explanation was given to express the need to move forward with inspection services immediatoly, therefore necessitating the City Administrator's signature and the reason why the request for ratification of the signature is coming before the Council today.

Motion to approve the ratification of the City Administrator's signature for the contract covering on-site building inspections. This motion, made by Josh Smith and seconded by Michael Underwood, Carried.

Ethan Funk: Yea, Tamara Gulde: Yea, Peggy Lindsey: Yea, Josh Smith: Yea, Michael Underwood: Yea

Motion to approve the ratification of the City Administrator's signature on the Agreement for On-Site Building Inspections. This motion, made by Josh Smith and seconded by Michael Underwood, Carried.

Ethan Funk: Yea, Tamara Gulde: Yea, Peggy Lindsey: Yea, Josh Smith: Yea, Michael Underwood: Yea

e. Approval of Affordable Housing Administrative Services Contract

Mayor Funk explained there is an IGA between the Town of Ridgway, Ouray County and the City of Ouray to share in the deed restriction administrative services and this contract is the effectual execution of the IGA.

Motion to approve the Affordable Housing Administrative Services contract. This motion, made by Peggy Lindsey and seconded by Tamara Gulde, Carried.

Ethan Funk: Yea, Tamara Gulde: Yea, Peggy Lindsey: Yea, Josh Smith: Yea, Michael Underwood: Yea

Motion to approve the Affordable Housing Administrative Services Contract. This motion, made by Peggy Lindsey and seconded by Tamara Gulde, Carried.

Ethan Funk: Yea, Tamara Gulde: Yea, Peggy Lindsey: Yea, Josh Smith: Yea, Michael Underwood: Yea

f. Approval of Contract with Mountain Air Music Series (MAMS) for 150th Celebration

John Hart asked if the City of Ouray and Ridgway could swap months for the summer concert series, effectively having Ouray's concerts in July, not June. It was explained that this topic is covering the 150th Celebration concert which is scheduled for October 2026. Paul Smith, 2nd Street, acknowledged that regardless of what bucket of money the funds for the concert are coming from, this is still an extraordinary amount of money for a concert in the park. Mr. Smith further expressed his interest in the ability to spend tourism dollars toward fire mitigation. Susette Warnick said she had only heard about the 150th Celebration one time. Jenny Hart said the council should have a representative on the committee.

Motion to approve the Professional Services Agreement between the City of Ouray and Mountain Air Music Series. This motion, made by Peggy Lindsey and seconded by Josh Smith, Carried.

Ethan Funk: Yea, Tamara Gulde: Yea, Peggy Lindsey: Yea, Josh Smith: Yea, Michael Underwood: Yea

g. Affordable Housing Administrative Services Billing

Jenny Hart asked who would be receiving 1% of the sale price now that one of the units at Waterview is selling and the Affordable Housing Administration Service is changing hands. Mayor Funk indicated it will go to the new company.

Motion to Approve the Affordable Housing Administrative Services Billing. This motion, made by Michael Underwood and seconded by Tamara Gulde, Carried.

Ethan Funk: Yea, Tamara Gulde: Yea, Peggy Lindsey: Yea, Josh Smith: Yea, Michael Underwood: Yea

12. DISCUSSION ITEMS

a. City-owned Land Near 210 9th Avenue

Mayor Funk outlined that the City received a request from a property owner adjacent to the catchment basin to vacate a portion of city-owned land in the catchment basin. Peggy Lindsey indicated she was not interested in this option. Josh Smith identified the City could potentially build three ADU's on this section of land should the City be interested in such an option one day. Tamara Gulde reminded the Council that several years ago a site visit in this location was conducted to discuss the option of future workforce housing. Ms. Gulde is interested in keeping as much City property as possible. Mayor Funk addressed the letter from the requesting property owner and reminded the Council that prior requestors had made promises of turning land into ADU's/workforce housing and those promises went unfulfilled. Mr. Underwood said he is not interested in giving City land to private individuals. The general direction of the Council was to not move forward with this request. Jenny Hart indicated that if someone is maintaining property for 18 years, they can claim it as their own, to which point Attorney Powell reminded the Council that adverse possession does not apply to government entities.

b. Committee Review

Mayor Funk discussed the opportunity of consolidating the committee process within the City code. The reorganization of the code to have one section that outlines how committee members are chosen and approved to create a unified process for all committees as a way to increase efficiency. He also stated that committees are advisory to the City Council. They are not advisory to the staff and committees cannot give the staff tasks. There was a consensus from the Council on standardizing the process in the code for joining a committee. These changes, which would standardize the committee process, can eventually be brought back before the Council by Ordinance for consideration.

c. Lighting Ordinance

Mayor Funk reminded everyone that the prior City discussions indicated there is not an interest in following the strict dark sky lighting approach as it is technically defined. The lighting ordinance would have two goals. One would be to address lighting on new structures and the second would be to address nuisance issues stemming from lighting. Community Development Director Dan Murphy indicated there is a lack of a lighting ordinance in the code currently and staff would benefit from having lighting design standards. Michael Underwood supported the work for the lighting Ordinance and the ability to address current lighting nuisances. Mayor

Funk stated he believes lighting standards, alongside the building code, should also live in the nuisance code. This can be determined based on the number of lumens determined by a light reading meter. Josh Smith asked staff to put an Ordinance together that includes the performance requirements for enforcement. The Council was in agreement with having the Interim Attorney spend time creating an Ordinance in the nuisance section of the code addressing the performance issue. Paul Smith said having an Ordinance for lighting similar to the sound Ordinance makes common sense.

d. Fleet Vehicles Lease Option

Interim Police Chief Harvey provided information supporting the leasing of fleet vehicles for the police department, including acknowledging that the Sheriff's office leases several of their vehicles. The lease options come with a warranty option and repair service. The current fleet maintenance and cycle has led to unreliable vehicles. The lease option is the best option to get the department's fleet back on track. Interim Chief Harvey indicated this is the most fiscally responsible approach for getting the department back on track. Peggy Lindsey expressed concerns about the need for so many new vehicles given the limited amount of police activity in Ouray. Interim Chief Harvey proceeded to explain the amount of repairs needed for the current fleet and the ability to save funds if going to the lease option. Josh Smith asked if the leases could be staggered to spread out the costs. Mayor Fund said the question becomes the bottom-line cost of the lease versus the direct purchase. Interim Chief Harvey said that if you want him out recruiting, there are other impacts besides the vehicles just needing a startup. Tamara Gulde wanted to ensure the safety of the department and the ability to have working vehicles. She also supported staggering the purchasing of vehicles, especially with an uncertain economic future. Peggy Lindsey asked to see the cost difference between the lease of two and the lease of three vehicles. Josh Smith recommended keeping the two best vehicles and then reviewing the cost differences between the lease of two vehicles and three. Interim Chief Harvey said Denver PD is waiting a year to get vehicles and the longer the City of Ouray delays this purchase, the more the City risks not having these leases available. The Council discussion concluded with Interim Chief Harvey coming back to Council with lease estimates for two and three vehicles.

e. Future Agenda Items

13. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn. This motion, made by Peggy Lindsey and seconded by Tamara Gulde, Carried.

Ethan Funk: Yea, Tamara Gulde: Yea, Peggy Lindsey: Yea, Josh Smith: Yea, Michael Underwood: Yea

Ethan Funk, Mayor

ATTEST:

Michelle Metteer, City Administrator

CERTIFICATION

I, Michelle Metteer, do hereby certify that I am the City Administrator of the City of Ouray, Ouray County, State of Colorado, and that the above minutes are a true and correct summary of the meeting

of the Ouray City Council held on Monday, October 6, 2025. I further certify that the meeting was duly called and held, and that a quorum was present.

Dated this Monday, October 6, 2025.

Michelle Metteer, City Administrator



Ouray City Council Regular Meeting

Monday, November 3, 2025 6:00 PM

Ouray Community Center, 320 6th Ave, Ouray, CO 81427

Ethan Funk: Present
Tamara Gulde: Present
Peggy Lindsey: Present
Josh Smith: Present
Michael Underwood: Present

Also present were: City Administrator Michelle Metteer, Public Works Director Joe Coleman, Parks and Recreation Director Joe Brown, Interim Police Chief Daric Harvey, Community Development Director Dan Murphy, Destination Marketing Director Kailey Rhoten, IT Director Rich Willis and City Attorney Harper Powell.

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Funk called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm.

2. ROLL CALL

3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

4. CEREMONIAL/INFORMATIONAL

a. Riverview 6-Plex Update

Andrea Sokolowski provided an update on the Riverview 6-plex including maintenance work and additional funding needs prior to finishing the project.

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES - June 2, 2025, June 16, 2025

Motion to approve minutes from June 2 and June 16, 2025. This motion, made by Tamara Gulde and seconded by Josh Smith, Carried.

Ethan Funk: Yea, Tamara Gulde: Yea, Peggy Lindsey: Yea, Josh Smith: Yea, Michael Underwood: Yea

6. CITIZENS' COMMUNICATION

Mayor Funk opened the floor for public comment. John Hart asked for an update on the Oak Street petition that had been previously turned in, and an update to the Biota building safety and fencing concerns. Paul Smith asked for the ability to address the Biota building issues from a safety perspective. Kevin Schiffer thanked the Council for their work on the Council to date. Mayor Funk closed the floor.

7. CITY COUNCIL REPORTS/INFORMATION - Tamara Gulde, Peggy Lindsey, Michael Underwood, Josh Smith, and Ethan Funk

Councilor Gulde provided an update from the TAC group, and the Committee is looking forward to the Council's budget decisions. Also attended the Chief of Police meet and greet as well as the attendance of the emergency evacuation plan tabletop exercise with the live version to take place on May 15, 2026.

Councilor Lindsey indicated the Beautification Committee has not met since the last meeting but has been busy

working to prepare the City for the holiday season. Additionally, flume cleanup will be is getting organized. Councilor Underwood attended the Chief of Police meet and greet as well as the emergency planning tabletop exercise. Parks and Recreation will be meeting on Nov 4th at 4:00 pm at Fellin Park.

Mayor Pro Tem Smith has not had any meetings since the last Council meeting but will be attending the Main Street Committee meeting next week.

Mayor Funk notified the public of the pedestrian way finding signage on Main Street and is requesting feedback on the prototypes. He also attended the Chief meet and greet and the Crystal Reservoir review with Congressman Hurd.

8. DEPARTMENT REPORTS

a. City Administrator

Ms. Metteer gave an overview of her report.

b. Interim Police Chief

Chief Harvey updated the council on hiring an additional officer, evidence processing and obtaining the leased vehicles.

c. Fire Chief

Chief Kunz gave an overview of the upcoming training, and the repairs needed to the ladder truck to keep it compliant. The Fire Department responded to 11 calls last month, and over 60 year to date, compared to 34 for all of 2024.

d. Public Works Director

See packet for an update. It was noted that CDOT has placed large pedestrian signs on Main Street and if anyone has questions, please contact CDOT directly. Also, the sewer plant has been operationally consistent, and the digesters are working as planned. The fence around the property is currently being erected.

e. Parks and Recreation Director

See packet for an update. Joe Brown expressed the extensive feedback received from the proposed new signs at Rotary Park and the Hot Springs/Visitor Center locations. He recommends keeping the current signs as they are and not erecting the new signs at this time.

f. Marketing & Communication Director

See packet for an update. It was highlighted that Ms. Rhoten and the City of Ouray won the award for the exemplary destination stewardship initiative for the Do Ouray Right program, Ambassador Program and Volunteer program.

9. CONSENT AGENDA

10. ACTION ITEMS

Motion to approve Ordinance 04 Series 2025. This motion, made by Peggy Lindsey and seconded by Michael Underwood, Carried.

Ethan Funk: Yea, Tamara Gulde: Yea, Peggy Lindsey: Yea, Josh Smith: Yea, Michael Underwood: Yea

a. Ordinance 4, Series 2025 — Adopting the 2026 Water & Sewer Utility Rates — First Reading

The Mayor provided an overview of the need to address the water and sewer rates in order to have each of those funds break even and maintain compliance with the State of Colorado SRF fund and CWRPDA.

Motion to approve Ordinance 4, Series 2025. This motion, made by Peggy Lindsey and seconded by Michael Underwood, Carried.

Ethan Funk: Yea, Tamara Gulde: Yea, Peggy Lindsey: Yea, Josh Smith: Yea, Michael Underwood: Yea

b. Localist Contract Update

Motion to approve the proposed software services agreement with C3D to be cost shared between the Town of Ridgway and City of Ouray. This motion, made by Michael Underwood and seconded by Peggy Lindsey, Carried.

Ethan Funk: Yea, Tamara Gulde: Yea, Peggy Lindsey: Yea, Josh Smith: Yea, Michael Underwood: Yea

c. Resolution 25 - Series 2025 A Resolution Approving Police Response Time

Mayor Funk provided an overview of prior work session discussions covering the policy of police response time and the need to memorialize the position of the City as it relates to police response time. Discussion ensued. Kevin Schiffer asked if this could be an agency response as opposed to an individual response. Interim Attorney Powell identified the statute discusses residency requirements which cannot be attributed to an agency but rather an individual. Paul Smith asked for the allowance of exceptions which he identified would benefit the community.

Motion to approve Resolution 25 with the requirement of the Chief of Police to live within 25 minutes and 25 miles of the City and for the Police officers to live within 25 minutes and 25 miles of the City while adding a 5th Whereas to allow for the first year of employment to live within 45 miles and 45 minutes of the City. This motion, made by Peggy Lindsey and seconded by Tamara Gulde, Carried.

Ethan Funk: Yea, Tamara Gulde: Yea, Peggy Lindsey: Yea, Josh Smith: Yea, Michael Underwood: Yea

11. DISCUSSION ITEMS

a. Parking Study Discussion

Council discussed the potential strategies to improve parking availability in town, including cleaning up parking areas off of Main Street to gain more attractive parking options with minimal effort.

b. Graywater Act Discussion

Council decided not to change the City Code at this time, as the City already meets the requirements in the Act.

c. Future Agenda Items

a. Schedule Special Meeting; Budget Approval

November 25th at 1 pm

12. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn at 8:20 pm. This motion, made by Peggy Lindsey and seconded by Josh Smith, Carried.

Ethan Funk: Yea, Tamara Gulde: Yea, Peggy Lindsey: Yea, Josh Smith: Yea, Michael Underwood: Yea

Ethan Funk, Mayor

ATTEST:

Michelle Metteer, City Administrator

CERTIFICATION

I, Michelle Metteer, do hereby certify that I am the City Administrator for the City of Ouray, Ouray County, State of Colorado, and that the above minutes are a true and correct summary of the meeting of the Ouray City Council held on Monday, November 3, 2025. I further certify that the meeting was duly called and held, and that a quorum was present.

Dated this Monday, November 3, 2025.

Michelle Metteer, City Administrator



Ouray City Council Regular Meeting

Monday, November 17, 2025 6:00 PM
Ouray Community Center, 320 6th Ave, Ouray, CO 81427

Ethan Funk: Present
Tamara Gulde: Present
Peggy Lindsey: Present
Josh Smith: Present
Michael Underwood: Present

Also present were: City Administrator Michelle Metteer, Finance and Administration Director Kara Rhoades, Public Works Director Joe Coleman, Parks and Recreation Director Joe Brown, Interim Police Chief Daric Harvey, Community Development Director Dan Murphy via Zoom, IT Director Rich Willis and City Attorney Harper Powell via Zoom.

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Funk called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm.

2. ROLL CALL

3. Consideration of a Request from Councilor Peggy Lindsey to Participate in this Meeting Remotely, per Resolution 4, Series 2022 - Remote Participation Policy for Council Members

Motion to allow Councilor Lindsey to participate remotely. This motion, made by Josh Smith and seconded by Michael Underwood, Carried.

Ethan Funk: Yea, Tamara Gulde: Yea, Peggy Lindsey: Abstain (With Conflict), Josh Smith: Yea, Michael Underwood: Yea

4. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

5. PUBLIC HEARING - Ordinance 04 - Series 2025; Adopting the 2026 Water & Sewer Utility Rates

Mayor Funk opened the floor for the public hearing. Since there were no comments, Mayor Funk closed the floor.

6. CEREMONIAL/INFORMATIONAL - Proclamation 5 - Series 2025; Pardoning of the Turkeys

Mayor Funk read the Proclamation.

7. CITIZENS' COMMUNICATION

Mayor Funk opened the floor for public comment. Since there were no comments, Mayor Funk closed the floor.

8. CITY COUNCIL REPORTS/INFORMATION - Tamara Gulde, Peggy Lindsey, Michael Underwood, Josh Smith, and Ethan Funk

Councilor Gulde - IPAT board meeting is scheduled for January 7th, and a public meeting will be held on November 19th. TAC meeting will be held on November 25th. Councilor Gulde encouraged citizens to read the community plan to better understand Council's decisions.

Councilor Lindsey - Beautification Committee met on November 5th and had a volunteer appreciation breakfast at that meeting. Discussed holiday decorations. The next meeting will be December 3rd. The 150th Celebration Committee is going to participate in Yule Day events and will hold a meeting on December 2nd.

Councilor Underwood - PARC met on November 4th. City Staff will have a winter activities and events calendar ready by the end of November. The next meeting is December 2nd. OEDC met on November 13th and discussed the upcoming career fair to be held at Ouray School in March. They are working on a final draft of the committee's strategic plan for review. Attended the CML Policy Committee Webinar on November 12th.

Mayor Pro Tem Smith - Attended the Main Street Committee meeting, talked about merging TAC and the Main Street Committee in the future. Attended the Gunnison Valley Transportation meeting, where they approved their long term plan, which includes shoulder widening at Billy Creek.

Mayor Funk - Spoke about the vacancies on the council and the process of filling those seats now that the election is over and there were not enough candidates to fill the open seats. He encouraged citizens to participate in the city government process and encouraged people to stand up to angry or entitled people who he perceives have caused the reduced participation in government.

9. DEPARTMENT REPORTS

a. City Administrator

Ms. Metteer introduced Kara Rhoades, the new Finance and Administration Director, and gave an overview of her report.

b. Director of Finance and Administration

Ms. Rhoades presented the financial reports, which she acknowledged Ms. Drake had prepared, and said she's working on getting up to speed to be able to speak about the reports more in the future.

c. Community Development Director

Mr. Murphy gave an overview of his report.

d. Information Technology Director

Mr. Willis gave an overview of his report.

10. CONSENT AGENDA

11. ACTION ITEMS

a. Ordinance 4, Series 2025 — Adopting the 2026 Water & Sewer Utility Rates — Second Reading

Motion to approve the second reading of Ordinance 4, Series 2025. This motion, made by Josh Smith and seconded by Tamara Gulde, Carried.

Ethan Funk: Yea, Tamara Gulde: Yea, Peggy Lindsey: Yea, Josh Smith: Yea, Michael Underwood: Yea

b. Resolution 26 - Series 2025; A Resolution Approving Police Department Housing Stipends

Council discussed rescinding Resolution 25 and reinstating the 10 minute/10-mile limit. Interim Chief Harvey spoke about how the City can't compete with the wages that the Montrose Police Department pays combined with the lower cost of living, and it creates a complex issue that will take time to resolve. Ouray County Sheriff Perry felt a 20-minute response time was the quickest reasonable expectation the council should place on officers and encouraged thoughtful consideration before taking action. Paul Smith also encouraged the council to table the conversation to allow for further discussion. Kevin Schiffer agreed that a 10-minute response time would be nice, but not if it's detrimental to the police force, and urged council to not vote on the resolution tonight. Heather Toth echoed Mr. Schiffer's comment about

maintaining a healthy police force, and felt that the housing stipend was not enough to make a difference in being able to afford a house in Ouray or not.

Motion to approve Resolution 26 to modify Resolution 25, 4th whereas, changing the 20 minutes to 10 minutes and 20 miles to 10 miles and eliminating the 45 minute/mile phrase and replacing it with "new officers have 6 months to comply" 5th whereas will state that officers will receive a \$1000/month stipend if they meet the 10 minute/10 mile requirement. This motion, made by Peggy Lindsey and seconded by Josh Smith, Failed.

Ethan Funk: Nay, Tamara Gulde: Nay, Peggy Lindsey: Nay, Josh Smith: Nay, Michael Underwood: Nay
Motion to approve Resolution 26, Series 2025. This motion, made by Tamara Gulde, Withdrawn.

c. Tourism Advisory Committee Member Selection

Motion to appoint Heather Toth to Tourism Advisory Committee. This motion, made by Tamara Gulde and seconded by Michael Underwood, Carried.

Ethan Funk: Yea, Tamara Gulde: Yea, Peggy Lindsey: Yea, Josh Smith: Yea, Michael Underwood: Yea

d. Clarke Consultant Contract Extension

Motion to approve the Clarke consultant contract extension. This motion, made by Michael Underwood and seconded by Josh Smith, Carried.

Ethan Funk: Yea, Tamara Gulde: Yea, Peggy Lindsey: Yea, Josh Smith: Yea, Michael Underwood: Yea

12. DISCUSSION ITEMS

a. Future Agenda Items

13. THE OURAY CITY COUNCIL SHALL CONVENE AS THE OURAY HOUSING COMMITTEE FOR DISCUSSION OF DEED RESTRICTION RENEWAL PROCESS FOR WATERVIEW

The Council convened as the Ouray Housing Committee at 8:03 pm. Mayor Funk said the current housing administrator is requiring residents to recertify by re-applying as they had when they originally purchased the house, which is not correct according to the deed restrictions. A new administrator is starting in 2026, and the council directed staff to delay the renewal process until the new housing administrator starts.

14. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn at 8:08 pm. This motion, made by Peggy Lindsey and seconded by Tamara Gulde, Carried.

Ethan Funk: Yea, Tamara Gulde: Yea, Peggy Lindsey: Yea, Josh Smith: Yea, Michael Underwood: Yea

Ethan Funk, Mayor

ATTEST:

Kara Rhoades, City Clerk

CERTIFICATION

I, Kara Rhoades, do hereby certify that I am the City Clerk of the City of Ouray, Ouray County, State of Colorado, and that the above minutes are a true and correct summary of the meeting of the Ouray City Council held on Monday, November 17, 2025. I further certify that the meeting was duly called and held, and that a quorum was present.

Dated this Monday, November 17, 2025.

Kara Rhoades, City Clerk



Ouray City Council Special Meeting

Tuesday, November 25, 2025 1:00 PM
Ouray Community Center, 320 6th Ave, Ouray, CO 81427

Ethan Funk: Present
Tamara Gulde: Present
Peggy Lindsey: Present
Josh Smith: Present
Michael Underwood: Present

Also present were: City Administrator Michelle Metteer, Finance and Administration Director Kara Rhoades, Deputy Treasurer Julie Lancaster, Public Works Director Joe Coleman, Parks and Recreation Director Joe Brown, Interim Police Chief Daric Harvey, Community Development Director Dan Murphy, and Marketing and Communication Director Kailey Rhoten.

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Funk called the meeting to order at 1:00 pm.

2. ROLL CALL

3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES - July 7, 2025, September 2, 2025, September 15, 2025 and October 20, 2025

Councilor Gulde noted that on September 15th, her name was misspelled in some places, and also Hart was misspelled, and that on September 2nd, "election" should be "election forum" in item 9e.

Motion to approve minutes with noted changes. This motion, made by Tamara Gulde and seconded by Josh Smith, Carried.

Ethan Funk: Yea, Tamara Gulde: Yea, Peggy Lindsey: Yea, Josh Smith: Yea, Michael Underwood: Yea

5. PUBLIC HEARING - 2026 City of Ouray Budget

Mayor Funk opened the floor for public hearing. Kevin Schiffer asked if a portion of first responder expenses could come from the tourism fund because many of the calls come from visitors. Mayor Funk said that the best thing to do would be to create a ballot initiative that would clarify how the Lodging Occupancy Tax could be used, specifically stating that it should cover a portion of Police and Fire costs. Jenny Hart said the Mountain Rescue Team is working on a GPS map with all rescue locations to see what jurisdiction they are in. Mayor Funk closed the floor.

6. ACTION ITEMS

- a. Resolution 26, Series 2025 - Adopting the 2026 City of Ouray Budget

Ms. Metteer gave an overview of what was cut or reduced to make the budget balance, noting the Council's previously noted priorities have been included, except for the Fire Mitigation work. Kevin Schiffer asked if the Ski Tow would be operational this winter. Mr. Brown confirmed that all inspections have been going well thus far, and he anticipates being able to open the hill. Jenny Hart asked how the ladder truck rebuild estimate was reduced since the first time it was presented. City Staff did not know how it had

been reduced. Mayor Pro Tem Smith lamented that the OurWay shuttle contribution was cut in half. Ms. Hart, as the fundraiser for Mountain Rescue, said Mountain Rescue would be willing to give up their contribution in order to allow the City to fully fund the OurWay shuttle request.

Motion to approve the budget, removing the Mountain Rescue contribution in order to give it to the OurWay shuttle request. Note under TAC grants should change to \$30,000 TAC grants and \$5,000 Mountain Rescue. This motion, made by Peggy Lindsey and seconded by Tamara Gulde, Carried.
Ethan Funk: Yea, Tamara Gulde: Yea, Peggy Lindsey: Yea, Josh Smith: Yea, Michael Underwood: Yea

b. Resolution 27, Series 2025 - Appropriating 2026 Expenditures

Motion to approve Resolution 27, Series 2025. This motion, made by Tamara Gulde and seconded by Josh Smith, Carried.

Ethan Funk: Yea, Tamara Gulde: Yea, Peggy Lindsey: Yea, Josh Smith: Yea, Michael Underwood: Yea

c. Resolution 28, Series 2025 - Setting the 2025 Mill Levy

Motion to approve Resolution 28, Series 2025. This motion, made by Josh Smith and seconded by Peggy Lindsey, Carried.

Ethan Funk: Yea, Tamara Gulde: Yea, Peggy Lindsey: Yea, Josh Smith: Yea, Michael Underwood: Yea

d. Resolution 29, Series 2025 - Adopting the 2026 Fee Schedule

Kevin Schiffer asked if Huckstering permit prices were updated. City Staff determined that the updated prices on the Parks and Recreation page were not copied and reflected on the Administration page, and would be copied to match.

Motion to approve Resolution 29, Series 2025, correcting the huckstering permit fees on the administration fee schedule to match prices listed on Parks and Recreation fee schedule. This motion, made by Peggy Lindsey and seconded by Tamara Gulde, Carried.

Ethan Funk: Yea, Tamara Gulde: Yea, Peggy Lindsey: Yea, Josh Smith: Yea, Michael Underwood: Yea

7. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn at 2:29 pm. This motion, made by Peggy Lindsey and seconded by Josh Smith, Carried.

Ethan Funk: Yea, Tamara Gulde: Yea, Peggy Lindsey: Yea, Josh Smith: Yea, Michael Underwood: Yea

Ethan Funk, Mayor

ATTEST:

Michelle Metteer, City Administrator

CERTIFICATION

I, Michelle Metteer, do hereby certify that I am the City Administrator for the City of Ouray, Ouray County, State of Colorado, and that the above minutes are a true and correct summary of the meeting of the Ouray City Council

held on Tuesday, November 25, 2025. I further certify that the meeting was duly called and held, and that a quorum was present.

Dated this Tuesday, November 25, 2025.

Michelle Metteer, City Administrator



P.O. Box 468
320 6th Avenue
Ouray, CO 81427
(970) 325-7211

Date: December 1, 2025
To: Ouray City Council
From: Michelle Metteer, City Administrator
Re: City Council Administration Report

Ouray Fire Protection District

Interim Attorney Harper Powell and I have started to work on a new agreement for services with the Ouray Fire Protection District (OFPD). With the recent passing of their increased mill levy, the OFPD will be in a position to better financially support the fire department needs for their area. Emergency services continue to increase in cost and this agreement is another example of trying to find efficiencies through already existing services in the region in lieu of creating their own fire department.

Biota Building Equipment & Materials Safety Concern

Last week I sent a letter to the property representative of the Biota building concerning outside equipment and materials being stored on the property. The property is not fully fenced and some of the materials on the lot are accessible to third parties (if the third parties are illegally trespassing). Staff researched the property file for the Biota building and did not find any requirements/conditions for fencing the area. Staff further consulted with legal who identified this as a civil matter, not involving the City however we determined a letter notifying the property owner of the concern could be beneficial to the overall neighborhood.

Workforce Housing Deed Restrictions Discussion

The workforce housing group which consists of representatives from the County, City, Town and public met with Eva Henson to discuss the Ouray Housing Administrative Services role and the work Eva has already accomplished. I believe all three of our organizations are excited to have Eva and her extensive experience, supporting our efforts in this field. We expect Eva to join our Council meeting on December 15th for an initial meeting with the City Council. Additionally, Eva will be reviewing the deed restriction templates for each organization and finding ways to streamline processes where able while still maintaining each organization's unique workforce housing program. Any recommendations Eva has will come before the Council at future meetings.

Ouray Ice Park Board Meeting

I attended the Ouray Ice Park Board meeting on November 19. The Board discussed requests for additions to the Ice Park Memorial, concerns regarding ongoing operational costs and the upcoming Ice Fest. The City is still awaiting the engineered drawings for the proposed pump to be placed in Canyon Creek as part of the Our Water Our Future project. Once the City has the engineered drawings, we can have our engineers review and provide feedback.

Revitalizing Main Street (RMS) Grant Progress

Joe Coleman and I participated on the RMS grant update call last week. The project, which will include the installation of two crosswalks on US HWY 550, one at the Visitor Center connecting to the Perimeter Trailhead parking lot and the other at the Horseshoe curve

connecting to the route for accessing the Ice Park, Via Ferrata and Box Canyon, will be going out to advertise in early December with a Spring 2025 construction date.

OX2/OX6 Wells Site Visit

Joe Cruz and I met with representatives from the State of Colorado Division of Water Resources (DWR) and Wright Water Engineering to discuss the next steps with the OX2/OX6 heat exchange testing and monitoring project. After a discussion covering the goals associated with the project and the general work that will be done, DWR noted that a permit will be required.

NREL Geothermal Listening Session

On Wednesday, November 19 I attended the National Renewable Energy Laboratory Listening Session where I learned the basics of geothermal energy and the use of geothermal heat as an energy source. I have much to learn in this field, so the ability to attend these basic educational sessions is incredibly valuable.

2026 Council Discussions

As we discussed in the most recent 2026 budget meeting, staff will be working with the Council and Mayor Underwood to bring forward a series of topics which require community discussion. One of these topics will be the Ouray Parks and Trails Master Plan and the need for a dedicated revenue source should the Council wish to move forward with the full execution of that Plan. More to come.

POLICE DEPARTMENT – INTERIM CHIEF OF POLICE REPORT

Presentation to City Council

Date: December 1, 2025

*** Community Outreach Update**

Stuff the Cruiser – Thanksgiving Support Initiative

In partnership with the Ouray School District, the Ouray County Sheriff's Office, and the Ouray Women's Club, the Police Department participated in the annual **Stuff the Cruiser** food drive. The community donated more than **\$1,000 in funds and food**, which supported **seven local families—four living in the City of Ouray and three residing in Ouray County**. In addition, **two elderly residents were identified and provided prepared meals** to ensure they received holiday support.

All monetary donations were used to purchase the remaining items needed to complete full Thanksgiving meals. Deliveries occurred on **Wednesday, November 26**, and the event was highlighted on the Police Department's **Facebook and Twitter channels**, showcasing strong community participation and outreach.

911 Public Education Campaign

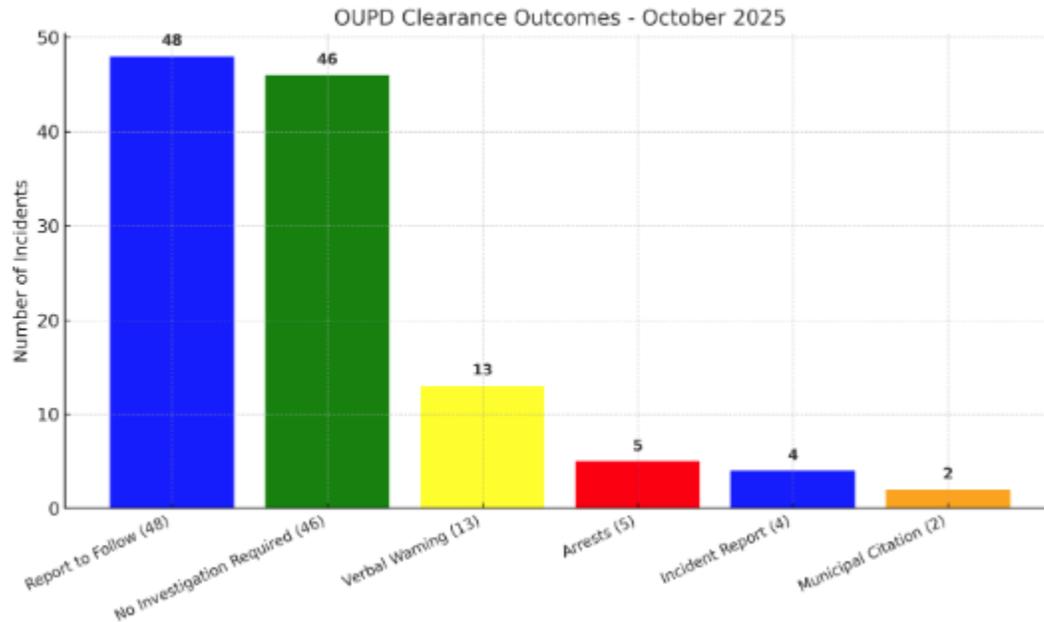
At the direction of City Council, the department has finalized a **public education initiative to improve appropriate use of 911** and promote the non-emergency number. The program is scheduled to roll out through **social media, city communication channels, and printed materials in the community**. The effort focuses on improving public awareness, reducing accidental or non-emergency 911 calls, and strengthening response efficiency.

*** Operations Update**

Staffing Update

One patrol officer applicant has progressed through the hiring process and has already **relocated to Oak Street in Ouray**, demonstrating commitment to the community. If hired, this individual would become the **third officer residing within the City of Ouray**, all of whom are currently **renters**. Local residency strengthens emergency response capability, supports faster call-outs, reduces coverage gaps, and enhances community relationships.

OUPD Clearance Outcomes - October 2025



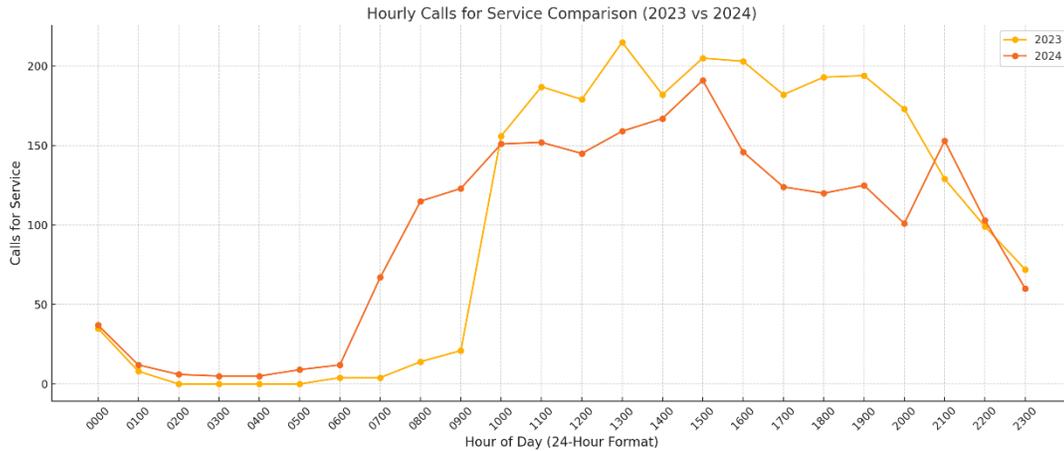
In October 2025, the Ouray Police Department handled 127 calls for service; November call data will be provided in January. To date since May 1351 calls were handled by OUPD. Nearly half of all incidents (48 cases) required follow-up investigation, demonstrating meaningful investigative workload beyond initial response. Although 46 calls required no investigation and were resolved through dispatch, officer discretion, or low-risk clearance, 13 calls resulted in education-based verbal warnings, and 5 cases resulted in arrests, all stemming from reports requiring investigative follow-up. This data reflects a balanced service model that prioritizes both public safety and proportional enforcement, while highlighting the need for sustained staffing to manage investigations originating from initial calls for service.

- 127 total calls** were handled by OUPD in October 2025.
- 48 calls (nearly half)** required follow-up investigation, not just initial response.
- Investigations produced all 5 arrests**, demonstrating the importance of case follow-through.
- 46 calls required no investigation**, resolved with officer discretion or public education.
- Verbal warnings (13)** show a continued focus on community compliance **over punitive enforcement**.
- This trend reflects a **service-based policing model**, not citation-driven enforcement.
- Sustaining **investigative capacity and officer staffing** is essential to maintain public safety outcomes.

Calls For Service Data Analysis

This data was provided back in April to council as an analysis of peak times and will be relevant for further discussions about response times. The program is still being crafted with a presentation to be made in January 2026 in compliance with the last council meeting discussion.

Calls for service over the past two years were analyzed to identify peak call volumes by quarter, time of day, and day of the week. Self-initiated activity was excluded to ensure the analysis focused solely on public-initiated service



requests. This data is being used to assess staffing schedules and optimize personnel deployment.

Key Findings

Peak Service Hours

- **Calls consistently peak between 1:00 PM and 4:00 PM** in both years, with the highest concentration around **2:00 PM to 3:00 PM**.
- Morning call volume begins rising after **8:00 AM** and sustains until early evening, tapering off after **6:00 PM**.

Peak Days of the Week

- **Thursdays through Saturdays are the busiest days**, reflecting tourism flow and community events.
- Lower volume on Sundays and early-week days provides opportunity for leaner staffing models.

Quarterly Call Trends

- **Quarter 3 (July–September)** is the highest demand period in both years.
- Call volume in Q3 2023 reached over 960, compared to 761 in Q3 2024, showing seasonal consistency.
- Quarter 1 and Quarter 4 remain the least active.

Overnight Hours

- Call volume from 12:00 AM to 6:00 AM remains low and stable across both years.



Ouray Volunteer Fire Department Call History Report by Date 10/28/2025 - 11/24/2025

Date	Type	Incident #	Incident Type	Primary Action	Address	# Of Attendees	Total Time
Fri 10/31/2025 16:25	Fire	2562142	324 Motor vehicle accident with no injuries.	00 Action taken, other	550 Mm89	6	00:35
Tue 11/11/2025 18:13	Fire	2562143	324 Motor vehicle accident with no injuries.	73 Provide manpower	550 Mm81	6	01:17
Wed 11/12/2025 09:57	Fire	2562144	150 Outside rubbish fire, other	93 Cancelled en route	650 County Road 361	7	00:33
Sat 11/15/2025 00:23	Fire	2562145	745 Alarm system activation, no fire - unintentional	86 Investigate	300 Blk 2Nd ST	6	00:32
Sun 11/16/2025 00:34	Fire	2562147	322 Motor vehicle accident with injuries	23 Extricate, disentangle	550 Mm95	4	00:31
Sun 11/16/2025 17:35	Fire	2562146	350 Extrication, rescue, other	93 Cancelled en route	62 Mm13	4	00:15
Tue 11/18/2025 05:42	Fire	2562148	611 Dispatched & canceled en route	93 Cancelled en route	550 HIGHWAY 550	3	00:48
Mon 11/24/2025 02:35	Fire	2562115	324 Motor vehicle accident with no injuries.	21 Search	550 Mm96	3	00:41

Total calls for EMS:	0	
Total calls for Fire:	8	
Total calls for Special Duty:	0	
Total calls:	8	Avg. Call Attendance: 4.88
Total Time:	05:12	

Fire Department Report for November, 2025

11/24/25

Working on Fireworks trailers. Quite a few repairs to be done.

National Fire Incident Reporting system is a required format through the state that we must comply with. I have been catching up on these and will continue through the remainder of the year. A new reporting system is coming for 26, which I am attending training for this new structure.

Attending a Drone FAA class in Dec.

Winter Fire Academy is getting booked for January.

I really need information and guidance from Melissa Drake on the FPPA. She has been taking care of it along with prior, Kathy Elmont. The fire Chief has always just led the meetings. I have reached out to her a few times. The annual FPPA board meeting was supposed to take place in October

Calls for November are attached



Public Works November 2025 Update Report for December 1, 2025 Meeting

Water

- Water Usage Numbers for **October**:
 - Influent (Water from spring) – 54,432,628 Gallons
 - Effluent (Water to town) – 17,916,760 Gallons
 - City of Ouray Hydro Plant – 2,969,194 Gallons
 - Mineral Farms – 65,500 Gallons
- Continued monitoring and sampling for chlorine residuals and turbidity levels at the entry point of the distribution system. The minimum chlorine level was lowered by CDPHE from 0.9 mg/l to 0.6 mg/l. We are still waiting for CDPHE to allow us to go back to 0.2 mg/l. The City has been in compliance and meeting all CDPHE requirements.
- Multiple water shut off requests for residents leaving town for the winter season.
- Working with Ice Park staff on water usage to make ice for the park.
- New construction water service tap on 7th Ave.
- Installed a new curbstop on water service line on 4th St.
- City staff was able to replace multiple fittings on the chlorine feed pumps at the water treatment facility before they failed completely. Staff is starting to feel more comfortable with daily rounds and preventative maintenance as we move forward with operating the new facility.
- City staff collected the eighth round of samples from the Uncompahgre River since the new wastewater treatment plant became operational for the measurable results program conducted by CDPHE. The Measurable Results Program systematically and scientifically measures the water quality improvement derived from the implementation of new treatment technologies funded through the SRF (State Revolving Fund). The program has already monitored the Uncompahgre River and wastewater effluent prior to the new Wastewater Treatment Plant and is now conducting a similar monitoring strategy now that the new Wastewater Treatment Plant is operational. Data collected in both phases will be compared to determine water quality changes. The City will benefit from the water quality characterization of their receiving stream, receive all data collected and could potentially be showcased as a success story.

Sewer

- Continue taking wastewater samples on a weekly basis. The new Wastewater Treatment Facility continues to stay in compliance with all of CDPHE permit standards.
- City staff poured a concrete pad at the wastewater treatment plant and installed steps and a railing to make access easier to the digester. City staff needs access to the top of the digester in order to perform daily plant operations.
- City staff continues to operate the new facility. In October staff was able to process 20,000 gallons of wastewater sludge from the digester and produced approximately 20 yards of process bio solids.
- Fencing installation has been completed at the new wastewater treatment facility.

Streets/Miscellaneous

- Graded roads and pool parking lot as needed.
- Staff took down the mock up signs provided by Tangram and are being stored at Public Works.
- City staff continues to put chains on all equipment and are gearing up for snow plowing and snow removal operations.
- Continued to work on 2025 and 2026 budgeting for public works, water and sewer departments.
- Continued to clean up inside of City yard and City Shop getting organized for the change of season.
- Hauled off some old tree stumps for the Parks and Recreation Department.
- City Crew replaced multiple lights that were burnt out along Highway 550.
- Continue taking wastewater samples for Ouray County Health Department to monitor for Covid. Please reach out to the County Health Department for more information about the program. Below is a screen shot from the County website.

Colorado Wastewater Surveillance Data

Ouray County | Recent Trends

The Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE) Wastewater Surveillance Program collaborates with wastewater utilities to test for infectious pathogens, including COVID-19, Influenza, and Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV) in wastewater. These pathogens may be shed in the wastewater before someone shows any symptoms, and individuals without symptoms can also shed virus particles. Testing wastewater provides complementary surveillance data to existing systems.

View the most recent detection status for SARS-CoV-2, Influenza, and RSV below. SARS-CoV-2 is the virus that causes COVID-19. Learn more about the science in the FAQ link below the trends.

	SARS-CoV-2	Influenza	RSV
Ouray	 SARS-CoV-2 was not recently detected in wastewater samples from the last two weeks.	 Flu was not recently detected in wastewater samples from the last two weeks.	 RSV was not recently detected in wastewater samples from the last two weeks.
Ridgway	 SARS-CoV-2 was not recently detected in wastewater samples from the last two weeks.	 Flu was not recently detected in wastewater samples from the last two weeks.	 RSV was not recently detected in wastewater samples from the last two weeks.

Last Ouray Sample Collected: 10/27/2025
Last Ridgway Sample Collected: 10/28/2025

Park Operations

Box Canon:

- Seasonal Closure
 - Removed water dispenser from outside and stored
 - Removed walking grates past gate at the falls
 - Winterized interior and exterior faucets, toilets and sinks
 - Final seasonal septic tank pump out.

Womens Park:

- Finalized and opened new restroom
 - Installed new
 - Paper towel dispenser
 - Trash Can
 - Seeded grass
 - New dog bag post

Fellin Park:

- Removed gravel berm from middle of parking lot
- Straightened out all parking lot poles
- Repaired chain connections on all posts
- Leaf and branch clean up
- The Gazebo Restoration
 - New support rafters
 - New siding
 - Trim replaced with cedar
 - New decking on the surface
 - Replaced the wainscoting
 - Stain and paint is waiting for temperatures

Riverwalk Trail:

- Finished up trail resurfacing
- Removal of remaining brush piles from OBC
- Removal of remaining gravel pile

Rotary Park:

- Ice Rink
 - Replaced several top rails
 - Rebuilt and relocated main side gate

- Rebuilt entry step to ice rink
- Power washed old paint inside and out
- Painted Interior and most the exterior
- Graded the entire interior gravel
- Installed liner
- Installed all kick boards
- Installed new speakers and antenna in warming hut
- Replaced the floor in the warming hut
- Replaced several parking lot stones
- Built and installed a new southern entry ramp.

Community Center:

- Cleaned and organized both basements for more efficient storage

River Trail Expansion

- We are working on wrapping up the proposed trail alignment for the river trail. The goal is to have alignment complete before the end of the year with pricing.

Ouray Hot Springs Pool and Fitness Center

- One of the recently replaced sand filters is leaking sand and will need to be repaired. This work will be under warranty but may require an overlooked pool closure in the future.
- The hot springs is running a membership drive for black friday. Black Friday Membership Sale – 28th, 29th,30th. 20% off for Primary Membership only. All add-on memberships at regular price. May sign up online or in person. 20% off all merchandise – must purchase in person.
- The pool will close on December 12th at 4:00pm for our annual Hot springs staff christmas party.
- Soaking with Santa is on December 20th from 1:00pm– 3:00pm
- The Polar Plunge is on January 1st @ 1 pm
- So Far November revenue is up \$14,000
- We continue to work on the design development of the new poolhouse facility. We are working on the fitness center equipment layout and plan to provide a community update soon.

Box Cañon

- End of year revenue summary 2024 v/s 2025

2025 Expenses - \$232,075.01 Net Rev- \$495,110.21

Page 1 of 1 Nov 26, 2025
2:11 PM

Cash Distribution By Account (Summary)

Transaction Site: Box Canyon Falls
Transaction Date/Time: From Jan 1, 2025 12:00 AM through Nov 4, 2025 11:59 PM

Account Name	Account Number	Total Cash Payment	Total Check Payment	Total Gift Certificate Payment	Total Credit Card Payment	Total Debit Card Payment	Total Cash, Check, Card, Certificate	Total Memo / Man. Deduct Payment	Total Payments	Total ECP and Journal Payments	Total Payments + ECP/Journal
BC Concessions	50-41-4020	\$21,974.66	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$65,397.32	\$0.00	\$87,371.98	\$68.99	\$87,440.97	\$0.00	\$87,440.97
BC Donations	50-41-4015	\$922.80	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$29.00	\$0.00	\$951.80	\$0.00	\$951.80	\$0.00	\$951.80
BC Stamps	50-41-4020	\$126.64	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$135.69	\$0.00	\$262.33	\$0.00	\$262.33	\$0.00	\$262.33
Box Canon Admissions	50-41-4010	\$166,332.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$464,082.50	\$0.00	\$630,414.50	\$529.00	\$630,943.50	\$0.00	\$630,943.50
Hot Springs Daily Admissions	50-40-4030	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	-\$44.00	\$0.00	-\$44.00	\$0.00	-\$44.00	\$0.00	-\$44.00
Hot Springs Membership Revenue	50-40-4033	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$50.00	\$0.00	\$50.00	\$0.00	\$50.00	\$0.00	\$50.00
Parks Program Revenue	10-45-4315	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	-\$120.00	\$0.00	-\$120.00	\$0.00	-\$120.00	\$0.00	-\$120.00
Sales Tax	50-00-2020	\$2,073.86	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$6,170.24	\$0.00	\$8,244.10	\$6.51	\$8,250.61	\$0.00	\$8,250.61
Swim Lesson Revenue	50-40-4048	\$0.00	\$450.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$450.00	\$0.00	\$450.00	\$0.00	\$450.00
Totals:		\$191,429.96	\$450.00	\$0.00	\$535,700.75	\$0.00	\$727,580.71	\$604.50	\$728,185.21	\$0.00	\$728,185.21

RS-1-V2

2024 Expenses - \$260,884.58 Net Rev - \$421,431.69

Page 1 of 1 Nov 26, 2025
2:11 PM

Cash Distribution By Account (Summary)

Transaction Site: Box Canyon Falls
Transaction Date/Time: From Jan 1, 2024 12:00 AM through Nov 4, 2024 11:59 PM

Account Name	Account Number	Total Cash Payment	Total Check Payment	Total Gift Certificate Payment	Total Credit Card Payment	Total Debit Card Payment	Total Cash, Check, Card, Certificate	Total Memo / Man. Deduct Payment	Total Payments	Total ECP and Journal Payments	Total Payments + ECP/Journal
BC Concessions	50-41-4020	\$16,497.93	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$38,122.64	\$0.00	\$54,620.57	\$0.82	\$54,621.39	\$0.00	\$54,621.39
BC Donations	50-41-4015	\$1,523.88	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.02	\$0.00	\$1,523.90	\$0.00	\$1,523.90	\$0.00	\$1,523.90
BC Stamps	50-41-4020	\$61.03	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$105.24	\$0.00	\$166.27	\$0.00	\$166.27	\$0.00	\$166.27
Box Canon Admissions	50-41-4010	\$186,961.50	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$433,836.50	\$0.00	\$620,798.00	\$28.00	\$620,826.00	\$0.00	\$620,826.00
Sales Tax	50-00-2020	\$1,567.46	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$3,611.17	\$0.00	\$5,178.63	\$0.08	\$5,178.71	\$0.00	\$5,178.71
Totals:		\$206,611.80	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$475,675.57	\$0.00	\$682,287.37	\$28.90	\$682,316.27	\$0.00	\$682,316.27

RS-1-V2



YULE DAY

An all-day holiday celebration!

FULL SCHEDULE AND DETAILS:
VISITOURAY.COM/YULEDAY

Activities at the Visitor Center

- ★ 10 am-4 pm: Elf on the Shelf Scavenger Hunt for Kids & Adult Yule Tide Bingo. Completed cards must be returned to the Visitor Center by 4 pm for prize drawing.
- ★ 11 am-Noon: Photos with Cindy Lou & the Grinch

Activities on Main Street

- ★ Noon - 1 pm: Candy canes! Find Cindy Lou Who and the Grinch for a holiday treat.
- ★ 5:30 pm: Parade starts
- ★ 6:15 pm: Tree lighting with Santa after parade

Activities at Centennial Park & Elks

- ★ 11 am-4 pm: Christmas Market with vendors
- ★ 1-2 pm: Photos with Cindy Lou & the Grinch
- ★ 4-6 pm: Mighty Mini-Horses

Activities at The Wright Opera House

- ★ 1-2 pm: Story Time with Mrs. Claus
- ★ 1-3 pm: Cookie Decorating & Letters to Santa
- ★ 3-5 pm: Craft Time by Voyager & Ouray Peach Jam
- ★ 6:45-7:15 pm: Story Time with Mrs. Claus
- ★ 7 pm: Interactive Elf Movie

Activities at Colorado West

- ★ 4:30-5:30 pm: Jeep raffle

FEATURED EVENTS

- 14** **Nordic Skiing Skills Clinic**



ACTIVITY GUIDE

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
4	5	YOUTH PICK UP HOCKEY 4-6 pm Rotary Park Ice Rink	7	Polar Bear Plunge 1 pm Hot Springs Pool ADULT PICK UP HOCKEY 6-8 pm Rotary Park Ice Rink	2	3
Skijoring 10:30-4 pm Ouray County Fairgrounds	11	YOUTH PICK UP HOCKEY 4-6 pm Rotary Park Ice Rink	13	ADULT PICK UP HOCKEY 6-8 pm Rotary Park Ice Rink	ALL IN ICE FEST JAN 9-11 2026 ALL DAY Ouray Ice Park : Jan. 9-11	Skijoring 10:30-4 pm Ouray County Fairgrounds
17	18	YOUTH PICK UP HOCKEY 4-6 pm Rotary Park Ice Rink	14	ADULT PICK UP HOCKEY 6-8 pm Rotary Park Ice Rink	15	Beacon & Avalanche Skills Clinic Crystal Lake Area: 12 - 2 pm
19	20	YOUTH PICK UP HOCKEY 4-6 pm Rotary Park Ice Rink	21	OURAY ICE FESTIVAL		
22	23	YOUTH PICK UP HOCKEY 4-6 pm Rotary Park Ice Rink	24	JANUARY 22-25 ALL DAY Ouray Ice Park : Jan. 22-25	JANUARY 22-25 ALL DAY Ouray Ice Park : Jan. 22-25	SAN JUAN CLASSIC HOCKEY TOURNAMENT 6-9 PM AT ROTARY PARK
OURAY ICE FESTIVAL ALL DAY OURAY ICE PARK	26	YOUTH PICK UP HOCKEY 4-6 pm Rotary Park Ice Rink	27	ADULT PICK UP HOCKEY 6-8 pm Rotary Park Ice Rink	29	30
31						

FEATURED EVENTS

- 1 Polar Bear Plunge**
 Take a frigid plunge into the new year! Jump into the chilly activity pool to begin your next year of adventure.
Hot Springs Pool: 1 pm
- 9-11 "All In" Ice Fest**
 This inclusive festival is dedicated to expanding access to the outdoors to diverse and marginalized communities. For more information visit allinicefest.com.
Ouray Ice Park: All Day
- 9-11 Skijoring**
 Snow riders race through an exciting course while being pulled by horses. It's rodeo combined with ski racing! For more information, please visit sanjuanskijoring.com.
Ouray Cty. Fairgrounds: 10:30-4 pm
- 17 Beacon & Avalanche Skills Clinic**
 Explore the basic equipment and skills necessary for travel in the backcountry. \$20 per person.
Crystal Lake Area: 12 - 2 pm
- 22-25 31st annual OURAY ICE FESTIVAL**
 Ice climbing competitions & clinics, gear demos, and presentations. A truly international event! For more information, visit ourayicepark.com.
All day at Ouray Ice Park
- 24 San Juan Classic Hockey Tournament**
 The San Juan Snakes face off against the Telluride Lizard Heads. A fun community gathering!
Rotary Park Ice Rink: 6 - 9 pm

All events with this symbol require advanced online registration, as space may be limited.

PLEASE NOTE!

Questions?
 Contact Sean Hart at 970-318-1003 or seanhart@cityofouray.com

Scan for full **EVENT DETAILS**

Register **NOW!**

follow us



970.596.7837 
KRhoten@CityofOuray.com 
VisitOuray.com 

Marketing and Communications Report

Website

- Cleaned up the planning departments page with guidance from Dan Murphy
- Met with Revize to start with our game plan for refreshing the CityofOuray.com website and cleaning up all the pages
- Added a blog to VisitOuray.com "Three Budgeting Tips for Your Trip to Ouray"
- Updated Yule with finalized times

Newsletters

- Tourism November Newsletter
- Sent out a newsletter for last chance feedback on signage along with signing up for Yule Day festivities
- Shared all Yule Day graphics with the Ouray Chamber to be shared via their e-newsletter

Business Assistance/ Collaborations

- Watsu Aquatherapy

Events

- Put all Yule Day events on the website
- Met with Bright Flight to walk the area for the drone show on January 22
- Met with CTO and OEDIT for the Drone Show 150/250 celebration for marketing
- Met with Localist for the first platform training
- Started making the design adjustments to the website OurayRidgwayEvents.com
- Had our second training for the Localist Platform





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VISIT OURAY / COMMUNICATIONS

Media

- We made the cover of Colorado Life Magazine and had a two page spread story for their December issue
- Assisted with the GoRVing Travel blog with photos for the Ouray Ice Festival
- Created and ad for Travel, Taste, and Tour magazine. They ended up doing a page and a half story on Ouray at no additional charge.
- Created multiple ads for our Canada media buy with the Weather Network and Pelmorex Audience
- Submitted an ad for an e-blast via the Colorado Tourism Office
- Designed an ad for the Southwest Colorado Magazine
- Supplied Million Dollar Highway photos to GoRVing Colorado Itinerary

Social

- Promoting OEDC's Roundtable
- Promoting all Yule Night happenings
- Hot Springs Veteran's Day deal post
- Veteran's Day post
- Youtube winter paid marketing is up and running (CTO Grant dollars)
- Google winter paid marketing is up and running (CTO Grant dollars)
- Planning Commission seat post
- Did a paid campaign for Yule Day celebrations for regional traffic
- Did a paid campaign for Yule Day parade sign ups
- Created graphics for the Letters to Santa program, this will launch first week of December
- Posted about Do Ouray Right and Be Prepared for Winter
- Posted about the side street parking ordinance reminder
- Created a social media campaign for winter in Ouray and the tips/ need to knows
- Created campaigns for the 20% off memberships for the Ouray Hot Springs Pool and Fitness Center for Black Friday Weekend
- Did a boosted promotion for the hot springs membership deals





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VISIT OURAY / COMMUNICATIONS

Non-Project Based Updates

- Box Cañon Closed post and website updates
- Attended the half day course for the Emergency Evacuation Training Table Exercise
- Met with Colorado.com website task force
- Submitted our information for the FAM program to the international department of the Colorado Tourism Office
- Attended the 150th Committee Planning session
- Attended the Main Street Committee
- Generated reports for the pedestrian, directory, gateway, and plan 2 of the wayfinding projects for the City Council to review
- Met with Arrivalist to gather more data opportunities
- Created a business portfolio on Meta for the Ouray Hot Springs Pool and fitness center to sign them up for paid promotions
- Started training Brooke Warren in her new position as the City and Tourism Media Manager
- Met with the PIO Group
- Met with the Ouray Ice Park and the Colorado Tourism Office to discuss marketing and logistics with the drone show
- Met with the Ice Park to discuss collaboration opportunities for the winter season
- Training EmmaGrace in the Guest Services Manager role





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Guest Services

Visitor Center Data

- This season, we have seen an increase in many data fields. Here is a breakdown for the current month.
 - November
 - 2024 Visitor Count: 226 2025 Visitor Count: 245
 - 2024 Phone Count:53 2025 Phone Count: 69
 - 2024 Mail Count: 13 2025 Mail Count: 41
- Requested updated brochures for the rack display
- Made current edits to the Perimeter trail Map and description
- Participated and assisted in the Fall media Photoshoot
- Organized monthly meetings and Staff Evaluations
- Conducted seasonal inventory
- Attended the Visitor Services summit monthly meeting
- Trained staff in Canva
- Staff walked around town to raise awareness for Yule Night with businesses
- Uploaded and updated the events to the events page each month
- Collaborated with Ouray & Ridgway kick-off for Localist Events Platform.
- Revised Ouray Hiking Binder for next season
- Organized team tasks and capstone projects for staff to complete from November to April
- Staff performed an on-site survey of Ouray for the 2026 large city map revisions.





P.O. Box 468
320 6th Avenue
Ouray, CO 81427
(970) 325-7211

Wayfinding Feedback

Gateway Sign (50 Responses)

what does maiku mean? I looked it up and could not find anything. Otherwise fine. Hope you have a local contractor for this not an out of state one.

This is terrible. It looks like a sign you would see coming into Moab or Grand Junction. It's missing the Victorian character of our old sign. To me it doesn't relate in any way to our mountain landscape or our town. It looks flat and boring. It needs to look more homey and inviting. Maybe some wildflowers or pine trees some softness.

Unnecessary and a clear waste of taxpayer monies. The current signage is clear and has historical value.

I have huge problems with the new wayfinding program in its entirety. For over 30 years (now semi-retired), my company provided branding and wayfinding for cities, counties, and historic districts throughout the US, Canada, and the Caribbean, so I am very experienced and accomplished in this profession.

I have been an Ouray resident for 4 years, but have been visiting Ouray since 1977. My family has been in Ouray County since 1977. My sister is a long-time resident of Ouray and has worked for the county for over 20 years.

First of all, the gateway sign is horrendous and way too expensive. It is more suited to a large urban industrial park—not a quaint historical community. It sends the wrong message. Also, it is way out of scale for this community. A more appropriate design could save at least \$10,000 and be much more effective. And what is with the Ute greeting? With respect to the Ute community, this is way off-brand and has zero relevance or meaning to the first-time visitor.

Furthermore, the wayfinding system designed by Tangram does not support the character or the established brand of Ouray. The vehicular guide signs on Main Street are way out of scale and have zero reflection of the historical character of Ouray and its mining antiquity.

You really don't need these large vehicular signs on Main Street, perhaps only at the entry points to the city to communicate key destinations in the town center. I typically recommend to my tourist-oriented, small-town clients that they direct vehicular traffic to parking first, then introduce pedestrian guide signs to key city destinations. Ouray is a walkable community and should encourage pedestrians to explore off-Main Street destinations. This is done by strategically placing directory maps and pedestrian street signs.

The use of Ute Indian design on the bases is confusing and inappropriate. The heavy wooden supports are over-designed and should have been decorative metal poles to reflect the existing ornate lamps and street signs. Glossy shellacked wood posts will require resurfacing as the climate in Ouray will weather the finish. People have already stapled paper ads onto the posts.

The secondary sign elements (future phase), such as pedestrian guides, trailhead signs, and directories, are lackluster and do not celebrate the Ouray experience, nor convey any sort of mining/Victorian character that is evident in Ouray.

Many CDOT compliances mandated in the MUTCD guidebook are ignored. In my experience as a designer and previous fabricator, these signs are more expensive than they should've been. Their design is uninspiring and insensitive to the city's character. There is a huge lost opportunity for Ouray, which will dilute any sense of positive visual experience and intuitive wayfinding solutions.

I worked with the former mayor, Greg Nelson, for over a year on the need for a new brand and wayfinding program. I submitted a proposal for the wayfinding program, but for some strange reason, they claimed they did not receive it, even though I showed them that the email was sent way before the close of the RFP. I saw that the link to the document in the email had been downloaded. Of all the emails I sent to Autumn Bailey, who was administering the RFP, the only one that they claim they did not receive was the one with my proposal submittal. Also, I inquired several times about proposing the development of a new brand and logo. I was never allowed to bid on it, yet I found out recently that it was awarded to Tangram first, then to a Denver company without the RFP being publicly announced. The \$30,000 price tag should have been half of that.

What happened to supporting local businesses?

Do not like - looks like sheets of plywood in front of a cinder block wall.

That's just plain ugly and not representative of Ouray or the area at all. Other than a Japanese word for microphone, what is Maiku supposed to mean?

Is it made of rock?

What's maiku?

very unattractive. not eye-catching and not memorable or unique. what is maiku?

There was a much better design done for the city by beautification. Michelle had it done. A copy of it was given to Justin in our notebook . This one is ok but the Maiku is NOT appropriate.I will look for a copy of that sign and bring it to city.

Why do we need a gateway sign that looks like a mountain when we have mountains all around? It is uninspiring and does not celebrate the uniqueness of Ouray. We are a historic mining and Victorian era City and should be celebrated as such. This new design looks like a headstone.

This design reminds me of a desert landscape. I would prefer to see a design more reflective of our pine trees and vegetated mountain sides.

I would request that submission guidelines be reconsidered by the appropriate governing body so that local, talented, recognized craftsmen may submit a design.

no

I like it

Looks good

Context and meaning of Maiku? I assume it is included in error. If not, it seems misapplied in this context.

OK but top left of O looks funny, off the mountain

Not sure what the "Maiku" part is for. I think I'd rather see a more realistic depiction of the mountains.

I assume Maiku is welcome in the Ute language? If so, that's nice.

The mountain design is very bad. Looks like someone tried to do a "mountain" graphic on a 1985 computer. It also looks like they tried to show some of the rock layers, which makes sense, but again it is extremely amateur and non-specific. Why the boring color scheme?

I don't see a plan of where this is going. What is the material to be used? What is "Maiku"? Please don't tell me this is a Ute term?

I prefer one with more color. The design is fine. What is "maiku"? Google says Japanese for microphone.

I think it's generally tacky. It looks like someone designed it by picking up a bunch of scraps of construction paper and laying them out to make a 'mountain' And what does 'Maiku' mean?

Love ❤️

Like the old one better

To be absolutely blunt, I think this is a really poor design and I'm shocked there are no alternatives to comment on. It literally looks like a deformed pyramid of chiseled rocks, with a brick wall in front of it. I assume it is meant to mimic Abrams Mountain, but it looks as if Abrams is collapsing. Is this going to be a "sign" or an actual installation of rocks/boulders/bricks? The caption says "Gateway Sign" but underneath in tiny letters it reads "Gateway Monument", so I'm assuming this will not be a "sign". If actual rocks are going to comprise this monument, then I would hope to see some local boulders used, imperfect ones that were selected carefully to perhaps approximate this design, not clean-cut slabs arranged to look like a collapsed Egyptian pyramid.

The sign that this will be replacing has character and charm, and "feels" welcoming...things we want our town to embody. This is cold, angular, and sterile.

The inclusion of the words "Welcome | Maiku" seems forced, especially the Ute word "Maiku", which I had to Google to figure out its meaning. I'm all for recognizing the people whom this land was taken from, but this falls utterly flat since 99% of the people viewing the sign will have no idea what "Maiku" means. Sure, it is right next to the word "welcome" so it can be inferred that it means something along those lines, but I doubt many people will also infer that the word comes from the Ute language. It feels like a token gesture, an empty acknowledgement of Ute culture. Elsewhere in Ouray there is very, very little to recognize Ute Culture, so to me this attempt at inclusion just comes off as utterly hollow lip service. Honestly, I think it would be more culturally sensitive to remove "Maiku" than to include it.

I appreciate this chance to voice my feedback and I hope that all community feedback is seriously considered. I sincerely hope this design is revised.

While I appreciate the effort that went into this, I would politely ask that you reconsider using this design. It is rather confusing, unattractive, and unnecessary. The current sign is already clear, folksy, friendly, and welcoming. Please do not change the current sign.

The current historically classic sign represents the Ouray community. This proposed sign appears to be modern art without any recognizable message.

Not sure the meaning of Maiku. Do like the rockesk background

I don't mind it but prefer the old look. Just needs to be updated and maybe not as curly-q'd

Why are we trying to look southwest? We are a Victorian mining town.

N/A

I like it!

What is it made out of? Where did this "Ouray" font come from...not a fan of it at all...it comes off childish and sloppy looking to me. No feeling of rustic charm... I think all of these signs, fonts, designs, etc... need to have a slight nod to more of a "Victorian" style. Just my two cents.

We don't need more stinking signs.

it's ok. i prefer the existing one better, tho.

No need..rebuild old sign

The sign is good. I like it well enough it represents the mountains.

hey there, this 1st question is about the "gateway sign" and yet, I can't find anything on the City's website that explains where this sign would be located. And so, I think my initial feedback is that while you've done a good job about seeking community input (even though the decision for the signs was years ago and with community involvement), finding the latest information on the City's website is challenging

Too modern and rigid. Looks somewhat generic with no artistry.

Use the original Ouray logo or atleast the original O

All these signs are hideous and in no way do they respect or honor the character of our town. This is wildly unnecessary spending.

Please keep the more beautiful existing sign

How much is this program going to cost the taxpayers

The text is too plain/boring. Bring back the older logo with Victorian text that makes Ouray so unique from every other city with boring text/logos

Not a fan, looks like a pyramid , not our rugged mountains

I HATE IT...NOT REPRESENTATIVE OF OURAY AT ALL. KEEP THE SIGN THAT IS THERE NOW...SWITZERLAND OF AMERICA AND OUR FORMER CITY LOGO SHOULD REMAIN AS THE ENTRY SIGN. We are a historic mining town, not a modern village, and the newcomers should move if they don't like it! I have been against the new logo from the beginning....who decided this....I went to all the meetings and we were never given the choice to keep our old logo, but just to pick the colors, etc of the new modern and ugly logo that doesn't represent Ouray at all. Creating this new and unpopular city logo was the first step in the decline of Ouray, which continued with the ugly and large signs on Main Street. The community revolted and it has been chaos since. Pedestrian signs with city map is all we needed. Everyone who has been a longtime resident in Ouray loves our original entry sign....DON'T REMOVE IT OR CHANGE IT.

It's okay. It doesn't really reflect the uniqueness of Ouray, though. Looks like it is more suitable for the Red Rocks Amphitheater. Maybe landscaping will enhance it?

I did not see a mock-up of this sign on the streets, sorry.

Please keep the old sign a bit of "refresh". And please do not use Ute words or design - Ouray is a colonial community, not a Ute community. Using native designs and language is appropriation and colonialism.

Please fire Tangram and hire somebody local to refresh the old gateway sign. I've recently driven through Grand Junction and noticed their new gateway signs - they are nice rusty metal signs. I think something like that would be more appropriate for Ouray. The sign above looks like some rich person's house monument or fireplace mantel in Mountain Village.

I don't like it, does not seem to fit the character of Ouray, looks like something you would see in Mountain Village. Design team seems out of touch, maybe have some local artisans design something more fitting.

Plan 2 Feedback (48 Responses)

Why keep an out of state contractor. There are several great sign companies in Montrose and vicinity. If you haven't noticed, there is no design in these signs. They are something a high school student could have imagined.

I don't really see the need for these wayfinding signs at all. Our town is only a few blocks and they are only focused on tourism and they detract from our towns beauty. I think that the City could focus their efforts in other areas. Mainly areas that could improve life for full time residents.

Impossible to download this plan two via Google docs. Signage outside of pedestrian zone is acceptable. The rest of the signage is lost against buildings and business signs. Total waste of time and energy. In a day of everyone having mapping systems directly on their phones, in their hands and vehicles, these signs add confusion and clutter to an already cluttered (with information) Main Street.

I really this needs to go altogether. Only needed signs are parking, public toilets and visitor center

One sided ugly signs that should be on a highway overpass. Horrible selection.

I like the idea of removing the giant signs in the historic downtown and replacing them with smaller pedestrian signs. I like the idea of repurposing the current giant signs and using them in other places.

I agree that the signs are a bit too big and too Telluride, but by far the biggest concern is that they are absolutely too low. My son in law was carrying my granddaughter on his shoulders walking up main street and we suddenly had to be careful not to knock her head on a sign!

I think ALL signs should be a minimum of 8' off the ground (instead of 7'), except the directory signs and B.1A-2,3,15. There is still a lot of foot traffic near the other B.1A signs so even though there isn't sidewalk, lower signs are still in the way. A sign still feels too close to comfortably walk under when is less than 1' from a person's head, thus why 8' signs would be better. As far as directory signs go, I'm concerned that if they are perpendicular to the sidewalk they will take up walking space. Maybe consider the width (it wasn't listed on the document) or placing them parallel to the sidewalk. I love including the block distance on the pedestrian signs!

Way too many signs for such a small community

First thought is that the Plan 2 contains a lot of signs for a "downtown" area of approximately six blocks.

It is my understanding that new signage was recently approved by City Council for Rotary Park and the Hot Springs Pool /Visitor Center. Why should the City be purchasing additional signage for these two entities which are very visible?

What is the purpose of the additional signs labeled D.1-39, 40, 41 and 43? The information faintly printed on the samples is too dim to easily read.

Overall, this whole signage project seems way out of line for a small city the size of Ouray. Many of these ideas could have been simplified and designed with small, easy to read signs for attachment to the light poles on the corners on Main Street. The addition of the proposed signs will greatly add to the congestion on our streets and corners during the high volume visitor season.

I question why the criteria for submitting plans for any signage did not allow local, artistic, well-skilled firms to be able to submit proposals.

The City has a pool, a new water treatment plant, a new waste treatment plant and a remodel of the building for the new Police department and housing to pay for. As a tax paying citizen I am very much against spending \$800,000.00 plus for signage as presented.

Hi

I thought the new signs as they were originally installed were fine.

I hope there are directional signs to the Ice Park. I think the current signs are easily readable, and while initially shocking, I've gotten used to them and I'm sure they're helpful to visitors.

The vertically aligned signage is preferred as portrayed by the public parking and ohv parking examples. Those examples seem to be least obtrusive. Color and font are acceptable.

With so many signs car traffic by tourists will go ridiculously slower through town and some signs are unnecessary like Lee's ski Hill since it's not open often.

I may have missed it but there should be a sign to show "riverwalk access" near the townhomes next to the hot springs and next to the Hot Springs Inn. To often people try to go through the townhome parking lots which are private property.

These are good if the bottom of the signs are high enough. Don't think they needed to be so huge, either. People are, I hope, not driving Main Street at highway speed.

1. If you are going to have "wayfinding" signs B.1A-2 and B.1A-3, why does the Rotary Park sign need to have restroom, ice rink, and climbing signs hanging beneath it ? These are on the wayfinding signs as is the restroom symbol.
2. Why does sign B.1A-5 need to have signs for the Visitor's center and the pool? They would have just driven past the big new Hot Springs and visitor center sign. Do you really think that they would not know where to turn off the highway? This is sign overload !!
3. I thought in the public meeting that it was agreed that we don't need to say "public parking" on signs C.1A-26/28/30? Just use the "P" and the arrow. People know what the "P" stands for. Good grief. Please minimize the signage. We don't need to cater to the lowest level of intelligence. I would argue the same thing for signs C.1A-24/25 and the "trailer/rv parking" signs.
4. Signs D.1-39/40/41/43 don't need a sign stating "Ouray Colorado". If the pedestrian doesn't know what town they are in, the sign is useless. LESS SIGNAGE IS BETTER.
5. Signs E.1-45/46/47/48/49/51 need to be smaller and closer to the ground so that people don't walk under them, they walk around them, just as they now have to walk around all the tables and chairs on the sidewalks. Make these the same size as the directory signs. Eliminate the signs for RV/trailer parking. These signs are for the pedestrians. If they are already walking, they have already

parked their RV and seen the vehicular RV signs when they drove into town.

6. THIS IS TOO MANY SIGNS. Find a way to reduce or eliminate some.

None of the choices. Don't like the color. Smaller size is better but still too low.

I feel like the vast majority of these signs are simply unnecessary. What is wrong with letting folks explore, stop and ask for directions, or let's face it, just Google the darn thing. So my vote would be to do away with all these signs and just scrap the project in it's entirety with PERHAPS just the signs for Rotary park.

That said, the signs with the words written sideways are just really awkward looking. and why is any PEDESTRIAN sign 7' in the air? Signs aimed at pedestrians should be down where they can actually be read. Otherwise they are just car signs that are too small to be read by drivers.

Again, absolutely love 

Just too many signs already, and these just look wrong for our town so out of place

Unfortunately, I do not see new signage as a community need or want.

These vehicle signs are too much clutter on Main Street. They are boxy and largely unnecessary. People use their phones to find locations. For the City core, just have a QR code on a few strategically located small signs, providing a link to wayfinding information for pedestrians.

The sign feel too large and over powering. They also feel like they belong in a ski town. They don't feel like they belong here.

Seems a bit much - do we need that many signs. This leads to the question of what happens to residents. Wouldn't the money be better spent for services for them.

I thought the town rejected theses signs. Again, they are ugly and do not match the style of the town. It seems like the city is trying to destroy the beauty of the town and make it modern meets southwest desert and ugly.

Try something small with scrolls and iron like the street lights and hanging basket brackets.

These signs are unnecessary and point to parts of town without sidewalks. I would like to see town focus on walkability and accessibility over parking signs.

I've submitted my feedback on the aesthetics before, but once again these signs come off looking plastic and mass produced...they have not soul or character that matches with the rustic charm of our town. Some of the wooden posts on the large Main St signs are already cracking...but maybe that will at least add some character to them.

While I am ok with a handful of wayfinding signs, this is FAR too many signs overall. We don't need this many. They are pandering way too much to tourists and will make Ouray feel like a tourist trap. Please only produce signs that are deemed absolutely necessary. Please think of the mindset "community first" and really think especially about what this is going to do to the aesthetics of our downtown corridor.

We don't need more stinking signs.

meh

14 years here..no need for more signs...scrap idea save the \$..we're a small community..not to often someone gets lost

I am not fond of these signs at all. I don't like the wood that is upright and dissecting the left side of the sign. It does not have continuity. It's choppy.

The initial signs installed were a bit low, even for me who is 5'5". I suggest studying best practices for height (for the lowest sign). Re: parking signs, I suggest having a clear sign *at* the actual parking lot so that people know they have found the correct place and not someone's driveway. Overall, I don't mind the designs, nor their installation - because after all, these were approved years ago and the money has been spent. I doubt the city will get a refund if the ones already made are returned, or not installed. Let's not waste the money. I think the city is encountering its vocal demographic with "nothing should change" :(and I feel for you all. Unfortunately, I'm not sure you'll be able to do anything at this point that'll calm the town or make the majority of people happy -- I suppose "removing them all!" will :(but I think they look nice and help Ouray up its appeal

Not a fan of any of the designs really. Not really needed signs of that size for a town that's basically 4 blocks of majority of tourist business. Seems overkill.

Thank you for what you are trying to accomplish but I do not see the Wayfinding signs necessary. I do think it's a good idea directing people with RV's, campers, or trucks with trailers as to where to park.

The signs that are hanging on the rod iron on main are more than enough for people to get around town some may be missing some of the locations that are on these new ones just add them to the existing polls in town. They are more Victorian than the new signs and will be alot cheaper to just add a few more locations to them. If new signs are going to go in put a little more effort on the styles, lettering possibly put some historic pictures or something that relates to the vast history of Ouray. There is no creativity with the new signs at all. They need to be more rustic not a watered down version of the signs in Montrose.

These signs are too big, are ugly, and take up valuable pedestrian space. We already have signs that compliment existing fixtures. If you insist on more signage please honor our victorian aesthetic and mimic the existing signs.

In the City of Ouray's most recent survey of residents, over 96% responded that they value the City's historic character. Why are our rulers ruining our beautiful City with disharmonious signs and architecture in defiance of the resident's fervent wishes? And wasting \$800,000 to do so?

Ridiculous!!

Don't like the way finding signs. Again so plain & ugly. If Ouray is supposed to be the Switzerland of America then it should keep that old European look. Make the signs more elegant/artistic and not so drab. And not so many, everyone uses their phones now, make sure Google maps has these way points on the app that everyone uses. That way less signs are needed. These are ugly, dont fit the towns vibe and way too expensive. Total waste of money

I don't think the design/ colors are representative of either our mountain or mining heritage , nor our Victorian architecture. The old black poles with smaller titles is most fitting with our history. The city is 9 blocks long and 6 blocks wide - how lost can you get ? And why would you need to read these when driving through town? You can park and walk to any corner to find your way to a location east or west on that block.i am not opposed to progress just ugly /unfitting progress. The new proposed sons are both of these.

Too many signs.....why not just meet each car arriving in Ouray and hold their hands as you give them a tour of town!!! Anyone can find what they need by walking a few blocks in either direction.....or ride the free shuttle...another stupid idea! Cars will be slowing to read all the signs and create more traffic problems. Let people walk and discover the town....maybe they'll spend some money also. The lovely and historic and interesting town of Ouray is being ruined. I am ready to leave.

They still look so massive! I don't understand why the font has to be so large.

Pedestrian Directional looks great, good size, visually appealing and in-context layout. Directory- also good size, visually appealing. Is there a plan to update and maintain this directory sign so that it remains current as shops and Ouray made affiliations change?

The old signs are very nice and go with the character of the town (the victorian style black wrought iron posts with green signs). The maroon color signs look very gentrified and generic.

The new signs have a very small font and are hard to read even up close and somebody with good vision. They also take too much room (larger real estate but smaller font). They don't provide any value over the older signs. Old signs (green with black wrought iron posts) seem to go well with the character of the town, are smaller profile but with bigger lettering. They also match the lamp posts.

The actual signs that are in place are too big, clash with the environment while the lettering is smaller than what is on the existing signs. The wood post look cheap, and will not age well over time, better to use metal like the existing sign post that can be repainted easily. I think the city should scrap this wayfinding project, eat the loss, and in the future contract "local" artisans to design something more fitting to Ouray.





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Date: December 1, 2025
To: Ouray City Council
From: Michelle Metteer, City Administrator
Re: Filling Vacant Council Seats

Background

With the completion of the November 4, 2025 election, two Council seats now sit vacant. One seat is for a four-year term and the other seat is for a two-year term. These seats should be filled in a timely manner to ensure the business of the City moves forward effectively.

Analysis

The Council will need to determine the process for filling the two vacant seats. The City of Ouray Charter is silent on this matter, leaving the execution of this effort to be determined by the sitting Council.

Sec. 2.5 Vacancies

Vacancies on the Council shall be filled by the affirmative vote of a majority of the remaining Council members. A person appointed to the vacancy shall serve until the appointed term concludes.

The only requirements for filling the vacancies stem from Sec. 2.1 which outlines the qualifications for elected officials.

Sec. 2.1 Qualifications of Elected Officials

Registered electors of the City of Ouray, Colorado, who have resided within the City boundaries for one (1) year immediately preceding their election or appointment to office are eligible for nomination and service as Council members. Residency within an area annexed by the City during this time frame shall count toward the residency requirement. No Council member may be an employee of the City. A City employee must terminate his or her employment with the City upon commencement of the term of office as a Council member.

Staff Recommendation

A common process for filling vacant Council seats is to seek letters of interest from qualified members of the public. Those who have submitted a letter of interest would then attend a scheduled Council meeting where each prospective Council member is asked a series of questions by the sitting Council (effectively an interview) and the Council can then vote to fill the empty seats. Upon completion of the vote, the new Council members are immediately sworn in and the meeting proceeds with a fully-seated Council. This process is conducted publicly and letters of interest are included in the Council packet for review in advance of the meeting.

Process Considerations

Here are a few variables for the Council to consider when confirming the process for the filling of the vacant seats and requirements therein:

- Timeline: The Council will need to set the timeline for completion of the process. Staff recommends the following:
 - Council directs staff to publicly notice the call for letters of interest. This will include notice in the local newspaper, City website, posting at City Hall, and an e-blast to all City newsletter subscribers.
 - Council to direct staff on the date for scheduling all prospective Council members to come before the City Council for the selection of vacant Council seats. Staff recommends this be done at the January 5, 2026 Council meeting. (A Zoom option will be available for prospective Council members who can't attend the meeting in person).
 - Summary of recommended timeline:
 - Dec 1 – Council directs staff to publicly notice the call for letters of interest
 - Dec 2 – notice of publication sent to the newspaper of record (The Plaindealer) for publication in the Dec 4, Dec 11 and Dec 18 and Dec 25 publications
 - Dec 2 – notice posted on City website, City Hall posting board
 - Week of Dec 1 – e-blast notification sent to all City of Ouray newsletter subscribers
 - Week of Dec 1 – Notice posted to Facebook, and weekly reminders posted to Facebook thereafter
 - Dec 30 – Letters of interest due by 3:00 pm (this requirement will be included in the public notice). Council to direct if late submittals will be accepted for consideration.
 - Dec 31 – Council packets published early in anticipation of City offices being closed Jan 2nd.
 - Jan 5 – Council vacancy selections conducted
- Letters of Interest: Council to direct staff on any details prospective Council members shall include in their letter of interest. Such details may include but are not limited to:
 - Confirmation by the candidate that they meet the qualifications for the City of Ouray elected officials
 - Summary of why the prospective Council member is interested in filling the vacancy
 - Interest in filling either the two year or four-year term
 - Acknowledgement as to why the prospective Council member did not run in the regular election
 - Other details as determined and directed by the City Council

Future Agenda Items/Work Sessions

- Home Trust of Ouray County – Housing Services Director
- Definition of Light Industrial EQR
- 2nd Ice Park Meeting; City Fund Management & Operational Costs - TbD
- Ordinance for no bikes on Riverwalk Trail – TbD
- Work Session; Via Ferrata – Feb 2026
- Nonconformity Code Updates
- Bed & Breakfast Discussion – 2026
- Work Session: Parking Study & Oak St Paving
- Discussion: Catchment Basin Parking Delineation / 2nd Street Sidewalk