



**NOTICE OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
TOWN OF OPHIR, CO 81426
TUESDAY 7:00 pm October 21, 2025
OPHIR TOWN HALL 36 PORPHYRY ST.**

[Join Zoom Meeting](#)

Meeting ID: 867 0143 8435 Passcode: 373146

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AGENDA

1. CALL TO ORDER
2. ADOPTION & SIGNATURE OF September 16, 2025 MEETING MINUTES
3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA
4. BUSINESS ITEMS
 - i. EcoAction Partners- Greenhouse Gas Initiative & Sneffels Energy Board Updates (30 minutes- Emma Gerona)
 - ii. SMPA- Power Company Updates- (15 minutes-SMPA Rep)
 - iii. 2026 Budget – First Draft (Cindy W., Treasurer)
 - iv. Discussion of an ordinance to establish a structured, transparent, and participatory process to review and potentially revise Ophir’s town governance system, with monthly public sessions leading to a possible charter amendment.
 1. First Reading Ordinance #2025-04 – That the General Assembly direct the Mayor to place the attached shared ordinance establishing charter review work sessions on next month's agenda for first reading, with the full text entered into tonight's meeting record. This ordinance would embed monthly charter review work sessions of at least 30 minutes within our regular General Assembly meetings, and would follow a mandatory five-phase process: Phase I - Understanding Our Government and Assessing Where We Are; Phase II - Explore and Design Our Options; Phase III - Evaluate and Advocate Alternatives through recorded moot court sessions; Phase IV - Ask the Community to Consider a

Choice; and Phase V - Finalize and Move Forward. The systematic review would evaluate all three governance pathways identified by our Town Attorney - maintaining our current General Assembly system with refinements, adopting a Council-Manager-Mayor system, and developing a hybrid model incorporating New England Town Meeting traditions. The process includes comprehensive community outreach beyond regular meeting attendees, with completion targeted within 9-12 months. This approach ensures any charter amendment decisions are based on thorough analysis and broad community engagement rather than reactive responses to external pressures, while fulfilling the original Charter Review Committee mandate. (Introduced by Beerman at September 16, 2025 GA)

2. Petition to Mayor and Staff of Ophir to present a town-wide ballot measure asking the citizens of Ophir to approve an amendment to the Ophir Home Rule Charter resulting in a change from a General Assembly to a Council-Mayor-Manager form of government. (Petition Circulators: Rosenthal, Steinberg, T. Rutledge)

5. STAFF REPORTS

- a. Town Manager
- b. Staff

6. NEW BUSINESS

7. ADJOURN

****DRAFT**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE
GENERAL ASSEMBLY
TOWN OF OPHIR, CO 81426
TUESDAY SEPTEMBER 16TH, 2025 7:00 PM
OPHIR TOWN HALL 36 PORPHYRY ST.
Video and audio recording available upon request**

1. CALL TO ORDER

Andy Ward calls the meeting to order at 7:08pm

VOTING MEMBERS PRESENT: Annabelle O'Neill, Jerry Oyama, Chris Dickson, Emma Christenson, Kirk Drogsvold, Abby Gamache, Ben Foster, Andy Ward, Joan May, Daniel Forgrave, Ryan Ehlers, Gunnar Doyle, Melanie Kent, Catherine Gockley, John Humphries, Teri Steinberg, Eric Beerman, Phil Hayden, Todd Rutledge, Natalie Fijalkowski, Tyler Shultz, Mark Worth, Cara Binkley, Chris Drew, Jacey DePriest, Kim Wheels, Larry Rosen, Joe Shults, Greg Hope, Slator Aplin, Leigh Sullivan, Dave Chew, Mark Campbell

NON-VOTING MEMBERS: John Wontrobski, Haley Carmer, Kara Gray, Sheamus Croke, Mollie, Mark Pearson, Glenn Pauls, Corey Heisler, Trevor Pauls

2. ADOPTION & SIGNATURE of August 19th 2025 Regular GA minutes

Joe motions, Gunnar seconds.

All in Favor (Yay): Unanimous

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Gunnar motions, Joan seconds.

All in Favor (Yay): Unanimous

**4. a) EXECUTIVE SESSION FOR PURPOSES OF DISCUSSION
WITH TOWN ATTORNEY**

Andy motions, Joan seconds
All in Favor (Yay): Unanimous

Executive session begins @ 7:14 and recording is stopped.

Executive session ends @ 7:22 and recording is resumed.

Andy requests that if anyone has any concerns regarding the discussion during the executive session to speak now. No one speaks.

b) Continuation for Public Hearing: Consideration of Ordinance #2025-02, AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE TOWN OF OPHIR HAZARD OVERLAY MAP REGARDING AVALANCHE ZONES on second reading:

Mark Worth states as we consider amending maps we should think about long-term impacts, potential for future residents to be in danger of a slide impacting them.

Phil is curious about where the lots will be relative to the map change.
Concerned about why Foley changed the map.

Andy responds they have no record of why they made changes, but notes no new studies were done.

Joe thinks the Foley map may have been copying the EPD land planners map drawn in 1994 (again no new study).

Haley states we could modify the ordinance to add a note stating historical avalanche evidence.

Cat states she has concerns, and thought there would be a new study.

Hailey notes there was direction from the GA not to conduct a new study for several reasons, one being cost.

Andy notes an avalanche expert was consulted to assess whether this amendment to fix the map made sense – and they concurred.

Mark Worth asks that the title of the property includes notification of potential avalanche hazard.

Teri notes that including indemnification in the ordinance is helpful to put future buyers on notice.

Gunnar states that the InStarr study and map do not assign hazard to the “Waller Thumb”. Intention of amendment is to get our adopted map to match the study map as closely as possible.

Phil states it would be okay to re-study our avalanche map and thinks it’s time.

Andy replies the GA gave direction not to do a new study, and that the town is following precedent set by other CO and AK mountain towns that deal with avalanche hazards.

Cat echoes Phil’s sentiment.

Ryan states building in the county near hazards requires engineering by property owner.

Joan motions to approve the motion.

Todd requests adding language to include indemnification notice in ordinance.

Joan motions to approve the ordinance 2025-2, an ordinance amending the town of Ophir hazard overlay map regarding avalanche zones with the amendment suggested by town attorney.

Slator seconds.

ROLL CALL VOTE TAKEN:

YES: Eric B, Teri S., Annabelle O., Chris D., Emma C., Kirk D., Abby G., Dan F., Cara B., Jacey D., Kim W., Melanie K., Natalie F., Tyler S., Sue H., Todd R., Gunnar D., Slator A., Joan M., John H., Andy W., Ben F., Joe S. (23)

NO: Phil H., Allyn H., Catherine G., Jerry O., Larry R., Leigh S, Mark W. (7)

MOTION PASSES

c) Public Hearing: Consideration of Ordinance 2025-3, AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE TOWN OF OPHIR HAZARD OVERLAY MAP, on second reading

Todd Motions to approve, Slator seconds.

ROLL CALL VOTE TAKEN

YES: Eric B., Mel K., Allyn H., Annabelle O., Chris D., Emma C., Kirk D., Abby G., Dan F., Cara B., Jacey D., Jerry O., Kim W., Natalie F., Tyler S., Sue H., Teri S., Mark C., Dave C., Chris D., Larry R., Todd R., Gunnar D., Slator A., Joan M., Joe S., John H., Andy W., Ben F. (28)

NO: Phil H., Mark W., (2)

MOTION PASSES

d) Haley Carmer outlines Waller settlement agreement.

Gunnar motions to approve settlement agreement and authorize the mayor to sign. Slator seconds.

VOICE VOTE TAKEN: 5 no votes, motion passes.

e) P&Z appointments

Gunnar notes Maddie Crowell has volunteered for alternate position.

Mark W. motions to approve current 3 members and new alternate. Phil seconds.

VOICE VOTE TAKEN: Unanimous approval.

5. STAFF REPORTS

OEC- Town received a grant this spring for a rocket composter, has been ordered and is waiting on delivery. Current composters are working better now thanks to Phil's fixes.

P&Z – First LUC review meeting was this month, making progress towards updates but it will be a lengthy process. Looking at draft ordinance for solar regulations. 2018 was the last time there were zoning changes.

PUBLIC WORKS – SGM water report was delivered in 2023 including usage and demand projections, water supply and delivery. Joe is mainly working on capital improvements list and has been going through line by

line determining what really needs to be done. Andy requests assistance with redwood box installation.

MANAGER – John thanks Joe for his hard work on public works.

Cindy notes 2026 prelim budget will be presented at next GA. We will have to vote on approval of additional funding.

In 2026 a new CO law will require producers of recyclables to pay into a fund that will cover our recycling bill. Not anticipating any change to town fees because of this.

Plow blade for new backhoe is on order. Delivery time currently unknown.

6. NEW BUSINESS

Kim notes EcoAction has a green grants program providing funds for anything related to energy efficiency in your home. Deadline is in about two months. Heat pump financing is available through SMPA. Home solar credits are expiring at the end of the year.

Eric Beerman notes a petition is circulating to change the form of Ophir government to town council. Was not informed the charter review committee of which he was a member was disbanded.

John W. notes he has recieved the petition, but it does not meet the state standards for a charter amendment election but it does meet GA requirements which requires that it be discussed at the next GA meeting.

Eric motions to approve an ordinance for charter review committee discussion for 30 minutes at upcoming GA meetings. Natalie seconds.

Discussion ensues and it is determined that Eric can just direct the Clerk to put the disussion on the next agenda – Motion is then withdraw and Eric directs clerk to put the item on next months agenda. Town Clerk agrees to do so.

8. ADJOURN

Andy adjourns the meeting @ 9:16pm

Minutes prepared by Ben Foster, Town Clerk

Audio and video recordings of all General Assembly Meetings are available to the public. Please contact the Town Clerk if you would like a copy of this month's audio of the meeting minutes.

Dear Town of Ophir,

Thank you so much for
your generous contribution
to the Camp Mystic fund!
We are so grateful for your
support.

Thank you!

Sincerely,

LP - Minnie

Williamson

EcoAction Partners Annual Report

San Miguel, San Juan & Ouray Counties | Colorado



2024

Welcome!

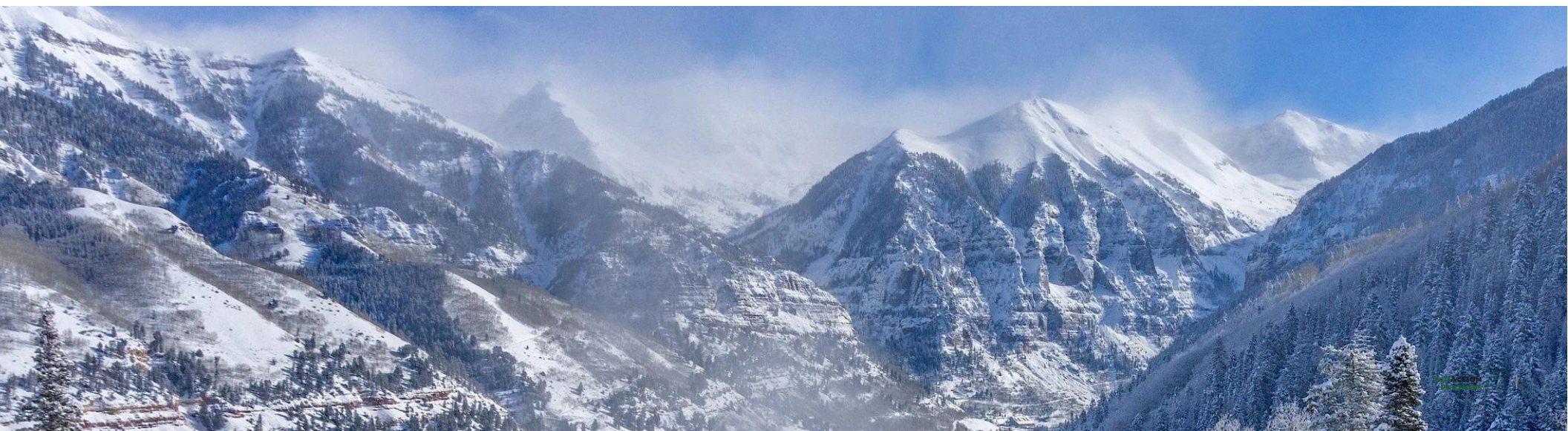
We are excited to present EcoAction Partners' 2024 Annual report! EcoAction Partners (EAP) was created in 2007 as a collaborative entity to facilitate sustainable solutions for our mountain communities. Since then, it has evolved to lead energy and waste programming across the region, track greenhouse gas emissions, and support jurisdictions, utilities, and our communities in reaching climate action goals. EAP has developed our programming over the years to bring together stakeholders to support collaborative solutions to both short- and long-term regional climate goals.

Our work is more important than ever as we are experiencing the adverse effects of climate change in our community. Rising temperatures, a reduced snowpack, and an increased number of wildfires have all demonstrated the unprecedented risk that we are facing. We are committed to supporting our region as we move towards a more sustainable future.

We are so grateful for all our partners in supporting our programming and efforts in reducing our greenhouse gas emissions, energy, and waste. We are thrilled to bring the Climate Action Plan to our region and support the next decade of collaborative climate planning and implementation. Our programs are meant to respond to climate change in a way that not only mitigates risk, but creates new opportunities for residents, businesses, and visitors. We are excited to approach the next year of collaboration and innovation in our field and look forward to continuing our important programming across the region!

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Our mission is to provide data-centered solutions that empower our partners to drive climate action and create more sustainable communities.

Our Work:



Tracking progress toward regional greenhouse gas emissions reduction goals



Empowering sustainability actions through education and awareness



Reducing waste through recycling, composting and education



Promoting energy efficiency, weatherization and renewable energy

“ We envision a region where people and their communities partner to enhance local self-reliance to ensure a sustainable, resilient, and equitable future. ”

Meet the Team



Emma Gerona, Executive Director



Sean Hart, Energy Programs Coordinator



Kim Wheels, Energy Specialist



Tyler Simmons, Zero Waste Coordinator



Mollie Theis, Education and Outreach Coordinator



Kendra Held, Climate Action Coordinator



Jay Saxton, Energy Auditor



Jacque Hess, CARE Program Administrator





GHG Emissions - Overview

429,000

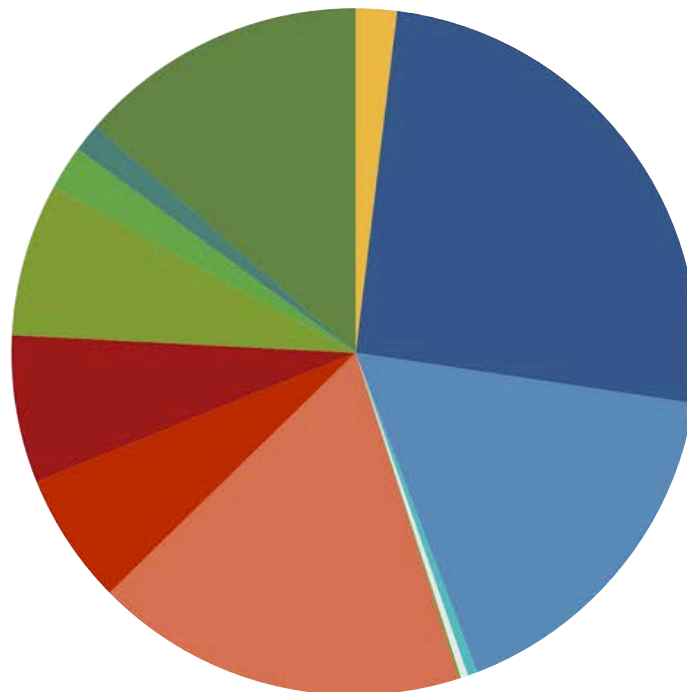
mt-CO₂e produced in 2023

Where We've Been

EAP has tracked the region's greenhouse gas inventory since 2010 with the beginning of the Sneffels Energy Board. We utilize ICLEI's ClearPath inventory tool to conduct our analysis and forecasting and continue to work closely with ICLEI staff to improve our GHG inventory.

Current GHG Emissions

Looking at the last 3-years we have seen a steep increase of our emissions after a relatively steady trend from 2010-2020.



San Miguel & Ouray Counties Emissions by Sector

Buildings 43%:

- Residential Buildings 25.4%
- Commercial Buildings 16.8%
- Water Treatment & Pumping 0.5%
- Wastewater treatment 0.3%
- Irrigation 0.1%

Transportation 31%:

- Gasoline Vehicles 17.6%
- Diesel Vehicles 6.2%
- Air Travel 6.9%

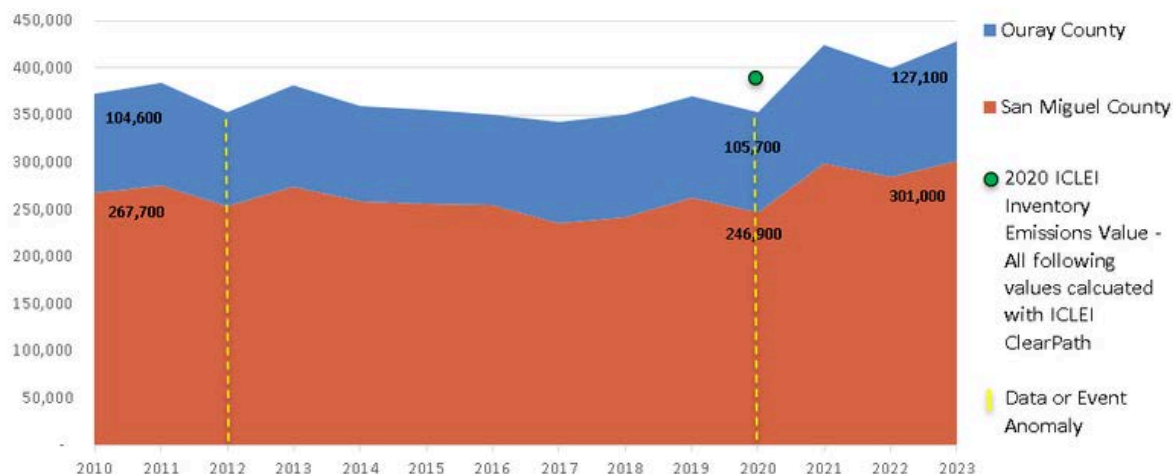
Consumption 24%:

- Fuel Production 7.2%
- Waste -MSW 2.1%
- Cement 1.3%
- Food Purchase 13.6%

Government >2%:

- Government 1.9%

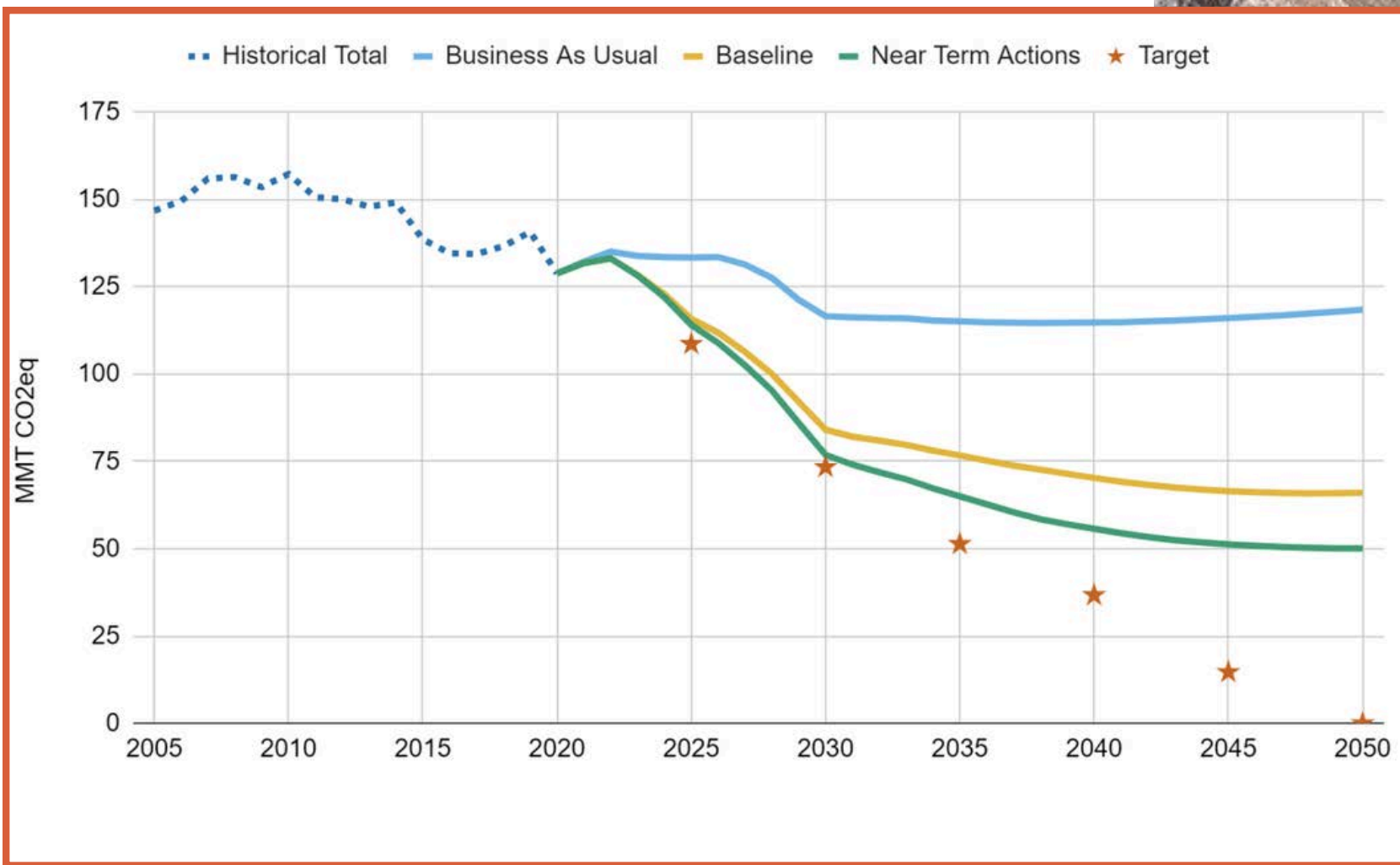
Ouray & San Miguel Counties
Regional Total GHG Emissions (mtCO₂e)





Colorado State Goals and Forecasting

Most of our regional partners have adopted the state of Colorado reduction goals which are 26% reduction by 2026, 50% reduction by 2030 and 90% by 2050. Some of our communities have gone even further than these goals. It's helpful to utilize data coming from the state to better understand the bigger picture as we collaboratively move towards these goals.

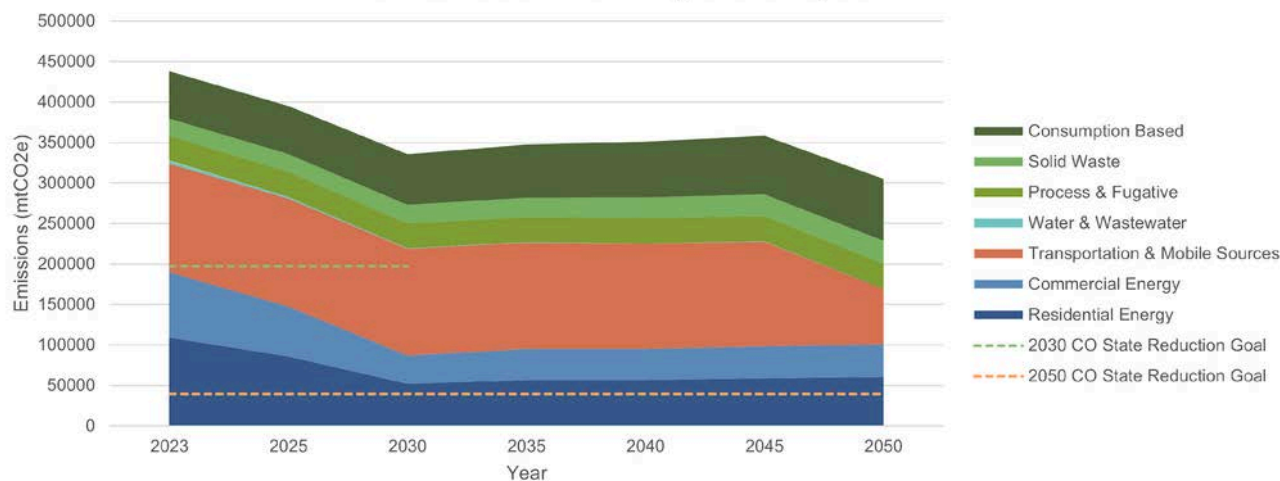




Regional Greenhouse Gas Forecasting

EcoAction creates regional forecasts to understand how our emissions will change into the future. **This data can help inform policy and program decisions as we strive to meet our emission reduction goals.** Through the forecasting process we integrate information including population and economic growth and high-level and localized reduction strategies.

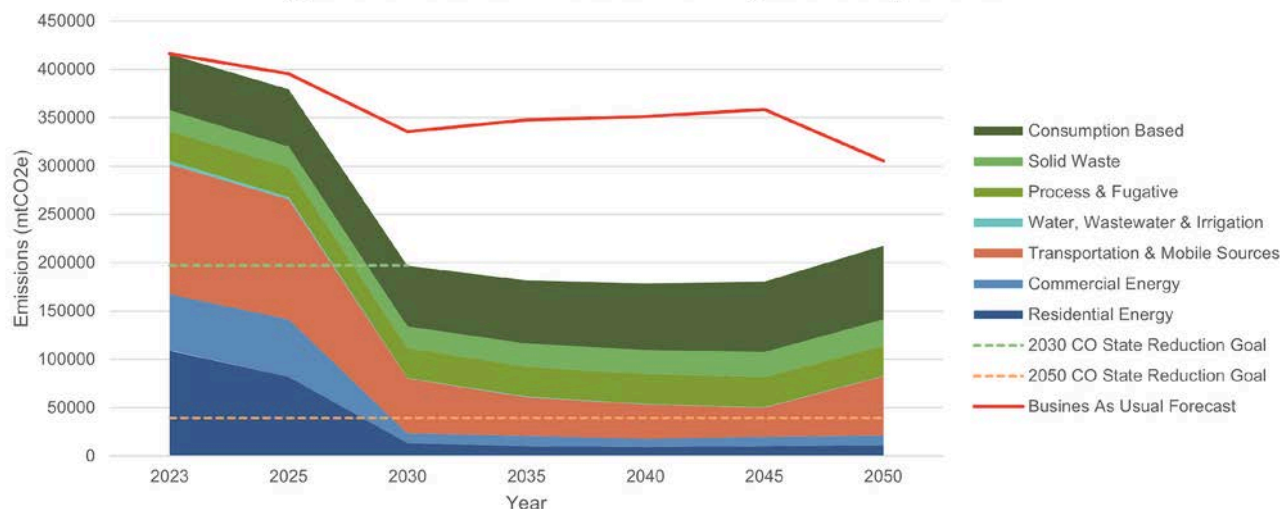
Business As Usual - San Miguel & Ouray Counties



Business-As-Usual

The Business-as-usual forecast assumes ongoing population growth at the rate we have seen over previous years. It includes reductions from an increasingly renewable energy grid following commitments from Tri-state to have 80% reduction in emissions associated with wholesale energy sales in Colorado by 2030.

Aggressive Reduction Scenario - San Miguel & Ouray Counties



Aggressive Reduction

The aggressive reduction scenario includes various additional strategies including EV adoption replacing gasoline and Diesel vehicles, beneficial electrification, residential and commercial solar, composting, ongoing efficiency efforts and more. Though this scenario reaches our 2030 goal, additional technological and systematic changes will need to be made to successfully reach our 2050 goal of 90% reductions.



About the Board

The Sneffels Energy Board was created in 2009 to support collaborative efforts in our remote and rural region as we collectively face the changes associated with climate change. The board brings together local leaders to coordinate climate planning, community engagement, project implementation, and policy change at the local and state levels. The Sneffels Energy Board is made up of government and community representatives from San Miguel, San Juan, and Ouray Counties, the Towns of Ridgway, Ophir, Norwood, Telluride, Mountain Village, Silverton, the City of Ouray, utility partners San Miguel Power Association, Black Hills Energy, along with key community group representatives.

2024 Highlights

- Awarded Colorado Energy Office, Energy Efficiency Conservation Block Grant award to fully fund a Regional Climate Action Development Director
- Brought on the Telluride Foundation as a partner
- Developing work plan for 2025 to best utilize our limited capacity
- Presented at the MT2030 climate summit in Jackson, Wyoming on the history and format of the Sneffels Energy Board to inspire other communities





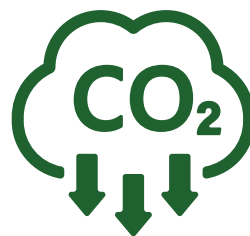
Highlights from 2024

- In 2024 the EV Taskforce **finalized the Regional EV Readiness Plan** and met throughout the year to discuss ongoing challenges and opportunities for vehicle electrification. **Several government partners are working to electrify their fleets and install private and public charging in our region.** Financial resources are available on a federal, state and local level to support both EV charging and EV purchase. Check out our website and the EV Readiness Plan to learn more!
- EcoAction Partners **co-hosted two EV Ride & Drive Events** this year in partnership with the Town of Ridgway, Town of Mountain Village, Town of Telluride, CLEER, 4CORE and SMPA. These events are a key opportunity to connect with community members, answer questions, learn about financial incentives and drive EVs from regional dealerships.



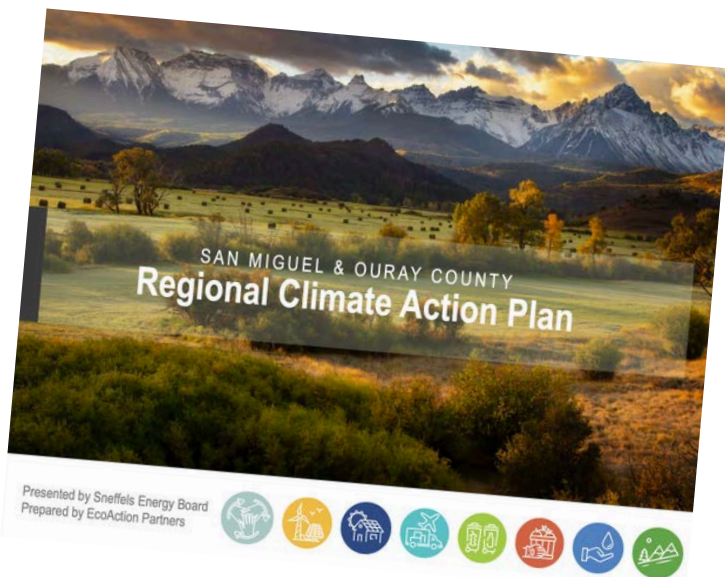


Regional Climate Action Plan



50% BY 2030
90% BY 2050

**GHG emissions
reduction goals**



Community Engagement & Policy
Stakeholder partnerships and ownership of policy and decision-making



Energy Supply
Generation of our community's electricity



Building Energy Use
Energy used by commercial and residential buildings



Transportation
Emissions associated with on-road movements and aviation operations



Waste
Trash, recycling, and compostable materials; landfill reduction and diversion



Food
Emissions from food production, transportation, and storage



Water
Water supply, use, pumping, and treatment and watershed health



Land
Land use and health, sequestration opportunities, and agricultural use



The Regional Climate Action Plan (CAP) was completed by EcoAction Partners and the Sneffels Energy Board in 2021. The plan is meant to be a working roadmap for climate action across the next decade in San Miguel and Ouray Counties. The plan focuses on 8 key sectors, identifying 21 objectives and 74 actions to support our region in reaching our emissions reduction goals while promoting economic and social sustainability for our communities. Each sector in the CAP explores the greenhouse gas reduction potential, co-benefits (economic, environmental, public health and safety, equity, and resiliency), timeline, and key community partners. **This plan is a driving force for our programs and partnerships as well as our efforts towards achieving reduction goals.**



Community Outreach and Engagement

EcoAction in Action

Community outreach and engagement is key to the success of our programming. Reaching our regional emissions reduction goals will not happen without the support of our whole community. Many of our outreach initiatives this year focused on collaboration with partners because we believe we are stronger when we work together!

We were excited to partner with Sheep Mountain Alliance and the Wilkinson Public Library in hosting our monthly coffee and climate conversation series and look forward to these engaging conversations in 2025. We hosted two composting workshops in partnership with San Miguel County to raise awareness about new composting offerings with Bruin Waste and learn about healthy soils and the “why” behind composting locally. From films, to tabling events, to coffee chats, happy hours, and workshops, we were thrilled to have our outreach efforts connect us with over 2000 people throughout the region. We are looking forward to broadening our efforts and hosting more coffee chats, workshops, educational events and more in 2025!

2,019 People Reached





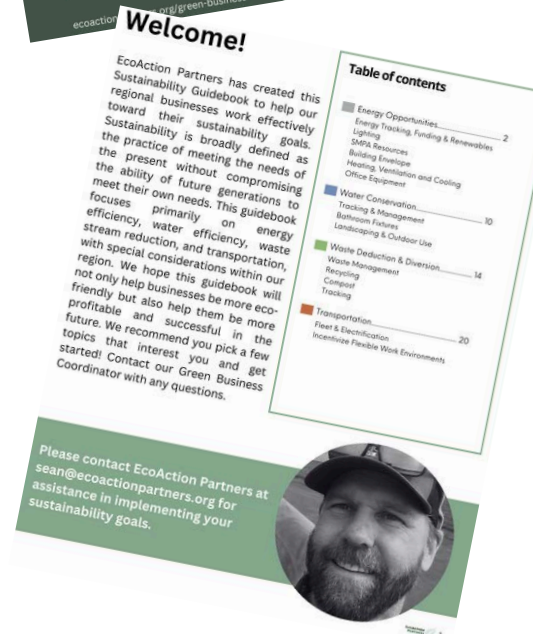
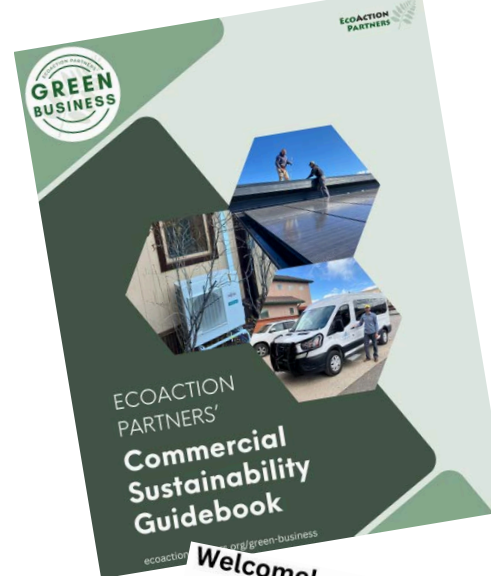
Green Business Program

About the Membership

The Green Business program is a membership program creating a sustainable business community while reducing greenhouse gas emissions. Member businesses get access to a plethora of resources and receive customized support to achieve their sustainability goals. We can support a business by conducting an energy assessment walkthrough and working on a customized action plan tailored to their sustainability goals.

2024 Highlights

- Focused on re-engaging our current members to ensure they have the resources and needs to meet their sustainability goals
- Supported an HOA with solar project funding applications
- Provided application support leading to businesses receiving hundreds of dollars in rebates after completing efficiency upgrades
- Helped businesses add compost to their operations
- Developed a Green Business “playbook” to better engage businesses across the region beyond our membership program
- Hosted a roundtable event with 26 business representatives



Current Members





EcoAction Student Programming



EcoAction Partners works with youth in the region to empower young voices as agents of change in their schools, homes, and community at large. Our programming with students meets them where they are at in their climate activism journey and takes many shapes from partnering with schools in the region, fostering change through environmental clubs, mentoring high school students, partnering with other local organizations and more!

Partnership in Programming

In 2024 EAP partnered with local nonprofits to work together in providing hands-on science and outdoor learning for students in Telluride. We had so much fun teaching Pinhead afterschool 1st-3rd graders about recycling in our region and we even made our own paper out of other paper scraps! We also loved our outdoor adventure day with Sheep Mountain Alliance and the Wilkinson Public Library for their Discovery Tuesday program. In addition to Discovery Tuesday, we were proud to be a part of Valley Floor Education Day and spend the day outside with Telluride's K- 2nd graders. Lastly, we co-hosted our first annual Earth Day Extravaganza at the Telluride Elementary school yard alongside the Pinhead Institute and eight other community partners.



Telluride High School Environmental Club & SMC Climate Council

In the Fall of 2024 our Telluride HS intern and EcoAction's Education and Outreach Coordinator partnered to bring the THS environmental club to life. The role of EAP was to elevate the teens voices and help connect their ideas to plans that produce tangible outcomes. We were excited to help the students get a new school-wide composting program to come in 2025! We are also looking forward to accompanying our youth in their climate activism journey and will be starting a San Miguel County Youth Climate Council alongside True North in 2025 thanks to a generous grant award from the Just for Kids Foundation.





In School Programming for 3rd-5th Graders

EcoAction in Schools is a program currently designed for 3rd-5th graders to learn about climate change, greenhouse gasses, and sustainability in a hands-on engaging way that coincides with Next Generation Science Standards. Students are engaged in interactive learning about these larger concepts in a way that is developmentally appropriate, connected to what they are learning in the classroom, and sparks critical thinking for how they envision the future of their communities. We wrapped up the end of 2024 with a new student challenge that included a drawing contest with the prompt “My Community in 50 Years....”





Meet Ivy

Ivy Morton is a Telluride High School Senior who joined our team as a summer intern. Ivy then continued her work with us through the mentorship program at THS where she spent multiple hours a week alongside our Education and Outreach Coordinator helping plan events, create social media campaigns and spearhead initiatives at her school such as a new composting program alongside EAP.



"I hope to study some kind of environmental major in college and pursue a career in that field as well. This mentorship will help me achieve my future goals and is also helping me grow my skills in public speaking, event planning and marketing, as well as my knowledge about our environment and how I can help protect it."- Ivy Morton EAP intern



Environmental Justice in Climate Action

Environmental Justice in the San Juans

In March, 2024, we were thrilled to be awarded an EPA Environmental Justice Collaborative Problem Solving grant to address environmental and public health vulnerabilities related to disaster preparedness (wildfire and drought), energy, recreation, and advocacy. This funding will directly bolster access to existing programs that address inequalities around climate vulnerabilities across our region. EcoAction in partnership with Sheep Mountain Alliance and Collaborative Action For Immigrants (CAFI) will build regional resiliency through educational programming and outreach initiatives to our underserved residents.

In 2024 we hosted our first in a series of drought and wildfire workshops, community conversations, outreach on engaging in the public process, a community conversation on local renewable energy and using one's voice while land use codes were being updated, as well as a workshop on bienestar en la naturaleza (wellness in the outdoors) and barriers to entry. To foster a more inclusive outdoor community we hosted 9 different accessible outdoor community events including a via ferrata, downhill ski day, hiking, an overnight stay in the Opus hut and much more!

194 Attendees

9 Outdoor Events

4 Workshops





Festival composting, recycling, trash (CRT)

71%

waste diverted from landfill at
Telluride Bluegrass

38%

waste diverted from landfill at
Jazz Fest

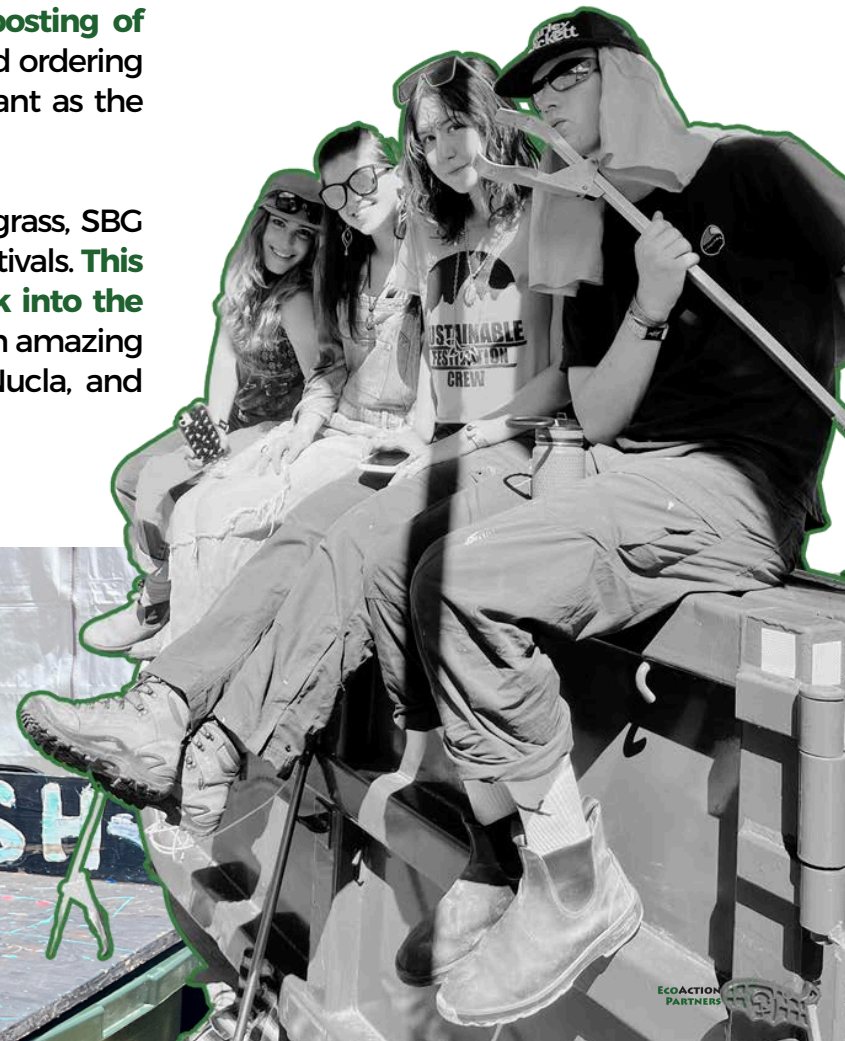
47%

waste diverted from landfill at Blues
and Brews

*these numbers are approximated estimates from total data due to not being able to pull numbers from exact locations around the festival

EcoAction works with festivals and events to support the goal of 100% composting of organic waste. We support festivals with staff and volunteer training, vendor staff and ordering support, and campground waste support. Support this year was especially important as the major festivals fell into the early stages of the Town of Telluride's single use plastic ban.

Additionally, EAP works with the Telluride Angel Baskets Food Pantry, Planet Bluegrass, SBG Productions, and volunteers to donate the unused food from the Telluride music festivals. **This year we helped keep over 3,000 pounds of food out of the landfill and put back into the hands of our community members.** Telluride Angel Baskets Food Pantry conducts an amazing network of volunteers that hauls the food day-of to food pantries in Norwood, Nucla, and beyond.





Regional Waste Reduction Efforts

Ecology Commission Trash Bash

EcoAction joined forces with the Telluride Ecology Commission for the second annual Trash Bash event in May. **Together with about 50 community members**, we picked up at least **230 pounds of trash** from local trails, roads and public spaces!

Electronic Waste Recycling

We held Electronic Waste Recycling events both in the Spring and in the Fall. These events took place in Mountain Village, Telluride, and Norwood. Between the Spring and Fall, over **45,000 lbs.** of electronic waste was collected to be repurposed and diverted from landfills! **Did you know, our partner, 3R Technology Solutions, reports that over half of the electronic waste they collect gets refurbished before it ever gets recycled!**

Telluride HS Waste Audit

EAP and the THS environmental club conducted a waste audit to see just how much food waste is being thrown away each day on average and how much could be diverted from the landfill with a compost program. Together we estimated that about **41% of food is wasted in the cafeteria!** EAP and the THS environmental club are looking forward to continuing with the momentum in 2025 and are hopeful for future composting initiatives at THS.

Updated Waste Resources

In 2024 EAP updated the curbside recycling guide with guidance from Bruin Waste, to be in both English and Spanish languages as well as their compost guide for their brand new composting program.





Telluride Green Grants

2024 Highlights

\$57,000

awarded in funding

244

metric tons of CO₂ reduced from the Telluride community's annual GHG emissions

2024 Projects

- Community compost program improvements and expansion
- HOA replacement of 40-year old windows
- Individual home window replacements
- boiler replacement
- ...and much more!



How it Works

The Telluride Green Grant program gives non-profits, businesses, and residents within the Telluride community an opportunity to fund capital projects that reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions. EAP administers the program on behalf of the Town of Telluride. Green Grants are funded using monies from the Telluride Energy Mitigation Program (TEMP), a program that requires mitigation of energy used by exterior energy systems installed on new construction projects such as driveway snowmelt systems, heated garages, and exterior pools and spas. If energy used by these systems is not mitigated through on-site renewable energy, then a fee in-lieu of mitigation is required to allow the Town to mitigate greenhouse gas emissions on behalf of the project. These fees allow for the Town to put these dollars back into the community to support a wide array of residential and business GHG emission reduction projects.



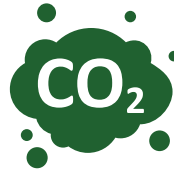
\$252,867

In weatherization
upgrades



34

Homes
serviced



38

Metric tons of
annual CO₂e
savings

Creating Comfort, Safety, and Savings

The CARE program provides free weatherization upgrades for our low- and middle-income residents. We are able to address health and safety issues like improper venting and gas leak concerns, and can implement upgrades that will create a more comfortable living environment, and lower client's utility bills. We were thrilled with the progress made in this program this year, serving 34 homes with 13 refrigerators, eight furnaces, 12,000+ sqft. of insulation, 320 LEDs and so much more! We were thrilled to introduce a pilot Beneficial Electrification portion to this program and were able to instal five heat pumps all at no cost to our clients! We are so grateful to San Miguel Power Association, Tristate, Black Hills Energy, and Energy Outreach Colorado for making this program possible.



"I wanted to take a moment to extend my heartfelt thanks for the incredible improvements made to my home through the weatherization program. The installation of the mini-split heat pump and the new attic insulation has had a transformative effect on the comfort and efficiency of my home."- CARE program participant



Team Goal of Less Dependency (GOLD) Phase 2

EAP along with the town of Silverton, San Juan County, SMPA, and the San Juan County Office of Emergency Management applied for and were awarded phase 2 of the HEROX Office of Clean Energy Development, Energizing Rural America Prize. This funding will help with implementation of the 4 plans that were developed with phase 1 funding. We will be bringing a direct to community grant program for greenhouse gas reduction projects similar to that of the Telluride Green Grant program, beneficial electrification plan implementation, renewable and resiliency projects, CAP education, CARE program and more! We were excited and honored to have this project recognized at the ~500 person, MT2030 climate summit in Jackson, Wyoming for the “collaboration of the year” award.

What We've Accomplished:

- ① 🏠 Community Resiliency Blueprint
- ② 🏠 Climate Action Plan
- ③ 🏠 Beneficial Electrification Roadmap
- ④ 🏠 Electrical Resilience Planning

→ Implementation Goals:

- Resilience Hubs
- Implemented CAP Actions
- Electrification Projects
- Microgrid Design and Funding

“Team GOLD is building the resilience of our community to be disaster proof. We are building the capacity from individuals up to our institutions to adapt to disasters. The recognition from DOE shows how Silverton is a forward-looking community.” Jim Donovan San Juan County Emergency Manager



Fostering Collaboration

EcoAction Partners recently attended the MT2030 Climate Solutions Summit. Since launching in 2019, the Summit has evolved into the preeminent networking and knowledge-building event for key stakeholders committed to accelerating climate action in mountain, resort and rural communities. We were invited to present on our regional collaborative work and hosted a panel session called Putting the Action in Climate Action: Fostering Collaboration in Rural Mountain Communities. It was exciting to share our work with mountain communities from all across the country who are hoping to foster their own partnerships as they implement climate action initiatives. Additionally, we were thrilled to be honored with this year's Collaboration of the Year award as a result of our efforts with the Town of Silverton's team GOLD (Goal of Less Dependency) project which we formed as a public-private-utility partnership to bring energy security, resiliency, sustainability, and modernization to the remote and rural Town of Silverton, in San Juan County, Colorado.



"This year Kim, Emma and I hosted a panel at Mountain Towns 2030 in Jackson, WY with our partners at SMPA and the Telluride Foundation. It was really affirming for our collaborative work and the Sneffels Energy Board framework to shine. I love learning what other mountain communities are doing to take climate action and being in that energizing, hopeful space. In 2025 I'm looking forward to strengthening relationships with our partners and driving bold and creative problem-solving." -Kendra Held EAP Climate Action Coordinator



Energy Codes

EcoAction Partners supports our regional partners in code updates. Our Energy Specialist sits on the Colorado Energy Code Board and is helping represent our region and drive efficiency, renewable ready and low carbon updates to code requirements at the state level.

Updates & Awards

EcoAction Partners on behalf of our region was awarded a grant from the Colorado Energy Office (CEO) to facilitate a regional cohort across San Miguel, Ouray, and San Juan counties to support collaborative discussion and implementation support for the state's building energy code requirements. Regional building code consistency, with varying amendments as appropriate for each jurisdiction, has proven beneficial to our building community and for enforcement over the years, so we aim to support continued communication and collaboration. Per House Bill 22-1362, all jurisdictions across the state are required to update their energy code by July 1, 2026, if any other code updates are implemented. EAP is partnering with Lotus Engineering & Sustainability and NORESO to work with us to facilitate the cohort, provide energy code expertise, and support building departments as we work toward adoption of the required codes.

Building Benchmarking

We have also conducted building benchmarking analysis on some of our larger Mountain Village and Telluride buildings so we can better understand the impact that efficiency and electrification measures have on our buildings as they are made. We are excited to see how this data helps us further our building energy goals with our local governments as key leaders in this effort and hope to expand these efforts across the whole region where they might support incentivizing building efficiency upgrades.





About the Program

EAP has been working with key regional partners including the Telluride Foundation, Region 10, West End Economic Development Committee, SMPA, local solar providers and contractors to support the workforce development that is necessary for our region to reach our beneficial electrification and renewable goals. We are thrilled that the Telluride Foundation has provided funding for stipends for training and education opportunities for students and contractors interested in further education in the beneficial electrification and renewable energy fields.

2024 and Beyond

We have been working to identify additional funding to continue to offer and grow this program. We were thrilled to have three program participants and our first program graduate, who is already offering weatherization services, including heat pump installations for our income qualified CARE program and more! Thank you to Fletcher with Stellar Air for your participation in the program and ongoing support for our regional electrification efforts! We are looking forward to celebrating more graduates and expanding the green workforce in 2025.



3

Program participants

”

Getting paid to learn new skills is a powerful springboard for anyone interested in working with energy. The demand shortage for skilled human hands connected to educated brains will never be solved by A.I. and this program's focus on connecting people with great jobs is well worth your time!- Fletcher (program graduate)

Thank you to our Partners

Funding Partners:

- Alpine Bank
- April Fund
- Black Hills Energy
- Community Coalition for Arts and Special Events
- Colorado Energy Office
- Energy Outreach Colorado
- Environmental Protection Agency
- Planet Bluegrass
- Ouray County
- San Miguel County
- San Miguel Power Association
- Telluride Bluegrass
- Telluride Foundation
- Town of Mountain Village
- Town of Ophir
- Town of Ouray
- Town of Ridgway
- Town of Telluride
- Town of Norwood
- U.S. Department of Energy, Office of Clean Energy Demonstrations
- West End Pay It Forward Trust

Staff:

Emma Gerona, Executive Director

Kim Wheels, Energy Specialist

Kendra Held, Climate Action Coordinator

Mollie Theis, Education and Outreach Coordinator

Jaqueline Hess, Weatherization Programs Administrator

Jay Saxton, Weatherization Programs Auditor

Tyler Simmons, Zero Waste Coordinator

Sean Heart, Energy Programs Coordinator

Board Members:

Lance Warring, Board President

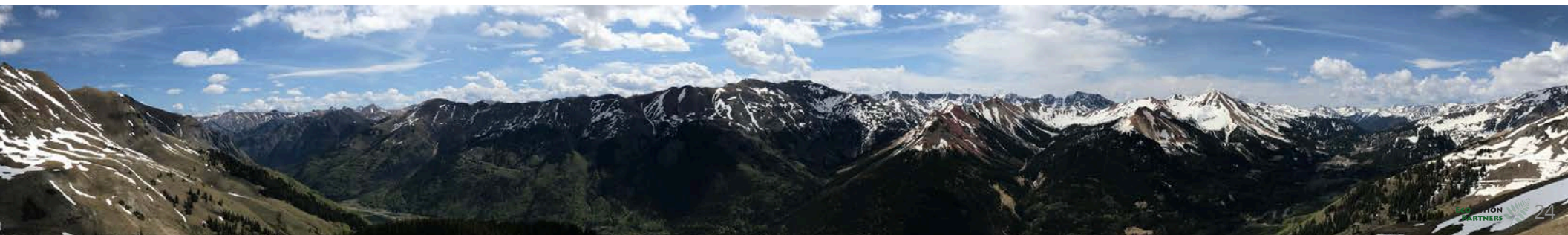
Todd Brown, Treasurer

Tobin Brown

Meagan Preece

Kathy Green

Dan Enright



Take Action and Support EcoAction Partners

1.

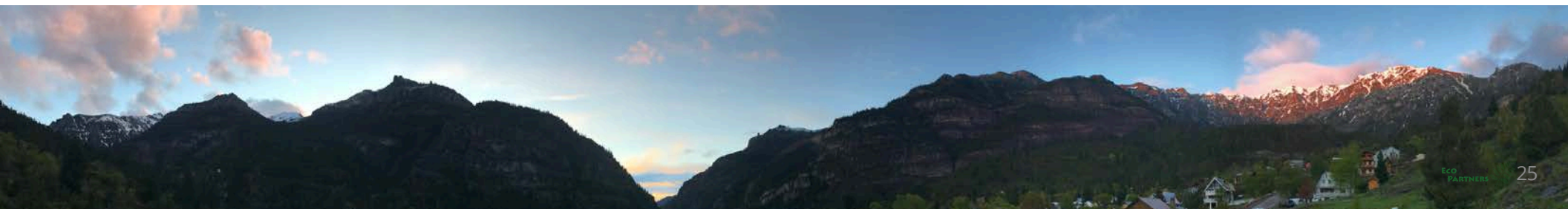
Educate: Explore the Regional Climate Action Plan to learn about our regional collaborative sustainability efforts.

2.

Engage: Join in opportunities to participate in EAP programming and connect with our staff.

3.

Give: Donate and support our programming by scanning the QR code.



Packet material for October 21, 2025 Form of Government agenda item:

Discussion of an ordinance to establish a structured, transparent, and participatory process to review and potentially revise Ophir's town governance system, with monthly public sessions leading to a possible charter amendment.

Dear Ophir Neighbors,

In 2024, the Ophir General Assembly (GA) formed a Charter Review Committee to evaluate whether our current GA model is the best form of governance or if alternatives should be considered.

In April 2024, Special Council David McConaughy presented a memo outlining options and procedures for charter amendments. While the committee met, it didn't fully explore the options or reach conclusions, and eventually paused.

At the September 2025 GA meeting, Mark Rosenthal submitted a petition calling for a special election to ask residents if Ophir should adopt a Town Council model. At the same meeting, Eric Beermann proposed a motion (which passed) to launch a series of systematic Charter Review Work Sessions to assess all governance options and to do so **with broad community input**.

Both items are on the Oct 21, 2025 GA agenda:

1. Mark Rosenthal's petition for a special election on adopting a Town Council model.
2. Eric Beermann's ordinance to form a committee to evaluate all governance options with community involvement.

If Eric's motion is adopted, Eric Beermann, Natalie Fijalkowski, and Joan May volunteer to serve on the committee (hopefully with other neighbors) that will be open to all Ophir residents and held every month prior to the regular GA meeting, in order to gather and share information to help residents make an informed decision.

We propose holding committee meetings from 6:30–7:00 pm before GA meetings for five or six months. An outline of what will be achieved at each meeting will be set at the first meeting, culminating with clearly outlined explanations and pros and cons of various options including keeping the GA model as is, Town Council, Select Board, GA with some tweaks, and other ideas that arise. The committee work will conclude with a survey or election or GA vote, depending on what the people of Ophir decide is the best path forward.

This letter is presented so that you have a full understanding of Eric's motion that will be on the October GA agenda.

Thank you for your support of this idea and thanks in advance for your participation!

Sincerely,

Eric, Natalie, Joan

TOWN OF OPHIR, COLORADO

ORDINANCE NO. 2025-_____

AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING CHARTER REVIEW WORK SESSIONS WITHIN GENERAL ASSEMBLY MEETINGS

WHEREAS, the Town of Ophir, Colorado ("Town"), is a home-rule town and political subdivision of the State of Colorado, duly organized and operating under the Constitution and laws of the state and the Ophir Town Charter.

WHEREAS, the General Assembly previously established a Charter Review Committee to conduct comprehensive analysis of the Town's governance structure and evaluate potential alternatives.

WHEREAS, the Town Attorney has identified three distinct pathways for charter consideration: maintaining the current General Assembly system with refinements, adopting a Council-Manager-Mayor system, and developing a hybrid model incorporating New England Town Meeting traditions with Select Board governance.

WHEREAS, the Charter Review Committee's work remains incomplete, having paused deliberations during pending legal matters, with systematic evaluation of all three pathways yet to be concluded.

WHEREAS, the Town's democratic traditions and the complexity of charter amendments require thorough community engagement and informed deliberation to serve the best interests of all residents.

WHEREAS, embedding charter review within the General Assembly's regular proceedings ensures transparency, public access, and systematic evaluation of all legally viable governance options.

WHEREAS, Colorado Revised Statutes § 31-2-210 requires that any charter amendments be approved by majority vote of the electorate, making informed community input essential to the democratic process.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE
TOWN OF OPHIR, COLORADO:**

Section 1. Recitals. The Recitals set forth above are incorporated herein as findings and declarations of the General Assembly.

Section 2. Charter Review Work Sessions Established. Monthly Charter Review Work Sessions are hereby established as standing agenda items within regular General Assembly meetings. These sessions shall be dedicated segments of at least thirty (30) minutes within each monthly meeting for systematic evaluation of the Town's current governance structure and consideration of alternatives.

Section 3. Session Structure and Procedures.

A. Work sessions shall be embedded within regular General Assembly meetings and conducted under the same open meeting requirements. The Mayor shall preside over work sessions consistent with their authority under Article II, Section 8(a) of the Town Charter.

B. The work sessions shall be conducted in accordance with the standard rules of order adopted by the General Assembly. To ensure productive and focused discussion, the Mayor may, consistent with those rules and existing General Assembly procedures, limit presentation time periods and restrict presentations that are repetitive or not directly related to the current phase of review. Any such limitations shall be applied fairly and consistently to all participants.

C. All work session proceedings shall be recorded in regular GA meeting minutes. Video recording of sessions is encouraged to facilitate broader community access to deliberations, and recordings shall be made available to the public through the Town's website or other accessible means.

Section 4. Phased Review Process. Charter review shall proceed through the following mandatory phases. The General Assembly shall determine when each phase has been substantially completed before advancing to the next phase. The descriptions below provide guidance on the scope of work expected in each phase:

A. Phase I - Understanding Our Government and Assessing Where We Are (Target: 2 sessions): We'll examine how well our direct democracy system is working for Ophir in general terms and its individual strengths and weaknesses. Unlike most Colorado towns that elect councils or mayors, every registered resident who attends our General Assembly meetings participates directly in governing. While this resembles New England Town Meeting tradition, Ophir's system is actually quite different - traditional town meetings have elected select boards handling day-to-day governance between meetings, but Ophir operates with only elected officers (Mayor, Clerk, Treasurer) and no ongoing governing board. This means our General Assembly must handle both big-picture decisions and ongoing administrative oversight. We'll assess this distinctive system by examining meeting

attendance, decision-making efficiency, and community outcomes. We'll study New England Town Meeting charters and council-manager systems to understand how alternatives might address current challenges or complement existing strengths. We'll survey residents about participation opportunities, barriers to involvement, and communication preferences. We'll also document and anticipate demographic and economic changes that might affect our community's capacity for self-governance, resilience against development pressures, and environmental stewardship in both the near & long term. General Assembly members will collaborate to divide research responsibilities, with volunteers examining different aspects of our governance model and potential improvements.

B. Phase II - Explore and Design Our Options (Target: 2-3 sessions): In this phase, we'll work together to build detailed plans for each of the three governance approaches we're considering. Rather than having people argue for their favorite option right away, everyone will collaborate to make each model as strong and practical as possible. We'll figure out exactly how each system would work in Ophir - what would day-to-day operations look like, how would we handle specific local challenges, and what would need to change in our charter. We'll also think about how our changing community demographics might affect each approach over time. By the end of this phase, we'll have detailed blueprints for each governance option that show how they could be implemented in Ophir, including preliminary structural specifications and realistic transition plans. The goal is to develop three well-thought-out alternatives that we can properly evaluate and test.

C. Phase III - Evaluate and Advocate Alternatives (Target: 2 sessions): Having built our options collaboratively in Phase II, this phase is where we shift to actively advocating for and against each approach - this is where passionate arguments and strong positions belong. We'll establish an open process where General Assembly members can present arguments for any of the three approaches during different sessions. We'll develop realistic scenarios that Ophir might actually face - like a budget crisis, a contentious development proposal, or an emergency response situation - and examine how each governance system would handle them. During each moot court session, volunteers will present the case for how their chosen governance model would address these challenges. These sessions will be recorded so the whole community can watch and follow the discussions. After each presentation, residents will get to ask probing questions and challenge the reasoning behind each approach. The goal is to stress-test each option through rigorous discussion and see how they perform under scrutiny, so we can understand their real-world strengths and weaknesses.

D. Phase IV - Ask the Community to Consider a Choice (Target: 1-2 sessions): After all our analysis and debate, it's time to find out what the broader community actually wants. We'll need to decide how to best gather input from everyone in Ophir - should we use a detailed survey, hold a special ballot, conduct ranked-choice voting, or try some other method? The choice of method matters because we want to make sure everyone feels

comfortable participating and that we get honest, thoughtful responses. We'll design questions based on everything we've learned in the previous phases, making sure people understand what each governance option would actually mean for them. Then comes the important work of reaching out to the whole community - not just the people who regularly attend General Assembly meetings. We'll use multiple ways to connect with residents and make it as easy as possible for everyone to participate. Once we've gathered all the input, we'll analyze what we've learned about community preferences and priorities. This phase is about listening rather than persuading - we want to understand what matters most to Ophir residents when it comes to how their town is governed.

E. Phase V - Finalize and Move Forward (Target: 2-3 sessions): Analysis and interpretation of community assessment results; refinement of the selected governance framework based on community preferences; development of final charter amendment language in consultation with Town Attorney; preparation of charter amendment ordinance for General Assembly consideration; public presentation of final charter amendment proposal.

- Translating community choice into legal language
- Charter amendment drafting and legal review
- Implementation planning and timeline

Section 5. Timeline and Process Requirements.

A. The General Assembly shall determine when each phase has been substantially completed before advancing to the next phase.

B. The General Assembly intends to complete the charter review process within a period of nine (9) to twelve (12) months from the date of ordinance adoption. If a majority of the General Assembly determines that a reasonable extension is necessary to fulfill the completion criteria of a phase, such an extension may be granted by a duly adopted resolution.

C. The General Assembly may, by majority vote at any regular meeting, modify the timeline, phase structure, or procedures established herein to adapt to changing circumstances while maintaining the core objectives of thorough review and community engagement.

D. Upon completion of all phases, the final charter amendment ordinance shall be presented to the General Assembly for consideration and potential placement on the ballot pursuant to Colorado Revised Statutes § 31-2-210.

Section 6. Charter Amendment Implementation. Upon completion of the systematic review process, the General Assembly may adopt an ordinance placing the developed charter

amendment before voters. The charter amendment ordinance shall incorporate the framework selected through community assessment and refined through the systematic review process established herein. Community assessment findings shall inform any subsequent charter amendment proposals and provide guidance on community preferences for governance structure.

Section 7. Resource Allocation and Public Access. The Town Manager is directed to provide necessary staff support for research activities, meeting coordination, and documentation requirements. The Town Attorney shall provide legal support for charter language development during Phase V and consultation on legal requirements during Phase II framework development. Video recording equipment and distribution capabilities shall be made available for work sessions to ensure broad community access.

A. Public Information Portal. The Town Manager shall establish and maintain a dedicated, easily navigable online portal for all charter review materials, including research documents, meeting recordings, draft frameworks, community assessment materials, and schedules of upcoming work sessions.

B. Community Outreach. The Town shall conduct proactive outreach to ensure broad community awareness of and participation in the charter review process, including notifications through multiple communication channels and accommodation for residents who cannot attend regular meeting times.

Section 8. Amendment and Refinement. This ordinance may be amended between first and second reading based on General Assembly discussion and public input received during the required public hearing. After adoption, this ordinance may be amended by the General Assembly through the standard ordinance procedure to improve the effectiveness of the charter review process.

Section 9. Publication. After final adoption, a public notice shall be published which notice shall contain the number and title of this ordinance, a brief description of the ordinance, its effective date and notice that copies are available for inspection at the Town Hall office and on the Town's website.

Section 10. Severability, Conflicting Ordinances Repealed. If any section, subsection or clause of this Ordinance shall be deemed to be unconstitutional or otherwise invalid, the validity of the remaining sections, subsections and clauses shall not be affected thereby. All other ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict with the provisions of this Ordinance are hereby repealed.

Section 11. Effective Date. This ordinance shall take effect immediately upon passage at second reading and publication as required by the Town Charter.

Introduced, Read, and Referred to Public Hearing on First Reading by the General Assembly of the Town of Ophir on the ____ day of _____, 2025.

Approved and Adopted on Second and Final Reading as Amended by the General Assembly of the Town of Ophir on the ____ day of _____, 2025.

By: _____

Andy Ward, Mayor

Attest: _____

Ben Foster, Town Clerk

Approved as to Form: Town Attorney

MEMORANDUM

TO: Town of Ophir

FROM: David McConaughy, Special Counsel

RE: Charter Amendments

DATE: April 29, 2024

I met with members of the Charter Committee at Ophir Town Hall on March 20, 2024. Community members also provided public comments. This memo will outline several options to consider for amending Ophir's Charter and the procedures to accomplish that.

1. Primary Concerns

The General Assembly ("GA") form of government applies to only two towns in Colorado: Ophir and Ward. Anecdotally, a former resident of Ward moved to Ophir and suggested a similar form of government for Ophir as small mountain community. The idea may have been inspired by New England-style town meetings.

The GA structure allows for significant input and involvement from ordinary citizens, but only for those who take the time to show up and participate. During the meeting, concern was expressed that, in practice, the GA rules effectively allow a small group of unelected citizens who regularly attend the meetings to make decisions for the entire Town. Depending on one's perspective, this arguably undermines the idea of putting power into the hands of the citizens rather than an even smaller group of elected officials. Elected officials, of course, are supposed to represent the interests of their constituents, whereas GA members arguably represent mostly their own interests.

There are pros and cons to the GA approach. From a municipal attorney's perspective, the GA form presents unique challenges simply because it is so rare in Colorado. For more traditional forms of government, there are well-established rules, statutes, and court cases that provide answers to common questions across many jurisdictions. For the GA form, unless the matter has already been litigated by Ophir or Ward, there isn't much precedent to rely upon. This keeps things interesting and sometimes uncertain.

Public comments focused on maintaining citizen input on important decisions, transparency, and keeping the citizens well-informed. Other comments included concern about the potential for a tyranny of the minority (i.e., control by a majority of only those who have the time and will to show up to GA meetings), concerns about keeping government effective and functional between GA meetings, and a desire for community support on major decisions affecting the Town vs. avoiding micro-management by the GA.

2. Options

- A. *Council – Manager Form of Government*. The simplest approach would be to abandon the GA form of government entirely and move back to a Town Council elected by the citizens, with a strong manager to implement day-to-day decisions. Under this model, the citizens would elect 5 to 7 Councilors to

enact new laws, make policy decisions, and direct the Town Manager to carry out its will with very little involvement between meetings. The Mayor could either be elected directly or appointed by the sitting Councilors, but the Mayor's primary function would be to set the agenda for meetings and sign documents. The Mayor could also serve as interim Manager in the event of the a vacancy, but otherwise the Manager would supervise Town Staff and make all hiring decisions with certain exceptions for positions appointed by the Council directly (typically Manager, Judge, and Town Attorney). This is the most common form of home rule government in Colorado with many examples to use as models.

- B. *Hybrid GA – Council Form of Government.* This model would be unique in CO, and therefore it would be something of an experiment. The idea would be to follow Option A, above, with a Town Council and Manager running things most of the time, but with certain enumerated exceptions for a GA that would meet less frequently, perhaps 4 times per year. The Town Council would make most decisions, but approval of the GA might be required for important topics such as (1) raising taxes;¹ (2) borrowing money; (3) selling Town-owned property; (4) annexation of new land into the Town; or (5) major re-writes of the Town Code such as Land Use regulations. These are just examples.
- C. *General Assembly 2.0.* The Town might opt to keep the GA form of government but consider some minor changes to the existing Charter to address challenges or concerns. For example, the Charter now provides that a quorum of the GA is 7 people and that a majority of those “present” is required to approve any vote. The Charter does not contemplate Zoom meetings or abstaining from votes, which means that anyone who is simply watching the meeting for information but fails to vote counts as a “no” vote. The Charter also requires a vote of the GA to approve any contract over \$5,000, which makes it hard to conduct day-to-day business. Edits could be proposed to address these and other issues. Alternatively, the Town might conclude that no changes are necessary at all.
- D. *Other Amendments.* Regardless of the options above, at the Town's direction our office would be happy to review the Charter generally to make suggestions about what could be updated, such as the \$5,000 contract limitation above, even if the Town decides to keep the existing form of government as is.

3. Amendment Procedures

Section IX(6) of the Charter provides that it may be amended by ordinance enacted by the General Assembly. The Charter provides for alternative amendments to be presented as options, with the amendment receiving the highest number of votes by the GA becoming effective. This Charter section conflicts with Colorado statutes, which require a vote of all eligible voters of the Town to amend a charter, and it may also conflict with Article XX of the Colorado Constitution which requires an “electoral vote” to amend a Charter. Any eligible voter in Ophir could also be a member of the GA, which sets up an argument that only a GA vote would be required, but I wouldn't bet on that and would presume that a more traditional vote would be required. This is a good example of the lack of clarity with Ophir's unique form of government.

Initiating an ordinance of the GA requires the signature of 7 GA Members or, alternatively, an ordinance may be introduced by any of the four elected officials (Mayor, Mayor Pro Tem, Town Clerk, or Town Treasurer). Ordinances require two readings, including a public hearing with second reading, so this

¹ The TABOR amendment to the Colorado Constitution already requires a vote of the citizens to authorize new taxes or to enter into multi-fiscal-year obligations such as loans, but a vote of the GA could be required to determine whether to call for an election on such matters.

process may take about two months. Putting aside the constitutional issue raised above, either the ordinance itself or a companion resolution adopted by the GA would be required to set an election date and the specific ballot language. Depending on the timing with other state-wide or nation-wide elections, it may be possible to coordinate the election with the County Clerk. It seems unlikely that a coordinated election could be approved in time to coincide with the November 2024 presidential election. More likely, a charter amendment could be considered at the Town's regular election in January.

OPHIR BALLOT MEASURE REQUEST PETITION

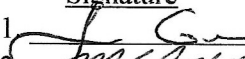
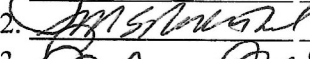
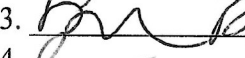
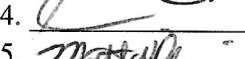
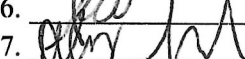
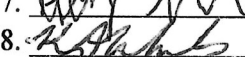
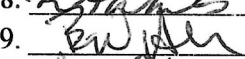
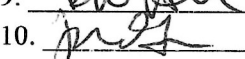
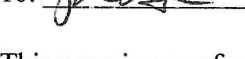
PETITION DIRECTING THE MAYOR AND STAFF OF OPHIR, COLORADO TO PRESENT A TOWN-WIDE BALLOT MEASURE ASKING THE CITIZENS OF OPHIR TO APPROVE AN AMENDMENT TO THE OPHIR HOME RULE CHARTER RESULTING IN A CHANGE FROM A GENERAL ASSEMBLY TO A COUNCIL-MAYOR-MANAGER FORM OF GOVERNMENT

Explanatory Text for Ballot: A "YES" vote on this ballot measure will amend the Ophir Home Rule Charter and direct the Mayor and Staff of Ophir to form a representative form of government known as a Council-Manager-Mayor. This consists of a Town Council elected by the citizens, with a manager to implement day-to-day decisions. Ophir citizens could continue to attend town meeting discussions and have an opportunity to speak but would no longer be required to attend in order to have their voices heard on Town matters. Under this model, the citizens would elect four Councilors to represent their views, enact new laws, make policy decisions, and direct the town manager to carry out its will, with the town mayor as the fifth voting member. The mayor would be elected directly by Ophir citizens. The mayor would set meeting agendas, run meetings and sign documents.

We, the undersigned registered voters residing within OPHIR, COLORADO, by signing this Petition, **express our support for the holding of a ballot measure election** so that all registered voters of the Town of Ophir can decide whether to **change from the current General Assembly form of government to a Council-Mayor-Manager form of government or to make no change and continue with the current General Assembly format.**

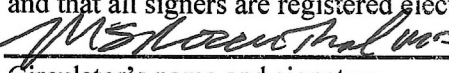
WARNING:

Every person who signs this petition with any other than his or her true name, or who knowingly signs more than one of these petitions, or signs a petition seeking an election when he or she is not a legal voter, or signs a petition when he or she is otherwise not qualified to sign, or who makes herein any false statement, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor. RCW 35A.01.040.

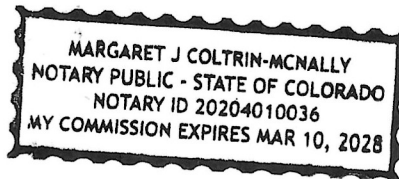
	<u>Signature</u>	<u>Printed Name</u>	<u>Mailing Address</u>	<u>Date</u>
1.		Jane Gerona	PO 726 Ophir	9/2/25
2.		Mark Rosenthal	PO 628 Ophir	9/2/25
3.		SHOSHANNAH POLLACK	PO 628 Ophir	9/2/25
4.		Ashley Williamson	PO Box 712 Ophir	9/2/25
5.		Matt Williamson	PO Box 712 Ophir	9/2/2025
6.		Kirk Drossvalde	POB 835 Ophir	9/6/2025
7.		Abby Gamache	POB 835 Ophir	9/7/2025
8.		Kim Wheels	POB 803 Ophir	9/7/2025
9.		Bill Allen	Box 709 Ophir	9/8/2025
10.		John Gerona	Box 726 Ophir	9-10-25

This page is one of a number of identical pages forming one petition seeking reorganization of the Town of Ophir government, as stated above. This petition may be filed with other pages containing additional signatures.

Affidavit of circulator: I affirm that I am a registered elector, that all signatures were witnessed by me, and that all signers are registered electors of Ophir, Colorado.

 Mark S. Rosenthal 9/11/25
Circulator's name and signature

Notary:  Margaret McNally



RECEIVED -
9/11/25
JW - TOWN
MANAGER

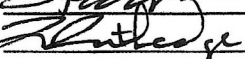
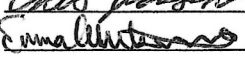
OPHIR BALLOT MEASURE REQUEST PETITION

PETITION DIRECTING THE MAYOR AND STAFF OF OPHIR, COLORADO TO PRESENT A TOWN-WIDE BALLOT MEASURE ASKING THE CITIZENS OF OPHIR TO APPROVE AN AMENDMENT TO THE OPHIR HOME RULE CHARTER RESULTING IN A CHANGE FROM A GENERAL ASSEMBLY TO A COUNCIL-MAYOR-MANAGER FORM OF GOVERNMENT

Explanatory Text for Ballot: A "YES" vote on this ballot measure will amend the Ophir Home Rule Charter and direct the Mayor and Staff of Ophir to form a representative form of government known as a Council-Manager-Mayor. This consists of a Town Council elected by the citizens, with a manager to implement day-to-day decisions. Ophir citizens could continue to attend town meeting discussions and have an opportunity to speak but would no longer be required to attend in order to have their voices heard on Town matters. Under this model, the citizens would elect four Councilors to represent their views, enact new laws, make policy decisions, and direct the town manager to carry out its will, with the town mayor as the fifth voting member. The mayor would be elected directly by Ophir citizens. The mayor would set meeting agendas, run meetings and sign documents.

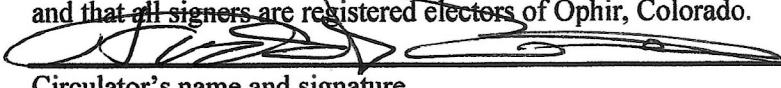
We, the undersigned registered voters residing within OPHIR, COLORADO, by signing this Petition, **express our support for the holding of a ballot measure election** so that all registered voters of the Town of Ophir can decide whether to **change from the current General Assembly form of government to a Council-Mayor-Manager form of government or to make no change and continue with the current General Assembly format.**

WARNING:
Every person who signs this petition with any other than his or her true name, or who knowingly signs more than one of these petitions, or signs a petition seeking an election when he or she is not a legal voter, or signs a petition when he or she is otherwise not qualified to sign, or who makes herein any false statement, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor. RCW 35A.01.040.

	<u>Signature</u>	<u>Printed Name</u>	<u>Mailing Address</u>	<u>Date</u>
1.		Todd Rutledge	P.O. 658 Ophir	9.3.25
2.		Lisa Rutledge	P.O. 658	9.7.25
3.	SKA	SLATOR APLIN	PO BOX 857	9.7.25
4.		CHRIS DICKSON	PO BOX 828	9.9.25
5.		Emma Hvigsen	PO BOX 828	9/11/25
6.				
7.				
8.				
9.				
10.				

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 Todd Rutledge

Circulator's name and signature
Notary:

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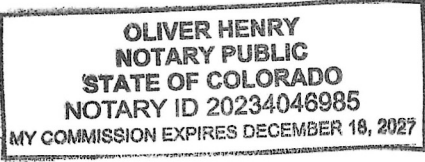
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	<u>Signature</u>	<u>Printed Name</u>	<u>Mailing Address</u>	<u>Date</u>
1.		JEN ROSE	PO BOX 808 Ophir 81426	9/9/25
2.		SEAN MCNAMARA	P.O. BOX 742 OPHIR CO 81426	9/9/25
3.		Rachel Lackey	PO Box 801 Ophir CO 81426	9/9/25
4.		Ryan Taylor	PO Box 801 Ophir CO 81426	9/9/25
5.		Mark Campbell	PO Box 622 Ophir CO 81426	9/9/25
6.		Teri Steinberg	PO Box 622 Ophir, CO 81426	9/9/25
7.				
8.				
9.				
10.				

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State of Colorado
San Miguel County