

ROCC Ad Hoc Master Plan Update Committee Report / May 2024 Business Meeting

Background: The Ouray County Master Plan is a comprehensive, long-term guide for decision-making by the County on zoning and land use, housing, agriculture, mining, recreation and tourism, water, scenic and natural resources, wildlife, etc., - most anything that affects the quality of life in Ouray County. The updating process is underway. The County has hired an outside consultant to work with the Planning Commission, staff, and the public to update the Plan. They have set up a dedicated website for the Master Plan update: <https://klj.mysocialpinpoint.com/ouray-co>

The Process: The Planning Commission has been holding a series of workshop meetings to gather data and public input, identify issues, and begin drafting an updated Master Plan. More recently the Planning Commission has been reviewing a draft outline of the updated Master Plan topic areas and providing input to the consultant to inform the draft updated Plan. The next Planning Commission meeting is scheduled for May 21st to review, at long last, draft language for the new Plan. The hope is that a complete draft will be available for widespread community review at a public town hall meeting in July.

The members of the Master Plan Update Committee have been attending the meetings and providing both oral and written comments to the Planning Commission. The Committee has also contacted other organizations and individuals to encourage participation.

Bottom line – the Committee has helped generate overwhelming support for keeping Ouray County rural and the preservation of views, ag lands, the natural environment, and other issues that the Committee has identified.

Overall Plan of Action: The next six months will be crucial as the draft updated Plan is written and released for public review. We plan to continue to be involved at every step of the way to help the Planning Commission settle on the best possible Master Plan by identifying the issues and advocating for solutions. We have a wide range of interests represented on the Committee since it includes members of the other ROCC Committees.

What You Can Do:

Join the Committee: Contact Al evanslowande@gmail.com or Scott s_williams2001@yahoo.com to be added to the email list.

Review the Master Plan Update webpage and sign up for notifications:
<https://klj.mysocialpinpoint.com/ouray-co>

Attend the Planning Commission meetings and Town Halls and voice your thoughts: You don't need to be a Committee member to provide your own personal point of view.

Be ready to weigh in at critical moments! The Committee will send out ROCC alerts for particularly important opportunities to participate when the Planning Commission needs to hear from as many people as possible! There will be at least two critical Planning Commission meetings when ROCC members need to show up in force. One will be when the draft plan is released, and another will be the public hearing when the Planning Commission will decide whether to adopt a final plan. The Committee will prepare talking points for these meetings.