



### 3. Historic Business District Downtown Streetscape Plan



The Creative District Committee is represented on the Downtown Streetscape Steering Committee through a committee member, the Mayor and Town Manager who are all participating in the Streetscape construction and financing initiative as well as the Creative District Development. The Streetscape Project includes: finalizing the scope and cost of the Streetscape Plan, developing and implementing a community outreach plan, and leading the way to have a financing and construction question on the ballot in April 2013 during the regular municipal election. The Streetscape Committee released information about the project to the press and community the week of October 15<sup>th</sup> and is soliciting feedback via an online survey. The committee will review the community inputs, report back to the Town Council and continue outreach efforts up through Election Day.

### 4. Town Hall Open House Event

On September 5<sup>th</sup> Ridgway Town Hall held a community Open House event to celebrate and share accomplishments for 2012 and strategize for priorities in 2013. This opportunity was seized to share information with the community about the Town's efforts in developing the Ridgway Creative District, and provided an opportunity to solicit additional community inputs on the creation and direction of the District.

### 5. Department of Local Affairs Main Street® Community Assessment

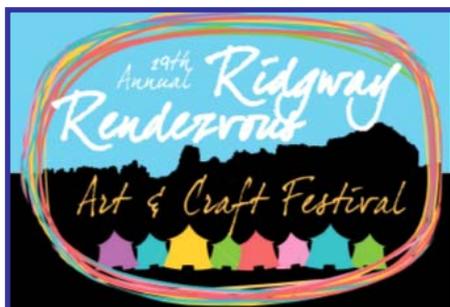
The Department of Local Affairs Community Resource Team of 10 professionals was in Ridgway on Monday-Tuesday, September 24-25 to commence the Town's Downtown Assessment. The Assessment included numerous stakeholder meetings, a comprehensive tour of our Downtown Historic Business District, and a preliminary presentation of findings and information on the afternoon of the 25<sup>th</sup>. The Assessment was well attended with diverse community representation and we anticipate receiving a draft report by the end of November.



**Colorado  
Main Street**

Because of our Main Street® Program participation we were invited to speak at the Sonoran Institute Community Builders Summit in Glenwood Springs at the end of October. We will join the cities of Montrose and Golden in a panel discussion of 'beginning, growing, and mature" Main Street Districts.

### 6. Weehawken Arts and Crafts Show



The 28<sup>th</sup> Annual Ridgway Rendezvous took place in the Historic Hartwell Park in downtown Ridgway on August 11-12. While a private endeavor, hosted by Weehawken Creative Arts, this cornerstone event is a major draw for the Ridgway community bringing experienced and professional artists to Southwest Colorado each year. Weehawken Creative Arts is represented on the Creative District Committee.

## 7. Private Sector Building Façade Improvements



This quarter two downtown property owners applied to Town Hall to complete building improvements in the Creative District. The work required coordination with the local government to work on Town property due to the buildings proximity to the property lines. A third property owner of an adjacent building is currently working with the Town to also complete exterior renovations. All 3 buildings are in the heart of Ridgway's Downtown and Creative Districts.

## 8. Hartwell Park Playground Improvements

The playground areas in Historic Hartwell Park at the center of Ridgway's Creative District received a fantastic upgrade this month with a new layer of soft chips and a remodeled border. Work entailed loosening the compacted soil below the old chips, adding boards to the side so that the area could contain a thicker layer of chips and then placing the chips. These improvements to our Town gem are always valued by the community.



## **Budget Expenditures and Technical Assistance**

The Committee did not expend any cash this quarter. Instead, efforts have been focused on utilizing PAN hours through the development of the Strategic Plan. Approximately 10.5 PAN hours were expended this quarter.

## **In-kind and Cash Assistance, and Volunteer Hours**

The Committee was notified this quarter of a significant Boettcher grant award to be granted over a 3 year period. The Town Council graciously approved the contract for this award during their regular September meeting and will consider matching funds during the 2013 budget workshops over the next couple of months.

Approximately 172 volunteer hours and 43 paid staff hours were logged this quarter toward District efforts. Volunteer hours are estimated at a value of \$4,300 this quarter.

## **Plan for Future**

The Creative District Committee will focus on completion of the Strategic Plan in partnership with CCI's technical resource assistance through the Professional Advisory Network. The next committee meeting is planned for October 25<sup>th</sup> to focus on marketing and outreach and then funding and budgeting. The goal is to complete the Strategy by the end of 2012 and celebrate with a social event targeting stakeholders and District partners that will kick off plan implementation in early 2013.

The Committee will continue to be engaged with other community efforts, including the Town's Main Street Program participation and implementation.