

**AGENDA  
OURAY CITY COUNCIL**

**Tuesday, June 30, 2026 - 4:00 PM**

**VIRTUAL ONLY**

**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 Special 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](http://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. ACTION ITEMS
  - a. Resolution 11, Series 2026 - Ratifying and Continuing Disaster / Emergency Declaration
  - b. Ratification of Declaration 2 (2026) - Stage 2 Fire Restrictions
  - c. Ratification of Intergovernmental Agreement for Use of Silverton School Facilities for Emergencies
5. CITY-SPECIFIC UPDATES - GOLD MOUNTAIN FIRE
  - a. City Administrator Metteer
  - b. Public Works Director Coleman
  - c. Parks and Recreation Director Brown
  - d. Finance and Administration Director Rhoades
6. ADJOURNMENT

**MEMORANDUM**

DATE: June 29, 2026  
TO: Ouray City Council  
FROM: Karp Neu Hanlon, P.C.  
RE: Emergency Declaration

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On June 27, 2026, Ouray County issued a declaration of emergency due to the Gold Mountain Fire, which began burning below the Gold Mountain Ranch and has since expanded to a burn area of over 7,000 acres as of June 29, 2026.

In 2025, the Ouray City Council adopted, among other interjurisdictional agreements, the Ouray County Multijurisdictional Emergency Operations Plan (the “EOP”), which governs the management and procedures during an emergency within Ouray County. The purpose of the EOP is to streamline coordination and cooperation among municipalities, fire districts, and other mutual aid partners. As a key participant to the EOP, the City is responsible for issuing its own emergency declaration to activate the response and recovery aspects of all applicable local and interjurisdictional disaster emergency plans and authorize the furnishing of aid and assistance under such plans when an emergency arises.

The City’s issuance of an emergency declaration is necessary for effective and proper management and operations during this ongoing situation. On June 29, 2026, the City Administrator signed the City of Ouray Disaster/Emergency Declaration for the Gold Mountain Fire to allow for effective administration and management of operations as a member of the EOP. The attached resolution would ratify the City Administrator’s issuance of the June 29 Declaration and continue it through July 14, 2026, if not terminated earlier should the situation no longer be considered an emergency.

**RESOLUTION NO. 11 (Series 2026)**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF OURAY, COLORADO, RATIFYING AND CONTINUING DISASTER/EMERGENCY DECLARATION**

**WHEREAS**, the City of Ouray (the “City”) is a Colorado home-rule municipality, duly organized and existing under the City’s Home Rule Charter adopted pursuant to Article XX of the Constitution of the State of Colorado; and

**WHEREAS**, Ouray County issued a declaration of emergency for the Gold Mountain Fire, which started burning on June 27, 2026 below the Gold Mountain Ranch and near the Bachelor Syracuse Mine Tour area, off County Road 14; and

**WHEREAS**, the City adopted the Ouray County Multijurisdictional Emergency Operations Plan (the “EOP”), which the Ouray County Board of County Commissioners initially adopted on December 8, 2015 and again with revisions on December 14, 2021 and December 17, 2024; and

**WHEREAS**, the EOP governs the management and procedures during an emergency or disaster within Ouray County and provides for the coordination and cooperation among municipalities, fire districts, and other mutual aid partners; and

**WHEREAS**, the EOP identifies roles and responsibilities for the City and provides that the City Council is responsible for issuing a formal declaration of an emergency, which shall allow for continuous collaborative participation among the member jurisdictions of the EOP; and

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to C.R.S. § 24-33.5-709(1), a local disaster may be declared only by the principal executive officer of a political subdivision and continued or renewed after seven days by or with the consent of the governing body of the political subdivision; and

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to C.R.S. § 24-33.5-709(2), “the effect of a declaration of a local disaster emergency is to activate the response and recovery aspects of any and all applicable local and interjurisdictional disaster emergency plans and to authorize the furnishing of aid and assistance under such plans;” and

**WHEREAS**, on June 29, 2026, the City Administrator signed the City of Ouray Disaster/Emergency Declaration regarding the Gold Mountain Fire (the “Declaration”), attached hereto as **Exhibit A**, which activates the response and recovery aspects of all applicable local and interjurisdictional disaster emergency plans and authorizes the furnishing of aid and assistance under such plans; and

**WHEREAS**, the City Council hereby ratifies the Declaration and continues such Declaration until July 14, 2026, unless earlier terminated by the City Administrator upon consultation with emergency response officials; and

**WHEREAS**, the City Council finds this action is immediately necessary to preserve the life, health, safety, and welfare of the City and its residents.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF OURAY, COLORADO**, that:

1. Recitals. The foregoing recitals are incorporated herein as findings of the City Council.
2. Declaration. The City Council hereby ratifies the Declaration attached as **Exhibit A**. Further, the City Council hereby continues the Declaration to and through July 14, 2026 and authorizes the City Administrator to terminate such declaration prior to July 14, 2026 if, upon consultation with emergency response officials, the Gold Mountain Fire no longer requires a state of emergency for Ouray County.
3. Ratification. The City Council hereby ratifies, approves, and confirms all action taken, not inconsistent with the provisions of this Resolution, by the City Council, the City Administrator, and the officers, agents, and employees of the City relating to the subject matter of this Resolution.
4. Severability. If any provision of this Resolution is found to be unconstitutional or unlawful, such finding shall only invalidate that part or portion found to violate the law. All other provisions shall be deemed severable and shall continue in full force and effect.

**ADOPTED** this 30<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2026 by the Ouray City Council.

CITY OF OURAY, COLORADO

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Michael Underwood, Mayor

ATTEST:

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Kara Rhoades, City Clerk

**CITY OF OURAY  
DISASTER/EMERGENCY DECLARATION**

**WHEREAS**, the City of Ouray (the “City”) is a Colorado home-rule municipality, duly organized and existing under the City’s Home Rule Charter adopted pursuant to Article XX of the Constitution of the State of Colorado; and

**WHEREAS**, Ouray County issued a declaration of emergency for the Gold Mountain Fire, which started burning on June 27, 2026 below the Gold Mountain Ranch and near the Bachelor Syracuse Mine Tour area, off County Road 14; and

**WHEREAS**, mandatory evacuations are in place for neighborhoods surrounding the City and the City is a participant in ongoing collaborative efforts regarding the Gold Mountain Fire; and

**WHEREAS**, the City Fire Chief and Ouray County Sheriff are local incident commanders for the Gold Mountain Fire, and multiple state and federal responders are arriving on scene; and

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to C.R.S. § 24-33.5-709(1), a local disaster may be declared only by the principal executive officer of a political subdivision and continued or renewed after seven days by or with the consent of the governing body of the political subdivision; and

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to C.R.S. § 24-33.5-709(2), “the effect of a declaration of a local disaster emergency is to activate the response and recovery aspects of any and all applicable local and interjurisdictional disaster emergency plans and to authorize the furnishing of aid and assistance under such plans”.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT DECLARED BY THE CITY ADMINISTRATOR OF THE CITY OF OURAY, COLORADO, that:**

1. Recitals. The foregoing recitals are incorporated herein as findings of the City Administrator.
2. Declaration. It is hereby determined and declared that the area affected by the Gold Mountain Fire, which includes the City of Ouray, is an emergency/disaster area.
3. Filed. This Declaration shall be promptly filed with the Ouray County Clerk and Recorder and with the Office of Emergency Management.
4. Public Welfare. This Declaration is necessary for the public health, safety, and welfare of the citizens of the City of Ouray, State of Colorado.

**DECLARED** this 29<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2026 at the City of Ouray, Colorado at 3:41 P.M.

CITY OF OURAY, COLORADO, By and  
Through its CITY ADMINISTRATOR

Signed by:

*Michelle Metteer*

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Michelle Metteer

**A DECLARATION OF CITY OF OURAY, COLORADO STAGE 2 FIRE RESTRICTIONS  
(DECLARATION NO. 2, 2026)**

**WHEREAS**, the Mayor of the City of Ouray, Colorado (Mayor) pursuant to the City of Ouray Charter Section 2.3 (A) and City of Ouray Code Section 2-8 has the authority to declare a local disaster emergency to exist when, in the Mayor’s opinion, there is an occurrence or imminent threat of widespread or severe damage, injury, loss of life or property, resulting from any cause of human origin, including but not limited to fire,

**WHEREAS**, the Mayor believes the need to declare Stage 2 Fire Restrictions; and

**WHEREAS**, these restrictions will remain in place until further notice and unless otherwise revised or rescinded by City Council; and

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT DECLARED BY THE MAYOR OF THE CITY OF OURAY, COLORADO, that:**

**THE FOLLOWING ACTIVITIES ARE BANNED UNDER STAGE 2 FIRE RESTRICTIONS:**

1. Building, maintaining, attending an Open Flame, 36 CFR 261.52(a), including camp fire, stove fire, charcoal grills and barbeques, coal and wood burning stoves and devices (stoves, grills, or lanterns) using liquid fuel such as white gas or kerosene. Except: devices (stoves, grills or lanterns) using pressurized gas canisters (isobutene or propane) that include shut-off valves or within a closed vehicle or building.
2. Smoking, 36 CFR 261.52(c). Except: Within an enclosed vehicle or building, a developed recreation site, or while stopped in an area at least three feet in diameter that is barren or cleared of all flammable material.
3. Welding or operating acetylene or other torch with open flame. 36 CFR 261.52(i)
4. Using an explosive. 36 CFR 261.52(b). This includes but is not limited to fuses or blasting caps, fireworks, rockets, exploding targets, and tracers or incendiary ammunition. This declaration includes July 4<sup>th</sup> Fireworks by the Fire Department.
5. Operating or using any internal combustion engine, or spark creating tools (e.g. grinders, chainsaw, generator, ATV) without a spark arresting device properly installed, maintained and in effective working order meeting USDA Forest Service or SAE approval.
6. Operating a chainsaw without an approved spark arresting device as described above, a chemical pressurized fire extinguisher (8oz capacity by weight or larger and kept with the operator) and a round point shovel with an overall length of at least 35 inches readily available for use, or outside of the restricted hours of 5am-1pm. 36 CFR 261.52(h)
7. Discharging a firearm, air rifle, or gas gun. 36 CFR 261.52(h).

**THE FOLLOWING ACTIVITIES ARE PERMITTED UNDER STAGE 2 FIRE RESTRICTIONS:**

1. Authorized activities of any Federal, State or local officer, or member of an organized rescue or firefighting effort in the performance of an official duty.

Now, therefore, I, Michael Underwood, Mayor of the City of Ouray hereby declares: STAGE 2 FIRE RESTRICTIONS effective immediately.

CITY OF OURAY, COLORADO

Signed by:  
By Michael Underwood  
Michael Underwood, Mayor

ATTEST:

Signed by:  
Kara Rhodes  
Kara Rhodes, City Clerk

**RESOLUTION NO. 12 (Series 2026)**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF OURAY, COLORADO, RATIFYING AN INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT FOR USE OF SILVERTON SCHOOL FACILITIES FOR EMERGENCIES**

**WHEREAS**, the City of Ouray (the “City”) is a Colorado home-rule municipality, duly organized and existing under the City’s Home Rule Charter adopted pursuant to Article XX of the Constitution of the State of Colorado; and

**WHEREAS**, on June 29, 2026, the City Administrator signed the City of Ouray Disaster/Emergency Declaration regarding the Gold Mountain Fire (the “Declaration”), which activates the response and recovery aspects of all applicable local and interjurisdictional disaster emergency plans and authorizes the furnishing of aid and assistance under such plans; and

**WHEREAS**, the City adopted the Ouray County Multijurisdictional Emergency Operations Plan (the “EOP”), which provides for the coordination and cooperation among municipalities, fire districts, and other mutual aid partners; and

**WHEREAS**, C.R.S. § 29-1-203 authorizes governments to “cooperate or contract with one another to provide any function, service, or facility lawfully authorized to each of the cooperating or contracting units”; and

**WHEREAS**, the Colorado General Assembly encourages political subdivisions to enter into mutual aid and other interjurisdictional agreements to enhance emergency response and recovery as being essential to protecting the public peace, safety, health, and welfare, including the lives and property, of the people of the state of Colorado; and

**WHEREAS**, the City Administrator signed an Intergovernmental Agreement for Use of Silverton School Facilities for Emergencies (the “IGA”) to allow the City of Ouray and County of Ouray to use Silverton School Facilities as evacuation centers if needed for the Gold Mountain Fire; and

**WHEREAS**, the City Council wishes to approve and ratify all actions taken by the City Administrator and staff in executing the IGA, attached hereto as **Exhibit A**; and

**WHEREAS**, the City Council finds this action is immediately necessary to preserve the life, health, safety, and welfare of the City and its residents.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF OURAY, COLORADO**, that:

1. Recitals. The foregoing recitals are incorporated herein as findings of the City Council.
2. Agreement. The City Council hereby ratifies and approves the IGA, attached

as **Exhibit A**, as determined to be satisfactory to the City Attorney, and ratifies and authorizes the City Administrator's signature on the IGA. All actions heretofore taken by the City Administrator, and the other officers, employees, and agents of the City in connection with the subject matter of this Resolution are hereby ratified, approved, and confirmed in all respects. Further, the City Council authorizes and directs the City Administrator to take such steps as are necessary to implement this Resolution and the IGA.

3. Severability. If any provision of this Resolution is found to be unconstitutional or unlawful, such finding shall only invalidate that part or portion found to violate the law. All other provisions shall be deemed severable and shall continue in full force and effect.

**ADOPTED** this 30<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2026 by the Ouray City Council.

CITY OF OURAY, COLORADO

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Michael Underwood, Mayor

ATTEST:

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Kara Rhoades, City Clerk

## **INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT FOR USE OF SILVERTON SCHOOL FACILITIES FOR EMERGENCIES**

THIS INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT is entered this 28th day June of 2026, between the County of Ouray, Colorado, City of Ouray, Colorado, and the Silverton School District 1 (Parties).

WHEREAS, C.R.S. § 29-1-203(1) authorizes separate governments, including counties, to contract with each other to provide any function or service authorized by law to each of the contracting units, including joint exercise of services, functions, or facilities;

WHEREAS, Parties desire that the facilities operated and owned by Silverton School District 1 (“School Facilities”), owned and operated by the Silverton School District 1, be made available to Ouray County and City of Ouray, if necessary, in an emergency;

WHEREAS, the Colorado legislature encourages local governments to enter mutual aid agreements to enhance emergency response and recovery and are thus essential to protecting the public peace, safety, health, and welfare, including the lives and property, of the people of the state of Colorado, C.R.S § 24-33.5-705.4 (I)(b)

NOW THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY AGREED AS FOLLOWS:

1. Commencing on the adoption of this IGA by the Parties and continuing thereafter until terminated, upon request, City of Ouray and County of Ouray shall have the right to use the School Facilities as an evacuation center.
2. City of Ouray and County of Ouray shall have the right to use the School District’s basic internet functionalities and telephone services while using the School Facilities.
3. City of Ouray and County of Ouray are responsible for providing any radio or very high frequency (VHF) systems, generators and any other necessary equipment, to operate the evacuation center at School Facilities.
4. To the extent City of Ouray and County of Ouray are reimbursed for any related expenses from the State of Colorado or the federal government, City of Ouray and County of Ouray shall

reimburse the School District for any out-of-pockets costs related to use of the School Facilities as an EOC.

5. This Agreement shall remain in full force and effect until any Party seeks to terminate this IGA.

THE COUNTY OF OURAY, COLORADO

Signed by:  
  
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By: Leo Caselli, County Attorney

Date: 6/28/2026

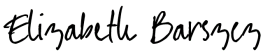
THE CITY OF OURAY, COLORADO

Signed by:  
  
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By: Michelle Metteer, City Administrator

Date: 6/28/2026

SILVERTON SCHOOL DISTRICT 1

Signed by:  
  
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By: Elizabeth Barszcz, Superintendent

Date: 6/29/2026