

PRESS RELEASE

May 2, 2024

The Ridgway Fire Protection District is pleased to announce that it recently completed the purchase of 27.85 acres of real property in Ouray County. The property, Abbott Exemption Lot B, formerly the Abbott Concrete Plant, is south of the Town of Ridgway, along the Uncompahgre River, with access off of Highway 550. The property contains an existing 7,892 square foot metal structure. The District would like to thank the seller, Dalwhinne Group, LLC, in working within the parameters of the District's budget. Near term, the District will begin using the property and the existing structure for vehicle and equipment storage. The District will also be working with its regional partners, Ouray County EMS, the Ouray and Log Hill Fire Protection Districts, and Ouray County Emergency Services, to use the property for fire training, emergency response drills, and to host emergency response practice scenarios. Long term, the District may look to install workforce housing on the property, allowing for regional wildland fire teams to stage from the site.

The District does not have any intention to abandon or sell its facility located in Ridgway. The District will continue to stage and respond from the Railroad Street Firehouse. Thanks to the generous support of District taxpayers in 2022, and the approval of a property tax mill levy increase, the District does not foresee the need for an additional mill levy increase in the coming years. A huge thanks goes out to all volunteers and employees of the District for their tireless work on its behalf. Finally, our sincere gratitude to the citizens of the Ridgway Fire Protection District, without your continued support none of this would be possible.