
MT2030
CLIMATE
SUMMIT
SUN VALLEY 26
PRESENTED BY TORUS

WHEN EVERY ROUTE MATTERS:

Integrating Mobility, Resilience Hubs, and Evacuation Planning in Mountain Communities

Wednesday, October 14 | 2:30-3:30

THE CITY OF ASHEVILLE

SERVICES ▾ DEPARTMENTS ▾ PROJECTS

ity to fund community hubs, as resilience report recommends

City to fund community hubs, as resilience report recommends

Posted on August 10, 2026 by Jim Wilson



Participatory mapping work documents lessons from neighborhood Helene response

Based on key findings and recommendations from the Resilience Hub Mapping Project, the City of Asheville is now planning to use more than $2 million in federal Community Development Block Grant – Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR) funds to invest in community facilities.

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Downtown Mobility Hubs Project



Contact

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Reimagining Downtown Parking Garages as Mobility Hubs

The City of Boulder is exploring how five downtown parking garages can evolve into mobility hubs—places where people can easily connect between different ways of getting around, whether they arrive by car, bus, bike, scooter, rideshare, or on foot.

6 August 2026 **Author(s):** Ashley Bosa

Just weeks before devastating wildfires hit, Spokane practiced a mass evacuation – the drill paid off

Source(s): Conversation Media Group, the



Shutterstock / Michael Vi

When a wildfire is headed your way, evacuating may sound straightforward: Gather your belongings, get in the car and leave. In reality, it is one of the most complex decisions a person can face.

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Good news! Climate solutions abound…

Resilience Centers

Mobility Hubs

Evacuation Planning

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What happens if we start coordinating these solutions across systems instead of in silos?



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Agenda

Topic	Time
Introduction	5 min
Scenario	15 min
Best Practices & Mountain Town Insights • Resilience Centers • Mobility Hubs • Evacuation Planning	30 min
Taking Action & Next Steps	10 Min

Objectives

- Identify practical strategies for combining resilience hub and mobility hub functions
- Learn how integrated hub networks can improve evacuation readiness and community continuity
- Understand implementation pathways and partnership models

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Introductions



Shelby Sommer,
Brendle Group



Imogen Ainsworth,
Brendle Group



Jason Miller,
Fehr and Peers

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Consider this scenario



You and your family are visiting a mountain community

Two children, one in a stroller

Older parents with limited hearing



Your family arrives via electric vehicle

You plan to charge the battery overnight



You have been using the town bus to get around

You are only aware of one major route in/out of town



Your phone is out of range

You're reliant on hotel Wi-Fi to make calls and search the web



A wildfire rapidly approaches town in the middle of the night



Power to the hotel is cut

Discuss with a small group or partner:

- What would you do?
- Where would you go?
- What would you need?

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A few reflections

- What would you do?
- Where would you go?
- What would you need?

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What would it take for your mountain community to navigate this scenario successfully for the thousands of people at risk?



Resilience Center / Hub

Physical, community-serving facility designed to support neighborhood residents during everyday life, extreme weather events, and emergency disruptions.

Source: Colorado Department of Local Affairs



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Resilience Center: Basic Ingredients

- Community desire and support
- Well used and well trusted location/building
- Resources to meet community needs during extreme events
- Energy systems (respond to an outage of 72 hours)
- Community uses
- Safe and accessible transportation

Source: Colorado Department of Local Affairs



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Resilience Center: Special Considerations for Mountain Towns

- Remote location & limited routes in/out
- Power reliability
- Different needs of permanent, seasonal & visitor populations
  - Language(s)
  - Navigation/community familiarity
  - Limited preparedness
- Roles of resort operators
  - Worker housing
  - Workforce training & skills
  - Unique transportation & communication systems



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What else comes to mind when you think about resilience centers in your community?

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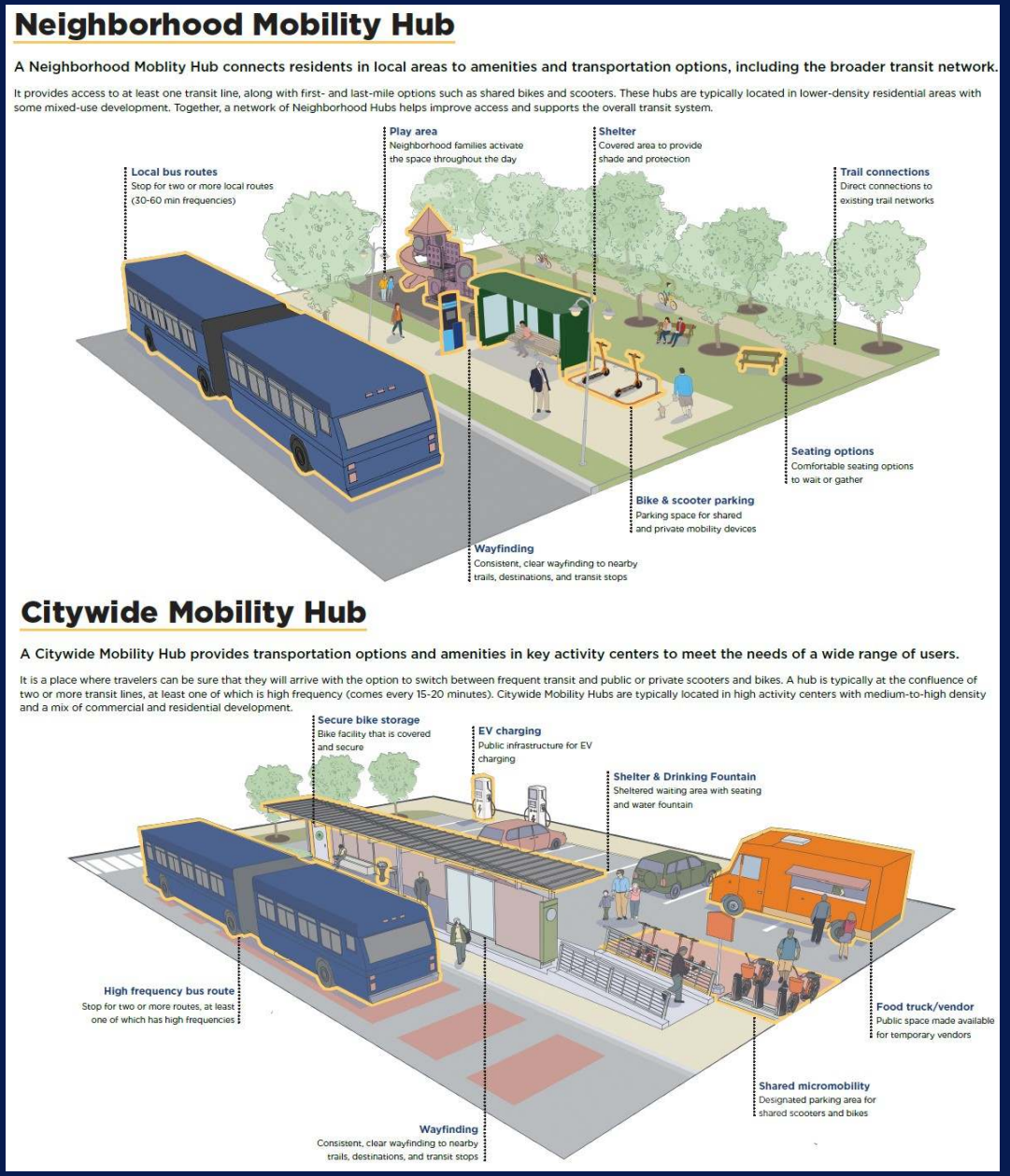
Mobility Hub

Fort Collins recognizes mobility hubs as more than transit stops—they bring together a thoughtfully curated mix of transportation options to make multimodal travel seamless, reliable, and accessible. By combining traditional public transit with transportation services like bike and scooter share, mobility hubs give people more convenient ways to get around without a car.

All Fort Collins mobility hubs should be:

- Easily recognizable
- Inviting and accessible
- Highly maintained

Source: Fort Collins Mobility Hubs Guidebook, August 2026 (Fehr & Peers)

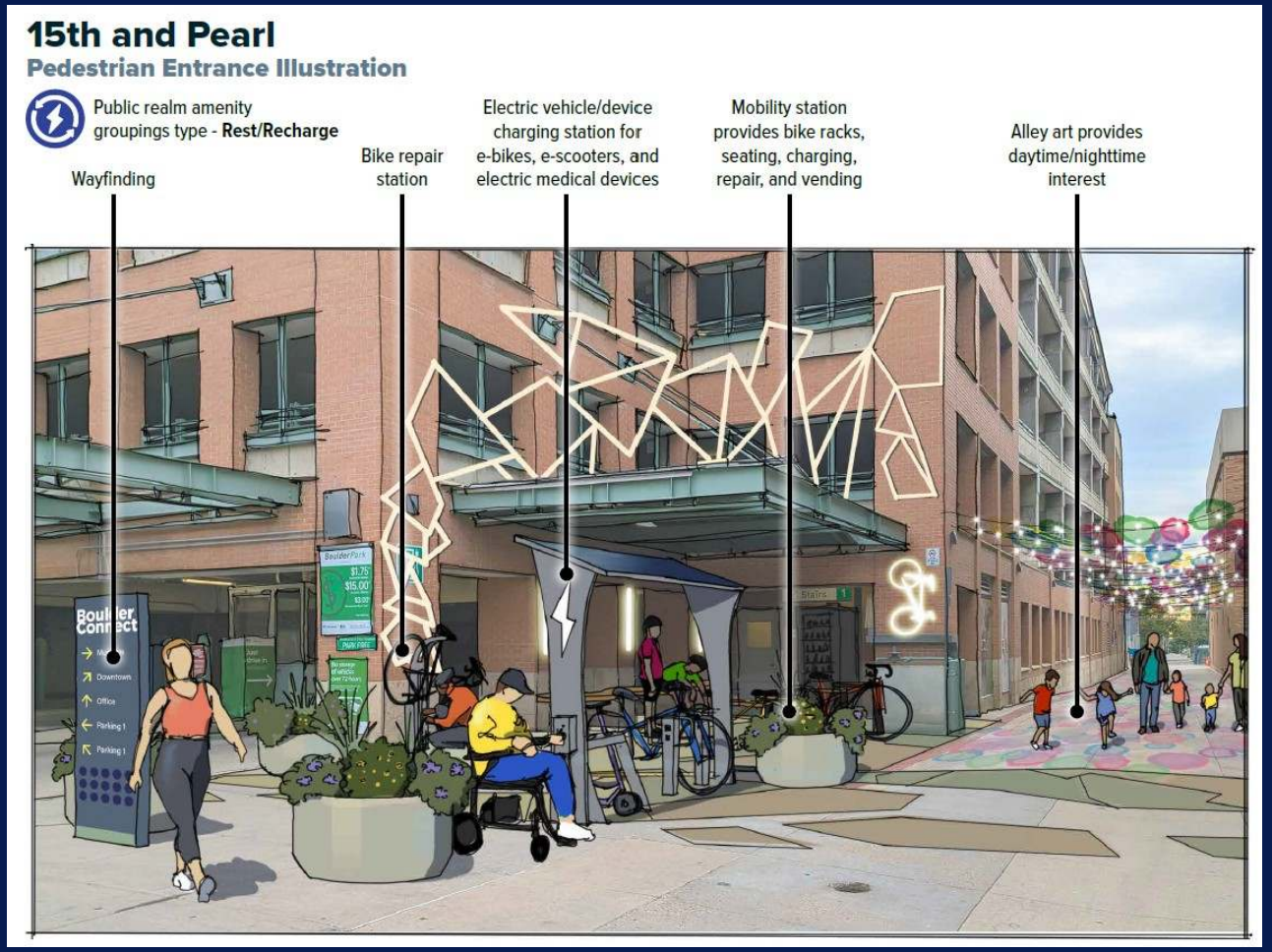


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Mobility Hub: Basic Ingredients for Success

- Characteristics
  - Attractive, recognizable, and efficient
  - Range of transportation modes can be easily accessed
- Amenities
  - Storage lockers
  - Food & drink vendors
  - Indoor waiting area
  - Lighting
  - Phone charging
  - Public restrooms
  - Seating & shelter
  - Wifi
  - Water fountains

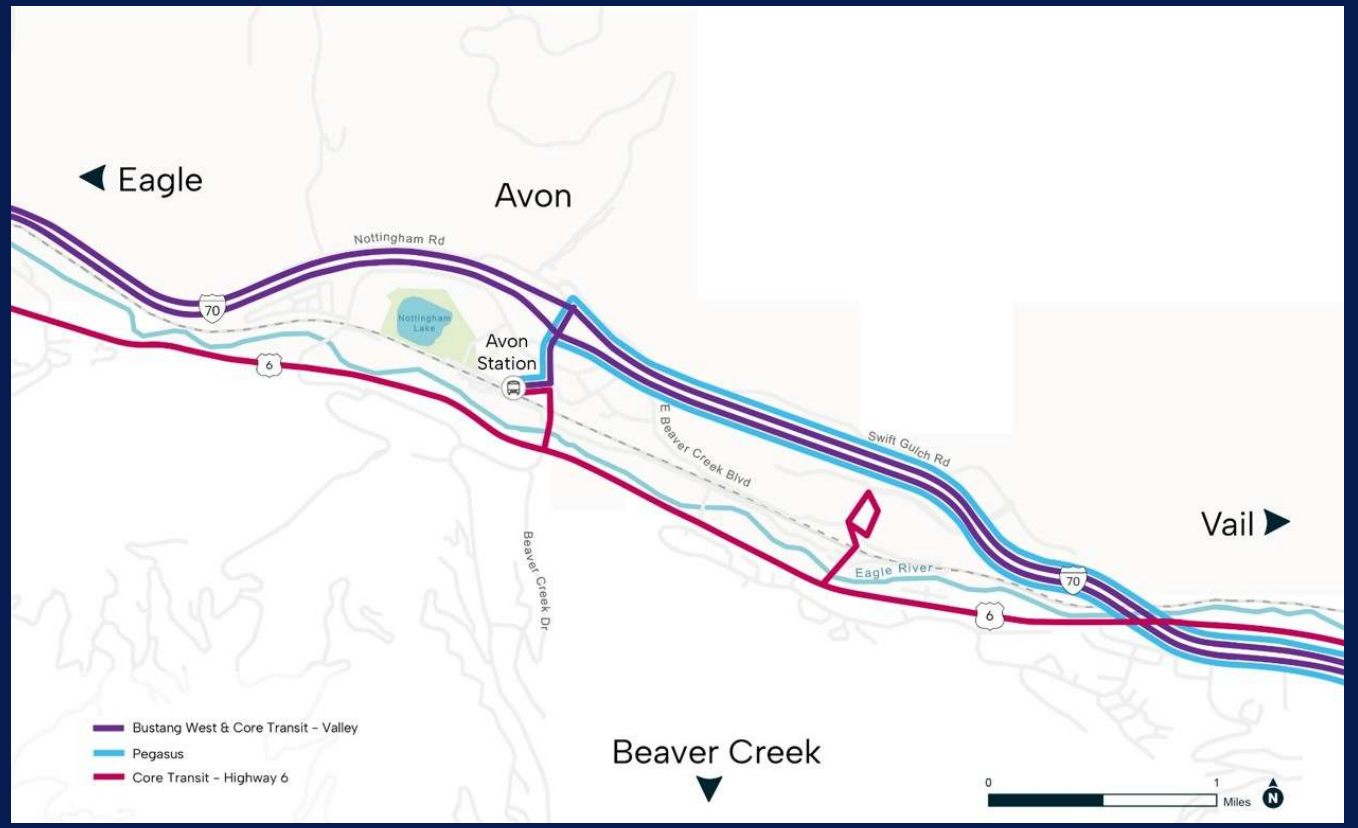


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Mobility Hub:
Special Considerations for Mountain Towns

- Peak/varying demand
- Remote location & limited routes in/out
- Different needs of permanent & visitor populations
  - Language(s)
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- Resort/municipal coordination
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What else comes to mind when you think about mobility hubs in your community?

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Evacuation Plan

The arrangements established in advance to enable the moving of people and assets temporarily to safer places before, during or after the occurrence of a hazardous event. Evacuation plans may include plans for return of evacuees and options to shelter in place.

Source: United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction

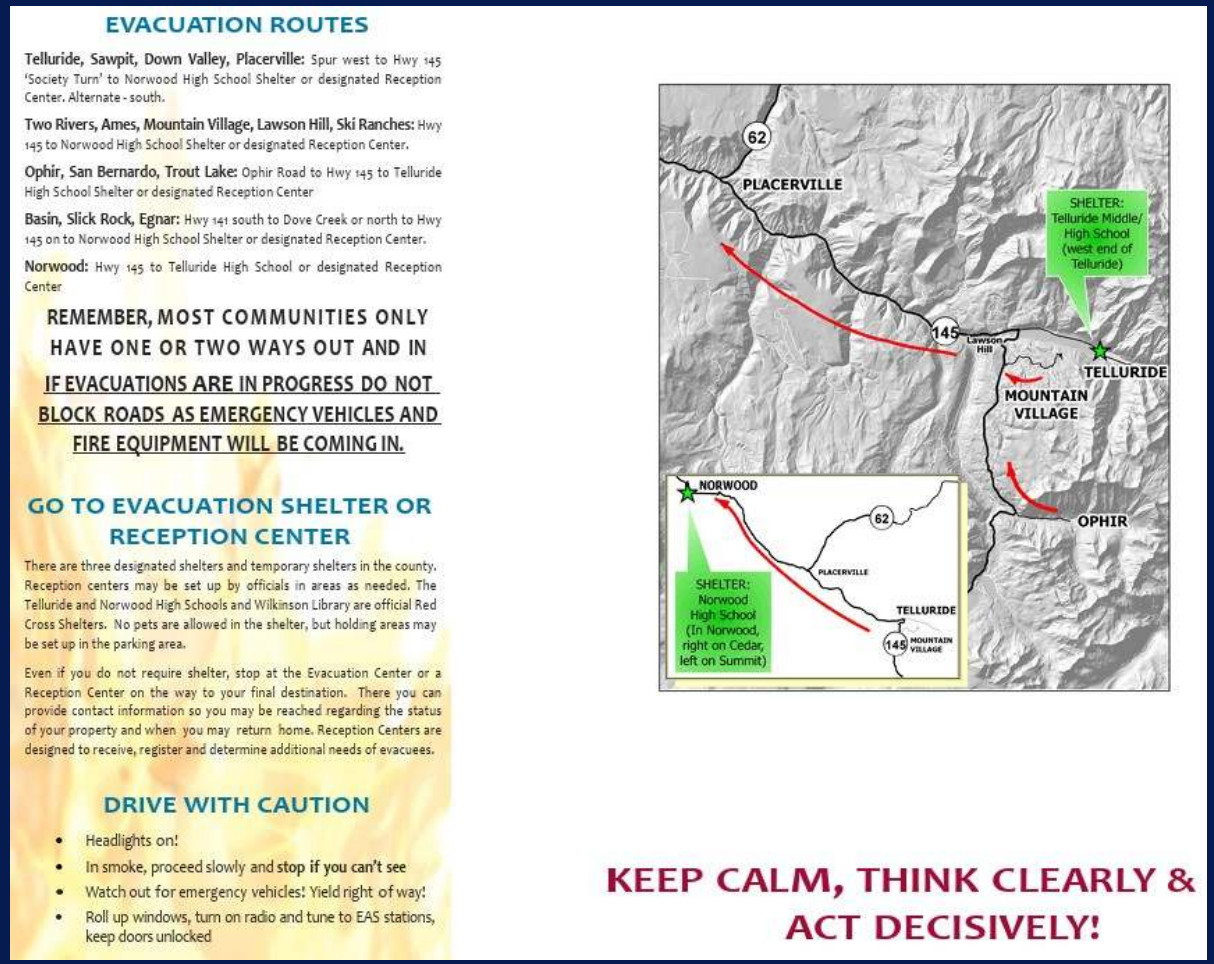


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Evacuation Plan: Basic Ingredients for Success

- Advance planning, coordination & drills (e.g., decision triggers, evacuation strategy, safe destinations, contraflow operations)
- Partnerships & interagency agreements (access points, timing, etc.)
- Public and backup communications
- Resource sharing
- Chain of command
- Signage & signal controls



EVACUATION ROUTES

Telluride, Sawpit, Down Valley, Placerville: Spur west to Hwy 145 'Society Turn' to Norwood High School Shelter or designated Reception Center. Alternate - south.

Two Rivers, Ames, Mountain Village, Lawson Hill, Ski Ranches: Hwy 145 to Norwood High School Shelter or designated Reception Center.

Ophir, San Bernardo, Trout Lake: Ophir Road to Hwy 145 to Telluride High School Shelter or designated Reception Center

Basin, Slick Rock, Egnar: Hwy 141 south to Dove Creek or north to Hwy 145 on to Norwood High School Shelter or designated Reception Center.

Norwood: Hwy 145 to Telluride High School or designated Reception Center

REMEMBER, MOST COMMUNITIES ONLY HAVE ONE OR TWO WAYS OUT AND IN

IF EVACUATIONS ARE IN PROGRESS DO NOT BLOCK ROADS AS EMERGENCY VEHICLES AND FIRE EQUIPMENT WILL BE COMING IN.

GO TO EVACUATION SHELTER OR RECEPTION CENTER

There are three designated shelters and temporary shelters in the county. Reception centers may be set up by officials in areas as needed. The Telluride and Norwood High Schools and Wilkinson Library are official Red Cross Shelters. No pets are allowed in the shelter, but holding areas may be set up in the parking area.

Even if you do not require shelter, stop at the Evacuation Center or a Reception Center on the way to your final destination. There you can provide contact information so you may be reached regarding the status of your property and when you may return home. Reception Centers are designed to receive, register and determine additional needs of evacuees.

DRIVE WITH CAUTION

- Headlights on!
- In smoke, proceed slowly and **stop if you can't see**
- Watch out for emergency vehicles! Yield right of way!
- Roll up windows, turn on radio and tune to EAS stations, keep doors unlocked

KEEP CALM, THINK CLEARLY & ACT DECISIVELY!

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Evacuation Plan: Special Considerations for Mountain Towns

- Single-route in/out
- Peak population planning
- Visitor-ready communications
- Maintaining business as usual to maintain tourism economy vs. reducing pressure on limited services
- Special events (e.g., races)
- Remote lodging & camping (notification)
- Fuel & charging availability
- Weather & visibility (e.g., snow, ice)
- Route difficulty (e.g., mountain passes, narrow roads, etc.)



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Some Inspiration!



NEWS ELECTION 2026 EVENTS ABOUT US

THE COLORADO SUN

NEWSLETTERS DONATE

NEWS: OUTDOORS

Mesa County rescuers coordinate largest-ever evacuation of 123 campers as Snyder fire exploded near the Colorado River

Mesa County Search and Rescue volunteers worked with BLM rangers, CPW, local bus drivers and Union Pacific to evacuate rafters from the Ruby-Horsethief Canyon on Saturday

Jason Blevins *4:00 AM MDT on Jul 1, 2026*

Share

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Putting it all together in a Mountain Town context…



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Resilience Center Opportunities

Mobility Hub Considerations

- Getting people to center versus using the center as a hub to get people out
- Easy to understand signage and wayfinding
- Electric vehicle charging infrastructure w/ backup power
- Co-location versus network
- Staging for buses for evacuation

Evacuation Planning Considerations

- Communication and chain of command at center
- Multiple points of access and evacuation
- Family reunification locations
- Resilience centers in neighboring communities for evacuees (networked centers)
- Partnerships with other agencies (e.g., school district, resort operations, railroad, etc.)

Mobility Hub Opportunities

Resilience Center Considerations

- Parking/loading for emergency/community services
- Medical & emergency services potentially housed on site
- Renewable energy & storage
- Other social services (legal aid, caseworkers)

Evacuation Planning Considerations

- Fuel & charging availability
- Parking & abandoned vehicles
- Safe loading & unloading areas for large groups
- Real-time traveler/community information

Evacuation Planning Opportunities

Resilience Center Considerations

- Backup power for traffic controls & signage
- Collaboration with community partners
- Emergency information

Mobility Hub Considerations

- Multi-modal route planning
- Accessibility of options
- Emergency information
- Mobility hub as evacuation hub or spoke

Your Reflections

Discuss with your group or partner:

- What has worked in your community along these lines?
- What have you learned today?
- What's one action you can commit to in order to collaborate across these systems?



Thank You

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