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## **Ridgway Mayor Clark and Lakewood City Manager Hodgson Awarded Competitive Sam Mamet Good Governance Awards**

DENVER, Colo. – Wednesday, June 24, 2026 – Today the Colorado Municipal League (CML) honored John Clark, Mayor of Ridgway, and Kathy Hodgson, City Manager of Lakewood, with the competitive Sam Mamet Good Governance Awards at the 104<sup>th</sup> annual CML conference.

The award, established in 2019 and named in honor of retired CML Executive Director Sam Mamet, recognizes two individuals annually who exemplify and strive to promote the principles of good governance. The winners were selected from a competitive pool of local government nominees from across the state.

“Mayor Clark and Ms. Hodgson reflect the essence of the Sam Mamet Good Governance Award,” said Kevin Bommer, CML executive director. “They are true leaders who inspire others and serve as models for inclusive governance and civil discourse. I applaud their commitment to leading with integrity, empathy, and transparency.”

“I’m humbled to have been selected for this award, and even more so after seeing all the other nominees. I love the Town of Ridgway with all my heart, so it’s immensely rewarding to be recognized for the work I’ve done on its behalf for all these years,” said Mayor Clark.

“I am deeply honored to receive this recognition from the Colorado Municipal League. It has been a privilege to work alongside dedicated employees, elected officials and community members who care so much about our city and its future,” said Hodgson.

[Learn more about the winners and watch videos profiling their achievements.](#)

Any of CML’s 270 member municipalities may submit nominations to the CML Executive Board. This year, CML received a total of 28 individuals nominated. The following Colorado leaders received nominations:

- Loren Ahonen, City of Gunnison Councilor

- Jody Andrews, City of Westminster City Manager
- Joe Ayala, City of La Junta Mayor
- William Bell, City of Montrose City Manager
- Arielle Blackwell, Town of Crestone Town Manager
- Jeff Cadiz, City of Centennial Finance Director
- John Clark, Town of Ridgway Mayor – **2026 award recipient**
- Crystal Clemens, City and County of Broomfield City and County Clerk
- Tracie Crites, Town of Frederick Mayor
- Todd Dixon, Town of Green Mountain Falls Mayor
- Charles Dukes, City of Commerce City Council Member
- Desmond Fulton, City and County of Denver Fire Chief
- Kathy Hodgson, City of Lakewood City Manager – **2026 award recipient**
- Kristi Keller, City of Salida City Clerk
- Heidi Leatherwood & Clerks Office Staff, City of Greeley City Clerk’s Office
- Justin Martinez, City of Thornton City Council Member
- Chauncey McCarthy, Town of Rico Town Manager
- Jason Meyers, Town of Frederick Town Attorney
- Whitney Oakley, Town of Bennett Mayor
- Laura Perry, City of Aurora Deputy City Manager
- Patricia Reeves-Smith, Town of Crestone Deputy Clerk & Deputy Treasurer
- Teagan Serres, Town of Kremmling Town Clerk and Treasurer
- Trish Stiles, Town of Bennett Town Manager
- Wendi Strom, City of Lakewood Mayor
- Scott Trainor, City of Fountain City Manager
- Sherilyn West, Town of Larkspur Mayor
- Nicholas Wharton, Town of Severance Town Manager
- Robert Widner, City of Centennial Assistant City Attorney

With more than 1,100 attendees, the 2026 CML Annual Conference offers a dynamic mix of keynotes, breakout sessions, and networking opportunities tailored to support and inspire Colorado’s municipal leaders. The conference occurs Monday, June 22 through Thursday, June 25.

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Colorado Municipal League (CML) is a nonprofit, nonpartisan organization established in 1923 and represents the interests of 270 cities and towns. For more information on the

Colorado Municipal League, please visit [cml.org](http://cml.org), call 303-831-6411 or stay connected on Facebook, X, LinkedIn, and YouTube.