

MUNICIPAL HOME RULE
PROGRAM

City/Town of RIPLEY

2025
PROGRESS
REPORT


West Virginia
Municipal Home Rule Board
P. O. Box 11360
Charleston, WV 25339-1360
MunicipalHomeRule@wv.gov
304.558.3356

West Virginia State Code §8-1-5a (m) provides:

“Commencing December 1, 2015, and each year thereafter, each participating municipality shall give a progress report to the Municipal Home Rule Board and commencing January 1, 2016, and each year thereafter, the Municipal Home Rule Board shall give a summary report of all the participating municipalities to the Joint Committee on Government and Finance.”

The Municipal Home Rule Board has developed this standard format for Home Rule Program participating municipalities to prepare and submit their respective Annual Progress Reports. The intent of this standard format is to gather and compile information in a consistent, easily understood, and efficient manner that will be used to develop a concise and practical summary report to the Joint Committee on Government and Finance.

Annual Progress Reports must be submitted electronically as an individual file in PDF format no later than the close of business on the first business day of December, by emailing to WV Municipal Home Rule Board at MunicipalHomeRule@wv.gov.

A. General Information		
Name of Municipality:		
Certifying Official: Carolyn Rader	Title: Mayor	
Contact Person: Tom Armstead	Title: City Clerk/Treasurer	
Address: 203 Church St. S		
City, State, Zip: Ripley, WV 25271		
Telephone Number: 304-372-3482	Fax Number: 304-372-6693	
E-Mail Address: ripleycityclerk@suddenlinkmail.com		
2010 Census Population: 3,252		
B. Municipal Classification		
<input type="checkbox"/> Class I	<input type="checkbox"/> Class II	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Class III
		<input type="checkbox"/> Class IV
C. Attest		
I hereby confirm that I am the authorized official for this municipality and certify that the information submitted herein and attached hereto is true and accurate and that this report addresses each and every initiative included in the original Home Rule Pilot Program Plan Application for this municipality and any subsequent amendments, if applicable.		
Carolyn Rader		12/01/2025
Type Name of Certifying Official	Signature of Certifying Official	Date

Please use this page to report progress on each **non-tax related initiative** included in your Home Rule Application and Amendment(s). Each non-tax related initiative must be listed on a separate page.

Initiative: "On the spot" citations for property
Was this non-tax initiative a part of your original plan application <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> or a plan amendment <input type="checkbox"/> ?
Has the ordinance(s) needed to implement this initiative been enacted? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
If yes, when was the ordinance enacted? 9/17/2019
If no, please describe challenges faced in enacting the related ordinance(s).
SUCSESSES – In the space below, please provide a brief narrative which highlights successes realized through the implementation of this initiative and any metrics used to track performance. Five citations have been issued since this initiative was undertaken. No citations were issued this year. However, The City of Ripley is currently working to update our Building Enforcement Department and Agency. This ordinance will then become a more valuable tool. The threat of on-the-spot citations continues to encourage property owners to be more vigilant in maintaining their properties.
LESSONS LEARNED – In the space below, please provide a brief narrative highlighting lessons learned during implementation of this revenue initiative that would benefit other municipalities. On the spot citations has helped in getting attention of some homeowners who otherwise have not responded.

Please use this page to report progress on each **non-tax related initiative** included in your Home Rule Application and Amendment(s). Each non-tax related initiative must be listed on a separate page.

Initiative: Property Registration on Foreclosure
Was this non-tax initiative a part of your original plan application <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> or a plan amendment <input type="checkbox"/> ?
Has the ordinance(s) needed to implement this initiative been enacted? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
If yes, when was the ordinance enacted? 9/17/2019
If no, please describe challenges faced in enacting the related ordinance(s).
SUCSESSES – In the space below, please provide a brief narrative which highlights successes realized through the implementation of this initiative and any metrics used to track performance. No property registrations or foreclosures have taken place at this time. The City of Ripley is currently working to update our Building Enforcement Department and Agency. This ordinance will then help with addressing dilapidated properties.
LESSONS LEARNED – In the space below, please provide a brief narrative highlighting lessons learned during implementation of this revenue initiative that would benefit other municipalities. Nothing applicable at this time.

Please use this page to report progress on each **non-tax related initiative** included in your Home Rule Application and Amendment(s). Each non-tax related initiative must be listed on a separate page.

Initiative: Shorten Time on Uninhabitable Properties
Was this non-tax initiative a part of your original plan application <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> or a plan amendment <input type="checkbox"/> ?
Has the ordinance(s) needed to implement this initiative been enacted? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
If yes, when was the ordinance enacted? 9/17/2019
If no, please describe challenges faced in enacting the related ordinance(s).
SUCSESSES – In the space below, please provide a brief narrative which highlights successes realized through the implementation of this initiative and any metrics used to track performance. The City of Ripley is continuing on working to update our Building Enforcement Department and Agency. We have had a number of structures demolished in the last year.
LESSONS LEARNED – In the space below, please provide a brief narrative highlighting lessons learned during implementation of this revenue initiative that would benefit other municipalities. Nothing applicable at this time.

Please use this page to report progress on each **tax related initiative** included in your Home Rule Application. Each tax related initiative must be listed on a separate page.

Initiative: Impose a 1% Sales and Use Tax and Reduction of B&O Tax
Was this tax initiative a part of your original plan application <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> or a plan amendment <input type="checkbox"/> or N/A <input type="checkbox"/>
Has the ordinance(s) needed to implement this initiative been enacted? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
If yes, when was the ordinance enacted? 1/02/2020
If no, please describe challenges faced in enacting the related ordinance(s).
<p>REVENUES – In the space below, please provide a brief narrative highlighting revenue amounts and revenue categories realized; revenue amounts and revenue categories reduced; net revenue gain; and, any metrics used to track performance.</p> <p>FYE 6/30/2025 collections for 1% sales tax was \$1,745,214 which was a small increase over last year. Collections seem to be trending up slightly which is expected due to high inflation.</p>
<p>SUCSESSES – In the space below, please provide a brief narrative highlighting projects, improvements, programming, etc. realized through the implementation of this revenue initiative and any metrics used to track performance.</p> <p>Now that multi-year of collections has transpired, we have a good idea of where our annual revenues will fall and can plan projects accordingly. We are still under construction on a major storm sewer project. Ripley is also trying to poise itself to take advantage of new development with the announcement of new plants coming to the area. Sidewalk projects continue as well as continuing partnership with our Board of Education to build a new playground to serve Ripley Elementary students as well as the community at large. The City also purchased an island in town. Property has a large picnic shelter on it which has been rehabbed, and a 1/3 mile walking trail installed. The area serves as a tremendous green space for our community.</p>
<p>LESSONS LEARNED – In the space below, please provide a brief narrative highlighting lessons learned during implementation of this revenue initiative that would benefit other municipalities.</p> <p>I think the biggest lesson learned or challenge encountered was the lack of full participation by local businesses. Several were not aware of the sales tax implementation on July 1 and subsequently did not collect it. Communication with the Tax Department revealed they are working with those businesses to get that corrected and subsequently our revenue collections have continued to increase.</p>