

THE WYOMING RURAL DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL

The Wyoming Rural Development Council is a collaborative public/private partnership that brings together six partner groups: local/regional government, state government, federal government, tribal government, non-profit organizations and private sector individuals and organizations.

WRDC is governed by a Steering Committee representing the six partner groups. The Steering Committee as well as the Council membership has established the following goals for the WRDC:

- Assist rural communities in visioning and strategic planning
- Serve as a resource for assisting communities in finding and obtaining grants for rural projects
- Serve and be recognized as a neutral forum for identification and resolution of multi-jurisdictional issues
- Promote through education, the understanding of the needs, values and contribution of rural communities.

The Council seeks to assist rural Wyoming communities with their needs and development efforts by matching the technical and financial resources of federal, state, and local governments and the private sector with local development efforts.

If you would like more information about the Wyoming Rural Development Council and how you may benefit as a member, contact:

Mary Randolph, Executive Director
Wyoming Rural Development Council
2219 Carey Ave.
Cheyenne, WY 82002
307-777-6430
307-777-6593 (fax)
mrando@state.wy.us
www.wyomingrural.org

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Many of the elements are here for Mt. View and the Ft Bridger area to have a successful future. To become a growing, vibrant community takes only a few people willing to roll up their sleeves and go to work. Once this nucleus begins to exert effort, it will begin to show some successes. Then this nucleus needs to expand to include more and more of the community until the entire community is involved. But the work is not on big jobs; it is on small ones that can be achieved quickly. The big ones come later after Mt. View and the Ft Bridger area has seen the results of the smaller and sees that it can accomplish things.

There are a number of short term, accomplishable and recommendations that the review team has provided. The most important thing is to get the entire community involved in trying to find ways to accomplish its goals. A few celebrations at the successful conclusion of an activity, which has involved a large number of citizens, will lead to a feeling of accomplishment that will carry over into other activities. Look through the short-term suggestions, pick out one that you know what you can do, and get started!

Each of you individually must decide what it is that you want to do, what kind of project you want to tackle. There are enough tasks for everyone. Each small step, every accomplishment, no matter how limited, is movement in the right direction toward achieving Mt. View's and Ft Bridger's goals. It can be done! There is no problem facing Mt. View/Ft Bridger that cannot be solved by the people living in the community. It is your choice and your decision, it can be done.

On behalf of the Resource Team, I want to thank the community and our sponsors for the warm hospitality shown to us during our stay. The meals and accommodations were outstanding. We heard over and over in the listening sessions that Mt. View and Ft Bridger are filled with warm, caring individuals and we certainly can attest to that! Thank you very much.

We hope you will find great value in this report and remember any team member is available for you to call to clarify information or provide more information and assistance.

The Wyoming Rural Development Council is here to help you in any way that we can.

Sincerely,

Steve Achter, Resource Team Leader

PROCESS FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF THIS REPORT

The Wyoming Rural Development Council (WRDC) has provided a Resource Team to assist the town of Mt. View and Ft Bridger area, Wyoming in evaluating the community's assets and liabilities and in developing suggestions for improving the environment, social and economic future of Mt. View/Ft Bridger.

The town of Mt. View and the Ft Bridger area requested a community assessment from the Wyoming Rural Development Council. Bruce Barnard served as the community contact and took the lead in agenda development, logistics and publicity in town for the assessment. Resource team members were selected to visit, interview citizens, business and community leaders; and develop a plan of recommended action for the town. The team members were carefully selected based on their fields of expertise that Mt. View/Ft Bridger officials indicated would be needed to respond to the problem areas identified.

The Resource Team toured the town and interviewed approximately 109 people over a three-day period from April 28th to May 2nd. In addition over two hundred written comments were received. The team interviewed representatives from the following segments of Mt. View/Ft Bridger and surrounding community: high and middle school students, churches, public works, elected officials, water users, tourism, recreation, agriculture, senior citizens, education, civic groups, business/industry, utilities, emergency services, law enforcement, financial, healthcare, retail, and the general public. Each participant was asked to respond to three questions designed to begin communication and discussion and to serve as a basis for developing the action plan. The three questions were:

- What do you think are the major problems and challenges in Mt. View/Ft Bridger?
- What do you think are the major strengths and assets in Mt. View/Ft Bridger?
- What projects would you like to see completed in two, five ten and twenty years in Mt. View/Ft Bridger?

Upon completion of the interviews, the team met to compare notes and share comments following the three days of intense study. The team then agreed that each team member would carefully analyze what was said, synthesize what they heard with their knowledge of programs and resources, prepare their notes and suggestions, and forward these items to be combined into WRDC's final report to Mt. View/Ft Bridger.

An oral report was presented to the people of Mt. View/Ft Bridger on May 1st and many of the citizens of Mt. View/Ft Bridger who participated in the interviews were in attendance.

Following the oral report, a formal written report is prepared and presented to the town of Mt. View/Ft Bridger.

RESOURCE TEAM MEMBERS

Mt. View/Ft Bridger Resource Team April 28th to May 1st.

Steve Achter, Team Leader

Wyoming Business Council

214 W. 15th Street

Cheyenne, WY 82002

(307) 777-2811

sachte@state.wy.us

Kirk Heaton

United States Department of Agriculture, RC&D

1471 Dewar Dr., #106

Rock Springs, WY 82901

(307) 382-3982

kirk.heaton@wy.usda.gov

Joe Locurto, Director

Unita County Economic Development Council

225 Ninth Street

Evanston, WY 82930

(307) 783-0378

ucedc@uintacounty.com

Susan Mizner

United States Department of Agriculture, USDA RD

625 Washington St., Room B

P.O. Box 190

Afton WY 83110-0190

(307) 886-9001

susan.mizner@wy.usda.gov

The following citizens helped coordinate the local logistics to insure the assessment ran efficiently.

COMMUNITY CONTACT:

Mountain View:

Bruce Barnard

P.O. Box 249

Mountain View, WY 82939

(307) 782-3100

mtview@union-tel.com

County Contact:

Kim Charles

225 Ninth Street

Evanston, WY 82930

(307) 786-4227

**Resource Team Agenda
April 28th to May 1st**

<u>Time</u>	<u>Activity</u>	<u>Location</u>
Monday ----April 28		
Noon to 1:30pm	Team Arrives / Lunch w/ Planning Committee	MV Town Hall
1:30 to 2:00pm	Welcome and Assessment Orientation	MV Town Hall
2:00 to 5:00pm	Tour Area and Facilities	
5:00 to 6:00pm	Check-in / Siesta	Wagon Wheel
6:00 to 7:00pm	Resource Team Working Supper	TBA
Tuesday----April 29		
7:00 to 7:45am	Breakfast	Wagon Wheel Cafe
7:45 to 8:15am	Travel and set up at High School	
8:15 to 9:00	Listening Session / Government Class	MV High School
9:00 to 9:30	Travel to Town Hall / Break / Set up	MV Town Hall
9:30 to 10:30	Listening Session / Charitable Civic Groups	MV Town Hall
10:30 to 10:45	Break	MV Town Hall
10:45 to 11:45am	Listening Session / Public Safety	MV Town Hall
11:45 to 12:00pm	Travel to Middle School	

Noon to 12:30pm	Lunch with Students	MV Middle School
12:30 to 1:30pm	Listening Session / Law Enforcement	School Board Rm
1:30 to 2:30pm	Listening Session / Public Works / Trans.	School Board Rm
2:30 to 3:00	Break	School Board Rm
3:00 to 3:45	Listening Session / Education	School Board Rm
3:45 to 4:00	Break	School Board Rm
4:00 to 5:00	Listening Session / Education (cont.)	School Board Rm
5:00 to 6:00	Dinner w/ Elected Officials	Town Pavilion
6:00 to 7:00pm	Listening Session / Elected Officials	Town Hall
7:30 to 8:30	General Meeting for MV	Town Hall

Wednesday ---- April 30

8:00	Breakfast	Wagon Wheel Cafe
9:00 to 10:30	Tour of Union Telephone and Listening Session / Telecommunication	Union Telephone
10:30 to 10:45	Break and travel to Senior Citizen Center	
10:45 to 12:00	Listening Session / Seniors	Senior Center
12:00 to 1:00	Lunch at Senior Center	Senior Center
1:00 to 1:30	Travel to MV Town Hall	
1:30 to 2:30	Listening Session / Healthcare	MV Town Hall
2:30 to 2:45	Break	MV Town Hall

2:45 to 3:30	Listening Session / MV Business	MV Town Hall
3:30 to 4:00	Break and Travel to Fort	
4:00 to 5:00	Listening Session / Agriculture	Fort Meeting Rm
5:00 to 6:00	Listening Session / Water Users	Fort Meeting Rm
6:00 to 6:30	Travel to Bridger Valley Electric	
6:30 to 7:30	Dinner	BVEA Board Rm
7:30 to 8:30	General Session for Unincorporated	BVEA Board Rm

Thursday — May 1

8:00 to 9:00	Travel to Youth Camp / Tour Ag	Leave from Motel
9:00 to 9:30	Breakfast	Youth Camp
9:30 to 10:30	Tour Meeks Cabin Dam / Tour Ag	
10:30 to 11:30	Listening Session / Tourism	Fort Meeting Rm
11:30 to 12:30	Listening Session / Recreation	Fort Meeting Rm
12:30 to 1:00	Lunch	Wagon Wheel
1:00 to 2:00	Listening Session / Business in County	Fort Meeting Rm
2:00 to 5:00	Team Preparation	Fort Meeting Rm
5:00 to 6:30	Travel and Working Dinner	Pony Express

6:30 to 7:00 Travel to School Admin Bldg / Set up

7:00 to 8:00 Resource Team Report to Public School Board Rm

RECOMMENDATIONS SUBMITTED BY RESOURCE TEAM MEMBERS

The Resource Team would like to thank the town of Mt. View/Ft Bridger for the immeasurable amounts of honesty, hospitality, and friendliness that you gave during the Resource Team effort. The team has every confidence that the kind of effort and enthusiasm produced for the Resource Team will be responsible for and ensure future successes.

The Resource Team has given many suggestions, some which have been repeated by more than one of the team members. Listed are the individual team member recommendations, along with contact information for the respective team member. You are encouraged to communicate directly with any team member.

Any recommendations contained herein are not mandatory. The Wyoming Rural Development Council has not endorsed any recommendations and opinions contained herein. Neither the Wyoming Rural Development Council, nor any of its employees, contract labor, officers, committee chairs and/or members makes any warranty, express or implied, including warranties of merchantability and fitness for a particular purpose, or assumes any legal liability for the accuracy, completeness, or usefulness of this report or any information, recommendations or opinions contained herein.

Steve Achter

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307-777-2811
FAX 307-777-2838
sachte@state.wy.us

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Challenge: New business development and job creation was brought up a number of times to as a need in Mt View/Ft Bridger. People want good quality jobs, particularly for youth, to give them the opportunity to stay in the community. Not all communities are prepared for or have in place the necessary tools to be successful with a business recruitment or business expansion effort. Certain steps must be taken before true success can be attained with a business recruitment or expansion program. Considerable academic research has been completed to determine what needs to be in place to insure success. The Appendix contains an outline of an approach that has been proven successful. It is called “Economic Development Building Blocks, A Holistic Approach.” For more information about implementing the building blocks in Mt View/Ft Bridger contact:

Ray Sarcletti, Director
South West Regional Office
Wyoming Business Council
1400 Dewar Drive, Suite 208A
Rock Springs, WY 82901
307 382 3163
Email: rsarcl@state.wy.us
Web: www.wyomingbusiness.org

Challenge: Entrepreneurial training for existing business owners as well as owners of start-up businesses is essential and can go a long ways toward strengthening the viability of new or expanding businesses. There are also a variety of other programs available to serve the needs of businesses.

Solution/Contact: The Wyoming Small Business Development Center (SBDC) provides a wealth of assistance to business owners. The assistance includes business plan assistance, accounting, marketing, and government procurement and grant and loan application preparation to name a few. The SBDC office is located in Rock Springs.

The NxLevel entrepreneurial training is also offered through the SBDC's and will be taught on-site in Mt View/Ft Bridger if there are enough students that sign-up for the class. It generally takes about 12 students to make a complete class. However, if there are fewer than 12 students the class will be taught if a sponsor can be found to help financially support the class.

For additional information regarding the Small Business Development Center's contact:

Bill Ellis, Regional Director
SBDC
1400 Dewar Drive, Suite 205
Rock Springs, WY 82902-1168
307-352-6894
Toll Free: 800-348-5205
Fax: 307-352-6876
E-mail: bellis@uwyo.edu

Solution/Contact: The community should utilize the expertise of the newly established Market Research Center (MRC). The MRC is a brand new creation of the Wyoming Business Council (WBC), the Small Business Development Center (SBDC), and the University of Wyoming's College of Business. It was created to provide Wyoming entrepreneurs and Wyoming communities with sophisticated and timely market research information. This will allow Wyoming businesses to obtain and analyze market information on products, industries, and

customers. For more information, please contact:

Ray Sarcletti, Director
South West Regional Office
Wyoming Business Council
1400 Dewar Drive, Suite 208A
Rock Springs, WY 82901
307 382 3163
Email: rsarcl@state.wy.us
Web: www.wyomingbusiness.org

Solution/Contact: Utilize free business assistance programs through the Wyoming Small Business Development Center (SBDC). The SBDC, in part funded by the Wyoming Business Council, can assist people wanting to start a business in Mt View/Ft Bridger and those already in business in Mt View/Ft Bridger. Topics that the SBDC can assist with include accounting, advertising, cash flow, human resources, financial reports, market research, patents and trademarks, business plan assistance, along with many others. For more information, or to schedule appointments to get small business assistance, contact:

Bill Ellis, Regional Director
SBDC
1400 Dewar Drive, Suite 205
Rock Springs, WY 82902-1168
307-352-6894
Toll Free: 800-348-5205
Fax: 307-352-6876
E-mail: bellis@uwyo.edu

Solution/Contact: Consider some of the services offered through the Wyoming Women's Business Center. The Center offers a business plan guide that is one of the best out there. In addition, the Center has a micro loan program (\$2,500 and less) available to small businesses at rates far below prime and at favorable repayment terms. For more information, please contact:

Rosemary Bratton
Wyoming Women's Business Center
P.O. Box 3661
Laramie, WY 82071
Phone: 1-888-524-1947
Email : wwbc@uwyo.edu
Web: <http://www.wyomingwomen.org/>

Solution/Contact: Take a look at some of the programs offered by Gro-Biz (Government

Resources and Opportunities for Business). Gro-Biz helps Wyoming companies secure profitable contracts with federal, state and local governments. In particular, examine one program called Bid Match, which utilizes email daily to notify registered Wyoming businesses of government contracting opportunities. For more information, please contact:

Rudy Nesvik
State Director
Gro-Biz
Laramie County Community College
1400 E. College Drive
Cheyenne, WY 82007
Phone: 1-866-253-3300
Email: grobiz@wyoming.com
Web: <http://www.gro-biz.com>

Solution/Contact: Local manufacturers should take advantage of the services of the Mid America Manufacturing and Technology Center (MAMTC). MAMTC can help Wyoming manufacturers become more competitive through programs that address quality, business systems, the manufacturing process, company assessment, marketing, and product development. For more information, please contact your local regional MAMTC representative:

George Twitchell
MAMTC
PO Box 727
Rock Springs, WY 82902
307-389-4856 ext 840
E-mail: gtwitch@uwyo.edu

Solution/Contact: Utilize the Wyoming Business Council's Trade Show Incentive Grant Program. This program will assist businesses in exhibiting their products at trade shows. It is a matching grant (dollar for dollar) up to \$1,500 /year. For example, if a company in Mt View/Ft Bridger were to exhibit its products a trade show in Denver that costs \$3,000, the Trade Show Incentive Grant could cover up to \$1,500 of these costs related to the trade show itself. For more detailed information on this program, please contact:

Ray Sarcletti, Director
South West Regional Office
Wyoming Business Council
1400 Dewar Drive, Suite 208A
Rock Springs, WY 82901
307 382 3163

Email: rsarcl@state.wy.us

Web: www.wyomingbusiness.org

Solution/Contact: It's worth examining some of the other business programs available through the Wyoming Business Council, including the Wyoming First Program (available to help companies promote their products as "Made in Wyoming"), the Challenge Loan Program (a state revolving loan fund that participates with banks to provide lower interest rates to businesses, and human resource consultation (helping companies with HR challenges). For more information on these and other Wyoming Business Council programs, contact:

Ray Sarcletti, Director
South West Regional Office
Wyoming Business Council
1400 Dewar Drive, Suite 208A
Rock Springs, WY 82901
307 382 3163

Email: rsarcl@state.wy.us

Web: www.wyomingbusiness.org

Solution/Contact: The Wyoming Department of Employment has workforce training grants available to new and existing companies that create new jobs. These grants are available to companies for costs related to training new employees. Typically, the amount of these grants are \$1,000-\$1,500 per employee, depending on after training wages. These grants are subject to availability and eligibility, so for further information, contact:

Ray Sarcletti, Director
South West Regional Office
Wyoming Business Council
1400 Dewar Drive, Suite 208A
Rock Springs, WY 82901
307 382 3163

Email: rsarcl@state.wy.us

Web: www.wyomingbusiness.org

Challenge: Development of a motel at one of the intersections along I 80 was brought up many times as a way to attract and keep tourist in town for a longer period of time -- in particular trying to keep the "Utah Navy" from just passing thru.

Solution/Contact: Gary Moore of Wheeler Development has approached the Business Council staff seeking development opportunities in Wyoming. The company specializes in motel and business park development. They are currently working with the University to develop a convention center and hotel in Laramie. I have discussed the idea of a motel with Gary and he is willing to talk with someone in the community about the development of a motel along I 80.

Gary's number is 307 630 7464.

VALLEY FACILITIES/SERVICES

Challenge: The need for facilities that would serve the needs of youth was mentioned many times at the listening sessions. Also, mentioned was the desire to have other public facilities like additional water storage and an upgraded sewer system. Many of these types of facilities may be paid for with the use of the special purpose sales tax. However, the recommendations are for grant programs

Solution/Contact: Grant funds for outdoor recreation projects are available from the Land and Water Conservation Program. These funds are available annually and require a local match; therefore, the town must plan now to insure funds are available. For more information contact:

Todd Thibodeau
State Parks and Cultural Resources
Herschler Building, 1st Floor East
122 West 25th Street
Cheyenne, WY 82002
307-777-6478

Program guidelines and application information can be viewed by going to <http://commerce.state.wy.us/sphs/index1.htm> click on Land and Water Conservation Fund.

Solution/Contact: The Community Development Block Grant Program (CDBG) is another program that can be used to help pay the cost of constructing public facilities. Any project funded must be able to demonstrate that a CDBG designated National Objective can be met. One of those objectives is benefit to low and moderate income people. For more information about the CDBG program please contact:

Steve Achter, Director
Investment Ready Communities/CDBG
Wyoming Business Council
214 W. 15th Street
Cheyenne, WY 82002
Phone: 1-307-777-2811
Email: sachte@state.wy.us
Web: www.wyomingbusiness.org

Solution/Contact: The State Loan and Investment Board (SLIB) provide grants for a variety of essential public faculties. For more detail please contact:

Brad Miskimins
Grant and Loan Program Manager
State Loan and Investment Board
Herschler Building, 3W
122 W. 25th Street
Cheyenne, WY 82002
Phone: 307 777 7309
Email: bmiski@state.wy.us

HOUSING

Challenge: A need for affordable housing was expressed many times at the listening sessions.

Solution/Contact: Take a look at the housing programs for affordable housing offered through USDA Rural Development's Rural Housing Service (RHS).

The Rural Housing Service provides a number of homeownership opportunities to rural Americans, as well as programs for home renovation and repair. RHS also makes financing available to elderly, disabled, or low-income rural residents of multi-unit housing buildings to ensure they are able to make rent payments.

The following is a listing of RHS programs that might be of interest to individuals interested in buying or renovating a home, or in receiving rental assistance.

1. **Direct Loan Program (Section 502)** Under the Direct Loan program, individuals or families receive direct financial assistance directly from the Rural Housing Service in the form of a home loan at an affordable interest rate. Most of the loans made under the Direct Loan Program are to families with income below 80% of the median income level in the communities where they live. Since RHS is able to make loans to those who will not qualify for a conventional loan, the RHS Direct Loan program enables many more people to buy homes than might otherwise be possible. Direct loans may be made for the purchase of an existing home or for new home construction.
2. **Loan Guarantee Program (Section 502)** Under the Guaranteed Loan program, the Rural Housing Service guarantees loans made by private sector lenders. *(A loan guarantee through RHS means that, should the individual borrower default on the loan, RHS will pay the private financier for the loan.)* The individual works with the private lender and makes his or her payments to that lender. Under the terms of the program, an individual

or family may borrow up to 100% of the appraised value of the home, which eliminates the need for a down payment. Since a common barrier to owning a home for many low-income people is the lack of funds to make a down payment, the availability of the loan guarantees from RHS makes the reality of owning a home available to a much larger percentage of Americans.

3. **Mutual Self-Help Housing Program (Section 523)** The Mutual Self-Help Housing Program makes homes affordable by enabling future homeowners to work on homes themselves. With this investment in the home, or "sweat equity", each homeowner pays less for his or her home. Each qualified applicant is required to complete 65% of the work to build his or her own home. Technical Assistance Grants and Site Loans are provided to nonprofit and local government organizations, which supervise groups of 5 to 12 enrollees in the Self-Help Program. Members of each group help work on each other's homes, moving in only when all the homes are completed. Once accepted into the Self-Help Housing Program, each individual enrollee generally applies for a Single-Family Housing Direct Loan (Section 502).
4. **Home Repair Loan and Grant Program (Section 504)** For very low income families who own homes in need of repair, the Home Repair Loan and Grant Program offers loans and grants for renovation. The Home Repair Program also provides funds to make a home accessible to someone with disabilities. Money may be provided, for example, to repair a leaking roof; to replace a wood stove with central heating; to construct a front-door ramp for someone using a wheelchair; or to replace an outhouse and pump with running water, a bathroom, and a waste disposal system. Homeowners 62 years and older are eligible for home improvement grants. Other low-income families and individuals receive loans at a 1% interest rate directly from RHS.
5. **Multi-Family Housing - Rental Assistance Program (Section 521)** Rural Development Multi-Family Housing programs provide a number of finance options to developers of low-income community housing. Rural Housing Service assistance to individual residents of multi-family dwellings comes primarily in the form of rental assistance. Rent subsidies under the Rental Assistance Program ensure that elderly, disabled, and low-income residents of multi-family housing complexes financed by RHS are able to afford rent payments. With the help of the Rental Assistance Program, a qualified applicant pays no more than 30% of his or her income for housing. Residents of multi-family housing complexes built under both the Rural Rental Housing Program (Section 515) and the Farm Labor Housing Program (Section 514) are eligible to apply for the Rental Assistance Program. (Please note that not all residents of RHS-financed housing developments receive rental assistance.)

To determine eligibility or to apply for any of the programs listed above, please contact your local USDA representative:

Linda Ziegler, Rural Development Manager
USDA Rural Development
PO Box 190
Afton WY 83110
Phone: (307) 886-9001, ext. 4
Fax: (307) 886-3744
Email: linda.ziegler@wy.usda.gov
Web: <http://www.rurdev.usda.gov>

Solution/Contact: Also examine programs available through the Wyoming Community Development Authority (WCDA). WCDA is the State of Wyoming's Housing Authority.

1. Federal Low Income Housing Tax Credits

Housing finance authorities across the county have been designated by federal statute to administer the Federal Low-Income Housing Tax Credit, which was enacted through the Tax Reform Act of 1986. This program provides federal tax credits for developers and contractors as an incentive to develop affordable rental housing projects. An Allocation Plan may be obtained by contacting the WCDA.

2. HOME Investment Partnership Program

This program was created as Title II of the Cranston-Gonzales National Affordable Housing Act and is being administered by the WCDA for the state. Since the Spring of 1992 Wyoming has received over \$27 million in HOME funds for the development of decent, safe, affordable housing for low - and very low - income households. Applications are accepted once a year through a competitive application process. A Program Description may be obtained by contacting the WCDA or it can be viewed through the link below.

Units of local government, housing authorities, private developers and nonprofit organizations may apply for HOME funds. Projects must be targeted to low - and very low - income persons. Funds may be used for rental housing production, homeowner rehabilitation and homeownership programs anywhere in Wyoming. The HOME program requires a 25% match of non-federal funds. Match requirements are explained in detail in the current year Affordable Housing Allocation Plan. This program has had a major impact on some of the most critical housing needs in Wyoming.

3. CDBG Housing Set Aside

The WCDA applies for an annual allocation of federal Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds from the Wyoming Business Council, which are then loaned to applicants for housing-related programs that benefit low-income households. Eligible applicants for these funds are counties and incorporated cities and towns in Wyoming.

The WCDA has allocated over \$4.5 million in CDBG funds to 29 sub-recipients since 1990. This program is the beginning of a statewide revolving loan fund that will help meet the state's housing needs in the future. Funds are allocated through a competitive application process.

For more information on any of WCDA's programs, please contact:

Cheryl Gillum
Housing Programs Director
155 N. Beech Street
Casper, WY 82601
Phone: 1-307-265-0603
Fax: 1-307-266-5414
Email: gillum@wyomingcda.com
Web: www.wyomingcda.com

SOCIAL ISSUES

However, a challenge facing the community and pointed out at the listening sessions is the abuse of drugs and alcohol by not only the youth but also by adults. Also, teen pregnancy, sexual harassment and domestic abuse were pointed out as concerns.

Solution/Contact: A number of private foundations serve Wyoming and provide grant funds for a variety of youth programs and substance abuse prevention programs. In most cases the funds are provided to youth organization or non-profit organizations. The foundations also focus on other more broad issue such as wellness and mental health. A sample of the foundations includes:

The Wold Foundation
139 West 2nd Street, Suite 200
Casper, WY 82601
Phone: 307-265-7252
Fax: 307-265-7336

Areas of interest:

- Independent schools and private colleges;
- Human-service organizations and youth programs;
- Community-supported cultural activities;
- Preventative health and wellness programs;

- Preservation of historic sites and buildings;
- Conservation and outdoor recreation that supports health, education, leadership training and youth services;
- Scientific research aimed at improving the quality of life and conservation of natural resources; and,
- Projects and programs that benefit Wyoming citizens, particularly youth.

American Legacy Foundation
1001 G Street, NW
Suite 800
Washington, DC 20001
Phone: 202-454-5555
Fax: 202-454-5599
Email: grantsinfo@americanlegacy.org
Url: <http://www.americanlegacy.org>

Areas of interest:

The American Legacy Foundation provides grants to further its goal of creating tobacco- free generations. At the heart of Legacy's grant program is the effort to identify new and improved ways to develop effective tobacco control programs. Legacy's four goals are as follows:

- Reduce youth tobacco use;
- Reduce exposure to second-hand smoke among all ages and populations;
- Increase successful quit rate among all ages and populations; and,
- Reduce disparities in access to prevention and cessation services and in exposure to secondhand smoke on behalf of disadvantaged populations.

The Daniels Fund
55 Madison Street, Suite 255
Denver, CO 80206
Phone: 303-393-7220
Fax: 303-393-7339
E-mail: info@danielsfund.org
Url: <http://www.danielsfund.org>

Areas of interest:

- Child care/early childhood education
- Elderly seniors
- Mental health, alcoholism, substance abuse
- Physical disabilities
- Amateur athletics

Burlington Northern Santa Fe Foundation
5601 West 26th Street
Cicero, IL 60804
Phone: 708-924-5615
Fax: 708-924-5657
Email: Sharon.Heft@BNSF.com
Url: <http://www.bnsf.com>

Areas Of Interest:

The Burlington Northern Santa Fe Foundation supports nonprofit organizations in the company's area of operations only. The Foundation is a strong contributor to various United Way/Red Cross agencies across its system and includes as well the following categories in its giving program:

- Education;
- Arts & culture;
- Civic programs;
- Health & human service agencies
- Hospitals; and,
- Youth organizations.

As a final thought, as individual youth emerge as leaders, recognize them with a Youth Leader of the Year Award.

Solution/Contact: The Wyoming Council for Woman's Issues recently published "A Student's Guide to Sexual Harassment." Copies of the publication can be obtained by contacting Michelle Aldrich at 307 766 4523. The Woman's Council also has information on the Business Council web site at www.wyomingbusiness.org/woman.

WHAT MAKE COMMUNITIES FUNCTION

The Heartland Institute, a community development think tank, has completed considerable research concerning what makes communities work and work well. As a result of that research the institute has come up with what they consider characteristics of viable communities. Take a look at these characteristics and see how many exits in Mt View/Ft Bridger.

- Evidence of community pride. The citizens in a Midwest town rebuilt a dam that was vital to that community. The townspeople are proud that they pulled together, raised a large amount of money, renovated the dam and then fixed up adjoining parks and boat ramps. They now celebrate the achievement with a yearly "Water Over the Dam Days."
- Emphasis on quality in business and community life.
- Active economic development program.
- Willingness to invest in the future. This is demonstrated by voluntary contributions of time and money and the approval of bond issues and tax levies for schools, utilities, streets, town centers, recreation facilities, etc.
- Participatory approach to community decision-making. Do people feel that they have input into community decisions? Do local officials regularly inform the public about upcoming decisions and events and encourage public discussion and involvement?
- Cooperative community spirited people and organizations believe that "we're all in this together." Cooperation is expressed through attitudes like: "If I help you now, you'll help me later. Better yet, I know if I help you now, I'll benefit in the long run. If we disagree on something, we can still be friends. I can give in to you on this thing that you really want, knowing that in the future you'll do the same for me."
- Realistic appraisal of future opportunities. Not every town will be able to attract a substantial new business, and even for those that do land a "plum," their problems are not solved, just different.
- Awareness of competitive positioning.
- Deliberate transition of power to a younger generation of leaders. Communities can't wait for the transition to happen magically. Young people and newcomers must be encouraged to participate and given the experience and training necessary to help them. Also, the more people who are involved in leadership, the less a burden it is on any one person or group. The more open local government and organizations appear to be, the more energy and

ideas that will be generated.

- Acceptance of women in leadership roles. And not just in "behind the scenes" and minor parts without power or recognition.
- Strong belief in and support of education. Even though the majority of citizens in rural communities no longer have children in school, they recognize that the whole community benefits from well-educated young people.
- Problem solving approach to providing health care. Communities must approach this problem from the view of providing health care for citizens, not simply how to attract a doctor.
- Strong multi-generational family orientation.
- Strong presence of traditional institutions that are integral to community life. Traditional institutions such as churches, school and civic organizations (PTOs, Kiwanis, Rotarians, Lions), and youth groups (girl and scouts, 4-H) play an essential role in the community.
- Knowledge of the physical environment.
- Attention to sound and well-managed infrastructure. Included here are parks, swimming pools, streets, sewer systems, electric and water utilities, civic buildings, etc.
- Careful use of fiscal resources. With lots of money, it would be much easier for towns to have great parks, schools, utilities, etc. However, almost all local governments are experiencing a scarcity instead of an abundance of resources. The trick is, then, to make hard choices, run government efficiently, and find ways to provide essential maintenance and upgrades even in times of shortage. Easier said than done.
- Sophisticated use of information resources.
- Willingness to seek help from the outside.
- Conviction that, in the long run, you have to do it yourself. Communities can get help from the outside. However, responsibility for survival and enhanced quality of life rest ultimately with the people who live in the community.

Are these characteristics of a viable community evident in Mt View/Ft Bridger? Many are quite evident, such as community pride, strong belief in education, knowledge of the physical environment and willingness to seek help from the outside as demonstrated by requesting a

community assessment.

USEFUL WEB SITES AND GRANT INFORMATION

State grant information through the State Library:

www-wsl.state.wy.us/sis/grants/index.html

Federal Catalog of Domestic Assistance:

www.cfda.gov

Information about private foundation assistance:

www.fdncenter.org

There are publications that provide information on public as well as private grant opportunities. One of the better publications is the Federal Assistance Monitor. Subscriptions may be obtained by contacting:

CD Publications

8204 Fenton Street
Silver Springs, MD 20910
301-588-6380
Web-site address: www.cdpublications.com

JOE LOCURTO

Uinta County Economic Development

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jolocurto@uintacounty.com

I am honored to have been selected as a resource team member for the Mountain View/Bridger Valley Assessment. The hard work and extra hours spent by your community leaders and volunteers preparing for this assessment are certainly appreciated, as is the participation and candor of those individuals who made time to attend the Listening Sessions.

For me, objectively evaluating “one’s own back yard” appeared to be a difficult task. However, during one of our last public listening sessions, a Mountain View Town Council member told the resource team to be “hard on us”, to “tell us the way it is”. I hope this Assessment answers that sentiment and the concerns of all those who participated in the listening sessions in Mountain View and the Bridger Valley.

I will do my best to provide recommendations for some of the major themes that were revealed during the Listening Sessions, but I would like to start with these thoughts from Robert Ady from a recent *Forbes* magazine article. Mr. Ady is the former President of Fantus Consulting Group and has identified prime locations for more businesses in the United States than any other person. He is considered an expert on global competition and business location trends.

Mr. Ady has discovered that there are three main criteria questions that rise above all others in evaluating whether or not a community is prepared for new investments; be it start up businesses, expanding existing businesses, relocating businesses or new public facilities.

The first question is, “*Is Anyone In Charge?*” There has to be a leadership team in place in the community that can readily assist with any business or public facility project. This can be the local economic development organization, chamber of commerce, local/regional government or public/private sector groups.

Secondly, “*Do They Know Their Product?*” A community has to have a complete and thorough understanding of its “product” – it’s economic and demographic characteristics. This includes up-to-date data on the community, it’s businesses and it’s local characteristics.

And lastly, “*Is History Important?*” How does a community’s past relate to its plans for the future? The community’s past and its plans for the future should not conflict with the potential future investment or success will be impaired.

Economic Development

CHALLENGES: Many listening session participants stated there was a need for more new businesses, agribusiness diversification and more jobs for area youth and current residents. Needs were also expressed for new lodging establishments and restaurants, a department store and sources of help for existing businesses.

SOLUTIONS: Economic Development has moved to the forefront of the social and political agenda in Wyoming as the returns in jobs and revenue from minerals extraction and agriculture have steadily decreased over the years. Our new Governor ran on an economic development platform and overcame party lines to win the election. Sadly, many communities now find themselves in a reactionary position, seeing the urgent need for economic development and diversity but lacking the preparation and resources to make it happen.

Fortunately, Mountain View and the Bridger Valley have local and regional economic development resources readily available to assist with your economic development plans.

The Uinta County Economic Development Commission (UCEDC) is a good, local source for economic assistance contacts, business trends, demographic information, grant and loan funding programs. The UCEDC, located in the Uinta County Complex, works with existing local businesses, new business enterprises, area and local governments, Chambers of Commerce, the Wyoming Business Council and the Wyoming Economic Development Association to help foster a more positive business and social environment. The UCEDC office is a good first point-of-contact with economic development questions or issues since it's main concern is the local communities in Uinta County.

The Wyoming Business Council (WBC) is Wyoming's lead economic development entity and works closely with local governments, businesses, economic development organizations and Chambers of Commerce. Ray Sarcletti is the Southwest Regional Director for the WBC office in Rock Springs and covers a four county area. Ray is an excellent source for business resources and is a direct link to the WBC in Cheyenne.

The WBC offers assistance on Business Retention and Expansion, Community Development Block Grants, Tourism, Workforce Development and Agricultural issues.

The Wyoming Small Business Development Center (WSBDC), with a regional office in Rock Springs, services the needs of new and existing businesses in Wyoming and is considered *the* source for small business resources and programs. A cooperative effort of the federal Small Business Administration and the University of Wyoming, the WSBDC offers programs and classes in marketing, business plans, financial resources and starting a business. The NxLevel Entrepreneur class teaches new and existing businesspersons how to analyze their business and

prepare a business plan preferred by lending institutions. Bill Ellis is the Southwest Wyoming Regional Director and services Uinta County.

Lincoln-Uinta Association of Governments (LUAG) is a Joint Powers Board made up of representatives of Lincoln and Uinta counties to work on economic development issues. LUAG is the local entity for the federal Economic Development Administration and works with local governments, business and community organizations to deliver financial and technical resources that aid with local businesses and public projects. LUAG offers a Revolving Loan Fund for local businesses and also administers state and federal grant revenues for a variety of local projects. Mary Crosby is the LUAG Director. LUAG has a Master Plan (Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy) in place for the two counties that satisfies federal requirements in the grant and loan application process.

The Greater Bridger Valley Chamber of Commerce exists to foster a more positive business climate and to strengthen the local economy. The Chamber serves as the link between its members and the resources they need to grow. In addition to supporting the local business sector, the Chamber also helps market the area to tourists, new businesses and those interested in relocating to the Bridger Valley. A strong Chamber is a strong economy.

Growth is a positive thing. Without it, there is stagnation and death. Unfortunately, growth can also be a negative thing, when it's out of control. The difference between positive and negative growth is attitude, planning and action. More often than not, negative growth is always the result of poor planning or lack of planning. With this Community Assessment, Mountain View and the Bridger Valley have taken a huge step in positive planning.

During the Listening Sessions, it was apparent that Mountain View and Bridger Valley have concerned, dedicated and enthusiastic individuals who desire a strong economy and quality of life. One way of channeling the energy of these individuals might be through forming Action Teams. I would not recommend committees because they have a tendency to tie up too much of a member's time and committees also seem to further their *own* existence. Action Teams could be formed for specific purposes, with specific people, with a specific timeline.

These Action Teams would have a designated member who would report to a larger Action Team, which in turn would report to a team that oversees all progress by all teams. The point is to target effort, human resources, cross-communication and outcome.

When a specific target of a team is achieved, that team would be dissolved, it's members then joining existing teams or starting new teams. Ideally, these teams should include representatives from a broad section of the community, young and old.

Nothing will do more for a positive attitude about growth and change than including the community in the process to make it happen.

Economic Development Contacts:

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Wyoming Small Business Development Center
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Bridger Valley Chamber of Commerce

Tom Anderson
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Lyman, WY 82937
307-787-6738
bvchamber@union-tel.com

Wyoming Business Council
Tom Fuller
Manager
Business Retention & Expansion
214 West 15th Street
Cheyenne, WY 82002
307-777-2807
tfulle@state.wy.us

U.S. Department of Agriculture
Rural Development
Linda Ziegler
Manager
P.O. Box 190
Afton, WY 83110
307-886-9001
linda.Ziegler@wy.usda.gov

Wyoming Women's Business Center
Zee Zee Moore
Director
P.O. Box 3661
Laramie, WY 82071
888-524-1947
wwbc@uwyo.org
Web: www.wyomingwomen.org

Tourism/Marketing/Image

CHALLENGES: Bringing more tourism into the Bridger Valley was a recurring theme during the Listening Sessions. It was commonly expressed as “how do we get the Utah Navy to stop here?” There was also a call to develop more tourist attractions in the Valley.

SOLUTIONS: One thing that could be limiting visitors to the Bridger Valley and especially Mountain View is the image the main highways present the traveler...that there is no reason to stop. Perhaps Mountain View could explore building islands in the center turn lanes. A few of these could indicate to the traveler that they are indeed in a community and should look around. Perhaps a traffic signal or two would slow vehicles as well and lead to a better flow of traffic. Decorative, vintage-style street lights could line the highway in the “downtown” area. Lowering the speed limit throughout the area is a must. Working with the Wyoming Department of Transportation and exploring some Community Development Block Grants could accomplish this image idea.

Mountain View and the Bridger Valley should take every opportunity to market their attractions whenever and however possible. The Wyoming Tourism and Travel Department lists community events statewide in it’s publications and web site. Take advantage of this primary source of information for vacationers. Serious consideration should also be given to forming your own tourism department, such as the Bridger Valley Travel and Tourism Office, for marketing purposes.

There are many events and trade shows throughout the area that the Bridger Valley area could be represented at. For instance, the Salt Lake City Chamber of Commerce Business to Business Expo draws nearly 10,000 visitors over a 3 day period. These are business people who have the disposable income and desire to get away for a few days. They would eagerly head “over” to the Bridger Valley if invited to do so.

The Bridger Valley Chamber of Commerce should be a clearinghouse of information about local attractions for vacationers’ questions. A website for the Chamber should be implemented and marketed in all materials sent out of the Bridger Valley. The Chamber’s location should also be noted on signs throughout the Bridger Valley for travelers and business persons.

The entire Bridger Valley is rich with history and that history should be developed for the benefit of Bridger Valley residents and for marketing to tourists. The Fort Bridger Historical Site is a wonderful attraction that draws visitors locally, from the Wasatch Front and nationally. This facility could and should be complimented with an interpretive Museum which celebrates the area’s history from the Native American, Mountain Man, Pioneer, Railroad and Lincoln Highway influences. According to the Listening Sessions, this museum concept has been discussed for about a decade. An Action Team should move this forward to ground-breaking.

Careful, well planned, land uses around historic tourist attractions is critical. Can you envision a Wendy’s or McDonalds built right next to the Fort Bridger Historical Site?

Tourism/Marketing/Image Contacts:

Wyoming Business Council
Travel & Tourism
David Troyanek
Media Communication Specialist
214 W. 15th Street
Cheyenne, WY 82002
307-777-2881
dtrota@state.wy.us

Wyoming Department of Transportation
John Eddins
District Engineer
P.O. Box 1260
Rock Springs, WY 82902
307-352-3000

Wyoming Department of Transportation
Dave Young
TEAL Funding Program (Transportation Enhancement Activities Local)
5300 Bishop Blvd.
Cheyenne, WY 82009
307-777-4275
dave.young@dot.state.wy.us

Wyoming Business Council
Community Development Block Grant Program
Steve Achter
Director
214 West 15th Street
Cheyenne, WY 82002
307-777-2811
sachte@state.wy.us
Web: www.wyomingbusiness.org/communities/cdbg/index/cfm

Uinta County Planning and Zoning Office
Ken Klinker
Director
County Complex

225 Ninth Street
Evanston, WY 82930
307-783-0360
keklinker@uintacounty.com

City of Evanston
Downtown Development (Main Street Program)
Amy Nelson
Director
1200 Main Street
Evanston, WY 82930
307-783-6319
amynel@allwest.net

Valley Cooperation

CHALLENGES: Although the participants in the Listening Sessions all praised the people and location of Mountain View and the Bridger Valley, they overwhelmingly brought up the apparent lack of cooperation between Mountain View and Lyman. There was also discussion of the competing School districts and even divisiveness within the towns and schools.

SOLUTIONS: Naturally, there will be certain issues that are unique to each community in Bridger Valley, however, every effort should be made to look at issues and projects within a regional perspective. A good place to start is to take this Community Assessment and compare it to the Lyman Community Assessment from March 2002. Find the common issues and design a way of working on them together. This could be accomplished through joint community Action Teams. Progress and success will foster more cooperation.

One thing I always hear from residents throughout Wyoming is the perception that it's "always the same people" serving on boards and making the decisions in their communities. Action Teams would encourage additional volunteerism and spread the workload to get more done in less time. By all means, get your youth involved in these Action Teams – it may be *your* present but it's *their* future.

At almost each Listening Session, the topic of consolidating the School Districts in the Bridger Valley was cautiously brought up. Once it was, others joined in with the recommendation. This appears to be a social, political and financial solution to the divisiveness between the communities in the Bridger Valley. It should be noted that only the districts would be combined – not the

schools. This consolidation would make the district larger, more attractive and more cost-effective through asset and cost sharing. It might also go a long way towards community unification.

Another, perhaps radical, idea on Valley Cooperation might involve forming a governmental district that includes Mountain View, Lyman and the unincorporated towns. This new district would then be made up of one functional governing and administrative body. The new district could simply be called Bridger Valley or Greater Bridger Valley. It would not eliminate the history or importance of the individual towns but would instantly increase the population represented and offer opportunities for municipal services and business services that would not be available otherwise. Like it or not, the economic development establishment looks at population figures and workforce availability when seeking new locations for businesses. Such a new district would become more attractive in recruiting business to Mountain View and the Bridger Valley.

The City of Louisville, Kentucky recently grew from the 65th largest city in the nation all the way up to the 23rd by merging with Jefferson County to form one political district. More can be read about their approach at: www.governing.com/archive/2002/dec/louis.txt

Valley Cooperation Contacts:

Western Wyoming Resource Conservation & Development Council
Kirk Heaton
Director
1471 Dewar Drive
#106
Rock Springs, WY 82901
307-382-3982
kirk.heaton@wy.usda.gov

University of Wyoming
Cooperative Extension Service/Park County
Community and Leadership Development
Rhonda Shipp
Coordinator
P.O. Box 3099
Cody, WY 82435
800-786-2844

rshipp@parkco.wtp.net

Web: www.wtp.net/parkco/extension.htm

Valley Pride/Beautification

CHALLENGES: There was a repeated concern expressed at the Listening Sessions on improving the appearance of Mountain View and the Bridger Valley. Some of the concerns included cleaning up the trash in the communities and at the schools, cleaning up junky properties, eliminating abandoned cars and mobile homes, enforcing existing ordinances and making the area more attractive for residents and future development. There was also a desire to start a recycling program again in the Valley.

SOLUTIONS: It's been said that first impressions are lasting ones and that you never get a second chance to make a good first impression. Mountain View and the Bridger Valley should be showcases of community pride for the local residents and for the tourists and new businesses sought by the area. Unfortunately, the communities in the Bridger Valley are surrounded by County land and this can lead to an otherwise attractive community being negatively influenced by adjoining property in the County.

The first step would be to assure that all land within the Town of Mountain View is zoned and to strictly enforce existing land use ordinances within the Town. Property owners within the town could be notified of the ordinances and effective enforcement of these ordinances. This holds especially true for commercial properties. Another step in the beautification process is a requirement that any commercial/business establishment have an improved parking area with sidewalks and provisions for disabled accessibility before opening for business. This should be asphalt or concrete.

For County property, the Uinta County Planning Office should be contacted about existing ordinances and how they are enforced. The County is currently rewriting its County Goals and Policies for land use issues to better reflect changing needs in the County. It should be remembered that land use ordinances are intended for the greater good of a community, with private property "rights" secondary. Abuse and neglect are the result if ordinances are not enforced.

One way of turning community beautification into a positive effort is through some sort of recognition award program. Homeowners and businesses can be highlighted in the local newspaper and Chamber of Commerce web site, with photos and a short story, on their property. Maybe prizes or other incentives could be donated by local businesses for the highlighted property owners. The City of Evanston recognizes beautification projects by individual homeowners with its "Green Thumb Award".

A recycling program is currently being explored by Uinta County. Rex Fruits, Uinta County Solid

Waste Coordinator and Evanston's Public Works Coordinator recently visited a very efficient recycling facility in Park City, UT. Plans are being explored for forming a non-profit entity to run such a facility in Uinta County to service the needs of all communities in the County and greatly prolong the lifespan of existing landfills.

Valley Pride/Beautification Contacts:

Uinta County Planning and Zoning Office
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225 Ninth Street
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City of Evanston
Planning & Development
Paul Knopf
Director
33 Allegiance Circle (physical address)
1200 Main Street (mailing address)
Evanston, WY 82930
307-783-6470
planning@allwest.net
Web: www.evanstonwy.org

Uinta County Government
Rex Fruits
Solid Waste Coordinator
225 Ninth Street
Evanston, WY 82930
307-783-0311
refruits@uintacounty.com

This is only a sampling of the resources that are available to address the themes I have selected. The resources available locally, state-wide and nationally are almost endless, but in order to access and utilize these resources properly, Mountain View and the Bridger Valley must come to terms with what it wants to accomplish, when it wants to accomplish it, how it is to be accomplished and who will help accomplish it. Once this is determined, the possibilities are endless for Mountain View and the Bridger Valley.

Kirk Heaton

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Western Wyoming RC&D Area 14 West 15th Street
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INTRODUCTION

I thank the people of Mountain View and Bridger Valley for your hospitality during our stay. Thanks also to the Local Team Leader Bruce Barnard and community leaders for your efforts to make this an outstanding assessment.

This report is organized around the major themes identified by the resource team that are based on the comments received in the listening sessions.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

New businesses/Business retention

Certainly Joe Locurto, Uinta County Economic Development Director and Ray Sarcletti, Regional Director for the Wyoming Business Council are the main sources of help for and new business venture.

I recommend the Town of Mountain View develops a website and then uses it to recruit small clean manufacturing companies to come to Mountain View. Here is the website for Kemmerer as an example:

<http://www.kemmerer.org/>

Here are two local companies that help develop, maintain, and host websites:

Wyoming.com
937 West Main Street
Riverton, WY 82501
Tel 307-856-6400
Toll Free 800-996-4638
<http://www.wyoming.com>

All West Communications

50 West North
Kamas, Utah 84036
Tel 435-783-4361 or Toll Free 866-255-9378
<http://www.allwest.com>

Here are sources of information on making a website:

<http://www.make-a-web-site.com/>
<http://www.build-website.com/>
<http://www.allaboutyourownwebsite.com/>

Here is a great website for free help for businesses:

http://www.buzgate.org/wy_bfh.html

If you are looking for help in starting a new business here is the contact for the Denver region of the Economic Development Administration

Anthony J. Preite, Regional Director
1244 Speer Boulevard, Suite 670
Denver, CO 80204-3591
303-844-4715
303-844-3968 fax
apreite@eda.doc.gov

Diversified Agriculture

Growing Organic Agricultural Products could be a way to make more money.

Here is the Organic Growers Website:

<http://www.organic-growers.com/>

Agritourism and recreation on farms and ranches in rural America is a way to make more money from your land. Here is a great source of information about alternative enterprises and agritourism:

<http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/technical/RESS/altenterprise/>

Here is the Wyoming Contact for Alternative Enterprise and Agritourism:

Boyd Byelich, Wildlife Biologist
USDA/NRCS
8416 Hildreth Road
Cheyenne, Wyoming 82009
(307) 772-2015
Fax (307) 772-2017
VC: 9000-848-2240

Boyd.byelich@lamar.colostate.edu

The Sustainable Agriculture Research (SARE) Program has identified a lot of ideas for ways to keep existing farmers in business and to help people go into a new enterprise.

Here are two websites for Sustainable Ag Research Program:

<http://www.sare.org/>

<http://www.sare.org/htdocs/sare/contacts.html>

Here is the website for applying for a Sustainable Ag and Research (SARE) grant

http://wsare.usu.edu/pubs/98_99ar/apply.htm

Here is a resource for creating value added products:

Janice Stroud, Area Supervisor, USDA Rural Development

Federal Bldg Rm 1005

100 East B. St., P.O. Box 820

Casper, WY 826002

(307) 261-6301

Fax: (307) 261-6327

Email: Janice.stroud@wy.usda.gov

Here is another great resource for information on values added agriculture products:

<http://www.extension.iastate.edu/Pages/valag/>

Here is a source of information on grants for small towns:

Small towns can get a grant for an innovative idea at the National Center for Small Communities.

The National Center for Small Communities (www.ncsc.org) is looking for small towns that have put together interesting and innovative ideas entrepreneurship development programs. The

Grassroots Rural Entrepreneurship Award recognizes local officials in small towns (under 10,000 in population) who have done an exceptional job in supporting and nurturing new business

creation. Applications are due by June 30, 2003. Winners will receive a small grant and will be recognized at NCSC's annual meeting in December. To learn more and to access an application,

visit: <http://www.natat.org/ncsc/Kauffman/entrepdefault.htm>

The National Commission on Entrepreneurship website:

<http://www.ncoe.org/index.html>

To sign-up to receive the NCOE's weekly column and e-news, visit:

<http://www.ncoe.org/newsletter/subscribe/>.

National Center for Small Communities

444 N. Capitol Street, NW, Suite 397

Washington, DC 20001-1202

Phone: (202) 624-3550

Fax: (202) 624-3554

E-mail: ncsc@ssso.org

Here is the website for the National Center For Small Communities:

<http://www.natat.org/ncsc/>

Ecotourism is a catchword for tours that are given by local people for income.

Here is the International Ecotourism website:

<http://www.ecotourism.org/>

Here is the Ecotourism website for Australia which may spark an idea for a tour business:

<http://www.ecotourism.org.au/>

More jobs

One way to get more jobs in the community is to contact all the past graduates from Mt. View High School and invite any who are business owners relocate their business to Mountain View. This can be posted as an open invitation on the website.

Here is a source of ideas for workforce innovations:

A Workforce and Economic Development Conference is scheduled for July.

Workforce Innovations is the nation's premier conference for America's successful workforce investment leaders, decision-makers, and change agents. "Fueling America's Economic Engine," the theme of Workforce Innovations, focuses on strategies for linking employment, education, and economic development to build the high skilled workforce needed in today's workplace. This conference is a unique opportunity to explore the links between workforce investment and economic development. The conference will take place in Washington, DC, July 8-10, 2003. For registration information, visit the above website.

Here is the website:

<http://www.workforceinnovations.org/>

Growing organic crops can be a great way to make more jobs and more money from farm products. Here are several organic growers websites:

<http://www.organic-growers.com/>

<http://www.gpsr.colostate.edu/GPFARM>

<http://www.rain.org/~sals/my.html>

<http://www.cog.ca/>

This is a list of over one hundred ideas for agriculture related businesses

Agventures 101 ideas:

<http://www.agventures.com/>

Ecotourism Society website:

<http://www.ecotourism.org/>

The Small Farm Center of California website:

<http://www.sfc.ucdavis.edu/>

VALLEY FACILITIES AND SERVICES

Water facilities

Water storage

Ag. and municipal

The Wyoming Water Development Commission is the main source of help for water development.

Here is an idea for watershed improvement:

"The Norwalk River Watershed Initiative: A Case Study of Collaboration in Partnerships" reviews the activities and achievements associated with the Norwalk River Watershed Planning initiative in Connecticut. This watershed has seen over 300 years of development that has resulted in a transition of the watershed from a Long Island Sound and harbor-based economy through an agricultural period to its current fragmented and suburban condition.

Of special interest is the community-based collaborative planning methodology used throughout the study, which may serve as a model for other locations. Community-based watershed planning provides a process for identifying natural resource concerns, developing consensus for action, and seeking solution through an open inclusive process that is driven by a sense of place and the people who live in those places. The results of the Norwalk River initiative are due as much to understanding social processes and human values as in understanding the technical aspects of watershed protection and natural resource management.

An electronic version of "The Norwalk River Watershed Initiative: A Case Study of Collaboration in Partnerships" is available at the Watershed Sciences Institute Website, <http://www.wcc.nrcs.usda.gov/watershed/wssi-products.html>. Once on that page, select "Planning Tools" and choose the case study from the list of items available. An oral abstract of this paper is accepted for presentation at the 2003 annual conference of the Soil and Water Conservation Society in Spokane, Washington, July 26-30. The processes for community collaboration in natural resource planning, used in the Norwalk River initiative and based on the hands-on experiential lessons learned by NRCS Connecticut and IRT New England, have also been published as a set of 11 PowerPoint modules, "Collaboration in Community Based Partnerships." The set may be obtained on the NRCS - Community Collaboration Network Website at <http://www.wcc.nrcs.usda.gov/watershed/community-network.html>.

For more information, contact:

Tom Noonan
Watershed Science Institute
(304) 293-4832
noonan@wvu.edu

Or

Walter K. Smith
NRCS, Connecticut
(860) 871-4040
walter.smith@ct.usda.gov

The National Watershed Coalition is an alliance of national, regional, state, and local organizations and associations that promote the use of the watershed when dealing with natural resource issues. It was formed in 1989, replacing the older Watershed Congress, which dated from 1952. For more information, see <http://www.watershedcoalition.org>.

Your contact is Dick Tremain, NRCS public affairs specialist, at 515-323-2736, or dick.tremain@ia.usda.gov.

Adopt-a-watershed activities in Maine

E-mail: Jessie Miller at jesseesf@earthlink.net

Your local contact for preliminary assistance on water storage is:

USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service
Adrian Hunolt, District Conservationist
100 E. Sage
Lyman, WY 82937-0370
(307) 787-3211
adrian.hunolt@wy.usda.gov

VALLEY COOPERATION

Cooperative agreements between municipalities

Here is a source of Funds for Environmental Stewardship and Dispute Resolution

[The Laura Jane Musser Fund: Environment/Community Initiative](#)

The Laura Jane Musser Fund's Environmental/Community Initiative supports the community-based approach to solving environmental problems and encouraging environmental stewardship. The Fund proposes to assist local governments or other public or nonprofit entities in rural areas and non-urban communities in undertaking consensus-based processes in two areas: Environmental Stewardship and Environmental Dispute Resolution. The deadline for letters of intent is September 15, 2003. (The Fund also provides support for other areas of interest in five targeted states.) Visit the website above for further information.

TOURISM / MARKETING AREA

Market resources of area

Agritourism means tours related to agriculture. Here are some examples of how people are earning money telling about the agriculture on their land or in their area.

Here is a resource to learn about Agritourism in Kentucky

<http://www.thinkwestkentucky.com/agriculture/agritourism.html>

Agritourism in California

<http://www.sfc.ucdavis.edu/agritourism/agritour.html>

A compelling exhibit can be an indispensable outreach or marketing tool for your watershed group, conservation district, or program. "Exhibiting: A Tool to Achieve Technology Transfer" gives tips to help you create a successful exhibit, including "do's and don'ts." This PPC focuses on the marketing objectives and the people aspects of exhibiting. It can be used by anyone in The Conservation Partnership who wants to reach current or new customers at local, state, or national meetings.

For more information, contact:

Barbara Wallace

Social Sciences Institute

(616) 942-1503

Barbara.Wallace@usda.gov

Develop tourist attractions in the valley

History Tours

English Heritage and links to marketing their heritage.

<http://www.english-heritage.org.uk/>

Emery County, Utah Heritage Association

<http://www.emerycounty.com/temp/HeritageAssociation.htm>

Mt. Man and Indian Hall of Fame

The Foundation Center of New York has a vast library of data on funding sources for various projects. It is possible to do an online funding search. Contact information:

Western Wyoming RC&D Council

1471 Dewar Dr. #106

Rock Springs, WY 82901

307-382-3982

The Foundation Center website follows:

<http://fdncenter.org/>

The National Historic Trails Interpretive Center is a great example of an established museum their website follows:

http://www.wyomingcompanion.com/nhtic/nhtic_1.html

EDUCATION

Technical training

Grants for Nontraditional Education in Geography

[National Geographic Foundation Venture Fund](#)

The National Geographic Foundation Venture Fund's mission is to enable all children to incorporate a geographic outlook in their work, recreation, and citizenship. Within the three focus areas: Education Extends Beyond the Classroom, Kids Learn Best by Doing, and Early Exposure Leads to Lifelong Change, the program's priorities are culture, geographic competency, and conservation. Letters of inquiry must address at least one of these priorities. Institutions engaged in providing programs that go beyond traditional education are eligible to apply. Groups are supported that have a demonstrated broad delivery network, expertise in operating nontraditional programs, acknowledged influence within educational communities, and proven ability to build coalitions or reach parents and decision-makers. The Fund is looking to support between 5 and 10 projects in the range of \$100,000 to \$200,000 each, although exceptions may be made for smaller or larger projects or multi-year programs. Priority will be given to proposals that include matching funds. The next deadline for letters of inquiry is August 4, 2003. For further information, visit the website above.

Diversified agriculture training

How to organize an Alternative Enterprises and Agritourism Workshop:

Contacts:

James A. Maetzold

202-720-0132

Boyd Byelich - USDA NRCS

202-307-722-2015

RECREATION

Event center/recreation center

A feasibility study is needed to determine the best location size and type of an event center. LUAG is well suited to the task of finding the best sources of such studies. Other sources of help are the Wyoming Business Council, Wyoming Rural Development Council. Another source of

help is the Western Wyoming Resource Conservation and Development (RC&D) Area Council. They sponsor a grant-writing workshop GET THAT GRANT: GRANTWRITING FROM CONCEPTION TO COMPLETION in Jackson, Wyoming on November 17-20, 2003. It costs \$645 and one of the best training available in the country to teach people how to get grants. For more information contact:

Western Wyoming RC&D Area
1471 Dewar Drive, #106
Rock Springs, WY 82901
307/382-3982

Getting grants to build a recreation center is a challenging process. Here are some sources of help:

State grant information through the State Library:
www.wsl.state.wy.us/sis/grants/index.html

Federal Catalog of Domestic Assistance:
www.cfda.gov

Complete trail system linking communities

Here is the Wyoming State Trails Contact information:
Paul Gritten: Trails Specialist
Wyoming State Trails Program
2301 Central Ave.
Cheyenne, WY 82002
<http://wyotrails.state.wy.us/trails/index.htm>

Here is the website for the guidelines for the Wyoming State Trails Funding Program:
<http://wyotrails.state.wy.us/trails/rtpguidelines.htm>

Here is the website for the Friends of Pathways a nonprofit organization formed specifically to help build and maintain pathways in Teton County Wyoming.
<http://www.jhpathways.com/>

US National Parks Rivers and Trails Website:
<http://www.nps.gov/ncrc/programs/rtca/>

Here is a website for the Wyoming State Trails Inventory:
<http://wyotrails.state.wy.us/trails/invent.htm>

The Federal Highway Department allocates money for Brownsfield Funds for Transportation Enhancement, which provides funds for bicycle and pedestrian trails

Here is the contact for the Federal Highway Department
Wyoming Division Office:

Ron Vaughn
1916 Evans Avenue
Cheyenne, WY 82001-3764
ph: 307-772-2004 ext. 48/ fax: 307-772-2011
email: rodney.vaughn@fhwa.dot.gov

Here is the website for the Transportation Equity Act (TEA -21) that provides funding for bicycling and pedestrian trails:

<http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/tea21/>

Here is the best source I have found that lists all the types of funding for trails programs:

http://www.pps.org/topics/funding/greenway_sources

Golf course

Here is a source of help to make golf available to people:

[United States Golf Association Foundation](#)

Since 1997, the USGA Foundation has been awarding grants through its "For the Good of the Game" Grants Program in an effort to make golf more affordable and accessible. Through this effort, the Foundation supports organizations that use the game and its life lessons as a vehicle to improve the quality of life for individuals and for society in general. The program focuses on positively impacting economically disadvantaged youth and individuals with disabilities through instructional programming and golf facility construction projects. Additionally, the Foundation supports the introduction of youth to the game and to the golf industry through caddying and other work-based programs. Applications are accepted three times a year, and the next deadline is July 1, 2003. For more information, visit the above website.

SOCIAL ISSUES

Sexual harassment

Here is the Equal Employment Opportunity Commissions website on facts about sexual harassment:

<http://www.eeoc.gov/facts/fs-sex.html>

Here are some other helpful websites on sexual harassment:

<http://www.de.psu.edu/harassment/>

<http://www.lawguru.com/faq/16.html>

<http://www.menweb.org/throop/harass/harass.html>

<http://library.uncg.edu/depts/docs/us/harass.html>

Drug and alcohol abuse

Here is the department of education website for drug and alcohol abuse:

<http://www.edc.org/hec/>

Here is the National Institute on Drug Abuse website:

<http://www.nida.nih.gov/>

Domestic abuse

The Atria Group is a source of help for people involved in domestic violence. Here is a website telling of a grant that is available to help solve the problem:

[Atria Group Doors of Hope: Food for Survival](http://www.altria.com/responsibility/04_05_14_DOHFFS_Main.asp)

http://www.altria.com/responsibility/04_05_14_DOHFFS_Main.asp

Food for Survival grants are awarded to domestic violence service providers to provide nutritious meals to women and children in shelters and transitional housing. These grants of up to \$15,000 are awarded for food-related expenditures; to upgrade, renovate, or expand kitchen facilities; and to purchase new equipment. Organizations in the following states and territories are eligible to apply: Alabama, Alaska, Arizona, Arkansas, Delaware, Hawaii, Idaho, Iowa, Minnesota, Mississippi, Nebraska, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Mexico, North Carolina, North Dakota, Oklahoma, Puerto Rico, Rhode Island, South Carolina, South Dakota, U.S. Virgin Islands, Utah, Vermont, West Virginia, Wisconsin, and Wyoming. For more information go to the website listed above.

Seven out of every 10 Americans belong to an organization, and many of them support environmental and conservation initiatives. "Understanding Non-Profit Organizations" defines a non-profit organization and explains why non-profits are important, how they are structured, and suggests some things to consider in dealings with a non-profit organization.

Here are some websites that can provide information and help related to domestic abuse:

<http://alcoholism.about.com/library/weekly/aa990407.htm>

<http://www.ncadv.org/>

<http://www.domesticabuseawareness.org/>

<http://www.hiddenhurt.co.uk/>

<http://www.ndvh.org/>

Teen pregnancy

Here is the website for accidental teen pregnancy:

<http://www.etters.net/teen.pregnancy.htm>

Here is the website for the National Campaign to Prevent Teen Pregnancy:

<http://www.teenpregnancy.org/Default.asp?bhcp=1>

Here is the website of the National Department of Health and Human Services on preventing teen pregnancy:

<http://aspe.hhs.gov/hsp/teenp/intro.htm>

A website telling the story of three teens that became pregnant:

<http://www.intac.com/~jdeck/tahra/Tp1.html>

HOUSING

Affordable/entry level

Here are some great websites on affordable housing:

<http://www.designadvisor.org/>

<http://www.extension.iastate.edu/Pages/valag/>

<http://www.housingfinance.com/>

<http://www.affordablehousing.com/whatnew.cfm>

<http://www.novoco.com/resource.shtml>

<http://www.micah.org/>

<http://www.nahn.com/>

<http://www.nahma.org/>

Assisted living

Here is a great website for assisted living (it takes a little while to load):

<http://www.alfa.org/>

Here is an online guide for selecting an assisted living facility:

<http://www.assistedlivinginfo.com/>

VALLEY PRIDE / BEAUTIFICATION

Beautification

Other communities organize clean up activities on Earth day. To learn about some of their activities go to:

<http://www.earthday.net/>

Here are some ideas for involving kids in earth day activities:

<http://www.kidsdomain.com/holiday/earthday/>

Xeriscape is a word for landscaping with less water. Here are some excellent websites telling how to accomplish landscaping with less water:

<http://www.csu.org/xeri/>

<http://www.xeriscape.org/middle.html>

<http://www.highcountrygardens.com/nl/nl33.html>

<http://www.botanic.org/gardentips.html>

<http://www.denver.lib.co.us/dpl/news/xeriscape.html>

Clean up property

A Clean Up Task Force would be a good idea. Here are websites showing what they are doing in other communities:

http://www.ci.ventura.ca.us/whatsnew/sotc/sotc_beaut.shtm

<http://msucares.com/pubs/forms/f651.htm>

http://www.ci.ventura.ca.us/whatsnew/sotc/sotc_beaut.shtm

<http://www.earthday.com/howto/firststeps.stm>

Make area attractive for development project

Here is a source of scientific information on all plants:

<http://plants.usda.gov/>

Here is the University of Wyoming Master Gardner Website:

- <http://uwacadweb.uwyo.edu/EPPL/Horticulture/master.htm> continue beautification

A challenge for communities is to continue to build and recruit a diverse group of volunteers. "How to Improve Diversity on Your Team" defines diversity, highlights its benefits and importance, and provides strategies for increasing diversity in work and organizational settings. It also provides practical tips for recruiting people from diverse backgrounds and retaining them on your team. For more information, contact:

Kim Berry

Social Sciences Institute

(336) 334-7464

berryk@ncat.edu

Here is information about a conference on how to help strengthen and build community:

[Tu Luong Foundation](#)

The Tu Luong Foundation's 3rd annual conference for grant makers and grant seekers - *Strengthening Nonprofits, Building Communities* - will examine a comprehensive array of fund development, nonprofit business and management, public policy, and technology issues. This

conference will be beneficial for everyone - beginning to experienced grant seekers, support staff and executive directors, educators and administrators, social entrepreneurs, those involved in corporate giving, board members, volunteers, and others. The conference, which will offer national speakers, workshops, new ideas, and networking opportunities, will take place June 17-18 in Seattle, WA. Visit the above website for more information

Getting more volunteers

Determining a Social Profile and the social capital of your community can help achieve long-range goals of improved leadership. Western Wyoming RC&D Council can get help to assess your social capital.

You can contact:

Frank Clearfield, Director
NRCS Social Sciences Institute
336-334-7058
Email: clearf@ncat.edu

Resources for Community Collaboration: Email: <http://www.rccproject.org>

Susan Mizner

USDA Rural Development
PO Box 190
Afton WY 83110
Phone: (307) 886-9001, ext. 4
Fax: (307) 886-3744
Email: susan.mizner@wy.usda.gov
Web: <http://www.rurdev.usda.gov>

INTRODUCTION

First of all, I want to thank the people of Mountain View and Fort Bridger---Bridger Valley---for their generosity and friendliness during our stay for the Community Assessment. You have quite a mixture of history in your area, a variety of recreational opportunities, and such a diversity of goals for the valley.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Challenge: During the listening sessions, it was mentioned numerous times that Mountain View and Fort Bridger needs new businesses such as lodging, restaurants, an RV park, and diversified agriculture. These businesses would create more jobs for the youth and for the current residents, would also help the existing businesses, and would give "traffic" a reason to stop.

Solution/Contact: In order to determine what would benefit the community and the surrounding area, a feasibility study and/or a master plan would be beneficial.

USDA Rural Development has a Rural Business Opportunity Grants (RBOG) program to promote economic development by making grants to organizations for economic development planning, technical assistance, or training activities to improve economic conditions. For more information, please contact:

Linda Ziegler, Rural Development Manager
USDA Rural Development
PO Box 190
Afton WY 83110
Phone: (307) 886-9001, ext. 4
Fax: (307) 886-3744
Email: linda.ziegler@wy.usda.gov
Web: <http://www.rurdev.usda.gov>

Solution/Contact: USDA Rural Development Rural Business-Cooperative Service offers

Business and Industry Guarantee Loans by eligible local lenders to businesses to create and to maintain employment and to improve the economic and environmental climate in rural communities. The Intermediary Relending Program consists of loans to intermediaries to provide loans to ultimate recipients for business facilities and community development projects in a rural area. For more information, please contact:

Linda Ziegler, Rural Development Manager
USDA Rural Development
PO Box 190
Afton WY 83110
Phone: (307) 886-9001, ext. 4
Fax: (307) 886-3744
Email: linda.ziegler@wy.usda.gov
Web: <http://www.rurdev.usda.gov>

Challenge: Agriculture has been one of the mainstays of Bridger Valley, but it is becoming harder for farmers and ranchers to make a living.

Solution/Contact: The Rural Business-Cooperative Service of USDA Rural Development has a program for Value Added Agricultural Product Market Development Grants (VADG). This is designed to help farmers and ranchers expand their customer base for products that will result in profitability through value added activities with emphasis on new and emerging agriculture markets. Value Added Activities must:

1. Change the physical state or form of the product, such as slaughtering livestock or slicing tomatoes; OR
2. Market the product produced in a manner that enhances its value as demonstrated through a business plan, such as marketing organic products; OR
3. Physically segregate an agricultural commodity in a manner that results in the enhancement of the value of the commodity, such as traceability of hormone free livestock to the retailer; OR
4. Convert any agriculture product or byproduct into a renewable energy source, such as windmill farms.

For more information, please contact:

Janice Stroud, Area Supervisor
USDA Rural Development
PO Box 820

Casper WY 82602
Phone: (307) 261-6318
Fax: (307) 261-6327
Email: janice.stroud@wy.usda.gov
Web: <http://www.rurdev.usda.gov>

Solution/Contact: Resource Conservation & Development (RC&D) has a value-added program which appears would work well with USDA Rural Development's Value-Added Program. I do not have detailed facts about the program, but you can contact Kirk Heaton for information:

Kirk Heaton, RC&D Coordinator
USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service
Western Wyoming RC&D Area
1471 Dewar Drive, #106
Rock Springs WY 82901
Phone: (307) 382-3982
Fax: (307) 362-3651
Email: kirk.heaton@wy.usda.gov
Web: <http://www.wy.nrcs.usda.gov>

Solution/Contact: A couple of weeks ago, I attended a meeting which introduced Community Supported Agriculture (CSA). Community members and farmers come together in a relationship of mutual support based on an annual commitment to one another. Community members pay an annual membership fee to the farmer to cover the production costs of the farm. In turn, members receive a weekly share of the "harvest."

For more information, please contact:

Janice Stroud, Area Supervisor
USDA Rural Development
PO Box 820
Casper WY 82602
Phone: (307) 261-6318
Fax: (307) 261-6327
Email: janice.stroud@wy.usda.gov
Web: <http://www.rurdev.usda.gov>

Solution/Contact: USDA Rural Development's Rural Business Opportunity Grant (RBOG) program would also work well with Community Supported Agriculture (CSA). For more information, please contact:

Linda Ziegler, Rural Development Manager

USDA Rural Development
PO Box 190
Afton WY 83110
Phone: (307) 886-9001, ext. 4
Fax: (307) 886-3744
Email: linda.ziegler@wy.usda.gov
Web: <http://www.rurdev.usda.gov>

Solution/Contact: An available resource may be for local farmers and ranchers to consider forming one or more cooperatives. A cooperative is a user-owned business that processes and markets products, purchases production supplies or consumer goods, and provides other services needed by rural residents. By working together for their mutual benefit in cooperatives, rural residents are able to reduce costs, obtain services that might otherwise be unavailable, and achieve greater returns for their products. For more information, please contact:

Jerry Tamlin, Business & Cooperatives Program Director
USDA Rural Development
PO Box 820
Casper WY 82602
Phone: (307) 261-6319
Fax: (307) 261-6327
Email: jerry.tamlin@wy.usda.gov
Web: <http://www.rurdev.usda.gov>

Solution/Contact: Another source for economic development, please contact:

Joe Locurto, Director
Uinta County Economic Development Commission
225 Ninth Street
Evanston WY 82930
Phone: (307) 783-0378
Fax: (307) 783-0379
Email: jolocurto@uintacounty.com
Web: <http://www.uintacounty.com>

VALLEY FACILITIES/SERVICES/SOCIAL ISSUES

Challenge: Concerns for community facilities and services were expressed many times. Some subjects presented were rural fire protection, 24-hour day care, recycling, paving roads, drug and alcohol programs, domestic abuse programs, public transportation, youth activities, and a county satellite office.

Solution/Contact: The Rural Housing Service of USDA Rural Development works with local lenders to offer loan guarantees to help build essential community facilities. This program can also provide direct loans and grants to assist in developing essential services. Funds may be used to construct, enlarge, or improve community facilities and are available to public entities such as municipalities, counties, special purpose districts, nonprofit corporations, and tribal governments. Essential facilities include but are not limited to the following:

Health Care---clinics, assisted living facilities, outpatient care, hospitals, rehabilitation centers, and nursing homes;

Telecommunications---medical or educational telecommunication links;

Cultural and Educational---all purpose buildings, libraries, museums, vocational schools, and public schools;

Energy Transmission and Distribution---electric equipment, maintenance buildings, low head hydro-electric facilities, and natural gas distribution;

Fire, Rescue, and Public Safety---communication centers, police, fire, or ambulance stations, fire trucks, rescue vehicles, and jails;

Public Services---child care centers, adult day care centers, shelters for abused women and children, shelter workshops, airports, community centers, and county office buildings;

Transportation---off street parking, sidewalks, street improvements, infrastructure for industrial parks, town bus service/equipment, and airport hangers; and

Other---agricultural fairgrounds, animal shelters, and sprinkler systems.

For more information, please contact:

Linda Ziegler, Rural Development Manager
USDA Rural Development
PO Box 190
Afton WY 83110
Phone: (307) 886-9001, ext. 4
Fax: (307) 886-3744
Email: linda.ziegler@wy.usda.gov
Web: <http://www.rurdev.usda.gov>

Challenge: Other subjects of concern in this category were water facilities such as water storage--agricultural and municipal---and the sewer plant.

Solution/Contact: The Rural Utilities Services of USDA Rural Development administers water and wastewater loan and grant programs. Funds may be used for the following:

- >Construct, repair, improve, expand, or modify rural water supply and distribution facilities including reservoirs, pipelines, wells, and pumping stations;
- >Acquire a water supply or a water right;
- >Construct, repair, improve, expand, or modify waste collection, pumping, treatment, or other disposal facilities. This may include sewer lines, treatment plants, stabilization ponds, sanitary landfills, incinerators, and necessary equipment;
- >Pay fees for legal and engineering connected with development facilities; and,
- >Pay costs related to the facility development including acquisition of rights-of-way easements, and the relocation of roads and utilities.

Also, available are Technical Assistance and Training (TAT) Grants for nonprofit organizations to provide technical assistance and/or training to associations to identify and evaluate solutions to water and waste disposal problems, to improve the operation and maintenance of existing water and waste disposal facilities, and to assist associations in preparing applications. For more information, please contact:

Linda Ziegler, Rural Development Manager
USDA Rural Development
PO Box 190
Afton WY 8310
Phone: (307) 886-9001, ext.4
Fax: (307) 886-3744
Email: linda.ziegler@wy.usda.gov
Web: <http://www.rurdev.usda.gov>

Solution/Contact: The Rural Water and Sewer Circuit Rider Technical Assistance provides no charge on-site technical assistance with day-to-day operational, financial, and management problems. For more information, please contact:

Wyoming Association of Rural Water System

PO Box 1750
Glenrock WY 82637
Phone: (307) 436-8636
Fax: (307) 436-8441
Email: warws@coffey.com
Web: <http://www.nrwa.org/warws>

VALLEY COOPERATION

Challenge: At many sessions, there was concern about the lack of cooperation between communities in the Bridger Valley. Consolidation of the school districts was also an issue.

Solution/Contact: The communities should have cooperative activities, working together toward a common goal and focus on positive results.

TOURISM/MARKETING/IMAGE RECREATION/VALLEY PRIDE/BEAUTIFICATION

Challenge: Developing and marketing the tourist attractions in the Bridger Valley would divert Interstate and Flaming Gorge traffic. The valley is rich in history and has wonderful summer and winter outdoor recreation. Fort Bridger is an asset and the idea of a Mountain Man and Indian Hall of Fame would enhance this.

Solution/Contact: The Rural Business Service of USDA Rural Development has Rural Business Enterprise Grants (RBEG). These funds can be used to facilitate development of small and emerging private business enterprises. Some of the eligible costs include the purchase and development of land, construction of buildings, plants, equipment, access streets and roads, parking areas, utility and service extensions, and technical assistance.
For more information, please contact:

Linda Ziegler, Rural Development Manager
USDA Rural Development
PO Box 190
Afton WY 83110
Phone: (307) 886-9001, ext 4
Fax: (307) 886-3744
Email: linda.ziegler@wy.usda.gov
Web: <http://www.rurdev.usda.gov>

Solution/Contact: Other good sources for suggestions and information are:

Joe Locurto, Director
Uinta County Economic Development Commission
225 Ninth Street
Evanston WY 82930
Phone: (307) 783-0378
Fax: (307) 783-0379
Email: jolocurto@uintacounty.com
Web: <http://www.uintacounty.com>

Steve Achter
Wyoming Business Council
214 W. 15th Street
Cheyenne WY 82002
Phone: (307) 777-2811
Fax: (307) 777-2838
Email: sachte@state.wy.us
Web: <http://www.wyomingbusiness.org>

Ray Sarcletti, Director
Southwest Regional Office
PO Box 1377
Rock Springs WY 82902
Phone: (307) 382-3163
Email: rsarcl@state.wy.us
Web: <http://www.wyomingbusiness.org>

EDUCATION

Challenge: There was concern for adult education, technical training, diversified agriculture training, and for more electives in the public school with more student recognition.

Solution/Contact: USDA Farm Service Agency has Youth Project Loans to establish and operate income-producing projects. The maximum loan amount is \$5000, and the youth is responsible for the debt. For more information, please contact:

Gary Miller, Farm Loan Manager
USDA Farm Service Agency
PO Box 369
Afton WY 83110
Phone: (307) 886-9001, ext. 2
Fax: (307) 886-3744
Email: gary.miller@wy.usda.gov
Web: <http://www.fsa.usda.gov>

Solution/Contact: Western Wyoming Community College has an Outreach Program in cooperation with school districts. The College has made it possible to take classes at night, on video, the Internet, and compressed video courses. High School seniors and juniors may take planned classes during the day, receive both high school and college credit, and, in many cases, tuition is waived. For more information, please contact:

Western Wyoming Community College
PO Box 428
Rock Springs WY 82902
Phone: (307) 382-1600 or for Bridger Valley, (307) 782-6401
Fax: (307) 382-1636
Web: <http://www.wycc.cc.wy.us>

Solution/Contact: The following contacts have a wealth of information for training:

Bill Ellis
Wyoming Small Business Development Council
PO Box 1168
Rock Springs WY 82902
Phone: (800) 348-5205
Email: bellis@uwyo.edu
Web: <http://www.uwyo.edu/sbdc>

Ray Sarcletti, Director
Southwest Regional Office
PO Box 1377
Rock Springs WY 82902
Phone: (307) 382-3163
Email: rsarcl@state.wy.us
Web: <http://www.wyomingbusiness.org>

Steve Achter
Wyoming Business Council
214 W. 15th Street
Cheyenne WY 82002
Phone: (307) 777-2811
Fax: (307) 777-2838
Email: sachte@state.wy.us
Web: <http://www.wyomingbusiness.org>

HOUSING

Challenge: Throughout the listening sessions, affordable housing for seniors and families, to rent and to buy, and assisted living for seniors and disabled persons was consistently mentioned.

Solution/Contact: A needs survey can be conducted. It is important to know what is needed, how many units are needed, and whether there is a need for family versus single housing units. For more information, please contact:

Cheryl Gillum, Director
Wyoming Community Development Authority (WCDA)
PO Box 634
Casper WY 82602

Phone: (307) 265-0603

Fax: (307) 266-5414

Solution/Contact: Wyoming Community Development Authority's HOME Investment Partnership Program has funds to finance single family homes for low-income purchasers. This program involves an interested builder who constructs homes using HOME funds and then sells them to authorized buyers. USDA Rural Development can participate with WCDA in financing these homes.

The Wyoming Community Development Authority (WCDA) also offers low interest loans to first time homebuyers. For more information on these programs, please contact:

Cheryl Gillum, Director
Wyoming Community Development Authority (WCDA)
PO Box 634
Casper WY 82602
Phone: (307) 265-0603
Fax: (307) 266-5414

Solution/Contact: USDA Rural Development offers several loan programs to for-profit and non-profit groups as well as individuals to construct low-income rental housing in addition to single-family dwellings through direct loans, guarantee loans through local lenders, and participation loans with local lenders and USDA Rural Development.

Instead of individuals constructing rental units, the Town can form a Housing Authority to help them seek assistance for constructing apartments as well as assisted living centers.

Two major items that affect the cost of housing are the cost of the building site and the size and type of construction. There are programs that non-profit entities can access to reduce the costs of the building site:

- a. If a developer is unavailable, the community could initiate development by purchasing and installing the needed infrastructure. Funding is available on a non-profit basis from USDA Rural Development under the Section 523 program. This program loans funds at a very low interest rate for the development of building lots. These lots are then sold to prospective low-income homeowners in conjunction with the building of a home.
- b. USDA Rural Development has a program called "Self-Help Housing" to reduce the cost of construction. This program allows several applicants to work together to construct several homes under the supervision of a construction supervisor sponsored by a Housing Authority or other non-profit organization.

For more information, please contact:

Linda Ziegler, Rural Development Manager
USDA Rural Development
PO Box 190
Afton WY 83110
Phone: (307) 886-9001, ext. 4
Fax: (307) 886-3744
Email: linda.ziegler@wy.usda.gov
Web: <http://www.rurdev.usda.gov>

OTHER RESOURCES

This book is invaluable. The Rural Information Center provides information and referral services to entities working to maintain the vitality of rural areas. It provides customized information products to inquiries such as assistance in economic revitalization issues; local government planning projects; funding sources. To obtain a book free of charge, please contact:

USDA Rural Information Center
National Agriculture Library
10301 Baltimore Avenue, Room 304
Beltsville MD 20705
Phone: (800) 633-7701
Email: ric@nal.usda.gov
Web: <http://www.nal.usda.gov/ric>

Mid-America Manufacturing Technology Center (MAMTC) helps Wyoming manufacturers become more competitive through programs that address quality, business systems, the manufacturing process, company assessment, marketing, and product development. For more information, please contact:

George Twitchell, Field Engineer
Mid-America Manufacturing Technology Center
PO Box 727
Rock Springs WY 82902
Cell: (307) 389-4856
Email: gtwitch@uwyo.edu
Web: <http://allwyoming.uwyo.edu>

WHAT WAS SAID AT THE INTERVIEWS

The Resource Team spent three days interviewing the local residents to hear what they had to say. Those being interviewed were directed to answer three questions:

- ✓ What are the major problems/challenges in the community?
- ✓ What are the major strengths/assets of the community?
- ✓ What projects would you like to see implemented in your community in the next two, five, ten, or twenty years?

Listed below, without comment, is what was heard from those who volunteered to be interviewed.

Question #1: What are the major problems and challenges in your community?

- Lack of population...segregation...different ideas
- Drugs and alcohol...agree...agree...agree
- No jobs for youth and adults...agree...agree
- Trash all over
- Not enough to do to stay out of trouble
- Lack of water...all concur...agree
- Not enough to do...get in trouble
- Too many cows, they stink etc.
- Drought
- Lack of taking advantage of open space...to dry
- Lack of jobs for youth...agree...agree
- Teenage pregnancy
- Garbage
- High school drop out rate, grades, married
- Utilize space and so there is something to do, so not bad things
- No time to spend with parents
- Laziness, old and young people
- Religious alienation
- Law for youth in bowling alley after 10 pm only in MV
- Most problems are because people get away with too much due to enforcement
- Early intervention for children
- Trouble recruiting teachers at child development center
- Moving here
- Pay amount they deserve
- Staff recruitment
- Low income

- Raising children to be responsible adults
- Keeping our kids in town when they are older
- Providing for kids
- No after 5 pm childcare in this community
- No weekend childcare.
- No organized community listing of things to bring community together
- Pull together all of our communities...again
- Bring in communities to work together- Lyman and Mt. View
- Lack something for our kids
- Lack food program in the valley
- Lack public transportation
- Absence of local talents
- Lack social events
- No publish events-community functions
- Difficulty recruiting people who are talented
- Lack of supervised activities for kids
- Lack of community center for kids
- Historic events-local resources
- Build on local history-market it
- Design a downtown area to Mt. View-Localize it (hub)
- County government barrier sharing throughout whole County, not only Evanston
- Not enough community involvement with rendezvous at Ft. Bridger
- Our kids are leaving the community
- No room here for kids growth
- No job opportunities
- Recruit volunteers from our youth
- Growth we have now can't be protected/dry hydrants
- Fire protection infrastructure
- Upgrade road infrastructure
- Access to local training for ambulance and fire personal/ now they travel for training
- Lack of a draw to our community/need for tourism
- Public info and education for volunteer emergency services in the Valley
- Lack of motel/restaurant in the town of Mt. View/ to draw tourism
- Nothing for our teens/youth to do in the Valley
- No rec center for the Valley
- Rd. maintenance for forests
- I-80
- Drug abuse youth/high school and young adults -- meth, alcohol, pot
- Lack of facilities for rehab
- Lack of jobs to keep our youth here

- Lack of Valley unity
- Lack of education about drugs for adults in area
- Inadequate staff for local law enforcement...again
- Economic development...again
- Lack of infrastructure for economic development
- Need for valley wide communication
- Insignificant tax base
- Lack of recreational facilities for east side of county
- Community apathy
- Combine our communities...again
- Support our resources
- Keeping up with waste water
- Not enough funding to upkeep our state roads
- Keep higher-ups aware of road conditions (Funding)
- Buses for public transportation to run to Evanston
- More water storage and reservoirs
- Lack of funding...again ...again...again
- Employment in the area
- Keeping our youth in the area
- Lack of meaningful employment for our community
- Water acquisition and storage
- Low socioeconomic status with school children -- job skills
- Lack of coordination to create jobs in our area
- Keep our children here in our community...again
- Economic development in this location
- Better paying jobs in this area
- Need for economic growth
- No opportunities for our kids
- No increase in population
- Need to get kids involved more in community
- Need to provide opportunities for the kids
- Lack of assessing the needs of the community
- Not having a diversified tax base
- Need for more long term planning
- Need to accept the changing rolls in school/from one school to the next
- Need for parents to be more supportive of their kids
- Parents need for accountability of their children...again
- Need of more support from parents
- Need for more for the students to do to keep it from being the responsibility of the school to find activities for them to do.

- Community is not able to find something for the kids to do when they are not in school
- No opportunity for infrastructure
- Area is landlocked
- Lack of Recreation Center
- Lack of law enforcement
- Financial crunch
- Lack of adequate and appropriate water supply...again
- Infrastructure -- water and sewer
- That the lagoons need to be increased
- Declining enrollment in schools
- Need for more families in area
- Bring in jobs to keep people here... again
- Opportunities are low for employment
- Septic tank disposals from surrounding areas have declined due to lack of capacity.
- Lack of activities for the kids... again
- State to recognize we are here and to help us promote that
- Lack of affordable housing
- Encourage removal of flood plan to free up monies
- Municipalities and schools to become one entity (also fire dept)
- Not being efficient with taxpayers money
- Fire district
- Apathy/not enough involvement with community
- Senior services are needed...again
- No opportunity to change job status
- The need of value for the ruralness to grow
- Health care facilities are limited/need for more programs ... again... again limited options
- Health insurance issues
- Need to make improvements on appearance of community
- Need to hang on to our forests
- Need for elected officials to work together
- A need to put together a communication package for area information
- A need for public transportation
- A need for employment within the community... again... again
- A lack of things to do to allow people to stay in the community
- A need for availability of water
- Need of adequate water for fire protection
- Lack of childcare facilities... again
- Lack of economic development... again
- Lack of low- income housing... again
- Need for growth with historical society/museum... again

- Need for technical support and jobs for these skills...again
- Needs for keeping our kids in the valley post high school
- Needs in keeping personal property appearances up (junk cars) clean up yards
- Need of keeping ordinances of nuisance
- Needs of expansion in the community and utilize what we have already here
- Not capitalizing on rich history of area...again
- Need for some growth in the area/ businesses
- Need to preserve our heritage
- Need to reinforce existing businesses /orient needs for those businesses
- Need for encouragement on local businesses that are an asset to the community
- Need for advertisement of our area
- Competition for Internet provisions (3 local providers)
- Need to get our young people involved in leadership roles in community
- Need for tourism
- Hard to find locals that are qualified for some jobs
- Have to look nationwide to find qualified employment
- Rural area
- Cell service needs more sights because of remote area...again
- Remoteness causes issues with getting materials to company
- Community services are not available to recruit employment
- No child-care for families of employees (off hours)
- Not enough pre-schools
- Recreation is not available for kids
- No additional education in area
- Government laws are meant for more populated area-reception, fees for services
- Not much flexibility to offer to customers
- Nuisance ordinance is not enforced/find mechanism for cleaning up yards...again...again...again...again
- Town of Ft. Bridger needs to be cleaned up for tourism
- Historical issues of the area need addressed
- Needs for an initiative to recycle...again
- Drug problem in the area
- Jobs for our teens to keep them out of trouble
- Need for work release program involving local businesses
- Shuttle bus between Valley and Evanston needed...again...again...again...again
- Work opportunities...again...again...again
- Needs of pulling towns together
- Drug problems in area/alcohol -- all ages
- Problem with drinking at school-age level (substance abuse)...again...again...again
- Decline of population and school enrollment

- Teen pregnancy
- Emergency room is 40 miles away/winter driving
- Domestic violence is high here
- Lack of fitness center...again...again
- Lack of things for kids to do...again
- Smoking is very high here/middle school and up (chewing tobacco)
- Lack of health insurance for adults...again...again
- Sexual harassment toward teen girls/high school and middle school
- Lack of some type of after school program for latch key kids...again.
- More expensive here than in Evanston
- People who pass through need to spend more money here
- We have a lot of things in valley/diversity so we struggle with our identity
- Do not pull together as a community on projects/economic development
- Diversity on our area becoming a boom area
- Economically growing but there is no notice of it because we are a small community
- Small businesses struggle
- Need challenges to pull our community together
- Rivalry between Lyman and Evanston, Lyman and Mt. View
- Lack of identity because of rivalry
- There are some who don't want this community to grow
- Lack of unity amongst the community
- People look for donations locally but shop outside of this area...again...again (customer loyalty)
- Locals don't understand progress from a businessman's perspective
- No opportunity for jobs in valley...again...again
- Need to keep people in this community/lack of jobs...again
- Combined school districts to make it a Bridger Valley school...again
- Economically/not combining school
- Not letting other businesses into the area
- Flood plain areas won't allow for businesses that want to come in/expansion. (Land and opportunities are available)
- Need to get and keep tourist business here
- County to focus on Bridger Valley and not only on Evanston
- Water /weather drought...again
- High cold desert area
- Population is down/also school population is down
- Young people are not staying here to work because jobs are not available...again...again
- Can't keep kids here
- Agriculture population is getting older and they are consolidating...again
- Agriculture is a family business and kids can't stay here so they go into other businesses

- Ranches are being sold and are not staying ranches/kids don't stay on farm...again they are not profitable to the community
- Ranchers are not profitable so they are looking for supplemental incomes
- Can't earn a living here
- Land prices are going up so land is hard to buy
- People are buying good agriculture land for recreational purposes
- Selling ranch means losing our way of life
- Drought is forcing people out/less profitable
- Growth is hampered by rivalry within schools
- Clash of cultures
- Need for more ranch recreation
- Need for more resources
- Need for more water storage
- Lack of water
- Conservation practices/management is needed
- Dry wells are causing people to move
- People have to haul water/dry wells
- Seven families within 1/8 mile with no water
- Property is rendered worthless due to lack of water
- Worst water situation in history
- Funding to help is not readily available
- The area is not utilizing water
- Lumber companies are running short on wood/volume
- Struggle to protect the water that we have
- Greater pressure on water usage/maintain what we do with it
- Federal regulation of water usage
- Limited to what can be done with this area/economically
- The need for something to do for our youth...again...again...again...again
- A need for a place for the kids to go...again...again...again...again
- Concern for the water supply for this area...again...again...again...again
- Town is refusing to accept sewage waste from surrounding areas/can't handle/need financial support...again
- Lack of technical job training...again...again...again
- Lack of jobs in this area/ranching...again...again...again
- Exporting of our youth/our greatest resources...again...again...again
- Water storage problems...again...again...again...again
- Water issues need addressed...again...again
- Keeping our kids in the valley...again...again
- Ordinances need to be enforced in this area/clean up these messes...again
- Make our place pleasant to those who come through

- Ditto everything
- Bring something to interest those that are here so they will not leave
- Need to improve our roads, streetlights, and public improvements in Urie...again...
- Technology upgrades
- Identity crisis
- Everyone wants his or her own personal property rights
- Access to water for public fire safety
- Fuels for litigation project
- Saw mill need timber
- Tourism needs a drawing card
- Traffic enforcement
- Ft. Bridger is deteriorating
- Community development
- Limited by government to use natural resources
- Need for jobs in the community/out flow of kids...again...again
- Tourism potential is not well known throughout the valley...again
- Need for the teens to have something to do
- Need for something that will attract businesses
- Need for promoting the history of the Valley/ establish a museum
- Multi-use complex...again...again
- Need for something other than rendezvous to draw tourists
- Climate/more winter than summer...again...again
- Need to keep people to stay longer here when visiting
- Utah people come through here/winter recreation. Give them something to do.
- Capitalize on tourism
- Public involvement in tourism issues
- Educate people on tourism in this area
- Need to work together in valley on what is going on in the community
- Need to recognize the potential here/state level
- Sisters are a division of Valley and Evanston
- Lack of recreation...again...again...again...again
- Lack of a recreation center
- Lack of indoor arena
- More popularity from other communities
- Need to get tourist to stay here and spend their money here
- Need to create something here to draw tourist/snow-do outdoor
- Apathy of the people here in the valley
- Need for more input from the people of the community
- Need to get people more involved in things
- Lack of family activities available

- Lack of things to draw the tourists' here/need to create things
- Need for a community support group
- We need to get people to stop here so they will spend their money here
- If you build it will they come?
- Need for adequate lodging for tourists we are trying to draw to our area
- Need for capitol for start up of businesses
- Need for someone to help market the ideas presented here
- The need for opportunities to learn about marketing this area
- Need for the improvement of the economy
- Need for some change in the area

Question #2: What are the major strengths/assets of the community?

- Small town
- The area
- Recreation
- Good schools
- People
- Small town
- Location and mountains
- Teamwork like town festival
- Small classes
- Location...close to city Salt Lake City...but not big
- Good recreation
- Knowing everyone
- Close mountains
- Freedom because of space...shooting...fireworks
- Law enforcement is good
- Our location yet close to big towns
- One on one with teachers
- Street light ornaments and flags
- People help others...food and money
- Pride in school. Athletics and parent involvement
- Good companies. Benedicts...Pony Express...others
- Location.... again
- People pull together as a community...again
- Show people what our community is about
- Good people
- Tourism
- Fellowship in community
- Extended families here
- Supportive people here
- Get people here to work together
- Outdoor recreation (Uinta Mountains)
- Agriculture/mineral based area
- Peaceful and quiet area
- Near the Flaming Gorge
- Great place to raise a family
- Excellent emergency services
- All emergency services have equipment that is top of line
- Postal Service workers help provide best services

- Rural community
- I-80 is near us
- Law enforcement
- People...again
- Friendliness
- Bring people together
- Low crime rate
- All area law enforcement work together...again...again...again
- Clean/friendly/beautiful....again
- Location-city/mts.
- Small population
- Personal businesses
- Less population
- Small community helping one another...again
- Raise good kids...again they are our future
- Location
- Flaming Gorge
- Recreation
- Hunting
- Upgraded water plant
- Expansion on the senior citizen building
- More buses for our seniors
- Everyone knows everyone
- Water/ have capacity to treat more water
- Storage capacity for water, but need more control
- Good base to start more businesses
- Want to make it a better place
- Town council anticipates future of Mt.View
- Beautiful town
- Close knit community
- Friendly, embracing people
- Town council is doing great job trying to draw people in
- Location and recreational area
- Uinta Mountains, Flaming Gorge, hunting (out door recreation)
- People have great work ethic. They are positive (Union Telephone)
- People, who live here, want to stay here
- People are open and willing to make a difference in your lives
- We have a safe community to live in. Low crime rate
- Safety in the schools
- Very effective educational unit

- We prepare our kids for the world
- People
- Location-outdoor recreation
- Feeling of safety in the area
- Infrastructure-fire ambulance
- Coop w/ government entities
- Our sense of community/people always pull together...again...again
- Location, location, location,
- Town park...again
- Our youth
- Small community gives opportunity to kids to participate in things
- Schools ...again
- Beautification process
- Elected officials
- Adult day care facility in Lyman
- Planning and zoning
- Great businesses
- Our social services
- Grocery store close
- It's a small town
- Great place to raise a family
- Strength of small businesses
- Some of our businesses are up to date on technology (Union Telephone, Bridger Valley Electric.) point of presence sight
- Leadership of the community
- Potential to have fiber optic in community
- Infrastructure for small businesses
- Senior citizens are well provided for...again...again...again (programs are great)
- Airport, railroad and I-80 are asset to the area
- Clean air...again
- Location from major medical facilities (Salt Lake City)
- School system and the kids
- Public safety services and EMS...again
- Water services that cover the town
- Damn good weather
- Local service providers are available if you search for them
- Historical history of area
- Union Telephone offers great benefit packages
- Continued growth
- Extensive networking

- Those who come here chose to come here
- Location /close to Salt Lake City
- Union Telephone pay is comparable to Verizon and other major companies
- Union Telephone does offer training to their employees
- Outdoor recreation
- Rural area
- Allows employment to those who otherwise would not move here
- Wyoming is not heavily populated
- Larger companies don't bother them because of our location. Sm. Area
- Sense of community
- Everyone in this community knows everyone else
- Small town/rural area
- Community involvement
- A lot of good people...again
- History of the area is asset
- Weather
- Beauty of area
- Safety/EMS
- Low crime
- Location
- Great recreational area
- Not afraid of growth in our area
- Seniors have a great program/food, activities; social life/seniors are taken care of...again...again/ growth of the program
- Good road and bridges
- We are a well-kept secret here
- Community meets the needs of the people
- Quality of life has increased here
- Community of people helping people
- Full time chiropractic
- Many different churches
- Local pharmacy
- Close to mts./outdoor recreation
- Strong school/curriculum has accelerated
- A lot of family support
- Good neighbors...again
- EMS system is really good...again...again
- Low crime rate
- Different services available/ different types of care-physical therapy /ob-gyn
- Many resources for different charities...again

- Child development center...again...again
- Clinic makes hour available to those who...again...again (Sat. and after hours)
- Ambulance dept
- Fire department
- The tie between hospital and the clinic that provides services in this area
- Newspaper feature students of the week
- Senior Center/home health/housing for elderly
- Schools
- Donations from our businesses are generous...again
- Quality of life is good...again
- People...again
- Community jumps in and helps the people in need
- We are in great potential for growth
- Location-Wasatch Front/ tourists, I-80...again
- Outdoor recreation...again
- Youth camp...again
- Willing people to help promote new businesses...again
- Water improvements/joint powers board
- Outsider are building more summer homes in our area
- Tourist who do stop here continue to do business here when they return
- Great place to raise your kids
- People...again...again...again
- Lot of potential...again
- Come together for each other...again
- Pull together during tragedies
- Stable work force/honesty
- Pleased with amount of diversification in valley
- Union is a great success story/ small businesses are creating some jobs
- There is some growth here/has evolved
- Community is changing for the better
- Location/ railroad, I-80, fiber optic (close to community)
- Feel safe here...again
- Fort is as asset
- Tourism opportunities
- Mts. in our back yard/ desert also (multiple uses) diversity of land
- Good place for families
- Kids get good educations
- Advantage of being near natural resources/ some job opportunities
- Centralized local for natural resources
- Construction of water storage facilities near streams

- Are close to Salt Lake City and Rock Springs (city access)
- Utah people that comes through here /capitalize on this
- Wonderful community to raise kids
- School systems are good
- People relate to each other...again caring community
- We are in a good location/plentiful supply if allowed to use it...again
- Natural return flow of water/supply...again
- Good water supply with winter cooperation
- Two dams we have
- People who work on strengthening the water situation
- People who came to support this session
- Good leader
- Good volunteers
- Community/ag communities understanding of issues and are working together
- Ft. Bridger
- Rich in history we need to build on
- Good people...again...again
- Hard working people
- Volunteers...again
- Senior citizens
- Fire dept/emergency workers
- People works together...again
- Raise kids
- Caring attitude of community...again
- Family oriented
- Welcome tourists
- Ditto everything
- Location/ a lot of country/ to city
- Diversity with wilderness and the area
- Artifacts /history
- Chose to move back here after moving away
- Wide-open space/outdoors
- School system is good...again
- Electric supply...again
- Ditto every thing...again...again...again...again
- We well with the opportunity we are given
- Everyone knows everyone
- Public safety services/EMS, Fire...again...again
- Natural resources are abundant
- Great asset to the community

- Wind power is a resource that is coming
- Those that are here trying to make these things better
- Airport is positive impact for this area
- Improvements to the landfill
- Walk paths are being developed
- Library renovations
- Locally owned telephone company keeping us up to date on tech
- Location, location, location -- railroad and I-80
- Rally a good group of people...again
- Minerals in the area
- History of the area...again
- Old Fort Bridger is a historical sight
- We are Wyoming's best-kept secret...again
- Volunteer groups and people...again
- People work together well here
- Ditto...again...again
- Gateway to forest
- Smallness of the community
- Weather can be good because no one wants to come here
- Airport upgrade/good little airport
- Surroundings are asset
- Location, location, location I-80, Salt Lake City, big market...again...again...again
- Closeness to the wildlife/in back yard
- Opportunity to bring people here/Utah
- We have a desire to work together as a community
- We are rural but have a very nice environment for visitors
- Good atmosphere for outsiders
- Very willing to help strangers
- A lot of opportunities/untapped resources
- Location, location, location -- I-80,
- Same as last session
- People here
- Beautiful area
- High traffic
- Forest is close
- Country is incredible
- Opportunity is here for exploration

Question #3: What projects would you like to see implemented in your community in the next two, five, ten, or twenty years?

- More jobs
- Bike racing
- Do more to make it look better
- Moto-Cross track
- More entertainment...casino night...movie theatre...skating rink
- Recreation center...agree...swim...classes...batting cages...agree...agree
- More jobs
- More businesses...expanded...restaurants
- Trash cleaned up and junky property
- Recreation center and jobs
- Improve schools...acoustics in school...gym
- Soccer back...local organization sports
- Clean up school and community
- Super WalMart
- More roads paved...mess up cars
- Fast food places
- More non-school sports in summer, etc.
- Fix school tennis courts
- More elective classes...auto tech...languages
- Fitness classes
- Elective classes...agree...agree
- Recycling of trash
- More clothing stores
- Better park...fish pond...play area is splinters
- Giant mall...Hooters
- Close hospital...urgent care
- Higher education
- Come back to Bridger Valley...4 or 5 yrs. depends on pay or kind of job
- Some like small town to raise a family.
- Recreation
- There is religious segregation...seminary (bad thing)
- There seems to be a lot of concern about LDS non-LDS and judging people
- Childcare Center -- 24/7
- Community center for kids...again
- Something to pull community together
- Valley wide community center
- Chamber to get all local information together...again

- History of our area
- Bring in tourism
- Mt. Man/American Indian Hall of Fame started. (2 years)
- Living history
- Local trails published
- Better listing of local activities
- Organize communications
- Buses or transportation to low- income families for Child Development. Center (2-5 year)
- Community hub where child care is provided
- Volunteerism for our youth
- Group project will be supported...again
- Consolidate public services...again
- Get our community to fire people up to work on events -- valley wide celebrations
- More economic development
- Motel/Restaurant
- RV park
- Recreation center...again
- Development and provision for a dude/guest ranch
- Independent living facility/adult care
- Improvements that are not a tax burden to community
- Infrastructure to attract and support outside resources
- More facilities for people to stay in the area
- Sustained growth
- Another major grocery store
- Consolidate school dist...again...again
- County fair grounds here in valley...again
- Municipalities consolidated
- Recreation center...again
- High tech business come in/ more employment...again...again
- Capitalize on tourism
- Community projects for juvenile offenders/work off sentence program
- Bike/walk path tying in communities
- Drug court in valley/programs
- Adequate funds and staff equipped for Mt.View
- Cooperation of valley law enforcement/understaffed
- Get community more involved in what law enforcement is doing
valley youth substance abuse program
- Programs for the youth...again
- County program for county business
 - Drivers' licenses

- License plates
- Taxes
- Locally provided employment for local young people to provide skills
 - Conservation
- Job Service for the youth-local hub
- Larger stores
- Make it easier for new businesses
- Upgrade sewer treatment facility
- Encourage businesses to come here
- Make area more attractive for development
- Paving projects for development
- Control on water storage
- Building roads
- Expand on senior citizen projects
- More for our kids
- Youth center
- After school projects
- Community center
- Recreation. center/youth activities ...again...again
- Restrictions for areas-personal property maintenance
- Enforcement of ordinances (zoning) appearances in personal property (JUNK)
- More businesses in Urie area of the valley
- Assisted living program. ...again
- Employment opportunities in the valley
- More healthcare providers
- Motel/restaurant in town
- Affordable housing
- Something to help build economics
- Beautification projects continue in town
- Bring in businesses
- Better paying jobs in this area
- Consolidate school districts
- Better use of resources
- Something for the kids to do
- Water problems to improve/maximize water storage
- Get access to fiber optic for local improvements
- Coordination between entities-city councils, mayors, commissioners
- Recreation center...again...again
- Uinta County Fair moved here
- More industry in area

- More jobs
- Even growth of the community
- More businesses
- (2 years) County offices for taxes, etc...again...again (satellite network)
- Infrastructure for job
- Reservoirs for water issues
- Transportation to Evanston
- Continue with beautification of town of Mt. View
- Motel/restaurant
- Dept. store of some kind
- Educational outreach- post high school
- Pavement in Urie strip mall, legion road
- Libraries improvement
- Walkways from Bridger to Lyman-connecting all communities
- Use airport as a resource for healthcare professionals
- Community center /civic center/convention center...again
- More involvement with community to run for local offices
- Joint public works-law enforcement etc.
- Do something to keep kids in area after high school
- Capitalize on area assets
- Do a living history of the area
- Need to appeal to the tourist
- Bigger fishpond with bigger fish
- Outreach classes and satellite from WWCC
- Motel/RV park/ tee pees
- Utilize Fort Bridger for tourism
- Community care car /mini public system in place as per needs of community
- Build up businesses
- Draw people in with competition
- Trails project for foot and horse traffic
- Reservoirs for water storage
- Cheyenne services (1 year)
- Change in educational system/ updated
- Locals to go to local schools so they can stay local
- Schools to focus more on education and skills and not on sports
- Kids- to be able to offer them something to stay in the community
- More school sponsored activities that are not for sports
- Gifted child or talented child programs
- Funds offered for other interest in community besides sports
- Quicker Internet

- 24/7 daycare
- Museum for employment and tourism
- Enhance our recreational area
- Small businesses come in to put kids to work
- Enhance businesses/opportunities for employment
- Motels/restaurants on the main drag
- More jobs for our youth
- Things for our kids to do
- Consolidate the schools/Lyman and Mt. View (Districts) one administration
- Sporting goods store in Mt. View
- Recycling program
- Clothing store for all sizes
- Shuttle service to Evanston...again
- Drug problem program
- Communities to work together and become one...again
- Recreation center that is valley wide...again...again...again
- More job opportunities for women /everyone
- Develop Urie area/businesses and bring valley together...again
- Fewer emphases on school sports
- More recognition of all kids not only sports and academics
- Jobs for the kids to stay here in the valley...again...again...again
- Combined the school...again...again
- Offer more for the kids to do
- SAVF in the schools for pre-teens/education for domestic violence
- Rest Home
- Motel
- Something to get people to stop here
- Golf course
- Highway repair/Mt.View to Urie -- turning lane/safety for these road/shoulders
- Bike path from here to Lyman
- Grow economically
- Attract businesses by putting things here people want and need/public facilities
- Valley Recreation center/...again...again...again indoor arena
- Airport to be better equipped for our businesses...again
- RV waste station and water station/fee for it
- Advertising on freeway for our area
- Consolidate schools
- Water
- Someplace for livestock auctions easier way to market livestock
- Two years-drought end and back to normal (fix old laws)

- Ten years - infusion of jobs in area
- Manufacturing companies that will pay good
- Increase diversification
- Major employer to come to the area for job opportunities
- Developing what agriculture community already has
- Keep museum open year around
- Capitalize on tourism
- Need for more water storage
- Diversify agriculture enterprises with ranchers/pheasants, buffalo
- Grocery store in Lyman
- Use what we have in area before we ship it off
- Packing plant/feed area (coop enterprise)
- Horseback business
- Dude ranch
- Harvest the forest and you harvest water/state and private land decrease fire and increase wildlife
- Work at developing what we have/enlarge...again
- More water storage development...again...again
- Build more reservoirs (example: Baggs) 10-15
- Center pivots/ deep wells (1000ft.)
- Take on the water projects that are available
- Events complex for recreation/winter...again...again...again...again...again
outdoor/indoor...again (multi-use facility)...again...again...again...again...again
- Something for the kids to do all winter ...again
- Do something about the water/reservoirs...again
- Place to dump sewage
- Support of local businesses with our own people (train locals)
- Keep kids here...again
- Dry hydrant instillation/fire protection
- Something to bring new businesses to the area/generate more economy
- Ditto everything
- Capitalize on resources that are available to us
- Permanent good paying jobs...again
- History preservation/museum...again...again will create jobs
- Reservoirs 15-20
- Low income housing for disabled people (rent or own)
- County wide lodging tax
- Wind- mills to generate power
- Red Lobster
- Beautification of community

- Capitalize on tourism/tours of our area
- Training in area for diversifying the land
- Bring this community together no more Lyman vs Mt. View
- Multi-use facility/events complex...again...again...again
- Granddaddy rodeo here
- Mini-golf
- Lodge/outdoor recreation
- Golf course
- Youth activities
- Museum (2 years)...again
- Enhance on the history of the community
- Show people what we have here to offer
- Living history
- Bring in tour buses to show what we have...again
- Motel/restaurant
- RV park for tourists
- Utilize what we have here
- Capitalize on local talents/music, artists
- Summer band concerts
- Organizations to complement each other
- Use weather to our advantage
- Golf course
- Enhance entrance to Fort Bridger
- Non-alcohol hang-out for the youth/smoke-free
- Jim Bridger statue
- New industry here to maintain population/room for growth
- Lotteries/something to bring in money
- Tours by tour vans
- Brochure or publish something to tell about valley/pictures to show people
- Assisted living complex
- Pull out for the Oregon Trail/historical marker
- Something to keep us from over growth (example: Jackson)
- Preserve the way of life in the valley...again
- Something to connect all of these together
- Allow for some change here to open up tourism opportunities
- Planning process for entire valley (VISION)...again
- Keep Fort Bridger a historical place (comprehensive plan for the valley)
- Utilize what we already have
- Sustain growth without a boom
- More water storage

- Create job amongst ourselves/less unemployment
- County wide plan for land use (planning and zoning)
- Recreation center/event center/swimming pool... again...again...again...again
- Something for the family
- Multiple trails system/private, county, local
- All Indian rodeo/for tourism
- RV park
- Enhanced signs on the interstate for our area
- Golf course or unique activity involving golf
- Adequate lodging for tourists
- Capitalize on the tourists from Utah

Mt. View/Ft Bridger Resource Team
April 28th to May 1st

**WHAT WE HEARD FROM WHAT WAS SAID
MAJOR THEMES**

After listening to the citizens of Mt. View/Ft Bridger, the resource team reviewed what was said and condensed the comments down to a few basic statements. These are in no particular order.

MAJOR THEMES IN MT. VIEW/FT BRIDGER

Economic Development

- New businesses
- Lodging
- Motel /restaurant, RV park
- Diversified agriculture
- More jobs
 - Youth
 - Current residents
- Help existing businesses
- Department store

Valley Facilities/Services

- Water facilities
 - Water storage -- agriculture and municipal
- Rural fire protection
- 24 hour day care
- Paving of roads
- Recycling
- Drug and alcohol programs
- Domestic abuse
- Public transportation
- Sewer plant
- Satellite office
 - County offices
- Activities for youth

Valley Cooperation

- Cooperative agreements between municipalities
- Consolidate school districts

Tourism/Marketing/Image

- Market resources of area
 - Develop tourist attractions in the valley
 - History
 - Outdoor recreation
 - Summer/winter
 - Mountain. Man and Indian Hall of Fame Museum

Education

- Adult education
- Technical training
- Diversified agriculture training
- More electives in public school
- Student recognition program

Recreation

- Event center/recreation center
- Complete trail system linking communities
- Golf course

Social issues

- Drug and alcohol abuse
- Teen pregnancy
- Sexual harassment
- Domestic abuse

Housing

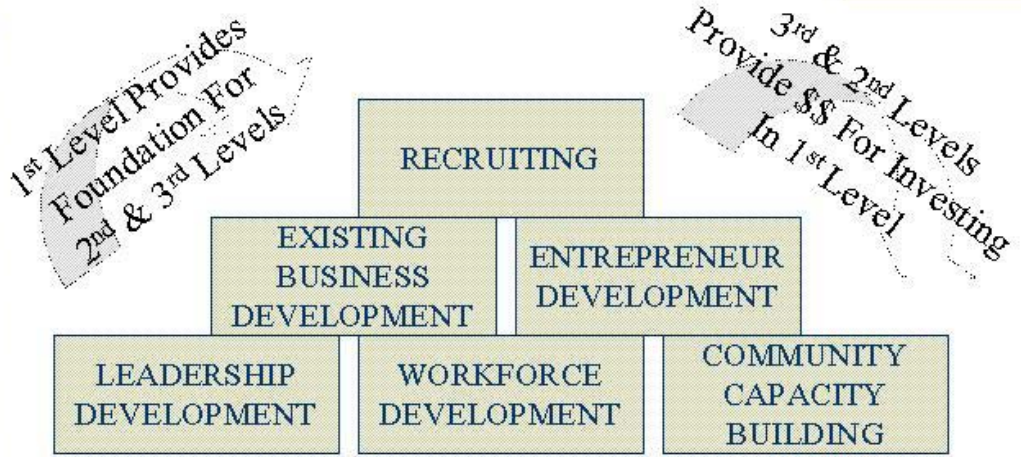
- Affordable/entry level
 - Seniors
 - Families
 - Assisted living
- Disabled
- Seniors

Valley Pride/Beautification

- Clean up property
- Make area attractive for development
- Continue beautification project
- Enforcement of existing ordinances

APPENDIX

Cycle of Development



LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

1. Leadership Institute
2. Active Civic Clubs
3. Community Leadership Recognition
4. Youth Leadership Program
5. Shared Community Vision
6. Volunteer Programs



WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

1. Local Training Institutions (including Technology)
2. School-to-Careers Participation
3. Adult Literacy Curriculum
4. Local Work Force Development Participation
5. Human Resources Manager Network
6. Summer Intern Program
7. On-The-Job Training



COMMUNITY CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT

1. Comprehensive Community Plan
2. Cultural & Recreation Opportunities
3. Adequate & Affordable Housing
4. Adequate Infrastructure
5. Strategic Community Health Plan
6. Good Schools
7. Adequate Police & Fire



EXISTING BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT

1. CEO's/Plant Managers' Network
2. Community Business Advocacy Group
3. Main Street/Retail Business Development
4. Business Assistance Resources (SBDC, MAMTC, etc.)
5. Capital Resources Availability
6. Export Development



ENTREPRENEURIAL DEVELOPMENT

1. Community Based Venture Capital Group
2. Business Assistance Resources (SBDC, MAMTC, GRO-BIZ, RPC, WWBC)
3. Entrepreneurs Network Group
4. Business Incubators
5. Educational Programs
6. Mentoring Program
7. Business Challenge



RECRUITING

1. Local Economic Development Professional
2. Industrial/Business Park
3. Speculative Building Program
4. Marketing Program
5. Local Government - Anti-Red Tape
6. Local Incentives
7. Development Authority



20 CLUES TO RURAL COMMUNITY SURVIVAL

1. Evidence of Community Pride:

Successful communities are often showplaces of care, attention, history and heritage.

2. Emphasis on Quality in Business and Community Life:

People believe that something worth doing is worth doing right.

3. Willingness to Invest in the Future:

In addition to the brick-and-mortar investments, all decisions are made with an outlook on the future.

4. Participatory Approach to Community Decision Making:

Even the most powerful of opinion leaders seem to work toward building consensus.

5. Cooperative Community Spirit:

The stress is on working together toward a common goal, and the focus is on positive results.

6. Realistic Appraisal of Future Opportunities:

Successful communities have learned how to build on strengths and minimize weaknesses.

7. Awareness of Competitive Positioning:

Local loyalty is emphasized, but thriving communities know who their competitors are and position themselves accordingly.

8. Knowledge of the Physical Environment:

Relative location and available natural resources underscore decision-making.

9. Active Economic Development Program:

There is an organized, public/private approach to economic development.

10. Deliberate Transition of Power to a Younger Generation of Leaders:

People under 40 regularly hold key positions in civic and business affairs.

11. Acceptance of Women in Leadership Roles:

Women are elected officials, plant managers, and entrepreneurial developers.

12. Strong Belief in and Support for Education:

Good schools are the norm and centers of community activity.

13. Problem-Solving Approach to Providing Health Care:

Health care is considered essential, and smart strategies are in place for diverse methods of delivery.

14. Strong Multi-Generational Family Orientation:

The definition of family is broad, and activities include younger as well as older generations.

15. Strong Presence of Traditional Institutions that are Integral to Community Life:

Churches, schools and service clubs are strong influences on community development and social activities.

16. Sound and Well-Maintained Infrastructure:

Leaders work hard to maintain and improve streets, sidewalks, water systems, and sewage facilities.

17. Careful Use of Fiscal Resources:

Frugality is a way of life and expenditures are considered investments in the future.

18. Sophisticated Use of Information Resources:

Leaders access information that is beyond the knowledge base available in the community.

19. Willingness to Seek Help from the Outside:

People seek outside help for community needs, and many compete for government grants and contracts for economic and social programs.

20. Conviction that, in the Long Run, You Have to Do It Yourself:

Thriving rural communities believe their destiny is in their own hands. Making their communities good places is a pro-active assignment, and they willingly accept it.

*Reprinted from Heartland Center Leadership Development, Spring 2002 *Visions Newsletter*.

