

Wyoming Rural Development Council/



**RURAL RESOURCE TEAM REPORT
FOR
DEAVER
COMMUNITY ASSESSMENT
BIG HORN COUNTY, WYOMING
SEPTEMBER 12-14, 2006**

WYOMING RURAL DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL'S MISSION

*"TO CREATE PARTNERSHIPS THAT RESULT IN EFFECTIVE,
EFFICIENT AND TIMELY EFFORTS TO ENHANCE THE
VIABILITY OF RURAL WYOMING."*

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 contributions 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

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Deaver, Wyoming Resource Team Assessment September 12-14, 2006

1. Process for the Development of This Report.....	pg. 3
2. Executive Summary.....	pg. 4
3. Deaver Profile.....	pgs. 5-6
4. Big Horn County Profile.....	pgs. 7-18
5. Resource Team Members	pg. 19
6. Schedule of Assessment Listening Sessions.....	pg. 20
7. Major Themes and Subthemes.....	pg. 21
8. Team Member Recommendations.....	pgs. 22-38
9. What was said at the Listening Sessions	pgs. 39-52
10. 20 Clues to Rural Community Survival.....	pg. 53



Any recommendations contained herein are not mandatory. The Wyoming Rural Development Council has not endorsed any recommendations and opinions contained herein. Neither the WRDC, nor any of its employees, contract labor, 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.

PROCESS FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF THIS REPORT

The Wyoming Rural Development Council (WRDC) has provided a Resource Team to assist the Town of Deaver, Wyoming, in evaluating the community assets and liabilities, and in developing suggestions for improving the future for social, economic and environmental growth of Deaver.

The Town of Deaver requested a community assessment from the Wyoming Rural Development Council. Vana Camp served as the community contact and took the lead in agenda development, logistics, and publicity for the assessment. Resource Team members were selected to visit, interview citizens, business, and community leaders to develop a plan of recommended action for Deaver. The team members were carefully selected based on their fields of expertise that the Town of Deaver officials indicated would be needed to respond to the problem areas identified.

The Resource Team toured the town and interviewed approximately 82 people over a three day period from September 12th through the 14th 2006. The team interviewed representatives from the following segments of the community: recreation committee, high school students, law enforcement, agriculture, senior citizens, business, emergency services, college, middle school students, and the general public.

Many of these people had reviewed the questions with their respective businesses or organizations and were representing many people at the listening sessions. 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 Deaver?

What do you think are the major strengths and assets in Deaver?

What projects would you like to see implemented in 2, 5, 10, or 20 years in Deaver?

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

The oral report was presented to the people of Deaver on September 14th, 2006 and the many citizens who participated were in attendance.

Following the oral report, a formal written report is presented to the Town of Deaver.



EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

On behalf of the Deaver Community Assessment Resource Team, I would like to thank the town of Deaver (especially Vana Camp) and the community members who worked so hard to coordinate the Deaver Community Assessment. This report contains an abundance of information that will hopefully be used by the people of Deaver to better the community and reach its goals.

While reading this report, you will find a wide variety of recommendations made by the team members on the issues that were identified during the listening sessions. We encourage the town to use these recommendations to build a plan for the future of Deaver.

Anything is possible if everyone works together to achieve a common goal, as the community minded citizens of Deaver already know. Every step, no matter how small is a movement in the right direction toward achieving Deaver's goals. It can be done. What you do with the recommendations is your choice and will be accomplished by the dedicated citizens of Deaver.

Members of our team will return to Deaver to facilitate a follow-up meeting in the near future. The meeting will help determine the priorities and develop strategies for implementation in Deaver. We encourage everyone from the town to attend this meeting, even if they were unable to attend the community assessment. This follow-up goal setting meeting will identify both short term and long term goals for Deaver.

On behalf of the Town of Deaver Resource Assessment Team, let me express our gratitude for the hospitality shown us during our time in your community. Good luck on your challenges and visions.

Sincerely,

Ashley Bruner
Ashley Bruner
Team Leader





Deaver, WY

(please keep in mind that the following are estimates only and not meant to be exact figures of the current state of the community)

Deaver is located in Big Horn County just a few miles from the Montana border. The Town was named for its founder D. Clem Deaver, who was a railroad agent.

The first school was built in 1919 at the cost of approximately \$9,000. Today, the Town has a community park and a new community hall.

The Big Horn Mountains and close proximity to Cody and Yellowstone make Deaver a perfect place to enjoy the great outdoors. Fishing is popular in Deaver Reservoir, which is stocked with trout and walleye by the Wyoming Game and Fish Department.

Deaver Statistics	
County	Big Horn
Zip Code	82421
Elevation	4,105 feet above sea level
Latitude	44.88° north of the equator
Longitude	108.59° west of the prime meridian

Deaver Demographic Report (Estimate)

Population

The estimated 2005 population for Deaver was 151. The population in 1990 was 165 representing a -8.5% change. It is estimated that the population in Deaver will be 139 in 2010, representing a change of -7.9% from 2005. The population is 49.3% male and 50.7% female. The median age of the population is 37.3, compared to the U.S. median age which is 36.3. The population density is 148.3 people per square mile.

Households

There are 60 households in Deaver. The Census revealed household counts of 56 in 1990, representing an increase of 7.1%. It is estimated that the number of households in Deaver will be 59 in 2010, representing a change of -1.7% from 2005.

The median number of years in residence is 2.52. The average household size is 2.51 people and the average family size is 2.95 people. The average number of vehicles per household is 2.5.

Income

The median household income for Deaver is \$38,182, compared to the U.S. median which is \$46,350. The Census revealed a median household income of \$22,027 in 1990 representing a change of 73.3%. It is estimated that the median household income will be \$42,112 in 2010, which would represent an increase of 10.3% from 2005.

The per capita income is \$18,849, compared to the U.S. per capita, which is \$23,594. The 2005 average household income is \$47,845, compared to the U.S. average which is \$61,553.

Race & Ethnicity

The racial makeup of Deaver is as follows: 97.0% White; 0.0% Black; 0.4% Native American; 0.2% Asian/Pacific Islander; and 1.3% Other. Compare these to the U.S. racial makeup which is: 75.7% White, 12.2% Black, 0.8% Native American, 4.3% Asian/Pacific Islander and 4.6% Other.

People of Hispanic ethnicity are counted independently of race. People of Hispanic origin made up 3.4% of the current population, compared to the U.S. makeup of 14.4%.

Housing

The median housing value for Deaver was \$39,466 in 1990, compared to the U.S. median of \$78,382. The 2000 Census median housing value was \$72,725, which is a 84.3% change from 1990. In 1990, there were 45 owner occupied housing units in Deaver versus 65 in 2000. Also in 1990, there were 11 renter occupied housing units versus 12 in 2000. The average rent in 1990 was \$186 versus \$273 in 2000.

Employment

There are 78 people over the age of 16 in the labor force in Deaver. Of these 95.8% are employed, 3.5% are unemployed, 33.3% are not in the labor force and 0.4% are in the armed forces. In 1990, unemployment in this area was 3.3% and in 2000 it was 3.1%. There are 26 employees (daytime population) and there are 3 establishments.

In 1990, 36.5% of employees were employed in white-collar occupations and 63.5% were employed in blue-collar occupations. In 2000, white-collar workers made up 49.2% of the population, and those employed in blue-collar occupations made up 50.8%. In 1990, the average time traveled to work was 10 minutes and in 2000 it was 17 minutes.

Big Horn County Profile

POPULATION BY AGE: 2004		% of Total
Under 5 years	720	6.3%
5 to 14 years	1,599	14.0%
15 to 19 years	887	7.8%
20 to 24 years	876	7.7%
25 to 34 years	971	8.5%
35 to 44 years	1,354	11.9%
45 to 54 years	1,661	14.5%
55 to 64 years	1,430	12.5%
65 to 74 years	988	8.7%
75 years and over	930	8.1%
TOTAL	11,416	100.0%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau

CRIME OFFENSES BY CONTRIBUTOR: 2004	
Violent Crimes	14
Murder	0
Forcible Rape	5
Robbery	0
Aggravated Assault	9
Property Crimes	78
Burglary	20
Larceny-Theft	53
Motor Vehicle Theft	5
TOTAL	92

Source: State of Wyoming, Attorney General's Office, DCI

RACE AND HISPANIC ORIGIN	2004 Estimate	% of Total
TOTAL	11,416	100.0%
White alone	11,180	97.9%
Black or African American alone	16	0.1%
American Indian and Alaska Native alone	100	0.9%
Asian alone	37	0.3%
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander alone	6	0.1%
Two or More Races	77	0.7%

Race alone or in combination with one or more races:

White	11,257	98.6%
Black or African American	18	0.2%
American Indian and Alaska Native	171	1.5%
Asian	43	0.4%
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander	9	0.1%

Hispanic Origin:

Hispanic or Latino (of any race)	752	6.6%
Non-Hispanic or Latino	10,664	93.4%
White alone	10,458	91.6%

Note: Hispanic is an ethnic origin not a race.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau

COUNTY EMPLOYMENT STATISTICS	
Labor Force (Mar 2006) <i>p</i>	5,532
Employed (Mar 2006) <i>p</i>	5,260
Unemployed (Mar 2006) <i>p</i>	272
Unemployment Rate (Mar 2006) <i>p</i>	4.9%
Ave Weekly Wage - Covered Emp (Q3_05)	\$589

Source: State of Wyoming, Department of Employment and

U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics

p = preliminary

COUNTY FINANCE	
Assessed Valuation (For 2005)	\$173,667,087
Total Property Taxes Levied (2005)	\$12,962,952
Sales and Use Tax Distribution (FY2005)	\$3,017,874
Bank Deposits (6/30/2005)	\$188,837,000
2005 Ave. County Levy (mills)	74.643

Source: State of Wyoming, Department of Revenue and

Department of Audit

LANDOWNERS	Acres	Sq. Miles
United States Government		
National Park Service	17,322	27.1
Forest Service	351,160	548.7
Fish and Wildlife	0	0.0
Bureau of Land Management	1,103,778	1,724.7
Bureau of Reclamation	72,240	112.9
Wyoming		
State Lands Commission	70,557	110.2
Recreation Commission	200	0.3
Game and Fish	7,746	12.1
Local Government		
County	1,866	2.9
City	56	0.1
School District and Colleges	224	0.4
Other Lands	3,826	6.0
Surface Water	14,061	22.0
Total Public	1,628,975	2,545.3
Total Private	393,937	615.5
TOTAL LAND	2,022,912	3,160.8

Source: University of Wyoming, Department of Geography & Recreation

SELECTED STATISTICS: SCHOOL YEAR 2003-2004	
Number of School Districts	4
Number of Schools	18
Fall Enrollment	2,253
High School Graduates	173
Average Daily Membership (ADM)	2,226
Average Daily Attendance (ADA)	2,108
Certified Teachers	211
Certified Staff	36
Administration	26
Classified Staff	164
Students Transported Daily	707
Bonded Indebtedness, 6/30/2004	\$2,625,000
Total General Fund Revenues	\$22,589,435
Total General Fund Expenditures	\$23,126,197
Operating Cost Per ADM	\$12,379

Source: State of Wyoming, Department of Education,

Statistical Report Series No. 3, annual

FULL AND PART TIME EMPLOYMENT	2002	2003	EARNINGS (Thousands of Dollars)	2002	2003
Wage and Salary	4,883	4,860	Wage and Salary	\$135,804	\$140,846
Proprietors	1,908	1,962	Proprietors	\$20,121	\$28,292
			Supplements to Wages and Salaries*	\$29,046	\$31,589
Farm	656	633	Farm	\$7,006	\$14,315
Forestry, Fishing, Related Activities	(D)	(D)	Forestry, Fishing, Related Activities	(D)	(D)
Mining	836	852	Mining	\$40,356	\$45,684
Utilities	29	27	Utilities	\$1,965	\$1,905
Construction	435	442	Construction	\$13,015	\$13,091
Manufacturing	218	272	Manufacturing	\$7,099	\$8,803
Wholesale Trade	243	239	Wholesale Trade	\$6,624	\$7,074
Retail Trade	501	503	Retail Trade	\$8,885	\$9,549
Transportation and Warehousing	196	197	Transportation and Wareh	\$9,618	\$9,818
Information	95	93	Information	\$3,327	\$3,471
Finance and Insurance	188	187	Finance and Insurance	\$5,083	\$5,184
Real Estate, Rental and Leasing	96	92	Real Estate, Rental and Leasing	\$281	\$280
Professional and Technical Services	177	193	Professional and Technical Services	\$4,283	\$4,724
Management of Companies and Enterprises	(D)	(D)	Management of Companies and Enterprises	(D)	(D)
Administrative and Waste Services	(D)	(D)	Administrative and Waste Services	(D)	(D)
Educational Services	(D)	(D)	Educational Services	(D)	(D)
Health Care and Social Assistance	(D)	(D)	Health Care and Social Assistance	(D)	(D)
Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation	82	(D)	Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation	\$1,216	(D)
Accommodation and Food Services	407	(D)	Accommodation and Food Services	\$3,867	(D)
Other Services, except Public Administration	322	331	Other Services, except Public Administration	\$3,404	\$3,582
Government and Government Enterprises	1,499	1,493	Government and Government Enterprises	\$47,671	\$49,760
TOTAL	6,791	6,822	TOTAL	\$184,971	\$200,727

*Supplements to Wages and Salaries include employer contributions for employee pension and insurance funds, and for government social insurance.

(D) - not shown to avoid disclosure of confidential information.

Source: U.S. Dept. of Commerce, Bureau of Economic Analysis, Regional Economic Information System

PERSONAL INCOME	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003
Total Personal Income (000)	\$215,028	\$228,830	\$235,766	\$255,248	\$254,179	\$269,789
Per Capita Personal Income	\$18,666	\$19,933	\$20,640	\$22,584	\$22,634	\$24,082
Per Capita Current Transfer Receipts*	\$3,468	\$3,579	\$3,672	\$4,025	\$4,279	\$4,430
Per Capita Dividend, Interest, and Rent	\$4,308	\$4,416	\$4,530	\$4,531	\$4,284	\$4,217

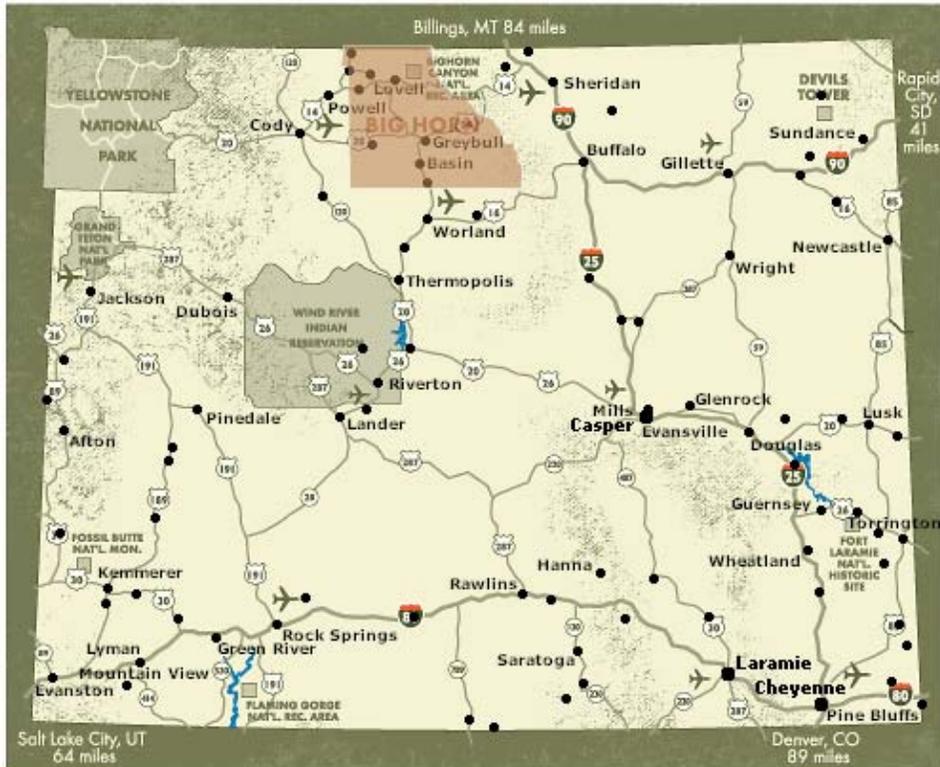
*Current Transfer Receipts mainly include social security, disability, Medicare and medicaid, and other income maintenance payments.

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of Economic Analysis, Regional Economic Information System

SALES TAX COLLECTIONS	FY 2004	FY 2004	FY 2005	FY 2005
INDUSTRY (NAICS)	Total Taxes	4% Taxes	Total Taxes	4% Taxes
Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing, & Hunting	\$1,229	\$983	\$2,693	\$2,154
Mining	\$216,871	\$173,496	\$259,796	\$207,836
Utilities	\$516,970	\$413,533	\$634,659	\$507,727
Construction	\$53,959	\$43,213	\$113,314	\$90,702
Manufacturing	\$128,727	\$103,026	\$126,562	\$101,206
Wholesale Trade	\$510,031	\$407,979	\$609,925	\$487,948
Retail Trade	\$1,930,314	\$1,544,158	\$1,994,259	\$1,595,415
Transportation & Warehousing	\$36,800	\$29,440	\$41,545	\$33,236
Information	\$290,902	\$232,722	\$319,231	\$255,385
Financial Activities	\$236,074	\$188,783	\$177,342	\$141,874
Professional & Business Services	\$39,915	\$31,932	\$32,052	\$25,642
Educational & Health Services	\$1,427	\$1,142	\$1,611	\$1,289
Leisure & Hospitality	\$386,166	\$308,929	\$371,930	\$297,544
Other Services	\$254,087	\$203,269	\$239,761	\$191,808
Public Administration	\$664,478	\$531,582	\$584,385	\$467,508
TOTAL	\$5,267,950	\$4,214,187	\$5,509,065	\$4,407,274

Note: Total sales tax collections may include both 4% state imposed taxes and local optional (up to 2%) taxes.

Source: State of Wyoming, Department of Revenue



Workforce Training

1. Wyoming Department of Workforce Services offers employers up to \$2,000 per employee for training. (<http://wyomingworkforce.org/how/wdftp.aspx>).
2. Quick Start
Wyoming is the first state approved to license the State of Georgia's Quick Start program. The Wyoming Business Council and the Wyoming Community Colleges are partnering to provide training in:

- Customer Service
- Manufacturing
- Warehousing and Distribution

(<http://www.wyomingbusiness.org/business/workforce.aspx>)

State Incentives

1. No corporate state income tax.
2. No personal state income tax.
3. Community Development Block Grants administered by Wyoming Business Council.
Source: <http://www.wyomingbusiness.org/community/cdbg.aspx>
 - Provides grants to local governments for community and economic development projects.
 - Provides convertible loans to grants based on job creation.
4. Partnership Challenge Loan Program administered by Wyoming Business Council.
Source: <http://www.wyomingbusiness.org/financial/loan.aspx>
 - Provides low interest loans to community development organizations.

- Provides gap financing for projects with the Wyoming Business Council participating with a commercial lender.
- 5. Industrial Development Revenue Bonds. Cities and counties may issue tax-exempt bonds to provide financing for manufacturing. *Source: <http://www.wyomingbusiness.org/financial/idrb.aspx>.*

Taxes

1. No corporate state income tax.
2. No personal state income tax.
3. No inventory tax.
4. Big Horn County has a 5% sales and use tax (statewide base of 4% plus 1% optional county tax). *Source: Wyoming Department of Revenue, Excise Tax Division (April 2006)*
5. Unemployment Insurance - taxable base rate of \$17,100. Tax rates by industry grouping - WY Dept. of Employment. *Source: <http://wydoe.state.wy.us/doe.asp?ID=831>.*
6. Workers' Compensation - rates vary by occupation and can be found at: *Source: <http://wydoe.state.wy.us/doe.asp?ID=803>.*
7. Property taxes. Average tax rate in Big Horn County is 7.4331%. *Source: Wyoming Department of Revenue, Ad Valorem Division*

Tax computation:

Fair Market Value of Property * Level of Assessment (9.5% for Residential and Commercial Property) * Tax Rate

Example: Tax on a commercial facility valued at \$1,000,000 is as follows: \$1,000,000 x 0.095 = \$95,000 x 0.074331 = \$7,061.

State assesses agricultural lands at 9.5% of agricultural value, residential and commercial at 9.5% and industrial at 11.5% of fair market value.

Telecommunications

Available Services:

Allwest

P.O. Box 588
Kamas, UT 84036

Phone: (435) 783-4361

Fax: (435) 783-4928

Website: www.allwest.net

Services offered: (Basin, Burlington, Byron, Cowley, Deaver, Greybull, Lovell, Manderson) Web Hosting

TRI Country Telephone

P.O. Box 310
Basin, WY 82410

Phone: (307) 568-2427

Fax: (307) 568-2506

Website: www.tctwest.net

Services offered: (Basin, Burlington, Byron, Cowley, Deaver, Greybull, Lovell, Manderson) DSL, ISDN-BRI, T-1, Web Hosting

Visionary

P.O. Box 2799
Gillette, WY 82717

Phone: (888) 682-1884

Fax: (307) 682-2519

Website: www.vcn.com

Services offered: Web Hosting

Source: Wyoming Business Council

Power Cost

Weighted Average Cost per kWh of Power

2001

Cents per kWh of industrial power	3.24
Cents per kWh of commercial power	5.19
Cents per kWh of residential power	6.51

	Industrial	Commercial	Residential
Basin Town of (2000)	15.26	5.92	5.37
Big Horn Rural Electric Company (2000) 208 South 5 th Street Basin, WY 82410 (800) 564-2419	4.08	6.06	7.78
Deaver City of (2000)	N/A	N/A	6.85
Garland Light & Power Company (2000) 755 U.S. Highway 14 Alternate Powell, WY 82435 (307) 754-2881	N/A	9.44	7.25
High Plains Power, Inc. (2001) 504 Freemont Thermopolis, WY 82443 (307) 864-3157	3.54	6.19	7.21
PacifiCorp (2001) 825 NE Multnomah Portland, OR 97232 (888) 221-7070	3.24	5.14	6.44

Source: bizsitesDATA.com (U.S. Department of Energy, Energy Information Administration)

Cost of Living Index (Prices as of January 4, 5, and 6, 2006, Statewide Average = 100)

Food	Housing	Apparel	Transportation	Medical	Recreation & Personal Care
94	78	113	100	99	104

Source: State of Wyoming, Economic Analysis Division (<http://eadiv.state.wy.us/wcli/NewsRelease-2Q05.pdf>).

Average Price of Single-Family Home (2004) [\$76,279]

Source: A Profile of Wyoming (http://www.wyomingcda.com/PDFfiles/ProfileJune05_Link.pdf).

Higher Education

Northwest College: Campuses in Powell and Cody
University of Wyoming Outreach Program

Transportation

1. Airports:

Worland Municipal (WRL)

3 miles south of Worland.

Commercial Service: Great Lakes (United Express)

Daily flights to: Denver, Riverton

Runway: 7,004 x 100 ft., asphalt

Fixed Base Operators: Sky Aviation

Yellowstone Regional (COD)

East edge of Cody

Commercial Service: Sky West, Great Lakes (United Express)

Daily flights to: Salt Lake City, Denver

Runway: 8,276 x 100 ft., asphalt

Fixed Base Operators: Spirit Mountain Aviation

North Big Horn County (U68)

2 miles north of Cowley

Runway: 5,199 x 60 ft., asphalt

Fixed Base Operators: yes

South Big Horn County (GEY)

2 miles northwest of Greybull

Runways: 6,300 x 100 ft., asphalt

Fixed Base Operators: Hawkins and Powers

2. Highways:

Distance from county center to nearest Interstate highway = 46.59 miles (I-90)

U.S. 14

U.S. 16

U.S. 20

U.S. 310

3. Railroad:

Burlington Northern Santa Fe

Big Horn County Business Report (Estimate)

Daytime Population: Total Employees	4,713	
Business Counts: Total Establishments	672	
Employees By Occupation	2005	% of Total
<i>"White Collar" Employees</i>	2,559	54.3%

Administrative Support Workers	795	16.9%
Executive Managers & Administrators	403	8.6%
Professional Specialty Occupations	835	17.7%
Sales Professionals	61	1.3%
Sales Workers & Clerks	319	6.8%
Technical Sales & Administrative	13	0.3%
Technologies & Technicians	133	2.8%
"Blue Collar" Employees	2,078	44.1%
Construction, Repair & Mining	184	3.9%
Farming, Forestry & Fishing	175	3.7%
Handlers, Helpers & Laborers	115	2.4%
Machine Operators, Assemblers & Inspectors	106	2.3%
Other Services Field Based	30	0.6%
Other Services Site Based	806	17.1%
Precision Craft & Repair	437	9.3%
Private Household Service	0	0.0%
Protective Services	74	1.6%
Transportation & Materials Moving Workers	151	3.2%
<hr/>		
Establishments: Size	2005	% of Total
1 - 4 Employees	475	70.7%
5 - 9 Employees	97	14.4%
10 - 19 Employees	51	7.6%
20 - 49 Employees	31	4.6%
50 - 99 Employees	8	1.2%
100 - 249 Employees	10	1.5%
250 - 499 Employees	0	0.0%
500 - 999 Employees	0	0.0%
1,000+ Employees	0	0.0%
<hr/>		
Major Industry: Employees	2005	% of Total
Agricultural, Forestry, Fishing	99	2.1%
Construction	131	2.8%
Finance, Insurance & Real Estate	140	3.0%
Manufacturing	204	4.3%
Mining	445	9.4%
Public Administration	431	9.1%
Retail Trade	708	15.0%
Services	2,078	44.1%
Transportation & Communications	335	7.1%
Unclassified	76	1.6%
Wholesale Trade	66	1.4%
<hr/>		
Major Industry: Establishments	2005	% of Total

Agricultural, Forestry, Fishing	27	4.0%
Construction	40	6.0%
Finance, Insurance & Real Estate	38	5.7%
Manufacturing	23	3.4%
Mining	7	1.0%
Public Administration	68	10.1%
Retail Trade	123	18.3%
Services	258	38.4%
Transportation & Communications	54	8.0%
Unclassified	13	1.9%
Wholesale Trade	21	3.1%
<hr/>		
Retail Trade: Employees	2005	% of Total
<hr/>		
Auto Dealers & Gas Stations	117	16.5%
Bars	20	2.8%
Building Materials Hardware & Garden	48	6.8%
Catalog and Direct Sales	0	0.0%
Clothing Stores	8	1.1%
Convenience Stores	77	10.9%
Drug Stores	14	2.0%
Electronics & Computer Stores	1	0.1%
Food Markets	54	7.6%
Furniture Stores	26	3.7%
General Merchandise Stores	3	0.4%
Home Furnishings	10	1.4%
Liquor Stores	6	0.8%
Music Stores	0	0.0%
Other Food Service	29	4.1%
Other Food Stores	18	2.5%
Restaurants	241	34.0%
Specialty Stores	36	5.1%
Total Retail Trade	708	100.0%
<hr/>		
Retail Trade: Establishments	2005	% of Total
<hr/>		
Auto Dealers & Gas Stations	24	19.5%
Bars	9	7.3%
Building Materials Hardware & Garden	13	10.6%
Catalog & Direct Sales	0	0.0%
Clothing Stores	4	3.3%
Convenience Stores	7	5.7%
Drug Stores	2	1.6%
Electronics & Computer Stores	1	0.8%
Food Markets	4	3.3%
Furniture Stores	6	4.9%

General Merchandise Stores	1	0.8%
Home Furnishings	4	3.3%
Liquor Stores	2	1.6%
Music Stores	0	0.0%
Other Food Service	3	2.4%
Other Food Stores	2	1.6%
Restaurants	23	18.7%
Specialty Stores	18	14.6%
Total Retail Trade	123	100.0%
<hr/>		
Service: Employees	2005	% of Total
Advertising	0	0.0%
Auto Repair/Services	45	2.2%
Beauty and Barber Shops	27	1.3%
Child Care Services	31	1.5%
Colleges & Universities	0	0.0%
Computer Services	3	0.1%
Dry Cleaning & Laundry	0	0.0%
Entertainment & Recreation Services	64	3.1%
Health & Medical Services	420	20.2%
Hospitals	357	17.2%
Hotels & Lodging	45	2.2%
Legal Services	28	1.3%
Membership Organizations	58	2.8%
Miscellaneous Repair Services	13	0.6%
Motion Pictures	8	0.4%
Museums & Zoos	8	0.4%
Other Business Services	189	9.1%
Other Education & Library Services	23	1.1%
Other Personal Service	21	1.0%
Primary & Secondary Education	586	28.2%
Professional Services	24	1.2%
Social Services	128	6.2%
Total Services	2,078	100.0%
<hr/>		
Service: Establishments	2005	% of Total
Advertising	0	0.0%
Auto Repair/Services	23	8.9%
Beauty and Barber Shops	15	5.8%
Child Care Services	8	3.1%
Colleges & Universities	0	0.0%
Computer Services	1	0.4%
Dry Cleaning & Laundry	0	0.0%
Entertainment & Recreation Services	15	5.8%

Health & Medical Services	21	8.1%
Hospitals	4	1.6%
Hotels & Lodging	20	7.8%
Legal Services	9	3.5%
Membership Organizations	38	14.7%
Miscellaneous Repair Services	10	3.9%
Motion Pictures	3	1.2%
Museums & Zoos	3	1.2%
Other Business Services	15	5.8%
Other Education & Library Services	7	2.7%
Other Personal Service	11	4.3%
Primary & Secondary Education	24	9.3%
Professional Services	12	4.7%
Social Services	19	7.4%
Total Services	258	100.0%

Big Horn County Consumer Expenditure Report (Estimate)

	2005 Estimate	2010 Projection	% Change 2005 - 2010
Total Households	4,374	4,434	1.4%
Total Average Household Expenditure	\$40,288	\$42,691	6.0%
Total Average Retail Expenditure	\$17,656	\$18,670	5.7%

Consumer Expenditure Detail (Average Household Annual Expenditures)

	2005 Estimate	2010 Projection	% Change 2005 - 2010
Airline Fares	\$255.30	\$274.81	7.6%
Alcoholic Beverages	\$412.02	\$442.14	7.3%
Alimony & Child Support	\$192.16	\$207.01	7.7%
Apparel	\$1,749.40	\$1,850.51	5.8%
Apparel Services & Accessories	\$265.17	\$284.73	7.4%
Audio Equipment	\$68.24	\$71.99	5.5%
Babysitting & Elderly Care	\$297.25	\$315.80	6.2%
Books	\$49.54	\$52.64	6.3%
Books & Supplies	\$106.78	\$116.39	9.0%
Boys Apparel	\$96.58	\$100.74	4.3%
Cellular Phone Service	\$210.33	\$219.95	4.6%
Cigarettes	\$294.44	\$302.39	2.7%
Computer Hardware	\$269.21	\$289.19	7.4%
Computer Information Services	\$26.49	\$28.44	7.4%
Computer Software	\$38.71	\$41.53	7.3%
Contributions	\$1,405.72	\$1,518.56	8.0%
Coolant & Other Fluids	\$6.59	\$6.95	5.5%
Cosmetics & Perfume	\$79.85	\$84.41	5.7%

Deodorants & Other Personal Care	\$22.14	\$23.37	5.6%
Education	\$756.13	\$823.54	8.9%
Electricity	\$1,128.21	\$1,174.50	4.1%
Entertainment	\$2,174.59	\$2,312.72	6.4%
Fees & Admissions	\$504.37	\$548.33	8.7%
Finance Chgs Exc Mort & Veh	\$414.12	\$438.54	5.9%
Floor Coverings	\$50.83	\$56.09	10.3%
Food & Beverages	\$6,175.39	\$6,495.45	5.2%
Food At Home	\$3,392.73	\$3,531.70	4.1%
Food Away From Home	\$2,370.64	\$2,521.61	6.4%
Footwear	\$318.93	\$333.29	4.5%
Fuel Oil & Other Fuels	\$112.95	\$118.49	4.9%
Funeral & Cemetery	\$71.63	\$75.89	5.9%
Furniture	\$420.95	\$453.90	7.8%
Gasoline & Oil	\$1,466.30	\$1,540.60	5.1%
Gifts	\$1,030.04	\$1,116.44	8.4%
Girls Apparel	\$115.15	\$120.96	5.0%
Hair Care	\$43.87	\$46.32	5.6%
Hard Surface Flooring	\$21.04	\$22.49	6.9%
Health Care	\$2,643.69	\$2,767.42	4.7%
Health Care Insurance	\$1,373.32	\$1,437.82	4.7%
Health Care Services	\$638.32	\$666.08	4.3%
Health Care Supplies & Equip	\$632.05	\$663.52	5.0%
Household Services	\$240.26	\$259.84	8.1%
Household Supplies	\$550.34	\$592.70	7.7%
Household Textiles	\$120.37	\$128.43	6.7%
Housewares & Small App	\$767.61	\$824.35	7.4%
Indoor Plants & Fresh Flowers	\$51.04	\$54.75	7.3%
Infants Apparel	\$87.83	\$92.43	5.2%
Jewelry	\$106.48	\$114.50	7.5%
Legal & Accounting	\$78.08	\$82.68	5.9%
Magazines	\$27.73	\$29.46	6.2%
Major Appliances	\$200.46	\$212.71	6.1%
Mass Transit	\$68.46	\$73.72	7.7%
Men's Apparel	\$299.42	\$317.62	6.1%
Mortgage Interest	\$2,980.64	\$3,218.79	8.0%
Natural Gas	\$423.59	\$443.63	4.7%
New Car Purchased	\$1,203.96	\$1,302.12	8.2%
New Truck Purchased	\$927.14	\$1,003.21	8.2%
New Vehicle Purchase	\$2,131.10	\$2,305.33	8.2%
Newspapers	\$58.09	\$61.70	6.2%
Oral Hygiene Products	\$20.30	\$21.45	5.7%
Other Lodging	\$396.33	\$436.20	10.1%

Other Miscellaneous Expenses	\$79.77	\$84.44	5.9%
Other Repairs & Maintenance	\$120.34	\$128.70	6.9%
Other Tobacco Products	\$32.73	\$33.58	2.6%
Other Transportation Costs	\$452.33	\$485.15	7.3%
Other Utilities	\$346.98	\$363.64	4.8%
Paint & Wallpaper	\$53.71	\$57.29	6.7%
Personal Care Products	\$131.73	\$139.20	5.7%
Personal Care Services	\$377.04	\$398.43	5.7%
Personal Insurance	\$407.70	\$438.91	7.7%
Pet Supplies & Services	\$217.43	\$229.73	5.7%
Photographic Equip & Supplies	\$97.73	\$103.36	5.8%
Plumbing & Heating	\$90.70	\$97.45	7.4%
Property Taxes	\$1,305.68	\$1,408.51	7.9%
Public Transportation	\$396.48	\$426.74	7.6%
Records/Tapes/CD Purchases	\$108.88	\$114.64	5.3%
Recreational Equip & Supplies	\$885.75	\$938.28	5.9%
Rental Costs	\$2,393.55	\$2,432.87	1.6%
Roofing & Siding	\$65.94	\$70.60	7.1%
Satellite Dishes	\$8.57	\$9.02	5.3%
Shaving Needs	\$9.44	\$9.97	5.6%
Shelter	\$8,063.28	\$8,551.27	6.1%
Telephone Svc Excl Cell	\$821.52	\$859.84	4.7%
Televisions	\$99.83	\$105.23	5.4%
Transportation	\$8,328.46	\$8,827.76	6.0%
Tuition	\$649.35	\$707.15	8.9%
Used Car Purchase	\$1,098.02	\$1,141.99	4.0%
Used Truck Purchase	\$669.10	\$696.35	4.1%
Used Vehicle Purchase	\$1,767.12	\$1,838.34	4.0%
VCRs & Related Equipment	\$41.07	\$43.25	5.3%
Vehicle Insurance	\$984.09	\$1,036.42	5.3%
Vehicle Repair	\$658.35	\$693.84	5.4%
Vehicle Repair & Maintenance	\$664.94	\$700.79	5.4%
Video & Audio Equipment	\$784.47	\$826.11	5.3%
Video Game Hardware & Software	\$25.59	\$26.91	5.2%
Watches	\$19.37	\$20.80	7.4%
Women's Apparel	\$566.32	\$600.74	6.1%

Resource Team Members

Deaver, Wyoming

September 12-14, 2006

Team Leader

Ashley Bruner
2219 Carey Avenue
Cheyenne, WY 82002
307-777-5812
307-777-6593 fax
abrune@state.wy.us

Mark Hughes

Wyoming State Forestry
1100 W. 22nd
Cheyenne, WY 82002
307-777-7586
307-286-1011 cell
mhughe@state.wy.us

Mark Hicks

Wyoming Veterans Commission
LTC Hardy V. Ratcliff National Guard Armory Room 101 5905 CY Avenue
Casper, WY 82604
307-265-7372
wvac@bresnan.net

Leslie Kedelty

Wyoming Travel & Tourism
I-25 @ College Drive
Cheyenne, WY 82002
307-777-2839
leslie.kedelty@visitwyo.gov

Community Contact:

Vana Camp
307-664-2736



Resource Team Agenda Deaver, WY of Big Horn County

Tuesday September 12, 2006

- 7:30 to 8:30 Breakfast at Cowtown
- 9:00 to 10:15 Resource Team meeting-Deaver Community Hall
- 10:15 to 10:30 Break
- 10:30 to 11:00 Meet with Community Resource Team planners.
- 11:30 to 1:00 Lunch meeting at Cowtown in Cowley with Town Government
- 2:00 to 3:00 Tour of Deaver and surrounding area
- 3:00 to 3:30 Break
- 3:30 to 4:30 Meet with Rec. Committee
- 5:30 to 6:30 Pizza dinner with High School at Community Hall
- 7:00 to 8:00 Open meeting Deaver Community Hall

Wednesday September 13, 2006

- 7:30 to 8:30 Breakfast at Cowtown
- 9:00 to 10:00 Law enforcement listening Session
- 10:00 to 10:15 Break
- 10:30 to 11:30 Agriculture listening group
- 11:30 to 12:30 Lunch with Seniors
- 12:30 to 1:30 Seniors listening Session
- 1:30 to 2:00 Break
- 2:00 to 3:00 Business listening group
- 4:00 to 5:00 Emergency Services Group
- 6:00 to 7:00 Dinner brought in to Community Hall
- 7:00 to 8:00 Open meeting Deaver Community Hall

Thursday September 14, 2006

- 7:30 to 8:30 Breakfast at Cowtown
- 9:30 to 10:30 Middle School Listening Session
- 11:00 to 12:00 College Listening Session
- 12:00 to 1:30 Lunch Cowtown
- 1:30 to 5:00 Team prepares for Town Meeting.
- 6:00 to 7:00 Mayor and Council serve dinner
- 7:00 to 8:00 Town Meeting. Resource Team presents their oral report.

All listening sessions unless otherwise stated will be held in town hall.

MAJOR THEMES

School closing-an overarching theme

Recreation/Activities

- Enhance existing projects and facilities
- Youth, seniors and adults
- Walking path
- Recreation/wellness center

Beautification

- Pride
- Town cleanup/landscaping
- Entryways

Business Development & Retention

- Light manufacturing
- Restaurant
- Jobs for youth

Housing

- Vacant lots
- Senior
- Planned growth

Emergency Services

- Equipment/Facilities
 - Ambulance
 - Fire
 - Police
 - First responders
- Communication
 - Dispatch
 - Radio/pagers
 - Telecommunications

Team Member Recommendations

Team Leader

Ashley Bruner

2219 Carey Avenue

Cheyenne, WY 82002

307-777-5812

307-777-6593 fax

abrune@state.wy.us

Introduction

I would like to extend my sincere thanks to the people of Deaver for the warm reception and open, honest discussions that were held during the assessment. I found Deaver to be an exceptionally friendly community with residents who have a lot of pride and a spirit of volunteerism that can't be beat. What we heard while in Deaver was that the residents already have a good quality of life, but that there are some projects that could enhance the positive things already in place. I applaud the community members for such a strong showing at the listening sessions and town meeting (although who wouldn't want to come with such great food). I look forward to seeing great successes in the future from Deaver whose residents truly have great community spirit.

Theme: Business Retention and Development

Challenges: Light manufacturing and jobs for youth

Solutions:

The resource team heard in nearly every listening session about the need for jobs for youth and more businesses in Deaver. The team also heard that the residents wanted light manufacturing type businesses in town that will not disrupt the quiet way of life in Deaver.

To recruit light manufacturing businesses I recommend that you contact Manufacturing Works®. Manufacturing Works® is a non-profit organization that provides technical, strategic and human resource assistance to both manufactures and other technical oriented businesses-this can be offered free of charge. In order to recruit and maintain a business in Deaver, you need to be able to show that there is a workforce. The team heard that the vocational education programs may be cut from the high school and that there was a need for more vocational/technical education overall. I recommend that you contact Northwest College in Powell, they can give information about their programs for both youth and adults, which can then, in turn give the youth a chance to find employment in Deaver. I also recommend contacting Laramie County Community College as they have excellent vocational/technical education programs available to people statewide (and some can be taken online).

While there is no easy, quick fix solution to the jobs for youth, I think that if Deaver can find someone to re-open a restaurant in town, that would help. Another idea is for some of the youth to become entrepreneurs and maybe start up their own business to offer yard work, house work, etc to the residents of Deaver. This could be a great connection to bring help to those who need

it, such as the elderly while giving the kids some extra money. I recommend that you contact the Small Business Development Center and USDA Rural Development as they may have programs and/or technical assistance that could be helpful for this endeavor.

Resources:

Andy F. Rose, P.E.

Covering Big Horn, Hot Springs, Park, Washakie, Johnson and Sheridan counties

Field Engineer

143 South Bent Street, Suite B

Powell, WY 82435

307-754-4832 (office)

307-754-0368 (fax)

307-272-5426 (cell)

E-mail: arose@wir.net

Laramie County Community College

1400 East College Drive

Cheyenne, WY 82007

307-778-LCCC

800-522-2993

<http://www.lccc.cc.wy.us/>

USDA Northwest Area Office

Ann Stoeger, Rural Development Manager

Serving Big Horn, Hot Springs, Park, and Washakie counties

208 Shiloh Road

Worland, WY 82401-2914

Telephone 307-347-2456 ext. 4

Fax 307-347-2802

email to: ann.stoeger@wy.usda.gov

Small Business Development Centers

Bruce Morse

143 South Bent Street, Suite A

Powell, WY 82435

(307) 754-2139 or 800-383-0371

Fax: (307) 754-0368

e-mail: bmorse1@uwyo.edu

Theme: Recreation

Challenges: recreation opportunities for youth, adults and seniors

Solution:

I would recommend some activities for the youth to become involved with if they are not already. These include: 4-H, FFA and Girls/Boy Scouts. These are all excellent programs for every age of youth. I would also recommend looking into Big Brothers/Big Sisters as a way for the adults and seniors to connect with the youth in Deaver. I have listed the contact information for the Women's Sports Foundation below, they have a program to help educate and advertise for community events involving athletics that may be helpful to draw residents together through physical activities.

Resources:

www.womenssportsfoundation.org

Grant for education and advertising and,
RYKÄ Women's Fitness Grant

To provide financial assistance to fitness programs that: 1) empower and enhance the self-esteem of women aged 25 and older, 2) combine fitness activities and health education and/or 3) serve women recovering from health and/or emotional challenges.

State 4-H Office

Cooperative Extension Service

University of Wyoming

Dept. 3354

1000 E. University Ave.

Laramie, WY 82071

1-307-766-5170

Girl Scout Council of Wyoming

P O Box 50307 Casper, WY 82605

800.359.0227 FAX 307.266.9174

Boy Scouts of America National Council

P.O. Box 152079 ·

Irving, Texas 75015-2079

Boy Scouts Central Wyoming Council

3939 Mountain Rd.

Casper, WY 82602-1506

Tel 307-234-7329

Web site: <http://www.wyoscouts.org>

BYRON - Rocky Mountain FFA

Rocky Mountain High

Big Brothers Big Sisters of South Big Horn Basin, Inc.

111 North 12th

Worland, WY 82401-1757

bbbs@rtconnect.net

<http://www.rtconnect.net/~bbbs/>

(307) 347-8875

Theme: Emergency Services

Challenges: Equipment/facilities, first responders, communication

Solutions:

During the Deaver assessment, the resource team heard often about the need for better communication, equipment, facilities, first responders and training for first responders. While it seemed as though residents and the town are already addressing this issue, I have included the contact information for the Wyoming Department of Homeland Security (they have training grants available at no charge). I have done some research into grant assistance or technical assistance on this subject and I have not been able to find many resources that are not already being utilized currently or looked into in Deaver. I recommend that Deaver persevere in working with the county and agencies to make certain that you get as much assistance as possible, contact homeland security and Big Horn County to make sure they are fully aware of your needs. I also recommend visiting with the Lovell Fire Department as they have been successful in obtaining resources for the department.

Resources:

Wyoming Office of Homeland Security

122 West 25th St.
Herschler Bldg, 1st Floor East
Cheyenne, Wyoming 82002
(307) 777-HOME (4663)
Fax (307) 635-6017

Federal Emergency Management Agency

<http://www.fema.gov/>

Theme: Miscellaneous

Challenges: grant assistance and support for community projects

Solution:

I recommend contacting the Resource Conservation and Development Council in your area to learn how they can benefit your community. They can help to find and write grants for community projects that may be helpful to you.

Resources:

Aaron Waller

Northeastern Wyoming RC&D
760 West Fetterman
Buffalo, WY 82834
307-684-2590
Aaron.waller@wy.usda.gov

Leslie Kedelty

Industry Services Manager
Wyoming Travel & Tourism
I-25 @ College Drive
Cheyenne, WY 82002
Ph. No. 307.777.2839
Fax No. 307.777.2877
Leslie.Kedelty@visitwyo.gov

Introduction:

I had the opportunity to spend three days in your community from September 12-14, 2006. I had never been to the Big Horn Basin before and was so impressed with your sense of community, the tremendous amount of community pride, and the quality of life you enjoy as a Deaver resident! I have heard more positive comments than negative comments throughout the week and it was thoroughly refreshing. It was a refreshing change. The Town of Deaver demonstrated true western hospitality and made the Resource Team feel welcome with the awesome hospitality by the Town Leadership and residents alike.

The closure of the middle school seems to be the number one concern by the community and serves as an overarching theme that impacts each of the other concerns of the community. It has both a positive and negative impact on the Town of Deaver. The positive impact is that the school will leave behind the infrastructure for potential projects that have been voiced by the community. The negative aspect is that the school is the number one employer for the community and jobs will be relocated to Cowley.

Theme: RECREATION/ACTIVITIES

Challenge: Residents both young and old alike have expressed their concern on the lack of recreation opportunities for all age groups. Seniors would like to develop walking trails and a wellness center in addition to the need for recreational activities for Deaver's younger residents. The middle school students expressed their gratitude for a lovely park, playground, and beautification efforts of the Town but expressed that the playground was aimed at smaller children. Similar concerns were expressed by the high school students.

Solution:

Upon closure of the school, the Town of Deaver has the option to purchase the school property from state. This provides several opportunities. The gymnasium can serve as a wellness/recreation center for the residents of Deaver. The wellness center could provide an exercise room with state of the art equipment, sauna, pool, and various exercise/wellness classes aimed at both the old and young alike. In addition, the Town can include the development of walking paths as part of the wellness activities of the center.

Resources:

The Town of Deaver needs to begin the planning process for the purchase, enhancement and operation of the school if it decides to pursue the wellness/recreation center. The school can be purchased with funds from the Wyoming Business Council - Community Facilities Grant and Loan program. In addition, monies can be used to expand, renovate, or remodel the school. An

additional source of funding for planning and development would be the USDA Community Facilities Loan program. The community can also tap into the Wyoming Department of Transportation – Transportation Enhancement Program to develop pedestrian and bicycle paths. There are two funding streams – the Transportation Enhancement Activity-Local (TEAL) and the Transportation Enhancement Activity-State (TEAS). Lastly, the Boys and Girls Club of America can also serve as a partner in regards to additional recreational and leadership opportunities for the youth of Deaver and surrounding communities. A community assessment is required to pursue a Boys and Girls Club so Deaver is ahead of the game. There is a great deal of information on their website at: <http://www.bgca.org/howeare>.

- Shannon Stanfill, Community Facilities Program Manager, Wyoming Business Council, 214 W. 15th Street, Cheyenne, WY 82002, Ph. No. (307) 777-2841, Email: shannon.stanfill@wybusiness.org
- Ann Stoeger, Acting Rural Development Manager, USDA Service Center, 208 Shiloh Road, Worland, WY, 82401-8729, Ph. No. (307) 347-2456
- Boys and Girls Clubs of America, Southwest Service Center, 2107 N. Collins Blvd., Richardson, TX 75080, Ph. No. (972) 690-1393, Fax No. (972) 690-1393.
- Shelby Carlson, District Engineer, District #5, 218 West C. Basin, WY 82410, Ph. No. (307) 568-3400, Fax No. (307) 568-9318, Email: Shelby.carlson@dot.state.wy.us

Theme: HOUSING

Challenge:

The Town of Deaver is in a land lock due to the unoccupied lots throughout the community that are owned by individuals who are not full time residents of the community and are unwilling to sell to the Town. There are no penalties or codes to address the situation. In addition, there are no zoning ordinances to assist in planned growth for the community. This would be important for residential and commercial development. Deaver seniors also voiced their need for senior housing. The Senior Center Program in Cowley delivers a meal once a month to area residents and daily meal service to those qualified for the Meals-on-Wheels program.

Solution:

The Town of Deaver needs to develop a community land use plan and develop ordinances to address the vacant lots. Again, the school closing can provide an opportunity to provide affordable senior housing by converting the classrooms into apartments and using the existing school cafeteria for meal service. In addition, a small clinic could also be housed there as well to conduct routine check ups. The nearby gymnasium again can serve as a wellness center and provide a variety of exercise classes to keep seniors active. Again, the Town of Deaver can access Wyoming Business Council funds to purchase, expand, renovate or remodel the school.

Resources:

A community land use plan can be developed leveraging several sources of funding including the Wyoming Business Council – Community Development Block Grant and the USDA Rural Community Development Initiative Program (RCDI). The RCDI provides technical assistance to qualified intermediary organizations to develop their capacity to undertake housing, community facilities and community/economic development projects in rural areas. Another source of

technical assistance would be the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service who can also provide assistance in land use planning efforts.

The Wyoming Aging Program could also serve as an additional resource along with the Wyoming Community Development Authority – Home Investment Partnership Programs may also provide additional funding for the development of senior housing. The Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) may be able to provide further technical assistance and funding resources to assist in the renovation of the former school into senior housing. The Town of Deaver could also contact the Wyoming Community Foundation in regards to grant opportunities that would assist the town in developing local governing ordinances to address the unoccupied lots and zoning issues faced by the community.

- Steve Achter, Director, Investment Ready Communities, Wyoming Business Council, 214 W. 15th Street, Cheyenne, WY 82002, Ph. No. (307) 777-2811, Email: steve.achter@wybusiness.org
- Ann Stoeger, Acting Rural Development Manager, USDA Service Center, 208 Shiloh Road, Worland, WY, 82401-8729, Ph. No. (307) 347-2456
- Eric Decker, Big Horn Basin RC&D Coordinator, 208 Shiloh Road, Worland, WY 82401, Ph. No. (307) 347-3946, Fax No. (307) 347-8806, Email: eric.decker@wy.usda.gov
- Beverly Morrow, Aging Division-State of Wyoming, 6101 Yellowstone Road, Suite, 259B – Qwest Building, Cheyenne, WY 82002, Ph. No. (307) 777-7986, Fax No. (307) 777-5340, Email: bmorro@state.wy.us
- Christian Sterns, Field Office Director, Casper Field Office - HUD, 150 East B Street, Room 1010, Casper, WY 82602-5001, Ph. No. (307) 261-6250, Fax No. (307) 261-6258
- Gayle Brownlee, Housing Development Programs, Wyoming Community Development Authority, P.O. Box 634, Casper, WY, 82602, Ph. No. (307) 265-0603, Fax No. (307) 266-5414, Email: brownlee@wyomingcda.com
- Wyoming Community Foundation, 313 South 2nd Street, Laramie, WY 82070, Ph. No. (307) 721-8300, Fax No. (307) 721-8333.

Theme: BEAUTIFICATION

Challenge:

The Town of Deaver has been very active in beautification efforts with a new park, playground, landscaping, and planting of trees along their main streets. The residents have expressed concern in regards to the dilapidated homes on the unoccupied lots. The owners are not full time residents and are not willing to sell their lots.

Solution:

The beautification of the town square has increased community pride and the town holds an annual clean up day. Again, the Town needs to develop ordinances to address the situation to free up the unoccupied lots for purchase and develop ordinances for maintaining property.

Resources:

Resources to assist the town to develop ordinances include the Wyoming Community Foundation, Wyoming Association of Municipalities, and the National Association of Counties. These organizations may provide some technical assistance or examples of other municipalities who have had a similar issue to address.

- Wyoming Community Foundation, 313 South 2nd Street, Laramie, WY 82070, Ph. No. (307) 721-8300, Fax No. (307) 721-8333.
- Wyoming Association of Municipalities, 315 West 27th Street, Cheyenne, WY, 82001, Ph. No. (307) 632-0398, Fax No. (307) 632-1942.
- National Association of Counties, 440 First Street NW, Washington, DC 20001. Ph. No. (202) 393-6226. website: www.naco.org.

Theme: BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT/RETENTION

Challenge:

The lack of small businesses, specifically a café and job opportunities for the youth in the community have been expressed in every listening session conducted throughout the week. Most residents would like to have the café re-opened as it served as a gathering place and provided summer employment for area youth. The Town of Deaver hires several teens to water the trees and flowers in town square. A local entrepreneur owns and operates a successful custom cabinet shop and employs 5 area residents. There is also a successful engineering consulting firm located in the township that also serves a local employer. A small mercantile and antique shop is centrally located in Deaver and provides limited consumer dry goods. The owners are moving to Alaska and will be selling the business.

Solution:

The central location of the mercantile can provide an opportunity for a café or grill to include an arcade. Local youth can be encouraged to become entrepreneurs by organizing a lawn care business for the summer and provide services to local municipalities and home owners. A youth entrepreneurial camp can be developed in conjunction with the Northwest Community College, the Wyoming Business Council – Business Retention and Entrepreneurship Program, and the local Small Business Development Center to teach financial literacy, business planning and development, and to provide seed monies for the most promising business venture. Light manufacturing was also mentioned as a possibility to provide employment to no more than 10 people that would take advantage the trade/skills of local residents. The development of a community land use plan along with zoning and ordinances can facilitate the opportunity to bring light industry to the town. There are other infrastructure and feasibility issues that need to be addressed before proceeding with this endeavor. The best source for assistance would be the Wyoming Business Council Regional Office in Powell. The residents can also tap into the business incubator located at the Northwest Community College in growing their entrepreneurial spirit. Retail space can be made available at the vacant café building located on the roadside for successful graduates who can provide locally made products or services. Other sources of funding for an incubator program and small business development include USDA Rural Business Opportunity Grant or the Rural Business Enterprise Grant.

Resources:

- Brandon Marshall, Business Retention & Entrepreneurship Program Manager, Wyoming Business Council, 214 W. 15th Street, Cheyenne, WY 82002, Ph. No. (307) 777-2820, Email: brandon.marshall@wybusiness.org
- Leah Bruscino, Northwest Regional Director, Wyoming Business Council, 143 S. Bent, Suite B, Powell, WY 82435, Ph. No. (307) 754-5785, Email: leah.bruscino@wybusiness.org
- Ann Stoeger, Acting Rural Development Manager, USDA Service Center, 208 Shiloh Road, Worland, WY, 82401-8729, Ph. No. (307) 347-2456
- KayLyn Nerby, Business and Community Programs Director, USDA, 100 East “B” Street, Room 1005, Casper, WY 82601, Ph. No. (307) 233-6719, Fax No. (307) 233-6739, Email: kaylyn.nerby@wy.usda.gov
- Ronda Peer, Director-Extended Campus, Northwest Community College, 231 W. 6th Street, Powell, WY 82435, Ph. No. (307) 754-6123, Fax No. (307) 754-6241, Email: Ronda.Peer@northwestcollege.edu.
- Linda Wolf, Education and Outreach Coordinator, Converse Area New Development Corporation, 130 South 3rd Street, Douglas, WY 82633, Ph. No. (307) 358-2000.

Theme: EMERGENCY SERVICES

Challenge:

The closing of the local fire department came with no warning and had an extreme impact on the communities of both Deaver and Frannie. The lack of emergency services is a huge concern for residents as they have experienced the delay of response time from Powell Fire Department especially since they experienced a recent fire. Older residents are especially concerned due to the aging population and health related illnesses that require immediate emergency service response. The response time for emergency services is not efficient or timely due to the re-routing of calls from Powell to Lovell to the county. It dictates the response time and most have mentioned that the majority of emergency personnel are not familiar with addresses of the area and end up getting lost. This has prompted residents to train as first responders yet they lack the equipment to respond to emergency situations. This includes radios and pagers. Residents have also formed a volunteer fire department and were able to purchase a fire truck but have no facility to house it. There is also one part-time police officer for the Town, but there is a lack of funds for a full time position.

Communication – The lack of quality cell phone service and telephone service also pose a challenge. Local calls are limited to the township and calls made to nearby Frannie and Cowley (about 5 miles away) are considered a long distance calls.

Solution:

The Town of Deaver can access a Community Facilities Loan from USDA for a fire house in addition there is a Rural Emergency Responders Initiative Grant through USDA to purchase equipment, to build a fire and police station, for communication equipment, and emergency responders training.

Resources:

- Ann Stoeger, Acting Rural Development Manager, USDA Service Center, 208 Shiloh Road, Worland, WY, 82401-8729, Ph. No. (307) 347-2456

Mark Hughes

Wyoming State Forestry Division
1100 West 22nd Street
Cheyenne, WY 82002
307.777.7586
mhughe@state.wy.us

Introduction: It was a pleasure to spend a few days in your friendly small town and meet with so many residents who truly care about their community. The public meetings were very well attended and we received some valuable input, not only from adults but from Middle School and High School students as well. Many challenges were brought up during the public sessions, and we also heard many positive comments about the town. The many positive aspects of Deaver should be emphasized when pursuing community improvement projects.

Deaver residents have outstanding community pride and a ‘can do’ attitude as evidenced by recent park and community hall improvements. A strong volunteer spirit should be credited for many nice projects that have been completed in recent years. The hospitality of the town staff and town council during the assessment was very much appreciated. While I’m including some funding resources, you should seek additional assistance by contacting the Wyoming Rural Development Council, Wyoming Community Foundation, Wyoming Community Network, and the Wyoming Business Council. It would also be beneficial to form a task force to follow-up on the information from this assessment.

Theme: Recreation/Activities

Challenge: Additional recreational facilities and opportunities are desired by numerous residents from youth to seniors.

Solution: Existing facilities, such as the volleyball and basketball court, could satisfy some of the additional recreation needs with some minor improvements. High School students had mentioned a desire for higher quality sand in the volleyball court. They like to play in their bare feet and finer textured sand would increase use of the court and could be done at minimal expense to the town. Several youth mentioned the need for a full basketball court with two hoops rather than the existing one hoop. The additional hoop and concrete should not be a major expense but would provide an expanded facility that likely would be used by more youth.

The need for a walking path around the town was mentioned by many. Such a pathway would receive a lot of use. Similar walking paths or greenbelts in other Wyoming towns are used by walkers, joggers, and bicyclists. The Wyoming Department of Transportation has a grant program that has assisted with many of these pathways.

A recreation center would be a major undertaking and a large facility is not typical for a town the size of Deaver. However, many residents expressed a need for some sort of exercise area with equipment. The Middle School building may provide an opportunity for this. A community needs and feasibility survey should be the first step and could be a project of Deaver’s Recreation Committee.

Resources:

The Land and Water Conservation Program provides grants to develop and renovate recreational facilities in communities. These are federal funds and have been limited in recent years but would be worth looking into. For more information contact:

Mary Moore
State Parks and Cultural Resources
2301 Central Avenue
Cheyenne, WY 82002
[mmoore@state.wy.us](mailto:m Moore@state.wy.us)
wyoparks.state.wy.us/grants.htm

For information on the Wyoming Department of Transportation's grants for pathways contact:

Rich Douglas
Local Government Coordinator
WY Department of Transportation
5300 Bishop Boulevard
Cheyenne, WY 82009
307.777.4384
Rich.Douglas@dot.state.wy.us

The Conservation Fund has a grant program to help design and plan for pathways/greenways. More information on the Kodak American Greenways Grant Program can be contacted at: www.conservationfund.org or Conservation Fund, Western Region Office, Boulder, CO 303.444.4369.

The Wyoming Business Council has a Community Facilities Grant Program that provides financial assistance to preserve former school facilities for other community uses such as a recreation center or senior housing. For information on this program contact:

Shannon Stanfill WY Business Council 214 West 15 th Street Cheyenne, WY 82002 307.777.2841 sstanf@state.wy.us	or	Leah Bruscino Northwest Regional Director WY Business Council 143 S. Bent, Suite B Powell, WY 82435 307.745.5785
---	----	---

Theme: Beautification

Challenge: Although many aesthetic improvements have been made to town property, residents expressed a need for additional improvements especially on some private lots and residences.

Solution: Your annual cleanup day and recent planting of street trees has been a great success! Keep up the great work with these events on an annual basis. During the assessment, a high school student mentioned the need for a “Yard of the Month” contest to encourage residents to follow the example that the town has set. Several Wyoming towns have had great success with this type of event. The Town of Chugwater recently began a contest that they call the “Golden Shovel Award” in which they recognize a monthly winner with a yard sign and other rewards.

An attractive entrance sign and gateway into Deaver from the highway would be a nice addition and reflection of the community pride that the residents have. Grants for community gateway beautification and landscaping are available from the Wyoming State Forestry Division and WY Department of Transportation. A meeting should also be scheduled with the local WYDOT Area Manager to determine any highway right-of-way issues.

In order to have an ongoing and sustainable community tree program the town should pursue the nationally recognized Tree City USA program. Many small towns in Wyoming have benefited from this program. In Wyoming this is administered by the Wyoming State Forestry Division. If Deaver becomes a certified Tree City USA you would have the distinction of being the smallest Tree City USA in the state. For information on requirements you can contact Wyoming State Forestry Division or visit the National Arbor Day Foundation website at www.arborday.org .

Resources:

For information about Chugwater’s Golden Shovel Award you may contact:

Karen Guidice
Town Clerk
PO Box 243
Chugwater, WY 82210
307.422.3493
Chugwater@wyomail.com

For community gateway funding opportunities through the Cooperative Landscape Program administered by WYDOT contact:

John Samson
WY Department of Transportation
5300 Bishop Boulevard
Cheyenne, WY 82009
307.777.4416
John.Samson@dot.state.wy.us

For Community Tree Planting grants through the Wyoming State Forestry Division and information on Tree City USA you can contact:

Mark Hughes
Community Forestry Coordinator
WY State Forestry Division
1100 West 22nd Street
Cheyenne, WY 82002
307.777.7586
mhughe@state.wy.us

Theme: Business Development & Retention

Challenge: Jobs for youth and employment opportunities for those who want to stay or return to Deaver.

Solution: The busy state highway offers opportunities for businesses that would cater to both travelers and residents of Deaver and surrounding communities. If the former restaurant were to be reopened it would provide employment opportunities and possibly attract other businesses. A town council member has a vision for retail outlets that would be a major source of employment opportunities for youth. I believe the Wyoming Business Council is your best contact to help explore the possibilities for planning and funding. Also, in Douglas there is a non profit organization that organizes business and economic development activities. This is the Converse Area New Development Organization (CANDO). They have a youth component that encourages youth involvement in entrepreneurial pursuits and local economic development. This organization may offer some useful ideas for business development in Deaver.

Resources:

The Converse Area New Development Organization (CANDO) website is www.candotechcenter.com and their youth website is www.candoyouth.com .

The Regional Director for the Wyoming Business Council is:

Leah Bruscano
143 S. Bent, Suite B
Powell, WY 82435
307.754.5785

Theme: Housing

Challenge: Several vacant lots that owners are not offering for sale is limiting the development potential for new homes. Abandoned buildings need to be torn down or renovated. There is also a need for some assisted living housing for senior citizens.

Solution: If the town doesn't already have a weed ordinance for vacant lots, the town council should establish such an ordinance and aggressively enforce it. Currently the town is maintaining the vegetation on the vacant lots at no expense to the owner. If the out of town owners had to maintain their lots this would certainly allow the town to concentrate more maintenance on public property and perhaps make the owners more likely to sell the vacant lots.

Abandoned building situations should also be addressed through a town ordinance. Some funding assistance to help low income residents renovate their homes may be available through the Wyoming Rural Development office.

Resources:

The area contact for Wyoming Rural Development is:

Northwest Area Office
Ann Stoeger
Rural Development Manager
208 Shiloh Road
Worland, WY 82401
307.347.2456
ann.stoeger@wy.usda.gov

Theme: Emergency Services

Challenge: Due to a limited tax base there is inadequate funding for a fulltime fire and police department and the needed equipment. Equipment and a fire hall are needed for more efficient emergency response.

Solutions: Local fundraising efforts have been very successful and although considerable more funds are needed these local efforts help and emphasize the residents concern over lack of adequate fire and police protection. The fundraising efforts should continue and a couple of possible grant sources are listed below. Local fire departments in other towns may have surplus items that they are willing to donate.

Resources:

The US Department of Homeland Security offers three grant programs to assist in fire protection; the Assistance to Firefighters Grant (AFG), Fire Prevention and Safety (FP&S) and Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response (SAFER). For more information and a listing of Wyoming communities that have received grants visit the website at www.firegrantsupport.com.

The regional contact is:
C.J. Crumley

Homeland Security
Denver Federal Center, Bldg. 710
Box 25267
Denver, CO 80225
303.235.4916
Carol.crumley@dhs.gov

The Federal Mineral Royalty Capitol Construction Account is administered by the Office of State Lands and Investments and has a grant program for construction of public facilities and acquisition of emergency vehicles. The contact for more information is:

Brad Miskimins
Office of State Lands and Investments
Herschler Building
Third Floor, West
122 W. 25th Street
Cheyenne, WY 82002
307.777.7586
bmiski@state.wy.us

Mark Hicks

Wyoming Veterans Commission

LTC Hardy V. Ratcliff National Guard Armory Room 101 5905 CY Avenue

Casper, WY 82604

307-265-7372

wvac@bresnan.net

Theme: HOUSING

Challenge:

The Town of Deaver is a very beautiful small town. This is not to say that there are not some trouble areas. The amount of property that needs to be cleaned up is minimal since the town has made it a priority to clean up distressed properties. The biggest challenge is the lack of suitable building sites for new homes or businesses. Much of the prime building sites are controlled by absentee land owners who are not willing to sell their property. Finally, what to do with the soon to be vacant school buildings.

Solution:

Even though many building sites are owned by people who will not sell, the town still has a large amount of land surrounding the community. I think it may be time to stop looking for the property to be sold, and start to develop some of the land on the outer edge of town. The small lots near the community center are a different story. Since the town would use this property for public purpose, you may use Eminent Domain to acquire the lots. The solution for the school is multiple due to the fact that the school is made from multiple buildings. The majority of uses for the old buildings that remain will be addressed in other sections of this report. The school buildings that are no longer useful, should be demolished and turned into prime building lots for new businesses and homes or apartments.

Resources:

The use of Eminent Domain will require use of an Attorney. The Eminent Domain law is covered under Wyoming Statute 1-26-504 and Wyoming Constitution 97-1-032. The school building disposition will be worked out between the community and the State facilities Commission. You should contact the project Superintendent Todd Wilder at (307) 754-7285, or contact the District Superintendent, Kevin Mitchell. To assist with lot development, contact the Wyoming Rural Development Council or the Wyoming Association of Municipalities.

Theme: EMERGENCY SERVICES

Challenge:

The small town of Deaver lacks adequate coverage for all emergency services. The challenge is not so much a lack of qualified individuals to provide the service; it is the lack of equipment, funding, and coordination for the services. The town has a part-time police force. They also have poor communication equipment for emergency service personnel, and poor coordination for dispatch for emergency services.

Solution:

Fortunately there are organizations that assist communities in dealing with equipment problems in small communities. The proximity to other small communities enables Deaver to partner with the others to perhaps increase funding for additional law enforcement. The equipment required to make the communication process effective can be acquired through grants from either the department of Homeland Security or the State of Wyoming. The only solution for the lack of coordination for dispatch services can only be worked out between the various organizations involved. All the actors need to be in one room and work out all aspects of dispatch. Once they have been worked out, the results need to be published and on display in all emergency services offices in the area and in public areas, so there is no confusion on how it should be done. The problem with the funds being diverted to an organization that no longer provides services, the first step is engagement. Most people are reasonable if confronted with the facts. If that does not work, the only recourse is legal. Start with the State Attorney General, if he is unable to help, you will have to settle it in the court system with your own lawyer.

Resources:

Grants are available through the Wyoming office of Homeland Security by the Commercial Equipment Direct Assistance Program. Their web site is: <http://wyohomelandsecurity.state.wy.us>. Their phone is: (307) 777-4916. The Homeland Security Emergency Services Coordinator for Big Horn County is: Rich Fink, (307) 548-2516. Assistance is available from the Wyoming Rural Development Council.

Deaver Community Assessment

Listening Session Responses

What are the major problems and challenges in your community?

**indicates an agreement to a response, one * for each person who agreed*

- Vacant houses – junk on property, owners not here full time to upkeep
- People moving back – no place to live, Deaver is growing, need more houses
- Pass – live outside of community, sold property to town, gazebo donated
- Property owned by non-residents and won't sell, people looking for lots to buy, price too high
- Some vandalism – park, gazebo-graffiti
- Dogs out at night and make a mess in yards and bite
- Fire Dept taken away
- Crawdads clogged up pipes
- School closing down
- There's nothing to do in Deaver
- I agree*****
- Lack of jobs, stay busy, earn a little bit of money**
- Abandoned houses
- Pass
- Transportation, hard to get around-everyone so spread out, when you want to get around-its hard
- Get together as a group, no place to meet, stuck at home watching t.v.
- Vandalism, take care of town – park,
- Lack of businesses that support jobs for kids, a couple that do, i.e. scrap metal, restaurant closed
- Agree w/all comments
- Lack of recreation
- Many areas need beautifying
- Hard to meet people
- Size, not enough people here
- Agree with the lack of recreation
- No school in town
- Lack of senior housing
- Transportation in between communities for senior citizens and youth, for those who cannot drive
- Not enough kids in Deaver, or they are all two years old
- Needs more attractions
- Emergency services in town, a larger town took away fire and medical services in town
- Need more law enforcement, weak what we have now

- Mosquito spraying doesn't always last long enough in the city park
- Agree
- What to do with the school when it closes
- Ordinance changes – putting some teeth into it, previous ordinances did not have municipal court involved, enforcement
- First responders don't have pagers or radios
- Lost fire house in Frannie, served Deaver and surrounding communities – had fire in town – took 25 minute response time from Powell
- Don't have equipment to handle emergency situations – have to go through dispatch
- Full-time law enforcement, needs to be available more than 10 hours and may not have to be full time*
- Radio system reception not adequate, dispatch in Powell, can't hear very well when conversing
- Contracting with Sheriff Department wasn't successful. Sheriff doesn't want to enforce town ordinances, does come out to Middle School when they have problems
- Very little prime farm ground surrounding Deaver
- Community prices and high input costs
- Economics have forced out many farmers
- Division of water for irrigation has become a problem with the subdividing that has been going on, small acreage irrigation residents are not always as educated about practical water usage
- Hard to stay on the farm if your wife does not have another job
- It's a major challenge to find help for small communities from the state
- Commodity prices are low, and many people bring in outside money that local farmers cannot compete
- The state only assists young farmers, they do not have programs to assist older farmers
- We do not have adequate measuring devices for delivering water
- Many of the new subdivisions do not allow hunting, which puts pressure on the farmers from the wildlife
- Agree
- Discourteous hunters that cross from state or federal land onto private land and do not respect private property
- Problems retaining the youth, no jobs
- Lack of job opportunities that are long term
- Many young people have no sense of community
- The town is locked, its hard for growth due to the people who own vacant lots and will not sell so that there could be an opportunity for growth
- The vacant lots cost nothing to the people who own them currently
- Not enough businesses here
- Could be cleaned up more in town
- Ditto
- Water to area, we live out of town, also mosquito control extended out to the area
- Small businesses in town
- Lack of activities for teenagers

- Agree
- Café and other small businesses
- Agree
- Agree
- Agree
- Agree
- Need more younger people in the area
- Stupid that we are losing the school
- Very hard to have a consumer business in Deaver, people travel out to shop and get services
- We cannot offer anything here that they cant get somewhere else
- Local residents do not use the resources that are available, for a paid project they do not look locally, they branch outside the community
- Lack of homes to buy or rent
- You need growth to have businesses
- Do not have local response for fire, building for emergency response, but no way to communicate
- Agree, also don't have a tax base to tap into to maintain a fire department
- Agree, just purchased a fire truck, but don't have a house for it
- Agree w/all
- Pass
- Challenge – had a tax base, but service is not being provided
- Powell Fire Dept don't know where they are going – end up driving around to locate emergency
- Dispatch problem 911– landline goes to Cody, try to ask for Fire Dept, and couldn't reach anyone when active fire was going on
- Cell 911– route to Basin then to Cody to Powell
- Response time – Frannie 10 min, now waiting 30-35 minutes
- Need to rally legislation, also need voters to pass
- Keeping interest of volunteers - can't do anything until sort out issues. Don't want interest to wane. Have 10-12 first responders, only 5-6 meet actively
- Great support from outlying communities
- First responder have telephone tree – Cody is familiar w/situation. Nearby communities don't know who to contact i.e. Powell and difficult to find homes/addresses
- Interest from community may wane and just don't want them to accept (settle) that we don't have a fire department and hope it does not deter support for legislation
- Challenge that current fire district may not let them out to pursue on own
- Make services available to Frannie and Deaver, joint powers board
- Outlying communities will still be part of current fire district
- Dispatch problems and logistics will still be a problem when have own district
- Cell phone don't work well – towers and location
- If school does leave – they have an existing ITB network radio system that can be used – may be used for busses
- Aging population – concern who is going to help them

- Losing school
- No public meeting to inform public that fire dept was closing – decision made overnight, took money
- If school closes – need to figure out what to do with it
- School leaving with no major problems
- Cell phone signal, reception – tower
- Communication between town hall and new residents, i.e. bill pay/barrel outside
- Big Horn County is not a tax base for the college, but we still deliver services
- Difficult to serve the smaller communities because there is a minimum number that you must have-8, so we reach out to the rural communities through distance education, however onsite classes are preferred
- Small group to work with and getting enough students to make bringing a class to the rural communities
- Fire protection, ambulance services in Deaver-lack of
- School closing
- Pass
- Agree
- Pass
- Pass
- Bettru Park – no stuff for older kids
- Skateboard marks made on bricks outside (need park)
- Agree
- Better basketball court
- Pass****
- Better basketball court
- Some street lights don't work –dark
- Empty lots
- More lights at the park
- Agree
- Pass**
- Resurface basket ball court and full court
- Not much security – think can do crimes w/o getting caught
- No light bulbs at the restroom at park
- Higher fence at basketball court
- Need soap at park restroom
- Fence around football field half completed
- Old apartment buildings needs to cleaned up
- New school colors
- Recreation center*

What are the major strengths and assets in your community?

**indicates an agreement to a response, one * for each person who agreed*

- Town Hall – private doings, i.e. funerals, weddings, meetings, veteran’s day dinner, X-mas, Halloween, made it possible to do things as a community
- Deaver Recreation has made it possible for gatherings
- Every year add new things to make town hall pretty, i.e. flag pole
- Recreation Committee maintains flowers
- Park is used by kids
- Community has come together in good and bad
- Volunteer labor for Fire Dept
- Tree planting had a large turnout
- Raw water line
- Good leadership last couple of years
- Had community member renew their first responders certification when Powell kicked out us of fire department
- Town Hall, planting of trees makes it looks nice
- Hospitality, welcome new residents
- Everyone works together, help one another
- Town Cleanup, more and more people show up
- Agree**
- Close community, do everything together
- Strong Leader, Mayor
- Pass****
- Park and Town Hall, veteran’s park – moved statue to park, playground
- Raw water system
- Strong community involvement
- Volunteerism
- On a great water system, good clean steady water source
- Great people with high moral standards
- Do a lot community projects together, like the raw water
- We have the nicest people
- Agree with all
- Water system, cheap irrigation for lawns
- Great community hall
- Good we do not have a bar, kids do not have to walk by bars
- Residents
- Diversity
- Sense of community, people gather round one another
- Town staff is exceptional
- Town owns their own electrical system
- Agree

- Agree
- Agree
- Great park, clean
- Kindness in the town, we are all so friendly
- Town council and mayor, they listen
- Raw water
- Low crime
- Good streets
- Rural community
- Great place to raise kids
- Connected to the world, we have broadband and internet here, we are rural but still connected
- Mayor and city council really listen to needs and do things about it
- Great efforts to beautify the town, grass, trees, flowers
- Great local fundraising
- Quiet and peaceful
- Good place to raise kids
- A church in the community
- Mosquito spraying
- Agree
- Beautiful memorial park
- Town has been and is fiscally responsible, takes care of its citizens
- Community does a Saturday market in the fall, vegetable, crafts, etc. and it is held in the park
- Good town man, he was hired and does a great job
- Promoting people coming in through housing incentives
- Close to the mountains, good hunting and fishing opportunities
- Close a major city, Billings
- Railroad coming through here, two state highways
- Not far from Yellowstone
- Yellowtail Recreation Area
- Post Office
- Grocery store
- Nice park, great for kids
- People in town have a sense of history
- Very prominent business in the town, we need more like it
- Tight knit community, close community – assist law enforcement monitoring,
- Advantage that law enforcement is not resident – doesn't conflict w/personal relationships if you had a resident to enforce – may not feel comfortable
- Abundant wildlife
- People do want to live here, home buyers and renters alike
- Available land that is reasonable priced in town
- Excellent telephone service here-High speed internet, also a weakness, there are only 150 people that you can call locally

- Used to have a really strong school system here
- Will soon have some large buildings open for use
- Excellent community hall and town hall
- No bar in town
- Great honest, respectful people
- Crime is low
- Quiet
- Little communities will put up with things for jobs that larger communities will not, they just need the jobs
- Excellent water here, thanks to the State of Wyoming, great water system
- Recreation with the Deaver reservoir, it gets lots of use
- Hunting to a degree, opportunities are close by locally and in the mountains
- Close to Powell and Lovell
- Decent healthcare
- 75 minutes from Billings
- Still have some sense of community
- Closeness of Frannie and Deaver, always have had a strong bond
- Railroad
- Utility company has provided decent priced natural gas
- One of the few towns in the US that can live on the minimum social security
- Have cleaned up town well already
- Great people
- Small caring community, everyone helps one another out
- Good intersection out here with opportunity for help
- Welcomes people
- Community center
- Good cost of living
- Improved all around in the community
- Good improvements made to the community
- The town leadership, keep striving for better things
- It all good here
- People who step up to help run the town
- Agree with all
- Good people
- Community is willing to change, to improve
- Fire district could be located here, its more centrally located
- Not a bunch of cars, little traffic here
- Pipeline here in town
- Raw water service
- Mosquito work that has been done
- Nineteen years ago I came to town....
- People see it as a safe environment
- Low crime
- Available land in the surrounding areas that can be developed

- High percentage of volunteerism
 - Telephone communication
 - High speed internet
 - Good television
 - Taxes are low here
 - People willing to volunteer
 - Warriors fighting for the cause – working with an attorney, letters to the editor in local newspapers, fundraising efforts – community support
 - Willingness to do something – volunteer, to step up
 - Great support from other communities in Big Horn County, Lovell – ambulance, Basin – fire truck w/some equipment
 - Pass
 - Aid provided by neighbors and friends
 - Know our area – know how to get to each other's homes, familiar w/addresses
 - May know health history, helpful in emergency
 - 90% of the time, we know the person
 - Pass***
 - Best thing was fire dept service being pulled, community rallied
 - People, friendliness, willingness of people to change
 - Nice town, good place to be
 - Strong town council and mayor, work hard to keep sense of community
 - Good fishing and hunting
 - Low crime
 - Pass
 - Problem – whole community pitches in to help
 - Good water, broadband access
-
- Distance education, either teleconference, video or online classes make it easier to reach rural communities, also its not a far drive
 - Small community
 - Close knit
 - The town council has always done things to bring the community together through activities
 - The town hall and community center
 - low crime
 - pleasant place to live
 - Small town, don't worry about getting behind at school
 - People good, not mean
 - Pass
 - Like basketball court, tennis
 - Like grass, flowers, trees – makes it more comfortable in park
 - Keep town clean and nice
 - Small community
 - Colorful, green

- Everyone knows everyone, not like a big city
- Like Deaver Town cleanup, special days i.e. graduation party @ town hall – can rent out
- Agree**
- Don't have a lot of people – have more space
- Everyone knows everyone
- Small town – doesn't have pollution
- Small town – can go walking around, no strangers
- Agree
- Pass**
- Like school colors
- Have a place to practice, have all the sports i.e. tennis, football, track
- Church is cute

What projects would you like to see accomplished in your community in 2, 5, 10 and 20 years?

**indicates an agreement to a response, one * for each person who agreed*

- Walking path around in 5 years
- Get Fire Dept operating, fire engine bid out
- Refinish basketball court soon w/in 3 years
- Special leadership with raw water and town hall
- Buy lots adjacent to town hall and those that are vacant
- School turned into hotel or for people to live
- Need café, could use school
- More business, job opportunities for teens
- Grow up more interested, soccer field or a place to play
- Swimming pool
- Every Friday, get a group together for an event
- More events for teen involvement
- Town to grow, build nice homes
- Obtain lots for homes
- Business center – small strip mall by highway, across from post office, opportunity for space to rent to businesses
- Auto repair shop, i.e. Midas
- Something fun - IKON center, ice rink, laser tag, year round
- Do something (event) in town w/gas prices high, i.e. family get together, BBQ, movies
- Weekly activity aside from basketball, football
- Rec committee focus on teen oriented activity, i.e. plan a trip to Powell
- Local driver's course (driver's ed vs. driving to Powell)
- Build a full outside court
- Pass
- Local job opportunities, have to go to Powell/Cowley, money earned goes to pay for gas, get nothing
- Incorporate ProStart Program into local school curriculum
- Swimming pool, maintenance hired by city
- Pool in town
- Recreation center for the teenagers, something to do in town for the teenagers
- Walkway and bicycle park
- Recreation center for youth
- Keep a school in the town
- Agree
- Agree
- Setting up vacant lots with sewer and water so that people can move in
- Agree
- More businesses

- Restaurant, café
- agree
- Volleyball pit, need sand not rocks
- Exercise center
- Need a full basketball court with a higher fence
- Replace the ground on the court
- Skate park
- Agree with recreation or exercise center
- Fire protection
- agree
- Senior housing
- School could be turned into senior housing
- Emergency medical protection
- Yard of the week or month award to get people to keep up their yards
- Retirement center
- Mall
- Dog park
- Fix the baseball field, new bases
- Outreach medical clinic, even if it once a month or week
- Nice entrance way to Deaver, community gateway
- Once a month activity for teens
- More activities, community sports
- Bigger park, more places to relax and sit down
- Agree
- Laundromat
- Monthly or weekly meetings with senior citizens and youth, explain the history and interact
- Volunteer grandparents and grandkids
- Better signage into Deaver, many people miss the town
- A track to run on, even just around the football field
- Recreational equipment that people could check out from the town
- More churches, so they do not have to drive so far
- Golf course or driving range
- Go cart track
- Motocross track, or places for 4 wheelers
- Have own police department, 1 or 2 man, equipped w/bullet proof vest, radio system, tazer, etc. homeland security can purchase for a full time, need for safety of officer and public, Sheriff does patrol and have a substation in Lovell
- Deaver will grow in the future, Cody residents moving to Powell, and now looking further out to Deaver and Frannie. Surrounding communities have a full time police department w/a lower population. In 2-3 years, residents may require a full time police department.
- Communication – can only call Frannie – other communities are considered long distance. Especially when trying to contact parents for school children. Need access to

outside world. Cell service limited. Older citizens need to contact police department and ambulance service if needed. Exchange and dispatch makes it difficult in response time pending where it goes, i.e. Cody, Powell. Telephone service needs to be addressed.

- Light manufacturing come in to town
- The state should provide cheaper fuel and energy to the residents of the state, not just ship it all out of the state, make the companies that extrude, give back to the state
- Controlled growth in town
- More business in town to provide jobs
- Something to take the place of the school with jobs when it closes
- Bigger business that uses the natural resources in the area
- Senior housing/apartments
- Need fire protection here in Deaver
- More businesses
- Attractions for young families to live here
- New homes to draw people in
- Activities for the youth
- Recreation center
- Town to purchase private property to create room for growth
- We have already made good steps toward getting the fire department up and running
- Use the school for the fire trucks and department
- Make plans for what will happen when the school closes, what to do with the buildings
- Bring back a school
- Senior housing
- Senior healthcare assistance-home healthcare
- Housing to buy and rent
- More relaxation/recreation opportunities: walking path, exercise equipment
- More housing
- Senior center in the school
- Get the lots released that people are just sitting on
- Facility to house emergency response vehicles, ambulance and fire truck
- Want taxing district back
- Both Frannie and Deaver to have emergency service facilities
- Equipment and facilities needed, not rely on 16 miles
- Emergency equipment - extraction
- Radios/pagers
- Money – short and long term
- Welcome packet for new residents
- Something for the kids, skate (board) park for all ages
- Better wireless service
- Growth – town council addressing
- Purchase lots across from school, clear sage brush – build homes
- New lighting in town
- School – determine reuse
- Skate park

- Set up some short seminar classes in Deaver, particularly for senior citizens at a low cost, community education classes
- Fire truck, ambulance, dispatcher and a place to house it in Deaver
- Need more sidewalks*
- More lights at park, light bulbs and soap in restrooms
- Swimming pool here – have to go to Cowley
- Have a track vs. a street
- A skate park
- Pass*
- Entertainment for people who don't like sports, i.e. arcade
- Skate park – vandalism, grinding going on, both rollerblading and board
- Bigger park
- Pass
- Swimming pool
- Better volleyball court – softer sand, weeds around it
- Swimming pool
- Soccer field
- Indoor court for basketball, tennis (year round)
- Sidewalks
- Swimming Pool*
- Pass**
- Larger store
- Pass
- Food Court
- Pass
- Music in the Park – make use of concession
- Need to do something with the empty lots
- Mall
- Pass
- Big green house
- Open Trailways – old café
- Need a new store
- Another restaurant, not necessarily the café
- Fix up the store – dirty, musty
- Chinatown restaurant like in Powell
- Movie Theatre
- Music in the Park, dancing
- Six Flags
- More houses, subdivisions
- More entertainment, more houses, pretty town, attract more people
- Place for kids to go after school, entertainment, i.e. homework club
- A pop machine at the park
- A juice machine
- More stuff than Cowley – think they are better than us

- Better baseball field, bases are torn up, dug-out benches broke

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*.