

WYOMING RURAL DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL



RURAL RESOURCE TEAM REPORT FOR LYMAN'S COMMUNITY ASSESSMENT UINTA COUNTY, WYOMING MARCH 12-14, 2002

WRDC 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 have established the following goals for the WRDC:

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

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

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

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

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March 12-14, 2002

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

committee chairs and/or members makes any warranty, express or implied, including warranties of merchantability and fitness for a particular purpose, or assumes any legal liability for the accuracy, completeness, or usefulness of this report or any information, recommendations or opinions contained herein.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Many of the critical elements exist for a successful future in Lyman. Become a growing, vibrant community takes only a few people willing to roll up their sleeves and go to work.

Remember, the answers to most of the challenges Lyman faces are not found in Washington, Cheyenne, or even at the doors of the Uinta County Commissioners. Surely, there are grant programs available from some of these entities that can assist communities like Lyman. However, the best solutions to the challenges of any community are the solutions that involve local people— neighbors, family, and friends—working towards the betterment of everyone. Because at the end of the day, grants don't make projects happen, people make projects happen.

There are a number of short term, accomplishable and recommendations that the review team has provided. At the very least, these reports will provide some specific actions and programs that can help Lyman get to where it wants to be. At the very best, however, these reports will serve as a springboard for community involvement and further commitment from local people to create a better future for Lyman. Look through the short-term suggestions, pick out one that you know what you can do, and get started!

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

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

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

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

Sincerely,

Thomas Johnson, Resource Team Leader

PROCESS FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF THIS REPORT

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

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

The Resource Team toured the town and interviewed approximately fifty people over a three-day period from March 12th –14th, 2002. The team interviewed representatives from the following segments of the Lyman community: business sector, youth, senior citizens, healthcare, agriculture, teachers, school district, mine employees, civic clubs, law enforcement, fire and safety services, and the City Council. These groups were 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 Lyman?
- What do you think are the major strengths and assets in Lyman?
- What projects would you like to see completed in two, five ten and twenty years in Lyman?

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

The oral report was presented to the people of Lyman on March 14th, 2002. Many of the citizens of Lyman who participated in the interviews were in attendance.

Following the oral report, a formal written report is prepared and presented to the town of Lyman.

RESOURCE ASSESSMENT TEAM MEMBERS

Lyman, Wyoming Resource Assessment
March 12-14, 2002

Tom Johnson, Team Leader

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Cheyenne, WY 82002
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E-mail: tjohns@state.wy.us

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Riverton, WY 82501
307-856-5383
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American Red Cross
3619 Evans Ave.
Cheyenne, WY 82001
307-631-5369
E-mail: brownb@usa.redcross.org

Kirk Heaton

RC&D
1471 Dewar Drive
Rock Springs, WY 82901
307-382-3982
E-mail: kirk.heaton@wy.usda.gov

Yvette Wilson

USDA Rural Development

WYOMING RURAL DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL
LYMAN, WYOMING RESOURCE TEAM AGENDA
March 12-14, 2002

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**Tuesday-March 12<sup>th</sup>**

| <b><u>Time</u></b>          | <b><u>Description</u></b>                                                    |        |
|-----------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------|
| <b><u>Location</u></b>      |                                                                              |        |
| 11:30 am to 1:30 pm<br>Hall | Team arrives in Lyman.<br><br>Catered lunch with team and Planning Committee | Town   |
| 1:30 pm to 5:00 pm          | Area tour – Tour of School facilities<br>Tour of Town facilities             |        |
| 5:10 pm to 6:00 pm<br>West  | Check in at hotel                                                            | Valley |
| 6:00 pm to 7:00 pm<br>Hall  | Resource Team working supper<br><br>(catered)                                | Town   |

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Wednesday-March 13th

<u>Time</u>	<u>Description</u>	
	<u>Location</u>	
7:00 am to 8:00 am	Pancake breakfast with Business Owners/ Town Hall Police Dept.	
8:10 am to 9:00 am Hall	Listening session with Business Sector	Town
9:10 am to 10:00 am	Listening session with High School Students Lyman High School Government class	
10:15 am to 11:15 am	Listening Session Agriculture/Healthcare/ Town Hall Civic Clubs	

11:30 am to 12:30 am	Catered lunch Town Hall	
12:45 pm to 2:00 pm	Group listening session with Senior Citizens & Mt. View tour of facility Senior Ctr.	
2:30 pm to 3:00 pm	Break Hall	Town
3:30 pm to 4:45 pm	Listening session with School District Employees High Library	Lyman
5:00 pm to 5:20 pm	Break Hall	Town
5:30 pm to 6:20 pm	Listening session with mine employees Hall	Town
6:30 pm to 7:25 pm	Supper/Dutch Oven prepared by Town Council Hall	Town
7:30 pm to 8:30 pm	General Listening session & council members Hall	Town

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**Thursday-March 14<sup>th</sup>**

| <b><u>Time</u></b>   | <b><u>Description</u></b>                                                                                               |      |
|----------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------|
|                      | <b><u>Location</u></b>                                                                                                  |      |
| 8:00 am to 9:00 am   | Breakfast<br>Longhorn Restaurant                                                                                        |      |
| 9:10 am to 10:30 am  | Listening session with local Law Enforcement,<br>Hall<br>Firefighters, & Town Council etc                               | Town |
| 10:45 am to 11:20 am | Break<br>Hall                                                                                                           | Town |
| 11:30 am to 1:00 pm  | Chamber of Commerce Luncheon/10 minute<br>Town Hall<br>discussion to explain the purpose of the<br>Community Assessment |      |

|                    |                                                             |      |
|--------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|------|
| 1:10 pm to 5:00 pm | Team prepares for Town Meeting<br>Hall                      | Town |
| 5:00 pm to 5:50 pm | Break<br>Hall                                               | Town |
| 6:00 pm to 6:50 pm | Working Supper (catered)<br>Hall                            | Town |
| 7:00 pm to 8:30 pm | Town Meeting/Resource Team presents<br>Hall<br>oral reports | Town |

**RECOMMENDATIONS SUBMITTED  
BY RESOURCE TEAM MEMBERS**

The Resource Team would like to thank the town of Lyman for the immeasurable amounts of honesty, hospitality, and friendliness that you gave during the Resource Team effort. We have every confidence that the kind of effort and enthusiasm you produced for the Resource Team will be responsible for your future successes.

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

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

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Web: [www.wyomingbusiness.org](http://www.wyomingbusiness.org)

## **OVERVIEW:**

Lyman has many amenities that many Wyoming towns 3 and 4 times its size do not have: high quality fire and police service, a large senior center, senior day care, a first class swimming facility, public racquetball facilities, recreational opportunities minutes away, a large school auditorium for events and cultural activities, and a forward thinking town administration and staff. Moreover, Lyman citizens are very willing to give their time to help the community. This places Lyman in a position to capitalize on this renewed volunteerism.

During listening sessions conducted with the community, many issues emerged. The following are recommendations intended to assist in confronting some of these challenges.

## **COMMUNITY PLANNING:**

**Challenge:** The need for Lyman to plan and address land use was mentioned regularly. As Lyman changes, it is important that the community be proactive rather than reactive in addressing what Lyman will become in two, five, and ten years—and beyond. Communities can plan what they want to become. Lyman is no exception.

**Recommendation:** Develop a Comprehensive Master Plan for the community and surrounding area. This plan could and should address the following issues:

- Infrastructure (water, sewer, roads, etc.) and future demand for services.
- Types of development (commercial, residential, industrial, agricultural) and future locations of these developments in and around Lyman
- Open space preservation and greenways/greenbelts
- Future annexation of county land

The cost of developing such a plan for a community the size of Lyman would likely cost \$30,000 to \$50,000, but would go a long way in addressing economic development and community development. The Wyoming Business Council has in place a grant program that can assist Lyman in the costs of developing a Comprehensive Community Plan. The grant is a Planning Only grant through the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program. The maximum award for such a grant is \$25,000. The grant would require some local matching funds. For more information, please contact:

Ray Sarcletti  
South West Region Director  
Wyoming Business Council  
1st Security Bank  
1400 Dewar #205  
Rock Springs, WY 82901  
Phone : 1-307-382-3163  
Fax : 1-307-382-3217  
Email : [rsarcl@state.wy.us](mailto:rsarcl@state.wy.us)  
Web: [www.wyomingbusiness.org](http://www.wyomingbusiness.org)

Or

Steve Achter, Director  
Investment Ready Communities  
Wyoming Business Council  
214 W. 15<sup>th</sup> Street  
Cheyenne, WY 82002  
Phone: 1-307-777-2811  
Email: [sachte@state.wy.us](mailto:sachte@state.wy.us)

Web: [www.wyomingbusiness.org](http://www.wyomingbusiness.org)

The Economic Development Administration also has Technical Assistance grants that allow for finance feasibility studies and other projects leading to local economic development. The key is showing that the development of a Comprehensive Master Plan will lead to economic development.

These grants are generally in the \$10,000--\$30,000 range and require local matching funds. For more detailed information concerning these grants and how to begin the application process, please contact:

John Rogers  
Regional Representative  
Economic Development Administration  
Federal Building, Room 196  
301 S. Park Avenue  
Drawer 10074  
Helena, MT 59626  
Phone: 1-406-441-1175  
Email: [edrmteda@aol.com](mailto:edrmteda@aol.com)  
Web: <http://www.doc.gov/eda/>

USDA/Rural Development also has a Rural Business Opportunity Grant (RBOG) program that might be an option to assist with developing a Comprehensive Master Plan. This grant program can be used for technical assistance and planning. The average RBOG grant is usually under \$10,000. However, this program does not require matching funds. For more information concerning this program, please contact:

Linda Ziegler, Community Development Manager  
USDA Rural Development  
P. O. Box 190  
Afton, WY 83110  
Phone: 307-886-9001 ext. 4  
Fax: 307-886-3744  
E-mail: [linda.ziegler@usda.wy.gov](mailto:linda.ziegler@usda.wy.gov)  
Web: <http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/>

If there were one recommendation that should be placed above all others, it would be this one. A Comprehensive Master Plan would go a long way in addressing the current and future needs (economic, social, etc.) of Lyman in a logical, collaborative way.

## **ECONOMIC / BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT:**

**Challenge:** The need for businesses development (retail, manufacturing, services, etc.) was mentioned in the listening sessions again and again. As with most rural communities in Wyoming, recruiting a large company appears remote at this time. A good rule of thumb is that a community can support 1 new job for every 100 people in its population. Thus, Lyman can probably absorb at this time a company of about 15-20. Although recruiting should be pursued in Lyman and the valley, strategies should be expanded to include entrepreneurship and existing businesses expansion.

**Recommendation:** Utilize your high school alumni as potential business recruits. This helps focus recruiting efforts on a population of people who are already familiar with the area. These are people who grew up in Lyman, know the benefits of living in Lyman, and perhaps, own their own businesses outside of Lyman now. Perhaps they would be willing to move back to Lyman--all for the cost of postage.

This can be done through the following steps:

1. Develop a database of Lyman High School Alumni. This could be done in conjunction with Lyman High School.
2. Send a letter annually to those alumni letting them know that Lyman is seeking businesses and would like them to consider moving their business to Lyman.
3. Follow up with those who express interest.

This could prove useful to even those alumni who don't have their own businesses, as they may know of someone who could move their business to Lyman.

This was done in Lander, Wyoming through the LEADER Corporation in the late 1980s and early 1990s by local community leaders—resulting in the successful recruitment of at least one company. One of those community leaders was Ben Avery, who now works for the Wyoming Business Council. His contact information is:

Ben Avery  
Wyoming Business Council  
214 W. 15<sup>th</sup> Street  
Cheyenne, WY 82002  
Phone: 1-307-777-2863  
Fax: 1-307-777-2838  
Email: [bavery@state.wy.us](mailto:bavery@state.wy.us)  
Web: [www.wyomingbusiness.org](http://www.wyomingbusiness.org)

Another community that is attempting to reach former alumni for business development purposes is Wheatland. Linda Fabian, of the Wheatland Area Development Corporation, can probably lend some insight. Her contact information is:

Wheatland Area Dev. Corp. (WADCO)  
Linda Fabian  
1560 Johnston  
PO Box 988  
Wheatland, WY 82201  
Platte County  
Ph: 307-322-4232  
F: 307-322-3823  
Email: [lfabian@communicomm.com](mailto:lfabian@communicomm.com)  
Website: <http://www.wheatlandecdev.com>

**Recommendation:** Organize a group of local investors to purchase existing businesses that are for sale that would serve community needs. These businesses can be bought somewhere else (Salt Lake City and Denver, for example) and moved to Lyman. Two good websites that list businesses for sale are:

[www.bizbuysell.com](http://www.bizbuysell.com)

and

[www.businessesforsale.com](http://www.businessesforsale.com)

Both websites list businesses for sale by location, type, price, and cash flow. For example, the community of Lyman could search for all manufacturing businesses for sale that are located in Idaho. Depending on the strength of the history of the business and the particular industry, Lyman could decide to organize local investors to purchase the business, move it to Lyman, and employ the local work force.

This idea of purchasing a business and moving it is particularly useful for rural communities like Lyman, where the private sector is in no rush to serve rural community needs. As always, the best way for rural communities to serve particular needs is to go out and get the need itself.

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

Bill Ellis  
P.O. Box 1168  
1400 Dewar Dr. Suite #205  
Rock Springs, WY 82902

Phone: (800) 348-5205  
 Email: [bellis@uwyo.edu](mailto:bellis@uwyo.edu)  
 Web: [www.uwyo.edu/sbdc](http://www.uwyo.edu/sbdc)

**Recommendation:** Start a Business Challenge program in Bridger Valley. This is a business competition program that can be tailored to existing business and/or start-up businesses. The program utilizes in-kind donations to assist businesses. The donations can range from in-kind advertising to in-kind accounting services. The following chart demonstrates just how far these in-kind contributions can go.

### Business Challenge

**Business X  
Winner**

|                                              |                                            |                                                |                                                        |
|----------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------|
| Local Accountant<br>\$1,000 In-Kind Services | Local Attorney<br>\$1,000 In-Kind Services | Local Newspaper<br>\$1,000 In-Kind Advertising | Local Radio Station<br>\$1,000 In-Kind Advertising     |
| WBC<br>\$1,000 Cash                          | Chamber/EDC<br>\$1,000 Cash                | Local Printer<br>\$1,000 In-Kind Copying       | Community College<br>\$1,000 In-Kind Software Training |
| Local Bank<br>\$1,000 In-Kind Services       | SBDC<br>Counseling Services                | City/County<br>\$1,000 Cash                    | DDA<br>\$1,000 In-Kind Rent                            |

The reasons for business failure (lack of cash, lack of support services, etc.) are readily addressed through each of the in-kind contributions.

Businesses interested in winning this competition submit full and complete business plans to an independent review committee. The review committee then judges each business based on feasibility, cost, and community need. Once the committee reviews all eligible business plans, a winner is determined.

The contributing businesses will also benefit from this program, as they create a successful customer who will likely continue to utilize their services after the in-kind contribution period ends. In addition, partnerships are created between the private and public sector that can be useful in other business development projects.

The Business Challenge Program is truly unique and innovative. It has been implemented (or is in the process of being implemented) in Laramie County, Albany County, Carbon County, and Goshen County. All of the Wyoming Business Council's regional directors are working in a variety of communities to establish such a program. For more information on this program, please contact:

Ray Sarcletti, Director  
South West Regional Office in Rock Springs  
1400 Dewar Driver, Ste. 208  
P O Box 1377  
Rock Springs, Wyoming 82902  
Phone: 307-382-3163  
Email: [rsarcl@state.wy.us](mailto:rsarcl@state.wy.us)  
Web: [www.wyomingbusiness.org](http://www.wyomingbusiness.org)

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

Andrea M. Lewis  
Wyoming Women's Business Center  
P.O. Box 3661  
Laramie, WY 82071  
Phone: 1-888-524-1947  
Email : [amlewis@uwyo.edu](mailto:amlewis@uwyo.edu)  
Web : <http://www.wyomingwomen.org/>

**Recommendation:** Take a look at some of the programs offered by Gro-Biz (Government Resources and Opportunities for Business). Gro-Biz helps Wyoming company's secure profitable contracts with federal, state and local governments. In particular, examine one program called Bid Match, which utilizes email daily to notify registered Wyoming businesses of government contracting opportunities. For more information, please contact:

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

**Recommendation:** Local manufacturers should take advantage of the services of the Mid America Manufacturing and Technology Center (MAMTC). MAMTC can help Wyoming manufacturers become more competitive through programs that address quality, business systems, the manufacturing process, company assessment, marketing,

and product development. For more information, please contact your local regional MAMTC representative:

George Twitchell  
Field Engineer  
MAMTC  
P.O. Box 727  
Rock Springs, Wyoming 82902  
Phone: 1-307-382-1840  
Email: [gtwitchel@wyoming.com](mailto:gtwitchel@wyoming.com)  
Web: [www.mamtc.com](http://www.mamtc.com)

**Recommendation:** Utilize the Wyoming Business Council's Trade Show Incentive Grant Program. This program will assist businesses in exhibiting their products at trade shows. It is a matching grant (dollar for dollar) up to \$1,500 /year. For example, if a company in Lyman were to exhibit its products a trade show in Denver that costs \$3,000, the Trade Show Incentive Grant could cover up to \$2,000 of these costs related to the trade show itself. For more detailed information on this program, please contact either:

Ray Sarcletti, Director  
South West Regional Office in Rock Springs  
1400 Dewar Driver, Ste. 208  
P O Box 1377  
Rock Springs, Wyoming 82902  
Phone: 307-382-3163  
Email: [rsarcl@state.wy.us](mailto:rsarcl@state.wy.us)  
Web: [www.wyomingbusiness.org](http://www.wyomingbusiness.org)

Or

Christie Pardue  
Marketing and Public Relations Specialist  
Wyoming Business Council  
214 W. 15<sup>th</sup>, Street  
Cheyenne, WY 82002  
Phone: 1-307-777-2833  
Email: [cpardu@missc.state.wy.us](mailto:cpardu@missc.state.wy.us)  
Web: [www.wyomingbusiness.org](http://www.wyomingbusiness.org)

**Recommendation:** It's worth examining some of the other business programs available through the Wyoming Business Council, including the Wyoming First Program (available to help companies promote their products as "Made in Wyoming"), the

Challenge Loan Program (a state revolving loan fund) that participates with banks to provide lower interest rates to businesses, and human resource consultation (helping companies with HR challenges). For more information on these and other Wyoming Business Council programs, contact:

Ray Sarcletti, Director  
South West Regional Office in Rock Springs  
1400 Dewar Driver, Ste. 208  
P O Box 1377  
Rock Springs, Wyoming 82902  
Phone: 307-382-3163  
Email: [rsarcl@state.wy.us](mailto:rsarcl@state.wy.us)  
Web: [www.wyomingbusiness.org](http://www.wyomingbusiness.org)

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

Jan Wilson  
Project Manager  
Department of Employment  
P.O. Box 2760  
Casper, WY 82602  
Phone: 1-307-235-3294  
Email: [jwilso@state.wy.us](mailto:jwilso@state.wy.us)  
Web: <http://wydoe.state.wy.us/>

Or

Ray Sarcletti, Director  
South West Regional Office in Rock Springs  
1400 Dewar Driver, Ste. 208  
P O Box 1377  
Rock Springs, Wyoming 82902  
Phone: 307-382-3163  
Email: [rsarcl@state.wy.us](mailto:rsarcl@state.wy.us)  
Web: [www.wyomingbusiness.org](http://www.wyomingbusiness.org)

**Recommendation:** If the town of Lyman is intent on seeing a grocery store in Lyman, and the private sector is unwilling/unable to serve this need, consider raising local private capital for a grocery store. Shares in a co-operative grocery store could be sold to local

residents for \$500 or \$1000 a share. Following this a Board of Directors could be chosen among the shareholders to oversee the operations of the grocery store.

This was recently done successfully in Edgemont, South Dakota recently. A 5,000 sq. ft. facility is currently being renovated to serve as a small grocery store for the community—all through local capital and loans. In seven months alone the community was able to raise over \$110,000 in local private capital. Community leaders anticipate that this store will generate \$15,000--\$25,000 a week in sales.

It is worth contacting community leaders in Edgemont to better understand how this was done. Please contact:

Jim Miller  
HC59  
Box 102  
Edgemont, SD 57735  
Phone: 1-605-662-7197  
Email: [jmiller@gwtc.net](mailto:jmiller@gwtc.net)

## **LEADERSHIP:**

**Challenge:** Lyman has a good group of dedicated leaders who have made great strides in recent months. This is without question. However, the lack of young leadership was heard in the listening sessions.

True sustainable development occurs when leaders from both the County and City, the public and the private sector, the young and old, interact to lead from a consensus. A few ideas may assist long term in building better interaction.

**Recommendation:** Develop a Bridger Valley (jointly with other communities) leadership program/institute. The program would provide both resource and leadership training at a very minimal cost to current and future leaders in the county/town. For example, the first leadership class of a dozen (or more) could meet over the course of a year to receive leadership and management training, learn about private and public sector resources, and network with one another. Over the course of a few years, a large network of civic leaders would be generated as alumni.

There are probably at least a half dozen different local leadership programs already in Wyoming. However, one of the very best exists in Park County and includes the communities of Powell, Cody, and Meeteetse. Established in 1996, it already boasts over 60 alumni. Part of the reason it is so successful is due to the fact that no individual entity is responsible for its operation. Therefore, there is broad-based consensus for the program. For more information on the Park County Leadership program, please contact:

Rhonda Shipp

UW Park County Extension Office  
Courthouse, 1002 Sheridan Ave.  
Box 3099  
Cody, WY 82414-5905  
Phone: (307) 527-8560  
Email: [rshipp@parkco.wtp.net](mailto:rshipp@parkco.wtp.net)  
Web: <http://www.wtp.net/parkco/uwces/pcli.htm>

Or

Leah Brusino  
Northwest Regional Director  
Wyoming Business Council  
143 S. Bent, #B  
Powell, WY 82435  
Phone: 1 (307) 754-5785  
Fax: 1 (307) 754-0368  
Email: [lbrusc@state.wy.us](mailto:lbrusc@state.wy.us)  
Web: [www.wyomingbusiness.org](http://www.wyomingbusiness.org)

For more information on other leadership programs across the country, please visit:

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

## **COMMUNITY FACILITIES:**

**Challenge:** The need for a variety of community development projects was mentioned many times. The most often mentioned project was a recreation center and a convention center. As it is with most public development, the limiting factor is financial wherewithal to acquire land and construct a facility. Adding to this expense is the ongoing operations of the facility incurred by the municipality each year. Typically, these projects are funded through capital facilities taxes, general funds, or private contributions. Most likely is a combination of each.

**Recommendation:** Grants through the Community Development Block (CDBG) Program are available to help with land acquisition and building costs related to projects that will serve and benefit low-moderate income people. Some of these community development projects could be eligible for these grants. Depending on the specific community project and CDBG program, the grants could range from \$150,000--\$250,000. Matching funds are also required. For more information, and to determine eligibility, please contact:

Steve Achter, Director  
Investment Ready Communities  
Wyoming Business Council  
214 W. 15<sup>th</sup> Street  
Cheyenne, WY 82002  
Phone: 1-307-777-2811  
Email: [sachte@state.wy.us](mailto:sachte@state.wy.us)  
Web: [www.wyomingbusiness.org](http://www.wyomingbusiness.org)

**Recommendation:** Lyman is already putting greenways around the town and through the valley. There are two grant programs available that can assist, if needed:

The first is the TEAL program. This grant funds projects like walking/bike paths, roadside landscaping, historic preservation, and other non-highway related projects. The typical grant ranges between \$100,000--\$200,000. There is also a 20% match requirement. For more information, contact:

David Young  
Wyoming Department of Transportation  
530 Bishop Blvd.  
Cheyenne, WY 82009  
Phone: 1-307-777-4384  
Email: [dyoung@state.wy.us](mailto:dyoung@state.wy.us)

The second program is more specific to nature trails. It the Recreational Trail Fund Grant through the Wyoming State and Cultural Resources division. Eligible programs include maintenance and restoration of existing trails and construction of new trails, along with others. Typical grants are in the range of \$2,500--\$75,000. As with the TEAL funds, there is a 20% match requirement. To examine this program further, please contact:

Joann Buster  
Grants Program Specialist  
State Parks and Historic Sites  
122 W. 25<sup>th</sup> Street  
Cheyenne, WY 82002  
Phone: 1-307-777-3483

**Recommendation:** Consider the establishment of a Lyman Community Foundation. Establish the Foundation as a 501(c)(3) so that contributions to the Foundation would be tax deductible. Another benefit of having a general foundation for the entire community would be that it would serve as a place for all contributions to flow into. Individuals could earmark their contributions towards specific projects. So instead of forming more and more foundations each time a project comes to the forefront of the public, one foundation can serve each project's needs. In short, it's a more effective and efficient way to raise private contributions.

Laramie has recently formed its own local Community Foundation as a 501(c)(3). It might be helpful to look at the process. For more information on how Laramie established the Foundation, please contact:

Timothy Stamp  
President  
Laramie Economic Development Corporation  
1482 Commerce Drive, Suite A  
Laramie, WY 82070  
Phone : 1-307-742-2212  
Email : [ledc@laramiewy.org](mailto:ledc@laramiewy.org)  
Web : [www.laramiewy.org](http://www.laramiewy.org)

**Recommendation:** Examine the Community Facilities Grant and Loan Program through the USDA Rural Development. The loan program can loan money to communities to construct, enlarge, or improve community facilities for health care, public safety, and public services. The term on the loans can be up to 40 years and interest rates vary depending on the income area serviced by the facility. For more information, please contact:

Linda Ziegler, Community Development Manager  
USDA Rural Development  
P. O. Box 190  
Afton, WY 83110  
Phone: 307-886-9001 ext. 4  
Fax: 307-886-3744  
E-mail: [linda.ziegler@usda.wy.gov](mailto:linda.ziegler@usda.wy.gov)  
Web: <http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/>

## **VALLEY COOPERATION:**

**Challenge:** Many residents—both youth and seniors alike—expressed concern that cooperation between the towns in Bridger Valley is poor. Although relations between the communities appear to be getting better, this is still a major challenge for all communities in Bridger Valley.

**Recommendation:** If not already in place, develop a local Council of Government (COG) that deals strictly with Bridger Valley. A Bridger Valley Council of Governments would be a great opportunity for the public officials of all the communities of Bridger Valley to meet on a monthly or quarterly basis to talk about working together for the betterment of all. Moreover, it does not need to be restricted to simply the public sector.

Aside from building better communications between the towns in Bridger Valley, the main idea of a COG is to begin getting folks from the entire Valley talking and working together on mutually beneficial projects.

There exists a Council of Governments for Lincoln-Uinta Counties already, but perhaps a Council of Governments that focuses on the Bridger Valley alone would be worth trying in this case so that specific issues related to Bridger Valley are addressed. It would help with cooperation on projects and also in presenting a unified front from Bridger Valley on legislative and tax issues.

One of the better Council of Governments exists in Carbon County. It might be helpful to look at how this COG is structured and some of the projects the entire county works on together. For more information, contact:

Zoda Ferguson  
CCOG  
Rawlins City Hall  
521 W. Cedar Street  
P.O. Box 953  
Rawlins, WY 82301  
Phone: 1-307-328-4515

## **TOURISM DEVELOPMENT:**

**Challenge:** The need for tourism opportunities—specially, the need to capture Interstate traffic from Utah—was mentioned repeatedly. Currently, this traffic has no reason to stop in Lyman and spend time or money.

**Recommendation:** Form a local tourism task force that includes local community leaders, public officials, and your Regional Director from the Wyoming Business Council. Utilize this task force as a tool to work towards the deployment of tourism opportunities in Lyman.

Then contact tourism expertise in the Travel and Tourism Department of the Wyoming Business Council to begin strategic planning.

Please contact:

Laurie Green  
Director, Travel and Tourism  
Wyoming Business Council  
214 W. 15<sup>th</sup> Street  
Cheyenne, WY 82002  
Phone: 1-307-777-2808  
Email: [lgreen@state.wy.us](mailto:lgreen@state.wy.us)  
Web: [www.wyomingbusiness.org](http://www.wyomingbusiness.org)

Or

Ray Sarcletti, Director  
South West Regional Office in Rock Springs  
1400 Dewar Driver, Ste. 208  
P O Box 1377  
Rock Springs, Wyoming 82902  
Phone: 307-382-3163  
Email: [rsarcl@state.wy.us](mailto:rsarcl@state.wy.us)  
Web: [www.wyomingbusiness.org](http://www.wyomingbusiness.org)

## **YOUTH:**

**Challenge:** There is not a community in Wyoming that is not experiencing a challenge in finding activities for youth to do and also stopping the out migration of youth. Sadly, Lyman is not an exception.

**Recommendation:** Putting a Business class in the High School appears unlikely at this time due to budget constraints within the school district. However, consider the establishment of a Youth Entrepreneurship Program in conjunction with Lyman High School. This would help grow businesses, ideas, and talent from within the community.

Perhaps the SBDC's companion program to its NxLevel course, "Buzz on Bizz," would be appropriate. It's geared towards helping high school students understand business and entrepreneurship.

Powell has also done some good work in putting together a youth entrepreneurship program similar to "Buzz on Bizz." For more information on starting such a program, please contact:

Leah Brusino  
Northwest Regional Director  
Wyoming Business Council  
143 S. Bent, #B  
Powell, WY 82435  
Phone: 1 (307) 754-5785  
Fax: 1 (307) 754-0368  
Email: [lbrusc@state.wy.us](mailto:lbrusc@state.wy.us)  
Web: [www.wyomingbusiness.org](http://www.wyomingbusiness.org)

Also, the SBDC can provide more information on establishing a "Buzz on Bizz" program. Please contact:

Bill Ellis  
P.O. Box 1168  
1400 Dewar Dr. Suite #205  
Rock Springs, WY 82902  
Phone: (800) 348-5205  
Email: [bellis@uwyo.edu](mailto:bellis@uwyo.edu)  
Web: [www.uwyo.edu/sbdc](http://www.uwyo.edu/sbdc)

Lastly, look at sending some of Lyman's youth to the Youth Entrepreneurship Camps in Douglas during the summer. For More information, please contact:

Converse Area New Development Organization  
Joe Coyne, Executive Director  
121 Brownfield Road  
P.O. Box 593  
Douglas, WY 82633  
(307) 358-6520  
E-mail: [CANDO@netcommander.com](mailto:CANDO@netcommander.com)  
Web: [www.candoyouth.com](http://www.candoyouth.com)

**Recommendation:** The following web sites provide information that might be helpful as Lyman brainstorms the idea of developing its young people:

Learn and Serve Program (another sister organization of Ameri Corp)  
Web: [www.learnandserve.org](http://www.learnandserve.org)  
-Provides programs and grant money to get youth involved in communities

National Council on Youth Leadership  
Web: [www.nycl.org](http://www.nycl.org)  
-Provides programs geared toward teaching youth leadership skills

**Recommendation:** Explore the possibility of establishing a "microsociety" in the grade schools. The "microsociety" concept is an innovative way to attack the economic and community development challenge at its root: kids.

Students collaborate with parents, business volunteers, and teachers to create functioning small communities. A community can start a "microsociety" in an individual class, a small learning community, a whole grade, or an entire school. Traditional academic subjects are studied in the morning, then applied "on the job" during afternoon program activities. Students spend one hour or one class period each day in their jobs where they learn to run businesses, apply technology, develop government and social agencies, and create cultural and arts organizations. Gradually, students become immersed in the realities of a free-market economy, with taxes, property concerns, income issues, and politics.

Lingle, Wyoming has already experienced success with this program in its fifth grade class. For more information, please contact:

Cindy Gulisano  
5th Grade Teacher  
Lingle-Fort Laramie Elementary  
Phone: 1-307-837-2254  
Email: [cgulisano@goshen.k12.wy.us](mailto:cgulisano@goshen.k12.wy.us)

## **INFRASTRUCTURE:**

**Challenge:** Comments were made many times about the need for better and additional infrastructure in the community.

**Recommendation:** The following contacts all have programs devoted to a variety of infrastructure projects (business prospects, water and sewer projects, etc.) Please contact them to begin to see how some of these programs fit Lyman's needs:

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

Or

Brad Miskimins  
Grant and Loan Program Manager  
State Loan and Investment Board  
Herschler Building, 3W  
122 W. 25<sup>th</sup> Street  
Cheyenne, WY 82002  
Phone: 1-307-777-7309

Or

John Rogers  
Regional Representative  
Economic Development Administration  
Federal Building, Room 196  
301 S. Park Avenue

Drawer 10074  
Helena, MT 59626  
Phone: 1-406-441-1175  
Email: [edrmteda@aol.com](mailto:edrmteda@aol.com)  
Web: <http://www.doc.gov/eda/>

## **OTHER GRANT AND OPPORTUNITIES:**

There are many other grant opportunities—both on the federal and state level—that are worth looking into. The ones mentioned in this report do not even scratch the surface of all of the grant programs and foundations available. Therefore, there are these additional sources to assist the community in finding other opportunities.

Catalog of Wyoming State Grant Programs  
Department of A & I  
State Library Division  
2301 Capitol Avenue  
Cheyenne, WY 82002  
Phone: 1-307-777-6338  
Web: <http://www-wsl.state.wy.us/sis/grants/index.html>

This catalog is published yearly and provides information on grants available in the State of Wyoming.

For a list of federal grants available, the best resource is:

Wyoming Community Resource Network  
P.O. Box 3354  
Laramie, WY 82071  
Phone : 307-766-2107  
Web: [www.wyomingcommunitynetwork.org](http://www.wyomingcommunitynetwork.org)

Or

One can attempt to wade through the difficult Federal Register website at:

[www.access.gpo.gov/su\\_docs/aces/aces140.html](http://www.access.gpo.gov/su_docs/aces/aces140.html)

For Foundation opportunities, a comprehensive resource on the web is the Foundation Center's website:

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

## **APPENDIX ATTACHMENTS:**

The following attachments can be helpful as Lyman plans for its future:

1. Economic Development Building Blocks
2. Heartland Center's 20 Clues for Rural Community Survival.

### **Steve Achter**

Wyoming Business Council  
214 West 15<sup>th</sup> Street  
Cheyenne, WY 82002  
307-777-2811  
FAX 307-777-2838  
[sachte@state.wy.us](mailto:sachte@state.wy.us)

## **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

**Challenge:** Recruitment of new business that would be appropriate for the community came up many times at the listening sessions. To better understand what types of businesses would likely locate in the state, the Wyoming Business Council engaged a consulting firm with a national reputation to prepared a targeted industry study which identifies, given the attributes of Wyoming communities, the most appropriate industries to recruit to the state. The analysis is from an objective, external corporate site selector's perspective of Wyoming. Even though the study focuses on business attraction, it is useful for business expansion and retention because it identifies the current business climate under which existing businesses operate. With a better understanding of the existing business climate local economic development professionals will be in a position to implement strategies that will assist existing businesses. The report also contains a guide for communities to follow to prepare themselves to attract the identified industries, as well as understand the critical location factors for each targeted industry. It is recommended Lyman use the report as a starting point as it develops and refines both its recruitment and existing business and retention efforts.

A formal business expansion and retention program is also an important component of any local economic development strategy. It is unlikely that the community will attract a company that will create a number of jobs in excess of one hundred. It is likely however; ten existing companies will create ten new jobs each. An existing business expansion and retention program will help to make this happen.

Downtown development/revitalization and the need to expand retail were also topics mentioned by participants of the listening sessions. The National Main Street Program is

a highly successful program that has proven useful to communities wanting to improve the viability of their downtown area. The Evanston Urban Renewal Agency is a strong proponent of the Main Street Program and has successfully followed the four step process for a number years, resulting in a downtown that displays a vibrancy not found in many other communities. Evanston is always willing to share their experiences with other communities large or small.

**Solution/Contact:** The Wyoming Association of Municipalities on behalf of the Business Council has distributed the Targeted Industry report along with a questionnaire to all cities and towns in the state. The Targeted Industry report can also be reviewed online at the Business Council’s web site. Go to [www.wyomingbusiness.org](http://www.wyomingbusiness.org), click on Business and Industry then on Targeted Industries.

The new Business Retention and Expansion Manager of the Wyoming Business Council will be working with local economic development groups and businesses to focusing on business expansion and retention. As these programs are instituted, they are worth examining. The new Manager can be reached at 1-307-777-2807.

The National Main Street Program has a web site that describes the basics of that program. The address is [www.mainst.org](http://www.mainst.org). Steve Achter may also be contacted at 307-777-2811 to discuss the progress of establishing a Wyoming Main Street Program.

**Challenge:** A number of issues concerning the lack of services and the need for new businesses that would serve the community surfaced during the listening sessions.

**Solution/Contact:** Start a Business Challenge program for the Lyman area. This is a business competition program that can be tailored to existing business and/or start-up businesses. The program utilizes in-kind donations to assist businesses. The donations can range from in-kind advertising to in-kind accounting services. The following chart demonstrates just how far these in-kind contributions can go. Lyman may not have some of the service sectors listed; therefore, substitutions would have to be made.

### Business Challenge

Business X  
Winner

|                                              |                                            |                                                |                                                        |
|----------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------|
| Local Accountant<br>\$1,000 In-Kind Services | Local Attorney<br>\$1,000 In-Kind Services | Local Newspaper<br>\$1,000 In-Kind Advertising | Local Radio Station<br>\$1,000 In-Kind Advertising     |
| WBC<br>\$1,000 Cash                          | Chamber/EDC<br>\$1,000 Cash                | Local Printer<br>\$1,000 In-Kind Copying       | Community College<br>\$1,000 In-Kind Software Training |
| Local Bank<br>\$1,000 In-Kind Services       | SBDC<br>Counseling Services                | City/County<br>\$1,000 Cash                    | DDA<br>\$1,000 In-Kind Rent                            |

This program is in the process of being established by the WBC regional managers in a number of communities throughout the state. For more information on starting a business challenge program in Lyman contact:

Steve Elledge, Chief of Field Operations  
Wyoming Business Council  
300 South Walcott, Suite 300  
Casper, WY 82601  
307-577-6012

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

The NxLevel entrepreneurial training is also offered through the SBDC's and will be taught on-site in Lyman if there are enough students that sign-up for the class. It generally takes about 12 students to make a complete class. However, if there are fewer than 12 students the class will be taught if a sponsor can be found to help support the class. Often times this is a bank or the local government, either town or county.

For additional information regarding the Small Business Development Center contact:

Bill Ellis  
Region I SBDC  
1400 Dewar Drive, Suite 205 B  
Rock Springs, WY 82901  
307-632-6141  
Toll free 800-348-5205  
Fax: 307-352-6876  
E-mail: [bellis@uwyo.edu](mailto:bellis@uwyo.edu)

The SBDC also manages a program called GRO-Biz. This program helps companies identify and receive government contracts. For additional information regarding the Small Business Development Center's GRO-Biz program contact:

Rudy Nesvik, Director  
Laramie County Community College  
1400 East College Drive  
Cheyenne, WY 82007-3298  
307-637-4990

E-mail: [nesvik@wyoming.com](mailto:nesvik@wyoming.com)

Outreach office:  
Rock Springs: 307-362-2110

**Challenge:** The need for an industrial or commercial park was mentioned a number of times during the sessions. Having an appropriate site to locate a new business can be a critical component to any local economic development effort, however, by itself, it does not insure success in attracting a new business. Other elements such as leadership dedicated to economic development, community support for economic development, and an organization and personnel prepared to work with new or expanding businesses also needs to be in place. If the other elements are in place an industrial/commercial park can succeed. Other communities in the state have successfully developed parks.

**Solution/Contact:** The following persons may be contacted to learn from their experiences developing an industrial/commercial park:

Barry Cook, Town Administrator  
City of Green River  
50 East 2<sup>nd</sup> Street  
Green River, WY 82935  
307-872-0500

Randy Bruns, President  
Cheyenne LEADS  
1720 Carey Ave. Suite 401  
Cheyenne, WY 82003  
307-638-6000

The US Economic Development Administration (EDA) has grant funds available to help fund the development of industrial/commercial parks and other public facilities. For information and program guidelines contact:

John Rogers  
EDA  
PO Box 10074  
Federal Building, Room 196  
Helena, MT 59626  
406-441-1175

## **VALLEY COOPERATION**

**Challenge:** It was obvious from the comments at the listening sessions there is a degree of conflict in the valley that revolves in part around possible school district consolidation, secular/non-secular issues and inter-town enmity. Such issues seem to be deep seeded

and well established. These issues may be more perception than reality, however, the team heard they have persisted over time.

**Solution/Contact:** The communities of the valley need to bring these issues to the surface and confront them in a rational and reasoned way. A valley-wide summit should be considered to discuss these issues.

## **INFRASTRUCTURE/COMMUNITY FACILITIES**

**Challenge:** The need for improved infrastructure/community facilities was mentioned numerous times during the sessions – improved roads and waterlines were mentioned.

**Solution/Contact:** There are a variety of state and federal grant programs that can help the community pay for improvements. Most programs have limitations on the types of projects they are able to fund. However, these limitations should be discussed with the program managers of the particular program.

For general public improvements contact:

Steve Achter  
Community Development Block Grant Program  
Wyoming Business Council  
214 West 15<sup>th</sup> Street  
Cheyenne, WY 82002  
307-777-2811

Brad Miskimins  
Grant and Loan Program Manager  
State Loan and Investment Board  
Herschler Building, 3W  
122 W. 25<sup>th</sup> Street  
Cheyenne, WY 82002  
307-777-7309

**Challenge:** The need for emergency services equipment and facilities was brought up at the session with the local law enforcement and emergency services personnel.

**Solution/Contact:** In the aftermath of the September 11<sup>th</sup> terrorist attacks, a considerable amount of federal grant funds have been made available to fire departments. Areas eligible for support include fire operations, firefighter safety, fire prevention, emergency medical services and fire vehicle acquisition. For more information go to the following web site:

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

**Challenge:** The need for outdoor recreation facilities such as bike and walking paths, a skate park and improvements to the tennis courts were mentioned many times at the listening sessions.

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

information contact:

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

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

## **YOUTH**

**Challenge:** Communities throughout the state continually contend with the problems of out migration of young people. Lyman is no different. The resource team heard this problem mentioned time and time again. The nothing for kids to do mantra may never be solved, however, there are step that communities can take, in a small way, to help solve this problem.

**Solution/Contact:** From the listening session that was conducted with the students from the high school it was apparent that there is considerable talent and energy among this group. This talent should be nurtured within the educational environment of the public schools. Some students may desire to channel their talents towards starting their own business. There exist many youth entrepreneurial education programs that can be made part of the public school curriculum. The Center for Entrepreneurial Leadership has an excellent database devoted to entrepreneurship education. That database may be accessed over the Internet at [www.celcee.edu](http://www.celcee.edu)

## **COMMUNITY PLANNING**

**Challenge:** The need for land use planning and growth management and the lack of a comprehensive plan were all mentioned as problems that need to be solved. Many people indicated that the leadership has not planned for the future and that there needs to be a vision for the future.

During that late 1970's and early 80's all communities were required to prepare a land use plan as a result of the State Land Use Planning Act of 1975. Lyman would have prepared such a plan, however, at this point it would be terribly outdated.

**Solution/Contact:** To properly control land use, an updated plan must be in place. If not, the community may, as the attorneys like to say, be accused of making arbitrary and capricious decisions when considering land use issues such as zone changes, annexations and changes to the official street map.

Uinta County is starting the process to update the county land use plan and will be hiring a planning consultant to complete the process. Ken Klinker, the county planner, has agreed to come to Lyman to discuss that process and explore ways the county and the town can coordinate their planning efforts. The timing is excellent and this could be the right time for Lyman to update their land use plan. Contact Ken at:

Uinta County Planning Office  
225 9<sup>th</sup> Street  
Evanston, WY 82931  
307-783-0318

**Solution/Contact:** Another resource that can be used to assist with the planning process is the University of Wyoming. The University has an impact model that will analyze development alternatives to determine the fiscal impact of various forms of development. This could prove to be particularly valuable when considering residential development, i.e. in town vs. out of town development. The person to contact is:

Roger Coupal  
University of Wyoming  
PO Box 3354  
Laramie, WY 82071-3354  
307-766-5246

**Challenge:** Many trees have been planted in town; however, the need for more tree planting was expressed, particularly along the pathway.

**Solution/Contact:** Start a community tree planting campaign. Consider involving the youth in the community. This could be a project for a school organization or other youth groups in town.

The State Forestry Division has a community tree-planting program for cities and towns, civic groups and organizations. Trees must be planted on public property. Information concerning this program may be obtained by contacting:

Mark Hughes  
Forestry Division  
1100 West 22<sup>nd</sup> Street  
Cheyenne, WY 82002  
307-777-7586

**Challenge:** The assessment team heard time and time again about the need for affordable housing, not only for families but also for seniors.

**Solution/Contact:** Other communities have faced similar situations and have used a variety of methods to solve the problem. The Wyoming Community Development Authority (WCDA), which is the housing finance agency for the state, manages the

HOME Investment Partnership Program, or HOME for short, which helps pay for development costs if the subsidy is past on to the renter or the homebuyer. The city of Powell prepared a housing demand study and in turned used it to persuade homebuilders that there was a market for affordable housing as well as other types of housing, such as assisted living. This resulted in new housing construction. For additional information contact:

Cheryl Gillum  
Housing Programs Director  
WCDA  
155 North Beech Street  
Casper, WY 82602  
307-265-0603.

Dave Reetz  
President of the Powell Valley Economic Development Alliance  
PO Box 907  
Powell, WY 82435  
307 754 2201.  
Fax: 307-754-5217

The town of Lovell is also in the process of developing an affordable housing project using a combination of WCDA programs. The person to contact in Lovell is:

Todd Wacaser, Town Administrator  
Town of Lovell  
336 Nevada Ave  
Lovell, WY 82431  
307-548-6551  
FAX 307-548-7614

Within USDA Rural Development there is a program called “Self-Help Housing.” This program allows homeowners to provide sweat equity for construction of homes under supervision of a construction supervisor sponsored by a housing authority or other non-profit organization.

Recently Housing Partners in Riverton applied for a Self-Help Grant for technical assistance in the development of a Self-Help Project. Four homes are being built and almost ready for occupancy. For information contact:

Sue Hoesel  
307-857-1988

## **LEADERSHIP**

**Challenge:** There were a number of comments regarding the need for aggressive forward

thinking leadership. There are concerns about communication, or the lack thereof, between local officials as well as communication by those officials back to the citizens.

**Solution/Contact:** Leadership Wyoming is leadership training provided by the Wyoming Business Alliance in partnership with the University of Wyoming. The program selects a diverse group of up to forty leaders, ages thirty to fifty-five, to participate in a challenging, interactive and thought provoking nine-month educational experience. The training is designed to provided leaders with the skills and knowledge to better understand the challenges facing the state and the participants' community. For more information contact:

Leadership Wyoming  
Wyoming Business Alliance  
145 South Durbin, Suite 101  
Casper, WY 82601

## **OTHER USEFUL GRANT INFORMATION**

State grant information through the State Library:

[www-wsl.state.wy.us/sis/grants/index.html](http://www-wsl.state.wy.us/sis/grants/index.html)

Federal Catalog of Domestic Assistance:

[www.cfda.gov](http://www.cfda.gov)

Information about private foundation assistance:

[www.fdncenter.org](http://www.fdncenter.org)

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

CD Publications  
8204 Fenton Street  
Silver Springs, MD 20910  
301-588-6380  
Web-site address: [www.cdpublications.com](http://www.cdpublications.com)

**Bob Brown**

American Red Cross of Wyoming  
3619 Evans Ave  
Cheyenne, WY 82001  
Phone: 1-307-638-8906  
Fax: 1-307-637-5988  
Email: [brownb@usa.redcross.org](mailto:brownb@usa.redcross.org)

## **Lyman Assessment 3/2002**

### **1. Economic Development**

- Cottage industry
- Department Store
- Downtown Development/revitalization
- Grocery Store
- Industrial Park
- Interstate business, motel
- Power plants, wind, transmission lines
- Small manufacturing recruitment
- Support existing business
- Value Added
- Wind generation

### **2. Valley Cooperation**

- Combine Communities
- Combine schools/districts
- Communication
- League sports

### 3. Infrastructure

- Airport Infrastructure
- Communication
- Helipad near clinic:
  - i. [http://www.ambulance-vic.com.au/opservices/air\\_helicopter.html](http://www.ambulance-vic.com.au/opservices/air_helicopter.html).  
This web site gives great information on inexpensive ways to set up helipads.
  - ii. Contact information: **Manager:** Mr Ken Laycock  
**Postal Address:** Air Ambulance Victoria, Nomad Rd, Essendon Airport, Victoria 3041, Australia  
**Telephone:** (061) 03 9379 9155  
**Email:** [air.ambulance@mas.vic.gov.au](mailto:air.ambulance@mas.vic.gov.au)
- Road improvements in Lyman
- Upgrade the County Road to Gorge
- Water line maintenance and new lines

### 4. Youth

➤ **Business Class in HS:**

One of the areas in the youth section was business classes or education. I was part of an after school business program called Junior Achievement while in high school, whose mission statement is: "To ensure that every child in America has a fundamental understanding of the free enterprise system". They were very instrumental in getting me interested in business and self-employment. With that said, they are based out of Colo Springs, CO. with the nearest office as follows: JA of Utah, Inc, 641 E. South Temple, Salt Lake City , UT 84102, Phone: (801) 355-5252, Email: [phil@ja-utah.org](mailto:phil@ja-utah.org) Junior Achievement's main web site is [www.JA.org](http://www.JA.org)

- College Prep in HS
- Jobs
- Recreations
  - i. Skate Parks: The City of Arvada in Colorado has put in a skateboard park and is a nearby source to answer questions about design and layout. Safety is always an issue of course.
  - ii. Contact: Parks, Golf, and Hospitality Services - Administration  
phone number:  
(303) 431-3065.

### 5. Community Facilities

- 24-hour Trauma Center
- Bike/walking Paths
- Community Center

- Fire training facility
- Golf course
- K-9 police dogs
- Maintain Recreation facilities, etc
- Recreation Center
- Shooting range

## **6. Community Planning**

- Beautification maintenance and continued
- Communication
- Growth management
- Housing
- Image
- Master Plan
- Ordinance Enforcement
- Update of land use regulations

## **7. Tourism Development**

- Advertise Exiting Business
- Advertise Fort
- Advertise Valley
- Beautification
- Fish Pond
- Fort Bridger
- Heritage Farm:
  - i. The Heritage Farm has great potential for becoming an area attraction for visitors. There is ample room to put in a golf course or shooting range for the valley. Possibly a petting zoo and there is the makings for a kids fishing pond near the site for the kiddies, there is already the beginnings of an antique farm implement walk. Possibly utilizing the existing RV Park or an additional park on premise. Seasonally add a barn dance on a Friday and Saturday nite. Wyoming Tourism has some assistance in this area:
  - ii. John Logan, Domestic Program Manager ([jlogan@state.wy.us](mailto:jlogan@state.wy.us)) 307-777-2852
- Image
- RV Park
- Scenic Bypass
- Signage
- Utah Navy
- Wilderness Tour

## **8. Leadership**

- Citizen involvement

- Communication to citizens
- Lack of vision
- Valley cooperation
- Volunteerism

### **Patrice Gapen**

Economic Development Program Manager  
Investment Ready Communities  
Wyoming Business Council  
214 West 15<sup>th</sup> Street  
Cheyenne, WY 82001  
307-777-2813  
307-777-2838 (Fax)  
[pgapen@state.wy.us](mailto:pgapen@state.wy.us)  
[www.wyomingbusiness.org](http://www.wyomingbusiness.org)

### **Introduction**

I am so impressed with Lyman and your facilities. You have less than 2000 people and about half population are under 25 years old. Naturally, your focus is on your children and grandchildren. Your community has wonderful schools with great academic scores. The Library, meeting rooms, vocational education, sports facilities, swimming pool, weight training areas are used by school activities and is open to the rest of the community for free. (The school use by the public is highly unusual.) Town hall is open until midnight for any group activity, again for no costs. Further the community has: 4 parks, racquetball courts, tennis courts, ball diamonds, play ground equipment, pavilion, fishing pond, The Heritage Farm, and an huge airport. You also have the advantage of medical coverage considering the population size and your citizens and teens are very willing to volunteer if they could see that it was helpful.

### **Morale**

**Challenge:** My positive view of Lyman is in conflict with the citizen's image of Lyman. During the assessment, we repeatedly heard them say that "There is nothing to do", "the schools are failing", "nothing is maintained" and "the town is declining". The causes of the negative view of Lyman may be due to the shift work at the mines, making it harder for the adults to connect and for the youths to travel to the recreational facilities. Complacency is always a problem. Adults are busy raising their families and earning a

living, so they don't always take advantage of the local advantages. Teens are breaking away from their family roots and are preparing to enter the adult world. Part of the breaking-away process seems to be to adopt a negative attitude about the local surroundings. The on-going competition with Mountain View, Urie, Fort Bridger and Evanston seem to aggravate the negative attitude.

**Solutions:** The city leaders may want to market their facilities to the citizens. As advertisers know, people forget the advantages of a specific product, and similarly the Lyman citizens have forgotten what all is available. Your paper has sections that focus on local activities and it is well received in the area. One possible way to promote community spirit would be to each week, select a facility and the Bridger Valley Pioneer reporters take pictures and write an article on the facility. I would like to encourage the city leadership to hold potlucks, dances or other activities so that the people can mingle. Town hall would easily hold a band upstairs and let the people dance on the lower levels. There could be adult music from 8 to 10 and the louder more energetic music from 10 to midnight for the youth.

Many people noted lack of maintenance on the various city facilities. Maintenance is an expensive line item to any city but Lyman is blessed with great volunteers in the Fire Department, the EMTs, and with school activities. The teens said there is nothing to do and that they are available and willing to volunteer. One possible solution would be to create a volunteer group to: adopt a park, adopt a block on Main Street and water the trees, or assist with the Rendezvous and other tourist activities. Mixing age groups and working with others that don't normally work together could give the town greater cohesiveness while keeping the recurring costs down.

The City Council and other boards could communicate more with people. For example, none of the citizens could tell us what was happening with the new water treatment plant. I am using the Joint Powers Water Board as an example, but there are many other boards in the Valley that could publish their activities or their meeting schedules in the "Calendar of Events" section of the paper.

## **Contact**

Bridger Valley Pioneer  
Keith Bray, Publisher  
225 West Owen Street  
Lyman, WY 82937  
307-787-3229  
[bvpioneer@blacksfork.net](mailto:bvpioneer@blacksfork.net)

On March 15, 2002, the Governor presented the Wyoming Community Network (WCN) awards.

The Wyoming Community Network and Gov. Jim Geringer are presenting three communities with monetary awards to assist them with economic and community development goals. First time award recipients include:

- Platte County Community Building Committee, \$10,000
- Converse Area New Development Organization, \$10,000
- Lovell Youth Council, \$1,000

The WCN is designed to connect Wyoming communities with resources and programs to aid their development. Qwest Communications is funding the first-time monetary awards. Seven organizations in total created the WCN -Qwest, the Wyoming Business Council and the University of Wyoming fund the network. Affiliate partners include the Wyoming Association of Municipalities, Wyoming Community Development Authority, Centers for Excellence in Rural America, and the Wyoming Rural Development Council.

## **Airport**

**Challenge:** As a pilot and flight instructor, I was naturally interested in your airport. During the course of the Assessment, I asked about a dozen people how to get to the airport, and what facilities were there. No one was even sure how to direct me to the entrance. Eventually a man from Rock Springs took me out to the airport. What I found there was wonderful. The Bridger Valley Airport (FBR) has a primary runway (22/04) of 8,000 feet in length, 80 feet wide that is paved and suitable for approximately a 19 passenger jet. There are two other grass runways, 24/6 that is 4000 feet long and 50 feet wide and 16/34 that is 4600 feet long and 50 feet wide. Both of these are suitable for small planes. The airport has night lighting in the form of, runway lights and taxiway lights, a beacon, pilot controlled lights for runway 22/04 (these are very sophisticated), its own navigational aid, the FBR VOR, in-flight weather reporting on the AWOS (this is also very sophisticated equipment.)

There is a local business there to support the incoming aircraft, Weber Airmotive. Mr. Phil Weber opened this business approximately 1 year ago and is growing. Mr. Weber in conjunction with the County, Wyoming Aeronautics Division has an FAA grant for \$360,000 to redo the ramp (parking area for aircraft) and to purchase a new snowplow. They have applied for another grant for next year to add a new runway 25/5. Mr. Weber reports that when he moved there was damage to runway lights and taxiway lights, the airport sign was stolen. He has been working on FAA approved repairs to the lights but still needs a sign. Mr. Weber feels he could attract more pleasure flights, if there was a car for the pilots to take into town for lunch or to the hotel.

**Solutions:** It may be possible for one of the citizen to donate a car to the airport or for the city to locate one of their cars at the airport for use by pilots and their families. It is a common practice to hand the key to a car over to a pilot. Although this seems contrary to security measures since 9-11 and for insurance purposed, the pilot is leaving a very

expensive aircraft hostage, has already been proven not to be a drug user via FAA mandated drug tests, and have insurance on their vehicles. So this is generally a low-risk issue.

I would like to see more publication and signage for the airport. The city and county could put up local signs and an application to have an airport sign placed on I-80 would be excellent. Further the airport is not in the small plane/pleasure (VFR) pilot's Flight Guide. Mr. Weber may be able to get the airport added to this widely used book.

Mr. Weber is wisely hosting a Young Eagles Day. Young Eagles is a national-wide program to interest youngsters from 8 to 18 years old in aviation. Implicit in aviation is mandatory drug testing, reliance on math and science, a good peer group and respect for the pilots, mechanics and other professional who have developed their career skills. EAA is the sponsor of this program and provided \$1 million of additional insurance to any pilot that meets their qualifications to fly children. These pilots must meet the qualification on their own dime, provide their aircraft for free and buy their own fuel. In exchange the pilots (me included) get to give up half of a weekend and see the smiles on these youngsters faces when they see that they can actually steer the aircraft. Mr. Weber would like to do a fundraiser to assist the pilot with their fuel costs. The fundraiser and the Young Eagle Flights would both serve to positively promote Lyman.

**Contact:**

Flight Guide  
Airguide Publications Inc.  
PO Box 1288  
Long Beach, CA 90801

Mr. Phil Weber  
Weber Airmotive  
Box 1137  
Mt. View, WY  
307-782-3273  
307-782-3785 fax

**Kirk Heaton**

USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service  
Western Wyoming RC&D Area 14 West 15<sup>th</sup> Street  
1471 Dewar Dr., #106  
Rock Springs, Wyoming 82901  
307-382-3982  
FAX 307-362-3651  
[Kirk.Heaton@wy.usda.gov](mailto:Kirk.Heaton@wy.usda.gov)

**INTRODUCTION**

I would like to thank the people of the Town of Lyman and many volunteers for their warm hospitality during our stay. Your greatest strength is your people. The Town has a very picturesque setting with the surrounding rivers, pasture and hay land and mountains.

This report is organized around the major themes identified by the resource team that are based on the comments received in the listening sessions. You will note I have suggested using a task force to accomplish many of the listed solutions.

**1. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

**Challenge:** People in the listening sessions listed these needs:

- 1- Young people need employment to stay in the area.
- 2- Empty buildings along the main corridor through town give the town a bad image.
- 3- Some people believe another large grocery store would solve the Town's economic woes.
- 4- The Town needs a high quality restaurant and motel allowing more people to

stay in the area.

5- The Town lacks a suitably located and developed industrial park.

6- The Town needs a website.

Building the local economy is long-term process. You recognize the need for more jobs and hence opportunities for your children to stay in the area and raise a family. Creating and or finding businesses that can and will exist in the area is an important need

**Solution/Contact:**

1- Invite people on your future website to start a business or relocate their business to your Town. Initiate a business recruitment process.

2- Implement a citizen action task force and assign them to inventory the location, condition and compile photographs of the empty or old unsightly buildings in your community. Community leaders need to employ resources to help the owners find a suitable use for the buildings or devise plan to improve their looks or remove them. Once the inventory is completed assign the task force to assist the town to find solutions.

3- A new grocery store may well meet the same fate of the previous store. The recent loss of the convenience store is an indicator. With a Super Wal-Mart slated to open in Evanston this may be a very difficult time to successfully open another grocery store.

4- Contact successful restaurant and motel owners outside the area for their ideas on the feasibility of locating in or near Lyman. It seems that a great opportunity awaits someone at one of the I-80 exits.

5- A feasibility study is needed to determine the need and if so needed the best location for an industrial park.

6- The town could have a contest with a prize for the best web site selected by a committee of specialists appointed by the Mayor and Council. The teachers at the high school could assign some of their sharpest computer students join the contest to design a web page for the town.

LUAG, Uinta County Economic Development Office, and Bridger Valley Chamber of Commerce are all well suited to the task of economic development. Other sources of help are the Wyoming Business Council, Wyoming Rural Development Council.

Another source of help is that the Western Wyoming Resource Conservation and Development (RC&D) Area Council is sponsoring the grant writing workshop GET THAT GRANT: GRANTWRITING FROM CONCEPTION TO COMPLETION in Jackson, Wyoming on November 18-21, 2002. It costs \$645 and is some of the best training available in the country to teach people how to get grants. For more information contact:

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

The industrial park established by Kemmerer is a good example.

Help on these issues is available from the County Planning department, WAM, Wyoming Business Council, Western Wyoming RC&D Council, and USDA Rural Development Agency. Involve the youth and senior citizens in any task force to give it vitality.

Click on this web site for some ideas on how other communities in the west are addressing these types of problems:

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

Kemmerer, Wyoming has possibly the best websites for a small town in Western Wyoming.

See Kemmerer City 1994 plan Rebuilding the Oasis for economic development ideas.

Contact: Mayor Jim Carroll

220 Wyoming Highway 233

Kemmerer, Wyoming 83101-9700

Phone:307/828-2350 email:[citykemm@hamsfork.net](mailto:citykemm@hamsfork.net)

Kemmerer's website is: <http://www.kemmerer.org/>

Kemmerer Golf Course Superintendent: Brad Pehrson 307/828-2362

Kemmerer Recreation Center Director: Eric Howes 307/828-2365

A good source of information for web site development is

<http://www.searchenginewatch.com>

## **2. VALLEY COOPERATION**

**Challenge:** Suggestions were made to combine communities, and schools. People also suggested increasing communication among people of the valley and implementing more league sports. Certain issues such as combining school districts and sporting activities seem to be completely off limits among many residents of the community. There is a general consensus for the need of more cooperation in the valley but not a clear vision on how to achieve it.

**Solution/Contact:** Community and school leaders have addressed the issues of combining services with varying levels of success and acceptance. The issues of leadership and better communications tie into achieving cooperation.

Determining a Social Profile and the social capital of your community can help achieve a long-range goal of better communication and cooperation. Western Wyoming RC&D Council can get help you assess your social capital.

You can contact Kirk Heaton at the address above or:

Frank Clearfield, Director

NRCS Social Sciences Institute

336-334-7058

email: [clearf@ncat.edu](mailto:clearf@ncat.edu)

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

The USDA Extension Service has contacts with the colleges and universities that can help communities to resolve these issues.

### 3. INFRASTRUCTURE

**Challenge:** People in the listening sessions said you need a community center, a golf course, a fire training facility, a helipad, road improvements and waterline maintenance and some new lines.

**Solution/Contact:** These types of improvements can be achieved by setting a goal and developing a plan then getting help to reach the goal. It is often tempting to assume that such developments are needed because someone suggests them however a wise precaution is to do a need and feasibility study before taking on a costly project. At times it is best to hire a consultant and sometime projects can be accomplished through less costly means. A good start is to assign the needs assessment process to a citizen's task force which can request help to make these determinations and make recommendations to the mayor and council.

The USDA Rural Development Agency is a great source for funding. The local contact person is:

Linda Ziegler  
USDA Rural Development  
Afton, Wyoming  
307-886-9001  
email: [linda.ziegler@wy.usda.gov](mailto:linda.ziegler@wy.usda.gov)

### 4. YOUTH

**Challenge:** People said:

1. Business and college prep classes are needed in the high school.
2. Jobs for kids are needed.
3. Youth oriented recreation is needed.
4. Youth want a skate park.

**Solution/Contact:** Establish a youth and adult task force for each subject giving them the charge to identify and achieve the needed actions. Give the task force the clout (authority and funding) to accomplish meaningful solutions. Work through the schools, clubs, churches and scouting organizations. Some possible assignments are:

1. Develop a need and feasibility study a city run summer job corps. If it looks needed and feasible then seek the needed help to develop a business plan for such a venture.
2. Develop and implement a plan for the COOLEST MOST RADICAL SKATE PARK IN WYOMING. A real skate park for kids needs to involve teens, parents and professionals in developing and implementing the design. The county planner likely

has contacts in the professional arena that can assist with the technical aspects. Skateboard companies may be willing to help a small community with many aspects of such a project. The human/sociological side of getting what the kids really want and need requires a public involvement process that involves some kids. Recreation specialists with the Universities can assist with designs for a good skate park.

Each item needs interested people from the community to work on getting the best design and then they can undertake the funding process to implement their plan. Once the project is constructed then help them plan, schedule and conduct regular summer and winter competitive activities with impressive prizes for skating and snowboarding that bring in crowds of visitors to the community.

## **5. COMMUNITY FACILITIES**

**Challenge:** People said they want:

- 1- A 24-hour trauma center
- 2- Bike and walking paths
- 3- A community center.
- 4- A fire training center.

### **Solution/Contact:**

See solutions and contacts for ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT and INFRASTRUCTURE listed above.

## **6. COMMUNITY PLANNING**

**Challenge:** Residents stated that Lyman needs an identity, an image, a vision, and a master plan. They also identified needs such as updated land use regulations with better enforcement.

### **Solution/Contact:**

See solutions and contacts for ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT and INFRASTRUCTURE listed above.

## **7. TOURISM DEVELOPMENT**

**Challenge:** A well designed advertising campaign is eventually needed to bring tourists to Lyman. Establishing a town website in the World Wide Web is an effective and yet untapped method to let the World (traveling public) know about Lyman. Lyman needs a well designed web page. Exceptional and exciting signs are needed to attract tourists off I-80. Downtown areas need to be beautified. Some people want a golf course to bring more tourists to your community

**Solution/Contact:** How about large signs near all Lyman freeway exits advertising a petting zoo at the Lyman Heritage Farm. Ice cream cones for 15 cents and free ice water near a shady picnic area could lure a lot of people off I-80 into down town Lyman. Perhaps some of the lodging tax and sales tax could be used to offset the cost until a

suitable onsite business can be established. The large and attractive grove of trees and shrubs at the historic farm site is an impressive asset that many people would like to enjoy. To attract tourists each freeway entrance needs bright simple and easily viewable signs welcoming visitors. The beautiful shady site at the historic heritage farm can be a great asset. It needs some pathway and picnic table improvements to attract local and out of town visitors. The town needs signs that are striking and easily viewable to impress travelers. They could say that this is a great place to pull off and see a beautiful historic farm site with a real petting zoo for the kids, and an ice cold drink of pure fresh mountain water with shady picnic and camping sites. Anyone can see the signing possibilities as they view Little America signs on I-80. The heritage farm visitor's center and petting zoo would have to be developed before the signs. Help can come from the Wyoming Tourism Board, USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service Western Wyoming RC&D Council, Wyoming State Forestry Division, Wyoming Business Council, US Department of Commerce, and the USDA Rural Development. The Mountain Spirit Heritage Area is now forming and wants to include your community in their organization and brochures.

Kirk Heaton  
RC&D Area Coordinator  
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Dana Stone  
District Forester  
Wyoming State Forestry Division  
P.O. Box 1497  
Lyman, WY 82937  
307/787-6148  
FAX 307/787-6996  
[dstone@state.wy.us](mailto:dstone@state.wy.us)

## **8. LEADERSHIP**

**Challenge:** A Vision is needed for the community. Action needs to be taken to encourage more volunteerism by the community in general instead of leaving all the process up to a few willing and overworked souls. Strategies are needed to involve more

people in achieving community needs and goals. The values and beauty of the community needs to be sold to its residents.

**Solution/Contact:** Take immediate decisive action. Form a citizen task force with the charge to assist the mayor and town council to develop a vision, an immediate action plan and long term Master Plan. Appoint key leaders and invite the public to participate. Request assistance from the university, the county, the state, and federal agencies. People in organizations, agencies and private contracting firms from outside the community can be used to stimulate the needed actions and volunteerism within the community. The Western Wyoming RC&D Council, The USDA Extension Service from the University of Wyoming and Utah State University are great sources of help in such matters. There is a network of facilitators available to assist with achieving community goals. Contact Mary Randolph at Wyoming Rural Development Council.

Another source of ideas is to click on the library at:

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

The following company specializes in community organizational consulting:

Community Systems  
P. O. Box 516  
Bozeman, MT 59771-0516  
406/587-8970

#### USEFUL WEB SITES FOR GRANT INFORMATION

State grant information through the State Library:

[www.wsl.state.wy.us/sis/grants/index.html](http://www.wsl.state.wy.us/sis/grants/index.html)

Federal Catalog of Domestic Assistance:

[www.cfda.gov](http://www.cfda.gov)

Information about private foundation assistance:

[www.fdncenter.org](http://www.fdncenter.org)

Contact Kirk Heaton for assistance with certain searches of the Foundation Center database.

#### AMENITIES

**Challenges:** The community is blessed with many positive features including friendly and talented people, great schools and teachers, swimming pool, rodeo grounds, indoor racquet ball court, proximity to service and shopping hubs in Salt Lake City/ Ogden, low crime rates, parks, community events, senior center, great people with solid values, clean air, clean water, a clear sky, near by rivers, near by mountains, oil, gas, and trona mines in the vicinity, open spaces, great recreation opportunities such as fishing, hunting, snowmobiling, camping, a library, bank, doctor, the rail road, farms and ranches

surrounding the town, affordable housing. All of these nice features, and others we have no doubt missed, make Lyman a very desirable community to live in! The challenge is to keep the community viable, maintain the services now enjoyed and add any that are needed.

**Solution/Contact:**

Enhance enough economic growth to maintain needed resources and amenities. Use the natural resources and existing features to attract businesses that will provide jobs for youth to stay in the area. Advertise the community to potential clean industries and businesses that are attracted to small, clean, safe communities with abundant resources.

An excellent source of information is the Wyoming Business Council web site:

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

Another great source is Wyoming Community Network site:

<http://wcn.uwyo.edu/default.htm>

Other very helpful sources are the Western RC&D and National RC&D sites.

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

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

**Lorraine Werner**

USDA Rural Development  
1441 E. "M" Street Suite A  
Torrington, WY 82240  
307-532-4880 ext 4.  
307-532-5783 Fax

E-mail: [lorraine.werner@usda.wy.gov](mailto:lorraine.werner@usda.wy.gov)

**Economic Development**

Unita County has good economic development as a whole, but the town of Lyman has relied heavily on the trona mines for employment. This has created a situation where the town's economic life is tied directly to the rise or fall of mine employment. A smaller diverse business base is recommended for an even steady rate of growth. This could be done in several ways.

USDA Rural Development has a Business and Industry loan Guarantee Program. This program allows for higher loan amounts with less equity injection, lower interest rates and longer repayment terms. The benefits to Lenders are several. It allows the lender to expand their loan portfolio, improve rural communities, reduces concerns regarding collateral and appraisal issues, which often happen in smaller communities. These loans originate with your local lender, but for more information please contact the following:

**Linda Ziegler, Community Development Manager**  
**USDA Rural Development**  
**P. O. Box 190**  
**Afton, WY 83110,0190**  
**Comm: 307-886-9001 ext. 4**  
**Fax: 307-886-3744**  
**E-mail: [linda.ziegler@usda.wy.gov](mailto:linda.ziegler@usda.wy.gov)**

Small Business Development Center (SBDC) provide services including Consulting to develop business plans, training programs, workshops to answer questions, resource library and referral programs to agencies, organizations and companies who may be able to assist you. You do not have to be in business to use the services; you only have to consider opening a business. For Uinta County, please contact:

**Bill Ellis, Regional Director**  
**P.O. Box 1168 1400 Dewar Dr., Suite 205**  
**Rock Springs, WY 82902-1168**  
**Comm: 307-352-6894 or 800-383-0371**  
**Fax: 307-352-6876**  
**E-mail: [bellis@uwyo.edu](mailto:bellis@uwyo.edu)**

Wyoming Women's Business Center provides training, business counseling and marketing assistance to women who would like to start a business and to women who already own a business. WWBC has implemented a micro credit loan program to assist women in obtaining the financial assistance they need to start their own business. Please contact:

**Wyoming Women's Business Center**  
**University of Wyoming Campus**  
**Wyoming Business & Technology Center**  
**P.O. Box 3661**  
**Laramie, WY 82071**  
**Comm: 307-76-3084 or 888-524-1947**  
**Fax: 307-766-3085**  
**E-mail: [wwbc@uwyo.edu](mailto:wwbc@uwyo.edu)**

Not only can these resources help with starting new businesses for adults; they could also work with young entrepreneurs. Kids start businesses every day. Hold meeting with your local businesses, school officials and your young people. Type of businesses could include cottage businesses run during summer months to attract tourists.

A contact for more information is:

**Rural Entrepreneurship Through Action Learning**  
**Rick Larson, REAL Director**  
**115 Market Street, Suite 320**

**Durham, NC 27701  
Comm: 919-688-7325**

### **Youth Issues**

Young entrepreneurs bring me to the issues of the young people of Lyman. Kids are the best assets your community has. Really, what is the point of making your community a great place to live unless your children can raise their children in Lyman. We heard the “nothing to do” statement over and over, but when asked the majority of the kids in Lyman wanted to stay in Lyman after they finished school.

The best way to get the young people of Lyman involved in their community is through volunteerism. Powell High school has a program that requires a portfolio to be written for each student. This is not an option but a requirement for graduation. This includes community/family service. This service can include everything from sitting on the city council as a youth advisor, clean up work for the city, work at the senior center, to umpire work at the baseball diamonds. It would be up to the school board, students, and city as to what may be included. Powell High School tells me their students are eligible for more college scholarship money because of the volunteerism. Community service is only one part of the portfolio package Powell High requires. For more information, please contact:

**Powell High School  
Attn: Joann Hirsig  
160 N. Evarts  
Powell, WY 82435-2730  
Comm: 307-754-2215**

The kids at the high school stated substance abuse was a problem in your area. Drinking and smokeless tobacco were the things mentioned most. They stated it was too easy to buy alcohol even if you are underage and the adults don't pay any attention to them. They were well aware of the problems of substance abuse and the majority wanted it to stop. There are several grants available for this type of problem in the community. For more information contact:

**Dr. Paul O. Soumokol  
Wyoming Department of Education  
Hathaway Bulding, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
Cheyenne, WY 82002  
Comm: 307-777-7168**

Or

**Sharon Guerney  
Wyoming Department of Health  
Division of Substance Abuse**

**Comm: 307-777-6885**

### **Tourism**

The biggest problem is getting people to drive the three miles past Mountain View to get to Lyman, but the road goes both ways. Host events in Lyman. These could include family activities. Keep some of the events to single day projects to get people over to Lyman. The key to hosting an event is not the event itself but the advertising of the Event and the participation of the community to make sure the event is fun. If people have fun, they will come back. Take advantage of what you have. The wind is a problem in Lyman, unless you are holding a kite-flying contest. A shooting range was discussed. A call to the Wyoming NRA may get you information about development, grants, and hosting rifle shoots.

Heritage Barn may be empty, but would it be if you held dances there with live music. You could have band concerts with amateur groups from all over Unita and Sweetwater County. I feel Heritage Barn could be the theme of Lyman. There are grants for beautification and construction of walking/jogging paths and restoration and preservation. For more information:

**David Young**  
**Wyoming Department of Transportation**  
**530 Bishop Blvd.**  
**Cheyenne, WY 82009**  
**Comm: 307-777-4384**  
**E-mail: [dyoung@state.wy.us](mailto:dyoung@state.wy.us)**

Or

**Joann Buster**  
**Grants Program Specialist**  
**State Parks and Historic Sites**  
**122 W. 25<sup>th</sup> Street**  
**Cheyenne, WY 82202**

### **Community Facilities**

Lyman is a community that has many facilities, including the senior center, swimming pool at the high school, rodeo grounds, recreational parks, ball fields, and tennis courts. I think that if you went back to the volunteer program and asked local clubs to volunteer to help maintain these facilities they could be kept in good working condition and would be used by the whole valley. Just like clubs that adopt a highway strip, Lyman's clubs could adopt a park or ball field. Again, word of mouth is not enough. Lyman must advertise for volunteers and advertise when things are open for use. At one of the assessment listening sessions a woman thought the racket ball courts were closed to the public.

There appears to be a need for other facilities to benefit the town. Items mentioned were 24 hour on call medical center, fire training facility, recreation center, and golf course.

USDA Rural Development has a Community Facility Loan Program. Applicant must be public body, non-profit corporation, special purpose district, or Indian Tribe. They must be in a city or town of 20,000 or less, be financially sound, have legal capacity to borrow, pledge security, construct, operate and maintain the facility for the life of the loan, and have loan repayment ability based on revenues, fees, taxes, and assessments. Examples of community facilities are community health care, cultural and educational, fire rescue, public safety, public building and improvements. The most important factor is that the project serves the community as a whole and is needed for the orderly development of the community.

Another program Rural Development offers is Rural Utilities Program. This program can do project financing and technical assistance in regards to modern telecommunications, electric power and water services. It may be something for the Bridger Valley Joint Powers board to look into to enhance the Bridger Valley water project. For more information concerning both these programs, please contact

**Linda Ziegler at the Afton Rural Development Office. (see address, telephone number page #1)**

Another source for water assessment and implementation is Brian Lovett. He has grant funds. I believe applications are due in October for the following year. His information is the following:

**Brian Lovett  
Wyoming Department of Environmental Quality  
Water Quality Planning and Assessment  
Herschler Bldg., 4W  
112 W. 25<sup>th</sup> St.  
Cheyenne WY 82002  
Comm: 307-777-5622**

### **Housing**

The need for affordable housing did come up in some of the listening sessions. There are many funding sources available for the purchase of existing homes or for construction of new homes. Low interest loans are available to first time homebuyers through Wyoming Community Development Authority (WCDA). Any lender or Realtor can be contacted for an application but if you need more information contact:

**Cheryl Gillium  
155 N. Beech  
Casper, WY 82601  
Comm:307-265-0603**

USDA Rural Development has both direct and guaranteed loans for single-family dwellings. They have grant monies for senior citizen homeowners for repairs up to \$7500.00 and loan repair monies for very low-income homeowners of up to \$20,000. These repairs loans are at 1% interest. For more information or applications to these programs please contact **Linda Ziegler at the Afton Rural Development office.**

The Town of Lyman has many great assets. The most important are its people. Everyone can contribute something. The key is to make a plan and utilize each person or group's strength to build toward an outstanding future for the people of Lyman.

I would like to thank you for your great hospitality during the assessment. If you have any questions please feel free to contact me.

**Yvette R. Wilson**  
Rural Development Specialist  
USDA-Rural Development  
320 East Lincoln  
**Riverton, WY 82501**  
307-856-7524 Ext. 4  
[yvette.wilson@wy.usda.gov](mailto:yvette.wilson@wy.usda.gov)  
RD website: [www.rurdev.usda.gov](http://www.rurdev.usda.gov)

First and foremost, I would like to thank the community of Lyman for their exceptional hospitality, participation, and honesty during our visit. You are all incredible people and I thoroughly enjoyed the experience. The Town of Lyman area has a great deal to offer, a small town atmosphere being one of them. I am always amazed at the passion and dedication people who live in rural America have for their communities.

We hope our resources help you to achieve your goals and we look forward to hearing about your success!

This report is organized around some of the major themes identified by the resource team.

### **Community Facilities**

The community addressed the need for a number of facilities to enhance social and economic conditions. Some specific items were a community center, bike/walking paths, 24-hour trauma center and a fire training facility. There are many different ways entities can be formed that may benefit their ability to obtain funding and operate the community type facilities. The community needs to consider forming a non-profit organization or possibly forming a Joint Powers Board between the City of Lyman and the County of Uinta. The Town of Lyman could apply for loans and grants.

Some funding sources might include:

1. USDA-Rural Development, Community Facility Loan program. Contact person for your area would be Linda Ziegler, Rural Development Manager, P.O. Box 190, Afton, WY 83110, 307-886-9001 ext. 4.  
Loans are available for public entities such as municipalities, counties, and special purpose districts. Non-profit corporations may also receive loan assistance when adequate plans for loan repayments are made. RHS loan funds may be used to construct, enlarge or improve community facilities for health care, public safety and public service.
2. Local Banks have funds available for projects and Rural Development can guarantee the loan. Contact a local bank or contact Rural Development at the address mentioned above.
3. Any of the Bond Councils in the state can help set up bond elections and give advice as to the best bonding route to pursue if needed. Three bonding companies are:
  - a. Borthwick Law Firm, 1312 Capitol Ave., Suite 506, P.O. Box 1124, Cheyenne, WY 82001, phone 307-635-2433.
  - b. Herschler, Frudenthal, Salzburg & Bonds, 314 E. 21<sup>st</sup> Street, P.O. Box 387, Cheyenne, WY 82003-0387, Phone 307-634-2240.
  - c. Wiederspahn, Lummis & Liepas, PC, 2020 Carey Ave., Suite 700, Cheyenne, WY 82001, phone 307-638-6417.
4. State Loan and Investment Board, Brad Miskimins. Phone 307-777-6646.
5. Private foundations can be found through the Internet at the Foundation Center. Their web site is [www.fdncenter.org](http://www.fdncenter.org).

## **Infrastructure**

1. Rural Development's Community Facility Loan and Grant program could be utilized for bike paths, off street parking, sidewalks, street improvement, street maintenance equipment and buses for public transportation.
2. Rural Development's Water and Waste Disposal Loans and Grant program is designed to provide financial assistance to rural areas and towns of up to 10,000 people. The town would be eligible to apply for this assistance. Funds can be used to restore a deteriorating water supply, or to improve, enlarge, or modify a water facility or an inadequate waste facility. Contact: Linda Ziegler, Rural Development Manager, Afton, WY, 307-886-9001.
3. The Wyoming Department of Transportation (WYDOT) offers two grant programs for enhancements. Transportation Enhancement Activities State (TEAS) are for those projects located on or adjacent to the State Highway System (SHS). WYDOT, 5300 Bishop Blvd., Cheyenne, WY 82009, 307-777-4178.

## **HOUSING**

Affordable, decent housing is a concern in many rural communities. In order to obtain senior housing or low income subsidized multi-family facilities a need must be demonstrated in the community. There is also a need for single family housing that is affordable.

Funding sources might include:

1. USDA-Rural Development's 502 direct loan or guarantee program for single-family dwellings. This program is delivered out of the local office in Afton and new funds are allocated each year. These loans are designed for very low-to-low income applicants in order to purchase a home. The maximum loan amount varies from county to county. Uinta county loan limit is \$86,317 and funds can be used to purchase existing houses, construct new houses or purchase new manufactured housing. Contact: Linda Ziegler, Rural Development Manager, Afton, WY, 307-886-9001.
2. USDA-Rural Development's Multi-Family Section 515 Loan program. This program is administered by the use of a Notification of Funds Availability (NOFA) which is published in the Federal Register. Generally these funds are made available around the first of each year. Rural Development also has a guaranteed loan program under Section 538. This program is also handled under the NOFA system. These loans are designed for low and very low-income tenants. Contact: Linda Ziegler, Rural Development Manager, Afton, WY, 307-886-9001.
3. Wyoming Community Development Authority (WCDA) is the State housing authority. They have control over Low Income Tax Credits and the HOME

Investment Partnership Program. These funds can be used for development costs if a subsidy is passed to the tenant. WCDA also has a Multi-Family bond authority but this generally only works with projects of 150 or more units. Contact: Cheryl Gillum, Housing Programs Director, 155 N. Beech, Casper, WY 82601, 307-265-0603.

4. Funding sources for an Assisted Living Facility might be obtained through USDA-Rural Development's Community Facility program. This program has funds for direct loans and guaranteed loans. Contact: Linda Ziegler, 307-886-9001.

### **Economic Development**

It was very obvious that the residents are concerned about economic development in Lyman. There is a desire by many to create more primary jobs in the community so that fewer people have to work outside the community and so that the young people will have a reason to come back after college graduation. There are also desires of retail and service businesses in the community so that residents don't have to travel to larger communities so often to buy basic necessities or get services. Some of the businesses mentioned were a grocery store and department store.

The development of service and retail business is dependent on population growth. When a market develops generally, business follows or is developed by local entrepreneurs. In general however the community must be willing to support growth in population if it expects to see growth in services and retail.

1. USDA has two federal grant programs that could assist the existing businesses in Lyman by providing technical assistance. An example of this would be to design a brochure or a catalog, feasibility studies for a potential new business, marketing studies, business plans, training etc. Eligible applicants would be public bodies and private non-profit corporations, which include towns, counties, states, authorities, districts and Indian tribes. The applicant would apply on behalf of the business owner, also known as the Ultimate Recipient. The grant funds do not go directly to the business. Contact: Linda Ziegler, Rural Development Manager, Afton, WY, 307-886-9001.
2. USDA also has a Rural Business Opportunity Grant. The purpose of this grant is to promote sustainable economic development in rural communities with exceptional needs. This is accomplished by making grants to pay costs of providing economic planning for rural communities, technical assistance for rural businesses, or training for rural entrepreneurs or economic development officials. The applicant must be a public body, nonprofit corporation, Indian tribe, or cooperative with members that are primarily rural residents. You must have significant expertise in the activities you propose to carry out with the grant funds and financial strength to ensure you can accomplish the objectives. You must also be able to show that the funding will result in economic development of a rural area. Your project must include a basis for

determining the success or failure of the project and assessing its impact. Projects eligible for RBOG funding compete based on certain grant selection criteria. Our State Office determines funding and most grants are expected to be \$50,000 or less. Rural Development also has the Businesses and Industry Guaranteed Loan program. These loans are originated at the bank and guaranteed by RD. Contact: Linda Ziegler, Rural Development Manager, Afton, WY, 307-886-9001.

## **YOUTH**

Our migration of youth is problem every small community has to face. Although we will never be able to keep all our young adults from leaving their hometowns, it is our obligation to do all that we can to make our community one they would like to return to and raise a family. With the continuous complaint from the youth that there is “nothing to do”, integrating them into community activities could be a win/win situation.

Suggestion: Consider selecting (or allowing the students to select) a junior representative to serve on a few community boards. (Chamber, City Council, or other organizations that are created from this assessment). This representative should have a teacher sponsor who can support them and assist them in reporting their board activities back to the students through a school newsletter or through school civic clubs. This youth representative should also speak on behalf of the students and should work to link school/community activities and goals together.

We also heard repeatedly from the students, there is nothing to do after school and that substance abuse is a problem among many young adults. The following is a well-respected program that serves as a mechanism for occupying students’ time after school and also providing educational opportunities to combat drug and substance abuse. The 21<sup>st</sup> Century Community Learning Centers (CLC) program enables schools to stay open longer, providing a safe place for homework centers, intensive mentoring in basic skills, drug and violence prevention counseling, helping middle school students to prepare to take college prep courses in high school, enrichment in the core academic subjects as well as opportunities in participation in recreational activities, chorus, band and the arts, technology education programs and services for children and youth with disabilities.

Contact: 21<sup>st</sup> Century Community Learning Center Program  
Email: 21<sup>st</sup> [CCLC@ed.gov](mailto:CCLC@ed.gov)  
Website: [www.ed.gov/21stccls/](http://www.ed.gov/21stccls/)

## **WHAT WAS SAID AT THE INTERVIEWS**

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

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

five, ten, or twenty years?

We have listed below, without comment, what we heard from those who volunteered to be interviewed.

### **Challenges**

Insufficient employment opportunities  
Money leaking into other towns  
Mines laying off  
Employment decreasing  
Population lowering  
Lack of organized activity- cultural  
Lack of activities for youth  
Lack of grocery store  
Lack of lodging opportunities  
No signs along interstate advertising Lyman  
Lack of water plant in valley  
Lack of other infrastructure in valley  
No variety of eating opportunities  
Lyman has a scattered image  
No building codes  
Lack of town image  
No building codes  
50% of people don't want to be here  
no enforcing of rules  
lack of community spirit  
streets and town needs cleaned up i.e. weeds and dirt  
racket ball court not being kept clean  
lack of jobs  
missed opportunities to host big conferences  
bad roads  
too much alcohol  
too many cops  
not enough people  
not enough people to support business  
nothing to do  
some of teachers are pathetic  
nothing to do  
nothing to do  
nothing to do  
school system sucks  
need better preparation for college  
town council needs to bring businesses in  
too many rules  
harsh rules

old buildings  
town officials are morons, nothing gets accomplished  
not enough to do  
no jobs opportunities  
not enough jobs  
nothing to do  
nothing to do  
town doesn't give financial support to kids  
kids need confidential counseling or assistance  
small town everybody knows everything  
schools shouldn't have parking violation  
town not receptive to suggestions about skate park  
no business classes  
driving under age  
tobacco use under age  
alcohol too available to minors  
nothing to do except drink  
school is stupid and strict  
over expensive movie theatre  
bowling alley closed  
drug problem  
underage alcohol/tobacco buyers no properly ID  
too many bars  
more bars than grocery stores  
too many underage drinking  
too many underage tobacco users  
not enough police enforcement i.e. underage drinking/tobacco  
too many police officers  
the name game  
bad roads  
school system hypocritical, unfair, bad school board  
activities for youth  
activities for seniors  
need for walking trails  
more people working together  
need for grocery store  
need for general store  
no activities and recreational opportunities for children & teenagers  
no things for teenagers  
need for additional grocery store  
no competition in gas stores  
no involvement of young people  
no activities for young people to keep them in town  
no jobs for young people to keep them here  
no industry in valley  
not enough things for youth to do

more jobs to benefit tax base  
brain drain of children  
lack of infrastructure  
lack of ice rink  
need more things to do for everyone (especially bowling)  
quit spending public tax money on private enterprise, unfair  
not enough activities for all ages  
competition for grocery store in Mountain View  
grocery store in Lyman  
town needs to be run by more rather than the few  
duplication of efforts in Lyman and Mountain View  
don't spend money on duplication  
start working as one community (mountain view , ft. bridger, lyman)  
town councils of Lyman and mountain view do not work together  
losing people and families in community  
business part of town closing down  
not enough employment for teens and adults  
dependent on mine, lack of economic diversity  
lack of employment opportunities  
ditto the last 6 items  
ditto  
ditto  
don't utilize natural resources that are available to create employment  
losing businesses for jobs for teenagers  
lack of businesses  
need economic growth  
economic development to bring in good jobs i.e. manufacturer  
utilize I-80 as a transportation mechanism  
change of attitude towards growth  
lack of advertising Lyman and Wyoming  
lack of technology i.e. computer  
maintaining quality schools  
funding of schools have dropped  
ditto  
lack of grocery store  
lack of available housing  
nothing to attract new people to Lyman  
need more of a tax base  
lack of available housing  
need more school funding  
need more economic growth  
need something to attract people to Lyman  
drop in school enrollment cuts school funding  
need jobs, if we had them people will come here to live  
drug problem due to interstate so close  
because of school funding school cannot offer many business programs

aging population  
?? not enough dependable water to support large manufactures  
downsizing mines, less jobs will be available  
not a very diverse job market  
no long term job prospects for kids in area  
need hard industry  
need manufacturing  
limited water due to system  
Some people have resistance to change and growth  
School enrollment drops every years  
Need young families/aging population  
Employment at mines dropping  
Would like one school district in valley  
Need 24 hours medical care  
No identity  
No identity  
Need more common goal, one thing at a time  
Street maintenance  
Water supply  
Policy response  
Valley needs to become one  
Not enough businesses/jobs for young people  
Lack of commitment to community from residents  
Lack of confidence and pride in community  
No commitment from residents  
Problem getting Economic development going  
Too little ethnic diversity  
Lack of pride in community  
Lack of a plan of how to maintain streets i.e. \$\$spent or to spend  
Lack of plan  
No goal of what we want community to be  
Lack of plan and vision  
Too much substance abuse  
Nothing for youth to do  
Nothing for youth to do  
Ditto  
Nothing for youth to do  
No plan for zoning i.e. industry, commercial  
Nothing for youth to do  
No vision for what the community is  
Nobody wants to step up and help get things done  
Nobody wants to step up and help get things done  
Shift work makes it hard to be a community  
Leadership  
Working with government takes too long  
Need roller rink

Need arcade  
Need place for youth to go and keep off streets  
Don't utilize assets we have such as heritage farm  
Getting water to rural areas  
Need grants for a museum  
Roads in the community, too long to replace and repair  
Need more things for kids  
Ditto  
Need more things for kids and adults to do  
Would like small rec center  
Ditto on last 9 items  
Need water to rural areas  
Need more for kids to do  
Need more community support and involvement  
Rec center with video games  
Need stable industry  
Need more community support  
Need industrial development  
New water lines  
Industrial Park businesses  
Industrial Park development  
Town needs projection on where town is going  
Need new water lines outside of town  
Maintenance on new projects completed by electric and telephone company  
Need to better utilize facilities town presently has  
Funding challenge (not in budget)  
Rec center with pool tables, dartboards  
Industrial park  
Town needs a plan of action  
Clean up basketball, tennis court  
Need skate board park  
Lack of community involvement  
Lack of community involvement  
Need skate board park  
Funding not available to maintain what town presently has  
Need something for youth  
Rec center  
More incentive for businesses to come  
Need something to keep older people here  
Need golf course  
Need something for older people to do  
Community leaders need a vision to where town needs to go  
Need to bring back town administrator  
Need to bring back town administrator  
Need natural gas to residents outside of town  
Maintenance on existing rodeo ground

Maintenance on rodeo parking lot and rodeo arena  
Maintenance on fishing ponds  
Maintenance on racket ball courts  
Maintenance on trees on Main Street  
Need more businesses  
Need new people  
Too many vacant buildings  
People do not keep their property clean  
People need to support each other & community  
Secular groups and community need to work together  
More jobs for people

### **Strengths**

Rural community  
Opportunity for schools  
Interstate  
Family oriented  
Strategically located  
Train station  
Airport  
Community spirit with school functions  
Great place to raise kids  
Great schools  
Wide Main Street  
Potential on Main Street  
Ft. Bridger and historical aspect  
Geological contact w/dinosaurs  
People in community want to be here and be involved  
Racket ball court  
Rodeo arena  
Rendezvous  
Close to interstate  
Less crime and violence  
Ditto  
Safe  
Small, no heavy traffic  
Quiet  
Safe  
Close to mountains  
Everyone knows everybody  
Safe  
No traffic  
Teachers stay involved  
Friendly town

Clean park and clean town  
Close knit and safe community  
Easy access to wilderness  
Safety  
Safety  
Small class size  
School spirit  
A lot of people of same religion  
If different religion you get treated equal  
Religion  
A lot of cops for small town, so we are safe  
Friendly atmosphere  
Churches  
School  
Sports  
Bike Path  
Recreation opportunities for shooting sports (archery, shoot range)  
Good people  
Churches  
Schools  
Theatre  
Good, kind people  
Good place to raise children  
Low crime rate  
Good teachers in school system  
Good teachers in school  
Senior center is an asset  
Well run senior center  
Rural aspect of community  
Churches  
City programs  
Senior center  
Good baseball parks  
Strong history in Bridger Valley  
Dogsled run  
Rodeo grounds  
Dogsled run  
Promotion of Fort Bridger  
Churches, schools starting to work together better  
Location and proximity to mountains  
Good education for children  
Ditto  
Ditto  
Recreation opportunities  
Ditto  
Ditto

Independence of people, willingness to do it on their own  
Not a huge city  
Clean air  
Not afraid to let children walk down street  
Not huge city  
Clean air  
People are concerned  
Safety  
Everyone tries to do things to help their children  
Good people  
Wonderful place to raise family  
Small classes  
Opportunity for children  
Good fishing and hunting  
Good people  
Outdoors  
Opportunity for children to participate in activities  
Fishing pond for kids  
Basketball leagues  
Racket ball  
Facilities are good for community our size  
High morals  
High values  
High values  
High morals  
Snowmobiles  
People are great don't have to lock houses  
Children's teachers are also there friends  
Historical value with Ft. Bridger  
I-80 for access to raw materials shipping and receiving  
Love for small community  
Zoned areas for industrial or small businesses or industrial park  
People of community  
Hunting and fishing  
Open spaces  
Low taxes for state and this area  
I-80 is opportunity for business  
Railroad close by opportunity for business  
School  
Unlimited opportunities  
Opportunity for recreation  
Camping  
Hunting  
Fishing  
Backpacking  
A lot of open spaces

Cottage industry (home based businesses) i.e. photographer, sewing business that sews for park city  
Low price on business license \$25/yr  
Vacant buildings available for growth  
Accessible from I-80  
Utah navy that comes through flaming gorge, everything misses Lyman  
People Ft. Bridger and rendezvous  
Beautiful town hall  
Nice Historical farm  
Wide Main Street  
Large airport that could be utilized  
When something bad happens community pulls together  
Good town  
Good people who will work  
Good infrastructure  
Airport  
Railroad  
Location, proximity to I-80  
Location, proximity to mountains, flaming gorge  
Ditto on proximity  
Free from crime and problems of major cities  
Free from congestions  
School system  
People  
When something bad happens everyone is willing to help  
Great community  
Great opportunity  
Family orientated town  
Peace and quiet  
Low cost of living  
Services that are available for seniors  
Good school system  
Beautiful community  
Awesome school  
Numerous religions  
Businesses that are here are doing well  
4H is great  
Great racquetball court  
Effective ambulance and health  
People and willingness to come together  
Ditto  
Ditto  
Opportunities are here  
Leadership now is better than in the past  
Ft Bridger  
Farming/ranching community

Trona mines  
Good People  
Ambulance  
Fire department  
Safe community  
Safe community  
Good people  
People know everybody  
Don't worry about gangs  
Safe community  
Fire department  
Ditto  
Ambulance  
Police department  
Good community  
Everyone pulls together in crisis  
Small community  
Ditto  
Great Family values  
Good school system  
Good teachers  
Good community  
Police dept  
Ambulance service  
Fire department  
One person trains as a volunteer for EMT's  
Everyone knows everyone  
Ditto last 5  
Ditto  
Great town hall  
Open space  
Open space  
Proximity to mountains  
No pollution  
I-80  
Railroad  
I-80  
Railroad  
I-80  
Railroad  
Ditto everything  
Ditto everything  
Close to railroad  
Nice airport  
Close to I-80  
Small community but not far from big cities

Ditto  
Ditto  
Beautiful town  
Good schools  
Police dept.  
Low crime  
Safe feeling

### **Projects**

Grocery store  
Grocery store  
Grocery store  
Meeting room attached to library for public use  
Retail businesses on Main Street  
Sustained growth  
Good quality park system  
Small manufacturing businesses for 20/30 employees  
Good park system  
Recreation opportunities  
Bike path throughout Bridger Balley  
High quality Ice skating opportunities  
High quality Roller skating opportunities  
Racket ball court being more utilities  
Independent of school, recreation facilities for adults schedules  
Arts and craft industries for tourism  
Nursery business  
Better jobs  
More growth for business and population  
Better school system  
Better housing opportunities, higher quality  
Recreation center  
More businesses  
Super Wal-Mart with a bar  
Grocery store  
More jobs  
Better schools  
More things for teens to do  
Ditto on the last 3 items  
Recreation center  
Grocery store  
Recreation center  
Grocery store  
Recreation center  
Grocery store

Gas station  
Movie theatre  
Recreation center  
More jobs for kids  
Grocery store  
Recreation center  
Rock climbing center  
Skateboard park  
Ice skating rink  
More Paved roads  
Big industry /manufacture  
Recreation center  
Recreation center  
Skate park  
Nice restaurant  
Recreation center  
Recreation center  
More sporting opportunities i.e. girls football  
City league sports  
Advertise existing business  
Advertise for new businesses  
Youth center – socialize, arcade, pool tables  
Hang out for youth without getting in trouble for being there.  
Student bodies on city council  
Golf course  
Combine Mt. View and Lyman schools  
More movie theatres  
Better law enforcement  
Less bars  
More restaurants  
Larger variety of school classes  
McDonalds, fast food centers  
Mall  
Summer sport activities  
Another gas station  
Need Bowling Alley  
Recreation Center  
Working together in the valley  
Ice Rink  
Need for good bowling alley  
Skateboard Park for kids  
Start working together  
Three or four communities working together  
Recreation Center  
More walking trails  
Everyone working together on all projects that are undertaken

Combine communities (towns, school districts, city council, everything)  
One school district  
One school district  
Unified school district  
Erasing town boundaries  
Combine schools  
Industry  
Clean industry  
More voice for those who don't live within city boundaries  
Shuttle service between valley and Evanston  
More cooperation between Mountain View and Lyman  
Cohesive valley support  
Cooperation in valley for projects  
Several medium sized businesses to bring professional and non-professional work 10-50  
Grocery store  
Enrollment up by at least 50-100  
More business to bring people  
Ditto  
Less empty houses  
Golf course  
Anything that would foster jobs  
Recreation of any kind  
Bowling alley  
Bigger Movie Theater that offers more than 1 movie  
Skate Park  
Major employer to bring jobs  
Create an economic development strategy  
Town needs a plan  
Erase the lines between Lyman, Mt view and Ft. Bridger  
Cabelas  
More restaurants  
More hotels  
Ditto to everything they said  
Manufacturing companies to utilize resources we have to create good paying jobs  
Glass companies - Value added  
More paved roads  
Good manufacturing companies  
Ditto  
Stability so people don't get laid off  
Restaurant/motel facility off of interstate  
Gas stations/motel/food at Urie Junction to capture traffic coming from Utah  
Luxurious market  
9 hole Golf course  
9 hole Golf course  
driving range that was accessible  
walking and biking paths

Scenic by-pass for valley  
RV Park  
Small manufacturing businesses – 15 people employed  
Coal power plants at Carter  
Apartments for rentals  
Look at school district with Evanston  
Wildlife tours in wilderness areas  
Town plan of future projects  
Grocery store  
Grocery store  
Manufacturing plant  
3 communities need to be brought together  
Small manufacturing  
Further manufacturing of trona resource  
More paved roads  
Maintain roads currently existing  
New water lines in town  
Take care of infrastructure now for future projects  
Ditto  
More paved roads  
Maintain roads  
Drinking water system with JPB  
Build power plant to bring good jobs  
Ditto  
Transmission lines for power plant  
Infrastructure, water and sewer lines, roads  
Recreation center  
Industrial Park  
Ditto  
Wind generators  
Power house/transmission lines, need state to give money  
Bike path to link communities  
Recreation center  
Take care of what we have now before we start worrying about other things  
4H fairgrounds moved to Bridger Valley  
upgrade one county road that leads to the gorge to catch tourism  
community center/meeting facility  
small Wal-Mart but without groceries  
more businesses  
business that opens up for local jobs  
more industrial, i.e. oil fields, gas, trona, manufacturing  
improvements on rural roads  
improvements on rural roads  
project for kids  
project for kids  
carefully chosen businesses and industrial business

different training facility for fire department  
Training tower for fire department  
Ditto  
Combine whole valley into single water system or district  
Water and sewer lines  
Replace pavements  
Police dispatch back in service  
Businesses even if it's a bar  
Grocery store  
Utilize old Lyman drive in building  
Do something with vacant building  
More business that can employ high school students  
Glass manufacturing business to utilize soda ash produced here  
Industrial park for business  
Mail order business  
Lyman, Mt. view and Ft. Bridger combine  
Plan to replace water lines and repair roads  
Heritage farm barn fixed  
Ditto on heritage farm  
Light industrial, cpr technology, plastic manufacturing  
Enhance community, as residential first then industry will follow  
24-hour medical facility for severe injuries  
Helipad  
On call trauma center here  
More local medical facility so transportation will not be necessary  
Ditto  
Upgrade movie theatre  
Rec center  
Helipad  
Medical facility  
Town to buy old property tear down old buildings and sell property to attract businesses  
Ditto  
Ditto  
Plan of action for everything  
Need money\$\$\$\$\$  
Buy old property, develop, rather than purchasing undeveloped  
Ditto  
Ditto  
Bike path extended by heritage farm  
K-9 units in police units  
Ditto  
Ditto  
Ditto  
Master plan  
Master plan to be passed on from council to council  
New animal shelter

Ditto  
Animal shelter with incinerator  
Businesses, no reason for them not to come  
Advertise town of Lyman  
Ditto  
Need another dam  
Better fishing pond  
Hire another maintenance person  
Ditto  
More trees in community  
Host fire school  
More waste disposal  
More beautification  
More trees along walking path  
Grocery store  
Help with meter readings  
New businesses  
Clean up Lyman  
Companies to give people more security

## **Lyman Major Themes:**

### **1. Economic Development**

- Cottage industry
- Department Store
- Downtown Development/revitalization
- Grocery Store
- Industrial Park
- Interstate business, motel, restaurant
- Power plants, wind, transmission lines
- Small manufacturing recruitment
- Support existing business
- Value Added
- Wind generation

### **2. Valley Cooperation**

- a. Combine Communities
- b. Combine schools/districts
- c. Communication
- d. League sports

### **3. Infrastructure**

- a. Airport Infrastructure
- b. Communication

- c. Helipad
- d. Road improvements in Lyman
- e. Upgrade the County Road to Gorge
- f. Water line maintenance and new lines

**4. Youth**

- a. Business Class in HS
- b. College Prep in HS
- c. Jobs
- d. Recreations
- e. Skate Parks

**5. Community Facilities**

- a. 24-hour Trauma Center
- b. Bike/walking Paths
- c. Community Center
- d. Fire training facility
- e. Golf course
- f. K-9 police dogs
- g. Maintain Recreation facilities, etc
- h. Recreation Center
- i. Shooting range

**6. Community Planning**

- a. Beautification maintenance and continued
- b. Communication
- c. Growth management
- d. Housing
- e. Image
- f. Master Plan
- g. Ordinance Enforcement
- h. Update of land use regulations

**7. Tourism Development**

- a. Advertise Exiting Business
- b. Advertise Fort
- c. Advertise Valley
- d. Beautification
- e. Fish Pond
- f. Fort Bridger
- g. Heritage Farm
- h. Image
- i. RV Park
- j. Scenic Bypass
- k. Signage
- l. Utah Navy

m. Wilderness Tour

8. **Leadership**

- a. Citizen involvement
- b. Communication to citizens
- c. Lack of vision
- d. Valley cooperation
- e. Volunteerism