

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 Board of Directors representing the six partner groups. The Board 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 contributions of rural communities.

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

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

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Table of Contents

Town of Basin Community Assessment

Resource Team Community Assessment Report

June 6 & 7, 2011

Process for the Development of the Team Study and Report.....	3
Executive Review	4
Basin Profile.....	5
Resource Team Members and Community Planning Team	11
Agenda	12
Major Themes	13
Recommendations Submitted by Team Members	14
Roger Bower	14
Jo Ferguson	15
Britta Fuller.....	23
Stephanie Padilla.....	27
What Was Said in the Listening Sessions.....	30
20 Clues to Rural Community Survival.....	36

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Process for the Development of this Report

The Wyoming Rural Development Council (WRDC) has provided a resource team to assist the Town of Basin, Wyo. in evaluating the community's assets and liabilities and in developing suggestions for improving the environment, social and economic future of Basin.

The Town of Basin requested a community assessment from the Wyoming Rural Development Council as a follow-up to their assessment completed in March 2003. Mayor Amy Kania, Planning and Zoning Committee Chairmain Ken Fink, as well as Charlene Anderson and Barbara Ann Green served as the community contacts and worked with the Basin community assessment team leaders in agenda development, logistics, and publicity in town for the assessment. Resource team members were selected to visit Basin, interview citizens and community leaders, and develop a plan of recommended actions for the town.

The Resource Team visited Basin over a two-day period on June 6 & 7, 2011. The visit began at TCTWest with the planning team and afterwards a tour of the town and surrounding area. Afterwards, the listening sessions began and a total of 52 people were listened to at the eight sessions. The sectors interviewed included: youth, Master Plan committee, government (city, county, LE, EMS), agriculture, civic groups (churches, arts), education, families, business/health care, and senior citizens. Each person was asked to respond to three questions:

- What do you think are the major problems and challenges in Basin?
- What do you think are the major strengths and assets in Basin?
- What projects would you like to see completed in two, five, ten, and twenty years in Basin?

Upon completion of the listening sessions, the team met to compare notes and share comments. The team agreed upon the major themes and each went back to their respective daily lives to write individual reports that are combined into this one larger report.

A summary of the assessment and major themes was presented to the Mayor of Basin, Town Council, and too many people to fit in the council chambers on June 7, 2011.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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

While reading this report, you will find a variety of recommendations made by the team members on the issues that were identified during the listening sessions. We encourage the Town to use these recommendations to build a plan for the future of Basin. Basin already has great programs in the works and a proactive group of town leaders that will be instrumental in carrying out recommendations and projects.

Anything is possible if everyone works together to achieve a common goal, as the community-minded citizens of Basin already know. Basin knows the important values for living. Your energetic citizens and town leaders who organized this assessment are to be commended—thank you Mayor Kania, Ken Fink, Charlene Anderson, Barbara Ann Green and others. Every step, no matter how small, is a movement in the right direction toward achieving Basin's goals. What you do with the recommendations is your choice and will be accomplished by the dedicated citizens of Basin.

Members of our team will return to Basin to facilitate a priority setting meeting in the fall. The meeting will help determine the priorities and develop strategies for implementation in Basin. We encourage everyone from the community to attend this meeting, even if they were unable to attend the community assessment. This goal setting meeting will identify both short-term and long-term goals for Basin and should help with other planning efforts currently going on in your Town.

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

Sincerely,

Britta Fuller

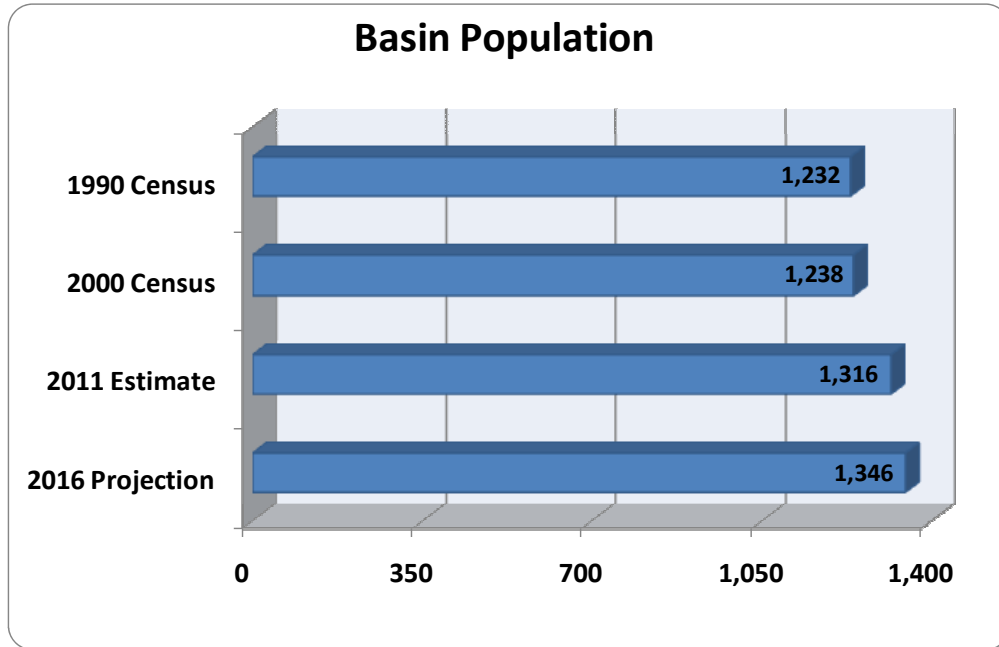
Team Leader



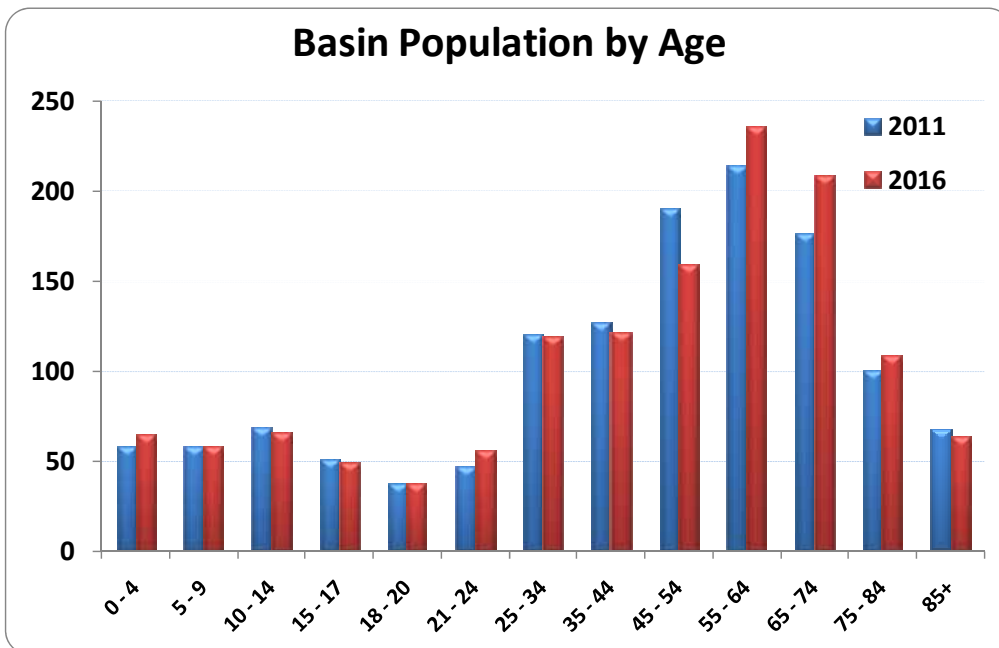
Basin Profile

Population Demographics

The population of Basin in 1990 was **1,232** and in 2000 it was **1,238**, an **0.5%** change. The population for 2011 is estimated to be **1,316** and the projection for 2016 is **1,346**, representing a change of **2.3%**. The growth rate from 1990 to 2011 is **6.8%**.



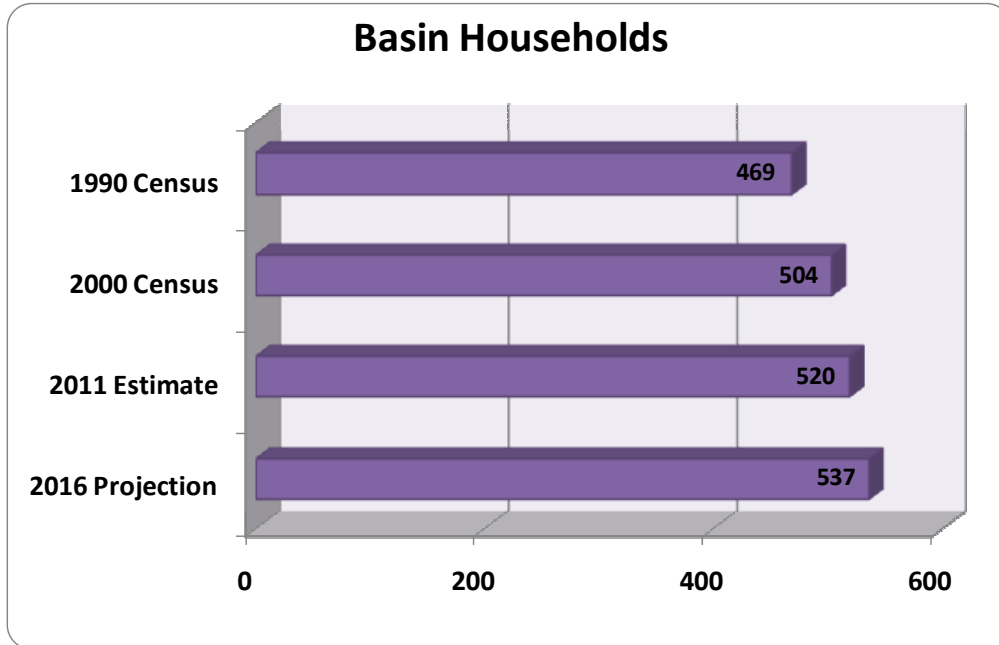
The 2011 median age of the total population in Basin is **49.8** and it is predicted to change in five years to **51.4**. For 2011, males represent **48.8%** of the population and females represent **51.2%**. The most prominent age group in 2011 is **Age 55-64** years. The age group least represented is **Age 18-20** years.





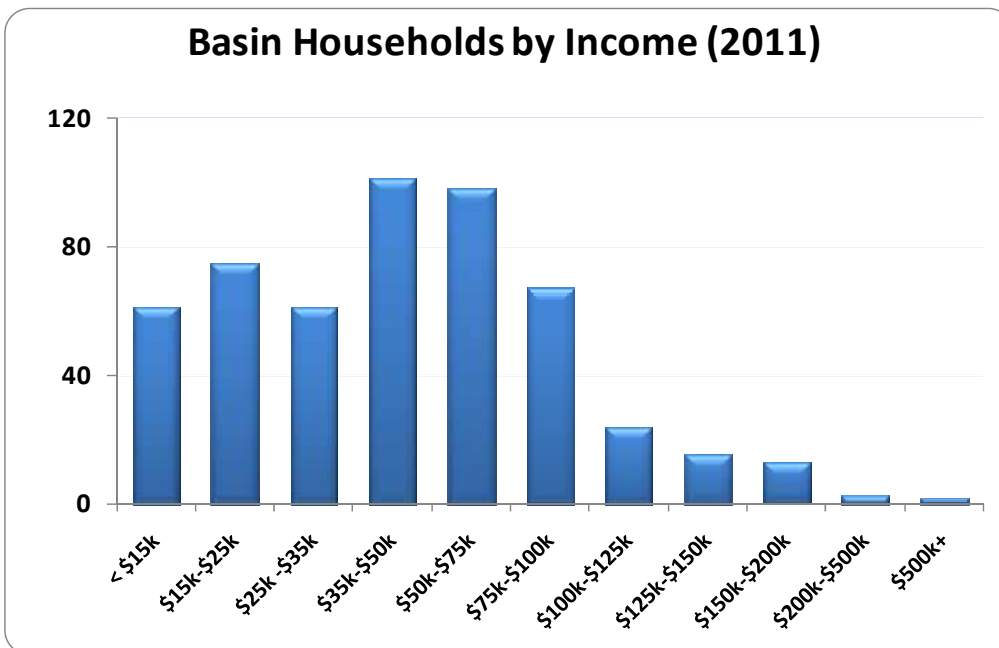
Household Demographics

The number of households in Basin in 1990 was **469** and in 2000 it was **504**, a **7.5%** change. The household count for 2011 is estimated to be **520** and the projection for 2016 is **537**, representing a change of **3.3%**. The growth rate from 1990 to 2011 is **10.9%**.



Income Demographics

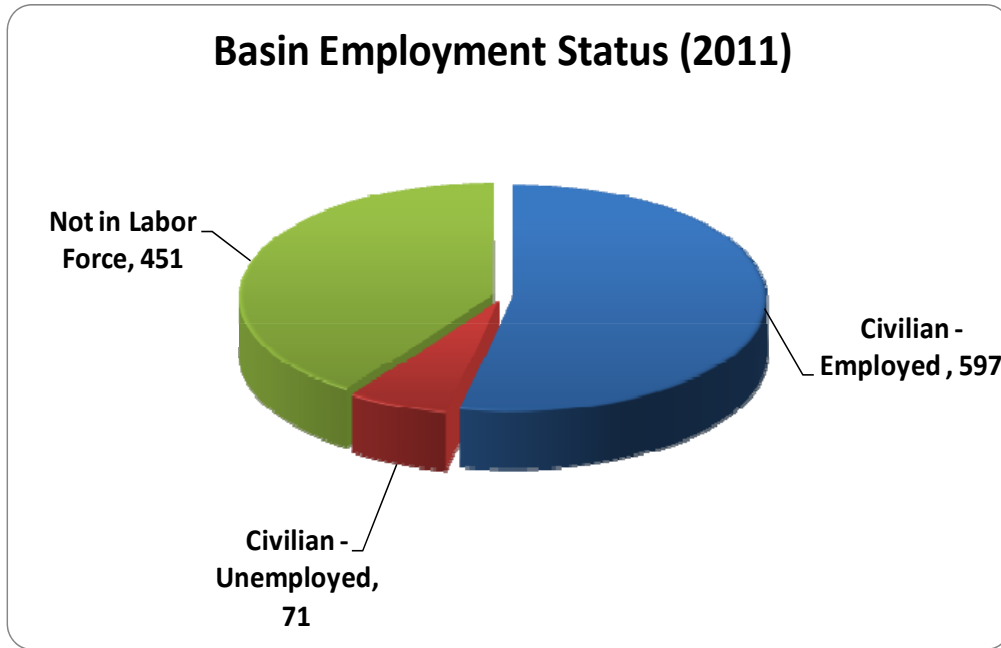
The 2011 predominant household income category for Basin is **\$35k-\$50k**, and the income group that is least represented is **\$500k+**. For 2011, average household income is **\$55,793**, median household income is **\$44,356** and per capita income is **\$22,453**.



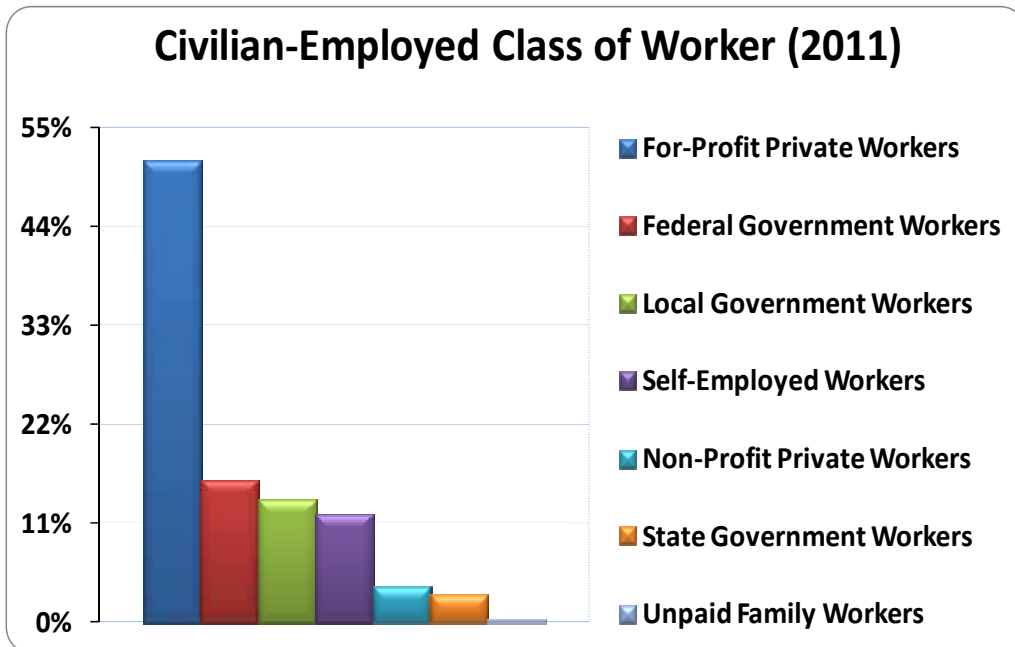


Labor Force Demographics

For 2011, **45.4%** of the Basin population (age 16+) is estimated to be employed. The status of the labor force is as follows: **53.4%** are employed civilians, **6.3%** are unemployed civilians, and **40.3%** are not in the labor force.



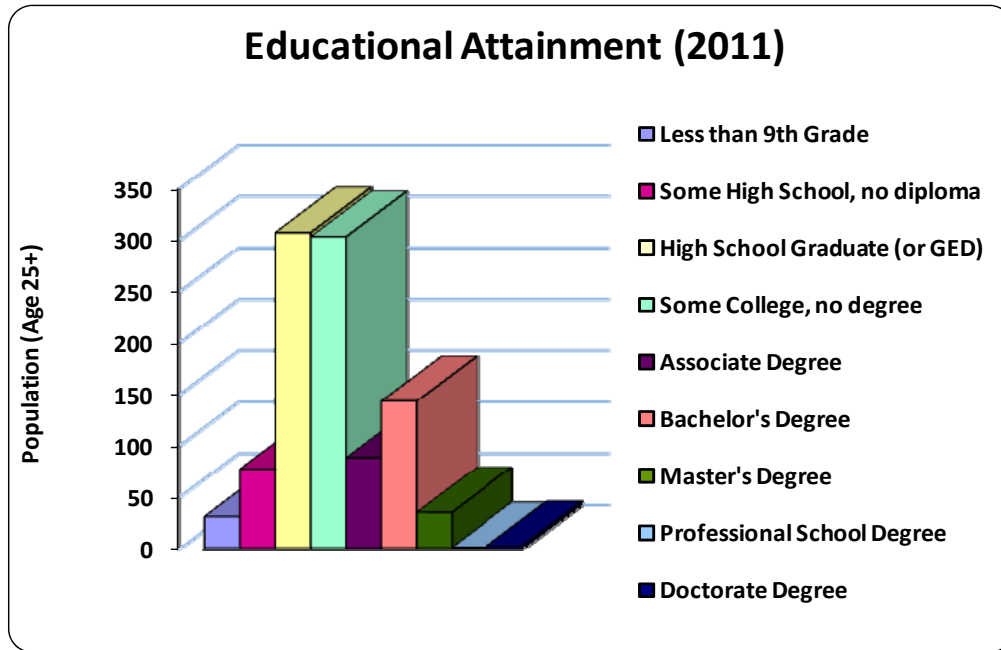
For the civilian-employed population, it is estimated that they were employed as the following class of worker: For-Profit Private Workers (**51.1%**); Federal Government Workers (**15.8%**); Local Government Workers (**13.6%**), Self-Employed Workers (**12.0%**); Non-Profit Private Workers (**4.0%**); State Government Workers (**3.1%**); and Unpaid Family Workers (**0.3%**).





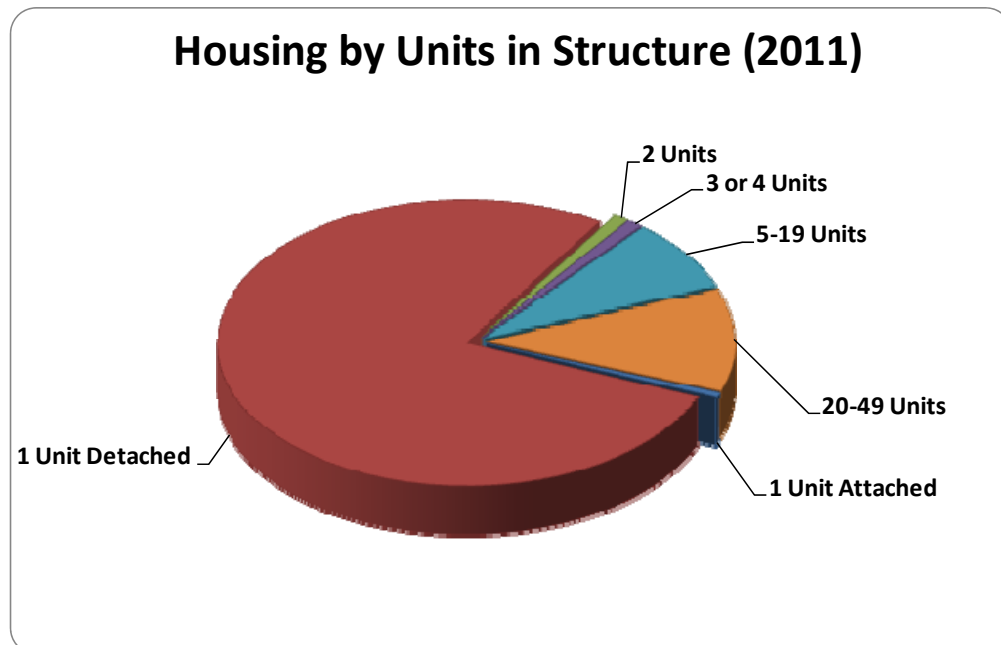
Education Demographics

For 2011, it is estimated that **4.1%** of the Basin population (Age 25+) earned a Master's, Professional, or Doctorate Degree and **14.5%** earned a Bachelor's Degree.



Housing Demographics

For 2011, most of the dwellings in Basin (**75.2%**) are Owner-Occupied. The majority of dwellings are estimated to be structures of 1 Unit Detached (**78.0%**). The majority of housing units (**22.5%**) were built in 1939 or earlier.



Source: Claritas, Inc.

Basin RMP Opportunity Gap - Retail Stores 2010

The difference between demand and supply represents the opportunity gap or surplus available for each retail outlet. When the demand is greater than (less than) the supply, there is an opportunity gap (surplus) for that retail outlet. For example, a positive value signifies an opportunity gap, while a negative value signifies a surplus.

	(Demand) Consumer Expenditures	(Supply) Retail Sales	(Opportunity) Gap/ Surplus
Total Retail Sales (\$) - Including Eating & Drinking	18,745,677	5,345,784	13,399,893
Motor Vehicle and Parts Dealers	3,705,225	407,004	3,298,221
Automotive Dealers	2,969,838	0	2,969,838
Other Motor Vehicle Dealers	465,125	0	465,125
Automotive Parts/Accessories, Tire Stores	270,262	407,004	(136,742)
Furniture and Home Furnishings Stores	384,121	0	384,121
Furniture Stores	204,093	0	204,093
Home Furnishing Stores	180,028	0	180,028
Electronics and Appliance Stores	413,560	0	413,560
Appliances, TVs, Electronics Stores	318,271	0	318,271
Household Appliances Stores-	75,655	0	75,655
Radio, Television, Electronics Stores	242,616	0	242,616
Computer and Software Stores	78,325	0	78,325
Camera and Photographic Equipment Stores	16,964	0	16,964
Building Material, Garden Equip Stores	1,922,848	6,729	1,916,119
Building Material and Supply Dealers	1,729,528	0	1,729,528
Home Centers	744,597	0	744,597
Paint and Wallpaper Stores	38,754	0	38,754
Hardware Stores	167,906	0	167,906
Other Building Materials Dealers	778,271	0	778,271
Building Materials, Lumberyards	304,317	0	304,317
Lawn, Garden Equipment, Supplies Stores	193,320	6,729	186,591
Outdoor Power Equipment Stores	51,064	6,729	44,335
Nursery and Garden Centers	142,256	0	142,256
Food and Beverage Stores	2,452,644	2,634,932	(182,288)
Grocery Stores	2,248,072	2,634,932	(386,860)
Supermarkets, Grocery (Ex. Conv.) Stores	2,137,093	2,634,932	(497,839)
Convenience Stores	110,979	0	110,979
Specialty Food Stores	76,360	0	76,360
Beer, Wine and Liquor Stores	128,212	0	128,212
Health and Personal Care Stores	1,141,950	402,815	739,135
Pharmacies and Drug Stores	989,349	402,815	586,534
Cosmetics, Beauty Supplies, Perfume Stores	41,048	0	41,048
Optical Goods Stores	38,843	0	38,843
Other Health and Personal Care Stores	72,710	0	72,710
Gasoline Stations	1,693,037	1,796,961	(103,924)
Gasoline Stations With Conv. Stores	1,256,999	1,796,961	(539,962)
Other Gasoline Stations	436,038	0	436,038
Clothing and Clothing Accessories Stores	745,262	0	745,262
Clothing Stores	526,858	0	526,858
Men's Clothing Stores	35,149	0	35,149
Women's Clothing Stores	127,225	0	127,225
Children's, Infants Clothing Stores	28,312	0	28,312
Family Clothing Stores	287,491	0	287,491
Clothing Accessories Stores	12,727	0	12,727
Other Clothing Stores	35,954	0	35,954
Shoe Stores	98,277	0	98,277
Jewelry, Luggage, Leather Goods Stores	120,127	0	120,127
Jewelry Stores	110,923	0	110,923
Luggage and Leather Goods Stores	9,204	0	9,204

Sporting Goods, Hobby, Book, Music Stores	360,698	0	360,698
Sporting Goods, Hobby, Musical Inst Stores	251,541	0	251,541
Sporting Goods Stores	125,618	0	125,618
Hobby, Toys and Games Stores	79,858	0	79,858
Sew/Needlework/Piece Goods Stores	23,387	0	23,387
Musical Instrument and Supplies Stores	22,678	0	22,678
Book, Periodical and Music Stores	109,157	0	109,157
Book Stores and News Dealers	75,343	0	75,343
Book Stores	71,255	0	71,255
News Dealers and Newsstands	4,088	0	4,088
Prerecorded Tapes, CDs, Record Stores	33,814	0	33,814
General Merchandise Stores	2,404,775	0	2,404,775
Department Stores Excl Leased Depts	1,118,249	0	1,118,249
Other General Merchandise Stores	1,286,526	0	1,286,526
Miscellaneous Store Retailers	508,388	0	508,388
Florists	35,862	0	35,862
Office Supplies, Stationery, Gift Stores	185,535	0	185,535
Office Supplies and Stationery Stores	105,744	0	105,744
Gift, Novelty and Souvenir Stores	79,791	0	79,791
Used Merchandise Stores	36,642	0	36,642
Other Miscellaneous Store Retailers	250,349	0	250,349
Non-Store Retailers	1,281,911	0	1,281,911
Foodservice and Drinking Places	1,731,258	97,343	1,633,915
Full-Service Restaurants	768,271	26,978	741,293
Limited-Service Eating Places	739,750	0	739,750
Special Foodservices	145,326	0	145,326
Drinking Places -Alcoholic Beverages	77,911	70,365	7,546
GAFO *	4,493,951	0	4,493,951
General Merchandise Stores	2,404,775	0	2,404,775
Clothing and Clothing Accessories Stores	745,262	0	745,262
Furniture and Home Furnishings Stores	384,121	0	384,121
Electronics and Appliance Stores	413,560	0	413,560
Sporting Goods, Hobby, Book, Music Stores	360,698	0	360,698
Office Supplies, Stationery, Gift Stores	185,535	0	185,535

*GAFO (General merchandise, Apparel, Furniture and Other) represents sales at stores that sell merchandise normally sold in department stores. This category is not included in Total Retail Sales including Eating and Drinking Places.

Retail Market Power (RMP) data is derived from two major sources of information. The demand data is derived from the Consumer Expenditure Survey (CE Survey), which is fielded by the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS). The supply data is derived from the Census of Retail Trade (CRT), which is made available by the U.S. Census.

Resource Team Members

Follow-Up Community Assessment Basin, Wyoming June 6 & 7, 2011



Team Leader

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Community Contacts:

Ken Fink

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kenfink@tctwest.net

Mayor Amy Kania

Town of Basin
P.O. Box 599
Basin, WY 82410
307-921-9212
amykania@tctwest.net

**Resource Team Agenda
WRDC Basin Assessment June 6-7, 2011**

Monday, June 6th

12:00 noon	Lunch at TCTWEST	TCTWEST
1:00 PM	Tour of Basin	Bus and walk
2:00 PM	Youth - Student council	BCAC
3 to 4:00 PM	Planning Master Plan committee	BCAC
5:00 PM	Government City, County, LE,EMS	BCAC
6:00 PM	Dinner Break	BCAC
7:00 PM	Agriculture	BCAC

Tuesday, June 7th

7:00 AM	Continental Breakfast	BCAC
8:00 AM	Civic Groups, Church, Arts	BCAC
9:00 AM	Education - BHC Library	BCAC
10:00 AM	Families	BCAC
11:00 AM	Business/Health care	BCAC
	Hosted Lunch - Listening Session w/Senior	
12 noon	Citizens	WRC
1:00 PM	Senior Citizens	BCAC
2 - 5 PM	Prep	
5:00 PM	Dinner	
6:00 PM	Council meeting	Town Council

Basin Follow-up Community Assessment
June 6-7, 2011

Major Themes

- Programs and Services
 - Activities for all age groups
 - Expand recycling program
 - Farmers Market/Local Foods program
 - Comprehensive community plan
- Infrastructure
 - Sewer
 - Water lines
 - Curb and gutter
 - Transportation
- Economic Development
 - Retail
 - Services
 - Lodging
 - Restaurant/Food service
 - Downtown
 - Streetscape
 - Beautification
 - Have a reason for people to stop
- Recreation
 - Recreation/Community Center
 - Multi-age, multi-purpose, with a gym and pool
 - Expand and promote outdoor recreation

Team Member Recommendations

Roger Bower

West Central Regional Director

Wyoming Business Council

213 W. Main, Suite B

Riverton, WY 82501

307.857.1155

Roger.bower@wyo.gov

My suggested solutions are as follows:

1. Desire for a local restaurant.
 - a. Build a generic business plan.
 - b. Survey community about menu and pricing preferences.
 - c. Leah Bruscino (leah.bruscino@wyo.gov), Northwest Regional Director for the Wyoming Business Council, can get market research to determine market size and pro forma financials. These two pieces of information will assist a prospective entrepreneur in the decision to become a restaurateur.
 - d. Survey building owners regarding willingness to allow installation of a commercial kitchen.
 - e. Contact the Wyoming Department of Agricultural Food Safety personnel, Michelle Schwope, 548.2154, or Todd Denny, 899.0987, regarding needs to comply with the regulations.
 - f. Make information available to public.
2. Desire to have a motel.
 - a. Again have Leah Bruscino get a market research report to determine market size.
 - b. Build a generic business plan if market size is adequate.
 - c. Provide information to public.
3. Increase retail shopping opportunities.
 - a. Survey community to determine which products or services community desires.
 - b. Provide information to existing retailers to determine if there is a desire or ability for them to add to their existing business.
 - c. If not make information available to community as someone may desire to get into business.
 - d. Again Leah Bruscino can assist in developing the business plan.
4. Sewer repair.
 - a. The City of Riverton just completed approximately five miles of sewer lining at a cost of approximately \$800,000. They estimated conventional repairs would have cost \$2.5 million. They used Insituform Technologies, Inc. Their website is www.insituform.com. Bill Urbigkit is the Riverton Public Works Director. His direct line is 307.856.9128.

Jo Ferguson

Senior Rural Development Specialist

214 W. 15th Street

Cheyenne, WY 82002

307.777.5812

jo.ferguson@wyo.gov

Thanks to the Town of Basin for your wonderful hospitality during our WRDC Follow Up Community Assessment Team visit. Everything was organized and well planned; we enjoyed meeting the wonderful business neighbors that exist in Basin—and I was even able to do a little shopping for Father’s Day gifts and cards! It is apparent the people that live in Basin love living there. They spoke of the climate and mostly of the caring, friendly people who call Basin, Wyoming their home. It was a pleasure to hold our Listening Sessions in your newly completed BCAC. That in itself was a monumental cooperative project. I hope you will find some ideas and suggestions in this report that may improve the Town of Basin. You are to be commended for your visionary and excellent town leadership.

ISSUE: ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Challenge: Retail

Solution: Attracting and keeping viable businesses in a community is a long-time planning effort by members of the town council, real estate community, and residents. We heard many comments about the need for a department/clothing store, and restaurants and motel. The Business and Industry section of the Wyoming Business Council, along with your WBC Regional Director can point you in the right direction for study and action to this problem. The Business Council has access to many tools to jump start this effort: SBDC, Marketing Research, Wyoming Women’s Business Center and others.

Solution: One of the concerns at the listening sessions was lack of a clothing/variety store. Several solutions could be researched.

- Check out how Powell, Wyo. started their retail co-op. Begin small with basic needs and as that succeeds add additional ‘wants’ such as women’s, men’s, children’s clothing and shoes (and probably for Basin—outdoor wear and gear). To finance this co-op, issue stocks or create a membership which would give some start-up money. When enough capital is obtained, then get a letter of credit from one of your three local banks. Another method of funding is to sponsor farmer’s markets with a portion going to the retail co-op.
- Determine the kind of merchandise and where to obtain that merchandise. The Denver Merchandise Mart is a resource to obtain inventory. There is also an “off-price” market in Las Vegas as well as in Denver. “Off-price” merchandise would make it beneficial to make a profit. Salt Lake City should also have wholesale clothing outlets.
- Site could be a possible vacant building that could be available.
- Employees—begin with volunteer help and as money is generated begin paying staff.
- Advertising—Basin News could showcase weekly items that the co-op is stocking. Do bumper stickers, posters, direct mailers to locals. Word of mouth through church and civic groups.

Other Wyoming communities that have successfully followed the Powell model: Torrington, Rawlins and Worland.

Resources:

Powell Mercantile, Inc.
227 N. Bent
Powell, WY 82435
<http://www.merchantcircle.com/business/Powell.Mercantile.Inc>
307-754-5888

Denver Merchandise Mart
www.denvermart.com
451 E 58th Ave # 4270
Denver, CO 80216
(303) 292-6278

Off-Price Specialist Show
Las Vegas, NV
info@offpriceshow.com
262-782-1600

Resources:

Brandon Marshall
Business Retention & Entrepreneurship Program Manager
Wyoming Business Council
307-777-2820
Brandon.marshall@wybusiness.org

Annie Wood
Senior Marketing & Attraction Specialist
Wyoming Business Council
307-777-2844
annie.wood@wybusiness.org

Solution: 2011 Employer Seminars

Running a business can be a daunting task. Fortunately, there is help for employers. The Wyoming Department of Employment is sponsoring the 2011 Employer Seminars, coming to Evanston, Sheridan, and Casper. The seminars provide information about workers' compensation, unemployment insurance, workplace safety, labor standards, and labor market information. Upcoming seminars are scheduled. Register online at <http://doe.state.wy.us/employerseminars>

Solution: Support Existing Businesses

Basin has several excellent businesses in town. For a business to survive, it must have the support of local townspeople. There were positive comments about the local Chamber of Commerce; perhaps those chamber members in conjunction with the Chamber could hold contests or events that capture local flair--possibly team up with other local businesses, especially those with complementary products or services. Have a Saturday morning drawing—participants must be in a local store at the time of the drawing to win. Here is another example: throughout the year, Naples, Fl., Originals members contribute \$50 gift certificates, which are then sold quarterly for 30 percent of the price on the group's website. The group typically sells out of gift certificates within an hour of posting them.

Challenge: Downtown Streetscape

Solution: The Wyoming Main Street Program, along with the State Historic Preservation Office, offers assistance to towns that are not in the Main Street Program. One of the services is the Historic Architecture

Assistance Fund. The Historic Architecture Assistance Fund will provide the services of architects to the owners of historic buildings or buildings located in communities to address issues involved with the rehabilitation and use of such properties. Typical projects that can be funded include a building assessment, structural analysis, analysis of building code and ADA requirements, and facade and signage schematic design. This fund is meant to support private property owners, who are not eligible for many grant programs. Not-for-profit property owners may also submit applications for fund monies. Applications may be submitted at any time, but are reviewed quarterly. The application can be downloaded at:

www.wyomingmainstreet.org/architectureassistance.htm

Resource: For more information on Wyoming Main Street and its offerings contact:

Scott Wisniewski

State Program Manager

Wyoming Main Street

214 W. 15th Street

Cheyenne, WY 82002

307-777-2934

Scott.w@wyo.gov

Another solution might be to develop some tree plantings along 4th Street. National Arbor Day Foundation has many offerings such as an option to purchase trees cheaply when joining the National Arbor Day Foundation. It is only \$10 to join and with the membership you get ten free trees and a book on how to care for them. It would also be possible to look into becoming a certified Tree City.

Contact:

National Arbor Day Foundation

100 Arbor Avenue

Nebraska City, NE 68410

Toll Free: 1-888-448-7337

www.arborday.org

Challenge: Economic Development Services (Lodging & Meals)

Solutions: One of the often-mentioned problems was the lack of lodging and restaurants. By contacting the Wyoming Lodging and Restaurant Association possible ideas might evolve. The Wyoming Hospitality and Retail Network consists of the Wyoming Lodging and Restaurant Association, Wyoming Retail Association, and Wyoming Travel Industry Coalition. The goal is to continuously develop and sustain the best possible environment for Wyoming's lodging, retail, travel, food and beverage industries by providing effective legislative representation, employee education/training programs, value-added supplier discounts, and industry communication along with networking opportunities for our members.

Resource:

Lynn Birleffi, Executive Director

Wyoming Lodging & Restaurant Association

P.O. Box 1003

Cheyenne, WY 82003

Lynn@wlra.org

307-634-8816 ext. 207

www.wlra.org

Challenge: Have a reason for people to stop

Solution: Event Promotion

The events can be planned and led by talented community members. Perhaps bring in concerts that would appeal to all ages and add revenues to the town. Expand the length of your Lilac Days or other popular event in Basin to help accommodate the above-mentioned concert idea. Check with Cheyenne Frontier Days Committee Chairmen for ideas and planning information. Wyoming Office of Tourism could possibly provide aid in events that could attract to Basin. Dayton brought in a name band for a summer concert which proved to be quite successful. For one concert they got sponsors to pay; for another they charged admission.

Resources:

Event and concert information

Cheyenne Frontier Days

Pat Moffett, Chairman of Contract Acts

David Miller, Chairman of Public Relations

www.cfdrodeo.com

Wyoming Office of Tourism

307-777-2881

info@visitwyo.gov

Town of Dayton

Town Clerk, Linda Lofgren

307-655-2217

beltower@firberpipe.net

APA Talent & Literary Agency (Promoter for Nitty Gritty Dirt Band)

Agent: Steve Lassiter

slassiter@apanashville.com

apa-agency.com

615-297-0100

Solution: Wyoming Office of Tourism's In-State Development Program provides assistance to local destinations in tourism, product, and service development as well as managing the turnouts and signage program dollars. Projects involving turnout construction and signage needs require an application to access the funds. You can download the program brochure to learn about what projects qualify for nomination to the annual grant program. Nomination packets are available in July of each year.

Resource:

Kristin Phipps

Industry Services Manager

(307) 777-2839 or (307) 214-0465

Kristin.phipps@visitwyo.gov

ISSUE: PROGRAMS AND SERVICES

Challenge: Activities for all age groups

Solution: Challenges can be addressed by the community through resource coordination with an approach to evaluating services. The National League of Cities has developed an Action Toolkit for Municipal Leaders that addresses how a community can be involved in their Institute for Youth and Families. Many stakeholders share responsibility for the safety, well-being and healthy development of young people and families; but without a shared vision and a collaborative structure to guide and assess local efforts, the community risks wasting resources and overlooking critical need. Youth and family master planning processes offer many benefits to cities and towns, including a better alignment of resources to reduce duplication of services and eliminate service gaps; coordination of town, school, and community efforts to improve outcomes for youth and all citizens; cost savings; and opportunities for citizen input and youth participation. The planning process helps create the foundation for an engagement of all groups working on youth and family-related issues - so they do more, and do it more strategically.

Coordination between the nonprofit and government sectors can yield many braided funding stream opportunities. In many Wyoming communities the United Way is a major driver on youth/teen-related issues and have access to technical assistance.

Resource:

National League of Cities
<http://www.nlc.org/IYEF/>

Challenge: Farmers Market/Local Foods Program

Solution: Currently the Wyoming Business Council's Agribusiness Division in conjunction with the Wyoming Farmers Market Association and Triple Crown Commodities are helping to create state-wide awareness in local food projects and Farmers Markets. The newest endeavor—Triple Crown Commodities is an on-line local producers ordering service. Once a month the ordering window opens for 7-days; then one week later the producers fill the orders and the consumer picks up their order in their nearest town. This project is piloting in Southeast Wyoming now and seems to be having success. Local Farmers Markets are not only a place to buy local foods and goods, but it also a very social opportunity for the communities and surrounding areas. There is a grant available for promoting your Farmers Market—The Wyoming Farmers Market Promotional Grant.

Resources:

Ted Craig
Market Manager
Wyoming Department of Agriculture
2219 Carey Avenue
Cheyenne, WY 82002
307-777-6651
Ted.craig@wyo.gov

Kim Porter
Farmers Market & Education Program Manager
Wyoming Business Council, Agribusiness Division
214 W. 15th Street
Cheyenne, WY 82001
307-777-6319
Kim.porter@wyo.gov

THEME: RECREATION

Challenge: Youth/Teen Recreation

Solution: Many of the items listed as challenges can be addressed by the community through resource coordination through an approach to evaluating youth services. The National League of Cities has developed an Action Toolkit for Municipal Leaders that addresses how a community can create a Youth Master Plan. Many stakeholders share responsibility for the safety, well-being and healthy development of young people but without a shared vision, and a collaborative structure to guide and assess local efforts, the community risks wasting finite resources and overlooking critical need. Youth master planning processes offer many benefits to cities, including a better alignment of resources to reduce duplication of services and eliminate service gaps; coordination of city, school, and community efforts to improve outcomes for youth; cost savings; and opportunities for citizen input and youth participation. The planning process helps create the foundation for an engagement of all groups working on youth-related issues - so they do more, and do it more strategically.

Resources:

National League of Cities
<http://www.nlc.org/IYEF/>

Solution for facility: USDA Rural Development can assist in the development of this type of essential public community facilities through the Community Facilities program. A market study would be essential in the planning process and can be funded with a grant from the USDA Rural Developments Rural Business Enterprise Grant program. Rural Development can partner with other funding organizations to achieve the project desired.

Resource:

Ann Stoeger
Area Director
USDA Rural Development
508 N. Broadway,
Riverton, WY 82501
307-856-7524 Ext. 4

Local banks have funds available for projects and the loan can be guaranteed by Rural Development. Contact a local bank or contact Rural Development at 307-856-7524 Ext. 4.

Challenge: Recreation Center & Activities

Solution: The winters in Basin can get long. Perhaps some outlet could supply recreational rental equipment for tourists and locals alike. Activities can be developed for all ages with coordination.

“Play for adults is recreation - the renewal of life; for children it is growth - the gaining of life.” Possibly by connecting with some other recreation programs in the region and the state you might find ways to leverage the funding you have available for recreational projects. The City of Sheridan does not have a rec center but they team up with the schools; are funded by the City of Sheridan; and the School District Mill levy and have a staff of seven. That staff includes a Director and both sports and recreation specialists.

The Town of Elk Mountain's Library includes several computers. Their little library is a hub of activity after school. Perhaps Basin could pursue acquiring computers for kids, installing them in your library and have it monitored by volunteers. There are several websites available for information—one is www.computers4kids.net.

Resources:

Sheridan Recreational District
Richard Wright, Director
307-674-6421
www.sheridanrecreation.com

Town of Elk Mountain
307-348-7721
Contact: Linda Runyan
townofelkmountain@union-tel.com

Resource: Contact the Wyoming Community Foundation for a possible source of funding to conduct these activities. This foundation is a nonprofit charitable 501(c)3 organization that was created in 1989 by and for the people of Wyoming. With assets over \$47 million, the Community Foundation has developed into a valuable philanthropic resource for Wyoming.

They have an in-depth understanding of the issues, opportunities, and resources that shape the state and communities. They monitor all areas of community need - including human services, education, the environment, healthcare, the arts, and economic development. They invest in the long term and bring people and organizations together, convening diverse voices to address local issues and opportunities. Their business is building communities.

Wyoming Community Foundation
Samin Dadelahi, Senior Program Officer
313 S. 2nd Street
Laramie, WY 82070
307-721-8300
www.wycf.org

USDA-RD Community Development Program Publication. As a strategy for economic development, tourism and festivals can be very useful. <http://www.nal.usda.gov/ric/ricpubs/tourism.html>

Challenge: A multi-age, year-round recreation programs and facilities

Solution/Contact: This has been a desire/goal of many communities in Wyoming. One way to acquire the funding for a Recreation Center would be for the town to tax themselves so this funding could be used to partner with other state and/or federal agencies to complete the project. Green River and Rock Springs have both built recreation facilities by utilizing the Capital Facilities Optional 1 percent tax, which is imposed on sales and use and is in addition to the state 4 percent. The citizens of Basin would have to vote on this tax which must be used for a specific project. The tax is in existence until the needed money has been collected. In other

communities, this has been a successful way to raise money for high dollar projects that could otherwise not be built. The Optional 1 percent Sales and Use Tax could then be used to support the facilities once it has been built.

For more information, contact:

Dave Hanks, Director,
Rock Springs Chamber of Commerce
Phone: 307-362-3771
E-mail: rschamber@sweetwaterhsa.com

Janet Hartford, Director
Green River Chamber of Commerce
Phone: 307-875-5711
E-mail: jhartford@sweetwaterhsa.com

Britta Fuller

Administrative Specialist

Wyoming Rural Development Council

214 W. 15th Street

Cheyenne, WY 82002

307-777-5271

Britta.fuller@wyo.gov

THEME: ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Challenge: Downtown is in need of some beautification.

Solution: WYDOT’s TEAL (Transportation Enhancement Activities – Local) Grant could be an excellent tool for enhancing not just Basin’s downtown, but other areas in town as well. These grants are a partnership between WYDOT and the local government to “compliment surface transportation facilities by stressing mobility, protection of human and natural environment, community preservation, sustainability and livability.” The grants are meant for non-motorized transportation methods (bike/pedestrian paths).

To be eligible for a TEAL grant, the project must fall into one of 12 categories and show a clear link to transportation. Two of the categories I think would work well for Basin are “provision of facilities for pedestrians and bicycles” (perhaps widening sidewalks and adding crosswalks) and ‘landscaping and other scenic beautification’ (trees, planters, etc). The grants are very competitive, so if there is an experienced grant writer in Basin, he or she would be a great asset for writing this grant. If there is not an experienced grant writer, I suggest looking at taking the grant writing workshop that the Wyoming Rural Development Council offers every fall.

TEAL applications are usually available in April and are due June 30. Laramie submitted an application for the 2011 round and received funds in 2010, so they would be an excellent contact for help with putting the grant application together.

Resources:

TEAL Program

CJ Brown
TEAL Program Coordinator
WYDOT
5300 Bishop Blvd.
Cheyenne, WY 82009
307.777.4179

Rich Douglass
Local Government Coordinator
WYDOT
5300 Bishop Blvd.
Cheyenne, WY 82009
307.777.4384

More information on the TEAL Program can be found at www.dot.state.wy.us/wydot/planning_projects/transportation_programs/teal

Laramie Parks & Recreation

Paul Harrison, Parks and Recreation Director (721.5260)
Mike Zooks, Parks Manager (721.5264)

Grant Writing Workshop

Jo Ferguson
Senior Rural Development Specialist
Wyoming Rural Development Council
214 W. 15th St.
Cheyenne, WY 82002
307.777.5812
Jo.ferguson@wyo.gov

THEME: PROGRAMS & SERVICES

Challenge: Expansion of the existing recycling program

Solution: I admittedly know very little about recycling programs, besides that I participate in them, so I took to the Internet and did some research for this solution. I discovered that Wyoming has a Solid Waste and Recycling Association (WSWRA) (www.wswra.com) and that they have a conference coming up at the end of August. Through the WSWRA website, I was led to the United States Environmental Protection Agency Region 8 website. Region 8 includes Montana, Wyoming, Utah, Colorado, North Dakota and South Dakota. By visiting www.epa.gov/region8/grants, a list of Region 8's grants is available along with the application document.

One grant that may work for Basin is an Environmental Education grant. They are awarded for projects that "enhance the public's awareness, knowledge, and skills to help people make informed decisions that affect environmental quality." Further information on this grant can be found at www.epa.gov/enviroed/grants.html.

Resources:

Region 8
Environmental Protection Agency
1595 Wynkoop St.
Denver, CO 80202-1129
800.227.8917
R8eisc@epa.gov

Solution: A town to contact that has an amazing recycling program is Jackson/Teton County. Their funding sources come from the sale of recyclables, paper shredding services, donations and grants, and composting bin sales. The Integrated Solid Waste & Recycling program is a division of Teton County government, which may be a way for Basin to make the program more affordable.

Resources:

Kent Jaspersen
Teton County Integrated Solid Waste & Recycling
Program Operations Manager
307.733.7678
kjaspersen@tetonwyo.gov

www.tetonwyo.org/AgencyHome.asp?dept_id=recycl
www.howdoyourrr.org (Reduce Reuse Recycle, Jackson Hole, WY)

Challenge: Comprehensive Community Plan

Solution: Utilize Wyoming Business Council (WBC) grant funds to hire a consultant to help the community with a plan. Planning grants are available from the WBC’s Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program. Working closely with your WBC Regional Director is key in applying for these grants.

Resources:

Leah Bruscino
Northwest Regional Director
Wyoming Business Council
143 S. Bent, Suite B
Powell, WY 82435
307.754.5785
Leah.bruscino@wyo.gov

Community Development Block Grant
Program Managers:

Julie Kozlowski
307.777.2812
Julie.kozlowski@wyo.gov

Sandy Quinlan
307.777.2825
Sandy.quinlan@wyo.gov

THEME: INFRASTRUCTURE

Challenge: Waterlines and sewers need updated and curb and gutter need added

Solution: The Wyoming Business Council (WBC) also offers Business Ready Community grants. These grants provide financing for publicly owned infrastructure (including water, sewer, streets and roads) that services the needs of businesses and promotes economic development. Towns and counties are both eligible to apply for these grants. This grant is another one that would require working with Basin’s WBC Regional Director closely.

Resources:

Leah Bruscino
Northwest Regional Director
Wyoming Business Council
143 S. Bent, Suite B
Powell, WY 82435
307.754.5785
Leah.bruscino@wyo.gov

Molly Spangler
Investment Ready Communities Director
Wyoming Business Council
214 W. 15th St.
Cheyenne, WY 82002
307.777.2811
Molly.spangler@wyo.gov

Challenge: Lack of transportation options

Solution: The Safe Routes to School (SRTS) program’s purpose is to “enable and encourage children, including those with disabilities, to walk and bicycle to school. To make bicycling and walking to school a safer

and more appealing transportation alternative.” This is a great program because it does not require a local match, it is 100 percent federally funded.

Resource:

Sara Janes
Safe Routes to School Coordinator
Wyoming Dept. of Transportation
307.777.3938
Sara.janes@wyo.gov

Solution: Another grant offered by WYDOT is the Rural Public Transit Program. The program is generally run through a senior center and grants can be found through state agencies, local governments and non-profits. For information about funding opportunities and the program as a whole, contact WYDOT.

Resources:

John Black
Public Transit Coordinator
Wyoming Dept. of Transportation
307.777.4181
John.black@wyo.gov

Taylor Rossetti
Public Transit Specialist
Wyoming Dept. of Transportation
307.777.4438
Taylor.rossetti@wyo.gov

More information on both of these programs can be found through WYDOT’s website:

www.dot.state.wy.us

Click on Planning/Projects/Research halfway down the left side, then Local Government Coordination and the “Local Programs Book.pdf”

The long address is:

http://www.dot.state.wy.us/webdav/site/wydot/shared/Local_Government/Local%20Programs%20Book.pdf

Stephanie Padilla

Pryor Mountain Engineering

Big Horn County Engineering

Big Horn County Airport Management

PO Box 871

756 N. 7th St.

Basin, WY 82410

307-568-2467

engsec@bighorncountywyo.gov

I appreciate the opportunity to be a Basin Assessment Team Member. Our hosts were knowledgeable and helpful. Because I live in Basin I thought that I was very familiar with the community. However, being an Assessment Team Member gave me the opportunity to learn even more about where I live and gave me new insights to the community around me. I sincerely thank this warm and active community for their hospitality and time.

Theme: ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Challenges:

- Minimal Retail Options
- No Service Industry Businesses
- No “Downtown” draw for people to stop

Solutions: Throughout the listening sessions we heard a strong need for more retail shopping, more eating establishments and motels, and a big desire for an improved “Downtown” district that would have the capacity to attract travelers on their way through town.

In order to entice businesses to expand or relocate to the area, the Town must create a business-friendly environment. Providing for the population that you want to draw is a step closer to retaining that economic aspect. I believe a revitalized Main Street could assist in that. The Wyoming Business Council has a Downtown Financing section on their website with information for different programs available to communities: Main Street Façade Rehabilitation Loan Program, CDBG Downtown Development Grants, and the Business Ready Communities Grant and Loan Program. Wyoming Main Street is also a great resource.

In addition, I strongly urge the Town to enter into discussions with WYDOT on narrowing the highway through town. Taking the 5 current lanes down to three and installing diagonal parking along the business section will immediately help the town to have a more central feel and will encourage travelers to see Basin as something other than simply a “thru-town”. WYDOT can also help identify funding sources that can be applied to this type of project. There are programs available for landscaping and beautification along state roadway systems and programs designed for economic stimulus.

In Big Horn County, the Town of Cowley has successfully completed a project involving a combination of funding sources for their Main Street and downtown development. Using Cowley as a resource may help Basin identify how they would like to proceed with this type of undertaking.

Resources:

Wyoming Business Council

Downtown Financing Information

Website: <http://www.wyomingbusiness.org/program/downtown-financing/1254>

Wyoming Business Council
Regional Director
Leah Bruscino
(307) 754-5785
Leah.bruscino@wyo.gov

Main Street/Rural Development Council
Director, Mary Randolph
(307) 777-6430
Mary.randolph@wyo.gov
www.wyomingmainstreet.org

WYDOT
Region 5 Engineer
Shelby Carlson
(307) 568-3400
218 W. C St.
Basin, WY 82410

Town of Cowley
Judy Johnson, Clerk
(307) 548-7700
Willie Bridges, PE
Town Engineer
Pryor Mtn. Engineering
(307) 548-9913
willieb@pryormtneng.com

Theme: INFRASTRUCTURE

Challenges:

- Water and Sewer

Solutions: Water and Sewer system failures can be damaging and extremely costly to small communities. Projects to improve transmission lines and lagoons can take years and millions of dollars. Plan ahead to clearly identify the areas most in need of immediate improvement and have a business plan for leveraging local funds with grants and loans. Mineral Royalty Grants through the State Lands and Investment Board (SLIB) are extremely useful, especially if you run into an emergency situation. Also under this program is the County Consensus which Basin has taken advantage of before. The Consensus money can be a great way to fulfill a local match for big construction projects. The SLIB also has Revolving Fund Programs in both Clean Water and Drinking Water. American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) funding is also available for the State Revolving Fund program. The Wyoming Water Development Council has funding programs in Municipal and Rural Domestic Water Systems.

Resources:

State Lands and Investments
122 W. 25th, 3rd Floor West
Cheyenne, WY 82002
(307) 777-7331

slfmail@wyo.gov

<http://lands.state.wy.us/>

http://lands.state.wy.us/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=306&Itemid=29

Wyoming Water Development Commission

6920 Yellowtail Road

Cheyenne, Wyoming 82002

Telephone: (307) 777-7626

http://wwdc.state.wy.us/project_application_info/project_app_info.html

Theme: RECREATION

Challenges: Ways to Expand and Promote Outdoor Recreation

Solutions: I believe that Basin has made a positive step toward part of this goal by expanding their Recreation Department activities this year in Town. To continue expanding the program, consider applying for funds from the Sykes Foundation which funds programs in South Big Horn County and the Daniels Fund, which has funding opportunities in the Amateur Sports and Youth Development arenas.

As an Assessment Team we frequently heard a desire to utilize the outdoor recreation opportunities surrounding the Town including the Boat Dock, 4 wheeler trails and walking path expansion. County Consensus funds could be ideal for the Boat Dock revitalization. I understand from the Community sessions that the BLM has tentatively broached the subject of rural 4 wheeler trails. WYDOT has funds available for walking paths and path expansion in the TEAL and TEAS funds.

Resources:

Sykes Foundation Funds

Wyoming Community Foundation

313 S. 2nd St.

Laramie, WY 82070

(307) 721-8300

wcf@wycf.org

Daniels Fund

www.danielsfund.org

Sparky Turner, Program Office

Wyoming Grant Funding Areas

(720) 941-4482

grantsinfo@danielsfunds.org

BLM Field Office, Cody

1002 Blackburn Ave.

Cody, WY 82414

(307) 587-5900

BLM Field Office, Worland

101 S. 23rd

Worland, WY 82401

(307) 347-5100

WYDOT

Region 5 Engineer

Shelby Carlson

(307) 568-3400

218 W. C St.

Basin, WY 82410

WHAT WAS SAID IN THE INTERVIEWS

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

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

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

Problems and Challenges

- Hard to find things to do for youth – ditto ****
- Lack of funding availability – ditto ***
- Too small
- Drugs
- Minors getting alcohol
- Lack of summer jobs
- Lack of community functions
- Lack of shopping
- Opposite of the “golden rule”
- Lack of things to do on Friday and Saturday nights
- Lack of options in school
- Lack of sports variety (summer, etc) softball, swimming, dancing, yoga, soccer
- Lack of rec opportunities for older kids in summer
- People don’t think we need a plan – ditto *
- Infrastructure – ditto *
- Economic Development
- Lack of shopping
- No economic development group
- No recreation for kids
- Lack of use of activities that are available
- Recreation does not have year-long funding
- No movies
- No teen center
- Tax
- Deer in town and farms
- Town finances
- Communication from town to people
- Housing, rentals with range of rental fees
- No senior type of continuum housing
- Lack of shopping – ditto ***
- Lack of things to do (youth, adult) – ditto ***
- Unfinished subdivisions
- Infrastructure – ditto *
- Presentation of downtown
- Lack of funding
- Animal control
- Younger people not involved – ditto **
- Walking trails need updated
- Apathy
- Lack of a hotel/motel – ditto **
- Lack of a restaurant – ditto ***
- People leaving town/need new population
- Lack of employment opportunities for women
- Retain employees
- Need more youth activities
- Communication
- Use of good ag land for subdivisions
- No indoor arena in county
- Ownership and maintenance of raw water lines – ditto *
- Need something to draw people into Basin (i.e. multi-use complex/arena)
- Loss of camping for the tourists
- Community is not aware of meeting space in BCAC
- Lack of activities
- Concern of farmers burning fields/ditches
- School year vs. fair time
- Volunteer burn-out
- Better communication between organizations
- Improve appearance of downtown
- Lack of a theme for the town
- Lack of education on ordinances
- Lack of ordinance enforcement
- Lack of retail businesses

- Lack of public transportation/taxi
- Lack of young people
- Lack of connection to fiber optic line
- Lack of cleanliness of town
- Abandoned properties
- Rundown rentals
- Resistance to change
- Outdated infrastructure
- Lack of activities for seniors – ditto *
- Lack of science and math in school curriculum
- Patience with letting new projects/ideas to grow
- Safe paths to school program needs pursued
- Need new high school
- Lack of diversity of transportation options – ditto*
- Library needs a teen center
- No dog parks
- Lack of community participation in long-term goal setting
- Downtown is not vibrant – ditto *
- Need more economic development in downtown (retail opportunities)
- Red tape – Adopt a highway issue
- Need animal shelter
- Recognizing different demographics viability
- Something for the youth that are not into ag/4-H
- Need more volunteer opportunities
- Weeds
- Mosquitoes
- Need more private interest
- Need younger generation involved in development
- Lack of funds
- Rising utility rates/deposits – especially for rentals and new residents
- Lack of jobs
- Elimination of trade jobs, entrepreneurs – repair work, sewing from home, etc – private business
- Commercial zoning too strict
- Housing market declining
- No fireworks at 4th of July
- Lack of Main Street businesses
- Fixed incomes for senior population
- Financially repressed
- Services need upgraded
- Lack of good paying jobs - ditto*
- Hard to start up new businesses
- Need to maintain existing businesses rather than promote new – ditto *
- Lack of affordable daycare
- Short distances between communities
- Hard for businesses to branch out
- Perceptions of public services are not accurate
- Lack of utilization of talented people
- Looking for new programs without using existing
- Lack of utilization of programs & services
- Lack of long term idea realization
- Lack of Chamber utilization
- No senior center
- Community does not necessarily listen to seniors
- No mail home delivery
- Limited homecare services
- Property values and tax assessments

Strengths and Assets

- Welcoming to newcomers
- Basin City Art Center – ditto *****
- Lack of bullying in schools
- School system/district – ditto *****
- Safe*
- Worland/Greybull/Manderson/Basin “family”
- Downtown benches
- American Legion
- Community involvement at functions
- Volunteer opportunities
- Library – ditto *****
- Recycling/compost is embraced – ditto ***
- Swimming Pool – ditto *
- Highway Clean-up
- Raw water system – ditto **
- People – ditto *
- Phase method to improve infrastructure
- Businesses are invested
- Walking path – ditto *****
- Highway department
- County seat and courthouse
- Tennis court and parks – ditto *
- Newspaper
- Christmas decorations
- Good medical care – ditto *****
- Large employment base
- Diverse type of employment
- TCT – infrastructure
- Lack of heavy industry
- Jail facility
- Tree-lined streets
- Streets – ditto *****
- Wyoming Retirement Center – ditto *
- Volunteers
- Town’s employees – ditto *
- Chamber of Commerce – ditto ***
- Existing rentals
- Town crew – street improvements
- Diverse worship environment
- Town Council/City Government – leverage assets
- Low crime
- Local support from businesses
- Teenagers help out
- Swimming pool – ditto **
- Baseball fields – ditto *
- Location/scenery
- Rural culture – ditto *
- Free manure
- Canal system for irrigation
- Events (bicycle event, fair)
- Close-knit community
- Volunteerism – ditto **
- Help each other out
- Good hospital
- Involvement of citizens – ditto *
- Small town atmosphere
- Safe for children
- Friendliness of community
- Cost of living
- Weather
- Proximity of businesses to homes
- Proximity to Big Horns – ditto *
- Outdoor recreation
- Water – raw, domestic, irrigation
- Diversity of people
- Churches
- Diversity of workforce opportunities
- Beautiful buildings (courthouse, homes, etc)
- Size
- Core group of people getting things done
- Fairgrounds – ditto **
- Recreational opportunities on public lands
- Possibilities for solar/wind energy
- Recreational facilities (tennis court, bike path, ease of riding bikes around town, golf course) - ditto*
- Mosquito spraying
- High use of walking path
- Active community
- Businesses
- Good community support/programs/involvement - ditto*
- School system cooperation with community programs - ditto* (Reading Grandmas)
- Washington Park
- TCT – IT capabilities – ditto *
- Hospital/medical care
- Generous people
- School programs
- Head start/CRC
- Sense of Community – caring – ditto *
- Talented People
- Community support – ditto *

- Clean community – ditto **
- Senior care – retirement & Bonnie Blue Jacket – ditto **
- Interest in relocating to this town
- Affordable community
- Good Town employees – work force
- Quality of services
- Churches
- Fishing pond
- Rec Dept
- Rec park
- Programs available
- Local business support/donation
- Retirement community
- People look out for each other
- Retail growth: Grocery store, Pharmacy, Hardware store

Projects

- More shopping in downtown – ditto *
- Community rec center – ditto *****
- More proactive rec district – ditto *
- Punishment for minors caught with drugs/alcohol
- New high school
- More community involvement
- More parent participation at school functions – ditto *
- More jobs
- Clothes shopping – ditto ***
- More events
- More grocery shopping variety
- Mall
- Indoor pool inside a rec center – ditto *
- Gym/workout center
- Art program
- Choir/band at school
- Horse activities
- Nice, new restaurant
- Storm system
- New high school
- Economic improvement
- Main Street improved
- Sewer lines revitalized – ditto *
- Water lines
- Ice rink used more with better equipment
- Recreation area additions—skate park
- Walking path expanded
- Boat dock improvements – ditto *
- 4-wheeler trail—intra-town
- Comprehensive Plan
- Indoor arena at fairgrounds – ditto **
- Main Street streetscape
- Trail system throughout town
- Building standards – use of property permits
- Canal – lined or put in pipe
- New school (indoor pool, auditorium)
- Keep middle schoolers in Basin
- Alternative transportation routes
- Coffee shop
- Eat local campaign (year-round) – How to encourage the farmer market
- Finish sub-division on north-side of town
- Four-lanes cut down to two
- Remove abandoned properties/clean-up
- Town events with higher participation
- Move the railroad
- Improve the sewer systems/drainage systems – ditto **
- Curb & gutter
- Rural sub-divisions on sewer line
- State of the art animal shelter
- More utilization of the riverfront – more part of town
- Rollerskate/bike park
- Utilize fairgrounds more
- More affordable daycare places
- \$ for the “Welcome to Basin” signs
- Improvements at fairgrounds (camping, etc)
- Change fair timing for ripe crops/etc
- Ag community brings local food to Basin
- Bigger farmers market
- Year-round place for kids to hang out
- More organic production of vegetables
- More community support agriculture
- Improve downtown
- New school complex
- Nice motel w/ restaurant – ditto *
- Animal shelter
- More recycling
- Radar speed signs
- No empty buildings downtown
- Community garden system thriving
- “old” school used for food bank, community center, clothing resale, recycling, chamber, etc
- Place for kids, seniors
- Fully funded chamber
- Passenger train w/ depot
- Norman Rockwell themed downtown
- Emergency plan
- Summer youth program utilizing all available resources (schools, volunteers, etc)
- Scheduler for town, church, school, BCAC, etc activities
- Vibrant commercial corridor
- Full gym (indoor track, weights, etc)
- Library renovation
- Yoga retreat at BCAC
- Town/chamber identified grant writer
- Continuation of recycling program
- Crosswalks on highways
- Sandwich shop
- Farmers Market

- Strategic plan for downtown/community development with good communication
- Farmers museum
- Year-round recreational district – ditto *
- Drains, surface/underground water, sidewalks, tree-lined in town code actualized
- Town clean up (time to complete home projects, etc)
- Better lodging
- Revisit past vibrancy of downtown
- Bring back fireworks and celebrations
- Lessen restrictions on small business/entrepreneurship
- Youth center – place for teens to gather
- Drive-in movie
- Expanded recreation opportunities
- Tennis program
- Skate park
- Town band
- More town-sponsored activities – community gatherings
- Neighborhood Watch program
- Set new zoning restrictions up to a certain amount – for low profit businesses
- Expanded education system – college annex or tech/trade school
- Expanded hospital facilities – improvements & more services – ditto **
- Expanded youth programs – ditto *
- New schools in town – ditto *
- Expansion/development of downtown area - beautification – ditto *
- Fill empty buildings
- Consolidate with Greybull to tie Community or Rec Center
- Job growth
- Curb and gutter installed
- Infrastructure
- Town Senior Center – senior gathering space
- Community involvement with town issues
- Town beautification
- Fully utilize tourism opportunities – ditto *
- Develop more outdoor rec opportunities to draw people in – ditto **
- Development of Green industry using resources available
- Museum
- Diverse agricultural opportunities
- More organic foods/opportunities
- Develop clays/mud
- Main Street Renovation – ditto **
- Restaurant – ditto *****
- Motel/Hotel – ditto *
- River walking path
- Business incubator for local companies
- Utilize BLM land surrounding town
- Growth of BCAC
- Recreation Center for everyone (pool, etc)
- Controlled population growth
- Sidewalks/curb and gutter

20 CLUES TO RURAL COMMUNITY SURVIVAL

1. Evidence of Community Pride:

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

2. Emphasis on Quality in Business and Community Life:

People believe that something worth doing is worth doing right.

3. Willingness to Invest in the Future:

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

4. Participatory Approach to Community Decision Making:

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

5. Cooperative Community Spirit:

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

6. Realistic Appraisal of Future Opportunities:

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

7. Awareness of Competitive Positioning:

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

8. Knowledge of the Physical Environment:

Relative location and available natural resources underscore decision-making.

9. Active Economic Development Program:

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

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

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

11. Acceptance of Women in Leadership Roles:

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

12. Strong Belief in and Support for Education:

Good schools are the norm and centers of community activity.

13. Problem-Solving Approach to Providing Health Care:

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

14. Strong Multi-Generational Family Orientation:

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

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

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

16. Sound and Well-Maintained Infrastructure:

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

17. Careful Use of Fiscal Resources:

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

18. Sophisticated Use of Information Resources:

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

19. Willingness to Seek Help from the Outside:

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

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

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

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