THE WYOMING RURAL DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL

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

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

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

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

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

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

Lander, Wyoming Resource Team Assessment

Five-Year Follow Up

April 14-16, 2008

1. Process for the Development of This Report……..……..pg. 3
2. Lander Profile……..……..pg. 4
3. Fremont County Profile……pg. 13
4. Resource Team Members ……..…..……....pg. 29
5. Schedule of Assessment Listening Sessions…….…….....…..pg. 30
6. Major Themes and Sub themes……..……....pg. 31
7. Team Member Recommendations……..……..…….....pg. 32
8. What was said at the Listening Sessions ……..……..…….....pg. 76
9. 20 Clues to Rural Community Survival…..……..……pg. 118

PROCESS FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF THIS REPORT

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

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

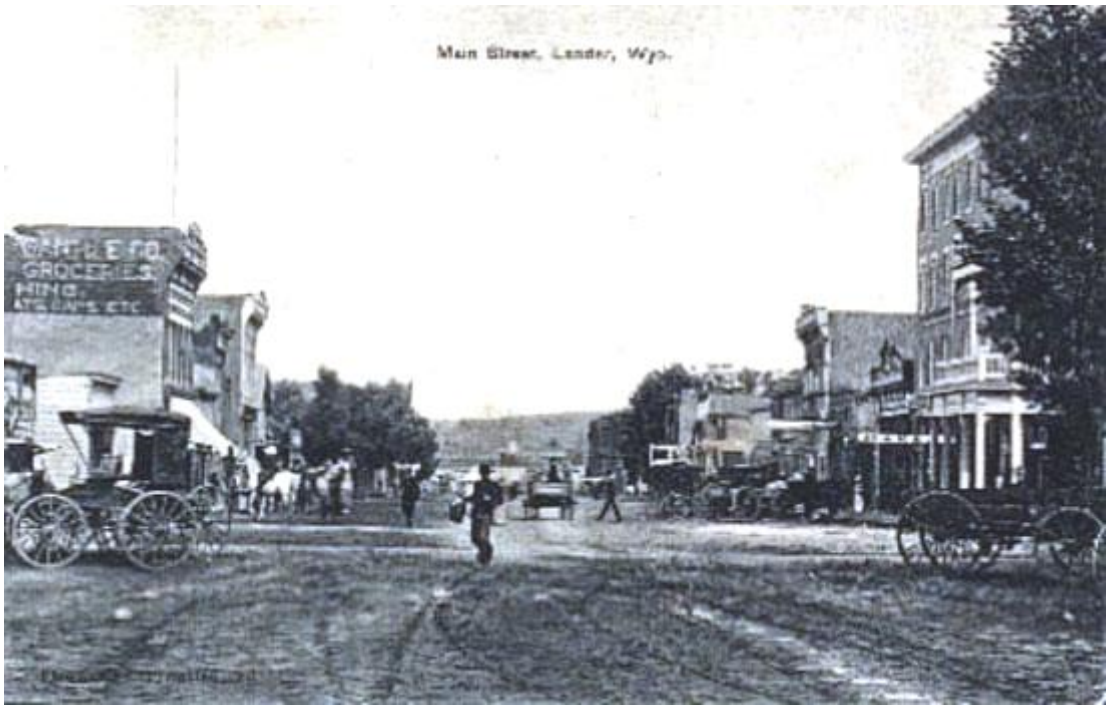
The Resource Team toured the town and interviewed approximately 275 people over a three-day period, April 14-16, 2008, in 18 Listening Sessions. The team interviewed representatives from the following segments of the community: local business, city, law enforcement, education, seniors, healthcare, housing & real estate, agriculture, service organizations, young families, economic development, tourism, arts & culture, high school youth, and the general public.

Many of these people had reviewed the questions with their respective businesses or organizations and were representing many people at the listening sessions. Each participant was asked to respond to three questions designed to begin communication and discussion, and to serve as a basis for developing the action plan. The three questions were:

What do you think are the major problems and challenges in Lander? What do you think are the major strengths and assets in Lander? What projects would you like to see implemented in 2, 5, 10, or 20 years in Lander?

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

The oral report was presented to the people of Lander on April 16, 2008, and the many citizens who participated were in attendance. A formal written report will be presented to the City of Lander in about four weeks.



Lander, WY – 1907 *Source: http://www.wyomingtalesandtrails.com*

LANDER COMMUNITY PROFILE

(Elevation: 5,300)

The town of Lander is nestled against the foothills of the Wind River Mountains along the banks of the Popo Aggie (po-PO-zha) River and is the county seat of Fremont County. Historically, the town was created to provide protection for the newly established Wind River Reservation.

The Lander Valley was originally the tribal territory of the Shoshone Indians. The first Caucasian to venture into the Valley was most likely John Colter who explored vast areas of the west in 1807 and 1808 after leaving the Lewis & Clark expedition. Next, a variety of trappers and mountain men explored the area and rendezvous were held in 1829, 1830, and 1838. The first few pioneer families arrived in the Valley in 1867, but a problem arose for these new settlers. The land they claimed was designated to the Shoshone Indians as part of the Wind River Reservation peace treaty. As a result, settlers were forced to move and disagreements over reservation boundaries inhibited settlement for several years.

In 1869, the Army established a small military post named Fort Auger (later renamed Fort Brown) to disperse commodities to the Shoshone Indians and protect them from attacks by the Sioux and Arapaho. In 1872 the Fort was moved farther north, closer to the actual reservation, and dubbed Fort Washakie. That same year, Chief Washakie renegotiated the peace treaty with the U.S. Government, and agreed to sell all the reservation land south of the North Fork of the Popo Agie River. With the new treaty in place settlers began moving into the Lander Valley from the South Pass City area, where gold had attracted the masses. The rich valley along the Popo Agie River proved easy to irrigate and provided ample crops, enabling the settlers to sell fresh produce to hungry miners at nearby gold rush towns. The new settlers named their emerging town Pushroot, after noticing that warm spring downdrafts from the Wind River Mountains seemed to push through the roots of their crops causing them to sprout earlier in the year. In

1875, when the pioneers applied to the U.S. Government for a Post Office to be opened, the name Pushroot was rejected. The town was renamed Lander in honor of Colonel Frederick W. Lander, who had surveyed the Oregon Trail's Lander Cutoff. The town was incorporated on November 4, 1890. Lander continued a slow but steady growth throughout the late 1800's. Arrival of the railroad in 1906 greatly increased the population due to ease of obtaining goods. Agriculture was the best source of revenue and Lander became known as "The Apple City" after settlers planted large groves of apple trees.

Lander has a rich history that includes the Pony Express, women's suffrage, the first oil well in Wyoming (discovered in 1833), ranching & farming, the uranium & coal industries, and forestry. Today, Lander is known as the "City of Bronze" for its bronze foundry, which has produced many statues seen throughout the U.S. The community's appreciation for western history, culture, arts, and entertainment has manifested within the numerous businesses, organizations, and unique annual events. The 1913 photo of "Stub" Farlow, a Lander native and relative of the Sioux War Chief Gall, became the inspiration for the Wyoming license plate logo in use since 1936.

What started as a small military outpost in 1869, has blossomed into what Outdoor Magazine called one of "The Best Small Towns in America."

Sources: *http://www.ultimatewyoming.com*

http://www.windrivercountry.com

http://www.landerchamber.org

http://www.tripwiser.com

http://thelanderguide.com

http://www.leadercorporation.com

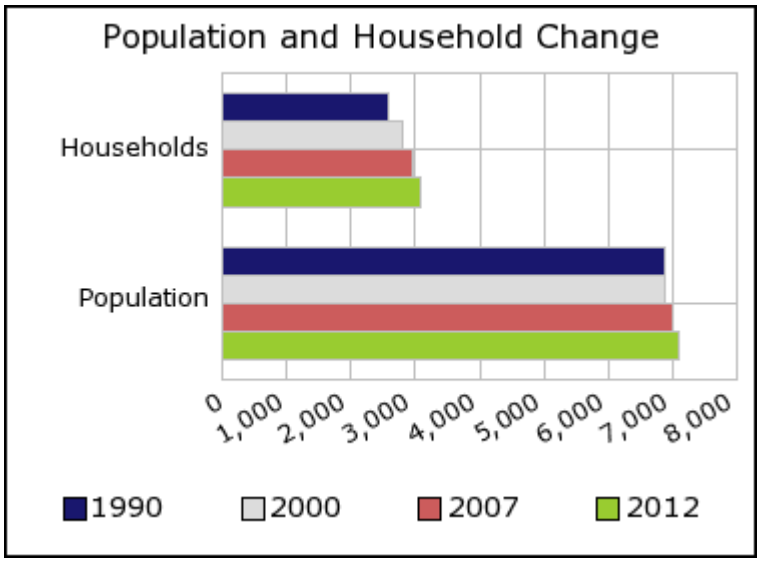
Lander Executive Summary

Population Demographics:

The number of households in Lander in 1990

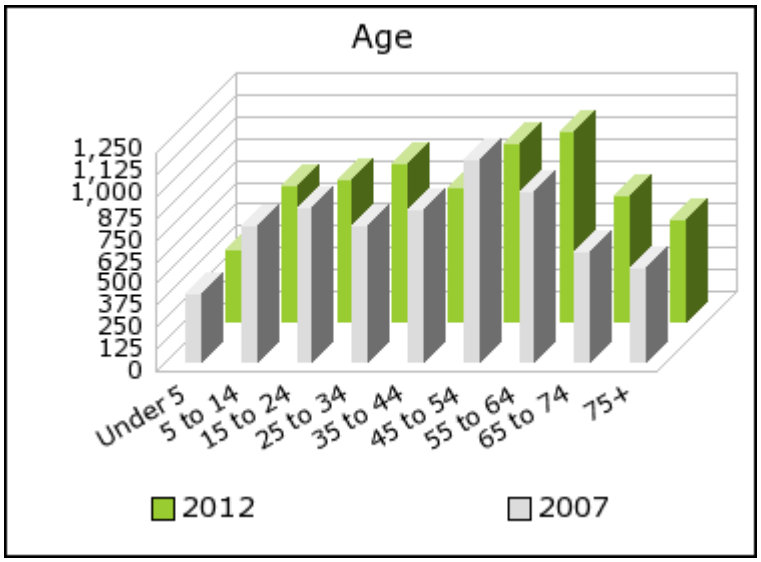
was **2,572** and changed to **2,794** in 2000, representing a change of **8.6%**. The household count in 2007 was **2,960** and the household projection for 2012 is **3,081**, a change of **4.1%**.

The population in Lander in 1990 was **6,883** and in 2000 it was **6,867**, roughly a -**0.2%** change. The population in 2007 was **6,995** and the projection for 2012 is **7,102** representing a change of **1.5%**.



					Percent Change	
	1990 Census	2000 Census	2007 Estimate	2012 Projection	1990 to 2000	2007 to 2012
Total Population	6,883	6,867	6,995	7,102	-0.2%	1.5%
Total Households	2,572	2,794	2,960	3,081	8.6%	4.1%

Population by Age



In 1990, the median age of the total population

in Lander was **34.6**, and in 2000, it was **40.5**.

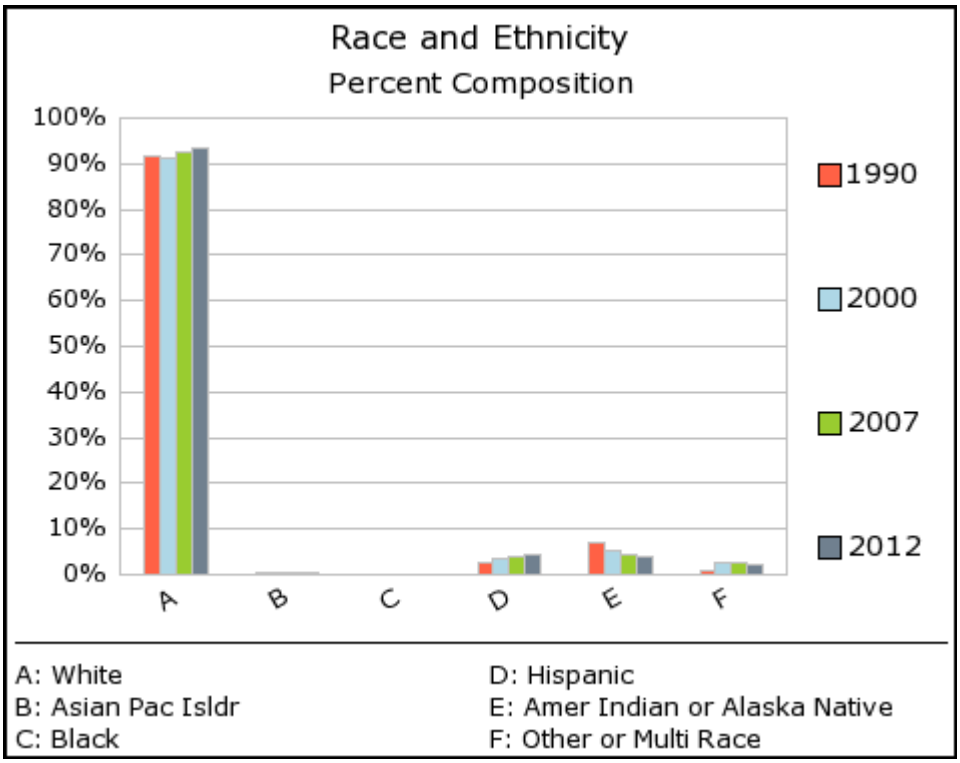
The median age in 2007 was **43.2** and it is predicted to change in five years to **43.5** years.

In 2007, females represented **50.9%** of the population with a median age of **45.2** and males represented **49.1%** of the population with a median age of **40.8** years. In 2007, the most prominent age group was **Age 45 to 54** years. The age group least represented was **0 to 4** years.

Age Groups **Percent Change**

	1990 Census	%	2000 Census	%	2007 Estimate	%	2012 Projection	%	1990 to 2000	2007 to 2012
0 to 4	510	7.4%	377	5.5%	386	5.5%	409	5.8%	-26.1%	6.0%
5 to 14	1,138	16.5%	947	13.8%	775	11.1%	778	11.0%	-16.8%	0.4%
15 to 19	446	6.5%	530	7.7%	459	6.6%	401	5.7%	18.8%	-12.7%
20 to 24	373	5.4%	288	4.2%	418	6.0%	414	5.8%	-22.8%	-1.0%
25 to 34	1,019	14.8%	739	10.8%	777	11.1%	908	12.8%	-27.5%	16.9%
35 to 44	1,094	15.9%	1,104	16.1%	871	12.4%	767	10.8%	0.9%	-11.9%
45 to 54	751	10.9%	1,085	15.8%	1,162	16.6%	1,020	14.4%	44.4%	-12.2%
55 to 64	633	9.2%	754	11.0%	974	13.9%	1,094	15.4%	19.1%	12.3%
65 to 74	522	7.6%	574	8.4%	631	9.0%	723	10.2%	9.9%	14.6%
75 +	398	5.8%	471	6.9%	541	7.7%	586	8.3%	18.4%	8.4%

Population by Race/Ethnicity

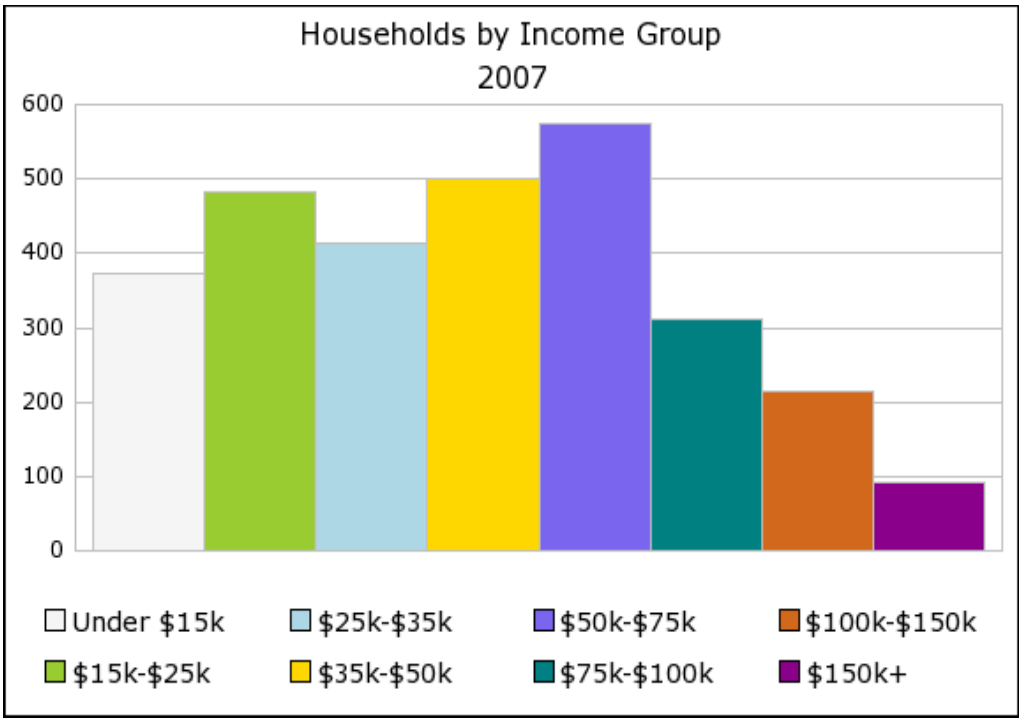


In 2007, the predominant race/ethnicity category in Lander was **White**. The race & ethnicity category least represented was **Black.**

Race & Ethnicity	1990 Census	%	2000 Census	%	2007 Estimate	%	2012 Projection	%	Percent Change 1990 to 2000	Percent Change 2007 to 2012
White	6,304	91.6%	6,267	91.3%	6,468	92.5%	6,624	93.3%	-0.6%	2.4%
Black	7	0.1%	10	0.2%	10	0.2%	10	0.1%	37.5%	-0.0%
American Indian or Alaska Native	480	7.0%	371	5.4%	295	4.2%	277	3.9%	-22.6%	-6.0%
Asian or Pacific Islander	24	0.4%	24	0.4%	35	0.5%	44	0.6%	-0.9%	26.1%
Other Race	67	1.0%	51	0.7%	49	0.7%	42	0.6%	-24.5%	-14.5%
Two or More Races			143	2.1%	138	2.0%	105	1.5%		-23.8%
Hispanic Ethnicity	174	2.5%	236	3.4%	281	4.0%	310	4.4%	35.7%	10.3%
Not Hispanic o	6,709	97.5%	6,631	96.6%	6,713	96.0%	6,792	95.6%	-1.2%	1.2%

Households by Income

In 2007 the predominant household income category for Lander was **$50K - $75K**, and the income group that was least represented was **$150K+**.



HH Income

Categories	1990 Census	%	2000 Census	%	2007 Estimate	%	2012 Projection	%	Percent Change 1990 to 2000	Percent Change 2007 to 2012
$0 - $15,000	787	30.6%	476	17.0%	373	12.6%	334	10.8%	-39.5%	-10.5%
$15,000 - $24,999	517	20.1%	547	19.6%	483	16.3%	471	15.3%	5.9%	-2.6%
$25,000 - $34,999	532	20.7%	381	13.6%	413	13.9%	396	12.8%	-28.4%	-4.1%
$35,000 - $49,999	396	15.4%	562	20.1%	499	16.9%	453	14.7%	42.0%	-9.2%
$50,000 - $74,999	288	11.2%	456	16.3%	573	19.4%	661	21.5%	58.4%	15.2%
$75,000 - $99,999	29	1.2%	231	8.3%	311	10.5%	324	10.5%	682.8%	4.3%
$100,000 - $149,999	17	0.7%	82	2.9%	216	7.3%	314	10.2%	373.0%	45.7%
$150,000 +	0	0.0%	60	2.1%	91	3.1%	128	4.1%	440,509.2%	39.8%

Average HH Income	$27,389	$48,585	$58,902	$66,124	77.4%	12.3%
Median HH Income	$24,500	$34,803	$41,834	$46,472	42.1%	11.1%
Per Capita Income	$10,440	$19,769	$25,724	$29,565	89.4%	14.9%

Employment and Business

Percent Change

	1990 Census		2000 Census		2007 Estimate		2012 Projection		1990 to 2000	2007 to 2012
Age 16 + Population	5,139		5,439		5,758		5,853		5.8%	1.6%
In Labor Force	3,283	63.9%	3,460	63.6%	3,836	66.6%	3,898	66.6%	5.4%	1.6%
Employed	3,072	93.6%	3,299	95.3%	3,689	96.2%	3,747	96.1%	7.4%	1.6%
Unemployed	211	6.4%	151	4.4%	133	3.5%	136	3.5%	-28.6%	2.4%
In Armed Forces	5	0.1%	11	0.3%	14	0.2%	16	0.3%	113.9%	10.0%
Not In Labor Force	1,856	36.1%	1,978	36.4%	1,908	33.1%	1,939	33.1%	6.6%	1.6%

Employment in Blue Collar Occupations	1,292	39.2%
Employment in White Collar Occupations	2,006	60.8%

Housing Units

Percent Change

	1990 Census		2000 Census		2007 Estimate		2012 Projection		1990 to 2000	2007 to 2012
Total Housing Units	2,849		3,040		3,180		3,286		6.7%	3.3%
Owner Occupied	1,733	60.8%	2,015	66.3%	2,151	67.6%	2,253	68.6%	16.3%	4.8%
Renter Occupied	839	29.4%	779	25.6%	809	25.5%	828	25.2%	-7.2%	2.3%
Vacant	278	9.7%	246	8.1%	220	6.9%	205	6.2%	-11.5%	-6.7%

Vehicles Available

	1990 Census		2000 Census		2007 Estimate		2012 Projection		Percent Change 1990 to 2000	Percent Change 2007 to 2012
Average Vehicles Per Hhld	1.90		1.80		2.00		2.10		-7.0%	7.2%
0 Vehicles Available	190	7.0%	166	5.9%	167	5.7%	165	5.4%	-12.8%	-1.4%
1 Vehicle Available	729	27.0%	893	32.0%	880	29.7%	862	28.0%	22.5%	-2.1%
2+ Vehicles Available	1,784	66.0%	1,736	62.1%	1,913	64.6%	2,054	66.7%	-2.7%	7.4%

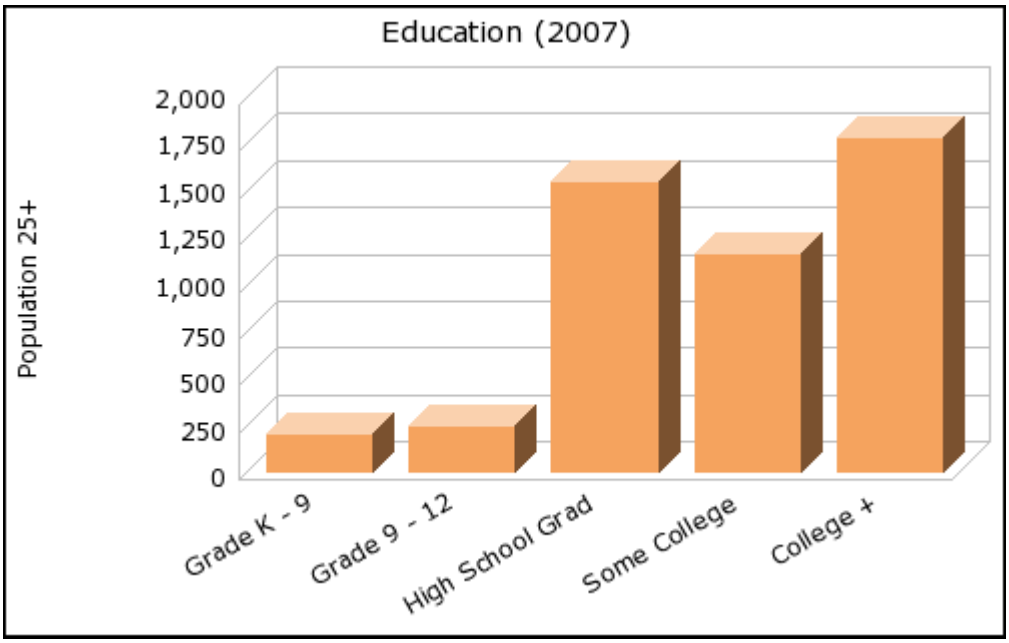
Marital Status

	1990 Census		2000 Census		2007 Estimate		2012 Projection		Percent Change 1990 to 2000	Percent Change 2007 to 2012
Age 15+ Population	5,235		5,543		5,833		5,917		5.9%	1.4%
Married, Spouse Present	3,011	57.5%	2,952	53.3%	3,106	53.2%	3,149	53.2%	-1.9%	1.4%
Married, Spouse Absent	57	1.1%	204	3.7%	218	3.7%	224	3.8%	257.2%	2.7%
Divorced	528	10.1%	734	13.2%	769	13.2%	779	13.2%	39.1%	1.3%
Widowed	388	7.4%	417	7.5%	436	7.5%	441	7.5%	7.3%	1.1%
Never Married	1,251	23.9%	1,237	22.3%	1,305	22.4%	1,324	22.4%	-1.2%	1.5%

Educational Attainment

	1990 Census		2000 Census		2007 Estimate		2012 Projection		Percent Change 1990 to 2000	Percent Change 2007 to 2012
Age 25+ Population	4,416		4,725		4,956		5,100		7.0%	2.9%
Grade K - 8	415	9.4%	98	2.1%	208	4.2%	159	3.1%	-76.4%	-23.6%

Grade 9 - 12	527	11.9%	353	7.5%	248	5.0%	194	3.8%	-33.1%	-21.7%
High School Graduate	1,334	30.2%	1,333	28.2%	1,547	31.2%	1,683	33.0%	-0.1%	8.8%
Some College, No Degree	915	20.7%	1,122	23.8%	1,162	23.5%	1,183	23.2%	22.6%	1.8%
Associates Degree	269	6.1%	345	7.3%	373	7.5%	387	7.6%	28.2%	4.0%
Bachelor's Degree	659	14.9%	861	18.2%	962	19.4%	1,023	20.1%	30.8%	6.4%
Graduate Degree	295	6.7%	429	9.1%	456	9.2%	471	9.2%	45.3%	3.3%



Current year data is for the year **2007**, 5 year projected data is for the year **2012**.

FREMONT COUNTY PROFILE

POPULATION BY AGE:	2006	% of Total
Population under 5 years	2,585	7.0%
Population 5 to 14 years	4,948	13.3%
Population 15 to 19 years	2,723	7.3%
Population 20 to 24 years	2,598	7.0%
Population 25 to 34 years	4,298	11.6%
Population 35 to 44 years	4,505	12.1%
Population 45 to 54 years	5,743	15.5%
Population 55 to 64 years	4,487	12.1%
Population 65 to 74 years	2,865	7.7%
Population 75 years and over	2,411	6.5%
TOTAL	37,163	100.0%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau

RACE AND HISPANIC ORIGIN	2006 Estimate	% of Total
TOTAL	37,163	100.0%
White alone	28,932	77.9%
Black or African American alone	155	0.4%
American Indian and Alaska Native alone	7,299	19.6%
Asian alone	164	0.4%
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander alone	13	0.0%
Two or More Races	600	1.6%
Race alone or in combination with one or more races:		
White	27,495	74.0%
Black or African American	117	0.3%
American Indian and Alaska Native	7,003	18.8%
Asian	156	0.4%
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander	11	0.0%
Two or More Races	545	2.0%
Hispanic Origin:		
White alone	1,437	3.9%
Black or African American	38	0.1%
American Indian and Alaska Native	296	0.8%
Asian	8	0.0%
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander	2	1.3%
Two or More Races	55	0.8%

Note: Hispanic is an ethnic origin not a race.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau

LANDOWNERS	Acres	Square Miles
United States Government		
National Park Service	0	0.0
Forest Service	980,919	1,532.7
Fish and Wildlife	3,432	5.4
Bureau of Land Management	2,087,127	3,261.1
Bureau of Reclamation	146,825	229.4
Wyoming		
State Lands Commission	252,373	394.3
Recreation Commission	639	1.0
Game and Fish	48,181	75.3
Local Government		
County	814	1.3
City	3,730	5.8
School District & Colleges	1,007	1.6
Other Lands	1,573,940	2,459
Surface Water	53,459	83.5
Total Public	5,098,987	7,967.2
Total Private	829,895	1,296.7
TOTAL LAND	5,928,882	9,263.9

(a) Data not available

Source: University of Wyoming, Department of Geography & Recreation

PERSONAL INCOME	2004
Total Personal Income (000s $)	$970,818
Per Capita Personal Income	$26,805
Per Capita Current Transfer Receipts*	$5,872
Per Capita Dividends, Interest, and Rent	$5,773
Average Wage and Salary Disbursements	$25,818
Average Non-farm Proprietors' Income	$14,639

*Mainly includes Social Security, Disability, Medicare/Medicaid, and other income maintenance payments.

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

SALES TAX COLLECTIONS INDUSTRY (NAICS)	FY 2006 Total Taxes ($)
Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing, & Hunting	$13,022
Mining	$3,975,782
Utilities	$945,418
Construction	$487,279
Manufacturing	$826,438
Wholesale Trade	$2,287,962
Retail Trade	$12,244,311
Transportation and Warehousing	$34,806
Information	$567,488
Financial Activities	$892,176
Professional & Business Services	$266,278
Educational & Health Services	$37,235
Leisure & Hospitality	$2,319,566
Other Services	$1,243,381
Public Administration	$2,853,831
TOTAL	$28,994,973

Source: State of Wyoming, Department of Revenue

SELECTED STATISTICS: SCHOOL YEAR 2005- 2006	
Number of School Districts	8
Number of Schools	31
Fall Enrollment	6,373
High School Graduates	349
Average Daily Membership (ADM)	6,322
Average Daily Attendance (ADA)	5,774
Certified Teachers	525
Certified Staff	114
Administration	58
Classified Staff	560
Students Transported Daily	2,876
Bonded Indebtedness, June 30th	$8,855,000
Total General Fund Revenues	$83,459,197
Total General Fund Expenditures	$77,935,603
Operating Cost Per ADM	$15,820

Source: State of Wyoming, Dept. of Education, Statistical Report Series No. 3, annual

CRIME OFFENSES BY CONTRIBUTOR: 2006	
Murder	0
Rape	7
Robbery	3
Aggravated Assault	53
Burglary	131
Larceny	614
Motor Vehicle Theft	49
Violent Crimes	63
Property Crimes	794
TOTAL	857

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

COUNTY EMPLOYMENT STATISTICS	
Labor Force *(Dec 2007)p*	18,050
Employed *(Dec 2007)p*	17,247
Unemployed *(Dec 2007)p*	803
Unemployment Rate (Dec 2007)p	4.4%
Ave. Weekly Wage - Covered Emp. *(Q2_07)*	$668

Source: State of Wyoming, Department of Employment
p = preliminary

COUNTY FINANCE	
Assessed Valuation (For 2006)	$1,375,639,617
Total Property Taxes Levied (2006)	$98,958,900
Sales and Use Tax Distribution (FY2006)	$9,428,379
Bank Deposits (6/30/2006)	$486,992,000
2006 Average County Levy (mills)	71.937

Source: State of Wyoming, Dept. of Revenue & Dept. of Audit

FULL AND PART TIME EMPLOYMENT	2004
Wage and Salary	16,248
Proprietors	5,975
Farm	1,166
Forestry, Fishing, Related Activities	191
Mining	599
Utilities	(D)
Construction	1,690
Manufacturing	583
Wholesale Trade	(D)
Retail Trade	2,558
Transportation and Warehousing	560
Information	370
Finance and Insurance	535
Real Estate, Rental, and Leasing	825
Professional and Technical Services	790
Management of Companies and Enterprises	22
Administrative and Waste Services	518
Educational Services	(D)
Health Care and Social Assistance	(D)
Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation	426
Accommodation and Food Services	1,707
Other Services, except Public Administration	1,330
Government and Government Enterprises	5,226
TOTAL	22,223

EARNINGS (000s of $):	2004
Wage and Salary	$419,489
Supplements to Wages and Salaries*	$101,456
Proprietors	$75,538
Farm	$7,041
Forestry, Fishing, Related Activities	$2,354
Mining	$42,012
Utilities	(D)
Construction	$51,773
Manufacturing	$13,154
Wholesale Trade	(D)
Retail Trade	$52,335
Transportation and Warehousing	$19,017
Information	$10,735
Finance and Insurance	$14,326
Real Estate, Rental, and Leasing	$11,902
Professional and Technical Services	$24,250
Management of Companies and Enterprises	$566
Administrative and Waste Services	$8,002
Educational Services	(D)
Health Care and Social Assistance	(D)
Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation	$11,238
Accommodation and Food Services	$20,518
Other Services, except Public Administration	$20,773
Government and Government Enterprises	$196,573
TOTAL	$596,483

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

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

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

Workforce Training

1. Wyoming Department of Workforce Services offers employers up to $2,000 per employee for training. *(http://wyomingworkforce.org/how/wdtfp.aspx).*

2. Quick Start

Wyoming is the first state approved to license the State of Georgia's Quick Start program. The Wyoming Business Council and the Wyoming Community Colleges are partnering to provide training in:

- Customer Service
- Manufacturing
- Warehousing and Distribution

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

State Incentives

1. No corporate state income tax.

2. No personal state income tax.

3. Community Development Block Grants administered by Wyoming Business Council.
   Source: *http://www.wyomingbusiness.org/community/cdbg.aspx.*

- Provides grants to local governments for community and economic development projects.
- Provides convertible loans to grants based on job creation.

4. Partnership Challenge Loan Program administered by Wyoming Business Council.
   Source: http://www.wyomingbusiness.org/financial/loan.aspx.

   - Provides low interest loans to community development organizations.
   - Provides gap financing for projects with the Wyoming Business Council participating with a commercial lender.

5. Industrial Development Revenue Bonds. Cities and counties may issue tax-exempt bonds to provide financing for manufacturing. *Source: http://www.wyomingbusiness.org/financial/idrb.aspx.*

Taxes

1. No corporate state income tax.

2. No personal state income tax.

3. No inventory tax.

4. Fremont County has a 5% sales and use tax (statewide base of 4% plus1% optional county tax).
   Source: Wyoming Department of Revenue, Excise Tax Division (July 2007).

5. Unemployment Insurance - taxable base rate of $20,100. Tax rates by industry grouping - WY Dept. of Employment. *Source: http://wydoe.state.wy.us/doe.asp?ID=876.*

6. Workers' Compensation - rates vary by occupation and can be found at:
   Source: http://159.238.91.226/etd/Rates/2008-Rates.xls.

7. Property taxes. Average tax rate in Fremont County is 7.4589%.
   Source: Wyoming Department of Revenue, Ad Valorem Division

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

Example: Tax on a commercial facility valued at $1,000,000 is as follows: $1,000,000 x 0.095 =

$95,000 x 0.074589 = $7,086.

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

Origin of the Name

Named in honor of General John Charles Fremont, whose explorations, throughout the West, earned him the title of the "Pathfinder" of the Rocky Mountains. Fremont County was organized in 1884 and the county seat resides in Lander.

Cost of Living Index (Prices as of July 11, 12, and 13, 2007, Statewide Average = 100)

Food	Housing	Apparel	Transportation	Medical	Recreation & Personal Care
93	89	87	99	104	104

Source: State of Wyoming, Economic Analysis Division (http://eadiv.state.wy.us/wcli/NewsRelease-2Q07pdf).

Average Price of Single-Family Home (2006)	$163,775

Source: A Profile of Wyoming <www.wyomingcda.com>

Higher Education

Central Wyoming College: Campus in Riverton

University of Wyoming Outreach Program

Transportation

- **Airports**:
  Riverton Regional (RIW) 3 miles northwest of Riverton

  Commercial Service: Great Lakes (United Express)

  Daily flights to: Denver, Worland

  Runways: 8,203 x 150 ft., asphalt

  4,800 x 75 ft., asphalt – cross wind runway

Fixed Base Operators: Jim's Aircraft Service

Dubois Municipal (U25)

3 miles northwest of Dubois

Runway: 6,100 x 60 ft., asphalt

Fixed Base Operators: None

Hunt Field (LND)

1 mile south of Lander

Runway: 5,120 x 100 ft., asphalt

Fixed Base Operators: Wind River Aviation

2. **Highways:**

Distance from county centroid to nearest Interstate highway = 93.49 miles to I-80

U.S. 20

U.S. 26

U.S. 287

3. **Railroad**:

Burlington Northern Santa Fe

Big Horn Divide and Wyoming (short line)

Fremont County Business Report (Estimate)

Daytime Population: Total Employees (2007)	18,349
Business Counts: Total Establishments (2007)	2,187

Employees By Occupation	**2007**	**% of Total**
"White Collar" Employees	10,793	58.8%
Administrative Support Workers	3,109	16.9%
Executive Managers & Administrators	1,874	10.2%

Professional Specialty Occupations	3,520	19.2%
Sales Professionals	295	1.6%
Sales Workers & Clerks	1,442	7.9%
Technical Sales & Administrative	24	0.1%
Technologies & Technicians	529	2.9%
"Blue Collar" Employees	7,483	40.8%
Construction, Repair & Mining	711	3.9%
Farming, Forestry & Fishing	551	3.0%
Handlers, Helpers & Laborers	424	2.3%
Machine Operators, Assemblers & Inspectors	274	1.5%
Other Services Field Based	146	0.8%
Other Services Site Based	2,912	15.9%
Precision Craft & Repair	1,552	8.5%
Private Household Service	1	0.0%
Protective Services	323	1.8%
Transportation & Materials Moving Workers	589	3.2%

Establishments: Size	**2007**	**% of Total**
1 - 4 Employees	1,363	62.3%
5 - 9 Employees	427	19.5%
10 - 19 Employees	209	9.6%
20 - 49 Employees	114	5.2%
50 - 99 Employees	58	2.7%
100 - 249 Employees	13	0.6%
250 - 499 Employees	3	0.1%
500 - 999 Employees	0	0.0%

1,000+ Employees	0	0.0%

Major Industry: Employees	**2007**	**% of Total**
Agricultural, Forestry, Fishing	294	1.6%
Construction	1,029	5.6%
Finance, Insurance & Real Estate	573	3.1%
Manufacturing	511	2.8%
Mining	564	3.1%
Public Administration	2,891	15.8%
Retail Trade	3,381	18.4%
Services	7,818	42.6%
Transportation & Communications	786	4.3%
Unclassified	73	0.4%
Wholesale Trade	429	2.3%

Major Industry: Establishments	**2007**	**% of Total**
Agricultural, Forestry, Fishing	83	3.8%
Construction	192	8.8%
Finance, Insurance & Real Estate	141	6.4%
Manufacturing	53	2.4%
Mining	41	1.9%
Public Administration	204	9.3%
Retail Trade	403	18.4%
Services	850	38.9%
Transportation & Communications	103	4.7%
Unclassified	28	1.3%

Wholesale Trade	89	4.1%

Retail Trade: Employees	**2007**	**% of Total**
Auto Dealers & Gas Stations	463	13.7%
Bars	54	1.6%
Building Materials Hardware & Garden	275	8.1%
Catalog and Direct Sales	5	0.1%
Clothing Stores	40	1.2%
Convenience Stores	89	2.6%
Drug Stores	6	0.2%
Electronics & Computer Stores	54	1.6%
Food Markets	306	9.1%
Furniture Stores	29	0.9%
General Merchandise Stores	552	16.3%
Home Furnishings	45	1.3%
Liquor Stores	33	1.0%
Music Stores	40	1.2%
Other Food Service	119	3.5%
Other Food Stores	92	2.7%
Restaurants	919	27.2%
Specialty Stores	260	7.7%
Total Retail Trade	3,381	100.0%

Retail Trade: Establishments	**2007**	**% of Total**
Auto Dealers & Gas Stations	52	12.9%
Bars	17	4.2%

Building Materials Hardware & Garden	38	9.4%
Catalog & Direct Sales	2	0.5%
Clothing Stores	13	3.2%
Convenience Stores	14	3.5%
Drug Stores	1	0.2%
Electronics & Computer Stores	8	2.0%
Food Markets	10	2.5%
Furniture Stores	10	2.5%
General Merchandise Stores	14	3.5%
Home Furnishings	14	3.5%
Liquor Stores	8	2.0%
Music Stores	7	1.7%
Other Food Service	11	2.7%
Other Food Stores	20	5.0%
Restaurants	64	15.9%
Specialty Stores	100	24.8%
Total Retail Trade	403	100.0%

Service: Employees	**2007**	**% of Total**
Advertising	7	0.1%
Auto Repair/Services	162	2.1%
Beauty and Barber Shops	114	1.5%
Child Care Services	205	2.6%
Colleges & Universities	187	2.4%
Computer Services	113	1.4%
Dry Cleaning & Laundry	87	1.1%

Entertainment & Recreation Services	322	4.1%
Health & Medical Services	615	7.9%
Hospitals	1,013	13.0%
Hotels & Lodging	454	5.8%
Legal Services	103	1.3%
Membership Organizations	383	4.9%
Miscellaneous Repair Services	63	0.8%
Motion Pictures	60	0.8%
Museums & Zoos	43	0.6%
Other Business Services	252	3.2%
Other Education & Library Services	51	0.7%
Other Personal Service	62	0.8%
Primary & Secondary Education	2,375	30.4%
Professional Services	269	3.4%
Social Services	878	11.2%
Total Services	7,818	100.0%

Service: Establishments	**2007**	**% of Total**
Advertising	4	0.5%
Auto Repair/Services	53	6.2%
Beauty and Barber Shops	38	4.5%
Child Care Services	18	2.1%
Colleges & Universities	8	0.9%
Computer Services	8	0.9%
Dry Cleaning & Laundry	14	1.6%
Entertainment & Recreation Services	52	6.1%

Health & Medical Services	103	12.1%
Hospitals	18	2.1%
Hotels & Lodging	62	7.3%
Legal Services	35	4.1%
Membership Organizations	92	10.8%
Miscellaneous Repair Services	32	3.8%
Motion Pictures	8	0.9%
Museums & Zoos	7	0.8%
Other Business Services	56	6.6%
Other Education & Library Services	11	1.3%
Other Personal Service	21	2.5%
Primary & Secondary Education	47	5.5%
Professional Services	65	7.6%
Social Services	98	11.5%
Total Services	850	100.0%

Fremont County Consumer Expenditure Report (Estimate)

	2007 Estimate	2012 Projection	% Change 2007 - 2012
Total Households	14,411	15,035	4.3%
Total Average Household Expenditure	$45,408	$49,477	9.0%
Total Average Retail Expenditure	$19,446	$21,149	8.8%

	2007 Estimate	2012 Projection	% Change 2007 - 2012
Airline Fares	$319.09	$354.02	10.9%

Alcoholic Beverages	$522.13	$574.51	10.0%
Alimony & Child Support	$224.20	$248.48	10.8%
Apparel	$2,153.60	$2,350.17	9.1%
Apparel Services & Accessories	$323.57	$358.45	10.8%
Audio Equipment	$77.96	$84.33	8.2%
Babysitting & Elderly Care	$346.89	$383.16	10.5%
Books	$54.32	$59.32	9.2%
Books & Supplies	$137.53	$153.85	11.9%
Boys Apparel	$103.80	$112.21	8.1%
Cellular Phone Service	$371.40	$399.29	7.5%
Cigarettes	$298.48	$314.40	5.3%
Computer Hardware	$301.97	$332.67	10.2%
Computer Information Services	$142.77	$157.62	10.4%
Computer Software	$23.51	$25.91	10.2%
Contributions	$1,576.83	$1,753.79	11.2%
Coolant & Other Fluids	$7.09	$7.69	8.5%
Cosmetics & Perfume	$93.55	$101.74	8.8%
Deodorants & Other Personal Care	$25.95	$28.24	8.8%
Education	$978.94	$1,094.70	11.8%
Electricity	$1,224.44	$1,309.59	7.0%
Entertainment	$2,512.01	$2,741.22	9.1%
Fees & Admissions	$601.81	$673.07	11.8%
Finance Chgs Exc Mort & Veh	$501.48	$542.96	8.3%
Floor Coverings	$61.25	$69.25	13.1%
Food & Beverages	$7,125.18	$7,705.97	8.2%
Food At Home	$3,810.23	$4,078.93	7.1%

Food Away From Home	$2,792.82	$3,052.53	9.3%
Footwear	$363.23	$390.21	7.4%
Fuel Oil & Other Fuels	$122.92	$132.67	7.9%
Funeral & Cemetery	$86.28	$93.77	8.7%
Furniture	$517.03	$572.53	10.7%
Gasoline & Oil	$2,106.80	$2,271.87	7.8%
Gifts	$1,133.91	$1,259.88	11.1%
Girls Apparel	$140.10	$152.04	8.5%
Hair Care	$51.40	$55.90	8.8%
Hard Surface Flooring	$22.75	$25.09	10.3%
Health Care	$2,935.84	$3,152.57	7.4%
Health Care Insurance	$1,418.79	$1,523.59	7.4%
Health Care Services	$703.47	$754.36	7.2%
Health Care Supplies & Equip	$813.58	$874.62	7.5%
Household Services	$278.25	$308.10	10.7%
Household Supplies	$675.40	$747.61	10.7%
Household Textiles	$139.74	$152.79	9.3%
Housewares & Small App	$966.76	$1,065.60	10.2%
Indoor Plants & Fresh Flowers	$60.46	$66.90	10.7%
Infants Apparel	$95.40	$103.82	8.8%
Jewelry	$129.99	$144.12	10.9%
Legal & Accounting	$94.29	$102.21	8.4%
Magazines	$30.40	$33.21	9.2%
Major Appliances	$230.45	$250.85	8.9%
Mass Transit	$85.55	$94.80	10.8%
Men's Apparel	$404.95	$443.96	9.6%

Mortgage Interest	$3,294.54	$3,660.26	11.1%
Natural Gas	$462.20	$497.22	7.6%
New Car Purchased	$1,018.33	$1,128.44	10.8%
New Truck Purchased	$1,204.70	$1,335.46	10.9%
New Vehicle Purchase	$2,223.03	$2,463.90	10.8%
Newspapers	$63.66	$69.57	9.3%
Oral Hygiene Products	$23.79	$25.88	8.8%
Other Lodging	$452.33	$512.84	13.4%
Other Miscellaneous Expenses	$96.63	$104.63	8.3%
Other Repairs & Maintenance	$130.12	$143.15	10.0%
Other Tobacco Products	$33.20	$34.97	5.3%
Other Transportation Costs	$497.23	$549.10	10.4%
Other Utilities	$379.29	$408.56	7.7%
Paint & Wallpaper	$57.92	$63.62	9.8%
Personal Care Products	$154.34	$167.89	8.8%
Personal Care Services	$441.99	$480.69	8.8%
Personal Insurance	$437.12	$484.37	10.8%
Pet Supplies & Services	$249.40	$269.81	8.2%
Photographic Equip & Supplies	$112.30	$121.52	8.2%
Plumbing & Heating	$51.97	$57.18	10.0%
Property Taxes	$1,478.13	$1,636.76	10.7%
Public Transportation	$495.63	$549.85	10.9%
Records/Tapes/CD Purchases	$124.44	$134.68	8.2%
Recreational Equip & Supplies	$1,014.52	$1,098.60	8.3%
Rental Costs	$2,328.91	$2,434.79	4.5%
Roofing & Siding	$71.07	$78.09	9.9%

Satellite Dishes	$9.79	$10.60	8.3%
Shaving Needs	$11.05	$12.03	8.9%
Shelter	$8,718.86	$9,525.42	9.3%
Telephone Svc Excl Cell	$733.16	$788.18	7.5%
Televisions	$113.71	$123.11	8.3%
Transportation	$9,159.64	$9,975.95	8.9%
Tuition	$841.41	$940.85	11.8%
Used Car Purchase	$839.41	$899.24	7.1%
Used Truck Purchase	$731.20	$783.55	7.2%
Used Vehicle Purchase	$1,570.61	$1,682.79	7.1%
VCRs & Related Equipment	$46.88	$50.75	8.3%
Vehicle Insurance	$1,055.87	$1,142.54	8.2%
Vehicle Repair	$709.55	$769.35	8.4%
Vehicle Repair & Maintenance	$716.64	$777.04	8.4%
Video & Audio Equipment	$895.68	$969.55	8.2%
Video Game Hardware & Software	$29.16	$31.60	8.4%
Watches	$23.96	$26.53	10.7%
Women's Apparel	$722.55	$789.48	9.3%

RESOURCE TEAM MEMBERS, LANDER, WYOMING
April 14-16, 2008 Five-Year Follow Up

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2008 Lander Community Assessment

Team Member Intinerary

Monday, April 14th	Activity	Location
10:00 am - 10-30 am	Orientation	Meet at Lander City Hall, 240 Lincoln Street
10:30 am - Noon	Community Tour	
Noon - 1:00 pm	Lunch	Tony's (preorder)
1:00 pm - 3:00 pm	Tribal Session	Ft. Washakie
3:00 pm - 4:00 pm	Law Enforcement/Safety Session	Lander Community Center
4:00 pm - 5:00 pm	Education Session	Lander Community Center
5:00 pm - 6:30 pm	Dinner	Hitching Rack
6:30 pm - 7:30 pm	General Session	Lander Community Center

Tuesday, April 15th	Activity	Location
7:30 am - 8:30 am	Breakfast	Summit Restaurant at The Inn at Lander
9:00 am - 10:00 am	Interagency Session	Lander Community Center
10:00 am - 11:00 am	Healthcare/Disability Session	Lander Community Center
11:00 am - Noon	Main Street	Lander Community Center
Noon - 1:00 pm	Lunch @ Senior Center	Lander Senior Center
1:00 pm - 2:00 pm	Senior Session	Lander Senior Center
2:00 pm - 3:00 pm	Housing/Real Estate Session	Lander Community Center
3:00 pm - 4:00 pm	Agriculture	Lander Community Center
4:00 pm - 5:00 pm	Service Organizations/Nonprofits/Volunteers	Lander Community Center
5:00 pm - 6:30 pm	Dinner	Cowfish
6:30 pm - 7:30 pm	Young Families Session	Lander Community Center
7:30 pm - 8:30 pm	Community Development - Planning, etc.	Lander Community Center

Wednesday, April 16th	Activity	Location
7:00 am - 8:00 am	Economic Development Session	Oxbow Restaurant - back room
8:00 am - 9:00 am	Breakfast	Oxbow Restaurant
9:00 am - 10:00 am	Tourism/Recreation/State Parks	Lander Community Center
10:00 am - 11:00 am	Quality of Life/Arts& Culture/Hist. Preservation	Lander Community Center
11:15 pm - 12:15 pm	High School Youth Session	Lander Valley High School
12:15 pm - 1:00 pm	Lunch	Gannett Grille
1:00 pm - 2:00 pm	Transportation	Lander Community Center
2:00 pm - 5:00 pm	Wrap Up Presentation Preparation	Lander Community Center
5:00 pm - 6:30 pm	Presentation with Dinner (Breadboard)	Lander Community Center

Lander Five-Year Major Themes

Major Themes

Quality of Life / Community Development

- Recreation Center
- Pathways, bike paths, walk ways, river walk
- Art Center
- Rodeo / Equestrian/ Winter Fair facility
- Teen café
- Community garden system
- Leadership development

Economic Development

- Tourism– product development and promotion
- Affordable housing
- Retention & Revitalization of Main Street
- Trained workforce
- Diversify and shift from a commodity to a value added economy

Educational Opportunities

- Build-out of the Catholic College
- Vocational Tech Training and Certification
- High School
- Adult Ed
- Expanded CWC services
- Charter or alternative schools

Infrastructure

- Water
- Sewer
- Streets
- Sidewalks
- Parking
- Expanded public transportation

Human & Social Services

- Daycare
- Expanded & affordable health care
- Address poverty
- Substance abuse

Planning & Communication

- Long-term comprehensive plan incorporating preservation of agriculture & open space
- Transportation plan
- Zoning
- Historical preservation & architectural review
- Sustainable / Green building
- Coordination with the county
- Community foundation for coordination of non-profits and services

Lander Team Member Report

Patricia Robbins, Team Leader
Director, Sweetwater Economic Development Association
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It was a pleasure to serve as team leader for the Lander five year review for the Wyoming Rural Community Assessment. It was great to see all of the projects and issues that had been addressed in the past five years, showing the community's great support and enthusiasm. This new report will serve as a road map, with resources, to help address the new issues that were identified. With over 270 people attending we were able to gather a great deal of input. I look forward to seeing what issues the community undertakes as a result of this five year follow up.

I would like to personally thank the community and the staff at City Hall for their great hospitality. Gary Michaud did a great job of pulling it all together, and his team did a tremendous job in getting people out to participate in the focus groups.

Over the three days, in eighteen listening sessions with 272 attendees, the following six themes developed: Quality of Life/Community Development, Economic Development, Educational Opportunities, Infrastructure, Human and Social Services, and Planning and Communications. These six themes are not prioritized. Below you will find the six themes and suggestions and resources.

Major Themes
Quality of Life / Community Development

Challenge

Quality of Life is an often used term that can be defined differently by everyone that uses it. However in the Lander Assessment, the comments were very consistent. Residents valued the small town atmosphere and the closeness of the citizens. They also valued the scenic beauty of the area and are looking for ways to enhance it. The community expressed a need for several new year round recreation facilities along with the need to expand the bike and path systems within the area.

Recreation Center and a Rodeo / Equestrian/ Winter Fair Facility
Solution

There are few options available for building a community center, which would provide year round recreation. Green River and Rock Springs have both built beautiful facilities utilizing the Capital Facilities Optional 1% tax. This tax is imposed on sales and use and is on top of the state 4%. This tax has to be voted on by the public and has to be used for a clearly stated project with dollar amounts attached. Once the dollars are collected the tax goes away. Sweetwater County

recently passed this tax to build out infrastructure in all of the towns in the county. It had previously been used to construct the new county jail. The positive side of the tax is that it stops once the project is completed, and since it is a sales tax, it is paid for in part by tourists spending in the county. Sweetwater County has raised millions of dollars through this vehicle. It allows communities to build high dollar projects that might not have other means of funding. It does take considerable time and community buy-in, but can be very successful.
Sweetwater County also utilizes the Optional 1% Sales and Use Tax. This tax is used to support the general fund and it utilized to support the facilities that were previously built by the Capital Facilities Tax, such as the recreation centers. It is also used to fund emergency vehicles, snow removal equipment, sidewalk replacement, etc. This tax is placed in the general fund and does not have to be project specific on the ballot. This tax is on the ballot every four years and has been in place in Sweetwater County since 1974.

Resources
For more information contact:
Mary Keating Scott
George K. Baum & Company
401 West 19th Street, Suite 300
Cheyenne, WY 82001 307 778 8482

For more information on forming a Political Action Committee contact:
Pat Robbins, Director
SWEDA
307 352 6874 parobbin@wyoming.com

Dave Hanks, Director
Rock Springs Chamber of Commerce
307 362 3771 rschamber@sweetwaterhsa.com

Janet Hartford
Green River Chamber of Commerce
307 875 5711 jhartford@sweetwaterhsa.com

Solution
Another easier option, with lesser funding, would be a Community Enhancement Grant through the Wyoming Business Councils' Business Ready Communities Grant Program. The program is limited to $500,000 per year and can be used for community facilities and enhancements. This program could be used to enhance the publicly owned entrances as well. The program has been used previously to create park areas and splash parks, driving ranges, and other community improvements.

Resource
For more information contact:
Shawn Reese, Community Readiness Program Coordinator
Wyoming Business Council
307 777 2813

Pathways, bike paths, walk ways, river walk
Solution
The City of Green River has developed an extensive system of pedestrian and equestrian trails along the river corridor using a variety of grants spearheaded by a core group of volunteers-the Greenbelt Task Force.

Resource
For more information contact:
Walt Bratton, Director Green River Parks and Recreation
307 872 6153 wbratton@cityofgreenriver.org

Solution
The City of Rock Springs, in cooperation with the Wyoming Highway Department, is utilizing TEAL dollars to visually enhance the Interstate interchanges.

Resource
For more information contact:
Paul Kauchich, Director of Engineering and Operation
City of Rock Springs
307 352 1540 paul_kauchich@rswt.net

Solution
Funding is available through the Transportation Enhancement Activities Local (TEAL), Department of Transportation- Office of Local Government Coordinator

- Applicant eligibility- Public agencies, city, county, state or federal agencies (excluding the administering bodies), tribal councils, joint powers boards and school districts.
- Purpose-To fund projects that are off the state highway system (non-highway department), transportation related and that will add community and environmental value to the transportation system.
- Type of grant-Competitive/reimbursement
- Amount or typical range-$100,000 to $200,000 range/project
- Financial & matching requirements-20% local minimum cash match
- Source(s) of funding-T21 - Federal Transportation Act
- Deadline-June 30

Project types include non-motorized transportation (walking/bike paths), scenic beautification (roadside landscaping), and historic preservation (transportation related).

Resource

For more information contact:
Dave Young
5300 Bishop Blvd.
Cheyenne, WY 82009-3340
307/777-4384 or 777-4275 FAX: 307/777-4759
dyoung@state.wy.us

Art Center

Solution

The community might want to investigate partnering with the local school district for a possible joint venture. If there is a surplus school or government building the Wyoming Business Council has a program that would allow up to $1.5M for renovations to put the building back into use. The Community Facilities program's purpose is to assist communities with grant and loan funding to construct local enhancements to a school building or facility or preserve former school and government facilities that have existing or future community uses. All projects must be related to economic development or quality of life enhancement. Facilities may be space for community gatherings and functions, recreational, swimming and athletic facilities for community members, particularly youth. Maximum award is $1.5M.

Resource

For more information contact:
Shannon Stanfill, Community Facilities Program Manager
307.777.2841 shannon.stanfield@wybusiness.org
or
Roger Bower, Regional Director
Wyoming Business Council
307 857 1155 roger.bower@wybusiness.org

Solution

While I am not able to identify other specific resources for construction of an Arts Center, The Wyoming Arts Council serves as a resource for art programs. The Wyoming Arts Council's Community Services Program assists Wyoming's nonprofit arts organizations, schools, colleges, museums, libraries and performing arts presenters through grants and technical assistance/information services. Funds are available for arts projects, performances, exhibits, readings and technical assistance projects that are not educational in their focus, through the Wyoming Arts Council's Grants to Organizations category.

Wyoming Arts Endowment funds assist nonprofit arts, cultural and historical organizations in

building endowments for their long-term support. Technical assistance, information and referrals are provided by Arts Council staff through organized workshops and training, professional development activities, site visits and consultations.

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Grants to Organizations

This program offers grant funds to nonprofit organizations, schools and governmental entities for arts activities, programs and events which are not educational in their focus. This can range from a single event or project to a year-long season of arts programs or activities. This category can also include technical assistance projects. A complete application must be submitted, according to the grant guidelines. Incomplete applications will not be considered for grant awards. The following outlines the Grants to Organizations program, deadlines and application award process:

Application deadline (postmark) is March 15. Staff will review and provide comments on drafts of applications submitted by March 1.

Funding Guidelines:
*If the cash expenses for your project or series of projects total $3,000 or less, you may request up to ½ of your expenses not to exceed a maximum request of $1,000.

*If the cash expenses for your single project total more than $3,000, you may request up to 30% of those expenses, not to exceed a maximum request of $2,000.

*If the cash expenses for your series of projects, multiple unrelated projects or year-long programs total more than $3,000, you may request up to 30% of those expenses, not to exceed a maximum request of $7,000.

For more information on the grants program, or for advice on preparing your application, please contact the following program specialists:

Literature: Michael Shay, 777-5234, mshay@state.wy.us
Folk Arts: Annie Hatch, 777-7721, ahatch@state.wy.us
Performing and Visual Arts: Camellia El-Antably, 307-777-5305, celant@state.wy.us

Leadership Development

Challenge
One concern was the need to develop new leadership in the community. They would like to encourage more people to step forward in elected positions and community service organizations.

Solution
SWEDA, in partnership with the Rock Springs and Green River Chambers of Commerce, developed a county-wide leadership program twelve years ago for the purpose of encouraging and enhancing leadership skills in the community. We take 12-18 participants each year for one full day a month and teach them about the people, facilities, and issues of the county. The six month curriculum includes: health care, education, industry, business and human services, government, and recreation. Attendance is mandatory for graduation, as is participation in a class project outside of the scheduled days. The program has a tuition fee, which covers materials, transportation, and meals for the six days. Upon completion of the program, participants are encouraged to sign up for the statewide leadership program.

Resource
Contact information:
Sweetwater County Leadership Institute
Janet Hartford, Director
Green River Chamber of Commerce
307 875 5711 jhartford@sweetwaterhsa.com

Leadership Wyoming Program (Statewide program)
145 South Durbin, Suite 101
Casper, Wyoming 82601
(307) 577-8000 Main Line
wylw@qwest.net

Economic Development

Tourism
Challenge
The community would like to see more promotion of the area to tourists on their way to the national parks and would like more events and activities designed to attract and retain tourists.
Solution
I would recommend that the Chamber of Commerce work closely with the Wind River Visitors Council to promote the attractions and events in Lander. On a state level, the Wyoming Division of Tourism has a yearly accommodations directory with lists properties and events. The Division is a great resource for tourism promotion and development. The Travel & Tourism Division works to bring non-resident visitors to Wyoming. By actively marketing Wyoming as a vacation destination to both the domestic and international markets, this division contributes significantly to Wyoming's economy by building a strong tourism industry. In addition, the Film, Arts & Entertainment program markets Wyoming locations to production companies and promotes Wyoming's cultural amenities to further increase economic development and statewide tourism.

Resource
For more information contact:
Wyoming Travel and Tourism
Diane Shober, Director
307.777.2808 diane.shober@visitwyo.gov

Affordable housing
Challenge
The cost of housing is climbing rapidly and there is a shortage of entry level housing, which makes it difficult for first time home buyers and lower income families to find permanent housing in the area.

Solution
Attracting and constructing affordable housing is a complex problem. In Sweetwater County the first thing we (SWEDA) did was meet with local business and industry representatives to determine their needs. They helped define the size of units needed, whether they were rentals or for purchase and the price rage based on wages. We then contacted developers around the Rocky Mountain region through a series of media contacts. We were able to have a couple of developers come to the area to meet with local planning and zoning staff and elected officials. Key to their success was the ability to zone land for high density development, which helps keep it affordable. The Southwest Wyoming Workforce Alliance, a cooperative between Sweetwater, Uinta, Lincoln and Sublette County wrote and received a grant from the Department of Workforce Services to run a public awareness campaign on what workforce housing was and who lived there. The campaign has met with positive results for the most part.

Resource
For more information contact:
Pat Robbins, Director
SWEDA
307 352 6874 parobbin@wyoming.com

Retention & Revitalization of Main Street
See Historic Preservation later in the report

Trained Workforce
Challenge
Local business owners are struggling with the lack of available trained workforce which is impacting their business.
Solution
SWEDA met with the local business and industrial community to identify their workforce needs and requirements. We began a two-fold recruitment effort. The first was out of state recruitment. We targeted technical schools and colleges in the Rocky Mountain Region. Our

local industries were extremely helpful in identifying those schools. We also began a major recruitment effort with Natrona and Campbell County in Michigan to find out-of-work employees of the automobile industry. The skill sets of those displaced were close to what our industry identified. The results of the recruitment trips received national media coverage. The trips were two years ago, and we are still getting calls from Michigan from both individuals and companies wishing to relocate.

SWEDA also writes Workforce Development Training Grants at no charge for any Sweetwater County Business so that they can get funds to help train new and existing employees. We promote the assistance through the local media.

Resource
For more information contact:
Pat Robbins, Director
SWEDA
307 352 6874 parobbin@wyoming.com

Solution
The second part of the recruitment strategy was to encourage Wyoming students in high school to consider staying in Wyoming and seeking the right training to qualify them for the jobs in the area. Again, the Southwest Wyoming Workforce Alliance wrote and received a grant to design an awareness campaign for high school students that was presented in every high school in the four counties this spring.

Resource
For more information contact:
Carole Shafer, Coordinator
Professional Technical and Community Education Coordinator
Western Wyoming Community College
30 875 2278 cshafer@wwcc.wy.edu

Educational Opportunities

Vocational Tech Training and Certification
Challenge
The community feels that there are gaps in the educational system including vocational tech training for the jobs that exist in the area. They would like to see the programs on both a high school and college level expanded.
Solution
Lander needs to identify training needs and work through Central Wyoming College to develop the programs. Sweetwater County is fortunate to have a strong partner in vocational and technical training programs through Western Wyoming Community College.

Resource
For more information contact:
Carole Shafer, Coordinator
Professional Technical and Community Education Coordinator
Western Wyoming Community College
30 875 2278 cshafer@wwcc.wy.edu

High School
Solution
Sweetwater County developed a program targeted to high school students entering the workforce. *Wyoming Welcome* was designed by the local Chambers of Commerce with a focus on the hospitality industry, which is often the first jobs high school students have. The program was 8 hours long and focused on customer service, phone manners, appearance and attitude, making change, etc. The program was well received by local businesses and the schools. The highlight of the day was a voucher for students to go buy lunch at local fast food restaurants, which they then critiqued for their customer service.
Resource
For more information contact:
Dave Hanks, Director
Rock Springs Chamber of Commerce
307 362 3771 rschamber@sweetwaterhsa.com
Or
Janet Hartford
Green River Chamber of Commerce
307 875 5711 jhartford@sweetwaterhsa.com

Infrastructure

Challenge
Infrastructure in the community is aging and needs to be updated. The rapid growth in the outlying areas is creating a need for expanded infrastructure as well. The challenge is funding.
Solution
The Wyoming Business Council administers two programs what can provide funding for infrastructure including water, sewer, streets, etc. The **Business Ready Community** program provides financing for publicly owned infrastructure that serves the needs of businesses and promotes economic development within Wyoming communities. Cities, towns, counties, joint powers boards and both Tribes are eligible to apply for funding. Public infrastructure that is eligible for funding includes water; sewer; streets and roads; airports; rights of way; telecommunications; land; spec buildings; amenities within a business park, industrial park, industrial site or business district; landscaping, recreation and educational facilities; and other physical projects in support of primary economic and educational development.

Eligible Grant and Loan Activities
Infrastructure such as water, sewer, streets, telecommunications, airports, rights of way, land,

spec buildings, or amenities within a business park, industrial park, industrial site or business district or other appropriate physical projects in support of primary economic development. Educational development infrastructure such as workforce training facilities is eligible. Recreational facilities, landscaping and convention centers are also eligible.

Eligible Applicants
Cities, towns, counties and joint powers boards are the primary applicants for this program. State and local community development organizations can assist and provide project management development under contract to the primary applicant. The Council may enter into contracts/cooperative agreements with the Eastern Shoshone Tribe and the Northern Arapaho Tribe in order to promote the purpose of the program and fund infrastructure projects.

Match Requirements
Business Committed and Community Readiness Grants require a 5 to 10 percent match based on the grant amount. Up to $250,000--a minimum 5 percent match of project costs. Over $250,000 and up to $1,500,000—minimum of 10 percent match of project cost. Community Enhancement Grants require a 50% match of total project cost. The maximum Community Enhancement award is $500,000.The program offers three types of funding:

- Business Committed Projects - Businesses committed to locate or expand in the community. Applications are accepted at any time. Maximum award is $1.5 million.
- Community Readiness Projects - No specific business is committed to expand or locate in the community. The community wants to build facilities to ready itself for new business development under a specific strategy or plan of action. A community must demonstrate that appropriate planning has been conducted and capacity exists to accommodate new business development. Maximum award is $1.5 million.
- Community Enhancement Projects - An applicant wants to improve the community's aesthetic character or quality of life through such activities as landscaping, recreational or convention facilities in order to make itself more attractive for business development under a specific strategy or plan of action. No specific business is committed to expand or locate in the applicant's community. Maximum award is $500,000.

The Wyoming Business Council also administers **HUD Community Development Block Grant** funds. This program provides financing (up to $300,000 per project) for publicly owned infrastructure that serves the needs of businesses and promotes economic development within Wyoming communities. Cities, towns, counties, joint powers boards and both Tribes are eligible to apply for funding. Public infrastructure that is eligible for funding includes water; sewer; streets and roads; airports; rights of way; telecommunications; land; spec buildings; amenities within a business park, industrial park, industrial site or business district; landscaping, recreation and educational facilities; and other physical projects in support of primary economic and educational development.

- Community Development Grant Application
  Under the community development component of the program, public infrastructure includes projects such as water and sewer lines, streets, curb, gutter and storm drainage, and water supply and storage. Handicapped accessibility consists primarily of projects designed to make public buildings, such as town halls and county courthouses, accessible to the handicapped. Other eligible activities project examples are; community facilities such as senior centers, centers for developmentally disabled children and adults, medical and mental health clinics, and other facilities designed to assist special needs clientele.

- Infrastructure Grant Application
  The purpose of economic development infrastructure is to provide public improvements, such as the extension of roads and water and sewer lines, to sites for the benefit of a specific business.

Resource
For more information contact:
Shawn Reese, Business Ready Community Program Manager
Wyoming Business Council
307.777.2813 shawn.reese@wybusiness.org

or
Roger Bower, Regional Director
Wyoming Business Council
307 857 1155 roger.bower@wybusiness.org

One final source:
The **Office of State Lands and Investments, DEQ and Wyoming Water Development Office** can provide information on the following programs: Mineral Royalty Grants (MRG), Clean Water State Revolving Fund Loans (CWSRF), Drinking Water State Revolving Fund Loans (DWSRF), Joint Powers Act Loans (JPA), Transportation Enterprise Fund Account Grants (TEA), Abandoned Mine Lands Grants (AML) and Wyoming Water Development Grants/Loans (WWD).
http://slf-web.state.wy.us/grants.aspx

Human & Social Services

Daycare
Challenge
There is a lack of available daycare in the community which further compounds the workforce shortage issue.

Solution
The City of Rock Springs successfully applied for a Wyoming Business Council's Business Ready Communities Grant for daycare expansion. The YWCA of Sweetwater County committed to operating the facility that would be owned by the City of Rock Springs and would accommodate infants and toddlers. The City received $912,000 for the new building, which the YWCA will lease.

Resource
For more information contact:
Pat Robbins, Director
Sweetwater Economic Development Association
307 352 6874 parobbin@wyoming.com

I also wrote a successful Community Development Block Grant application for a new daycare in Wamsutter. They received $300,000 and a local industry funded the reset of the project. Both of these grants created new jobs and filled a critical community need.

Planning & Communication

Long-term comprehensive plan incorporating preservation of agriculture & open space
Challenge
The town does not have a long term plan for growth that is consistent with the county. Homes are being built in the outlying areas, and concern was expressed for the need to preserve the open space and agriculture heritage of the area.

Solution
Planning Only Grants (under the Wyoming Business Councils Community Development Block Grant program) are available to local governments and non-profit businesses to perform feasibility studies related to economic and community development. The Town of Star Valley Ranch used this funding source to write their community plan. The maximum award is $25,000.

Resource
For more information contact:
Molly Davies, Business Ready Community Program Manager
Wyoming Business Council
307.777.2811 molly.davies@wybusiness.org
or
Roger Bower, Regional Director
Wyoming Business Council
307 857 1155 roger.bower@wybusiness.org

Historical preservation & architectural review

Challenge

The town needs to find a way to preserve the historical integrity of the downtown and to make sure that any new construction is consistent with the local style and character.

Solution

The Wyoming Business Council's CBDG program has a Downtown Development Grant that targets assistance to the downtown areas. Generally, this includes assistance for public facilities, rehabilitation of commercial buildings, historic preservation, land acquisition, and site clearance. Maximum award is $300,000

Resource

For more information contact:
Molly Davies, Business Ready Community Program Manager
307.777.2811 molly.davies@wybusiness.org
or
Roger Bower, Regional Director
Wyoming Business Council
307 857 1155 roger.bower@wybusiness.org

Solution

Wyoming Main Street is dedicated to providing Wyoming communities with the opportunities to strengthen local pride and revitalize historic downtown districts by utilizing the Main Street Four Point Approach. Wyoming Main Street administers a Revolving Loan Fund that provides monies for business and/or property owners to renovate their buildings. The funds can be used for bricks-and-mortar construction costs and/or technical assistance and design of structural or façade renovations. The loans are at a low interest rate of 4%, payable over a maximum of fifteen (15) years. The maximum loan is one hundred thousand dollars ($100,000) per successful applicant.

Resource

For more information contact:
Wyoming Main Street Program
214 W 15th St.
Cheyenne, WY 82002
307.777.2934 or 307.777.6430
mary.randolph@wybusiness.org
evan.medley@wybusiness.org

Solution

The State Historic Preservation Office
The Wyoming State Historic Preservation Office's mandate is to promote the preservation of cultural resources and to explore all alternatives for their preservation.

Resource
For more information contact:
Wyoming State Historic Preservation Office
2301 Central Avenue
Barrett Building, Third Floor
Cheyenne, Wyoming 82002
Phone: 307-777-7697
Fax: 307-777-6421

Community foundation for coordination of non-profits and services
Challenge
While there are several groups in the community working on various projects, there is no communication and coordination on dates, resources, etc.
Solution
The first step would be to begin communicating with each other. I would suggest a monthly meeting. A no-host breakfast could allow everyone a chance at the table to discuss projects, dates of events, and concerns. This would help eliminate duplication of services and resources. The group could then move forward on an umbrella entity that could help coordinate further.

Lander Team Member Report

Bessie Rumery-Rico
USDA – Rural Development
508 N Broadway
Riverton, WY 82501
307-856-7524 Ext 133
307-856-2383 Fax
Bessie.rumery-rico@wy.usda.gov

Thank you for the opportunity to take part in the Lander Community Assessment. Being from the area, I am familiar with Lander and was pleased to hear the pride its citizens take in the community. I also learned a lot about Lander and the vision the citizens have for their town. I was impressed with the turn out of people in the listening sessions, twice as many as first assessment. This leads me to believe the community has a vested interest in this process. I hope the resources in these reports will help for the City of Lander to achieve their vision for the future.

QUALITY OF LIFE/COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

RECREATION CENTER/ART CENTER/RODEO GROUNDS

Challenge: Throughout the entire assessment, the need for a recreation center, art center, and new rodeo grounds were mentioned repeatedly. The community needs to evaluate the planned uses of a recreation center and/or art center, and new rodeos grounds and decide on a facility that will be big enough to serve the purpose but not so big that full utilization would be difficult. All citizens' needs and wants need to be included in planning of the building from the children to the senior citizens and everyone in between.

Solution: The community must be willing to tax themselves before they can see many of these projects come to fruition. The tax should be pursued so that adequate funding can be available to partner with other state and/or federal agencies to complete the project. Additional funding sources in conjunction with the capital facilities tax would minimize the amount of time the tax would be in affect. The passage of a one-percent sales tax could fund any of these types of project. However, the community may want to look at the following in order to pursue funding opportunities.

1. Form a Joint Powers Board between the City of Lander and the County of Fremont.
2. Form a Non Profit Organization. The City of Lander may want to spearhead the development of a non-profit or a for-profit organization to manage the needed programs and facilities.
3. The City of Lander could apply for loans and grants.

Resources: Rural Development Community Facility direct or guaranteed loan program could be utilized to construct Recreation Center, Art Center, or Rodeo Grounds. Contact Ann Stoeger - Area Director, Rural Development, 508 N. Broadway, Riverton, WY 82501, 307-856-7524 Ext. 4.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

AFFORDABLE HOUSING (DEVELOPMENT, WORKFORCE, AND RENTALS)

Challenge: One of challenges mentioned numerous times is the lack of affordable housing for all income levels. In almost every listening session this was brought up. This issue is not just affecting the low income families, but the middle income people as well as the seniors. Unfortunately all solutions are time consuming and will take planning.

Solution: USDA-Rural Development has several programs for this area as follows:

USDA Rural Developments Self-Help Housing Program. The programs main purpose is to reduce the cost of construction so that affording housing can be provided. Individual houses are built under supervision by a group of families who will live in the dwellings. In short, it is a group mutually helping each other with the guidance of a construction expert. The actual housing construction loan is made through Rural Developments 502 direct housing loan program. The applicants must be very low or low income to qualify and must repay a loan for the cash cost of the house. An estimated 60% of the labor is provided by the families to build the homes, which reduces the total cost of construction resulting in affordable housing. It begins with a Technical Assistance Grant for Self-Help Housing. Public bodies or public or private nonprofit corporations are eligible for the grant to hire the personnel to carry out a program of technical assistance for self-help housing, pay necessary and reasonable office and administrative expenses, make essential equipment, such as power tools available to families participating in self-help housing construction and to pay fees for training self-help group members in construction techniques. The Technical Assistance Grantee recruits and screens the applicants utilizing Rural Development guidelines.

USDA Rural Developments Section 515 Direct and 538 Guaranteed Loan Program: Loans for the construction of rental housing are available from USDA Rural Development under the Section 515 direct loan program and the 538 guaranteed loan program. The loan(s) are offered to for profit, and non-profit groups as well as individuals to construct low income rental housing. The loans provide living units for persons with very low, low and moderate incomes and can be designated as Family or Elderly. The loans are primarily made to build apartment style housing.
A needs survey would be necessary to outline what the need is, how many units are needed and whether there is a need for family versus elderly housing units. The funds are

available through a NOFA (Notification of Funding Availability).

USDA Rural Developments 502 Direct Loan Program: USDA/Rural Development also offers 502 direct home loans to qualified applicants to either purchase an existing home, construct a new home or to purchase a new manufactured home on a permanent foundation. The maximum loan for this program in Fremont County is currently $176,850. If perhaps there is a house within this price range, Rural Development could assist in the purchase of the home to a qualified applicant. The interest rate could be subsidized down to as low as 1% interest rate, which then make the payments more affordable. Maximum income limits apply as follows:

Fremont County, WY

1 PERSON	2 PERSON	3 PERSON	4 PERSON	5 PERSON	6 PERSON	7 PERSON	8 PERSON*
Very Low Income:							
21050	24050	27050	30050	32450	34850	37250	39650
Low Income:							
33650	38500	43300	48100	51950	55800	59650	63500

USDA Rural Developments Guaranteed Loan program: This program assists the low to moderate-income families in achieving their homeownership dream. The loans are originated and made by a bank and RD issues a 90% guarantee on the loan the bank makes. Unlike the typical conventional loans, this loan does not have Mortgage Insurance Premiums and there is no down payment requirement. The bank can loan 100% of the market value with this program and there is a one time 2% guarantee fee that can be rolled into the loan if the market value will support it. The best of all, there is no maximum loan limit; it is whatever the applicant qualifies for. Maximum Income limits apply depending on the size of the family, as follows:

Fremont County, WY

1 PERSON	2 PERSON	3 PERSON	4 PERSON	5 PERSON	6 PERSON	7 PERSON	8 PERSON*
MOD.INC GUAR.LOAN							
49550	56600	63700	70750	76400	82050	87750	93400

USDA Rural Developments Home Repair Program: Rural Developments 504 loan and grant program can assist very low-income applicants with a 1% loan to make repairs to the home they already own. If the applicant is 62 years old or older and does not show repayment for a loan, they may qualify for a grant up to $7,500 to make health and safety repairs to their homes such as a new heating system, windows, new roof, or accessibility features and much more.

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

Resource: The Fannie Mae Foundation provides grants that revitalize neighborhoods and create affordable home ownership across America. www.fannienaefoundation.org

Solution: In pursuit of its mission, the WCDA has helped more than 46,000 Wyoming families finance their first home and has housed over 110,000 Wyoming citizens since 1978. In addition to providing affordable mortgages for first-time homebuyers, the WCDA also provides down payment assistance, as well as many other housing programs and educational classes, to aid homebuyers.

Resource: Cheryl Gillum, Housing Programs Director for the WCDA, 155 North Beech, and Casper, WY 82601. Her phone number is 307-265-0603. www.wyomingcda.com

Solution: WCDA's Community Development Block Grant Housing Program provides grants for communities to expand housing opportunities for low and moderate income households (including developing new lots and improving exiting housing stock); to stabilize and upgrade housing in deteriorating neighborhoods (includes demolition of buildings not suitable for rehabilitation). The funds also provide for planning activities, but several stipulations apply.

Contact: Wyoming Community Development Association (WCDA), Gayle Brownlee, 155 N. Beech, P.O. Box 634 Casper, WY 8260 307-265-0603 Fax: 266-5414. http://www.wyomingcda.com/ the application deadline is Mid-May and the NOFA has been issued.

WORKFORCE

Challenge: Throughout the listening sessions it was mentioned several times about the lack of trained workforce. Not having the ability to retain work force for higher wages was also a reoccurring theme.

Solution: I would recommend that you contact the Department of Workforce Services office in Riverton for assistance and guidance on recruiting employees. Department of Workforce Services is committed on delivering comprehensive and effective services that build a workforce to meet the changing demands of Wyoming's diverse workforce and economy.

Contact: Department of Workforce Services, Burl Geis, 422 E. Fremont Ave. Riverton, WY 82501, 856-9231.

Contact: Fremont County BOCES http://www.fcboces.org/default.asp

DIVERSIFY AND SHIFT FROM A COMMODITY TO A VALUE ADDED ECONOMY

Challenge: It was stated in the listening sessions that the products produced in the community are shipped out and the community is not self sufficient. People would like to see a value added approach.

Solution: USDA Rural Development can assist by the value-added producer grants (VAPG) program is designed to assist farmers and ranchers, agricultural producer groups, farmer and rancher cooperatives, and majority-controlled producer-based business ventures develop businesses that produce and market value added products. Rural Cooperative Development Grants (RCDG) are made for establishing and operating centers for cooperative development for the primary purpose of improving the economic condition of rural areas through the development of new cooperatives and improving operations of existing cooperatives. The U.S. Department of Agriculture desires to encourage and stimulate the development of effective cooperative organizations in rural America as part of its total package of rural development efforts.

Contact: Jerry Tamlin, USDA Rural Development, 100 East B St. Room 1005 Casper, WY 82601, 307-233-6700 http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/rbs/

INFRASTRUCTURE

WATER/SEWER/STREETS/SIDEWALKS/PARKING

Challenge: The concerns over infrastructure from replacing aging sewer lines and roads to lack of sidewalks were overwhelming in all listening sessions. The issue of water from quality to lack of is a continuing issue. Future concerns on growth of the town and being able to accommodate growth.

Solution: Develop a Comprehensive Master Plan for the community and surrounding area. The community must be willing to tax themselves so that adequate funding can be available to partner with other state and /or federal agencies to complete projects. The passage of a one-percent sales tax could fund any types of these projects.

Resources: Rural Development Community Facility direct or guaranteed loan program could be utilized. Contact Ann Stoeger – Area Director, Rural Development, 508 N Broadway, Riverton, WY 82501, 307-856-75254 ext 4.

HUMAN & SOCIAL SERVICES

DAYCARE

Challenge: Daycare and the lack of availability and lack of growth was a concern for many of the young families. Preschools are a concern with growth in the community.

Resources: Rural Development Community Facility direct or guaranteed loan program could be utilized. Contact Ann Stoeger – Area Director, Rural Development, 508 N Broadway, Riverton, WY 82501, 307-856-75254 ext 4.

SUBSTANCE ABUSE

Challenge: Lack of ability to treat in this area was a growing concern. This is an ongoing issue through out the county, the lack of treatment facilities for drug and alcohol abuse. If treatment options were more readily available in the area, perhaps more people would seek treatment.

Solution: 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.

Resource: 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.

Resource: Additional funding may be available through Private foundations which can be found on the Internet at the Foundation Center. Their web site is www.fdncenter.org

PLANNING & COMMUNICATION

LONG TERM COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

Challenge: A variety of issues were brought to light in the listening sessions from: Outdated plan to no plan, no plan for growth, no planning or zoning regulations, no architectural standards for main street, and no planning with the county. As Lander changes it is vital that the community becomes proactive instead of reactive to keep the atmosphere of the community.

Solution: 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 Riverton

- ✓ Open space preservation
- ✓ Future annexation of county land

The cost of developing such a plan for a community the size of Lander would likely cost approximately $50,000, give or take, but would go a long way I addressing economic development and community development.

Resources: USDA Rural Development 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. Eligible applicants are public body, non profit corporation, Indian tribe, or cooperative with members that are primarily rural residents.

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

Lander Team Member Report

Dane Graham
Central Wyoming College
2660 Peck Ave., Riverton, WY 82501
307.855.2250
dgraham@cwc.edu

Introduction: A community assessment is fundamental in discovering and understanding a community's needs. It can also create a sense of community identity, establish why it exists, determine its strengths and weaknesses, and uncover hidden assets and opportunities. It provides a plan for action and can stimulate public participation in establishing a community's vision.

As a member of the Wyoming Rural Development Council's Resource Team that conducted the assessment, I would like to thank the community of Lander for allowing me the opportunity to take an in-depth look at the perceived current state of the city. I enjoyed the listening sessions and getting to know the many wonderful people who call Lander "home." It was clearly evident that from the city's diverse populations, there is a distinct sense of community. Many participants find Lander to be safe, a good place to raise a family and vibrant with many volunteer groups and associations; it's a place where one can make a meaningful impact on the quality of life. Not all communities in Wyoming have that same passion and pride about where they live. It's truly an aspect the residents of Lander recognize and embrace.

A special "thank you" goes to Gary Michaud, Lander's community resource coordinator, members of the City staff and Chamber of Commerce for making all the preliminary arrangements from scheduling to advertising, meals, and facility usage. Many other City and community members also played a role in providing us information and making us feel welcome.

Now that the assessment report has been presented, the most important part of the process needs to be initiated. A concerted effort by the community needs to take place to address the identified challenges and to capitalize on new and existing assets. Without proper community action the assessment will act merely as an informative report. The WRDC can act as a further resource and assist you, should you have any questions.

Again, I'd like to express my gratitude to the community of Lander for the hard work and hospitality shown to me and my Resource Team colleagues. Good luck as you progress in addressing your needs and enhancing your quality of life in rural Wyoming.

Theme: Quality of Life / Community Development

Challenge: The "sense of community" was very apparent throughout all the listening sessions. Residents are proud to live in Lander and weren't afraid to discuss why. From outdoor recreation such as biking, hiking, fishing and walking to the visual and performing arts, the city offers a multitude of personally enriching activities. The community has a strong volunteer base and several non-profit groups and associations that take hold of ideas and through public action, brings to fruition meaningful projects such as the City Park project.

There was deep concern expressed, however, concerning the lack of contiguous sidewalks and paths. Many participants felt that sidewalks provide them safety as they walk, run, or bike. However, in Lander, it is very common for a sidewalk to suddenly end and expose pedestrians to on-coming traffic. The poor condition of some of the sidewalks was also brought to light.

Solution: Since this subject was repeated several times throughout the listening sessions, it would be beneficial for both the City and volunteer groups to get together to find some common ground and solutions for the most traveled and dangerous sidewalk stretches. The City of Riverton was successful in procuring federal dollars to fund an identified stretch of sidewalk through a national partnership program called "Safe Routes to School" administered through the Wyoming Department of Transportation. This would be a step in the right direction.

Resource:

Wyoming DOT SRTS Coordinator, Sara Janes, 5300 Bishop Blvd., Cheyenne, WY 82009, (307) 777-3938, sara.janes@dot.state.wy.us

Theme: Economic Development

Challenges: Like many Wyoming communities during this strong economy, Lander is struggling with workforce development, affordable housing, a downtown main street that needs revitalizing, and would like something to attract tourists to stay and spend money in the community.

Solutions: Economic development isn't just about creating a workforce and constructing buildings, it's a long-term visioning process that determines the community's direction. Lander has a strong economic development organization - LEADER, Lander Enterprises and Development of Economic Resources. This group has a positive influence and is where progress can be made. Riverton's economic development organization, IDEA, Inc., has experienced

success; the outdoor equipment company Brunton located its headquarters in the CWC Business Park. This reputable company has provided many jobs to the Riverton community. It would not have been possible, however, without the assistance and cooperation of Riverton City officials, Central Wyoming College, the CWC Foundation and many other volunteers and organizations. It was in essence, a community effort.

Lander has some good economic development projects already in the works. The Tiger Joint Powers Board (Tiger Board) has created a 17-acre business park and received $451,140 in the form of a Community Readiness grant from the Wyoming Business Council for infrastructure extensions. Two good anchor tenants have been secured – a Holiday Inn and a local credit union. This should attract new businesses to that area. I caution you, however, that if downtown businesses migrate to the business park, it's vital to have another entity occupy the vacated space, as this could create an image problem of a dying "downtown."

A state organization that may be of some help is the Wyoming Business Alliance whose mission includes "the belief that a strong economy is the key to job creation, educational opportunities, recreation, quality of life and a means to provide a higher standard of living for all."

Regarding affordable housing, there is currently a new subdivision being developed north of the county jail consisting of 50 single and multi-family units. Another 80-unit subdivision is currently going through the planning and approval process and should be completed within the next 5-10 years. Lander needs to work with County officials to address zoning/subdivision issues to facilitate more housing developments to accommodate the current workforce, entice people to stay, and to attract newcomers. It was mentioned in some listening sessions that a full-time school teacher making an annual wage in the mid-40's could not afford to live there. That is certainly problematic for sustained city growth.

Many listening session participants spoke about the need to develop an attraction to keep tourists in Lander instead of just traveling through the city on their way to other destinations. My first recommendation is to assist the Wind River Visitor Council in going to the voters to increase the current lodging tax of 2% to 4% that most Wyoming counties assess. This would give the needed revenues to the WRVC to utilize in the development of targeted tourism campaigns and to address many current needs.

Some assets of Lander and the surrounding area that could be used to keep tourists in town are the new Pioneer Museum, the Shoshone Rose Casino, South Pass City, and Martin's Cove/Rockcreek.

It would be nice to have special "western" packages marketed that include a visit to the Pioneer Museum and an experience in South Pass City/Atlantic. Having historically astute guides would

be an added plus. I have lived in Europe and know there is interest among foreigners and Americans in this type of vacation package. Another market to examine is the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. Literally, thousands of its members from neighboring Utah flock on an annual basis to Martin's Cove and Rockcreek to relive the pioneer experience of their ancestors. If this demographic could be targeted and accommodated, it would be a summer boon to Lander's economy.

Another recommendation to increase tourism is to partner with the Shoshone Rose Casino in developing vacation packages with local hotels and downtown merchants. Many other casinos around the country offer bus trips and flights to bring in the masses. If downtown merchants could work together with the casino and form some sort of a rewards program, i.e. discounts and free merchandise, it could stimulate the downtown area.

Resources:

IDEA, Inc. & Riverton Economic & Community Development Association, Alan Moore. 205 South Broadway, Riverton, WY 82501, (307) 856-9214, Email: clmoore@wyoming.com

Wyoming Business Council, Roger Bower, Regional Director, 213 West Main, Ste B, Riverton, WY 82501, (307) 857-1155, roger.bower@wybusiness.org

Wyoming Business Council, Diane Shober, Director, Travel & Tourism, 214 W. 15th St, Cheyenne, WY 82002 , (307) 777-2808, E-mail: diane.shober@visitwyo.gov

Wyoming Business Alliance (WBA), Bill Shilling, Exec. Director, 145 S. Durbin Ste 101, Casper, WY 82601. (307) 577-8000 E-mail: wba@trib.com

Shoshone Rose, Anthony Mele, General Manager, Highway 287, Ft Washakie, WY 82514, (307) 335-7529. E-mail: tsmele@msn.com

Theme: Educational Opportunities

Challenges: In many of the listening sessions it was revealed that Lander is rich in educational opportunities. Many institutions such as the National Outdoor Leadership School, Central Wyoming College, University of Wyoming and the new Catholic College have a presence in Lander to complement a respected K-12 system. There are, however, too many unfilled lower-paying jobs and not enough professional employment opportunities to retain young adults or attract newcomers. There were also several comments made about high drop-out rates at the high school and a lack of work ethic among today's youth.

Solutions: When addressing such broad-based issues, I recommend examining the current educational/recreational opportunities provided to the city's youth outside of the traditional high school curriculum that give them constructive and engaging activities that build self esteem and instill team work and a strong work ethic. Having such offerings outside of the classroom would also help address the high drop-out rate, alleviate such problems as hanging out in parking lots, alcohol/drug abuse and teenage pregnancy.

Some programs City and community leaders can examine are the Gear Up and Educational Talent Search programs offered in Lander through Central Wyoming College. The mission of these two programs is "To have a marked impact on preparing students to pursue and exceed in post-secondary education through partnering with schools, communities, students, and parents. To prepare students to be successful in and getting an education past high school by providing tutoring and college prep activities."

Lander High School is currently doing a good job at utilizing dual enrollment opportunities with CWC that provides a wider range of course options and motivates students to take their studies more seriously - all while earning high school and college credits.

During the high school listening session many students reinforced the notion that it can be very "boring" in Lander and desired more fun and interesting activities. Suggestions ranged from a having a café/restaurant open past 9 p.m. to act as a teenage hang-out to having a mini-NOLS for kids and teens.

To build a more skilled workforce for both blue and white-collar jobs, business leaders should examine where specific needs of the industry lie and contact the CWC office of customized training. Its staff tailors programs for businesses from customer service training to building leadership skills. These training courses can be offered on site.

To help fund such programming, the Wyoming Department of Workforce Services has created the Workforce Development Training Fund. It provides grants for businesses to conduct such training for their employees. As business and community leaders go about developing skill training and services, it's important to maintain open communication to avoid what many Lander community members consider a "duplication of services" for both the for-profit and not-for-profit sectors.

Resources:

Central Wyoming College, Kristy Salisbury, Director of Talent Search
Office: CWC Main Campus - PROF/TECH CENTER 124
2660 Peck Ave, Riverton, WY 82501, (307) 855-2246

Central Wyoming College, Tami Shultz, Director Wyoming Gear Up Project
Office: CWC Main Campus - PROF/TECH CENTER 110
2660 Peck Ave., Riverton, WY 82501, (307) 855-2033

Central Wyoming College, Jackie Meeker, BOCHES Program Coordinator
Office: CWC Main Campus - PROF/TECH CENTER 149, 2660 Peck Ave.. Riverton, WY 82501

Central Wyoming College, Lynne McAuliffe, Assistant Dean for Workforce and Community Education. Workforce & Community Education, Office: CWC Main Campus - PROF/TECH CENTER 141, 2660 Peck Ave., Riverton, WY 82501, (307) 855-2206

Wyoming Business Council, Roger Bower, Regional Director , 213 West Main, Suite B , Riverton, WY 82501, (307) 857-1155, roger.bower@wybusiness.org

Theme: Infrastructure

Challenges: The City of Lander is in great need of enhancing its infrastructure. Many comments were shared about the inadequacy of the sewer system, water flow and quality, sidewalks and parking. Concern was also expressed about the current public transportation system.

Solutions: To properly address these types of issues, adequate financial resources must be secured. There was much support demonstrated by the community during the 18 listening sessions for a county-wide 1¢ optional sales tax for general revenue purposes. To my knowledge, many other counties in Wyoming have passed this tax and are reaping the benefits. I would recommend the City collaborate with the public and form a task force to fully investigate the feasibility of passing this tax. It would alleviate many of the City's current budget shortfalls. Another area to investigate for funding would be a Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), through the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development and the Wyoming Business Council. These grants can fund "local community development activities such as affordable housing, anti-poverty programs, and infrastructure development. CDBG, like other block grant programs, differ from categorical grants, made for specific purposes, in that they are subject to less federal oversight and are largely used at the discretion of the state and local governments and their sub-grantees."

Also, the USDA has Rural Development programs that can be used to "pave streets, install sidewalks, curb and gutter and establish downtown parking areas helping to maintain the town's appearance and accessibility."

Water was a topic of discussion. Concern was expressed about the minimal water flow of the Popo Aggie River during high irrigation months that is causing river water in the downtown area to become stagnant and a health hazard. Water conservation should be considered a priority. Many towns have imposed water restrictions to help remedy their situations. The Natural Resource Conservation Service could be of assistance in this area. Some solutions that would require financing would be a creation of a high elevation reservoir for water storage and ensuring all irrigation canals are properly lined to reduce seepage and leakage. The City's water treatment plant up Sinks Canyon is a step in the right direction.

Resources:

Wyoming Business Council/HUD Funding, Shawn Reese, IRC Director, Business Ready Community Grant & Loan Program, 214 W. 15th St., Cheyenne, WY 82002, Tel: 307.777.2813, E-mail: shawn.reese@wybusiness.org

Natural Resource Conservation Service, D. Lee Hackleman, Hydrology, NRCS State Office Staff, P.O. Box 33124, Casper, Wyoming 82602, www.wy.nrcs.usda.gov, Tel: (307) 233-6744,

USDA - Rural Development, Bessie Rumery-Rico, Rural Development Area Specialist, 508 North Broadway, Riverton, WY 82501, Tel: (307) 856-7524, bessie.rumery-rico@wy.usda.gov

Theme: Human & Social Services

Challenges: Lander is experiencing the same issues regarding daycare as the rest of Wyoming. Due to the high cost of living, many families must resort to having both parents in the workforce. For private daycare providers it's a struggle to succeed due to high labor expenses dictated by high staff/child ratios mandated by the government. The main challenge is how to take that next step in building linkages between economic development and child care policy.

In regard to healthcare, overall, participants felt Lander's status has been greatly improved over the past five years, but residents would like to see services expanded so they don't have to drive to Casper.

Solutions: IDEA, Inc. in coordination with the Wyoming Business Council, the City of Riverton, CWC and other entities, came very close to constructing a daycare facility in the CWC Business Park as a partnership with a local auto repair/gas company. This project received state funding and was well thought out, but didn't materialize due to higher-than-expected costs. For Lander to make progress, City and community leaders must understand the intricacies of the child care market. It is a special market sector like private education, in that it serves both private and public needs. I would recommend examining what other rural cities have done and are doing

to address this complicated need. Training funds for childcare providers are available through Wyoming's Department of Workforce Services.

Expanding health care services to alleviate the drive to Casper and other larger metropolitan cities would be convenient for local residents, but due to the low number of patients who would be served in Lander, it would not be cost effective for health care providers. Lander Regional Hospital is owned by LifePoint, a for-profit company focusing on non-urban health care. Although all the "wanted" services aren't currently feasible, LifePoint has been making an investment in improving its facilities, here and in Riverton. Both hospitals are continually striving to recruit new physicians and nurses, but due to the housing market and other rural-related issues, find this task to be challenging. There was discussion in various listening sessions that there is a lack of doctors and nurses with geriatric backgrounds and certifications. Lander Regional Hospital is aware of this and is trying to remedy the situation.

Resources:

IDEA, Inc. & Riverton Economic & Community Development Association, Alan Moore, 205 South Broadway, Riverton, WY 82501, (307) 856-9214, Email: clmoore@wyoming.com

Wyoming Business Council, Roger Bower, Regional Director , 213 West Main, Ste B, Riverton, WY 82501, (307) 857-1155, roger.bower@wybusiness.org

Wyoming Department of Workforce Services, Burl Gies, Manage, 422 E. Fremont, P.O. Box 1610, Riverton, WY 82501, (307) 856-9231, E-mail: bgies@state.wy.us

Theme: Planning & Communication

Challenges: It was revealed that many residents would like to see a long-term comprehensive plan incorporating the preservation of agriculture and open space, as well as plans that address transportation and zoning. Historical preservation and the establishment of a City architectural review were mentioned as well. Citizens displayed concern about current relations the City of Lander has with the County and how this is affecting the City and the services it provides. Also, a lack of coordination between the City and the many non-profit and volunteer organizations was apparent as many residents feel uninformed and see a duplication of services.

Solutions: The University of Wyoming's Cooperative Extension Service is a valuable resource. Its team of highly-skilled and knowledgeable professors and professionals can assist the City in addressing many of these issues.

To tackle the zoning and planning issues, the City of Lander currently has a planner position imbedded in the current budget proposal that will be voted on by the City Council. Starting July 1, 2008, this new planner could start to work with community groups to examine aspects such as historical preservation and architectural reviews for Downtown Main Street as part of his/her job duties, and make recommendations to City officials for the establishment of new ordinances.

It was very clear that fences need to be mended between the City of Lander and the County Commission. This is an issue that involves open communication as well as finding common ground in resolving matters. Working together is in the best interest of all Fremont County communities.

Regarding the coordination of non-profit activities with the City and community, I would first recommend more involvement with the local Chamber of Commerce. Second, I would suggest the creation of a community activities coordinator who would work directly with the City and non-profit groups in calendaring, advertising/promotion, event planning, and grant writing. This could be part of a new Lander Community Foundation. To fund this position, the City and non-profits could examine many grant opportunities. I would suggest running the health and retirement benefits through the City as to attract a well-qualified candidate pool.

Resources:

University of Wyoming Cooperative Extension Service, Barton Stam, Range Management, Hot Springs County Extension Office, 28 Arapahoe, Thermopolis, WY 82443, (307) 864-3421. brstam@uwyo.edu

Lander Chamber of Commerce, Scott Goetz, Executive Director, 160 N. First Street, Lander, WY 82520, (307) 332-3892, E-mail: director@landerchamber.org

Lander Community Assessment – 5-Year Follow Up

Stacey McKenna
Needs, Inc./Laramie County Community Partnership
Phone: 307.632.4132
Fax: 307.634.7147
Email: smckenna.lccp.needs@gmail.com

Working as a member of the Community Assessment Team on Lander's 5-year follow-up was quite a privilege. Community turnout for listening sessions was an impressive representation of community members' commitments to the City of Lander and the surrounding county. Over a course of three days and 18 listening sessions we heard the perceptions of nearly 275 residents regarding Lander's greatest strengths and weaknesses, as well as your dreams for the community. Listening to the comments, this writer was struck by the pride, investment in, and general love for Lander that was expressed. Though this assessment is intended to focus on helping direct communities toward solutions to their identified *weaknesses*, it is clear that, overall, residents of Lander want to improve their community but want to do so by building on its strengths and preserving its unique, small-town feel.

This report is intended to provide an overview of the weaknesses/needs in Lander that the Community Assessment Team heard repeatedly during the listening sessions, and to provide information and resources to help the residents of Lander and the surrounding community develop an effective plan to address these needs. The major themes identified during the assessment process include:

- Quality of Life/Community Development
- Economic Development
- Educational Opportunities
- Infrastructure
- Human & Social Services
- Planning & Communication

Quality of Life/Community Development

Within the theme of Quality of Life/Community Development, the Community Assessment Team heard a variety of potential solutions, or things that community members said they would like to see come to Lander. Those items we heard repeatedly include: a recreation center; the

expansion and completion of pathways, bike paths, walkways, and a river walk throughout Lander; an arts center; a quality rodeo/equestrian/winter fair facility; a teen café; a system of community gardens; and improved leadership development.

- The need for completion and expansion of pathways, bike paths, walkways, and river walk was expressed repeatedly during listening sessions. Issues associated with this need included concern for safety crossing the major streets running through the center of downtown and lack of safe bicycle pathways in town or along the streets. Many community members expressed a desire to be a town that offers or facilitates alternative forms of transportation to the car. One of the major ways of doing this is to ensure that pedestrians and bikers are able to safely get around in and around town. Some resources for this pathway expansion:
    - The Lander Area Pathway System is a project that is well in the works, and is what most community members indicated a desire to see completed. To get a better idea of the current progress relative to drafted plans for this project, or to review and comment on current plans, contact:

      City of Lander
      LAPS
      240 Lincoln St.
      Lander, WY 82520
      http://www.landerwyoming.org/parks.html
    - The City of Ft. Collins, CO has an excellent, well-planned system of paths, trails, and bike lanes that meander through the town itself and connect with the foothills. The paths and trails are continually being expanded to connect and offer a more comprehensive system for residents. As it is, the system provides lovely trails, river walkways, and biking paths for recreation as well as commuting, and many of the trails are designed so pedestrians and bikers do not need to cross any streets. For further information on the planning process, contact:

      Jackie Darner
      City of Fort Collins
      Park Planning
      215 N. Mason St.
      Fort Collins, CO 80521
      http://www.ci.fort-collins.co.us/parks/trails.php
    - The Wyoming Department of Transportation, through the Federal Highway Administration, has initiated a Bicycle and Pedestrian Program in order to "improve the safety, accessibility and promote the use of non-motorized transportation modes within the Wyoming transportation system." This

program reviews existing WYDOT projects for their accommodation of bicyclists and pedestrians and assists communities with planning for non-motorized transportation facilities.

WDOT Bicycle and Pedestrian Program
Local Government Coordinator
307.777.4384

Economic Development

The issues associated with economic development were clearly complicated and intertwined, involving issues associated with a desire for further development of local tourism industry, a need for affordable housing, a desire to retain and revitalize Main Street, lack of a trained workforce, and a need for the diversification of the current economy.

- Lack of affordable housing is an issue faced in many communities, particularly housing that is suitable for recruitment and retention purposes. In Lander, an issue that arose repeatedly was a need for both affordable purchase properties and affordable rental properties that are acceptable to young families. One young teacher noted that although she and her partner make a reasonable living, they cannot yet afford to purchase a home in Lander, but there simply are not adequate rental opportunities. Some organizations that deal with this issue include:
    - The Cheyenne Housing Authority provides various forms of housing assistance, helping link individuals in need with affordable housing resources, including administering a Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher program. The contact person for Section 8 intake in Fremont County is:

      Brenda Scott
      Lander Senior Services
      205 S. 10th
      Lander, WY 82520
      307.332.0322
- One issue facing much of Wyoming is the lack of a trained workforce. There are a variety of programs and agencies that deal with issues associated with workforce training and recruitment for different fields.
    - CLIMB Wyoming works specifically with single mothers living in or near poverty, offering intensive training, mentoring-type opportunities, and employment resources to women in order to help them (1) obtain well-paying, skilled jobs and (2) fill much needed employment opportunities in skilled industries from

medical professions to the oil fields throughout the state. There is currently not an office in Fremont County, but contact the organization for more information:

CLIMB Wyoming
615 S. David
Casper, WY 82601
307.237.2855
www.climbwyoming.org

- The Wyoming Department of Workforce Services has a variety of Workforce Development Grants. These grants offer supplemental funding to employers to help improve the skills of existing workers, help train and prepare for new positions, help with pre-hire funding for more general workforce development, and can assist with relocation and/or expansion projects. Contacts:

  Business Training Grants: Laurie Timm 307.777.8616
  Pre-Hire Economic Development Grants: Margo LaHiff 307.777.5396
  Pre-Obligation of WDTF Funding: Laurie Timm 307.777.8616

- Central Wyoming College's department of Workforce Development and Training offers a tailored curriculum according to business' needs.

  Central Wyoming College
  Lynne McAuliffe
  307.855.2206

Educational Opportunities

Lander's community members expressed what could be described as mixed feelings about the educational opportunities available. Most people, including many of the high school students we spoke with, believe that the Lander school system is excellent overall. However, there was also concern regarding a lack of unique or diverse educational opportunities such as alternative schools. In spite of this, many community members expressed a desire for Lander to become an "education center" for Wyoming, through the build-out of the Catholic College, increased vocational tech training and certification including in high school, adult education, expanded CWC services, and charter and alternative schools.

- The need for increased vocational tech training and certification ties in to three major issues: first, it relates to a need for a skilled workforce; secondly, it points to the fact that most of Lander's community members we spoke to expressed a belief that students should be able to pursue their strengths (i.e., not always university education); and thirdly, many of the jobs that could be available in Lander – to keep young people in town – require vocational skills and training.

- CLIMB Wyoming offers vocational training opportunities to single mothers, but they do not yet have a presence in Fremont County. This could serve as a potential expansion opportunity to benefit the organization as well as the community.

  CLIMB Wyoming
  615 S. David
  Casper, WY 82601
  307.237.2855
  www.climbwyoming.org

- The Buckeye Career Center in Ohio collaborates and coordinates with high schools and institutions of higher education to help both youth and adults develop relevant and useful skills including: vocational skills, academic skills, and even culinary skills. This organization works with existing organizations and schools to bring their expertise to businesses and into high schools. Wyoming has a variety of schools offering vocational and professional training that may not be accessible in Lander. However, this may provide a guideline for the development of active partnerships between the local high school existing colleges such as CWC or the Catholic College, and looking at more professional/vocational schools throughout Wyoming such as IBMC.

  Buckeye Career Center
  545 University Dr. NE
  New Philadelphia, OH 44663
  330.339.2288; 800.227.1665
  http://web.bjvs.k12.oh.us/startup/skills.htm

  Central Wyoming College (CWC)
  427 Main
  Lander, WY 82520
  http://www.cwc.edu/Prospective-Students/Programs-of-Study.htm

  Institute of Business and Medical Careers
  3425 Dell Range Blvd.
  Cheyenne, WY 82009
  307.433.8363
  http://www.ibmc.edu/index.asp

Human and Social Services

The need for expanded and improved human and social services is a theme that arose repeatedly. This included a lack of daycare, a need for expanded and affordable health care, the need to address poverty in the community, and the need to address substance abuse in the community.

- Expanded and affordable health care is a problem for many communities across the country. Within this category, Lander community members brought up two particularly relevant issues in Lander: a need for more geriatric healthcare opportunities, and a need for more affordable/accessible healthcare in general.
    - The Laramie County Community Partnership Health Access and Quality Assurance Team has spent the past several years working to fill gaps in Cheyenne/Laramie County's current healthcare systems. They have been behind the development of Cheyenne's Centralized Pharmacy and members of the team represent local community clinics that offer services at no charge or on a sliding scale basis to individuals based on economic need and gaps in insurance.

        LCCP-HAQAT
        Rhonda Priest (Chair)
        307.638.6842
    - Cheyenne Community Clinic offers services free of charge to low-income individuals as well as the uninsured and the underinsured. They are largely funded through local/community resources.

        Cheyenne Community Clinic
        Rhonda Priest
        3100 Henderson Way
        Cheyenne, WY 82001
        307.638.6842
    - Cheyenne Health and Wellness Center is a federally funded sliding-scale clinic.

        Cheyenne Health and Wellness Center
        2508 E. Fox Farm Rd., #1A
        Cheyenne, WY 82007
        307.635.3618
    - Laramie County Community College offers reduced dental care – including cleanings and x-rays – through their dental hygienist training program from August through May.

        LCCC Dental Health
        307.778.1141

- During many of the listening sessions, a number of individuals noted that the issue of poverty in Fremont County, both on and off the Wind River Indian Reservation as well as in Lander itself, is often overlooked. There are a couple of resources currently available including the Food Bank and the One-Stop center. Further informational and funding resources are below.
    - Needs, Inc. is a multiservice agency in Cheyenne serving Laramie County residents in need on a short-term basis. The organization serves as a food pantry as well as offering case management and agency referrals. They have sustainable funding through the City & County as well as United Way and are currently in the process of setting up their first annual fundraising event "Dine for Hunger" in partnership with local businesses and restaurants.

        Needs, Inc.
        Ami Skeens
        900 Central Ave.
        Cheyenne, WY 82007
        307.632.4132
        www.needsinc.org
    - The Laramie County Community Partnership is a collaborative community organization that addresses poverty from multiple perspectives.

        LCCP
        Alfrieda Gonzales (Executive Director)
        307.631.6850
    - Wyoming Food Bank of the Rockies provides food at reduced costs to local food pantry members. They are also hosting their Eat Out to End Hunger event throughout Wyoming, including in Lander. For more information on this organization and on poverty/hunger in the United States, contact:

        Wyoming Food Bank of the Rockies
        Diane DeLozier
        4976 Paige St.
        Mills, WY 82644
        307.265.2172; 877.265.2172
        ddelozier@foodbankrockies.org
    - AmeriCorps USA offers a variety of work grants and resources to community organizations as well as information and opportunities directed at fighting poverty throughout the United States.

        AmeriCorps
        1201 New York Ave., NW
        Washington, DC 20525
        202.606.5000
        questions@americorps.org , www.americorps.gov

- Another human and social services issue that was repeatedly brought to the Community Assessment Team's attention was substance abuse. Concerns related to both youth substance abuse and a lack of resources for both treatment and prevention.
    - The Wyoming Department of Health Substance Abuse Division, through its Strategic Planning Framework-State Incentive Grant, is working to release Alcohol and Tobacco prevention campaigns beginning this spring and running through the summer at the minimum. The campaigns are running on the common theme of "Where do you draw the line?" and include both traditional media as well as non-traditional efforts. Beyond this, the Substance Abuse Division offers a variety of funding opportunities for prevention programs throughout the state.

        The Line Campaign
        http://wedrawtheline.wordpress.com/

        Wyoming Department of Health
        Substance Abuse Division
        6101 Yellowstone Rd., Ste. 220
        Cheyenne, WY 82002
        800.535.4006
        http://www.health.wyo.gov/mhsa/grants/grantsindex.html
    - The Office on National Drug Control Policy also offers a variety of resources through the Drug Free Communities program. These grants focus on the notion that "local problems need local solutions."

        Drug Free Communities
        http://www.ondcp.gov/dfc/potentialgrantees.html
    - The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration offers a variety of resources including grant opportunities, a program clearinghouse and review, and statistical information.

        SAMHSA
        http://samhsa.gov/index.aspx

Lander Team Member Report

Mike Lambert
Wyoming Market Research Center
Dept. 3922, 1000 E. University Ave.
Laramie, WY 82071
(307) 766-2688
mikelamb@uwyo.edu

Introduction:

I want to thank the people of Lander who welcomed a bunch of strangers into their town and were so passionate about it that they spent time out of their busy lives to come and tell about a unique and vibrant community. The honesty and the love for your community came through. The fact that the number of people participating in this process nearly tripled from the first assessment speaks volumes about the commitment and love the people of Lander have for your community.

I also would like to recognize the strides that your community has made since the first Community Assessment five years ago. At that time, economic development was not being actively pursued, there were a large number of complaints about the hospital, the lack of activities for youth, concerns about the quality of the water system, a need for improved museum facilities, concern about substance abuse, teen pregnancy, and lack of service at local businesses. Most of these concerns did not really show up in this assessment. The City of Lander can be proud as a community about the strides you have made to make this one of the most diverse, eclectic and enjoyable communities in the state.

It appears to me that now the focus in your community is on how to maintain a quality of life that is unique and highly desirable, manage growth appropriately and adding to the wealth of community and cultural resources that already exists in order to make Lander even more attractive to current and future residents.

A number of themes were developed by the community in the assessment process. My comments below are intended to help provide some resources and ideas for approaching a selected number of the themes.

Quality of Life / Community Development

- **Recreation Center**
- **Pathways, bike paths, walk ways, river walk**
- **Art Center**
- **Rodeo / Equestrian/ Winter Fair facility**
- **Teen café**
- **Community garden system**

A key resource for Wyoming communities for developing quality of life issues like those listed above is the various grant programs administered by the Wyoming Business Council. These include:

- Business Ready Community (BRC)
  This program provides financing for publicly owned infrastructure that serves the needs of businesses and promotes economic development within Wyoming communities. Cities, towns, counties, joint powers boards and both Tribes are eligible to apply for funding. Public infrastructure that is eligible for funding includes water; sewer; streets and roads; airports; rights of way; telecommunications; land; spec buildings; amenities within a business park, industrial park, industrial site or business district; landscaping, recreation and educational facilities; and other physical projects in support of primary economic and educational development.
  Contact Shawn Reese, IRC Director, Business Ready Community Grant & Loan Program, 307.777.2813

- Community Development Block Grant (CBDG) Program. There are three types of projects funded.

  - Community Development - Has three funding categories: Public Infrastructure Grants, Access for the Disabled Grants, Community Facilities Grants.
    Contact Susan Flobeck, Economic Development Program Manager at 307.777.2821.

  - Economic Development - Has eight grant categories with most grants requiring job creation: Infrastructure Grants, Job Training Grants, Planning Only Grants, Technical Assistance Grants, Downtown Development Grants, Convertible Loans, Float Loans and Section 108 Loans.

Contact Julie Kozlowski, Economic Development Program Manager at 307.777.2812.

- Housing Development - Is administered by the Wyoming Community Development Authority (WCDA) and generally used for housing rehabilitation and housing infrastructure development.

  Visit www.wyomingcda.com or call 307.265.0603.

- **Leadership development**

  There are leadership development programs available on a state-wide basis that may prove helpful. These are:

  - Leadership Wyoming. This state-wide program's mission is "to provide leaders who are committed to excellence and progress in Wyoming the opportunity to better understand general public policy issues, economic and social diversity and the challenges facing our state; and to prepare them, through shared mutual interests and the leadership skills developed, to be active in building a better Wyoming."

    Leadership Wyoming
    145 South Durbin, Suite 101
    Casper, WY 82601
    Telephone: 307-577-8000
    Fax: 307-577-8003
    Email: wylw@qwest.net
    www.wba.vcn.com/leadership_wyoming.htm

  - Wyoming LEAD
    Wyoming LEAD is aimed at developing highly motivated, well informed rural leaders.

    Cindy Garretson-Weibel
    Program Director
    PO Box 5
    Cheyenne, WY 82003
    307-777-6589

Economic Development

- **Tourism– product development and promotion**

  The Wyoming Business Council's Travel and Tourism Division offers a number of services and opportunities to communities. These include cooperative advertising and marketing, turnout and signage grant program, event listings, travel trade marketing, etc. I would suggest that you consider utilizing this resource to better market Lander.

  Wyoming Travel & Tourism
  Diane Schober, Director (direct line: 307-777-2808, diane.shober@visitwyo.gov)
  I-25 at College Drive
  Cheyenne, WY 82002
  TEL: 307-777-7777
  FAX: 307-777-2877
  TOLL FREE: 800-225-5996

- **Affordable housing**

  The state has a new program for a Wyoming Housing Infrastructure Loan Program. For information, contact the Wyoming Business Council.

  Wyoming Business Council
  214 W. 15th St.
  Cheyenne, WY. 82002
  (307) 777-2800

  The Wyoming Community Development Association also has programs for communties to assist in creating affordable housing. For information contact the WCDA

  WCDA
  P.O. Box 634
  Casper, WY 82602
  155 N. Beech,
  Casper, WY 82601
  307-265-0603
  Fax: 266-5414

- **Retention & Revitalization of Main Street**

  In the area of retention and revitalization of Main Street, I would suggest a couple of resources. First, I would recommend that you look into joining the Main Street Program. This program focuses on improving historic downtowns through physical improvements, marketing, retention and expansion of businesses. The program has proven effective in other Wyoming communities and it would appear to be a good fit for Lander.

Wyoming Main Street Program
214 W 15th St.
Cheyenne, WY 82002
307.777.2934 or 307.777.6430
mary.randolph@wybusiness.org
evan.medley@wybusiness.org

The next resource is not free, but I have heard rave reviews for the way that John Shallerts Destination Marketing has had positive impacts on businesses and downtowns. His destination bootcamps are training sessions aimed at making local businesses more competitive, innovative and customer service oriented. I know that he has conducted bootcamps at sites in Wyoming in the past. This may be something that you may want to explore further.

The Shallert Group
John Shallert
2117 Emerald Drive, Suite 100
Longmont, CO 80504
Telephone: (303) 774-6522
Fax: (866) 653-1336
Email: Info@JonSchallert.com

- **Trained workforce**

The obvious place to start is with your local community college. However, there are other organizations that may be able to assist in providing assistance with training and education programs for a better workforce.

The Wyoming Department of Workforce Services offers training grants to businesses to reimburse them for employee training and for communities to create a trained workforce "pre-hire".

Department of Workforce Services
Attn: Sarah Reilly, Applications Specialist
Workforce Development Training Fund
851 Werner Court, Suite 120
Casper, WY 82601

- **Diversify and shift from a commodity to a value added economy**

Assistance for communities and businesses to look for ways to shift from a commodity to value-added economy are easily accessed in the state. I would recommend starting with the Wyoming Business Council and Wyoming Small Business Development Centers. These folks can in turn put you in touch with resources such as the Wyoming Market Research Center, GROBiz and other programs that can assist businesses research and analyze markets, sell to government agencies, develop business plans and access other areas of assistance.

Wyoming Business Council
West Central Regional Director
Fremont, Teton
213 W. Main, Suite B
Riverton, WY 82501
307.857.1155
roger.bower@wybusiness.org

Wyoming Small Business Development Center
Margie Rowell, Regional Director
213 W. Main, Suite C
Riverton, WY 82501
(800) 969-8639
(307) 857-1174
Fax: (307) 857-0873
mrowell@uwyo.edu

Infrastructure

- **Water**
- **Sewer**
- **Streets**
- **Sidewalks**
- **Parking**
- **Expanded public transportation**

All of the areas above could be covered by the CBDG and Business Ready Community Grant programs.

LANDER 5 YEAR

What are the community's greatest strengths?

Tribal Session

- "Good visual as you come down main street"; X
- "one of the more economically and socially vibrant towns in WY"
- Very physically active and outdoorsy community; X
- Good restaurants & variety of stores; X
- Small community
- Natural beauty; close to outdoors
- No huge oil and gas development
- Isolated from large cities
- Close to Nat'l parks
- Great place to live; X
- Very affordable
- Like Mr. D's the grocery store
- Developing a growing market of organic things
- NOLS is a PLUS (also other educational opportunities); X
- WY Catholic college – more students if they expand

Law Enforcement/Safety

- Increased wages from state compensation system; x
- Enjoyable place; x
- Town is well-run; x
- The way the community is "kept up"; x
- Close to the mountains; x, x
- Great volunteer fire department and police force; x
- Safety; x, x
- Volunteerism; x, x
- Tourism
- Community togetherness; x, x
- Good Chamber of Commerce
- NOLS
- The way the city departments work together – lots of cooperation
- Great education; x
- Great parks system; x
- Clean air; x

- Low crime rate; x
- Great fishing is only an hour away; x
- "We have everything here"; x

Education

- We would like some kind of community effort to eliminate risky behaviours (ie, all kids get drunk it's a rite of passage, high absenteeism, etc.)
- Work experiences for kids after school where they can get paid, get experience, perhaps earn credit.
- The town, environment, the mountains. Beautiful place to live.
- Some of the best kids I've ever been around. Most are well behaved.
- People in the community. People come together if there is a need.
- Safe place, people look out for your kids.
- Look out for each other.
- Not a lot of violent behavior in schools.
- Have a great partnership with park and rec and schools
- Have a great partnership with police and school.
- Have a good education component at detention center.
- We embrace diversity. We celebrate things that aren't celebrated in other areas.
- Lander loves music and art (and programs have been added, not cut)
- Remarkable financial assets for schools
- Tremendous amount of data for school districts that enable us to see the challenges. If you can seem them you can act on them.
- Students coming out of the High School are far ahead and far better equipped than kids coming out of California schools. Education quality is superior. Xx
- Generous people who support needed causes.
- Everyone has a face and a name, even if there isn't a system or network solution.
- Diverse community makes us stronger.
- Community has skills to handle problems
- You know your neighbors.
- Cooperation across groups and organizations.
- Great partnership between city and school district.

General Session

- Vibrant, aging population.
- High level of community involvement.
- Green way is a good thing.

- Number of commitments that have been made to build using LEAD certification standards. School district, Catholic College. x
- 4th of July, Veterans Day, Valentines Day at Mr. D's.
- Full of interesting, diverse community. X
- Poised to be the next "discovered" town.
- Great view sheds, recreation opportunity,
- Small town atmosphere
- Clean air and water
- Wildlife.
- People want to be here. They are committed to this community. x
- Great teachers
- Attractive for people to move here.
- Lack of wind
- Accidental: Mountains, climate, dessert, Reservation.
- On Purpose: outstanding medical, NOLS.
- Strong economic development group.
- 1986 Rocky Mtn News – picture of present day ghost town. 7 years later one of the nicest places to live in US.
- Extraordinary concentration of resources that are aimed at nature and conservation.
- People are extremely interdependent and supportive in the community.
- Strong attraction for clean industries (i.e. cabinet making, NOLS, Catholic College, etc.)
- So diverse we have tree cutters and tree huggers.
- Tourism opportunities. International tourists love places like Lander.

Interagency Session

- Location & open space; x, x, x, x, x, x, x
- Small town; x, x
- Nice people; x
- Access to the mountains; x
- No income tax; x
- People care about the community and their neighbors
- Excellent community forestry program/parks & rec, etc
- Public lands & rec. opportunities
- Diversity; x
- "Mom & Pop" businesses; x
- History; x
- Engaged community

- Healthy lifestyles
- Good restaurants/cafes
- Fire dept is excellent both in city and rural
- Strong volunteer base
- Interagency cooperation; x
- Middle Fork of the river; x, x
- Diversity of agencies/employers – NOLS, Nature conservancy, etc.
- Unique products from small businesses and contractors
- Wind River Reservation

Healthcare/Disability Session

- Great place to raise a family
- Lack of commerce
- Lack of large highways coming through
- Small town
- Diversity of the community; x, x
- Good size – you'll always meet new people but will always know half the folks in the room; x, x
- People work together and show genuine interest in one another's wellbeing; x, x
- Great school system; x, x
- Warmth of the Lander community; x, x, x, x
- Great swimming and dive team
- Small class sizes
- Help with groceries
- High quality state-run training school
- Progress in schools in general, especially disabilities programs; x (seamless system moving special needs kids into the school system), x
- Good ratio of students in need for position
- Safety & security; x
- Vitality of the town
- Access to the mountains & outdoors – hunting & fishing; x, x
- "Progressive small town"
- Native American population
- NOLS
- Lack of pretension
- History
- "cosmopolitan atmosphere"

- Weather
- Senior access to services compared to larger cities even
- Lack of wind

Main Street

- Mom & pop businesses
- Entrepreneurs invested in the community – spending money there, the $ goes back into the community; x, x
- Main Street is beautiful; x
- Main Street buildings are historic; the Grand Theater
- Unique shops
- Good restaurants
- Property owners willing to invest in improvements and rebuilding
- Christmas lights at Christmas time
- Small town atmosphere
- Location – mountains & desert
- Size of the community – viable but safe and positive for kids
- Businesses that survive have been able to change and evolve so they still have a niche
- The Bronzes
- Parade on the 4th of July
- Halloween

Senior Session

- A lot of networking in Fremont County; interagency cooperation; on a personal level as well; x
- Town helps each other out
- Community identifies a challenge and works toward solutions
- Quiet; x
- Safe; x, x, x, x
- Lack of hustle bustle
- Senior Center is run excellently; good programs, referrals, resources; x, x, x, x
- Friendly town
- "Lander has come a long way"
- Community concerts & shows; x
- Library
- Weather
- "walk everywhere we can"

- Food Bank is able to meet much of the need in the community
- One-Stop Center offers referrals and guidance
- Blood Draw
- Volunteerism
- Events across age groups
- City Park
- Summer concerts
- Recreation department
- Lander Lil

Housing/Real Estate Session

- Clean community
- Friendly, open community
- Weather
- Mountains & desert; x
- People; x, x
- "All-season town"; x
- Culture
- Small business
- Sense of community
- Safe
- Everything out your front door
- Beauty of downtown; x
- Historic feel
- Community members do a good job of protesting the changes they do not favor
- Continuum of variety of resources, natural, cultural, etc.
- Small town community feel
- Slow pace
- Great place to raise a kid
- Richness of the natural resources
- People are willing to make sacrifices just to live in this community

Agriculture

- People; x, x, x, x, x, x
- Unique community; x, x
- Mountains; x, x

- More liberal than other parts of the state
- Community involvement
- Lifestyle
- Wildlife
- Agriculture & animals & resources; x
- Multigenerational; x, x
- Quality of life
- Land; x
- School system is very good
- The arts
- People in town appreciate the ag community
- Catholic College will bring a strong commitment to the outdoors, including an equine program
- NOLS

Service Organizations/Nonprofits/Volunteers

- Main Street looks great
- Business park
- Catholic College has brought in publicity, a national platform, etc.
- Involvement in community; x
- Commitment to causes; x
- People; x, x; x, x
- Geographic location; x, x
- Fraternal/Sororal organizations involved in the community; x, x
- NOLS; x
- Catholic College & CWC; x
- Good education system; x
- Support from local businesses in in-kind donations, etc.; x
- College has had a network of relationships with various sectors of the community; x
- Education community is huge and deep in knowledge; x
- Quality of life – generosity, social concern; x, x
- Local churches very supportive; x
- Community concerts going on for 60 years; x
- Diverse community; x
- Dedication from people
- When the collaborations work it's great!

Young Families Session

- Good schools, good preparation for college
- People; x, x, x
- Beautiful
- 4th of July Parade
- Diversity of people in Lander
- NOLS
- Climbing, outdoor activities; x
- Location – scenery
- Lack of wind
- Always something going on or something to do
- "Great to hear kids in the neighborhoods again"
- Diversity of cultural and arts events happening for such a small town; x
- Parks & rec; x

Community Development-Planning

- Access to mountains, prairie, sage, desert; x, x, x, x
- Tight knit community
- Young energy
- Green companies – geothermal installations – can be a model for creating a diverse energy system; x
- Quality of life; x, x, x
- Core/heart of Main Street is great; x
- Volunteers feel like they can make a difference
- Diverse community; x, x
- Small town atmosphere; x
- People are happy to see you
- Concerts
- Walk/bike all over town
- Safe; x
- Great place to raise kids
- Easy place to feel you're making a difference
- Community is a draw for young generation
- People
- Volunteerism and closeness of the community make things possible
- The people who care about the community and the other people in the community make a huge contribution

Economic Development Session

- Police and Fire Depts
- Educational basis of the community is outstanding; x, x, x
- Diversity of the community, x, x, x, x
- Ability of the community to "pick itself up by the bootstraps"; x, x
- Lander has shown when the going gets tough the tough get going
- City has helped businesses along, eg. NOLS
- Access to recreation
- Active community
- Healthcare options in town, x, x, x, x
- People are very engaged in the community
- Business park
- Welcoming community that encouraged/allowed people to come into the community and stay; x
- "There is something special about this place"
- We are starting to become proactive; x
- Sense of pride will be change
- Sunshine and no wind
- Only 14% private land
- Wind River Indian Reservation; x
- Able to hold a larger population of young people thanks to organizations like NOLS
- Entrepreneurial spirit of folks in the community
- Historical ranches
- People; x, x
- Lander has chosen not to compete with other communities but to grow in its own identity
- Mayor and city will sponsor programs as best they can
- In the budget the city is trying to fund a part time professional planner
- Good reputation both in Wyoming and outside of it
- Location
- Air service
- Cultural interests & opportunities – concerts, museums, arts, etc.; x
- Efforts for small local business
- People take town and work seriously but not selves
- Safety; x, x, x, x, x

Tourism/Recreation/State Parks

- Volunteerism; x, x
    - Cross-section of folks providing rec/cultural opportunities that are not funded

- Genuine, authentic experiences people can enjoy here – outdoors, cultural heritage; x, x
- People partner well
- Clean
- Safe; x
- Yellowstonepark.com receives 40 million hits/year and is considered one of the best and most visited websites in the world. Directs people to Lander.
- We have a tremendous tourism infrastructure people don't know about.
- Proximity to the mountains; environment
- Federal & State agencies that offer tremendous opportunities to tourists – Game & Fish, museum, Forest Service; State Parks
- Open spaces, beauty
- Friendly people
- Fishing & outdoor rec; x, x
- Access to cultural and recreational possibilities
- Small community; x
- Can make a difference if you want to
- I can raise my children in an ethical, moral, and safe environment
- People want to be here
- People have a commitment to preserving and protecting the past while moving forward; x
- Beaver Creek; x
- Community Assessment
- Western culture; x
- Grassroots accomplishments
- Museum and associated tourism potentials; x, x
- Casinos will have Northern Arapahoe Experience 3 or 4 days a week starting in Summer; x
- 4th of July parade & events surrounding it; x
- Event assets
    - One-shot antelope
    - Brewfest
- NOLS
- Sinks Canyon
- Bronze
- Loop Road
- Location

Quality of Life/Arts & Culture/Historical Preservation

- Arts

- Outdoor
- Trees
- Water
- Friendly local businesses x
- Sparseness is our glue
- Friendly, intimate community xx
- Diverse eclectic community xxx
- 4th of July x
- No WalMart xxx
- Only 14% private land
- Location
- Community pride x
- Opportunity for involvement. Xxx
- Volunteers
- Screams home and community.
- Treated like you're appreciated
- Great place to raise kids xxx
- Mountains and outdoors
-

High School Youth

- Beautiful environment; x, x, x, x, x, x, x, x
- People; x, x, x, x
- Small town; x, x, x, x, x, x, x, x, x
- Ancestors from here
- Not many conflicts
- People take care of one another and works together as a community/group
- Not judgmental; x
- Limited diversity
- Clean town
- We have what we need – groceries, gas stations, parks, visitors centers; x
- Less pollution
- Easy to get around – can walk across town, to theater, etc.; x
- Safe – can walk alone at night; x, x, x
- Lots of programs through parks and rec for kids, especially in the summer
- Lots of open space
- Four-wheeling, biking

- Feel like you can make a difference in the community
- Programs that get the community involved
- Teens set up programs in the school and the community gets involved multi-generationally
- No gangs
- Outdoor recreation – hunting, fishing, etc.
- Strong school system from elementary through high school; good teachers in general

Transportation

- Location; x, x
- Lack of wind
- Active athletic community – youth to retired folks – looking for opportunities to recreate; x
- Loops around the valley – you can go for a 60 mile bike ride right around town
- Sinks Canyon
- Recreational opportunities – climbing hiking biking; x
- Only one street with street lights
- Community involvement; x
- Can walk or bike to anywhere you need in town
- Open space
- Born and raised here
- Sense of community; x
- Quality of life
- Weather
- Lots of volunteers; x
- Beautiful town, beautiful surroundings; x
- Nice streets – wide
- Transportation plan in the city has wider streets in the arterial streets than others
- Local area
- City has a relatively high amount of foresight
- Relatively modern water/sewer system
- Main Street is beautiful
- Parks are well kept
- Diversity of the people and the variety of talents they bring; x, x
- Slow, easygoing community
- Senior Center is the focal point for the seniors in the town
    - Pancake breakfast on July 4th
- Family oriented town

- Mtns, off the beaten track, off I-80
- People are very tolerant and get along pretty well – tend to work together toward a common goal
- Small size
- Low crime
- People know their neighbors
- Ability to raise my child how I was raised/how I want to raise them
- Wonderful Main Street with center turn lanes

LANDER 5 YEAR

What are the community's greatest challenges?

Tribal Session

- Lack of zoning; X
- Some places in town really need "cleaning"; both dirty and deteriorating; lack of care for property; X
- Empty storefronts on main street
- Lack of sidewalks (especially along Fremont by Rec. Center; 2nd St.) – both for outdoors activities and general pedestrian access
- Much of city is not pedestrian or bike friendly; X
- "Criminal for main access to the town that Maverick was allowed to go in with an open vent" right where there is a pedestrian/bike walk by the river. Storm water and emissions go right to river – problem as pt. source pollution and visuals and traffic problem; X
- Parts of a trail system in town but they are a block long and then end…very segmented.
- No city sponsored or required recycling program; X
- Not enough city-sponsored environmentalism
- Development as far of residents in foothills – distract view; X
- Unacceptable accommodation of grazing industry and oil and gas industry
- Squaw Creek into Baldwin Creek very narrow and lots of traffic goes too fast for pedestrians and bikes

Law Enforcement/Safety

- Underage drinking & substance use; x, x
- Ability to physically grow as a community (running out of space) and associated service capacity issues (heavily volunteer based services right now – ie fire, EMT, etc); x
- Lack of funding for services such as fire, EMT, law enforcement, etc.; x, x
- Maintaining a competitive pay structure for law enforcement; x; x
- Lack of access to specialized healthcare – typically need to leave by flight; communication is difficult, etc.
- Poverty is an issue that is rarely addressed
- We don't have people in the right places to address issues and we don't have specific answers to difficulties
- Keeping people in the community; x
- Social norms/attitudes for youth facilitate substance misuse; x
- State is hoarding money
- Racial bias

- Housing

Education

- Workforce. We have too many open jobs due to lack of trained people. x
- We need to have a more educated workforce. x
- We have governing bodies that duplicate services in Fremont County. x
- Community center for kids, youth and young adults.
- If you read the youth risk survey, Fremont Co. has a high tolerance for risk taking behavior. We not only condone, but actually encourage such behavior.
- Workforce housing. Ownership and rentals. A teacher with a $42k salary base can't afford housing. 26 open positions. xxxxx
- Not enough work experience
- Not enough community support to encourage kids to regularly attend school
- Would like a recreation center, especially in winter.
- No busing if you are within 2 miles of the school. Can be a problem for commuting parents.
- Increasing rate of teen pregnancy.
- High drop out rate. x
- Poverty and the risk factors that go with it. X
- Lack of understanding of native American culture in order to better serve those students.
- Salary levels for law enforcement leads to loss of policeforce.
- Business community has impression that high school kids aren't willing to work.
- Kids are too busy (schedules are full).
- Good behavior is not modeled in home.
- Poverty barriers. Getting to work, no proper clothes, etc.

General Session

- Sprawl and not a lot of housing in city limits resulting in ranchettes on the hillside. Xxx
- Businesses in downtown are empty and have been for a long time. xx
- In over 20 years, perception of teacher morale has shifted considerably. At one time they enjoyed working with kids, now finds teachers who are retiring early or looking forward to retirement. There is a systemic sense of lack of trust in teachers.
- Downtown is not as vibrant as it could be. x
- Lack of open space in the city. x
- Challenge of growing while retaining small town atmosphere and sense of community. X
- Lack of a game plan for moving forward. x
- No sense of self for the city.

- Lack of diversification in the economic base. Lack of core jobs. Could be labeled as a retirement / bedroom community.
- Short term we need housing, especially low income. The lack will make us miss opportunities.
- Longer term we could see gigantic population growth with all of the problems associated with that. We have something that everyone in the US wants.
- Transportation. Can't dependably take a bus to Riverton.
- Water shortage in the future. How do we support population growth?
- Uncomfortable with the way our economy is designed. Success is defined as unlimited growth. That is inherently unsustainable. In many places we are bumping up against ecosystem limits. We need to move to a sustainable economy. xx
- Infrastructure of the public water supply.
- Fire preparedness, especially with the interface with the surrounding wildlands.
- Availability of dollars for the city to provide services. Inequality in funding model.
- How do we manage growth? Annexation, provision of services.
- In stream flow of the Popo Agie river.
- Aging population.
- Leadership. We have a lot of very capable people who don't get involved in leading the community.
- Sometimes people are not brought into the process of change.
- Organizations that duplicate services, resources and efforts.

Interagency Session

- Lack of diversity
- Limited healthcare
- Not enough movie theaters
- No rec. center
- Loss of open space
- City is unable to keep development within city boundaries; x
- Unplanned growth; x, x, x, x
- Specifically, growth out of city limits presenting fire issues – increased danger, inadequate manpower; x
- Not enough greenways and open space
- Inadequate pedestrian trails – not long enough; x, x, x, x
- Maintaining value of Papo Gia?
- Drought, water rights
- Limited amount of doctors
- Not enough outdoor activities such as runs

- Loss of "western" culture; x
- Potential for catastrophic flood
- No lumber mill in town
- No reliable source of forest products; x, x
- Lack of stable, clean businesses that provide opportunities for youth; x, x, x
- Lack of affordable housing for seasonal employees
- Lack of alternative education
- Food dependency on imports; x, x
- Not enough for kids to do after sports activities
- Urban sprawl and how it affects water quality
- Not enough collaboration or cooperation between Lander and Wind River Reservation
- Gambling and the lack of infrastructure in town to support it; x
- Too much wildlife in city limits
- Poverty and hunger in the community
- River needs a huge clean-up

Healthcare/Disability Session

- Child Development Services has a difficult time recruiting qualified employees – therapists, etc.; x
- Not enough preschool/daycare opportunities in Lander; x, x
- Workforce issues; x, x, x, x, x, x, x
- Increased taxes on homes make it difficult for Seniors to afford to stay there
- Staffing and housing for adult mentally and physically disabled is a "bottleneck" – waiting list for Child DD Waiver; waiting list for housing/community entry services programs; shortage of housing & service providers for chronically ill; x, x, x
- Lack of rehabilitation opportunities for substance abuse issues
- Overlapping of social services & gov't structures
- Lack of affordable healthcare; x, x
- Lack of entry level employees
- Shortage of jobs for disabled population; x
- Lack of disability access & awareness in businesses downtown – lack of sensitivity and resistance to affordable changes for people to get in the front door; x, x, x
- Lack of affordable transportation between Lander and Riverton; x, x, x
- Voice of people with disabilities is not heard in community; x, x
- Lack of affordable housing; x, x, x, x, x, x, x
- Medical community is not amenable to following individuals as they age
- Ever-changing healthcare standards difficult to keep up with
- Lack of funding; x

- Cultural norms and values regarding underage drinking; x
- Low wages
- Access road and parking to hospital; x, x, x, x
- WY only has one provider for medical equipment and there is no reimbursement for individuals who need to travel to Cheyenne to get equipment
- Isolation – lack of air transport, etc.
- Water quality issues
- Subdivisions
- Oil & gas industry spreading into Lander
- Gambling addictions

Main Street

- Getting people to work together on projects; x
- Getting people to get involved
- Getting City & Chamber involved in community projects; x, x
- People don't follow codes & ordinances; x, x; x
- Lack of parking; x, x, x
- People don't shovel their sidewalks; x
- People are resistant to change
- Sidewalks in front of homes are torn up
- Open storefronts – why is this happening?; x
- Lack of public transportation; x
- Lots of loud trucks & cars that drive up and down Main Street; x, x
- Assumptions and stereotypes
- Increase in traffic; x
- Not a bike or pedestrian friendly town; x, x
- People are being drawn away from the "heart of downtown"
- Lack of professional engineering staff or even long-term relationship working with city on Public Works Projects; x
- Lack of planning for development/ lack of foresight; x, x, x
- Too many "quick fixes" for bringing businesses in; x, x
- Light pollution; x
- Difficult for small businesses to survive
- Trash, junk, cars, trailers on industrial property
- Lack of collective monies
- City has taken a reactive approach

Senior Session

- Lack of connection between senior population and youth in the community; x, x
- Difficult to get into a group/get to know people, especially if "shy"; can seem "cliquish"; x, x
- Senior Center is the major lifeline for seniors. Lack voice in the general community or with the city/county.; x, x
- Lack of funding; x, x
- Affordable housing; x
- Handicap accessible housing
- Senior-specific housing
- Streets and sidewalks in poor condition; x, x, x
- Lack of area for walking in the winter; x, x
- Lack of sidewalks; x, x
- High School is not handicap accessible
- Lack of public transportation; x, x, x, x
- Lack of MDs willing to work with senior population; x
- Difficult to find skilled tradespeople, electrician/plumber; x
- "shopping's lousy"
- "are we ready for growth and needs?"
- Difficult to keep doctors
- Difficult to make a living in Lander

Housing/Real Estate Session

- Lack of housing for low-income, seniors, young families; x, x, x, x, x, x, x, x, x
- Wage hasn't caught up to cost of living; x, x
- Lack of/limited public transportation – schedules don't work with work schedules, don't run on weekends, etc.; x
- Lack of specific information – what's an acceptable rent range? What constitutes low-income housing?; x
- Top-heavy on commercial spots and vacancies; x, x
- Lack of consideration of land-use issues as subdivisions are developed; x, x, x
- City infrastructure does not extend beyond city limits; x, x
- Need for energy efficient housing, esp. for low-income housing
- Need for more communication between City of Lander and Fremont County
- Shortage of inventory creates high housing prices
- Urban sprawl threatens natural resources
- Water supply
- Water mains in town freeze in winter; x
- Flood threat; x

Agriculture

- Large agricultural operations are tied to public lands and the fluctuations that come with it; x, x, x
- Water
- Prices of hay and fuel; x, x
- Few agricultural support businesses left in Lander; x, x, x, x
- Losing the agriculture to outside sources, like in Jackson; x
- Urban sprawl; x, x
- Weeds; x
- Flooding potential and lack of protection or plan
- Dealing with the agencies if you have federal land due to multiple use issues – varying administrations, etc bring in a new set of rules on a regular basis; x, x, x
- Increasing demand and decreasing supply of foods; x
- Hard for agriculture to make a profit; x, x, x
- Short term problems related to arbitrary relationships with federal government including federal control over water use; x, x, x
- Subdivisions and land use bad for the land
- This community does not produce its own food so there is a conceptual distance btwn suppliers and those buying the food; x, x, x, x
- Federal agency disconnect between private land, public land, and business; x
- Health problems related to food problems; x
- Instream/downstream flow; x
- Endangered Species Act is terrible for private property rights
- Urbanized acre draws money from the city
- Getting into agriculture is cost prohibited
- More and more people lack access to healthy nutritious foods
- Middle Fork is impaired – poor water quality

Service Organizations/Nonprofits/Volunteers

- Always the same people doing everything
- Fewer and fewer people wanting to step up and volunteer
- Competitions between for-profit and nonprofit; x
- Difficult to get people to buy in to projects
- Lots of organizations are asking for the same dollar; x, x
- Lack of daycare/childcare
- Lack of emphasis on vocational training
- Food Bank #s keep growing

- Struggles with funding to meet needs in the community
- Need funding to build/expand for Catholic College's increasing attendance
- Duplication of services among the nonprofits in the community; x
- Funding to support operations/pay salaries is difficult to find
- Fundraising in Lander is a challenge; x, x, x, x, x, x
- Qualified, well-paid staff difficult to find and keep
- Agencies claim to provide X service and receive funding for it but they don't actually provide these services as folks are going to the non-profits, who are not getting the funds
- Finding an appropriate location that is affordable is difficult
- Growth and capacity building challenging
- No collaboration or coordination between non-profits; x
- How to expand amount that City can give
- Recruitment facility/clearinghouse to find volunteers and for volunteers to find a place to volunteer
- Lack of resource to tell people coming into the community about human service agencies, etc.
- Time & money
- Getting to and from Lander is difficult and expensive

Young Families Session

- Sidewalks in the residential areas need work
- Nowhere other than McDonalds Playland to take kids to play in the winter; x
- Severe shortage of childcare; x, x, x
- Sustainable wages to support a family; x, x, x
- "Lander is not very business friendly" – the City seems to not reach out to businesses – Lots of empty storefronts on Main Street; x
- Lack of affordable housing; x
- Soccer coaches forget when practices/games are and there is lots of changing of fields and schedules
- Lack of long trail for bikes and pedestrians
- Strikers shouldn't play on Sundays
- Drugs in the general area
- Evidence of gang activity
- Lack of a charter school

Community Development-Planning

- Lack bike routes; x, x

- Lack of participation in the electoral process, in the community on a regular basis; x, x, x, x
- Not enough people involved in the promotion of economic development; x, x, x
- People not willing to volunteer; x, x
- Housing and affordable housing; x
- Cost of development – it's a challenge as a developer to put in infrastructure, time, etc. and not see it pay off right away; x
- Workforce; x
- City lacks adequate revenue to accomplish what they would like to; x, x
- Resistance to growth & change; x, x
- No foresight in business/economic development considerations; x
- Lack of young leader development; x, x
- Too many people going in different directions; x, x
- Some of the business community do not want competition; x
- Lack of zoning in Lander and in Fremont County
- Lack of communication regarding planning in the community; x
- Apathy among elected officials
- Defining a common goal for economic development – big box stores or locally owned/run; x
- City of Lander needs to depend on the county, where a lot of the subdivisions pop up, to be responsible and plan
- Infrastructure needs to be repaired (streets; water)
- City & County do not work together – they have an antagonistic relationship; x, x, x
- Planning no good without enforcement
- Can't keep staff for lower wage jobs
- No professional or reasonable wage jobs for residents
- Vacant shops downtown – indication of lifestyle change?
- Negative attitude if you're not from Wyoming
- No requirements for landscaping, building, etc. or preservation of the natural beauty
- Maverick
- Water quality and quantity; x

Economic Development Session

- Gap in affordable housing availability; x, x, x, x, x, x, x, x, x, x
- Lack of sustainable wages; x, x, x, x, x, x
- Lack of communication within the community – btwn govt and citizens; btwn schools and citizens; btwn service clubs, etc.; x, x, x, x, x, x
- Lack of revenues/property tax availability; x

- Lack of adequate qualified labor force for small businesses
- Difficulties in cattle-based agriculture system due to lack of slaughter facilities, etc.
- Community is resistant to change
- Difficult to make a decent living, especially for young people
- Young people have a "welfare attitude"/lack of work ethic; x
- Water
- Potential negative impacts of mineral exploration/extraction on the community
- Little growth planning; city & county have few tools for this; x, x
- High schools are on a single track and diminishing the role of vocational education
- Lack of a unified direction for the community
- Lack of workforce development & training
- County rich and town poor in funding streams
- Reactive

Tourism/Recreation/State Parks

- Lack of education opportunities used outside of the classrooms
- Lack of affordable housing; x, x
- Limited workforce options; x, x
- Can't grow tourist/hospitality industry without affordable housing; x
- Run out of open space within the city limits; x
- Lack of funding for capital construction projects/infrastructure; x
- Medical community and facilities inadequate – decent but should be better; x
- Streets/Infrastructure
- Lack of coordination of events with hotel people to get tourists participating in Lander events; x
- Lander a one night stop; x
- Maxed out capabilities to host large events – equestrian, banquets, fairs, etc.
- Lack of general coordination and cooperation between sectors in the community; x, x, x
- Lack of recreational opportunities for tourists
- Limited funding stretched across events, groups, etc.
- Poor coordination of the use of public facilities
- Transportation (lack of) in and out of the area
- Limited back country facilities – i.e. ATV parking, horse corrals
- Lack of plan for development
- Lack of "historic district" architectural guidelines, etc.
- Lack of tourism infrastructure; x, x
- Lack of "Native American Experience"

- Trail system is deteriorating
- Low (2%) lodging tax compared to other counties
- Nowhere for tourists to stop
- Lack of parking
- Lack of involvement from the Chamber of Commerce; x, x
- Lack of involvement from the City of Lander
- Forget to be a community
- Income is inconsistent – summer versus winter months
- 10% of the community does 95% of the volunteer work
- Businesses not open enough hours in evenings or weekends
- Price of gas
- Highway system – we are not on a 4-lane road
- Figuring out how three casinos fit into the Fremont County experience and identity
- Lander has the most polluted stream

Quality of Life/Arts & Culture/Historical Preservation

- Challenging to get grant funding for non-profits. Lack of foundation funding options. Need a system to access funding options, especially with less represented sections of the population (gay/lesbian, transgender, etc.) x
- Non-profits work to cross purposes and compete for funding.
- Demographics are striking….18% native American, about the same below poverty line.
- Water situation is a real problem. Our river is so polluted that it is posted for children not to touch. Need guaranteed flows through town. xxxxxxxs
- Collaboration between groups is lacking.
- Challenge to continue providing parks and rec services.
- Need to look at how history shaped the community and work with the reservation to build collaboration. Xx
- Need to fund the arts center, pioneer museum.
- Don't have the tools we need.
- Rapid growth without a well thought out master plan. We need to build the vision of what we want to be, rather than being reactive.
- Need to preserve the historic heritage and look of the community.
- Preserve the spectrum of outdoor activities and opportunities available around Lander. Xxx
- Sewage and waste disposal. Septic is starting to pollute ground water.
- Aging population. Volunteers are getting older, not enough young volunteers.
- Education and training. Need to train people in historic preservation.
- Need to keep arts as a strong part of the academic program. xxx

- Need to engage and communicate with the 13 – 20 year old population. xxx
- Data is not distributed to the average citizen.
- City needs to back up the citizens efforts on Arts. Need an arts and recreation center. xxx
- Need historic preservation and architectural review guidelines. xxx
- Unregulated sprawl.
- Need alternative education opportunities.
- Empty buildings in downtown.
- Negative community attitude toward arts. Don't promote and allow for freedom of art.
- Reliable communication apparatus that is pertinent to Lander.
- Need free art and music programs.
- Need an umbrella arts group.
- Declining vocational education system to support farm and ranch.
- Performing arts center with classroom is needed.
- Trees are being cut down, we should be planting not cutting.

High School Youth

- Not a lot for kids to do, especially at nights; x, x, x, x, x, x, x, x, x, x, x, x, x, x, x
- Lots of recreational activities for young kids but not teens
- Have to go to Riverton to find things to do
- No sports stores or places to hang out
- Lack of activities leads to kids getting in trouble; x, x, x, x, x, x, x, x, x, x
- Youth are not encouraged or given tools to do the fun activities – eg. Lack of rock climbing class in school, outdoors activities, gardening, etc.; x, x
- Not many places to work; hard to find good employment
- Not enough drug prevention programs to be convincing (lots of disagreement)
- Teen pregnancy – health program overemphasized abstinence
- Not enough big stores, but bigger stores may bring too many people – happy using internet
- Gas stations next to the river
- School discipline

Transportation

- Uncontrolled growth and lack of zoning; x, x
- Maverick coming in on Main Street next to the river – it just happened
- Sprawl outside of city limits; x

- Lack of safe biking and walking routes around and outside of towns
- Lack of funding to do what the city/community would like to do; x, x, x, x, x
- Lack of cooperation between City & County governments
- Challenge to keep up with bicycle and pedestrian transport needs; x
- Wind River Transportation Authority is limited
- Limited, insufficient transportation planning for the community to maintain good interconnectivity and prevent building in inaccessible areas; x, x, x, x, x, x, x
- Keeping up existing infrastructure – roads, sidewalks – is a challenge; x
- County planning is not sufficiently stringent, particularly in regards to encroachment into highway rights of way; x
- Lack of adequate facilities in Lander for WYDOT – buildings are scattered and largely in ill-repair
- Public Transit as it is cannot always meet the needs of people in the community
- Main Street is a challenge – it is a highway going through there.
- Too much of a car centered environment; x, x
- Community participation is cut off or limited at a certain level so there is a sense that the voice of the community is not heard; x
- City & county governments are not proactive or progressive
- Water – pollution, low flow
- Still trying to get caught up with infrastructure – rebuilding, fixing, etc.; x, x
- Effective planning of infrastructure so that it is sustainable and maintainable; x, x
- City doesn't have a planner
- Pedestrian and bicycle traffic crossing 287 is dangerous
- Sidewalks start and stop; x, x, x, x, x, x, x, x, x
- Difficult for WYDOT to keep up with changing needs due to limited funds and manpower
- Poor attitude in community toward biking and walking
- People are very tolerant and get along pretty well – tend to work together toward a common goal
- Small size
- Low crime
- People know their neighbors
- Ability to raise my child how I was raised/how I want to raise them
- Wonderful Main Street with center turn lanes

LANDER 5 YEAR

Projects – 5 years, 10 years, 20 years, etc.

Tribal Sessions

- Need more city-sponsored improvements for the gateway into the community to make it more inviting
- Old Grain Tower (Purina) should be saved and land should be used for something; X
- Trails around Baldwin Creek and Squaw Creek
- Free health clinic/Affordable healthcare
- Main Street Program for beautification of downtown
- Community funded rec center or community center - (how would this impact local businesses?)
- Buy up all of the derelict properties and build affordable, environmentally appropriate, sustainable housing
- State-of-the-art daycare center
- Adopt Alice Waters' program for organic food programs for the schools – teach kids about local healthy organic foods
- Better pedestrian and bikeway transport throughout town
- Organized, subsidized approach for shuttle service to regional airports or regional centers
- Riverton airport get a flight to SLC
- Better communication between Lander and the Reservation
    - Outreach from the Chamber of Commerce in Lander?
- Local government should do more to support retirees and recreational based tourism
- Require oil and gas development, if it occurs, be sustainable and monitored
- Prevent mining, esp. uranium mining
- Better relations between Lander and Riverton
- More jobs in Lander
- Telecommuting options – market Lander using this approach (Greater Yellowstone)
- Bike trail from Lander to Riverton

Law Enforcement/Safety

- Change tax structure
- We need to find the appropriate people to come to the table and make changes; we need to work more closely with our leadership
- More sustainable foods – more self-sufficient as a community in regards to our food supply – i.e. farmer's markets; x
- Recreation center; x, x, x

- Walking paths increased
- Business park filled with businesses
- Some local facilities improvements –
    - expansion of the airport;
    - moving the rodeo grounds;
    - new fire station
- improve infrastructure – streets, etc.; x, x
- Keep same "feel"; x, x, x
- County-wide law enforcement keep gangs and increasing crime out of Lander
- Additional property for residential development to keep housing affordable (for people living in poverty as well as middle class); x, x
- Comprehensive community plan; x, x
- Tazers for police officers
- Funding base or tax structure change for law enforcement
- School upgrades completed
- Sustainable building practices
- Setting priorities for funding streams to reduce competition
- Economic development at corporate level – we need to convince people to come in and build these houses, etc.
- Optional 1 cent sales tax
- Small growth

Education

- Affordable housing. xxxx
- Promote community to get / attract younger families and people.
- Good paying jobs.
- Become an educational center in Wyoming. CWC, NOLS, WCC. x
- Inspire more "for profit" businesses. We are a government town, need more businesses.
- Become a beacon for sustainable living practices. Community gardens, sustainable building design, green living practices.
- Want the kids then to have the same quality education he had in the 90's.
- Kids that are committed to healthy lifestyle choices.
- Someplace for kids/teens to hang out safely.
- Outside pool. Xx
- Renovate old buildings to a new uses (community center, rec center).
- Community recreation center.
- Improve bike paths/ greenway.
- We are planning 2 new schools, we will have state of the art facilities.

- Continue to improve city, school partnership.
- Having a high bar for every child (not just the good kids). Kids will hit the bars we set for them. If you graduate from Lander HS, you will be ready for post secondary education.
- A community that looks beyond the racial barrier. X
- A community campaign on importance of staying school and that you are capable of doing whatever you put your heart into.
- Come up with something for those kids whose grades aren't good enough for a diploma, but who have work skills. Some kind of certificate that says these kids are capable of doing a specific kind of work.

General Session

- Youth Center
- Better senior facilities. Covered walking area is one idea.
- More outdoor gathering / activity areas
- Elimination of unemployment on reservation, with a 50% improvement of family income.
- Every store front filled with businesses.
- Many people walking to and from work.
- Complete pathways projects.
- Create a plan that allows us to grow, but still maintain the uniqueness of the community.
- Have solid economic diversity, with an emphasis on green employment opportunities. Bring in new businesses that don't duplicate what's already here, but which provide diversity and are cutting edge.
- No Wal*Mart!
- Take care of infrastructure issues, eliminate city's funding issues.
- Pass the optional 1% sales tax, to pay for the new things and infrastructure.
- Wyoming Catholic College fully built out.
- Oregon Trail national monument established. X
- Become a Nordic sky and dogsled capital.
- Have an articulated, clear city mission and plan that people are aware of.
- Better relationships between all of the cities and the county.
- Emerging middle class (we currently have a declining middle class).
- Animal shelter (county or city run).
- We work out a way of living together with the Wind River Reservation in a way that respects and nutures the native American culture, but which is easy and candid.

- Become a recognized center for educational excellence and educational diversification, with a variety of educational opportunities available.
- Entire town run on sustainable energy.
- Locally based agriculture that supplies vegetables and fruits, hydroponic hothouse
- Tree replanting plan (100 year old trees are dying)
- Every house have a bike and be required to use on Tuesday and Thursday, weekends optional, but gain energy points.
- Build a machine that will create cold snaps to kill off the pine beetles.
- Locally owned newspaper that is invested in improving the community.

Interagency Session

- Expanding walkways; walkpath from above town through town etc.
- Rec. center; x
- More batting cages at the parks
- Land acquisition to keep open space
- Roads & bridges (infrastructure) need work
- Use of biofuels for energy; x
- Flood mitigation plan
- Street sidewalks improved/maintained
- Sustainable agriculture; x
- Education regarding land use & horse ownership
- No invasive plant species; x, x, x – preserve ecosystem
- Plan for the growth of Lander
- Fed. $ for Fremont Fire
- Get rid of Russian Olive Trees
- Flows in the middle fork/maintained fisheries
- Land use planning – ZONING; x
- Regional plan for future water use in county
- Program that educates kids about their natural resources
- River as a resource
- Increase personal efficiency from a water use standpoint

Healthcare/Disability Session

- Kids rec. center, x
- Rec center – affordable and accessible; x, x
- Quality affordable preschool/daycare facilities; x, x
- Overall enhancement of services provided to students in school system, x

- Affordable healthcare; x, x, x
- Affordable housing; x, x, x, x
- Zoning, x
- Higher wages for service industry, x
- Water conservation; x, x, x
- Cancer treatment center or feasibility study; x, x, x
- Substance abuse treatment and prevention; x
- Affordable airfare
- Making things better with what we have
- Something for the kids to do
- Boys & Girls Club with emphasis on teens
- Apartment complex for medical personnel
- Walmart, Target, or a mall
- Communications system to replace the siren
- Different housing options for seniors besides nursing home
- Better integration of Native American population; better mixing of the communities
- Safe pathways to schools and pathways along the river for pedestrians and bicyclists
- Animal shelter
- Community health center
- Parenting classes; x
- Road improvements
- Home Depot
- Senior daycare
- Facility/increased training for gambling addictions
- Hundreds of trees planted & watered
- Better cooperation between private sector and government

Main Street

- Maintain the "face" of downtown as new buildings are built
- Show businesses how to expand
- Historic preservation
- Sustainable building
- Chamber of Commerce partnering for community events
- More opportunities for art and cultural experiences downtown
- More activities bringing people out onto Main Street
- Keep the 4th of July parade; x
- More large events held here – bicycle race, horseback race, etc.

- Keep small town atmosphere
- Cross country skiing
- Designated bike and walking paths expanded; x
- Planned growth – maintain Main Street; maintain residential areas
- Recreational/Activity center for youth in the community; x, x (community wide, not nec. Focused on youth)
- City acquire the old mill and maintain it
- Community foundation with lots of money for community projects
- Take down Maverick, run buses to local communities and areas of interest
- Outdoor pool
- Restore the river – look at wasted irrigation water as a possible solution mechanism for this; x, x, x
- Pathway project expanded outside community
- Repair streets
- Rerouting truck traffic; x
- Streets, curbs, water infrastructure
- Performing Arts Center (possibly connected with the rec center)
- Independent or non mainstream films shown on occasion at the Grand Theater
- "Movies under the moon" in summer
- Native landscaping

Senior Session

- Bus btwn Lander & Casper
- Handicapped accessibility in the high school
- Left turn signals on Main Street during the summer
- All-night pancake house
- Real good family restaurant
- Rec Center
- New Safeway
- Restaurants open after 9pm
- Small capacity buses or trolleys running Main Street E/W and N/S Friday, Sat, Sun
- Replace streetlights to shine only down and eliminate light pollution
- More shopping for clothing
- Vocational school
- Museum expanded & grown
- System of sustainable gardens throughout the community
- Ice cream shop

- Winter Fair facility

Housing/Real Estate Session

- 1 cent optional sales tax
- City aggressively pursues businesses
- City offer enticements to people to encourage purchasing of older homes in downtown area and fix them up
- We need to make sure we have water if we are going to expand/grow
- Learning to conserve water
- Better economy
- More people interested in the social and fraternal and cultural organizations in the city
- Strong economy like today, housing prices of 1984
- Shelter – homelessness, domestic violence, etc.; x, x
- Transitional housing from residential treatment/shelter programs; x, x
- More for young kids to do – more than a rec. center
- Affordable housing
- Main Street storefronts filled
- Rec center
- Good paying jobs with good benefits
- Starter homes
- City sponsored arts & culture center; x
- Encourage the rehabilitation of lots we have
- Encourage new industry to come or to grow
- Expand trails for biking and hiking
- Slow, steady growth so things can be done right
- Substance use rehabilitation programs
- 150 more trees on the golf course
- Bluegrass festival

Agriculture

- Subsistence agriculture; x
- Keep agriculture profitable
- Work together to protect water rights, property rights, etc. legislatively
- Cooperatives – processing facilities, distributions, etc.; x, x
- Affect change at the state level to purchase local dairies, mills, etc.; x
- Move rodeo grounds, improve them, & capitalize on the shift to horses; x
- Community center

- Stronger farmer's market with more contributions and less regulation; x
- Still have a strong agriculture presence; still have FAMILY RANCH, not corporate
- Conservation easements should be *rented* to protect viewsheds, wildlife, ranchers
- Don't build on fertile bottom lands
- Reform Endangered Species Act
- Vote against instream flow bills that are harmful
- Protection of watershed; x
- Maintain open space and ag land; x, x
- Flood mitigation
- Improved water quality
- Shift priorities so wolves and sage grouse don't take priority over cattle
- Conservation credits – payment for providing wildlife habitat, rewards to ag community for preserving agriculture
- Winter Fairgrounds
- Look at free market solutions to supplement agricultural income
- Efficiencies in water use
- Do something about unfunded federal mandates
- Government money toward water storage – dams
- Property and state tax reforms

Service Organizations/Nonprofits/Volunteers

- City events/nonprofit activities coordinator as paid position; x, x
- Offer vocational training in high school and earlier; x, x
- Great volunteers at Food Bank
- Community calendar
- Community activities or world-class sporting events
- CWC center
- Multi-use affordable daycare center with extended hours; x, x
- Food Bank would be able to serve people well and more often
- Finding more effective ways of mitigating the effects of poverty
- Expand – 2 classroom bldgs, common areas, equestrian center for Catholic College
- Entrepreneurs in community assist with transportation
- Clearinghouse of human service agencies, volunteer opportunities; x
- Foundation helping non-profits with their infrastructure; x, x, x, x
- Open land & wildlife
- Limited growth; x
- No more gas stations

- Keep downtown character; say no sometimes to development that doesn't fit, that is beyond Lander's needs, etc.
- Continue/begin again to put education in prisons; x
- Retaining memory – including keeping ag; x
- Support local producers; x
- Affordable housing; x
- Address issue of poverty in the community
- Healthy food security
- Maintain quality of life proactively
- Optional one cent sales tax; specific use tax to fund programs
- Collaborate
- Zoning
- Planned growth
- Schools in Fremont County start a civics program that includes volunteerism requirements and includes job training

Young Families Session

- Strikers wouldn't play on Sunday
- Outdoor swimming pool; x
- Running trail
- Waterslide with a hole in it
- Rec. center – bowling lanes, walking path, rock climbing wall, weight lifting, aerobics room, childcare room, merry-go-round, water slides & pool, hockey rink, lap pool, basketball court, afterschool hangout for kids (snack bar, study area), computer center, classes (crafts, computer use), equestrian area, roller coaster, water gun, video game room, spacious locker rooms, earthquake platform
- All the stores on Main Street occupied; x, x, x, x, x
- Preserving historic and older buildings
- As streets and sidewalks are built/fixed, there are items to "dress up" the face of town
- Architectural standards along Main Street
- Guard rail so you don't drive off the cliff off Main Street

Community Development-Planning

- Develop young leaders
- Comprehensive land use plan
- Hire City Planner/Enhance planning staff; x
- Get Arcview & GIS systems
- Main Street filled

- We need to work more closely with the school district
- We need a more proactive newspaper and radio station telling folks what is going on
- With expansion, recreation planning will be very important
- Need to look to new types of economic development outside retail box
- Simplify city planning/development
- Foster fresh relationships between city and county
- Children are our biggest asset and we need to work to keep them in WY
- Outdoor swimming pool
- Rec center; x, x
- Indoor track/walking path
- Slow steady growth – 250 families/2 years
- Extend greenway to Hudson
- Fix infrastructure; x
- Airport
- New rodeo grounds and equine center by school
- Jobs for young people to stay or come back and stay here
- Planned growth
- Private school, charter school, alternative school
- Curbside recycling
- Improved proactiveness by city
- Improved & expanded walking/bike paths; x, x
- Staff on all levels so things aren't left to volunteers
- Safe routes for schools/ways to cross Main Street; x, x
- Greenway from Hudson to Sinks canyon; x, x, x
- Vibrant dynamic downtown; x, x, x
- Increase environmental awareness; x, x
- New buildings built to respect environment and workers; x
- River thriving center of town; x
- Retrofit the buildings to greener technologies (lead certified?)
- More community gardens, thriving farmer's market
- Incentives to homeowners for alternative energy
- More diversity in all levels of government
- Annual cattle drive down Main Street
- 4th of July strong
- One-shot antelope
- Rules & regs regarding water use

- Work as a community toward the buildout of the Catholic College; x
- Create opportunities for youth so they may remain in Lander
- City needs to concentrate on its infrastructure especially in regards to planned growth
- Communicate & collaborate; x, x
- Develop a strategic plan; x
- Execute and promote the plan; x
- Improved workforce development/take advantage of CWC's opportunities
- Use the community assessment for proactive
- Business expansion; local shopping; x
- Property owners outside of town vote in town
- Create a new funding model for the community
- State of the arts equestrian center built on 300 to 600 acres; x, x, x, x, x, x
- Learning and educational center for Wyoming; x
- Indoor rec center for the winters; x, x, x
- Oregon Trail national monument
- Optional 1 cent sales tax; x, x, x, x, x
- Winter Fair facility
- Move CWC to Lander
- Development of the hospitality industry – conventions and trade shows housed in one area to stimulate the economy on a year round basis
- Return to an active local media
- Active, vibrant Main Street
- Expanded greenway system and walk/bike trails; x, x
- Community events and rec center
- Adequate funding to repair infrastructure – streets and water lines; x
- Work with the tribes on equestrian center on breeding/showgrounds – cutting horses – highly profitable opportunity; x
- Enhanced public transportation
- Well-planned growth – funding model, communication, etc.; x
- Catholic College as a model
- Place where people perceive it as worth far more than the sum of its parts – a model for other communities
- Lander needs to be an affordable place for everybody to live
- 4-lane highway btwn Rock Springs & Cody; x
- Establish more local improvement districts and ask folks who live there to pay for it
- Great leaders and vision from the next generation; x
- 2% lodging tax increase
- Museum system improvement

- Retain ranches and agriculture
- Funding for projects; x, x, x
- Facilities tax 4% will be up soon
- Every 3rd person volunteer
- Sporting events held here; x
- Take care of historical buildings and Main Street
- Commit to green spaces and green buildings
- Gray water potable -> hydroponic farm -> self sustaining agriculture
- Passive and active solar energy use
- Alternative energy requirements for new building
- Continued path of cultural and ecotourism
- Providing facilities for youth to participate in recreational activities

Tourism/Recreation/State Parks

- Use of historic sites as learning opportunities
- Coordination of events with hotel people to get tourists participating in Lander events
- Keep tourists here; x
- 1 cent optional tax; x, x, x
- Volunteer time and hours
- Clearinghouse of everything available in the area
- Attractive Main Street
- Easy access to services for tourists
- Charissa (sp?) Mine recently purchased with about 10 historic sites left in conditions since WWII – this needs to be restored, preserved, interpreted, and open to the public
- South Pass City is the most authentic western ghost town that exists in the Western Hemisphere – develop into one of the most important historic sites in the state
- Multi-event center in Lander; x, x, x, x, x, x, x, x, x
- Winter sporting
- Rec center; x, x
- Acquire land outside of town but in the valley for recreation purposes – use inspiration of City Park
- Aquatic type spray parks connected to the pool
- Trail system improvements and expansion
- Rodeo grounds; x
- Considerable infrastructure improvements – streets, sewers, etc.; x, x, x
- New grocery store
- Keep the small town atmosphere; x
- Equine center

- Teen center
- Curbside recycling
- Cabela's sporting goods
- Maintenance of historical district
- Potable water – super loo public bathrooms
- 1 in 3 people volunteering; increase community involvement and commitment
- Library system take the lead on communication
- More places to provide technology for tourists – library is currently the only place for tourists to access phone, bathroom and computers
- Money thrown at greenway projects and trail/walkway systems
- Affordable airline/airport travel
- Outdoor theater project pursued
- Loop road area improvements and maintenance
- Full time city planner; x
- Increase lodging tax to 3-4%; x
- Plan down Main Street to preserve architecture and western heritage
    - Cemetery – who's buried there?
- Shop local first
- Reclaim our position as main route to Yellowstone
- Reservation builds huge reservoir north of town

Quality of Life/Arts & Culture/Historical Preservation

- Sewage problem has been solved
- Stability for the community concert society
- Citizens having tools around collaboration (National Coalition Building Institute is an example) Cohesive, collaborative set of groups.
- Unified arts center x
- A vibrant, healthy river running through town, with fish and kids swimming. Xx
- Communication between groups and sectors. Someone who helps and facilitates communication.
- Outdoor theater, with stage, seating, cover.
- Recreation arts, culture, conference center. Multigenerational xxxxxxx
- Beaver Creek ski area to have a parking lot.
- Main Street historic preservation program, Preservation of outlying historic areas.
- Be able to have the same open, riding areas we have
- Maintain viewsheds and manage sprawl.
- Maintain migratory paths for deer.
- Support the Wind River Reservation

- The Eastern Shoshoni historical center completed
- Maintain small business emphasis, let Riverton have the big box retailers.
- Economic sustainability for non-profits so we can focus on service and collaboration. xx
- Schools have a strong arts exposure in school.
- Education system changes to allow for trade or art skill training if college is not in the cards. Xxxx
- A more cohesive attitude among residents.
- Recycling programs
- Bustling downtown mainstreet.
- Progressive and energetic people on commissions and councils. Xxxx
- Loose the "you have to have been born here to have a good idea" mindset.
- Need a tree replacement plan / program. xx
- Make our grey water potable and usable. Xx
- Lander to be an Arts Mecca. Xxx
- Multi-use center to handle up to 7,000 people.
- Use the Lander District Recreation board for a funding mechanism
- Support the job center in Riverton.
- People shop locally
- There are still small working farms and ranches.

High School Youth

- No more things moving in, maybe just a place for teens to hang out; x
- Keep the town the same
- Clean up community more
- Add to parks and rec programs for teenage kids and make them more available and cheaper – rock climbing, caving, NOLS-like, volleyball, basketball; x
- Buy out all the chains and bribe them to leave the state and build a school system based on learning rather than scoring well on tests and learn more about using the land and gardening, etc.
- New streets and sidewalks
- Better pizza; x
- More of the town should look like Main Street
- Pool hall
- Movie theater shows more than two movies and maybe is a little bigger
- Remote Control on-road/off-road cars
- Hobby store

- Rec center incorporating all these rec ideas; x, x, x, x, x, x, x – certain times would be just teens
    - Go-carts, mini golf, arcade, paint ball, laser tag; x, x, x, x, x
    - Drive-in movie theater, café open later than 7 pm, ice cream shop, candy store, café with candy; x, x
    - Roller skating rink; x, x
    - Teen club/disco; x, x, x
    - CAN is working on raising funds for a rec center to include go-carts and cool gadgets
- Something open all night
- Family nights and teen nights – like Fat City in CO
-

Transportation

- Diagonal parking along Main Street, bike paths
- Shift from car-centric to bike, mass transit, alternative transportation mentality; x, x, x
- Need a city planner
- "Complete the Streets" is a national program that may be available to Lander
- Optional 1 cent sales tax
- More for the kids to do – update the skate park and make it more centrally located; community center for the kids; x, x, x
- Ranches outside of town for sale bought
- Museum of the West continue to grow
- Large arts center
- Whole Foods
- Rec Center; x, x – all encompassing, for all ages – x, x, x
- Expand bike and walking trails; x, x
- Biking and jogging lanes along the streets; x, x
- Keep looking forward as a community
- Better cell phone coverage and internet coverage
- We could make better use of existing facilities
- Encouraging people to participate in outdoor activities
- Maintain small town and community sense
- Lander as a mecca for the arts
- No box stores or chain stores
- Vision for Lander
- Small pedestrian walkway closed off to vehicles to encourage lingering, walking, biking, etc.

- Commitment to a sustainable community that would include the creation of products both to sell outside our boarders and to use in the community (ie food products)
- Position or positions funded to focus on a bicycle program in the town to include education in the schools, outreach to employers
- Roundabout at the top of the hill to make it safer for pedestrians and increase traffic flow
- City take over maintenance of sidewalks so they are kept up consistently
- Increase walk sign on the crosswalks so there is time to cross streets
- Pathway system completed – safe routes to school; x, x
- River walk from one end of Lander and beyond – Sinks Canyon to Hudson; tie into Riverton's path to Shoshone; x, x
- River is a central part of the city
- Spirit of Lander continues
- Money is not a problem, people don't go hungry
- Lander, in their generosity would share their money
- WYDOT to hire a resident engineer
- New airport terminal
- Keeping all the wild places in WY wild
- Rec Center/Conference Center/Arts Center; x
- LAPS (Lander Area Pathway Systems) completed & implemented – better distribution of bike racks
- Designated as a Gold level community by League of American Bicyclists
- Protecting remaining open space in town
- Bike paths along squaw creek

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

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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Younger Generation of Leaders:
People under 40 regularly hold key positions in civic and business affairs.