

THE WYOMING RURAL DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL

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

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

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

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

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

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

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April 9-11, 2002

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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

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

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

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

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

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

Sincerely,

Steve Achter, Resource Team Leader

PROCESS FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF THIS REPORT

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

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

The Resource Team toured the town and interviewed approximately ninety-three people over a three-day period from April 9-11, 2002. The team interviewed representatives from the following segments of the Hanna community: churches, elected officials, childhood development, senior citizens, education, civic groups, business/industry, utilities, emergency services and high school students. 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 Hanna?
- What do you think are the major strengths and assets in Hanna?
- What projects would you like to see completed in two, five ten and twenty years in Hanna?

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

The oral report was presented to the people of Hanna on January 24, 2002 and many of the citizens of Hanna who participated in the interviews were in attendance.

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

RESOURCE TEAM MEMBERS

Hanna, Wyoming Resource Team April 9-11, 2002

Steve Achter (Team Leader)
Wyoming Business Council
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Cheyenne, WY 82002
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Casper, WY 82602
(307) 235-3999

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USDA, Rural Development
100 East "B" Street, Room 1227
P.O. Box 820
Casper, WY 82602
307-261-6314
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Executive Director
Washington Rural Development Council
P O Box 11790
Olympia, WA 98508
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E-mail: jlowery@scattercreek.com

Leanne Whitman
UW Cooperative Extension Service
228 9th Street
Evanston, Wyoming 82930
307-783-0570
FAX 307-783-0580
E-mail: lewhitman@uintacounty.com

LOCAL CONTACTS/COORDINATORS

Hanna Community Assessment, April 9-11, 2002

The following citizens are the members of the Hanna Economic Development Committee and helped coordinate the local logistics to insure the assessment ran efficiently.

Amy Heck
Jack Heck
Don Holler
Andy Jones
Sandy Jones
Dave Midkiff
Kristie Lessard
Pat Ryan
Caroline Szekely
Richard (Zack) Szekely
Ken Worman

Resource Team Agenda

Hanna, Wyoming
April 9, 10 and 11, 2002

<u>Tuesday 4/9/2002</u>	<u>Activity</u>	<u>Location</u>
10:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.	Arrive in Hanna	Town Hall
10:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.	Orientation and Organization Meeting (Team Members Only)	Town Hall
11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.	Lunch with Community Resource Team Planners	Home Café
1:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.	Resource Team Area Tour	
5:00 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.	Dinner with Community Resource Team Planners	Nugget Bar
7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.	Hanna Town Council Meeting (Optional)	Town Hall
<u>Wednesday 4/10/2002</u>		
<u>Listening Sessions</u>		
7:00 a.m. to 8:00 a.m.	Breakfast	Home Café
8:10 a.m. to 9:00 a.m.	Listening Session (Students)	High School
9:10 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.	Listening Session (Faculty)	High School
10:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.	Break	Town Hall
10:45 a.m. to 11:45 a.m.	Listening (Early Childhood Ed.)	Wee Folks
12:00 a.m. to 12:45 p.m.	Lunch	Home Cafe
1:00 p.m. to 1:50 p.m.	Listening (Clergy)	Town Hall
12:00 p.m. to 2:50 p.m.	Listening (Town Gov.)	Town Hall
3:00 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.	Break	Town Hall
3:30 p.m. to 4:45 p.m.	Listening (EMSs & Law Enforce.)	Fire Station
5:30 p.m. to 6:45 p.m.	Dinner	Dingy Dan's
7:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.	Listening (Open Meeting)	Recreation Center
<u>Thursday 4/11/2002</u>		
<u>Listening Sessions</u>		
7:00 a.m. to 8:00 a.m.	Breakfast	Sharon's Café
8:10 a.m. to 9:00 a.m.	Listening (Industry)	Town Hall
9:10 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.	Listening (Business)	Town Hall
10:00 a.m. to 10:15 a.m.	Break	Town Hall
10:15 a.m. to 11:05 a.m.	Listening (Civic Groups)	Town Hall
11:15 a.m. to 11:50 a.m.	Listening (Utilities)	Town Hall

12 noon	to 12:30 p.m.	Lunch	Senior Center
12:30 p.m.	to 1:20 p.m.	Listening (Senior Citizens)	Senior Center
1:30 p.m.	to 5:00 p.m.	Prepare for evening meeting	Town Hall
5:30 p.m.	to 6:30 p.m.	Dinner	Sharon's Café
7:00 p.m.	to 8:00 p.m.	Team oral reports to town	Rec Center

RECOMMENDATIONS SUBMITTED BY RESOURCE TEAM MEMBERS

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

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

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

RECREATION

Challenge: The need for outdoor recreation facilities such as a walking/biking path and general park improvements was mentioned many times at the listening sessions.

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

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

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

The one-percent special purpose tax has been used to funds recreation facilities. Procedures for passage of the tax are outlined in State Statute 39-15-203 (iii). In short, two thirds of the towns in the county must agree to place the tax on the ballot and in turn the county commissioners must also agree to place the tax on the ballot.

As part of the approval of the tax, one idea to consider is the creation of a sinking fund, with the income from the fund used to cover the operations and maintenance cost of a facility.

HOUSING

Challenge: Expressed was the need for assisted living for the elderly and the need to make improvements to existing housing particularly windows and insulation.

Solution/Contacts: Other communities have faced similar situations and have used a variety of methods to solve the problem. The Wyoming Community Development Authority (WCDA), which is the housing finance agency for the state, manages the HOME Investment Partnership Program, or HOME for short, which helps pay for development costs if the subsidy is past on to the renter or the homebuyer.

For additional information contact:

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

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

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

Sue Hoesel
307-857-1988

Family Services with state government operates a housing weatherization program that can assist qualified homeowner made improvements to their homes. There is a toll free number that can be called to make application. The number is 1 800 246 4225.

COMMUNITY RELATIONS

Challenge: There were a number of comments regarding the need for aggressive forward thinking leadership and a need for the town council to work together. There are concerns about communication, or the lack thereof, between local officials as well as communication by those officials back to the citizens.

Solution/Contacts:

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

Leadership Wyoming
Wyoming Business Alliance
145 South Durbin, Suite 101
Casper, WY 82601
307-577-8000
E-mail: wylw@qwest.net

PUBLIC FACILITES

Challenge: The need for improved public facilities was mentioned numerous times during the sessions, in a medical clinics and improvements to the sewage lagoons to eliminate the odor.

Solution/Contact: There is a variety of state and federal grant programs that can assist the community pay for improvements. Most programs have limitations on the types of project they

are able to fund. However, these limitations should be discussed with the program managers of the particular program.

For general public improvements contact:

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

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

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Challenge: A number of issues concerning the lack of services and the need for new businesses that would lead to job creation surfaced during the listening sessions.

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

Business Challenge

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

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

Tom Johnson

Wyoming Business Council
1400 E. College Dr.
Cheyenne, WY 82002
307-635-7735
E-mail: tjohns@state.wy.us

Solution/Contact: The Wyoming Business Council engaged a consulting firm with a national reputation to prepare a targeted industry study, which identifies, given the attributes of Wyoming communities, the most appropriate industries to recruit to the state. The analysis is from an objective, external corporate site selector's perspective of Wyoming. Even though the study focuses on business attraction, it is useful for business expansion and retention because it identifies the current business climate under which existing businesses operate. With a better understanding of the existing business climate local economic development professionals will be in a position to implement strategies that will assist existing businesses. The report also contains a guide for communities to follow to prepare themselves to attract the identified industries, as well as understand the critical location factors for each targeted industry. It is recommended that Hanna use the report as a starting point to develop and refine a recruitment or existing business and retention effort.

It is unlikely that the community will attract companies in any great numbers. It is likely however, that two or three existing companies will create five new jobs each. An existing business expansion and retention program will help make this happen. A formal business expansion and retention program is an important component of any local economic development strategy. The city of Powell has successfully conducted such a program. Hanna may want to consider a scaled down version of this program. The person to talk to in Powell is Dave Reetz.

A copy of the targeted industry report is attached. Additional information about the targeted industry report may be obtained by contacting Den Costantino at 307-777-2800. Dave Reetz may be reached at 307-754-2011.

Not all communities are prepared for or have in place the necessary tools to be successful with a business recruitment or business expansion effort. Certain steps must be taken before true success can be attained with a business recruitment or expansion program. Considerable academic research has been completed to determine what needs to be in place to insure success. Appendix A contains an outline of an approach that has been proven successful. It is called "Economic Development Building Blocks, A Holistic Approach." For more information about implementing the building block in Hanna contact.

Tom Johnson
Wyoming Business Council
1400 E. College Dr.
Cheyenne, WY 82002
307-635-7735
E-mail: tjohns@state.wy.us

Challenge: Entrepreneurial training for existing business owners as well as owners of start-up businesses is essential and can go a long ways toward strengthening the viability of new or expanding businesses.

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

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

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

Arlene Soto
Region IV SBDC
Laramie County Community College
1400 East College Drive
Cheyenne, WY 82007-3298
307-632-6141
Toll free 800-348-5208
Fax: 307-632-6061
E-mail: SEWSBDC@wyoming.com

WHAT MAKE COMMUNITIES FUNCTION

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

- Evidence of community pride. The citizens in a Midwest town rebuilt a dam that was vital to that community. The townspeople are proud that they pulled together, raised a large amount of money, renovated the dam and then fixed up adjoining parks and boat ramps. They now celebrate the achievement with a yearly "Water over the Dam Days."
- Emphasis on quality in business and community life.
- Active economic development program.
- Willingness to invest in the future. This is demonstrated by voluntary contributions of time and money and the approval of bond issues and tax levies for schools, utilities, streets, town centers, recreation facilities, etc.
- Participatory approach to community decision-making. Do people feel that they have input into community decisions? Do local officials regularly inform the public about upcoming decisions and events and encourage public discussion and involvement?
- Cooperative community spirited people and organizations believe that "we're all in this together." Cooperation is expressed through attitudes like: "If I help you now, you'll help me later. Better yet, I know if I help you now, I'll benefit in the long run. If we disagree on something, we can still be friends. I can give in to you on this thing that you really want, knowing that in the future you'll do the same for me."
- Realistic appraisal of future opportunities. Not every town will be able to attract a substantial new business, and even for those that do land a "plum," their problems are not solved, just different.
- Awareness of competitive positioning.
- Deliberate transition of power to a younger generation of leaders. Communities can't wait for the transition to happen magically. Young people and newcomers must be encouraged to participate and given the experience and training necessary to help them. Also, the more people who are involved in leadership, the less a burden it is on any one person or group. The more open local government and organizations appear to be, the more energy and ideas that will be generated.
- Acceptance of women in leadership roles. And not just in "behind the scenes" and minor parts without power or recognition.

- Strong belief in and support of education. Even though the majority of citizens in rural communities no longer have children in school, they recognize that the whole community benefits from well-educated young people.
- Problem solving approach to providing health care. Communities must approach this problem from the view of providing health care for citizens, not simply how to attract a doctor.
- Strong multi-generational family orientation.
- Strong presence of traditional institutions that are integral to community life. Traditional institutions such as churches, school and civic organizations (PTOs, Kiwanis, Rotarians, Lions), and youth groups (girl and scouts, 4-H) play an essential role in the community.
- Knowledge of the physical environment.
- Attention to sound and well-managed infrastructure. Included here are parks, swimming pools, streets, sewer systems, electric and water utilities, civic buildings, etc.
- Careful use of fiscal resources. With lots of money, it would be much easier for towns to have great parks, schools, utilities, etc. However, almost all local governments are experiencing a scarcity instead of an abundance of resources. The trick is, then, to make hard choices, run government efficiently, and find ways to provide essential maintenance and upgrades even in times of shortage. Easier said than done.
- Sophisticated use of information resources.
- Willingness to seek help from the outside.
- Conviction that, in the long run, you have to do it yourself. Communities can get help from the outside. However, responsibility for survival and enhanced quality of life rest ultimately with the people who live in the community.

Are these characteristics of a viable community evident in Hanna?

USEFUL WEB SITES AND GRANT INFORMATION

State grant information through the State Library:

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

Federal Catalog of Domestic Assistance:

www.cfda.gov

Information about private foundation assistance:

www.fdncenter.org

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

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

Derrel L. Carruth
P.O. Box 1831
Casper, WY 82602
(307) 235-3999

TOWN APPEARANCE

Certainly this is the most important issue in my mind the community of Hanna faces in its efforts to improve the vitality and “pride of ownership within the general population. Every group from students to senior citizens and from businesses to non-profits feels their community has many undesirable aspects. Such as not enough trees, too much deer manure, too much sagebrush, too many abandoned or minimally maintained properties, etc. The real truth is, there is little in the way of attractions that are brought to your attention that would immediately bring one into town.

Gateway Signage:

So what can be done to improve upon this perspective? I think most of us form immediate and rapid impressions of a community by way of the first things we see. For Hanna, that is the sign as we turn off Highway 30, or perhaps the large fenced in utility area on the right after exiting.

The community is complimented on the initial efforts to establish a tree line on the west side of the main entrance to town, but some larger trees interspersed by the smaller ones might be in order. Also, I believe that a change in signage with pertinent information and environmentally and esthetically appealing landscaping is in order to bring a good rapid calling for folks to turn into Hanna. I have visited With Gene Legerski of the Wyoming Department of Transportation in Cheyenne with the traffic division. His phone number is (307) 777-4351, at 5300 Bishop Blvd., Cheyenne, WY 82003. I think he could give a very good recommendation as to sign requirements. Cheyenne and Mills also have some excellent entries folks could view for ideas on what they might want to do. A local group might be formed to take on this project and come up with an interesting and unique approach.

Clean Up and Trees:

For the most part major clean up has been recognized not only by the groups we interviewed but by the local council as indicated by the efforts presently being made to establish a new planning and zoning board and a current review of the existing laws. If the community could initiate some major clean up drives in conjunction with the city’s free pickup of trash, (I believe during May), much could be done to clean up the town and at very little cost.

Planning and zoning issues are a real challenge, and perhaps the Town Council or its newly established Board might want to talk with the University of Wyoming Extension Agency through

Roger Coupal at (307) 766-5246 to gain some insight on how to move forward with this ticklish area.

From a birds eye perspective, there are select areas of Hanna that have a pretty good density of trees, but for the most part a strategic review is needed in order to ascertain where trees should be placed for the best utilization. As someone said, for the most part there weren't or aren't many trees because of the "high plains" environment and that we should accept the present landscaping because that is what is most conducive for the area. So there are some differing points of view. To plant additional trees that are of a size usable and visible will be a significant cost and I do not know of any resources available for funding of this kind of project, but I do believe additional trees may have a positive reaction for folks coming into the community.

HOUSING

Assisted Care:

There was an indication that there is a need for a type of an assisted care facility in order to retain more of the community's elderly population. This type of facility can be developed by profit motivated and or non-profit organizations on a needs determined basis and funded by a variety of sources.

The definition for assisted care that I am using is a facility that provides all of the essential services for an aging population and includes such things as an on-site manager, two or three meals daily and an efficiency apartment. Also, regularly scheduled transportation for medical treatment and shopping, room cleaning, regular scheduled activities, etc, etc. Since there are significant costs for these services to be included there are certain economies of scale that begin to apply and I believe a minimum size project is at least 30 units.

An alternative to assisted care is senior housing in which a limited profit, or non-profit organization might provide an apartment complex with fewer services such as only an manager, and tenants have complete, accessible apartments with kitchens, etc. to provide for their own needs. And at rates they can afford.

Low Cost Housing:

Low cost housing was an issue, but I believe more on the side that not more low cost housing was needed as so much as the cost of existing housing in Hanna being low. As result it has brought some folks to town that don't necessarily contribute to the benefit of the community.

Funding sources for assisted care and senior apartment facilities include:

1. USDA-Rural Development's Multi-Family Section 515 loan program. This program is

administered by the use of Notification of Fund Availability (NOFA), which is published annually in the Federal Register. Generally these funds are made available around the first of the year. Rural Development also has a guaranteed loan program under Section 538. This program is also handled under the NOFA system. These loans are designed to assist low and very-low income tenants. Specific details as well as a list of potential developers can be obtained from Keith Campbell, Rural Development Manager, or his staff at 201 East Washington Avenue, P.O. Box 1607, Riverton, WY 82501-1607. Phone (307) 856-5383.

2. Another Federal Agency contact with insured funding is HUD, 100 East "B" Street, Casper, WY 82601. Phone Number is (307) 261-6250 and a contact person would be Daryl Hernandez.

COMMUNITY RELATIONS

Town Council Relations:

There appears to be some conflict within the council and the Mayor and the concern that they don't work together. This conflict seems to be grounded by the fact the Mayor is relatively new to the community and the council is made up of the "old guard". Under a political process there is continually a differing point of view, but there was at least support at the last general election for all of those in place today. It is said that there has been an effort made at mediation and other efforts to resolve the conflict, but nothing short of the next election will cure the problem. From my personal observation it appears to me that generally good communication between the council members and Mayor would go along way in solving the problem and in keeping issues amongst themselves rather than to others until agreed upon would go a long way in resolving some of this conflict. Wyoming Association of Municipalities (WAM) has a Leadership Training Service program that I recommend you consider. Contact WAM at 200 E. 8th Avenue, P.O. Box 3110, Cheyenne, WY 82003. The phone number is (307) 632-0398.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Day Care facility:

The need for a day care facility was discussed at several listening sessions. The type of facility I heard was most in need was one that could serve pre-school as well as some younger school age children during hours a parent or parents work or possibly even part of Saturday.

If a non-profit group was formed funding may be available through Rural Development under a Community Facility loan or grant. Information for this program can be obtained from the Riverton Area Office mentioned under housing of this report or to the State Office, 100 East "B" Street, P.O. Box 820, Casper, WY 82001. Phone (307) 261-6300. A contact person would be Jerry Tamlin, Program Director or a member of his staff.

SUMMARY

I would like to commend the Hanna Community for seeking assistance through the Community Assessment process and thank the community as a whole for the hospitality provided during our stay.

This community has a great domestic water supply system and sewer treatment facility that is all gravity flow. Their overall debt load is very low and so they are able to use most of their income for operating and maintenance expenses. They have a great recreational center, excellent school system, an excellent emergency response team and I understand they are provided good medical services through a physician assistant, as well as a long time day care facility for needy children.

Recently a small company, Beltek, relocated to Hanna. This company specializes in on-line electronic catalogs, training and software sales. The company is providing additional jobs with better incomes for some.

Local businesses are supported by the people in the community and appreciate their being there. They only wish more would come.

With the reduction in coal being produced other avenues of income are important in order to retain current residents or draw new residents to the community. Utilizing a marketing specialist, perhaps this community can draw outdoor enthusiasts through the town by developing a small RV park and by advertising its great domestic water supply and a great place to stay as they enjoy the nearby mountains, lakes and streams for sport activities.

Debra L. (Debbie) Hall

USDA, Rural Development
100 East "B" Street, Room 1227
P.O. Box 820
Casper, WY 82602
307-261-6314
FAX 307-261-6339
E-mail debbie.hall@wy.usda.gov

INTRODUCTION

I would like to thank the town of Hanna and the community for the warm welcome and hospitality that was evident during our visit. Time spent in Hanna reinforces my attraction to small-town USA, being raised, and currently living in, a small community myself. The Hanna community has a great deal of amenities including its heritage and history, small town atmosphere (highlighted by the people), outstanding outdoor recreation activities and a superior recreation center.

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

RECREATION/ACTIVITIES

Challenge: The need for increased available community activities was mentioned several times during the listening sessions. A walking/biking path and park improvements were mentioned specifically.

Solution/Contacts: The Land and Water Conservation Program offers funding to acquire and/or develop/renovate public outdoor recreational lands and facilities. A 50% match is required.

For additional information regarding this program contact:

Todd Thibodeau

Herschler Building 1E, 122 W 25th
Cheyenne, WY 82002
Phone 307-777-6478
www.wyobest.org/recgrants.html

To obtain a catalog of Wyoming State Grant Programs, contact:

Department of Administration and Information
State Library Division
301 Capital Avenue

Cheyenne, WY 82002

Web site <http://www-wsl.state.wy.us/sis/grants/index.html>

The USDA, Rural Development, Rural Housing Service (RHS) offers Community Facility Loan and Grants for essential community facilities in rural areas. Funds may be used to construct, enlarge, or improve community facilities for health care, public safety and public services.

For additional information on CF loans and grants contact:

Keith Campbell
Rural Development Manager
USDA, Rural Development
320 East Lincoln
Riverton, WY 82501
307-856-7524, Ext. 4
FAX 307-856-2383
E-mail: keith.campbell@wy.usda.gov

HOUSING

Challenge: The assessment team heard comments regarding the need for improvements and rehabilitation of existing housing. We also heard the need for assisted living facilities.

Solution/Contacts: The city of Worland has had a preliminary feasibility study completed regarding an assisted living facility for Washakie County. The results of this study would be beneficial for the town of Hanna to review.

For information contact:
Rodney Proffitt
Washakie County Planner
1001 Big Horn Avenue, Suite 104
Worland, WY 82401
307-347-2741
FAX 307-347-9366

The USDA, Rural Development Rural Housing Service (RHS) has a variety of programs that are targeted toward providing affordable housing in small communities and rural areas. I will provide a brief outline on some of these programs.

- I. Guaranteed Rural Housing Loans. This program is designed to help low and moderate income households with good credit and steady income purchase homes without a down payment requirement.

- II. Home Ownership Loans. These loans are to assist very low and low income households purchase or improve their homes at a subsidized interest rate.
- III. Section 504 Rural Home Repair Loans and Grants. These loans and/or grants are available to assist very low income homeowners with repairs to their homes. The interest rate is 1%. The terms are for up to 20 years. Grants are for elderly applicants at least 62 years of age.
- IV. Rural Rental Housing Loans (Section 515). These loans are for rental housing units to provide subsidized affordable rentals for persons of very low, low, and moderate incomes – including those 62 and older, handicapped, or disabled.
- V. Rural Rental Housing Loans (Section 538). This program is intended to produce new affordable rental housing by inviting qualified lenders and eligible housing providers to propose rental complexes that will serve rural residents with low to moderate incomes.
- VI. Housing Preservation Grants. Grant funds are available annually on a competitive basis to nonprofit groups assisting very low-income homeowners with essential repairs.
- VII. Self-Help Housing. This program allows homeowners to provide sweat equity for construction of homes under supervision by a construction supervisor sponsored by a housing authority or other non-profit organization.

For more information and to discuss with applicants who have experience with these programs, contacts are:

All of these programs are processed and serviced for the central portion of the state by the local Rural Development Area Office located in Riverton. Keith Campbell is the Area Rural Development Manager, and his contact information was provided earlier in this report.

The small town of Sundance, WY formed a housing authority and developed a small 12-unit elderly apartment complex a few years ago. It has been a very successful project. A contact to discuss their thoughts is:

Cindy Van Horn, Manager
Green Mountain Estates
Sundance Housing Authority
P.O. Box 831
Sundance, WY 82729
307-283-2948

A private developer built a RRH 515 4-unit apartment project in the small community of Edgerton, WY a few years ago. This developer has built many of these projects in various small communities in several states over the last 20 years. A contact is:

John Bosley
Bosley Management, Inc.
1566 Terra Avenue
Sheridan, WY 82801
307-672-0407

Recently, Housing Partners in Riverton applied for a Self-Help Grant for technical assistance in the development of a self-help housing project. Four homes have been completed and were financed by Rural Development. For information contact:

Sue Hoesel
307-857-1988

Also, the city of Rawlins was just approved for a Self-Help Grant to develop a program there. For information contact:

Ron Kilgore, AICP
Director of Community Development
City of Rawlins
P.O. Box 953
Rawlins, WY 82301
307-328-4513
FAX 307-328-4580
Email (home) Rkilgore@Wyoming.com
Email (office) comdev@Rawlins-Wyoming.com

For the last several years 100% of Wyoming Rural Development's total allocation of Housing Preservation Grant funds have been utilized in the northwest portion of the state. The grantee is based in Worland, and they have used these grant funds throughout four counties (Washakie, Hot Springs, Park, and Big Horn). They have been extremely successful and continue to receive funding on an annual basis. For information contact:

Joe Stolns
Chief Executive Officer
Northwest Community Action Programs of Wyoming, Inc. (NOWCAP)
P.O. Drawer 158
Worland, WY 82401
307-347-6185

PUBLIC FACILITIES

Challenge: Concerns were mentioned during the listening sessions regarding the need for public facilities, such as a medical clinic and pharmacy.

Solution/Contacts: As mentioned in a previous section of this report, the USDA, Rural Development, Rural Housing Service (RHS) offers Community Facility Loan and Grants for essential community facilities in rural areas. Funds may be used to construct, enlarge, or improve community facilities for health care, public safety and public services. For information, contact Keith Campbell who was described in a previous section of this report.

TRANSPORTATION

Challenge: The need for transportation, especially for the elderly, was a topic that came up numerous times in the listening sessions.

Solution/Contacts: Again, USDA, Rural Development's Community Facility Loan and Grant Program may offer assistance in this area. Keith Campbell, Rural Development Manager of the central area office would be your contact. Contact information for Keith is given earlier in this report.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Challenge: The need for recruitment of clean, low impact new businesses was something the team heard on several occasions. Entrepreneurial training for existing business owners as well as owners of start-up business is essential and can go a long way toward strengthening the viability of new or expanding businesses. Technical assistance grants to finance and facilitate development of small and emerging private business enterprises could also be a benefit.

Solution/Contacts: The Wyoming Small Business Development Center (SBDC) provides a wealth of assistance to business owners. The assistance includes business plan assistance, accounting, marketing, government procurement and grant and loan application preparation.

For additional information regarding the SBDC contact:

Arlene Soto
Region IV Director
1400 East College Drive
Cheyenne, WY 82007-3298
307-632-6141 (or) 800-348-5208
FAX 307-632-6061
Email: sewsbdc@wyoming.com

The USDA, Rural Development, Rural Business-Cooperatives Service (RBS) offers Rural Business Enterprise Grants (RBEG's) to facilitate development of small and emerging private business enterprises in rural communities. Eligible applicants include private non-profits and public bodies.

For additional information on RBEG's contact Keith Campbell, whose contact information is provided earlier in this report.

SUMMARY

In closing I want to again express my thanks to the town of Hanna. It became clear during my stay that the town recognizes its greatest strength – THE PEOPLE OF HANNA. Thank you to the team members; it was great to work with you, and thank you to those who organized the assessment process.

I hope that our report is helpful in your efforts to make improvements in your community.

James F. Lowery
Executive Director
Washington Rural Development Council
P O Box 11790
Olympia, WA 98508
360-943-5151
Fax 360-357-3548
E-mail: jlowery@scattercreek.com

I would first like to thank the Wyoming Business Council and the Wyoming Rural Development Council for giving me this opportunity to participate in the community assessment for Hanna, Wyoming. I would also like to thank the town of Hanna for their hospitality and their friendliness.

I will address the major issues with ideas and some federal resource information, probably in the form of web sites. One of those sites is; www.nfg.org/rural/index.htm (this site has information on the Rural Funders working group of private foundations). I don't have enough information for the state resources in Wyoming, but know those who participated with me will provide that information.

TOWN APPEARANCE

The subject of the appearance of Hanna came up in a variety of ways. Primarily run down deserted shacks, to junk and trash in the yard, and some comments on the gateway look to the community.

The fire department has dealt with some of the old run down deserted homes in the past and may want to follow up with the owners of the remaining properties. This is a good practice/training tool for the fire department, plus serves a need of removing a run down, empty home.

In some cases people can't clean up or maintain yards or buildings because of limited resources, disability, old age, etc. It might be interesting to establish a couple of clean up days that allow for people to volunteer to help paint, mow, landscape and clean up yards. Hanna has a free pick up day for garbage, it could be possible to tie that day into one of the clean up days. Pride in your community is evident and getting volunteers to help those that can't physically work on their homes should be fairly easy. Make sure that you develop some system for people to take advantage of the clean up day by applying for their home to be considered. You don't want to get in the business of telling people they need to have this done.

It was mentioned a few times that the gateway look when you enter Hanna needs improvement. In some communities garden clubs actually take ownership of entrances and do the landscaping and maintenance. You have a very talented woodworker in the community and could work with

him to develop a pretty nice sign without having to invest huge amounts of money.

In Washington State we have a state funded program for downtown revitalization. You might want to check and see if Wyoming has anything similar.

RECREATION/ACTIVITIES

This was a fascinating subject to me. Hanna has one of the nicest recreational centers I have ever seen in a small community and yet recreational activities came up quite a bit. To be clear, it was obvious the community was very proud of this facility but wanted more diversity in recreation like; movie theater, walking/biking path, bowling alley, park improvement, and activities for youth.

I would suggest the bike/walking path may not be as difficult as it first appears. While I was Mayor of a little town called Shelton here in Washington State we developed an exercise path with workout stations and did the biggest share of it with city crew and volunteers. It seemed the concern in Hanna was keeping people off the main road into town, and a path from the high school to the recreation center. The path from the high school to the recreation center could be built with volunteers and initially have bark or a like material, until you could raise enough money for gravel or asphalt. You might want to host some fun fund raisers to get the seed money you need to do these projects, like selling signs along the path with the name of the donor, benches with donors names, a plaque at the start that identifies donors (they would purchase a spot for their name), bake sales, cow pasture golf, picnics, develop certificates that people can buy and display to show they contributed and any unusual thing that would be fun and interesting could be developed at the local level for fund raising. This same approach could be used to improve the parks.

Bowling alleys and theaters might be a little more difficult. You would have to show in a business plan that there is enough market to sustain any of these kinds of businesses. You may be able to do that if you can include your neighboring communities. Remember you are asking someone to risk money in an investment that needs some kind of return. With that in mind if you can show someone there is opportunity, then these could be possible.

One other way to approach recreational activities for the young people would be to establish a youth advisory council that would have a good cross section of representation of the youth at your high school. That council could advise the city on what they see as possible and needed for youth activities.

COMMUNICATIONS/TECHNOLOGY

There is a feeling that if fiber optics were available in Hanna it could enhance business opportunity as well as improve the capacity for those who live there. There was a concern about

the phone company being a monopoly and not being concerned with the community.

Before you can encourage a private industry to invest it needs to be shown how they can recapture their capital investment. It might be helpful to establish a telecommunications committee made up of a good cross section of business and residents (including youth) to explore what your definite needs are for telecommunications. Invite the telephone company to have a representative on that committee. It may seem they don't care, but if you can show need and future growth potential they are interested in that kind of information. You have a good start with a technology dependent business already established in your town.

HOUSING

Hanna has a nice low-income housing project, but apparently this type of housing is still in demand. A logical approach would be to get the folks who developed this project and express the interest you have in more of this type of housing. They should have a good handle on the demand and the cost involved in developing more low-income housing.

Assisted living came up a number of times based on the desire many of the older folks would like to stay in Hanna as long as they can and at this point there is no interim facility from home to nursing home. I honestly don't know what programs you have available in Wyoming for this kind of development, but again you need to show there is actually a demand sufficient enough to pay for such a development. It would be a good start to find out how many local folks would take advantage of such a facility and are there folks in neighboring communities that would do the same. Find out what the actual demand is and then explore what the potential may be for bringing in outside folks to such a facility.

COMMUNITY RELATIONS

I think the citizens of Hanna must know that this transition they are going through is not unique to Hanna. There are a number of rural communities across the country that are getting a strong influx of new people, because of lower property values, lower taxes and a quality of living that make it attractive. Many expressed concern that the town council doesn't work together and that volunteers are harder to get. I don't think this is so unusual especially when 50% of your community is made up of old timers and the other half is newcomers.

Having served in local government and having worked with communities going through some of the same problems I would suggest this (and this is only a suggestion). Someone needs to extend the olive branch and initiate communications. Pride and our natural competitiveness sometimes get in the way of debate and compromise. I think it is just plain human nature. But for the good of the community those emotions need to be set aside and you need to identify what common ground there may be. This is not easy and takes considerable effort and some time. I suggested at the town hall meeting that if you couldn't use this approach that you might want to explore

using a neutral facilitator to come in and help you work your way through your differences. I was told that had been tried with the council, but I really was suggesting it be a community effort. I think it would have a better chance of success. If this doesn't work, then I can assure you the transition will happen in one direction or the other whether you like it or not and there will always be hard feelings.

The most consistent expression we heard while in Hanna was how great the people are and how they are the best assets Hanna has. I agree with that assessment after listening for three days to your thoughts and ideas. It would be helpful if the generational families could be recognized for the community they have built and honor them for their hard work and dedication to Hanna. I also believe the generational families should welcome the newcomers with open arms. They can help invigorate the community with new ideas (that aren't always bad) and can be another source for volunteers. Help them have the same pride you do, but be willing to listen to their ideas and maybe implement some of them. I can only offer my thoughts and advice on this subject, but you are really the ones that will eventually determine how to resolve these differences.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT/TOURISM DEVELOPMENT

Both of these subjects came up frequently. I have combined them because I think they are related and can compliment each other.

I noticed that there was no merchant organization or chamber in Hanna. I think a good start for both tourism and economic development would be the establishment of a local business organization. It could be informally developed to start with and they would work on issues like a brochure that promotes Hanna as a place to stop when you go fishing. They could work on the gateway look for Hanna. They could also address the issue of what businesses would we need to recruit or establish to capture the tourists that travel through the area. If I remember right the city had an economic development committee and that committee might be the way to start to bring the business community on board.

This business organization could conduct a business inventory and determine what kinds of businesses (retail) could be sustained in Hanna. From that they could recruit, invest, or start businesses that would benefit the local residents and tourists that might travel through.

Tourism can be a source of recruitment for the high tech companies you want to draw and the light manufacturing companies that were mentioned. First though you have to have developable land that can be used to attract new business and a plan for what kind of businesses you want to attract that could come to Hanna. This is not an easy accomplishment but if you combine tourism development with business recruitment it could work to attract some small businesses.

USDA Rural Development, the Wyoming Business Council, the US Small Business Administration and US Department of Commerce, Economic Development Administration are

federal and state agencies that could help with business development.

TRANSPORTATION

For the development of the 2nd entrance/exit to Hanna you might want to explore partnerships with the county and state road and highway departments to find out what kind of collaborative effort could accomplish the establishment of a 2nd entrance/exit.

Bus/Shuttle again needs to show demand. If you could show enough interest for someone to bring a bus or shuttle to Hanna it would have a better chance of happening. Maybe pre commitment contracts to ride the bus/shuttle if one were established to show a potential provider there is enough demand. If you can't justify the demand know one is going to invest in a vehicle, the insurance to run it, the gas, driver and other costs associated with running that kind of service.

PUBLIC FACILITIES

It was mentioned on more than one occasion the need to expand the clinic. It was also suggested a pharmacy would be nice. Again these facilities need enough customers to justify the capital investment and the operating expense involved. If Hanna could show there are enough prescriptions in town to justify a pharmacy it would be possible to get an investor. You would need to show the clinic can't keep up with the demand now and needs to expand. Without the numbers either would be hard to justify.

It was a pleasure for me to come from Washington State to Hanna, Wyoming and listen to the thoughts, ideas and especially the energy your community has. It doesn't matter what side you are on - - you all care about your community and you have that in common. Good luck with your future progress.

Leanne Whitman

UW Cooperative Extension Service
228 9th Street
Evanston, Wyoming 82930
307-783-0570
FAX 307-783-0580
lewhitman@uintacounty.com

INTRODUCTION

I would like to begin by thanking all of the people of Hanna who were interested and involved citizens as we did this assessment. I thoroughly enjoyed my visit there. I want to remind you each of us begins our report by giving our names and contact information. We will remain available to you in the future to answer questions and to assist you in any way we can. This is not a report we send to you and forget. We are sometimes limited by time and space from explaining things fully and we are willing to supply more information.

OVERALL BEAUTIFUCATION

Challenge: We live in a semi-arid region and are not necessarily a “greenbelt” area. In your community, there is also a lot of dirt, which tends to blow into town due to the winds and the nature of the area around you. When the communities in Wyoming were first settled, people worked to combat these problems by planting trees and grass. It is a way to say, “We live here now.” Specific evidence is the small grove a trees where the Japanese settled as a group. The trees are about all that is left. By now, those early trees in the older parts of town are fully mature and will not likely live for too many more years.

The opposite side to this challenge is that we are currently in a drought and lack of water is a challenge. Even in normal water years, trees can be difficult to get started.

Solution/Contact: There is a need to continue the planting process to beatify communities, but you should do so with water conservation in mind. This may be something you need to put off until you are assured an adequate water supply for the summer.

In planting anything, you will need to consider its suitability to our climate. While some folks who spend many hours in their yards can grow many things, public landscapes need to look good with less care. A booklet on planting in Wyoming and Montana titled: *Creating Native Landscapes in the Northern Great Plains and Rocky Mountains* gives a number of suggestions for planning landscapes. It also lists a number of trees, shrubs and grasses that grow well in our climate. A copy for your review is available at the Town Hall and the Recreation Center Library.

In planning to plant trees you should also consider providing windbreaks for them for the first 3-

5 years. The dry winds can pull water out of the tree almost as fast as the roots damaged in the transplanting process can suck it up. Fencing panels with can be bolted to metal poles or chain link fencing with privacy slats can be used. After 2 or 3 years when the trees are established, these could be moved to another tree. Canvas or burlap on metal poles is probably less expensive, but in a high wind area it may give up in the middle of the winter and need replacement.

Finally, finding trees to plant can be difficult with no local nursery. Many trees sold at discount centers are grown in low altitudes with easy winters and they have difficulty in adapting. The Uinta County Conservation District has ordered truckloads of trees, which they have sold to the people of Bridger Valley. These generally come from nurseries in Montana and northern Idaho. If you would like to purchase a truckload, they can provide information. I do not believe other Conservation Districts have sold large trees. The town has discussed some type of cost sharing program or tree purchasing, I believe. Making a truckload of trees available to the citizens may be a good way to get trees started.

Conservation Districts also sell seedling trees and shrubs for use in windbreaks as we saw in your living snow fence. They are not expensive, but may take 5 to 10 years to achieve the size of most marketable trees. These are generally ordered in January or February and arrive in early May. Planting seedlings and full size trees will help 75 years from now when they reach maturity at differing times.

There are people available to help who know much more about this than I do. I suggest you contact your local conservation district and Extension Office for more assistance.

Carbon County Cooperative Extension
Carbon Building
Box 280
Rawlins, WY 82301
307-382-2642

Uinta County Conservation District
Town Hall
Lyman, WY
307-787-3794

VOLUNTEERS

The amount of appreciation of the Fire and EMS folks that we heard was impressive. So was the dedication of these folks. One of the concerns I heard was it is difficult to recruit new volunteers.

Suggestion (This may not be a Solution)

I was astounded when I heard the amounts of time people are putting into the services. If I were considering volunteering, it would scare me to death. Look at ways people might volunteer for smaller portions, perhaps only for fire and not EMS or vice versa. When I signed up, it was for 2 meetings a month and being on call part of the time. It was later, after I was hooked, I learned about all of the other hours I would willingly put into the program. Many people won't feel they can handle the whole package so look for ways to "grow" them into it by offering small jobs, perhaps even a driver position.

The other thing I was surprised at was that you do not do fund raisers. It is wonderful that you are financially stable enough that you don't need to spend the time and effort, but it is also a public relations tool. When you arrive with the fire truck or ambulance, you are in your professional mode. People see you and are amazed and feel, "I could never do that." In the fund raising mode, people sometimes make mistakes and laugh so they seem more human. This helps people to realize you are not different and they could join you.

YOUTH

One of the concerns we heard from youth was "There is nothing to do in this town." I find if you believe that, all you need to do is to try to schedule a meeting and find out just what they are doing. Even so, involving youth in the community can be a valuable resource for both the community and the youth.

Involvement: Plan to involve youth in the community through a variety of resources. Invite them to serve on boards or committee with full membership and voting rights. It is often surprising what they see as important and if they feel valued, they can make a valuable contribution. Evanston has had a Teen Town Council to learn what youth feel is important and to teach them the operation of government. The youth may want to plan monthly activities for teens.

TOURISM DEVELOPMENT

Tourism development seems like the solution to everyone's problems. There is a lot you can do to make your community more appealing to tourist. The first is to market what you have. This can be a little thing, like improving street signs and printing brochures, which tell the Hanna story. The signs, which direct you to the special things in the town, need to be complete and informational. A sign tells you where to leave the highway to get to the cemetery, but there is no sign to tell you to make the right turn later.

Many genealogists want to come to town and learn about their families, as do descendents of the early miners. They need to know how to find the cemetery. A sign at the cemetery showing

where people are buried is also very helpful.

The museum is also somewhat tricky to find. One sign gets you started in the correct direction, but there are two more turns to find the place. When you arrive, I can't remember a sign on the building to tell me I am there. The hours or a number to call to have it opened if that service is available would also be helpful. This doesn't seem like much to the local people, but it means a lot to those from out of town.

Some people talked of marketing US 30 as a Scenic By-Way. To most people, scenic means trees and other green things. You have an amazing amount of history along the road, which is even more important than scenery to many families and other travelers. The historic prisons make logical beginning and ending points. In between you have Fort Steele, Hanna, Medicine Bow, Carbon, Como Bluff and so on. If all the communities would come together, you could trap a history buff for 2 or 3 days—longer if they also fish. Finding something people will pay for, like history is the first step to building a successful tourism industry. I suggest you work with the other communities along US 30 and the 2 prisons to market a "Historic By-Way." History is a highly marketable product.

As you market tourism, you need to be sure to "sell" your local businesses. Your local motel is not fancy or a major chain. It is clean, well run and inexpensive which is not a guarantee in major chains. There were also several comments about the need for a new restaurant in town. The ones we ate at all had good food and appeared to have safe handling practices. They are not "white tablecloth steak houses," but are good, small town cafes. One person did comment about non-smoking areas. This may be improved by the use of air cleaners in the section set aside for smokers. Remember that if locals don't build up the tourism businesses, the visitors are unlikely to try them. As more visitors spend money, there is a better chance of improving the businesses for the locals.

You have a lot of good people and good ideas. I hope you can work together to realize your dreams.

WHAT WAS SAID AT THE INTERVIEWS

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

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

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

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

- City is too bossy-- land use, building a fence
- Too many unemployed deadbeats
- “
- “
- Too many cops
- Too many deadbeats
- Lots of young deadbeats, don't work and living here is cheap
- Cops are jerks over enforce on kids
- Too many cops
- “
- “
- People always fight about smallest things, don't act their age
- Nothing to do
- “
- “
- “
- “
- “
- “
- “
- “
- Too many deer droppings
- No jobs during or after school
- “
- “
- “
- Planning and zoning committee needs to be more available at town hall

- Need trees
- Town is ugly
- Drugs and alcohol
- Hard drugs used out of school, grass used in school
- 3 bars is a lot for size of town
- Go out of state to school so there are more jobs available
- Want to live in the area but there are no ways to make a living
- Youth don't want to return or to live here
- Don't like town full of sagebrush
- Recreation Center is good but limited interest
- One employer for teens
- Economy based on exporting of raw materials. Need value added.
- Isolated, so hard to keep a workforce here due to lack of cultural centers and lack of jobs
- Hard to keep young teachers. Lack of available people to date, things to do
- Distances that kids are spread limits social interaction
- Isolation; takes unique individual to live in small, isolated community
- No laundromat etc
- Lack of transportation to medical care, etc.
- Encourage education but nothing to come back for
- “
- “
- “
- Kids must leave to be successful
- Low cost of living lead to large population of elderly
- Medical services very limited. PA full time, Doctor ½ day per week
- Lack of home health care
- Influx of transients. Stop for couple of months then move on
- People come here because it is cheap and use welfare services and don't return to community
- Drain on community by deadbeats
- Grocery store closes at 7:00pm, which makes it difficult for kids to work after school
- School hires older kids for summer work due to liability issues
- Attitudes—“I will move on, there is nothing you can do bad enough to make me care about school”
- Lack of pride among transient population
- Volunteerism is hurt by people with lack of pride in the community Pool is shrinking
- Great place for snowbirds due to cheap housing.
- Drug traffic problem. Some is pass through
- Tremendous turnover in the police department due to low salary
- High turnover in teachers

- Lack of small business to allow spending in the town
- “
- “
- Must drive to almost all services
- “
- “
- “
- “”
- Low income housing tries to provide paperwork for low income
- Nothing for kids to do
- “
- “
- Jobs for youth to allow them to stay in community, JTPA is only available
- Need for businesses for older folks to shop
- Pharmacy
- Senior transportation to larger towns
- Activities for young families
- Problem in providing maintenance insurance and fuel for senior transportation
- Jobs for kids
- Rentals needed especially houses
- Houses in winterization especially the older ones.
- Town people do not share as much as they should
- Desire to have alcohol at community activities
- Wind blows
- Clean up
- Trees for snow or wind fences
- Erosion
- Lack of day care (24 hour needed)
- Lack of employment diversity
- Lack of communication among town council members
- Town council needs education on the functions and process of council
- There is a need for teachable moments
- Time for changing of old guard or “good old boys.”
- Change in the type of people who are moving in vs “old guard”
- Need to bring people in
- Aging population is less likely to volunteer
- Becoming a retirement community
- Distances between communities—shopping for weekend home projects
- Projects are delayed to get parts and/or supplies
- Loving community but many people come here to “Hide”

- Recreation center needs to be better utilized especially during the day
- Recreation center loses ¼ million dollars per year Need to involve other communities more
- Decrease in kids for schools due to loss of young families
- Need to cease being extractive industry or conduit to somewhere else
- Boom and Bust economy
- “
- “
- Exodus of people
- “
- “
- Council also needs to serve people outside of town
- Lack of stability
- Need to create diverse jobs
- Lack of trained employees (computers and wood shop)
- Difficult to afford quality employees when other states pay so high
- Lack of volunteer, same people doing it all
- Powers that be need to remember to serve the public that need to be served—Failure of coal, I-80, Fiber optics without POP’s,
- Big companies buying up the land used for ranching and make it harder for small outfits
- Lock up land access
- Loss of ranches and ranch families hurt local businesses
- Frustration of things going past—I-80, fiber optic
- State and feds give communities unfunded mandates
- Unfunded mandates can hurt ag
- Fail to sell ourselves well
- Council need to get a website.
- 4-H program has been cut. It is important to rural community
- FFA is allowing 8 year olds to show animals due to lack of 4-H
- College of Ag brain trust needs to spend more time in communities
- Trash from the railroad. No trash cans along the right of way
- Need to have a business to export products as lack people to purchase
- Low cost of living sometimes leads to import of less desirable types
- Federal, state and county regulations have major effect on ag.
- Need more people involved in public service
- Hanna is coal town and coal is not here anymore with no other businesses
- Need to attract people to the town with something other than empty houses
- Community involvement needed
- “
- “

- “
- “
- People tend to lack roots and community interest
- “
- “
- Getting people to contribute to community and spend money here
- People unwilling to volunteer to fire/EMS
- Influx of new people who are less willing to be involved
- Lack of cohesiveness with new people
- New people from the government down
- “
- “
- New vs old split
- “
- “
- Mayor has yet to visit firehouse
- Would like townspeople to visit firehouse meetings
- Lack of well paying jobs to keep people here
- “
- People leave and businesses leave, hard to get new people when there is little here
- Lack ability to purchase anything here
- Have to travel to get anything
- Honest communication is a problem, rumors and lack of understanding
- People tend to tear others apart
- Lack big money jobs, people travel to find cheaper purchases
- May become a slow growing place rather than an early boom
- Don't support local businesses
- Store doesn't stock a big enough variety of stuff
- Drive to Rawlins for a Big Mac
- Caught in a viscous circle of lack of jobs, lack of shopping, lack of money
- Need to broaden ideas of what is possible
- There is life other than boom and bust coal town, but people don't see it
- Less desirable type of people tends to be moving in. Turns away better types
- HS Grads tend to want to leave
- Lack of things for kids to do -- recreation and jobs
- Newcomers tend to want to make changes without time to know the town
- Large increase in number of free and reduced lunch at schools
- Low involvement of parents in the schools
- Need jobs for the young people as they are the driving engine of a community
- Lack of clean industry

- Many men working out of town in coal mines
- Lack of diverse industry
- Local employment rather than driving to Rawlins
- Raise in costs for sewer, but nothing has yet been done
- Need for people to move, but difficult to sell houses
- Need to keep young people here
- Need things for every generation to do
- Split households due to work
- Jobs
- Places for kids to work
- Old houses or shacks and general appearance of the community needs remedy
- Ditto on community appearance and diverse industry
- Getting people to participate in various activities
- High degree of apathy
- Little shacks and apathy
- Need to reach out and build bridges of communication
- Lack of trust of others in community
- No problem I am willing to share with the state
- I want to come home from work and close my door, but I am willing to try to help
- Appealing to be in a town this size when raising kids but teens tend to lack supervision and respect of adults, i.e. language offensive to retirees
- Going out to eat in non-smoking area.
- Apathy
- Lack of support at the state tournament
- Lack of public transportation
- Appearance of the town, but can be taken too far as in homeowners associations
- Lack of involvement in churches, schools, or activities unless someone dies
- Needs something to draw people besides retirement
- Need to convince city hall what are the assets -- public works, fire/EMS, recreation center
- Election
- Local government
- Getting people involved
- “
- “
- Streets are fixed than need to be fixed again
- People want too much done by the government (everything for nothing)
- Lots of people have moved in who aren't finding Hanna like where they came from
- Takes more than one group to solve the problems of Hanna
- Not enough activities for all age groups, even though we have senior and recreation center

- To much emphasis on government doing things for people - - people should do more for themselves
- To much emphasis on recreation and not enough on other needs of community
- Beautification ideas come from out of town comparisons not based on what Hanna is
- Not enough jobs locally -- too many people have to commute and losing families
- Losing population relates to losing revenues from state on per capita payments to city
- Ease of mobility takes people out of town -- can't stop that
- Lack of transportation for those who have limited ability to travel
- Community is divided -- no communications between opposing forces
- Old timers from coal mining booms resentful of newcomers
- People don't want to change
- Unstable economy
- Retired folks don't want to spend money in the community
- Major things are far away and people do business while they are out of town
- Nothing for kids to do
- Need to clean up the town
- Older folks are less apt to help and change
- Old houses are a problem
- Need more signs and directions
- Agree with what has been said
- “
- “
- Street signs are needed
- Concur with everyone here
- Need to clean up and paint the town
- Lots of old houses and firetraps
- Deer, cats and mice are a problem
- Little path goes to monument, which should be show place. Needs fixed up
- Junk yards are a problem
- Major drug and alcohol problems with kids and adults
- Sewer pond west of the town stinks
- Telephone monopoly
- “
- “
- “
- Recreation is limited to certain types
- “
- “
- Need to advertise assets more
- “

- “
- Apathy, difficult to get volunteers
- “
- “
- “
- Things for youth to do
- Cleanup
- “
- “
- Lacking jobs in town
- Beautify Hanna
- People don't know where Hanna is
- On the map for some of the wrong things
- Communication -- advertise and people apparently don't see. How to get word out
- Lack of support for the activities of the kids.
- Agree with everything
- “
- “
- “
- “
- 1 way in and out of town
- “
- “
- Dangerous walking condition on Highway 72
- Blowing garbage
- Turn off the fan – to windy
- Trashy properties (vehicles and old houses)
- “
- “
- “
- Apathy is greatest challenge for groups
- Getting people out for things
- Kids who are involved are into everything
- Getting people to participate in VFW activities
- Transportation for out of town, cost is an issue
- Weather is an issue with transportation of youth between towns
- Shipping of propellers or delicate jewelry across the country -- cost
- Have to pay weekly cost for pickup of freight
- Not necessarily tourist friendly
- People are unaware of services available

- “
- “
- Lack of “career” oriented work
- Markets are outside the community
- Getting the word out on what we do
- Business must advertise well
- Liability on fireworks/toys is very expensive
- Lack of high speed internet access
- “
- “
- “
- Materials must be purchased out of town or out of state
- Toll phone calls for most needs
- Intra state calls are more expensive than interstate
- “
- “
- “
- Digital coverage is limited on cell phone
- Watts line is cost prohibitive
- Small business operate on shoestring and hard to purchase even the basics
- More variety of things needed.
- Major costs of business operation is phone and shipping costs
- Need business which cater to teens
- Chamber of Commerce could be a need
- Disappointed she did not here of a specific session due to no invitation
- The mayor
- “
- “
- “
- “
- “
- Need employment for young people
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- “
- “
- “
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- “
- Continuity of employment and business/community stability
- Greed, companies won’t come in as they can’t make a big profit
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- “

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- Big business doesn't care about small town
- “
- “
- “
- Lack of jobs
- “
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- “
- “
- “
- K-Mart/Walmart 75 miles
- No retail services
- We came knowing there were many problems, but we are here
- Wants to move back, but no job is available
- Very isolated
- New people leads to loss of familiarity with neighbors

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

- Small school is good
- Quiet
- Booster club has good support
- Small school
- Quiet
- Booster club
- Nicer in small town
- 3 towns come together to support school
- Can know people in small town
- Low crime
- Good job for a small town government
- Town works together for King Coal Days
- School activities
- FFA
- Sports
- Volunteers, Fire, EMS
- Recreation center
- Recreation center employs kids
- Churches help the community -- food baskets, clothing store

- EMS is excellent
- Town pulls together to meet needs
- Support for school groups
- Schools are good
- Teachers know kids and parents and are very involved
- Location is deterrent for social center, but has a lot of potential
- Lakes and mountains are close
- ”
- “
- Council is very supportive of volunteer organizations
- Communication between school and town government is good
- City worked with school to pave school entry
- School sponsors clean up day
- Local mine set up crows nest for football field
- Active involvement of parents in the school
- Various school organizations assist the town with thing like park, FFA alumni
- Living snow fence
- Ropes course, anti drug program
- State events for scouting hosted here
- Bar has cribbage tournaments and pool tourneys
- Activity buses are available for school
- Size is a strength but could be doubled
- Quiet place
- Affordable housing
- “
- “
- “
- “
- Recreation center
- “
- “
- ‘
- Wee Folks
- “
- “
- “
- Grocery store
- “
- “
- “

- Headed in the right direction but takes time
- Location is good
- “
- “
- “
- Natural resources
- “
- “
- “
- Hunt and fish
- People of community are supportive
- “
- “
- “
- People want to make the town better, slowly
- “
- “
- “
- “
- Room for change and keeps people busy
- Supportive of single parent family
- Extremely cheap housing
- Seminole and the Platte River
- Recreation center
- Public works department
- Love of the people for others. Always willing to help
- Peace and quiet
- Excellent school system
- Marvelous location
- Natural Resources
- Climate and weather except for the wind
- Churches are strong and varied
- Fire and EMS have rapid response
- Gateway to the Miracle Mile
- “
- “
- Clinic and mobile dentist
- Low crime
- Strong transportation, water and power infrastructures.
- Interstate can be asset

- Children -- more so if we can keep them here to raise families
- People and business whom have stayed
- “
- “
- Recreation center
- Schools
- Small school size and efforts to offer as much as possible
- Open spaces, natural resources
- “
- “
- Hanna Museum
- Heritage and history
- No crime
- Railroad
- Hunting and fishing
- Small quiet atmosphere
- People, the support they offer
- “
- “
- Beltek -- business to be proud of and to sell to other
- Wide open spaces
- People look out for each other
- Agriculture (small family owned places) offer support to community
- Clinic owned by the hospital
- Small town -- good place to raise kids
- Low crime
- Recreation center
- “
- “
- Fire department rated as a 4 which is very low for volunteers
- “
- “
- “
- “
- “
- Medical emergency response
- Agree with everything
- Area wide recreational activities—outdoor, hunt, fish
- “
- “
- Good town

- Candy parades are good
- Medical clinic
- Tend to sit back and wait for one of the “clans” to do it
- Quality of life is good
- Schools
- “
- “
- Recreation center is a money pit but is a major drawing point to link the town
- Number of churches exceeds number of bars
- Drugs and alcohol are an undercurrent rather than a major problem
- Crime rate is low which is draw for the elderly
- People -- nice, can come together
- Penny Briggs runs recreation center
- Recreation center
- “
- “
- “
- “
- “
- “
- “
- Affordable housing
- Outdoor recreation
- Railroad spur
- Vacant property in the town
- Transportation, land, water and sewer
- Gateway to miracle mile
- Agree with everything
- Property tax is reasonable so can afford to have a house and pay taxes
- Deer are nice even if they are a pain to have
- Old timers are a great asset
- Schools are major asset
- Agrees with all
- Came for affordable housing
- Recreation center is better than Laramie or Rawlins
- Seminole for fishing
- Public works department
- Want to be as old as queen mum in Hanna
- Great place for kids
- Changes in law enforcement

- City Hall is working better together
- Elementary school is fabulous especially communication
- Fire department and Ambulance—Do they sleep there to respond so fast? Devote countless hours
- Location is good for development of business
- Hanna housing
- Senior Citizens Center
- Fire and EMS
- Medical clinic staffed from Rawlins Hospital
- Property which is well located for Assisted Living Center or other develop
- Town clean up is offered each May, assistance may be needed for some folks
- Good quality of life
- Recreation Center is community center for all events
- No smog – quality of life great
- Low crime
- Fire department and ambulance department is one of the best
- Dito – we are lucky to have such service (medical response) with the closest hospital 40 miles from Hannah
- Inexpensive real estate
- Public works department
- Clean air and being able to see forever
- Quite life style
- Full service grocery, motel, cafes, bars
- People are willing to pull together when necessary
- People and businesses 2
- Empty building available for new store
- Good snow plowing
- Schools
- Recreation center
- Have the basic businesses on which to build the future
- Outdoor recreations
- Good people
- There is stuff if people want to do it
- EMS/ fire excellent
- Everything is grand
- What everyone else has said
- Great people
- “
- “
- “

- “
- Best damn Vietnam memorial park in the state
- “
- “
- “
- Great place to raise kids
- “
- “
- Hanna Update
- “
- “
- Recreation center
- “
- “
- “
- Fire/EMS
- “
- “
- “
- Girl Scouts, Boys Scouts, high school
- “
- “
- “
- “
- Low cost of housing and low property taxes
- “
- “
- “
- Public works department
- “
- “
- “
- Safety
- Low crime
- Lack of restrictive laws for establish business
- “
- “
- “
- Update magazine is good for advertising
- Family friendly town

- Good schools
- Property costs are low
- “
- “
- Local government stays out of business
- When mistakes are made, community people are helpful
- Location is a good place to have recreation business
- Taxes and insurance friendly
- “
- “
- Potential for transportation is excellent
- Recreation center
- “
- “
- “
- Affordable living for retired
- “
- “
- Senior Center and its wonderful food
- “
- “
- “
- Beautiful place to live
- Major things a senior needs
- Fire/EMS as good or fast as in Denver. Can be in Rawlins quickly
- Quiet
- Town is out of debt
- People
- “
- “
- Ambulance crew
- “
- “
- Public works -- snow plowing, cleanliness
- “
- “
- School
- Recreation center
- “
- “

- Grocery store
- “
- “
- “
- Churches
- Location in S Central Wyo
- “
- “
- Close to higher education
- “
- “
- On the railroad
- “
- “
- Friendly People
- “
- “
- 2 hours from the grand kids
- Wind keeps the air clean
- “
- “
- Wind keeps rif-raf out
- Best cook at the Senior Center
- Lions
- United Way, Wee Folks and Boy and Girl Scouts
- Bank -- Centerpiece for birthday at seniors, courier service -- drugs, flowers, car parts, film, personal shopping
- Hanna Update
- Bank does small business loans, mortgage lending and consumer loans

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

- Donut shop for the cops and with plenty of sprinkles
- More activities for kids
- “
- “
- Retail mall to attract people
- More jobs
- “

- “
- “
- “
- Park for the little kids
- More activities -- sports
- Bowling alley
- Roller skating rink
- Trees
- McDonalds
- Roads graded more often
- Fix dips in the roads -- Tungsten
- More people
- Dance club for teens, recreation center dances boring
- Summer sports program
- Basketball league for older kids and adults with other towns
- Need out of school activities
- Methane wells for development
- Businesses, stores
- “
- “
- 15,000 trees
- Move sewer to the east side of town
- Student council park project to be finished
- School able to offer classes they could when they were bigger
- Coal fired power plant
- “
- “
- Youth advisory committee
- Pharmacy
- Business park or something to get people to stay
- Truck stop
- Park and playground for kids with trees and equipment
- Encouragement to improve the houses -- some are hazardous
- Removal of dilapidated houses
- Program to improve houses for those with low income
- New building for Wee Folks
- Need assisted living for seniors or home health
- I agree with it all
- Clean up of the town
- Community center available without charge

- Expanded library
- Personal shopper services businesses
- Need for “department store”
- Movie theatre
- Sensible Nutrition
- Town Council all on same page
- Assisted care or home health
- Bus or transportation for people who work at the pen
- Day care -- 24 hour and/or drop in
- Strong community program involving 3 towns
- Need more economic diversity, small businesses
- Faster Internet services
- Town provide support and basic services to businesses
- Home based or Internet businesses
- Stable industry or business
- “
- “
- Find stability in industry or business
- Stabilize the tax base in eastern Carbon County
- Fiber optic to every household
- “
- “
- General cleanup of town and community
- “
- “
- “
- Union Pacific hauling small amount of raw materials in and products out in less than full train units
- “
- “
- “
- Amtrak
- Improve look and image of community
- Golf course between Hanna and Elmo
- Bus for shopping and work
- Scenic or historic byway along US 30
- Create histories of towns and people
- Light manufacturing or mining rebuilds would be good business for the labor force.
- Try to get UP to donate or sell land as little is available for development
- Tourist industry would be good growth

- Motel
- Gas station
- New clinic building
- More retail opportunities
- Places to eat, more variety in food choices
- Change in political attitudes
- More opportunity for youth -- bowling, hamburger joint, teen hangout, etc. Jobs with them
- Agree retail is important
- Assisted living center
- Needed to have the lowest possible prices
- Look for businesses, which can draw business from a broader area.
- Community park and walking path
- Street signs
- Businesses which can support households
- Cleaned up shacks
- Would like precision air rifle shooting range, build for Daisy Olympics and 4-H shooting sports
- Recreation center is under utilized
- Add shooting range for hunting safety and target practice
- Assisted care
- Need to develop land to be attractive for small business and provide incentives
- Recreation center with no fees
- 15 acres of UP with motel, Laundromat, Cabala's etc
- Stop the green licenses plates (people from Colorado) to buy fishing supplies
- Public transportation at least weekly for shopping and so on
- Walking path
- Hanna more united
- Beautification -- remove unsightly buildings
- East end road project
- “
- “
- Advertisement for the town
- Business -- lodging and gas
- Better attitude of business people
- Another restaurant
- Small businesses
- Black top more roads
- Organized transportation even rides with working, car pooling
- RV Park where old mobile home park is

- Someone to shut the wind off
- Expanding the living wind break
- Beautify the entrance way at US30
- Signs to cemetery, guide of graves and signs to monument and museum
- Do something with the winter activities
- Block clean-up -- neighbors work together
- Bike path from high school to recreation center
- Local job creation from employer coming to town that would hire 10 to 20 people
- Like to see fiber optics in community
- Would like to see more trees planted in Hanna
- Would like to see an assisted living facility developed in Hanna
- More trees
- A nice park where monument is
- “
- “
- Clean out old houses
- Get rid of junkyards
- Sign on US 30 to promote businesses
- Signs in town to direct people to businesses and parks
- More business to expand the town
- Hardware store
- Bowling alley or theatre
- Town to grow
- Advertisement of the town
- “
- “
- Population of 1000
- Dentist and eye doctor and pharmacy
- Clothing store
- Clean up and be pretty.
- Industries to add 20 families
- Steady growth
- Laundromat
- More businesses like what we used to have
- Automotive store
- Small steady growth
- Industry to provide 20-25 jobs
- Movies once a week at the recreation center
- Medical facilities on weekend, dental and eye care
- Assist in painting or fixing houses of the elderly. That's great

- Nice city park with kids playground
- Sign for Hanna like Saratoga's -- theirs is nicely done
- Recreation center on the US 30 sign
- “
- “
- “
- More small businesses of all type
- “
- “
- “
- “
- Agree with signs -- people need to know what is here
- Finish the park
- “
- “
- Tourist trade -- tourism bring outside dollars
- Outdoor recreation
- Secondary town entrance
- See Hanna grow to about 2000 people
- Walking track
- “
- “
- “
- Secondary water system for irrigation at lower rate
- Get rid of sagebrush and plant trees
- “
- “
- Reduce the numbers of deer
- Increase recreation activities
- “
- “
- Things for youth to do
- “
- “
- “
- “
- “
- “
- Driver's education course for the kids
- Wind powered electric utility for the town
- VFW Park with gazebo and bar-b-q for family parties

- More restrooms at the park
- “
- “
- “
- “
- “
- “
- Increase employment opportunities
- Maintain business friendly atmosphere in government
- Tourism increase
- Small business/industry increase
- Better utilize land and resources to attract small businesses
- Population growth
- Motocross track
- “
- “
- “
- Improve phone communication
- Competition for phone company
- People active in local politics
- Golf course
- Power plant to use coal
- “
- “
- “
- “
- Another 20 years of me
- Fiber optics
- Walking path -- greenway
- More jobs, but not too many
- “
- “
- “
- Community working together
- Large picnic pavilion with sides
- Assisted living
- “
- “
- “
- Jobs to keep local youth in town

- High speed Internet line throughout the town
- Clinic
- 1/3 of low-income housing is now seniors.
- Need for a bus -- 20 families drive to State Pen -- seniors need for shopping and medical

Hanna Resource Team
April 9-11, 2002

WHAT WE HEARD FROM WHAT WAS SAID

After listening to the citizens of Hanna, the Resource Team reviewed what was said and condensed the comments down to a few basic statements. These are in no particular order.

MAJOR THEMES IN HANNA

Town Appearance

- Clean up of trash and junk
- Plant trees
- Abandoned houses
- Gateway signage

Recreation/Activities

- Park improvement
- Theatre
- Walking/biking path
- Bowling alley
- Activities for youth

Communications

- Internet
- Fiber optics
- Monopoly of Union Telephone

Housing

- Assisted living
- Low-cost housing
- Improvements (windows, insulation) -- rehab

Community Relations

- Town Council does not work together
- Apathy, lack of volunteers

Public Facilities

- Medical clinic/pharmacy
- Sewer lagoon odor

Transportation

Bus/shuttle

Urgency of 2nd entrance/exit

Economic development

Day care

Jobs for all ages

Support local businesses

Recruit new businesses

Power plant

Market community for business development

*See tourism development

Tourism Development

History

Heritage

Assets of the community

Signage

Motels/hotels

Truck stop

Market community for tourist development.

APPENDIX

Appendix A - Economic Development Building Blocks

Appendix B – Deloitte & Touche LLP Study, Benchmarking and Target Industry Analysis State of Wyoming March 2000