



2017 Community Meeting Recap for the Town of Broadus

This document is a summary of the 2017 CEDs community meetings. These meetings were designed to discuss local findings for the five-year CEDs document created by SEMDC, and to get community feedback as to what the current state of the community is, how things have changed from last year or what has been completed, and what projects are priorities for the coming year(s).

This year was especially important to host a community meeting because of the many changes in natural resource development projects. There will be many impacts on communities in southeastern Montana, and the goal is to maximize positive impacts and mitigate negative ones. The more communities understand the impacts, proactively plan, and communicate within the community and region, the better the outcomes will be.

This document summarizes the thoughts, ideas, and projects discussed at the community meeting. It also summarizes some of the findings from the survey that was passed out at the meetings

Broadus CEDS Meeting 2017

Group Discussion

The first activity in this community meeting was to review previous meeting recaps and record strengths and weaknesses of the community. This was a way to open up discussion, and begin looking at the various aspects that enhance or hinder this community. This community continues to be affected by natural resource development from oil development at Belle Creek, many are employed in coal producing communities, but further development for coal in Powder River county has little chance of ever happening.

Strengths

Eating establishments	Nurse Practitioner
Expanded physical therapy services	Financial institution located in town
Newer airport	Variety of churches
Wildlife fence	Fairground Facilities
Airport Cardtrol for Fueling	Golf course
Many natural resources	Pool
Ag-based economy	Belle Creek Oil Field
Clean air/water/etc.	Some access to the arts
Largest Coal Deposit in the World	Recycling
Nursing home (provides about 52 jobs)	Public transportation for all
Strong Ethics	Retail
Good schools and great school staff	Crossroads on highways 59 and 212
Volunteerism is strong	Town square/New Sidewalks
Land available if maximized	Abundant wildlife
Denbury company	Chiropractor Visiting One Day Per Week
Massage Therapy Services	Community Foundation
New Lodging Options/Community Conference Room	Grocery Store
Clinic/Staff	Floodplain remapping completed/Decreased properties in floodplain
Outdoor Recreation	Electricians
Agricultural Economy	Strong Local Core Businesses
Library	Physical Therapy Services
Pharmacy	Funeral Home
Three veterinarians	Contractors

Concerns

Aging Infrastructure	Trying to be everything to everybody
Primary Businesses OK/Secondary businesses decreasing	Lack of handicapped access (clinic)
Great school staff, but worried about how to replace them with quality staff when they leave/retire	Would like to see an increase in population
Difficult to keep/find quality people to work	Knowledge about broadband and internet access capabilities
“Brain drain”	Difficult to find recreation
Passive feeling towards the planning for energy developments	Difficult and costly to hook water and sewer to lots
Lack of “service-based” workers	Limited lots for development
Lack of service type workers to existing competition from other employers	Lack of diverse job opportunities and higher wage jobs
Predator Concerns/Affecting Ag and Hunting	Several Brownfields sites/inability to resolve
Lack of services/recreation/quality housing	Staffing \$\$ for Visitor Center/Lack of promotion for tourism and Warrior Trail
Ambulance/EMT Services and Staff	Stability of Eating Establishments
Cell Phone Service/Coverage	FEMA Flood Insurance Changes (subsidies)
Changes to EPA Water Regs	No Doctor In The Entire County
EMS Staffing/Volunteers/Training	Nursing Home Facility (Costs?)
Future of Ambulance Service	Inflow and Infiltration in Sewage Lagoon, needed upgrades, aging water system
Cell Service difficult in Broadus	Preschool needs
Small Pool for Labor Force	Costs for Road Maintenance
Cost of Utilities (Electric)	Large Amount of Houses on Market
Lack of Brand Inspectors to serve Large Ag Sector	Land that is available does not have water/sewer services
Lack of opportunities for college graduates/no jobs to return to	Mental Health Services/Availability at School Addition services
Highway Signage	No local bank that does housing loans
SRS money changes to County	Dependent on Federal \$ and oil revenues
Assisted living options for lower income persons	Ag based economy
Little promotion of vocational training or entrepreneurialism	Walking trail structure in town lacking
Old houses/buildings	No job development

Working Groups

In this second activity, we asked the group to discuss important potential projects keeping in mind Housing, the Economy, Quality of Life, and Essential Services/Infrastructure. After the projects were discussed, we came back as a group to review each issue. Each person was given three stickers which they would use to vote on certain projects they deemed

more important. They could put all three stickers on one project, or one sticker on each project. This prioritization of projects provides SEMDC and the community an idea of what the priorities are.

Economy/Housing

Historical Museum

Continue to encourage the operation of the historical museum. It creates an attraction to assist with people stopping and taking in our community.

Proposed Economy/Housing Projects Receiving Votes

None

Quality of Life

Trail System

Create a trail system to encourage exercise programs, better health and mental clarity for residents.

Mental Health/Chemical Addiction Services

Establish more access to mental health and in particular information about chemical addiction services.

Gazebo/Pavilion

Work with governmental entities to encourage the development of a gazebo/pavilion structure that could be utilized for special events.

Proposed Quality of Life Projects Receiving Votes

Trail System – 5 Votes

Pavilion – 1 Vote

Mental Health/Addiction – 2 Votes

Services and Infrastructure

Rural Address Book

Develop a rural address book for use by emergency personnel as well as others that may need it.

Lagoon/Sewer System Upgrades

The City of Broadus is facing some mandates they must comply with which may take some upgrades to the sewage lagoons as well as the sewer system.

Senior Housing and Housing Rehabilitation Project

Work with CDBG Housing to establish a senior and rehabilitation project for lower income homes.

Storage Structure for Fire Dept Trucks

New storage structures are needed to house fire trucks and keep them in good repair.

Proposed Services/Infrastructure Projects Receiving Votes

Lagoon System – 1 Vote

Senior Housing/Rehab – 2 Votes

Fire Truck Storage – 1 Vote