



## 2018 Community Meeting Recap for the Town of Hysham

This document is a summary of the 2018 CEDS community meetings. These meetings were designed to update 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, and what projects are priorities to be completed for the following year(s).

This year was especially important to host a community meeting because of the many changes being anticipated in coal country. There could 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 outcome will be.

This document summarizes the thoughts, ideas, and projects discussed at the community meeting.

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# Hysham CEDS Meeting 2018

## Group Discussion

Rather than perform a typical Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, and Threats assessments, SEMDC led the group through the exercise by having them first examine the results of last years' meeting and then adding or modifying the information already developed. The lists below are what the group as a whole developed.

## Strengths

Safe/Quiet Community	Interstate close
Planning Board	Hardwired Internet for homes (small scale)
Hunting/Recreation/Fishing	Yellowstone River
Hysham CIP	Good irrigation systems
Two bars, four churches	Implement dealer
Growth Plan/county	Electrical/Co-op
Museum/culture	Strong moral/ethic as a work community
Active senior community	Highly educated agriculture workers
Strong agriculture base	EMS (Fire/Ambulance)
Beautiful historic buildings	Active Community Foundation
Local Financial Institution	Doctor visits once a week
Access to Rosebud Library	Summer Farmers Market
Vet Clinic	Transportation for public/seniors
Strong Volunteerism	School website
Playground Equipment	New water tower/improved mains &
Community Spirit "Holidays in Hysham"	Community Support and fundraising for
Available land for	Downtown Building – possibilities
Railroad Spur/2 New Railroad Sidings	Street Fest Event
Vacant Lots Available	Senior Activities
4 <sup>th</sup> of July Event	Expansion of Fiber Optics
Junque Store	Law Enforcement
County Seat	Rest Area on Interstate
Island Access on Yellowstone	Antique Store
UPS Service	Community "Treasure Chest" – Publication
Pool (Free)	Highway 311 Improvements
Greenhouses (2)	Shooting Range
Town/River Access with facilities	Fun Run/Splash Dash
Nail/Hair/Exercise Location	Food Bank
Chamber of Commerce	Education attainment level in community
Community Facebook Page	Potential bedroom community (of
Paved runway at airport	Billings/Miles City)

## Concerns

Housing (existed housing is limited)	Somewhat land locked
Will we be proactive with potential in local natural resource development? Lack of proactive planning zoning	Age increasing – lack of availability of services (pharmacy / groceries – basic) will be a factor for people looking to move
Competitive advantage is a challenge	Lack of Highway Signage
Frontage Road (W)	Obtaining/Retaining Teachers
People shopping behaviors (if it were local ... will people buy local?)	How to capitalize on Natural Resource Development - how to be a success story?
Keeping local land Agriculture	The community can be perceived as
Difficult to get basic services with small population	Schools – lack of families with school aged children
Lack of skilled trades, electrician,	Lack of senior living services/facility
School Enrollment Down	FSA Office now closed
Limited housing rental/Low income	Maturing Population
Lack of Restaurants	Internet Connectivity
Population Down	Recruitment Challenges
Hard to Engage the Community	Lack of Lodging
Lack of diversification	School Kids not in Public School at
Lack of Local Businesses	Dept of Rev Office – State Services
Lack of agriculture workers / support – larger machinery / fewer employees	“Gendered work” difficult for women to find work
Technology impacting jobs	City services – water, sewer, etc., high
Diversified Agriculture – Apathy	No grocery store
Lack of general store – clothing, etc.	Price of utilities (power)
Street Condition	Old Vacant Buildings
Solid Waste Rate Cost	Public Rest Rooms
Planning board limits development	Lack of childcare/women can’t work
Lack of natural resource development	BLM delays in permitting Area F
	Lack of Natural Gas – Cost of Business Development

## Working Groups

In this second activity, the group was asked to discuss projects that would assist in addressing some of the weaknesses or needs in the community. At the end of the identification of meaningful projects, the group was given three stickers and asked to vote for specific projects. They were allowed to place their stickers as they chose with one sticker by three various projects or all their stickers by a particular project.

## **Economy**

### ***Community Marketing Strategy***

Develop a community marketing strategy.

### **Proposed Economic Projects (That received votes)**

Community Marketing – 4 Votes

## **Housing, Quality of Life, Services, and Infrastructure**

### ***Wastewater Improvements***

A preliminary engineering report for wastewater has been completed. Funding necessary to complete upgrades.

### ***Housing Survey***

Complete housing survey to assess housing supply and needs.

### ***Courthouse Floor Project***

Floor improvements are needed in the courthouse.

### ***Community Foundation***

Market existing community foundation.

### ***Day Care***

Encourage the development of quality daycare services in the community to allow young mothers options to be able to work. Possible option with school space.

### **Proposed Housing, Quality of Live, Services and Infrastructure Projects receiving votes**

Community Foundation – 8 Votes

Wastewater – 3 Votes

Courthouse Floor – 1 Vote

Housing Survey – 1 Vote

Day Care – 1 Vote