

THE WYOMING RURAL DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL

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

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

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

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

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

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

TABLE OF CONTENTS

LaGrange Wyoming Resource Team Assessment November 16-17, 2004

| | |
|--|------------|
| 1. Process for the Development of This Report..... | pg. 3 |
| 2. Executive Summary..... | pg. 4 |
| 3. Profile of LaGrange..... | pgs.5-12 |
| 4. Goshen County Profile..... | pgs. 13-21 |
| 5. Resource Team Members | pg. 22 |
| 6. Schedule of Assessment Listening Sessions..... | pg. 23 |
| 7. Major Themes and Sub themes..... | pg. 24 |
| 8. Team Member Recommendations..... | pgs. 25-72 |
| Ashley Camp | pgs. 25-35 |
| Janice Stroud | pgs. 36-65 |
| Nancy Clarke | pgs. 66-72 |
| 9. What Was Said in the Listening Sessions..... | pgs. 73-84 |
| 10. 20 Clues to Rural Community Survival..... | pg. 85 |

Any recommendations contained herein are not mandatory. The Wyoming Rural Development Council has not endorsed any recommendations and opinions contained herein. Neither the WRDC, nor any of its employees, contract labor, committee chairs, and/or members makes any warranty, express or implied, including warranties of merchantability and fitness for a particular purpose, or assumes any legal liability for the accuracy, completeness, or usefulness of this report or any information, recommendations, or opinions contained herein.

PROCESS FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF THIS REPORT

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

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

The Resource Team toured the town and interviewed approximately 93 people over a two day period from November 16-17, 2004. The team interviewed representatives from the following segments of LaGrange: seniors/healthcare, K-6 school children, agriculture, business, youth (7-12), government, church/non profits/ civic groups, and the public. 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 LaGrange?
- What do you think are the major strengths and assets in LaGrange?
- What projects would you like to see completed in two, five, ten and twenty years in LaGrange?

Upon completion of the interviews, the team met to compare notes and share comments following the two 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 the Wyoming Rural Development Council's final report to LaGrange.

Executive Summary

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

While reading this report, you will find a wide variety of recommendations made by the team members on the issues that were identified during the listening sessions. We encourage the town to use these recommendations to build a plan for the future of LaGrange.

Anything is possible if everyone works together to achieve a common goal! Every step, no matter how small is a movement in the right direction toward achieving LaGrange's goals. It can be done. What you do with the recommendations is your choice and will be accomplished by the dedicated citizens of LaGrange.

Members of our team will return to LaGrange to facilitate a follow-up meeting in the near future. The meeting will help determine the priorities and develop strategies for implementation in LaGrange. We encourage everyone from the town to attend this meeting, even if they were unable to attend the community assessment. This follow-up goal setting meeting will identify both short term and long term goals for LaGrange.

We hope that you will find great value in this report and remember that any team member is available for you to contact for more information or assistance!

Sincerely,



Ashley Camp
Team Leader

Nice quote to think about!

I am only one; but still I am one. I cannot do everything, but I can still do something.

-Helen Keller



LAGRANGE COMMUNITY PROFILE

LaGrange, Wyoming is located off Highway 85, approximately 30 miles south of Torrington and 41 miles west of Scottsbluff, Nebraska. The town is situated in the North Platte River Valley Corridor, which was the route west for the Mormon, California/Oregon trails, the Overland Stage routes and the Pony Express.

Long a cattle and ranching area, La Grange saw the first cattle drive from Texas in 1886. When Texans learned of the good grass in Wyoming and Montana, they started bringing cattle through regularly in 1889 and continued until 1897. Herds would leave Texas around March 1 and reach LaGrange in June or later. The advent of fencing in Kansas and Colorado made the trail more difficult and trail herds eventually stopped in 1897. Trail crews often rested a few days in the LaGrange area and were entertained by local residents and businesses.

LaGrange was established in Wyoming Territory, prior to Wyoming's statehood and is one of the oldest towns in the state. The town was platted in 1837 on land claimed on the LaGrange

brother's ranchland and was named for Kale LaGrange, a stagecoach driver on the Cheyenne to Red Cloud route. Application for incorporation was made in 1889 but was not completed until 1938. The first business in town was a mercantile opened in early spring 1889.

The town briefly flourished with the completion of the Union Pacific railroad facilities in 1928 when a depot, stockyards, light plant and schoolhouse were built. Today, a few dude ranches in the area provide a sense of the early pioneer days.

| LaGrange Statistics | |
|------------------------|------------------------------------|
| County | Goshen |
| Zip Code | 82221 |
| Elevation | 4,587 feet above sea level |
| Latitude | 41.63° north of the equator |
| Longitude | 104.16° west of the prime meridian |
| Area | 0.4 Square Miles |
| | Land Area: 0.4 Square Miles |
| | Water Area: 0.0 Square Miles |
| City Distances: | |
| Torrington, WY | 33.7 miles |
| Burns, WY | 36.9 miles |
| Pine Bluffs, WY | 42.0 miles |
| Lingle, WY | 43.2 miles |
| Cheyenne, WY | 56.1 miles |
| Wheatland, WY | 65.7 miles |

| Population by Age (2004) | |
|--------------------------|-------|
| Population Estimate | 324 |
| Median Age | 37.1 |
| 0 to 4 | 5.7% |
| 5 to 14 | 13.2% |
| 15 to 19 | 8.7% |
| 20 to 24 | 10.6% |
| 25 to 34 | 9.5% |
| 35 to 44 | 12.2% |
| 45 to 54 | 15.8% |
| 55 to 64 | 10.2% |
| 65 to 74 | 8.3% |
| 75 to 84 | 4.10% |
| 85+ | 1.7% |

| Marital Status (2004) | |
|-------------------------|-------|
| Age 15+ Population | 263 |
| Married, Spouse Present | 68.3% |

| | |
|------------------------|-------|
| Married, Spouse Absent | 2.5% |
| Divorced | 3.9% |
| Widowed | 6.1% |
| Never Married | 19.2% |

| Household Status (2004) | |
|-------------------------|-------|
| Total Households: | 86 |
| 1 Person | 24.6% |
| 2 Person | 36.6% |
| 3 Person | 14.9% |
| 4 Person | 14.7% |
| 5 Person | 6.0% |
| 6 Person | 1.9% |
| 7+ Person | 1.2% |

| Housing Units (2004) | |
|----------------------|-------|
| Total Housing Units: | 119 |
| Owner Occupied | 52.1% |
| Renter Occupied | 20.4% |
| Vacant | 27.5% |

| Vehicles Available (2004) | |
|---------------------------------|-------|
| Average Vehicles Per Household: | 2.4 |
| 0 Vehicles Available | 0.6% |
| 1 Vehicle Available | 21.1% |
| 2+ Vehicles Available | 78.3% |

| Households by Income (2004) | |
|-----------------------------|-------|
| Total Households: | 86 |
| \$0 - \$14,999 | 25.5% |
| \$15,000 - \$24,999 | 15.1% |
| \$25,000 - \$34,999 | 13.7% |
| \$35,000 - \$49,000 | 16.6% |
| \$50,000 - \$74,999 | 18.0% |
| \$75,000 - \$99,999 | 5.8% |
| \$100,000 - \$149,999 | 5.0% |
| \$150,000+ | 0.4% |

| Educational Attainment (2004) | |
|-------------------------------|-------|
| Age 25+ Population | 200 |
| Grade KG - 08 | 1.4% |
| Grade 09 - 12 | 6.7% |
| High School Graduate | 35.8% |
| Some College, No Degree | 27.8% |
| Associates Degree | 4.0% |
| Bachelor's Degree | 19.7% |
| Graduate Degree | 4.7% |

| Income (2004) | |
|--------------------------|----------|
| Average Household Income | \$53,088 |
| Per Capita Income | \$14,145 |

| Employment and Business (2004) | |
|--------------------------------|-------|
| Age 16+ Population | 256 |
| Employed | 91.4% |
| Unemployed | 8.6% |
| In Armed Forces | 0.0% |
| Not in Labor Force | 30.6% |

| Education (2004) | |
|---------------------------------------|---|
| Public Primary/Middle Schools: | |
| LaGrange Elementary School | Students: 23; Grades: KG - 06 Student/Teacher Ratio: 9 Full Time Staff: 2 |

| Medical (Hospitals/Medical Centers In/Near Newcastle) (2004) | |
|--|-----------------------------|
| Community Hospital | 35.2 miles; Torrington, WY |
| Regional West Medical Center | 64.5 miles; Scottsbluff, NE |
| Kimball County Hospital | 78.4 miles, Kimball, NE |

LaGrange Demographic Report

Population

The current estimated population for LaGrange is 324. The population in 1990 was 294 representing a 10.2% change. It is estimated that the population will be 312 in 2009, representing a change of -3.7% from 2004. The population is 51.95% male and 48.05% female. The median age of the population is 37.1, compared to the U.S. median age which is 36.2. The population density of LaGrange is 861.7 people per square mile.

Households

There are currently 86 households in LaGrange. The household count in 1990 was 79 representing a change of 8.86%. It is estimated that the number of households will be 86 in 2009, representing a change of 0.0% from 2004.

The median number of years in residence is 2.95. The average household size is 3.46 people and the average family size is 4.04 people. The average number of vehicles per household is 2.4.

Income

The median household income for LaGrange is \$32,105, compared to the U.S. median which is \$45,660. The median household income in 1990 was \$18,436 representing a change of 74.1%. It is estimated that the median household income will be \$35,200 in 2009, which would represent a change of 9.6% from 2004.

The 2004 per capita income is \$14,145, compared to the U.S. per capita, which is \$23,504. The 2004 average household income is \$53,088, compared to the U.S. average which is \$61,246

Race & Ethnicity

The racial makeup of LaGrange is as follows: 95.03% White; 0.08% Black; 1.15% Native American; 0.31% Asian/Pacific Islander; and 1.76% Other. Compare these to the U.S. racial makeup which is: 75.05% White, 12.29% Black, 0.89% Native American, 3.66% Asian/Pacific Islander and 5.53% Other.

People of Hispanic ethnicity are counted independently of race. People of Hispanic origin make up 4.51% of the current year population, compared to the U.S. makeup of 14.27%.

Housing

The median housing value in LaGrange was \$30,526 in 1990, compared to the U.S. median of \$78,382 for the same year. The 2000 Census median housing value was \$103,138, which is a 237.9% change from 1990. In 1990, there were 54 owner-occupied housing units in LaGrange versus 86 in 2000. Also in 1990, there were 25 renter-occupied housing units in this area versus 24 in 2000. The average rent in 1990 was \$138 versus \$225 in 2000.

Employment

There are currently 256 people over the age of 16 in the labor force in LaGrange. Of these 91.36% are employed, 8.64% are unemployed, 30.63% are not in the labor force and 0.00% are in the armed forces. In 1990, unemployment in this area was 4.14% and in 2000 it was 5.92%. There are currently 2 employees (daytime population) and 0 establishments.

In 1990, 27.57% of employees were employed in white-collar occupations and 72.43% were employed in blue-collar occupations. In 2000, white-collar workers made up 55.90% of the population, and those employed in blue-collar occupations made up 44.10%. In 1990, the average time traveled to work was

7 minutes and in 2000 it was 30 minutes.

LaGrange Consumer Expenditure Report

| | 2004 Estimate | 2009 Projection | % Change 2004 - 2009 |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Total Households | 86 | 86 | 0.00% |
| Total Avg Household Expenditure | \$37,236 | \$40,374 | 8.40% |
| Total Avg Retail Expenditure | \$15,694 | \$17,007 | 8.40% |

Consumer Expenditure Detail (Average Household Annual Expenditures)

| | 2004 Estimate | 2009 Projection | % Change 2004 - 2009 |
|----------------------------------|--------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Airline Fares | \$254.36 | \$276.15 | 8.60% |
| Alcoholic Beverages | \$354.08 | \$383.96 | 8.40% |
| Alimony & Child Support | \$115.14 | \$124.62 | 8.20% |
| Apparel | \$2,002.41 | \$2,172.12 | 8.50% |
| Apparel Services & Accessories | \$256.63 | \$278.86 | 8.70% |
| Audio Equipment | \$56.56 | \$61.51 | 8.80% |
| Babysitting & Elderly Care | \$201.27 | \$218.33 | 8.50% |
| Books | \$68.33 | \$74.18 | 8.60% |
| Books & Supplies | \$101.49 | \$109.90 | 8.30% |
| Boys Apparel | \$107.52 | \$116.48 | 8.30% |
| Cellular Phone Service | \$60.69 | \$65.78 | 8.40% |
| Cigarettes | \$310.69 | \$336.64 | 8.40% |
| Computer Hardware | \$297.20 | \$322.46 | 8.50% |
| Computer Information Services | \$29.71 | \$32.29 | 8.70% |
| Computer Software | \$37.84 | \$41.00 | 8.40% |
| Contributions | \$1,109.41 | \$1,205.70 | 8.70% |
| Coolant & Other Fluids | \$8.64 | \$9.36 | 8.30% |
| Cosmetics & Perfume | \$80.71 | \$87.74 | 8.70% |
| Deodorants & Other Personal Care | \$27.66 | \$29.96 | 8.30% |
| Education | \$642.10 | \$695.32 | 8.30% |
| Electricity | \$1,113.76 | \$1,205.56 | 8.20% |
| Entertainment | \$1,908.62 | \$2,070.42 | 8.50% |
| Fees & Admissions | \$479.82 | \$521.15 | 8.60% |
| Finance Chgs Exc Mort & Veh | \$164.91 | \$178.79 | 8.40% |
| Floor Coverings | \$60.61 | \$65.87 | 8.70% |
| Food & Beverages | \$6,092.76 | \$6,604.31 | 8.40% |
| Food At Home | \$3,620.97 | \$3,922.18 | 8.30% |
| Food Away From Home | \$2,117.71 | \$2,298.17 | 8.50% |
| Footwear | \$367.46 | \$398.57 | 8.50% |
| Fuel Oil & Other Fuels | \$73.48 | \$79.58 | 8.30% |
| Funeral & Cemetery | \$93.99 | \$101.73 | 8.20% |
| Furniture | \$361.50 | \$393.17 | 8.80% |
| Gasoline & Oil | \$1,322.02 | \$1,435.16 | 8.60% |
| Gifts | \$1,119.58 | \$1,213.65 | 8.40% |

| | | | |
|-------------------------------|------------|------------|-------|
| Girls Apparel | \$130.23 | \$141.05 | 8.30% |
| Hair Care | \$52.24 | \$56.59 | 8.30% |
| Hard Surface Flooring | \$10.19 | \$11.03 | 8.20% |
| Health Care | \$2,420.05 | \$2,622.49 | 8.40% |
| Health Care Insurance | \$1,152.30 | \$1,247.86 | 8.30% |
| Health Care Services | \$738.63 | \$799.81 | 8.30% |
| Health Care Supplies & Equip | \$529.12 | \$574.82 | 8.60% |
| Household Services | \$305.10 | \$330.51 | 8.30% |
| Household Supplies | \$578.81 | \$630.41 | 8.90% |
| Household Textiles | \$90.00 | \$97.61 | 8.50% |
| Housewares & Small App | \$786.03 | \$853.13 | 8.50% |
| Indoor Plants & Fresh Flowers | \$61.36 | \$66.50 | 8.40% |
| Infants Apparel | \$92.84 | \$100.58 | 8.30% |
| Jewelry | \$91.54 | \$99.67 | 8.90% |
| Legal & Accounting | \$81.59 | \$88.38 | 8.30% |
| Magazines | \$41.98 | \$45.52 | 8.40% |
| Major Appliances | \$168.32 | \$182.48 | 8.40% |
| Mass Transit | \$77.11 | \$83.62 | 8.40% |
| Men's Apparel | \$375.43 | \$407.18 | 8.50% |
| Mortgage Interest | \$2,192.90 | \$2,382.42 | 8.60% |
| Natural Gas | \$348.68 | \$377.36 | 8.20% |
| New Car Purchased | \$947.14 | \$1,025.95 | 8.30% |
| New Truck Purchased | \$715.81 | \$775.29 | 8.30% |
| New Vehicle Purchase | \$1,662.95 | \$1,801.24 | 8.30% |
| Newspapers | \$87.42 | \$94.74 | 8.40% |
| Oral Hygiene Products | \$24.69 | \$26.76 | 8.40% |
| Other Lodging | \$664.97 | \$713.04 | 7.20% |
| Other Miscellaneous Expenses | \$83.82 | \$90.92 | 8.50% |
| Other Repairs & Maintenance | \$76.82 | \$83.19 | 8.30% |
| Other Tobacco Products | \$32.97 | \$35.78 | 8.50% |
| Other Transportation Costs | \$627.59 | \$680.08 | 8.40% |
| Other Utilities | \$302.92 | \$328.44 | 8.40% |
| Paint & Wallpaper | \$37.37 | \$40.56 | 8.50% |
| Personal Care Products | \$144.11 | \$156.45 | 8.60% |
| Personal Care Services | \$398.53 | \$432.59 | 8.50% |
| Personal Insurance | \$431.28 | \$467.60 | 8.40% |
| Pet Supplies & Services | \$206.11 | \$223.51 | 8.40% |
| Photographic Equip & Supplies | \$92.66 | \$100.54 | 8.50% |
| Plumbing & Heating | \$47.50 | \$51.57 | 8.60% |
| Property Taxes | \$370.54 | \$403.60 | 8.90% |
| Public Transportation | \$399.50 | \$433.53 | 8.50% |
| Records/Tapes/CD Purchases | \$97.61 | \$105.85 | 0.00% |
| Recreational Equip & Supplies | \$718.86 | \$779.51 | 8.40% |
| Rental Costs | \$2,818.20 | \$3,049.31 | 8.20% |
| Roofing & Siding | \$61.96 | \$67.05 | 8.20% |
| Satellite Dishes | \$5.89 | \$6.42 | 9.00% |
| Shaving Needs | \$11.05 | \$11.99 | 8.50% |
| Shelter | \$6,670.93 | \$7,225.84 | 8.30% |
| Telephone Svc Excl Cell | \$941.80 | \$1,021.46 | 8.50% |

| | | | |
|--------------------------------|------------|------------|-------|
| Televisions | \$83.17 | \$90.28 | 8.50% |
| Transportation | \$7,758.18 | \$8,417.26 | 8.50% |
| Tuition | \$540.61 | \$585.42 | 8.30% |
| Used Car Purchase | \$1,090.78 | \$1,186.27 | 8.80% |
| Used Truck Purchase | \$628.27 | \$681.89 | 8.50% |
| Used Vehicle Purchase | \$1,719.05 | \$1,868.16 | 8.70% |
| VCRs & Related Equipment | \$37.39 | \$40.55 | 8.50% |
| Vehicle Insurance | \$864.66 | \$938.45 | 8.50% |
| Vehicle Repair | \$850.11 | \$921.24 | 8.40% |
| Vehicle Repair & Maintenance | \$858.75 | \$930.60 | 8.40% |
| Video & Audio Equipment | \$709.94 | \$769.76 | 8.40% |
| Video Game Hardware & Software | \$24.24 | \$26.25 | 8.30% |
| Watches | \$18.19 | \$19.75 | 8.60% |
| Women's Apparel | \$672.30 | \$729.40 | 8.50% |

Goshen County Profile

| PERSONAL INCOME | 2000 | 2001 |
|---|-----------|-----------|
| Total Personal Income (000s \$) | \$285,680 | \$289,320 |
| Per Capita Income | \$22,760 | \$23,338 |
| Per Capita Transfer Payment | \$4,000 | \$4,405 |
| Per Capita Dividend, Interest, and Rent | \$5,636 | \$5,854 |

| RACE AND HISPANIC ORIGIN | 2002 Estimate | % of Total |
|---|---------------|------------|
| TOTAL | 12,244 | 100.0% |
| White alone | 11,998 | 98.0% |
| Black or African American alone | 37 | 0.3% |
| American Indian and Alaska Native alone | 122 | 1.0% |
| Asian alone | 29 | 0.2% |
| Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander alone | 16 | 0.1% |
| Two or More Races | 42 | 0.3% |

| Race alone or in combination with one or more races: | | |
|--|--------|-------|
| White | 12,040 | 98.3% |
| Black or African American | 39 | 0.3% |
| American Indian and Alaska Native | 159 | 1.3% |
| Asian | 29 | 0.2% |
| Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander | 19 | 0.2% |

| Ethnic Origin: | | |
|----------------------------------|--------|-------|
| Hispanic or Latino (of any race) | 1,087 | 8.9% |
| Non-Hispanic or Latino | 11,157 | 91.1% |
| White alone | 10,944 | 89.4% |

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census

| LANDOWNERS | Acres | Square Miles |
|--------------------------|------------------|----------------|
| United States Government | | |
| National Park Service | 843 | 1.3 |
| Forest Service | 0 | 0.0 |
| Fish and Wildlife | 0 | 0.0 |
| Bureau of Land Mgt. | 25,583 | 40.0 |
| Bureau of Reclamation | 880 | 1.4 |
| Wyoming | | |
| State Lands Comm. | 212,095 | 127.3 |
| Recreation Comm. | 2,000 | 3.1 |
| Game and Fish | 2,525 | 3.9 |
| Local Govt. | | |
| County | 47 | 0.1 |
| City | 1,191 | 1.9 |
| School Dist. & Colleges | 332 | 0.5 |
| Other Lands | 1,033 | 1.6 |
| Total Public | 115,897 | 181.1 |
| Total Private | 1,310,131 | 2,047.1 |
| Surface Water | 12,083 | 18.9 |
| TOTAL LAND | 1,430,400 | 2,235.0 |

Source: University of Wyoming, Department of Geography & Recreation

| SALES TAX COLLECTIONS | FISCAL 02 | FISCAL 03 |
|------------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Agriculture Sector | \$55,013 | \$47,609 |
| Mining Sector | \$25,906 | \$19,005 |
| Construction Sector | \$128,586 | \$117,657 |
| Manufacturing Sector | \$160,299 | \$166,079 |
| Transportation (TCPU) Sector | \$778,874 | \$759,926 |
| Wholesale Trade Sector | \$324,793 | \$368,786 |
| Retail Trade Sector | \$2,920,879 | \$2,700,749 |
| Finance (FIRE) Sector | \$5,192 | \$8,271 |
| Service Sector | \$671,892 | \$663,224 |
| Government Sector | \$580,531 | \$600,942 |
| TOTAL | \$5,651,964 | \$5,452,248 |

Source: State of Wyoming, Department of Revenue

| POPULATION BY AGE: 2002 | |
|------------------------------|---------------|
| Population under 5 years | 654 |
| Population 5 to 17 years | 2,138 |
| Population 18 to 24 years | 1,241 |
| Population 25 to 34 years | 1,129 |
| Population 35 to 44 years | 1,604 |
| Population 45 to 64 years | 3,310 |
| Population 65 years and over | 2,168 |
| TOTAL | 12,244 |

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census

| COUNTY EMPLOYMENT STATISTICS | |
|---|-------|
| Labor Force (July 2004)p | 6,116 |
| Employed (July 2004)p | 5,919 |
| Unemployed (July 2004)p | 197 |
| Unemployment Rate (July 2004)p | 3.2% |
| Ave. Weekly Wage - Covered Emp. (Q4_03) | \$445 |

Source: State of Wyoming, Department of Employment

p = preliminary

| CRIME INDEX REPORT: 2004 | |
|--------------------------|------------|
| Murder | 3 |
| Forcible Rape | 3 |
| Robbery | 1 |
| Agg. Assault | 31 |
| Burglary | 44 |
| Larceny - Theft | 179 |
| Motor Vehicle Theft | 15 |
| Violent Crimes | 38 |
| Property Crime | 238 |
| Crime Index Total | 276 |

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

| SELECTED STATISTICS SCHOOL YEAR 2001 - 02 | |
|---|--------------|
| Number of School Districts | 1 |
| Number of Schools | 12 |
| Fall Enrollment, 2001 | 1,953 |
| High School Graduates, 2002 | 138 |
| Average Daily Membership (ADM) | 1,946 |
| Average Daily Attendance (ADA) | 1,845 |
| Certified Teachers | 167 |
| Certified Staff | 31 |
| Classified Staff | 127 |
| Administration | 11 |
| Students Transported Daily | 963 |
| Bonded Indebtedness, 6/30/2002 | \$0 |
| Total General Fund Revenues | \$16,692,922 |
| Total General Fund Expenditures | \$16,655,325 |
| Operating Cost Per ADM | \$9,904 |

Source: State of Wyoming, Department of Education

| COUNTY FINANCE | |
|---|---------------|
| Assessed Valuation (FY2002) | \$84,319,086 |
| Total Taxes Levied (FY2002) | \$5,901,057 |
| Sales and Use Tax Distribution (FY2002) | \$2,718,750 |
| Bank Deposits (12/31/2002) | \$447,262,000 |
| FY2002 Ave. County Levy (mills) | 69.985 |

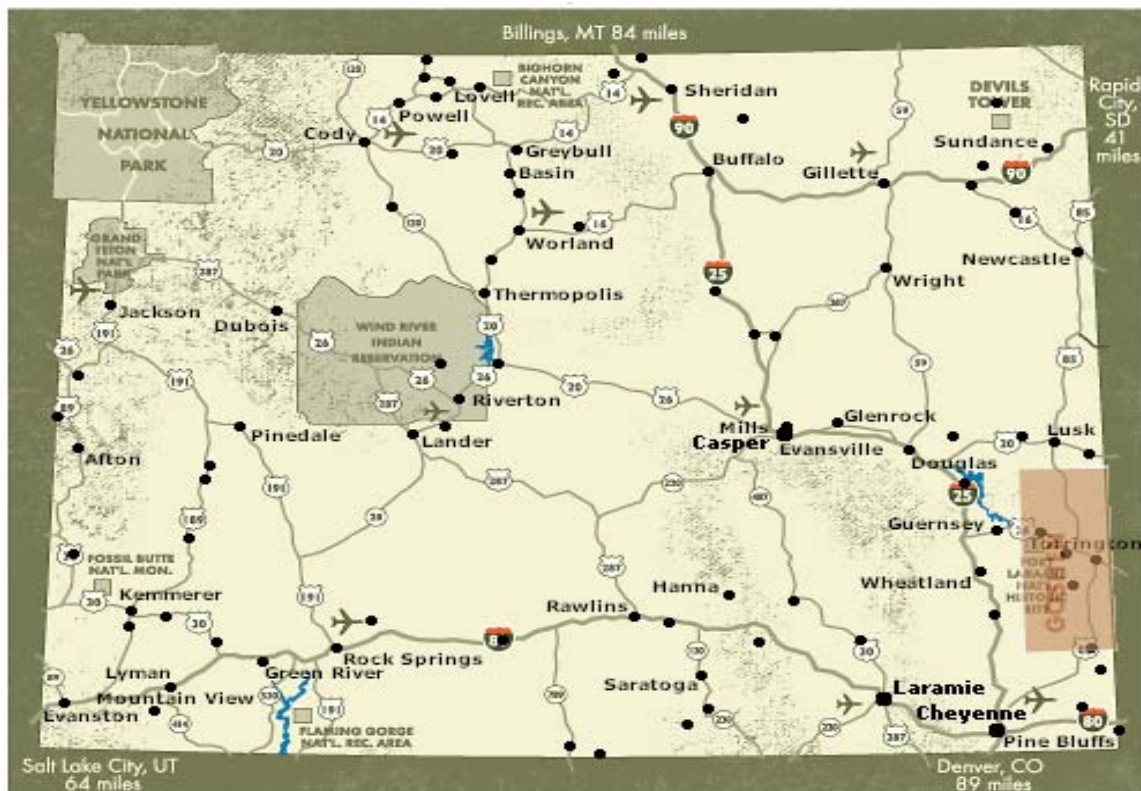
Source: State of Wyoming, Department of Revenue, Audit Department/ Banking Division

| FULL AND PART TIME EMPLOYMENT | 2001 |
|--|--------------|
| Wage and salary | 4,884 |
| Proprietors | 2,023 |
| Farm | 818 |
| Forestry, fishing, related activities | (D) |
| Mining | (D) |
| Utilities | 31 |
| Construction | 376 |
| Manufacturing | 284 |
| Wholesale trade | 241 |
| Retail Trade | 732 |
| Transportation and warehousing | 151 |
| Information | 63 |
| Finance and insurance | 260 |
| Real estate and rental and leasing | 229 |
| Professional and technical services | 221 |
| Management of companies and enterprises | 0 |
| Administrative and waste services | 115 |
| Educational services | (D) |
| Health care and social assistance | (D) |
| Arts, entertainment, and recreation | (D) |
| Accommodation and food services | (D) |
| Other services, except public administration | 502 |
| Government and government enterprises | 1,298 |
| TOTAL | 6,907 |

| EARNINGS (000s of \$): | 2001 |
|--|------------------|
| Wage and salary | \$99,773 |
| Proprietors | \$44,402 |
| Other Labor Income | \$12,518 |
| Farm | \$28,579 |
| Forestry, fishing, related activities | (D) |
| Mining | (D) |
| Utilities | \$1,260 |
| Construction | \$8,959 |
| Manufacturing | \$8,197 |
| Wholesale trade | \$7,864 |
| Retail Trade | \$10,065 |
| Transportation and warehousing | \$5,282 |
| Information | \$1,276 |
| Finance and insurance | \$5,321 |
| Real estate and rental and leasing | \$1,817 |
| Professional and technical services | \$4,898 |
| Management of companies and enterprises | \$0 |
| Administrative and waste services | \$1,490 |
| Educational services | (D) |
| Health care and social assistance | (D) |
| Arts, entertainment, and recreation | (D) |
| Accommodation and food services | (D) |
| Other services, except public administration | \$5,976 |
| Government and government enterprises | \$34,321 |
| TOTAL | \$156,693 |

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

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



Workforce Training

1. Wyoming Department of Employment offers employers up to \$2,000 per employee for training. (<http://wydoe.state.wy.us/doe.asp?ID=34>)
2. Quick Start
Wyoming is the first state approved to license the State of Georgia's Quick Start program. The Wyoming Business Council and the Wyoming Community Colleges are partnering to provide training in:
 - Customer Service
 - Manufacturing
 - Warehousing and Distribution(<http://www.wyomingbusiness.org>)

State Incentives

1. No corporate state income tax.
2. No personal state income tax.
3. Community Development Block Grants administered by Wyoming Business Council. (www.wyomingbusiness.org)
 - Provides grants to local governments for community and economic development projects.
 - Provides convertible loans to grants based on job creation.
4. Partnership Challenge Loan Program administered by Wyoming Business Council.
 - Provides low interest loans to community development organizations.
 - Provides gap financing for projects with the Wyoming Business Council participating with a commercial lender.
5. Industrial Development Revenue Bonds. Cities and counties may issue tax-exempt bonds to provide financing for manufacturing.

Taxes

1. No corporate state income tax.
2. No personal state income tax.
3. No inventory tax.
4. Goshen County has a 5% sales and use tax (statewide base of 4% plus 1% capital facilities tax).
Source: Wyoming Department of Revenue, Excise Division (April 2004)
5. Unemployment Insurance – taxable base rate of \$15,900. Tax rates by industry grouping – WY Dept. of Employment. (<http://wydoe.state.wy.us/doe.asp?ID=575>)
6. Workers' Compensation – rates vary by occupation and can be found at <http://wydoe.state.wy.us>.
7. Property taxes. Average tax rate in Goshen County is 6.9510%.
Source: Wyoming Department of Revenue, Ad Valorem Division (2004)

Tax computation:

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

Example: Tax on a commercial facility valued at \$1,000,000 is as follows: \$1,000,000 x 0.095 = \$95,000 x 0.069510 = \$6,603.

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

Telecommunications

Available Services:

All West Communications

P.O. Box 588
Kamas, UT 84036

Phone: (435) 783-4361
Fax: (435) 783-4928
Website: www.allwest.net

Services offered: (Fort Laramie, La Grange, Lingle, Torrington, Yoder) Web Hosting

Sprint United

P.O. Box 2128
Scottsbluff, NE 69363

Phone: (308) 635-8241
Fax: (308) 635-8368
Website: www.sprint.com

Visionary

P.O. Box 2799
Gillette, WY 82717

Phone: (888) 682-1884
Fax: (307) 682-2519
Website: www.vcn.com

Services offered: Web Hosting.

Source: Wyoming Interactive Business Center, Wyoming Business Council

Power Cost

Weighted Average Cost per kWh of Power

| | |
|------------------------------------|--------------------|
| | <u>2000</u> |
| Cents per kWh of industrial power | 4.35 |
| Cents per kWh of commercial power | 6.54 |
| Cents per kWh of residential power | 7.06 |

| | <u>Industrial</u> | <u>Commercial</u> | <u>Residential</u> |
|---|--------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------|
| Fort Laramie Town of (2002) P.O. Box 177 Fort Laramie, WY 82212 (307) 837-2711 | N/A | N/A | 7.20 |
| Lingle Town of (2000) P.O. Box 448 Lingle, WY 82223 (307) 837-2422 | N/A | 8.23 | 8.57 |
| Niobrara Electric Association, Inc. (2000) 3951 U.S. Highway 20 P.O. Box 697 Lusk, WY 82225-0697 (307) 334-3221 | 6.33 | 7.40 | 8.57 |
| Torrington City of Electric (2000) 2017 East A Street Torrington, WY 82240 (307) 532-5666 | 5.39 | 4.69 | 5.51 |

| | | | |
|---|------|------|------|
| Wheatland Rural Electric Association, Inc. (2000) 2154 South Road Wheatland, WY 82201 (800) 344-3351 | 4.05 | 8.40 | 7.85 |
| Wyrulec Company (2002) P.O. Box 359 Lingle, WY 82223 (307) 837-2225 | 4.63 | 7.66 | 7.86 |

Source: bizsitesDATA (U.S. Department of Energy, Energy Information Administration)

Cost of Living Index (Prices as of January 7, 8, and 9, 2004, Statewide Average = 100)

| Food | Housing | Apparel | Transportation | Medical | Recreation & Personal Care |
|------|---------|---------|----------------|---------|----------------------------|
| 87 | 76 | 100 | 98 | 102 | 100 |

Source: State of Wyoming, Economic Analysis Division <<http://eadiv.state.wy.us/wcli/NewsRelease-4Q03.pdf>>

Average Price of Single-Family Home (2002)

\$86,545

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

Higher Education

Eastern Wyoming College: Campus in Torrington
University of Wyoming Outreach Program

Transportation

1. Airports:

Torrington Municipal (TOR)

2 miles east of Torrington

Fixed Base Operators: Torrington Aviation

Runways: 5,701 x 75 ft., asphalt

3,000 x 60 ft., asphalt

Western Nebraska Regional/William B. Heilig Field

3 miles east of Scottsbluff, NE

Fixed Base Operators: Valley Airways

Runways: 8,001 x 150 ft., asphalt

8,280 x 150 ft., asphalt

2. Highways:

Distance from county centroid to nearest Interstate highway = 29.98 miles to I-25

U.S. 26

U.S. 85

3. **Railroad:**

Burlington Northern Santa Fe
 Union Pacific

Goshen County Business Report (2004)

Daytime Population: Total Employees 4,101
 Business Counts: Total Establishments 509

| Employees By Occupation | Count | % |
|--|--------------|----------|
| <i>"White Collar" Employees</i> | 2,334 | 56.91% |
| Administrative Support Workers | 683 | 16.65% |
| Executive Managers & Administrators | 379 | 9.24% |
| Professional Specialty Occupations | 709 | 17.29% |
| Sales Professionals | 88 | 2.15% |
| Sales Workers & Clerks | 330 | 8.05% |
| Technical Sales & Administrative | 13 | 0.32% |
| Technologies & Technicians | 132 | 3.22% |
| <i>"Blue Collar" Employees</i> | 1,741 | 42.45% |
| Construction, Repair & Mining | 133 | 3.24% |
| Farming, Forestry & Fishing | 113 | 2.76% |
| Handlers, Helpers & Laborers | 110 | 2.68% |
| Machine Operators, Assemblers & Inspectors | 109 | 2.66% |
| Other Services Field Based | 43 | 1.05% |
| Other Services Site Based | 741 | 18.07% |
| Precision Craft & Repair | 331 | 8.07% |
| Private Household Service | 0 | 0.00% |
| Protective Services | 51 | 1.24% |
| Transportation & Materials Moving Workers | 110 | 2.68% |
| Establishments: Size | Count | % |
| 1-4 Employees | 337 | 66.21% |
| 5-9 Employees | 85 | 16.70% |
| 10-19 Employees | 48 | 9.43% |
| 20-49 Employees | 24 | 4.72% |
| 50-99 Employees | 9 | 1.77% |
| 100-249 Employees | 5 | 0.98% |
| 250-499 Employees | 1 | 0.20% |
| 500-999 Employees | 0 | 0.00% |
| 1,000+ Employees | 0 | 0.00% |
| Major Industry: Employees | Count | % |
| Agricultural, Forestry, Fishing | 22 | 0.54% |
| Construction | 118 | 2.88% |

| | | |
|------------------------------------|-------|--------|
| Finance, Insurance And Real Estate | 252 | 6.14% |
| Manufacturing | 384 | 9.36% |
| Mining | 0 | 0.00% |
| Public Administration | 210 | 5.12% |
| Retail Trade | 763 | 18.61% |
| Services | 1,958 | 47.74% |
| Transportation and Communications | 130 | 3.17% |
| Unclassified | 26 | 0.63% |
| Wholesale Trade | 238 | 5.80% |

| Major Industry: Establishments | Count | % |
|---------------------------------------|--------------|----------|
| Agricultural, Forestry, Fishing | 13 | 2.55% |
| Construction | 28 | 5.50% |
| Finance, Insurance And Real Estate | 65 | 12.77% |
| Manufacturing | 13 | 2.55% |
| Mining | 0 | 0.00% |
| Public Administration | 48 | 9.43% |
| Retail Trade | 103 | 20.24% |
| Services | 186 | 36.54% |
| Transportation and Communications | 23 | 4.52% |
| Unclassified | 3 | 0.59% |
| Wholesale Trade | 27 | 5.30% |

| Retail Trade: Employees | Count | % |
|--|--------------|----------------|
| Auto Dealers and Gas Stations | 123 | 16.12% |
| Bars | 18 | 2.36% |
| Building Materials Hardware and Garden | 73 | 9.57% |
| Catalog and Direct Sales | 1 | 0.13% |
| Clothing Stores | 5 | 0.66% |
| Convenience Stores | 20 | 2.62% |
| Drug Stores | 30 | 3.93% |
| Electronics and Computer Stores | 22 | 2.88% |
| Food Markets | 111 | 14.55% |
| Furniture Stores | 3 | 0.39% |
| General Merchandise Stores | 35 | 4.59% |
| Home Furnishings | 2 | 0.26% |
| Liquor Stores | 22 | 2.88% |
| Music Stores | 4 | 0.52% |
| Other Food Service | 24 | 3.15% |
| Other Food Stores | 15 | 1.97% |
| Restaurants | 216 | 28.31% |
| Specialty Stores | 39 | 5.11% |
| Total Retail Trade | 763 | 100.00% |

| Retail Trade: Establishments | Count | % |
|--|--------------|----------|
| Auto Dealers and Gas Stations | 19 | 18.45% |
| Bars | 7 | 6.80% |
| Building Materials Hardware and Garden | 8 | 7.77% |

| | | |
|---------------------------------------|--------------|----------------|
| Catalog and Direct Sales | 1 | 0.97% |
| Clothing Stores | 3 | 2.91% |
| Convenience Stores | 3 | 2.91% |
| Drug Stores | 3 | 2.91% |
| Electronics and Computer Stores | 3 | 2.91% |
| Food Markets | 4 | 3.88% |
| Furniture Stores | 1 | 0.97% |
| General Merchandise Stores | 3 | 2.91% |
| Home Furnishings | 2 | 1.94% |
| Liquor Stores | 5 | 4.85% |
| Music Stores | 1 | 0.97% |
| Other Food Service | 2 | 1.94% |
| Other Food Stores | 3 | 2.91% |
| Restaurants | 18 | 17.48% |
| Specialty Stores | 17 | 16.50% |
| Total Retail Trade | 103 | 100.00% |
| Services: Employees | Count | % |
| Advertising | 0 | 0.00% |
| Auto Repair/Services | 33 | 1.69% |
| Beauty and Barber Shops | 27 | 1.38% |
| Child Care Services | 6 | 0.31% |
| Colleges and Universities | 127 | 6.49% |
| Computer Services | 2 | 0.10% |
| Dry Cleaning and Laundry | 5 | 0.26% |
| Entertainment and Recreation Services | 39 | 1.99% |
| Health and Medical Services | 182 | 9.30% |
| Hospitals | 636 | 32.48% |
| Hotels and Lodging | 40 | 2.04% |
| Legal Services | 18 | 0.92% |
| Membership Organizations | 49 | 2.50% |
| Miscellaneous Repair Services | 17 | 0.87% |
| Motion Pictures | 9 | 0.46% |
| Museums and Zoos | 1 | 0.05% |
| Other Business Services | 27 | 1.38% |
| Other Education & Library Services | 6 | 0.31% |
| Other Personal Service | 18 | 0.92% |
| Primary and Secondary Education | 323 | 16.50% |
| Professional Services | 30 | 1.53% |
| Social Services | 363 | 18.54% |
| Total Services | 1,958 | 100.00% |
| Services: Establishments | Count | % |
| Advertising | 0 | 0.00% |
| Auto Repair/Services | 14 | 7.53% |
| Beauty and Barber Shops | 12 | 6.45% |
| Child Care Services | 2 | 1.08% |

| | | |
|---------------------------------------|-----|---------|
| Colleges and Universities | 2 | 1.08% |
| Computer Services | 1 | 0.54% |
| Dry Cleaning and Laundry | 3 | 1.61% |
| Entertainment and Recreation Services | 6 | 3.23% |
| Health and Medical Services | 28 | 15.05% |
| Hospitals | 9 | 4.84% |
| Hotels and Lodging | 7 | 3.76% |
| Legal Services | 8 | 4.30% |
| Membership Organizations | 25 | 13.44% |
| Miscellaneous Repair Services | 9 | 4.84% |
| Motion Pictures | 1 | 0.54% |
| Museums and Zoos | 1 | 0.54% |
| Other Business Services | 10 | 5.38% |
| Other Education & Library Services | 1 | 0.54% |
| Other Personal Service | 8 | 4.30% |
| Primary and Secondary Education | 10 | 5.38% |
| Professional Services | 9 | 4.84% |
| Social Services | 20 | 10.75% |
| Total Services | 186 | 100.00% |

Resource Team Members

LaGrange, Wyoming
November 16-17, 2004

Ashley Camp, Team Leader

Wyoming Rural Development Council
2219 Carey Avenue
Cheyenne, WY 82002
(307) 777-6430
acamp@state.wy.us



Janice Stroud

USDA Rural Development
PO Box 11005
Casper, WY 82602-5006
janice.stroud@wy.usda.gov

Nancy Clarke

USDA Forest Service
Medicine Bow-Routt N.F.
2268 Jackson Street
Laramie, WY 82072
(307)745-2408
nclarke@fs.fed.us

Community Contact

Cathy Stoddard

Town Clerk
PO Box 185
LaGrange, WY 82221
(307) 834-2466

Resource Team Agenda

LaGrange, Wyoming of Goshen County
November 16&17 2004

Tuesday, November 16th 2004

| | | |
|---------------|--|-----------------|
| 8:00-9:00am | Orientation and Organization Meeting (Team Members Only) | Longhorn Cafe |
| 9:00-11:00am | Resource Team Tour | |
| 11:00-12:00pm | Seniors/Healthcare | Community Bldg |
| 12:00-12:30pm | Lunch | Community Bldg |
| 12:30-1:00pm | School Assembly | LaGrange School |
| 1:15-2:30pm | Agriculture | Town Hall |
| 2:30-3:45pm | Business | Town Hall |
| 3:45-4:00pm | Break | |
| 4:00-5:00pm | Youth Pizza Party | Town Hall |
| 5:00-6:30pm | Dinner | |
| 6:30-8:00pm | Open Session | Town Hall |

Wednesday, November 17th 2004

| | | |
|---------------|---|----------------|
| 7:00-8:00am | Breakfast | |
| 8:00-9:00am | Government | Town Hall |
| 9:00-9:30am | Break | |
| 9:30-10:30am | Church/Nonprofit/Civic Groups | Town Hall |
| 10:30-11:00am | Break | |
| 11:00-12:00pm | Open Session | Town Hall |
| 12:00pm-? | Lunch & Team Meeting | |
| 5:00-5:30pm | Refreshments/snacks | Community Bldg |
| 5:30-6:30pm | Town Meeting (Summarization of Team Assessments) | Community Bldg |
| 6:30-? | Questions & Answers | Community Bldg |

LaGrange Major Themes

Infrastructure

- Lack of law enforcement
- Telecommunications
- Paving the streets
- Health care services
- Highway safety
- Visioning and planning
- Storm drainage

Economic Development

- Business and Agribusiness development and enhancement
- Bank or ATM
- Recreation center and programs-swimming pool

Quality of Life

- Walking path
- Preserve and promote the historical aspects and high school
- Town beautification
- Community wide programs for children, family, seniors

Team Member Recommendations

Ashley Camp, Team Leader

Wyoming Rural Development Council
2219 Carey Avenue
Cheyenne, WY 82002
(307) 777-5812
acamp@state.wy.us

Introduction: I greatly enjoyed my time in LaGrange for the community assessment and I would like to thank the Town of LaGrange for the warm reception and excellent preparation and planning for the assessment. The Town of LaGrange appears to be a very clean, quiet and friendly town when visiting. I was very impressed with the turnout, honesty and openness of the listening sessions. They were very well attended and gave the team a good impression of what the people of LaGrange want for the future of the community. LaGrange and the surrounding area have an extremely interesting history that was fascinating to learn. I hope that the assessment and report will be a great motivator to the people of LaGrange to work together and implement positive change! Thanks again for your hospitality and the chance to visit with the friendly people of LaGrange.

Theme: Quality of Life

Challenge: The need for a safe walking path, the preservation and promotion of the historical aspects of LaGrange, preserving and or using the high school, town beautification and community wide programs for children, families and seniors.

Solution to the need for a safe walking path: It was identified over and over again in the listening sessions that LaGrange needs a safe walking path. The major concern was that right now people have to walk down the highway (and many do at night) causing a serious safety issue. It was stated that not only do the walkers have a concern about this problem but also the people who drive by said that they cannot see the walkers until they are very close and are afraid that they will be hit one day. A major concern with this issue was the amount of semi truck traffic that drives by LaGrange at very high speeds, not bothering to slow down through town. I have listed the address of the Wyoming Department of Transportation below and encourage you to contact them again about lowering the speed limit or putting in a light or crosswalk. When speaking with WYDOT I would stress how often people walk across the street to access the businesses and buildings and that many of the people who cross frequently are youth and seniors. If the town is able to have WYDOT come and look at the situation, it may be more likely for them to address the situation as it would not only be a major safety advantage for the people crossing the street but also benefit those who walk through town along the highway. As we learned in the listening sessions and observed

during our stay in LaGrange, slowing people down would be a great asset to LaGrange, but the people still need a safe place to walk in the area.

A walking path is a great idea that could benefit the community in many ways. It would not only create a safe place for people of all ages to walk, it is also a great way to bring people together for exercise in a no stress environment. A problem that was brought up when discussing creating a walking path was the lack of land to build the path on. It was however stated that the town owns some land that may be of use for this purpose. It may also be beneficial to talk to the land owners surrounding LaGrange and see if they would donate or sell enough land to create a walking path around LaGrange. It is sometimes surprising to see how will people are to help with the greater good of the community.

Money is clearly the main barrier in a small town such as LaGrange, but there are opportunities for funding. A program that may be helpful is the Foundation for Rural Education and Development Ethyl Grant Program. The Ethyl Grant program focuses on improving economic conditions and the quality of life in rural communities. The Foundation for Rural Education and Development (FRED) was established by the Organization for the Promotion and Advancement of Small Telecommunications Companies. Now in its fourth year, the Ethyl Grant program provides matching grants to organizations that partner with OPASTCO member telephone companies for community projects. The grants, ranging from \$500 - \$2,500 are awarded bi-annually in October and May. An estimated \$10,000 in funding is available in 2004. Another option for funding may be through the Union Pacific Railroad's Community Based Grant Program. Information about this program is online at the address listed below, and the contact information for the foundation is also listed below. I would also encourage the town to contact Tom Johnson, the Wyoming Business Council's Regional Director and Brad Sutherland, Executive Director of the Goshen County Economic Development Corp. for more information on this as well. In addition, the Wyoming Department of Transportation has some grant possibilities for this project as well. It may also be a good idea to contact the National Arbor Day Foundation to learn about the possibility of getting some trees for this project!

Resources:

Wyoming Department of Transportation.

5300 Bishop Blvd.

Cheyenne, WY 82009-3340

(307) 777-4375

Contact: Dennis Leek

District Traffic Engineer

WYDOT- Casper

Office: 307-473-3224

Foundation for Rural Education and Development Ethyl Grant Program

FRED

21 Dupont Circle NW, Suite 700 ·

Washington, DC · 20036 ·

Phone: 202/659-5990 ·

Fax: 202/659-461

To download the application please visit:

<<http://www.fred.org/FREDbrEthylSide1218B.pdf>.>

Union Pacific Foundation

1400 Douglas St., Stop 1560

Omaha, NE 68179

(402) 544-5600

Union Pacific's website: <http://www.up.com/>

Union Pacific's grant information pages: <http://www.up.com/found/grants.shtml#how>

Union Pacific Railroad

200 E. Railroad Ave.

Green River, WY 82935

307-877-4711

Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railroad

[Gus Melonas](#)

gus.melonas@bnsf.com

Director Public Affairs

206-625-6220

206-625-6115 Fax

Wyoming Department of Transportation

5300 Bishop Blvd.

David Young

Cheyenne, WY 82009

Phone (307) 777-4384 or (307) 777-4275

Fax (307) 777-4759

Email Dave.Young@dot.state.wy.us

National Arbor Day Foundation

web site address at: www.arborday.org/index.cfm

Wyoming Business Council Regional Director

Tom Johnson, Director

1400 College Drive, Room 203

Cheyenne, WY 82007

307.635.7735

Email: tjohns@state.wy.us

Goshen County Economic Development Corp.

Brad Sutherland, Executive Director

302 West 21st

Torrington, WY 82240

Phone: (307) 532-5162

bsutherland@communicomm.com

Solution to the preservation and promotion of the historical aspects of LaGrange and the

high school: I was surprised and delighted to learn about the historical aspects of LaGrange and the surrounding area. The tour of the community and surrounding area was fascinating to explore and made me think that LaGrange could really capitalize on its location being close to many larger towns and major highways. If the citizens of LaGrange are interested, it may be possible to bring in more tourist traffic to learn about the history of LaGrange. The town is situated in the North Platte River Valley Corridor, which was the route west for the Mormon, California/Oregon trails, the Overland Stage routes and the Pony Express. These trails and Pony Express routes all carry a rich history that could be capitalized upon by LaGrange. In addition, with the history of cattle drives and the fact that LaGrange is one of the oldest towns in the state, many people should be interested in visiting and learning more about LaGrange. A matter to consider is that adding tourist attractions would obviously bring more people through LaGrange which has both positive and negative aspects to reflect upon. On one hand you may not want more traffic through the town, but bringing in more people would also help the local businesses to stay alive and thrive and possibly attract some other local businesses as well.

We heard often in the listening sessions how unhappy the people of LaGrange were about the high school being vacant and no longer used in LaGrange. Due to the age and excellent condition of the building, many people consider it to hold a great deal of historical value. The team was fortunate enough to tour the building and we found it to be both attractive and in good shape both inside and outside. A possible way to bring both challenges together would be to use the high school building as a museum/ gift shop and include in it a history of LaGrange and the surrounding area. This would keep the building from falling into disrepair and make it significantly easier to afford a museum/ tourist attraction since the building already exists. Establishing a relationship with state agencies such as the Wyoming State Parks and Historical Sites and the Tourism and Travel Division of the Wyoming Business

Council could be beneficial in implementing this project. Obviously this would take a lot of consideration before any decisions are made. A possibility for LaGrange to think about is conducting a tourism audit. Marketing experts Judy Randall and Berkeley Young travel to Wyoming on January 17 & 24 and Feb 7 & 14 to perform community tourism audits. Experts offer local tourism analysis. Randall Tourism Marketing is going to spend a full day in each community that signs up for the program and will conclude with objective recommendations on how to successfully promote each area. Wyoming Travel and Tourism is absorbing 75% of the consultant firms' charges. Total cost to a community is \$250.00. Interested community leaders can contact Anita Withers at Wyoming Travel and Tourism: phone 777-2856 or email: awithe@state.wy.us

If LaGrange would like more tourist traffic there are a few fairly low cost options to look into. They include:

Radio Advertising Co-op Tourism is offering an instate radio advertising co-op through Clear Channel of Wyoming in partnership with Don Day Weather. This is an option to promote community events and activities to visitors as they travel within Wyoming. Partners will be able to buy one week advertising spots on over 40 Wyoming stations. For more information contact Linda Finnerty at Clear Channel Wyoming at 888-709-0098.

Newspaper Co-op Travel and Tourism will again be offering a newspaper co-op opportunity for 2005. For more information contact Amy Hume at Barnhart at 303-626-7200

Magazine Coop AAA has been selected by Wyoming Travel and Tourism to provide a magazine co-op for the second year in a row. Contracts have been finalized and sales reps are in the field working to fill the ad space for this 8 page special section. This will be in states with more than 5 million in circulation. For more info call Nancy Burke at 503-296-6690

Resources:

UPRR Foundation Community-Based Grant Program
online applications at www.upr.com/found/grants.shtml

Wyoming State Parks and Historical Sites
contact Todd Thibodeau,
307-777-6478

Travel and Tourism Division of WBC
contact Chuck Coon
307-777-2831

Lodging and Tax Board
1-800-354-6743

Goshen County Chamber of Commerce

350 West 21st. Ave.
Torrington, WY 82240
(307) 532.3879

National Historic Trails Interpretive Center

[1501 North Poplar Street](#)

Casper, WY 82601

Phone: 307.261.7700

Email: trailscenter_wy@blm.gov

Solution to town beautification: A theme that was discussed often in the listening sessions was that the town needed some beautification. Overall, the people felt that LaGrange was pretty clean and safe for their families. However, there was some comment on the trash that blows around in LaGrange. We all know that we cannot stop the wind, but we can have control over the trash in the town. I would suggest a town cleanup day to be held. The town is small enough that all of the streets could easily be cleaned in a few hours. The town could supply the trash bags and haul the trash away, and maybe host a picnic for all of the participants after the cleanup is completed. This is a simple and cheap way for the people of LaGrange to not only cleanup the town but also to socialize.

It was also mentioned frequently in the listening sessions that many of the trees in LaGrange are getting very old or dying and the need to replace them for the aesthetic value and safety of the residents of LaGrange. The need to beautify Main Street was also mentioned as a project with the idea of putting some trees, shrubberies or flowers in the middle since the main street is so wide. There are some options to help with the costs associated with these projects. The National Arbor Day Foundation has various programs to help communities with the need for trees. In addition, the Wyoming State Forestry will have good suggestions about what plants will grow best in LaGrange and may some ideas to help lower the costs of purchasing trees. I would also suggest talking to the Goshen County Weed and Pest district to learn about what species will grown best and how to avoid bringing in invasive species to Wyoming.

National Arbor Day Foundation

web site address at: www.arborday.org/index.cfm

Wyoming State Forestry Division

Donald Hendershot
1100 West 22nd Street
Cheyenne, WY 82002

Phone: 307-777-3626

Goshen County Weed and Pest Control District

P.O. Box 757

Torrington, WY 82240

532-3713

Solution to the need for community wide programs for children, families and seniors: The need for community wide programs was voiced in every listening session that we held during the assessment. If the community is able to build a walking path for the citizens, this could be a place for community programs to be held. You could hold nature walks and teach the school children and residents about nature and also the history of the area in a fun, active environment. If it is possible to use the old high for a fitness program, the town may be able to purchase used equipment that is still in decent condition from colleges or fitness centers in the area. That would be significantly cheaper than purchasing new equipment. There are also lots of opportunities for outdoor recreation. We heard often how popular the fireworks display is for the 4th of July, and that you get a lot of out of town visitors just for the day. Maybe try and make it a two or three day event by adding celebration of the history of LaGrange with a parade and maybe a cattle drive since LaGrange has cattle drives as part of its history. This would be a way for the community to get together and spend time helping the community out while also promoting it.

We heard in the listening sessions from the bible school students that they were willing and in fact very happy to help out in LaGrange. We also heard the senior citizens mention that they sometimes need help shoveling their walks in the winter and raking leaves in the fall. This is simple to put two and two together. Capitalize on the fact that there are young people willing to help out other community citizens. I would encourage the senior center or the town council to talk with Frontier Bible School about setting up some volunteers to help shovel walks or rake leaves.

Another option for community programs to become involved with or start a 4-H program in LaGrange. 4-H is a great way to connect with the younger generation and could become a place for seniors to volunteer their time back into the community.

Another program that may be beneficial to involving people in LaGrange is the Big Brothers and Big Sisters program. Below is some information on the program and also contact information.

Big Brothers Big Sisters: 100 Years of Youth Mentoring

Founded in 1904, Big Brothers Big Sisters is the oldest and largest youth mentoring organization in the United States. In 2002, the organization served more than 200,000 youth ages five through 18, in 5,000 communities across the country, through a network of 470 agencies. National research has shown that the positive relationships between Big Brothers and Big Sisters and their Littles have a direct, measurable, and lasting impact on children's lives.

Big Brothers Big Sisters serves more than 200,000 children, ages five through 18, in 5,000 communities across all 50 states. There are two core Big Brothers Big Sisters programs:

Big Brothers Big Sisters - Community-based

Volunteers provide Littles with one-on-one time and attention in their communities, typically two to four times a month. During these unstructured outings they cultivate relationships that provide children with skills to manage every day challenges. Through simple friendship, Bigs experience the joy of helping children discover a world of possibilities and opportunities.

Big Brothers Big Sisters in Schools

Volunteers provide Littles with one-on-one time and attention in their schools, typically once a week during the academic year. Teachers identify children who can benefit most from interaction with a caring adult. As their friendships evolve, volunteers and children discover ways to make school and learning fun.

Additionally, there are several related programs that are customized to specific categories of children, volunteers or partners. They include:

Amachi Big Brothers Big Sisters

Amachi congregation members serve children of incarcerated parents. Big Brothers Big Sisters screens and matches church members with children who have been identified and enrolled by their custodial parent or guardian. An onsite church volunteer coordinator provides a point of contact for ongoing volunteer support and information. Because the church is a common meeting ground, there are enhanced opportunities for group events involving matches, or for support and training activities for volunteers.

AARP Big Brothers and Big Sisters

AARP volunteers meet one-on-one with their third-grade Littles once a week in schools for about an hour to engage in activities that promote learning and academic success. Retirees and other seniors enjoy the structure and daytime volunteer opportunity that AARP Big Brothers Big Sisters provides. Volunteers often participate in peer sharing following time with their Littles.

High School Bigs

High school juniors and seniors provide elementary student Littles with one-on-one time and attention, once a week during the academic year. The pairs meet during or after school hours depending on the proximity of their school locations. High School Bigs experience the joy and life changing power of service, build college resumes, and may receive school credits. Littles have the opportunity to connect with a role model close to their own age whom they identify with strongly.

BBBS Partnership with Four Leading Service Clubs

BBBS partners with the nation's leading service organizations, in an effort to significantly advance the goal of

reaching every child who wants and needs a Big Brother or Big Sister. The Clubs -- [Rotary](#), [Optimist](#), [Kiwanis](#), and [Lions](#) -- along with BBBS, received the "charge" from President Bush in July 2001, to work together to effectively serve more youth.

Other Programs

Additional Big Brothers Big Sisters programs include those which take place at workplaces, community centers Y's, and (non-Amachi) faith-based venues. Big Brothers Big Sisters works closely with parents and guardians to match every child with the right Big. Every volunteer is screened, trained, and supervised, and professionals in youth development support each match to help ensure that the relationship will be safe and rewarding for everyone involved.

Resources:

Greater Wyoming Big Brothers and Big Sisters

413 South 21st Street
Laramie, WY 82070
(888) 837-3507

Goshen County Office

Research and Extension Center - West Highway 26
Route 1, Box 373-G
Torrington, WY 82240-9223
E-mail: wtatman@uwyo.edu
Phone: (307) 532-2436
FAX: (307) 532-7531

State 4-H Office

Cooperative Extension Service

University of Wyoming
Dept. 3354
1000 E. University Ave.
Laramie, WY 82071
1-307-766-5170

Theme: Economic Development

Challenge: Recreation center and programs-swimming pool

Solution: The major requests were for a swimming pool and a fitness center. Obviously, building a recreation center would be very costly for the town to build. One possibility to curb the costs could be to use the old high school for the fitness center and build a pool close by or as an attachment to the building. Another option may be to add on to the senior center for this purpose.

There are some ways to help alleviate the cost to the community for things such as a recreation center. The Wyoming Business Council has some loan and grant programs that LaGrange may be eligible to apply for funding. The WBC has the Business Ready Community Grant & Loan Program. The program provides financing for publicly owned infrastructure that serves the needs of businesses and promotes economic development within Wyoming communities. I would recommend contacting Shawn Reese for more information; his contact information is listed below. The Wyoming Business Council also administers the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program for economic and community development projects, and its board of directors approves grant recipients. The Wyoming Community Development Authority manages the portion of funding designated by the Wyoming Business Council for housing in Wyoming. The CDBG Program is a federally funded pass through grant program from the [U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development](#) (HUD). Wyoming has received an annual allocation from a low of \$2.2 million, to a high of \$3.7 million. For the 2004 program, the state has received \$3,754,809. For more information on this program, please contact Steve Achter.

Resources:

Wyoming Business Council

Steve Achter, Director Investment Ready Communities
214 W 15th St
Cheyenne, WY 82002
777-2811
SACHTE@state.wy.us

Wyoming Business Council

Shawn Reese
214 W. 15th St
Cheyenne, WY 82002
777-2813
SREESE@state.wy.us

Solution to Business and Agribusiness development and enhancement: We heard that business development and enhancement was a concern for the people of LaGrange. We heard in the listening sessions that both the citizens of LaGrange and students at the Bible School want and would frequent new businesses in LaGrange.

The Wyoming Business Council has some programs in place to promote businesses, and program information is listed below.

2005 COOP Opportunities

Three co-op advertising opportunities for 2005 are now packaged by Wyoming Travel and tourism to promote businesses, towns and attractions. Each targets a different media and audience. These packages are a great value to Wyoming businesses and Wyoming Travel

and Tourism has obligated over 400,000 in support of these programs. Please visit the Wyoming Travel and Tourism site at <http://wyomingbusiness.org/tourism/index.cfm>

Another great resource for communities to utilize is the Small Business Development Center. Program information is listed here:

Small Business Development Center Services:

- **Consulting:** Personalized consulting service to help entrepreneurs develop their business plans, weed out problems, find capital, brainstorm strategies and propel their businesses to profitable future. SBDC consulting services are confidential and offered free of charge.
- **Training Programs:** Workshops, courses and conferences designed to provide information on specialized topics of interest to business owners. SBDC workshops, conferences and courses are designed to be affordable and conveniently located.
- **Resources Library:** Books, videos, tapes, audio tapes, magazines and more are available for free checkout to Wyoming's small business community.
- **Referral Programs:** The SBDC network is linked to hundreds of resources throughout the state and the nation to put businesses in touch with the most appropriate sources of help.

Wyoming Small Business Development Center Region IV:

Arlene Soto

1400 East College Drive

Cheyenne, WY 82007-3298

(307) 632-6141

Toll Free in WY 800-348-5208

Fax: (307) 632-6061

e-mail: sewsbdc@wyoming.com

Diane Wolverton

State Director Wyoming SBDC

1000 E. University, Dept. 3922

Laramie, WY 82071

Phone (307) 766-3505

FAX (307) 766-3406

E-MAIL: wsbdc@uwyo.edu

Janice Stroud

USDA Rural Development
PO Box 11005
Casper, WY 82602-5006

janice.stroud@wy.usda.gov

Introduction: The community of LaGrange sits on the high plains of Southeastern Wyoming. It has a rich history and was part of the Texas Trail. The people are friendly and the spirit of community alive and well.

Theme: Infrastructure

Challenge: Lack of law enforcement- There was a repeated discussion over the fact that the town has no full time law enforcement. We heard that it could take an hour or more to respond to a call. In addition, there is a problem with people speeding through the town.

1. USDA Rural Development Community Facilities Program. This program provides funds through loans and grants for community facilities as police cars or other security type equipment as fire trucks, or radio equipment. The contact person is Lorraine Werner in the Torrington Area Office at 307-532-4880 Ext. 4; 1441 East M St. Suite A., Torrington, WY 82240-3521. La Grange is a grant eligible community for Rural Development's community facilities

2.16.710 Public Safety Partnership And Community Policing Grants ("Cops" Grants) Through Office Of Community Oriented Policing Services, Department Of Justice.

Objectives: Grants are to be made to increase police presence, to expand and improve cooperative efforts between law enforcement agencies and members of the community to address crime and disorder problems, and otherwise to enhance public safety. Applicant Eligibility: States, units of local government, Indian tribal governments, other public and private entities, and multi jurisdictional or regional consortia thereof. Information contacts through Headquarters Office: Office of Community Oriented Policing Services, 1100 Vermont Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20530. Telephone: Department of Justice Response Center: 1-800-421-6770, or (202) 307-1480. Direct applications to: COPS, 1100 Vermont Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20530.

3.20.600 State And Community Highway Safety, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration/Federal Highway Administration, Department Of Transportation.

Objectives: To provide a coordinated national highway safety program to reduce traffic accidents, deaths, injuries, and property damage. Uses And Use Restrictions: Formula grant funds may be used for problems identified within the nine national priority program areas of Alcohol and other Drug Countermeasures, Police Traffic Services, Occupant Protection, Traffic Records, Emergency Medical Services, Motorcycle Safety, Pedestrian/Bicycle Safety, Speed Control and Roadway Safety. Applicant Eligibility: States, federally recognized Indian tribes, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, American Samoa, Guam, Northern Marianas,

and the Virgin Islands. Information Contact: Northwest Mountain Region, 1601 Lind Avenue, S.W.; Renton, Washington 98055-4056; tel. 425-227-2000; <http://www.nw.faa.gov/>

4. Wyoming Department of Transportation has a Highway Safety Program. Grants are due 5/31 and the packet is on-line at: <http://www.dot.state.wy.us/generic/safety/index.html>.

5. Office of State Lands & Investments: The objectives of this section are to work with grant and loan applicants to give them the greatest benefit for the funds available with the least amount of “red tape” and to provide for the health, safety, and welfare of Wyoming citizens by providing necessary public infrastructure throughout the state. The government grant and loan programs described below are used primarily for public water and sewer projects; streets, roads, and bridges; public health, safety, and medical facilities; jails and law enforcement facilities; and school districts. Contact: Office of State Lands & Investments; 122 W. 25th Street Herschler Bldg. 3W; Cheyenne, WY 82002; tel. 307-777-7331 Fax: 307-777-5400

Solutions to Fire and Ambulance- The town is very proud of the job done by their EMTs, and the fire and ambulance departments. They are always in need of additional training, however, and newer equipment.

1. USDA Rural Development can provide funds through loan and grants for community facilities as police cars or other security type equipment as fire trucks, or Radio equipment. The contact person is Lorraine Werner in the Torrington Area Office at 307-532-4880 Ext. 4; 1441 East M St. Suite A., Torrington, WY 82240-3521. La Grange is a grant eligible community for Rural Development’s community facilities

2. 93.952 Improving EMS/Trauma Care In Rural Areas (Rural EMS/Trauma Care): Health Resources And Services Administration, Department Of Health And Human Services.

Objectives: To make grants to public and private nonprofit entities for the purpose of carrying out research and demonstration projects with respect to improving the availability and quality of emergency medical services in rural areas. Uses And Use Restrictions: Funds received under a grant are to be used for the following purposes: (1) Developing innovative uses of communications technologies and the use of new communications technology; (2) developing model curricula for training emergency medical services personnel, including first responders, emergency medical technicians, emergency nurses and physicians, and paramedics; (a) In the assessment, stabilization, treatment preparation for transport, and resuscitation of seriously injured patients, with special attention to problems that arise during long transport and to methods of minimizing delays in transport to the appropriate facility; and (b) in the management of the operation of the emergency medical services system; (3) making training for original certification, and continuing education, in the provision and management of emergency medical services more accessible to emergency medical personnel in rural areas through telecommunications, home studies, providing teachers and training at locations accessible to such personnel, and other methods; (4) developing innovative protocols and agreements to increase access to pre-hospital care and

equipment necessary for the transportation of seriously injured patients to the appropriate facilities; and (5) evaluating the effectiveness of protocols with respect to emergency medical services and systems. Applicant Eligibility: Any public or private nonprofit entity which has as its primary objective improving the availability and quality of emergency medical services in rural areas. Information Contacts through Headquarters Office: Chief, Injury/EMS Branch, Maternal and Child Health Bureau, Health Resources and Services Administration, Public Health Service, Department of Health and Human Services, Parklawn Building, Room 18A-38, 5600 Fishers Lane, Rockville, MD 20857. Telephone: (301) 443-0324.

3.83.010 National Fire Academy Educational Program Federal Agency: National Fire Academy, United States Fire Administration, Federal Emergency Management Agency.

Objectives: To increase the professional level of the fire service and others responsible for fire prevention and control. Types Of Assistance: Training. Uses And Use Restrictions: Training is provided at the resident facility in Emmitsburg, Maryland, and in the field in cooperation with State or local fire training agencies on specific subjects to specific audiences. The program is not open to the general public or to individuals who do not have a need for the information as part of their normal responsibilities. Applicant Eligibility: Any individual who is a member of a fire department or has significant responsibility for fire prevention and control. Information Contacts: Headquarters Office: National Emergency Training Center, Educational and Technology Services Branch, 16825 S. Seton Avenue, Emmitsburg, MD 21727. Telephone: (301) 447-1000. Examples Of Funded Projects: Students are provided an opportunity to attend courses at the National Fire Academy resident facility or at a convenient off-campus location with a minimal cost to the individual or the fire department represented.

4.83.554 Assistance To Firefighters Grant, (Fire Grants) Federal Agency: United States Fire Administration, Federal Emergency Management Agency. Objectives: To provide direct assistance, on a competitive basis, to fire departments of a State or tribal nation for the purpose of protecting the health and safety of the public and firefighting personnel against fire and fire-related Hazards. Uses And Use Restrictions: Firefighting Operations and Firefighter Safety, Eligible Uses: Training, Wellness and Fitness, Firefighting Equipment, Personal Protective Equipment, Other Equipment and Supplies. Applicant Eligibility: Eligible applicants for this grant program are limited to fire departments located in the fifty United States. A fire department is defined as an agency or organization that has a formally recognized arrangement with a State or local authority (city, county, parish, fire district, township, town, or other governing body) to provide fire suppression, fire prevention and rescue services within a fixed geographical area. An emergency medical services unit can apply for assistance provided the unit falls organizationally under the auspices of a fire department as defined above. Information Contacts: Detailed information about the Assistance to Firefighters Grant Program can be obtained from the FEMA Fire Liaisons in FEMA's regional offices. Rocky Mountain Regional Office of FEMA; Building 710, Box 25267; Denver, CO 80225-0267; tel. (303) 235-4800; (303) 235-4976 FAX

5.93.259 Rural Access To Emergency Devices Grant (Rural Access To AEDs) Federal Agency: Health Resources And Services Administration, Department Of Health And Human Services.

Objectives: To help community partnerships within States to purchase and obtain training on use of Access to Emergency Devices (AEDs). A limited amount of funds may also be used for medical dispatcher training addressing the use of AEDs for the layperson until EMS arrives, maintenance costs and data reporting costs. Uses And Use Restrictions: All funds awarded are to be expended solely for the purposes outlined in the approved projects. Applicant Eligibility: Grantees applying as a community partnership may apply. These grantees must be located in rural areas as defined in the grant guidance may include local first response entities such as fire, EMS and police as well as for and nonprofit entities concerned with cardiac arrest survival rates. Statewide or regional offices may apply as part of the community partnership, but such participation must be documented in the grant application and clearly delineate how funds would be disseminated to local rural entities within the community partnership. Information Contacts through: Headquarters Office: Office of Rural Health Policy, Health Resources and Services Administration, Department of Health and Human Services, 5600 Fishers Lane, Room 9A-55, Rockville, MD 20857. Telephone: (301)443-0835.

6. Wyoming Department of Transportation has a Highway Safety Program. Grants are due 5/31 and the packet is on-line at: <http://www.dot.state.wy.us/generic/safety/index.html>.

7. Office of State Lands & Investments: The objectives of this section are to work with grant and loan applicants to give them the greatest benefit for the funds available with the least amount of "red tape" and to provide for the health, safety, and welfare of Wyoming citizens by providing necessary public infrastructure throughout the state. The government grant and loan programs described below are used primarily for public water and sewer projects; streets, roads, and bridges; public health, safety, and medical facilities; jails and law enforcement facilities; and school districts. Contact: Office of State Lands & Investments; 122 W. 25th Street Herschler Bldg. 3W; Cheyenne, WY 82002; tel. 307-777-7331 Fax: 307-777-5400

Solutions to Telecommunications- The community stated that land phone service is very expensive. In addition, most places in the town do not have cell phone coverage. They need additional fiber optics as well. Obviously, there are two issues; one the lack of infrastructure, the other the low density of the population makes telecommunication very expensive. There are, however, loan and grant resources for both the town and for the companies that supply services to the town.

1. 11.550 Public Telecommunications Facilities--Planning And Construction-Federal Agency: National Telecommunications And Information Administration, Department Of Commerce. Objectives: To assist in the planning, acquisition, installation and modernization of public telecommunications facilities, through planning grants and matching construction grants, in order to: a) extend delivery of public telecommunications services to as many

citizens of the United States and territories as possible by the most efficient and economical means, including the use of broadcast and nonbroadcast technologies; b) increase public telecommunications services and facilities available to, operated by and owned by minorities and women; and c) strengthen the capability of existing public television and radio stations to provide public telecommunications service to the public. Applicant Eligibility: A public or noncommercial educational broadcast station; a noncommercial telecommunications entity; a system of public telecommunications entities; a nonprofit foundation, corporation, institution or association organized primarily for educational or cultural purposes; State, local, and Indian Tribal governments (or an agency thereof); or a political or special purpose subdivision of a state. Special consideration is given to applications which would increase minority and women's ownership of, operation of, and participation in public telecommunications entities. Headquarters Office: Director, Public Telecommunications Facilities Program, Office of Telecommunications and Information Applications/NTIA, Room 4625, Department of Commerce, 1401 Constitution Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20230. Telephone: (202) 482- 5802.

2. 10.851 Rural Telephone Loans And Loan Guarantees (RUS) Federal Agency: Rural Utilities Service, Department Of Agriculture. Objectives: To assure that people in eligible rural areas have access to Telecommunications services comparable in reliability and quality to the rest of the Nation. Types Of Assistance: Direct Loans; Guaranteed/Insured Loans. Uses And Use Restrictions: Long-term direct and guaranteed loans to qualified organizations for the purpose of financing the improvement, expansion, construction, acquisition, and operation of telephone lines, facilities, or systems to furnish and improve Telecommunications service in rural areas. "Rural area" is defined as any area of the United States not included within the boundaries of any incorporated or unincorporated city, village, or borough having a population exceeding 5,000 inhabitants. Applicant Eligibility: Telephone companies or cooperatives, nonprofit associations, limited dividend associations, mutual associations or public bodies including those located in the U.S. Wyoming Representative: Denver L. Schlaeppli, General Field Representative; PO Box 20792; Billings, MT 59104; Tel. (406)-652-6108; e-mail: dschlaep@rdmail.rural.usda.gov

3. 10.852 Rural Telephone Bank Loans (Rural Telephone Bank). Federal Agency: Rural Utilities Service, Department Of Agriculture. Objectives: To provide supplemental financing to extend and improve telecommunications services in rural areas. Types Of Assistance: Direct Loans. Uses And Use Restrictions: Long-term loans to qualified organizations for the purpose of supplying and improving telecommunications services in rural areas. Applicant Eligibility: Borrowers, including those located in the U.S. Territories. Information Contacts: Wyoming Representative: Denver L. Schlaeppli, General Field Representaice; PO Box 20792; Billings, MT 59104; Tel. (406)-652-6108; e-mail: dschlaep@rdmail.rural.usda.gov

Solution to Paving the Streets and Highway Safety- We repeatedly heard that there are many streets in town that either need to be paved OR that need repairs. The lack of infrastructure

makes it more difficult to attract business, reduces property values and has a cumulative negative affect on the grey water that collects after a storm or during spring snowmelt.

1. 10.665 Schools And Roads Grants To States (25 Percent Payments To States). Federal Agency: Forest Service, Department Of Agriculture. Objectives: To share receipts from the National Forests with the States in which the National Forests are situated. Uses And Use Restrictions: To be used for the benefit of public schools and public roads of the county or counties in which the National Forest is situated. Information Contacts: Regional Office: USDA Forest Service- Rocky Mountain Region; 740 Simms St; Golden, CO 80401; Tel.: 303-275-5350.

2. USDA Rural Development can provide funds through our Community Facilities Program for loans and grants for community facilities as street repair and maintenance. The contact person is Lorraine Werner in the Torrington Area Office at 307-532-4880 Ext. 4; 1441 East M St. Suite A., Torrington, WY 82240-3521. La Grange is a grant eligible community for Rural Development's community facilities.

3. Office of State Lands & Investments: The objectives of this section are to work with grant and loan applicants to give them the greatest benefit for the funds available with the least amount of "red tape" and to provide for the health, safety, and welfare of Wyoming citizens by providing necessary public infrastructure throughout the state. The government grant and loan programs described below are used primarily for public water and sewer projects; streets, roads, and bridges; public health, safety, and medical facilities; jails and law enforcement facilities; and school districts. Contact: Office of State Lands & Investments; 122 W. 25th Street Herschler Bldg. 3W; Cheyenne, WY 82002; tel. 307-777-7331 Fax: 307-777-5400

4. Wyoming Department of Transportation has a Highway Safety Program. Grants are due 5/31 and the packet is on-line at: <http://www.dot.state.wy.us/generic/safety/index.html>.

Solution to Health Care Services – Many residents expressed their frustration with the lack of medical services available. Residents must go into Torrington, Scott's Bluff or Cheyenne for the most basic of health care. It would be helpful if there were regular "medical days" at either the Senior Citizens Center or the old High School. Residents could receive standard examinations, inoculations, well baby care, etc. Another method of improving medical availability is to improve the transportation services available to La Grange area residents. There are numerous sources of funds for such programs. In many cases, you would need to collaborate with another local community or the State Health Department.

1.93.268 Immunization Grants (Section 301 And 317, Public Health Service Act; Immunization Program) Federal Agency: Centers For Disease Control And Prevention,

Department Of Health And Human Services. Objectives: To assist States and communities in establishing and maintaining preventive health service programs to immunize individuals against vaccine-preventable diseases (including measles, rubella, poliomyelitis, diphtheria, pertussis, tetanus, hepatitis B, hepatitis A, varicella, mumps, haemophilus influenza type b, influenza, and pneumococcal pneumonia). Uses And Use Restrictions: Grant funds may be used for costs associated with planning, organizing, and conducting immunization programs directed toward vaccine-preventable diseases and for the purchase of vaccine; and for the implementation of other program elements, such as assessment of the problem; surveillance and outbreak control; information and education; adequate notification of the risks and benefits of immunization; compliance with compulsory school immunization laws; vaccine storage, supply, and delivery; citizen participation; and use of volunteers. Vaccine will be available "in lieu of cash" if requested by the applicants. Requests for personnel and other items "in lieu of cash" will also be considered. Vaccine purchased with grant funds may be provided to private practitioners who agree not to charge for vaccine. Grant funds may be used to supplement (not substitute for) existing immunization services and operations provided by a State or locality. Applicant Eligibility: Any State, and in consultation with State health authorities, political subdivisions of States and other public entities. Private individuals and private nonprofit agencies are not eligible for immunization grants.

Information Contacts: Headquarters Office: Immunization Services Division, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Department of Health and Human Services, 1600 Clifton Road, NE., Atlanta, GA 30333 (404) 639-8208; Fax: (404) 639-8627; E-mail: JNK2@cdc.gov.

2.93.223 Development And Coordination Of Rural Health Services. Federal Agency: Health Resources And Services Administration, Department Of Health And Human Services.

Objectives: To develop and disseminate information to assist rural communities and rural health care organizations in developing and coordinating rural health care services. Sources of information include, but are not limited to, Federal and State agencies working in rural health care, health publications, research reports, and reports from national health care associations. Applicant Eligibility: Nonprofit private organizations that represent national, State and local rural health constituencies. The applicant must represent National, State, and local constituency groups who are interested in and committed to improvements in rural health care. Information Contacts: Office of Rural Health Policy, Health Resources and Services Administration, Public Health Service, DHHS, Parklawn Building, Room 9-05, 5600 Fishers Lane, Rockville, MD 20857 (301) 443-0835.

3.20.509 Public Transportation For Nonurbanized Areas (Nonurbanized Area Formula Program) Federal Agency: Federal Transit Administration, Department Of Transportation.

Objectives: To improve, initiate, or continue public transportation and intercity bus service in nonurbanized areas by providing financial assistance for the acquisition, construction, and improvement of facilities and equipment and the payment of operating expenses by operating contract, lease, or otherwise. Also, to provide technical assistance for rural transportation. Uses And Use Restrictions: Section 5311 funding may be used for eligible

capital expenses, project administration, and operating expenses needed to provide efficient and coordinated public transportation service in nonurbanized areas. Projects must provide for the maximum feasible coordination of public transportation sources assisted under this section with transportation services assisted by other Federal sources, and must provide for the maximum feasible participation of private operators. Fifteen percent of the State's annual apportionment must be spent to support rural intercity bus transportation, unless the governor certifies that such needs are adequately met. Rural Transit Assistance Program (RTAP) funds may be used for technical assistance, training, research, and related support services. Applicant Eligibility: Eligible recipient may include State agencies, local public bodies and agencies thereof, nonprofit organizations, Indian tribes, and operators of public transportation services, including intercity bus service, in rural and small urban areas. Private for-profit operators of transit or paratransit services may participate in the program only through contracts with eligible recipients. Urbanized areas, as defined by the Bureau of the Census, are not eligible. Information Contacts: Regional or Local Office: See your local telephone directory for the address of Federal Transit Administration Regional Offices. State Designated Agency: ????Examples Of Funded Projects: A typical local recipient of Section 5311 operates a fleet of about six vans or small buses in demand responsive and fixed route service. Section 5311 provides replacement vehicles and covers about a quarter of the average \$316,000 annual operating budget. The State receives Federal funds for a statewide program of projects.

4.20.513 Capital Assistance Program For Elderly Persons And Persons With Disabilities (Elderly And Persons With Disabilities Program) Federal Agency: Federal Transit

Administration, Department Of Transportation. Objectives: To provide financial assistance in meeting the transportation needs of elderly persons and persons with disabilities where public transportation services are unavailable, insufficient or inappropriate. Uses And Use Restrictions: Section 5310 funding may be used for eligible capital expenses needed to provide efficient and coordinated specialized transportation service for elderly persons and persons with disabilities. Applicant Eligibility: Private nonprofit organizations. Public bodies approved by the State to coordinate services for elderly persons and persons with disabilities and public bodies which certify to governor that no nonprofit corporations or associations are readily available in an area to provide the service. Information Contacts: See your local telephone directory for the address of Federal Transit Administration's Regional Offices. Region 8: Region 8 Contact Information; 12300 West Dakota Ave.; Suite 310; Lakewood, CO 80228-2583; Telephone: 720-963-3300; Fax: 720-963-3333 A typical project in FY 1997 provided \$1 million to a State that used the funds to purchase 35 accessible vehicles for 39 local subrecipients throughout the State.

5. Kid Care Children's Health Insurance Program of Wyoming (CHIP). Objectives: Kid Care CHIP is a State of Wyoming program designated to ensure that children and teens of both working and non-working families can have the health insurance they need. CHIP provides

medical, dental, and vision care. Uses and Use Restrictions: Families will have minimal cost sharing (small co-payments on most services: \$5 per office visit, outpatient services, ER visits (unless the child is admitted to the hospital then the \$5 is waived), brand drugs, and \$3 co-payment for generic drugs.) Applicant Eligibility: Anyone who meets the following criteria: Children birth through 18, a US Citizen or qualified alien or lived in the US for 5 years or more, a Wyoming resident, not eligible for Equalitycare (Medicaid), no insurance for 30 days prior to applying (unless insurance was involuntarily cancelled), is not placed in a public institution, is not a dependent of State employees (per Federal Law), or meets income guidelines. Information Contacts: Call Kid Care CHIP toll free at 1.877.KIDSNOW (1.877.543.7669) outside Cheyenne or 777.7566 in Cheyenne; e-mail at kidcare@state.wy.us

Solutions to Visioning and Planning- The community expressed the need to have additional planning and to develop the skills of those that work as either employees or volunteers with La Grange. It is imperative to plan not just for the community size today but for the future needs of the town. Mary Randolph, WRDC Executive Director; 2219 Carey Avenue; Cheyenne, Wyoming 82002; (307) 777-6430; FAX (307) 777-6593; E-mail: mrand@state.wy.us provides grant writing training.

1.10.446 Rural Community Development Initiative. Federal Agency: Rural Housing Service (RHS), Department Of Agriculture. Objectives: To develop the capacity and ability of private, nonprofit community-based housing and community development organizations, and low income rural communities to improve housing, community facilities, community and economic development projects in rural areas. Uses And Use Restrictions: Rural Community Development Initiative grants may be used for but are not limited to (a) training sub-grantees to conduct a program on home-ownership education; (b) training sub-grantees to conduct a program for minority business entrepreneurs; (c) providing technical assistance to sub-grantees on how to effectively prepare a strategic plan; (d) provide technical assistance to sub-grantees on how to access alternative funding sources; (e) building organizational capacity through board training; (f) developing training tools, such as videos, workbooks, and reference guides to be used by the sub-grantee; (g) providing technical assistance and training on how to develop successful child care facilities; and (h) providing training on effective fund raising techniques. Applicant Eligibility: Rural Community Development Initiative grants may be made to a qualified private or public (including tribal) organization that provides technical assistance to nonprofit community-based housing and community development organizations, and low income rural communities. Local Office: The contact person is Lorraine Werner in the Torrington Area Office at 307-532-4880 Ext. 4; 1441 East M St. Suite A., Torrington, WY 82240-3521. Examples Of Funded Projects: Grants were made to (a) hire a staff person to provide technical assistance to the sub-grantee; (b) the sub-grantee organization hires a staff person, under the supervision of the grantee, to carry out the technical assistance; (c) develop the capacity of sub-grantees to conduct community

development programs; (d) develop the capacity of sub-grantees to conduct home-ownership education programs; and (e) develop the capacity of sub-grantees to conduct training for minority business entrepreneurs.

2.Utilize some of the community development resources on the internet through:

- a. <http://ocdweb.sc.egov.usda.gov/info.asp?cid=20> There are a number of different topics from citizen involvement to economic or main street development.
- b. An over view of Federal Funding Sources or Notice of Funds Available (NOFA) is on-line at: <http://ocd1.usda.gov/nofa.htm>

Solutions to Agriculture Related Business Development Agriculture and Agriculture related industries are the largest employer in Goshen County. The drought then has had a severe economic effect on the county. In addition, agriculture, overall, has decreased the amount of the consumer dollar captured by the farmer or rancher. Farmers and ranchers are seeking ways to improve profitability through increased efficiency, increased production, and by finding ways to add value to their products.

1. A collection of educational materials which will assist producers in managing through the drought which has afflicted Wyoming is available at: <http://www.wyorange.net/>. This resource is part of those found though the University of Wyoming, Cooperative Extension Service. The internet has articles from grazing stresses during a drought to suggestions on water conservation and use of drought resistance crop varieties. In addition you can contact the Extension Agent for Goshen County at: Research and Extension Center - West Highway 26; Route 1, Box 373-G; Torrington, WY 82240-9223; E-mail: wtatman@uwyo.edu; Phone: (307) 532-2436; FAX: (307) 532-7531.

2. The Natural Resources and Conservation Services has numerous programs to assist farmers and ranchers. These include conservation, wildlife, forest, grasslands and wetlands protection and development, watershed protection, community led conservation initiatives and others. The local contact is:

South Goshen Conservation District

1441 East M Street, Suite B
Torrington, Wyoming 82240-3521
(307)-532-4880
FAX (307)-532-5783

Torrington Field Office Directory

| Name | Position | EXT | E-Mail Address |
|----------------|--------------------------|------------|--|
| Rusty Schwartz | District Conservationist | 123 | rusty.schwartz@wy.usda.gov |

| | | | |
|------------------|--|-----|--------------------------|
| O. Dean Watson | Soil Conservationist | 135 | dean.watson@wy.usda.gov |
| Dave Neider | Soil Conservation Technician | 124 | dave.neider@wy.usda.gov |
| Bailey Rapp | Soil Conservationist | 126 | bailey.rapp@wy.usda.gov |
| James Pike | Soil Conservationist | 121 | james.pike@wy.usda.gov |
| Nancy Borton | Conservation District Manager | 101 | |
| Adam Walter | District Tree Specialist | 128 | |
| Georgia Honstein | District Secretary | 129 | |
| Vacant | Civil Engineer | 127 | |
| Jerry Hattan | Irrigation Water Management Specialist | 122 | jerry.hattan@wy.usda.gov |
| Al Lopez | Civil Engineering Technician | 120 | al.lopez@wy.usda.gov |
| Mike Lessard | U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service | 137 | |

3. 10.901 Resource Conservation And Development Federal Agency: Natural Resources Conservation Service, Department Of Agriculture. Objectives: To encourage and improve the capability of State and local units of government and local nonprofit organizations in rural areas to plan, develop and carry out programs for resource conservation and development. Uses And Use Restrictions: Technical and limited financial assistance is available only to RC&D sponsors within areas authorized by the Secretary of Agriculture for assistance. Technical and limited financial assistance is available for the planning and installation of approved projects specified in RC&D area plans, for land conservation, water management, community development and environmental enhancement elements. Applicant Eligibility: State and local governments and nonprofit organizations with authority to plan or carry out activities relating to resource use and development in multi jurisdictional areas. Information Contacts: Southeastern Wyoming RC&D Area Project Office; 302A 16th Street; Wheatland, Wyoming 82201-3211; tel.: (307)-322-2187; FAX (307)-322-4109; Greg Wyndham, Area Coordinator, e-mail: greg.wyndham@wy.usda.gov.

4. Farm Service Agency has a number of programs to assist both beginning farmers and ranchers, those undergoing special circumstances and the current drought or even youth with their first 4-H or agriculture project.

Beginning Farmer and Rancher Loans

Beginning Farmer and Rancher loans were developed for individuals who have not previously operated a farm or ranch, or who have operated a farm or ranch for less than 10 consecutive years.

Downpayment Farm Ownership Loans

Downpayment Farm Ownership loans were developed to help beginning farmers and ranchers purchase a farm or ranch. These loans provide a way for retiring farmers to transfer their land to a future generation of farmers and ranchers.

Emergency Loans

Emergency loans were developed to help producers recover from production and physical losses due to drought, flooding, other natural disasters, or quarantine.

Farm Storage Facility Loans

Farm Storage Facility loans were developed under the Commodity Credit Corporation (CCC) Charter Act to create loans for producers to build or upgrade farm storage and handling facilities.

Farm Ownership Loan

Farm Ownership loans can be used to purchase farmland, construct or repair buildings and other fixtures, and promote soil and water conservation.

Farm Operating Loans (OL)

Farm Operating loans may be used to purchase items such as livestock, farm equipment, feed, seed, fuel, farm chemicals, insurance, and other operating expenses. They can also be used to pay for minor improvements to buildings, costs associated with land and water development, family subsistence, and refinancing debts under certain conditions.

Loans to Socially Disadvantaged Farmers/Ranchers

Socially disadvantaged farmers or ranchers can apply for loans that give them the option of buying and operating family-size farms and ranches.

Youth Loans

Youth loans are given to individual rural youths who desire to establish and operate income-producing projects of modest size in connection with their participation in 4-H clubs, Future Farmers of America, and similar organizations.

Nonrecourse Marketing Assistance Loan and Loan Deficiency Payment Program

Nonrecourse Marketing Assistance loans and the Loan Deficiency Payment program provide producers interim financing at harvest time to meet cash flow needs without having to sell their commodities when market prices are typically at harvest-time lows.

The **local FSA contact is:**

USDA FSA SERVICE CENTER OFFICE

GOSHEN COUNTY FARM SERVICE AGENCY

1441 E M ST

TORRINGTON, WY 82240-3512

(307) 532-4880 x 2

(307) 532-5783 fax

Mailing Address:

GOSHEN COUNTY FARM SERVICE AGENCY

1441 EAST M ST STE C

TORRINGTON, WY 82240-3512

DARRELL L. JONES

COUNTY EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

(307) 532-4021

(307) 532-5783 fax

darrell.jones@wy.usda.gov

DUANE WISROTH

Farm Loans

(307) 532-4021 x 107

duane.wisroth@wy.usda.gov

5.USDA Rural Development can assist farmers and ranchers through programs to assist rural businesses development. These include: technical assistance for cooperative development and formation. Examples of technical assistance include such items as Board of Director training or development of marketing agreements or pre-feasibility studies. In addition, the Value Added Producer Grant program helps agriculture producers and producer groups to convert their raw farm products to value added ones. Te contact person is Janice M. Stroud, Area Supervisor; 200 E. B. St; PO Box 820; Casper, WY 82602; Tel. 307-233-6710 or e-mail: Janice.stroud@wy.usda.gov

6.USDA Rural Development has a a renewable energy program that can help farmers and ranchers and other t develop energy efficient and renewable energy programs on their businesses. The contact person is Jerry Tamlin, Community and Business Program Director; 200 E. B. St; PO Box 820; Casper, WY 82602; Tel. 307-233-6720; e-mail: jerry.tamlin@wy.usda.gov.

7.The Wyoming Business Council's Agribusiness Division has a number of programs and resources for Wyoming farmers and ranchers. The Agribusiness Division works with agricultural producers to find ways to diversify their income through value-added goods, consumer-ready products and commodities; to sustain ranching and farming operations; to create jobs; to increase competitiveness in the national and international marketplaces; and to stimulate industry growth.

Staff :

1. Cindy Garretson-Weibel Director

307.777.6589

2. Ted Craig Value-Added Program Manager

307.777.6578

3. Cherry Jette Administrative Assistant

307.237.4692

4. Scott Keith Livestock/Forage and Cooperative

307.237.4696

5. Kim Porter Ag Leadership & Grant Program Manager

307.777.6319

Non agriculture business assistance: The community expressed their desire to create a climate where businesses would thrive and would want to locate. Local businesses have a high commitment to the community and report they are in turn supported by the La Grange community. Many citizens wanted to insure that their children would be able to find quality employment. In addition, the Frontier Bible College has a student population that is seeking part time employment opportunities.

1. The Wyoming Business Council is focusing marketing efforts to better connect entrepreneurs with existing available services. Services are available through the Wyoming Business Council at: 214 West 15th St. Cheyenne, WY 82002-0240 | Phone: 307-777-2800 or 800-262-3425 | Fax: 307-777-2838 | Email: info@wyomingbusiness.org The Business Council offers a wide range of services, including consulting, help building a business plan and finding financing. These services include:

a) Business Counseling

Help for Wyoming small businesses and entrepreneurs.

b) Business Permitting

One-stop permitting and licensing information for businesses.

c) Financial Resources

A guide of programs to assisting businesses with their financing and training needs.

d) Human Resources Consulting

Help for businesses with human resources, compensation, benefits, HR policy development, recruitment, employee retention and general business.

e) International Business

Help for companies trying to expand their markets overseas.

f) Intellectual Property Assistance

Help with Patents, Trademarks, Copyrights and Licenses.

g) Marketing Assistance

Help promoting Wyoming Made products or substantially enhanced products and services.

h) Manufacturing Assistance

Providing counsel, training and resources to help small and mid-sized manufacturers and technology companies in Wyoming grow.

i) Obtaining Government Contracts

Help for businesses selling their products and service to governmental entities.

j) Product Development

Help for inventors to develop their technology innovations into marketable products and find federal funding to do so.

k) Starting a Business

Help for entrepreneurs to develop their business plans, weed out problems, find capital, brainstorm strategies and propel their businesses to profitable future.

l) Women Business Help

Assistance for current and prospective women business owners.

m) Workforce Assistance

Help businesses with their employee training needs.

n) Writing a Business Plan

Help writing collection of goals for your business along with the research and strategies that will help you achieve them.

2) The Small Business Development Center's mission is to strengthen Wyoming businesses and create economic growth by providing excellent management assistance, educational programs and helpful resources for Wyoming small businesses and entrepreneurs. These include: Consulting, training programs and recourse library use. Clients meet privately with trained business consultants at little to no charge. The contact for Goshen County is: Arlene Soto; 1400 East College Drive; Cheyenne, WY 82007-3298; tel.: (307) 632-6141 or Toll Free in WY 800-348-5208; Fax: (307) 632-6061; e-mail: sewsbdc@wyoming.com.

3) 11.300 Grants For Public Works And Economic Development Facilities. Federal Agency: Economic Development Administration, Department Of Commerce. Objectives: To promote long-term economic development and assist in the construction of public works infrastructure and economic development facilities needed to support the creation or retention of high-skill, high wage private-sector jobs in areas experiencing substantial economic distress. Uses And Use Restrictions: Investments in facilities such as water and sewer system improvements, industrial access roads, industrial and business parks, port facilities, railroad sidings, distance learning facilities, skill-training facilities, business incubator facilities, redevelopment of brownfields, eco-industrial facilities, and telecommunications infrastructure improvements needed for business retention and expansion. Eligible projects must fulfill a pressing need of the area and must: 1) improve the opportunities for the successful establishment or expansion of industrial or commercial plants or facilities; 2) assist in the creation of additional long-term employment opportunities; or 3) benefit the unemployed/underemployed residents of the area or members of low-income families. In addition, all proposed investments must be consistent

with the currently approved Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy for the area in which the project will be located, and the applicant must have the required local share of funds committed and available. Also, the project must be capable of being started and completed in a timely manner. Applicant Eligibility: States, cities, counties, an institution of higher education or a consortium of institutions of higher education, and other political subdivisions, and private or public nonprofit organizations or associations acting in cooperation with officials of a Political Subdivision of a State or Indian Tribe. Individuals, companies, corporations, and associations organized for profit are not eligible. Information Contacts: ROGERS, John C; Federal Building, Room 196; 301 South Park Ave; Drawer 10074; Helena, MT 59626; Telephone: (406) 441-1175; Internet Address: jrogers6@eda.doc.gov Examples Of Funded Projects: 1) Infrastructure for industrial park development; 2) port development and expansion; 3) infrastructure necessary for economic development (e.g. water/sewer facilities); 4) renovation and recycling of old industrial buildings; 5) construction of vocational-technical facilities and skill centers; 6) construction of incubator facilities; 7) redevelopment of brownfields and 8) Eco- industrial development.

4) 93.593 Job Opportunities For Low-Income Individuals (JOLI Program). Federal Agency: Office Of Community Services, Administration For Children And Families, Department Of Health And Human Services. Objectives: To promote the ability of welfare recipients and other low-income individuals and families to become financially self-sufficient by awarding grants to certain nonprofit organizations and community development corporations that will create new employment and business opportunities through: self-employment; micro enterprise; new business ventures; and the expansion of existing businesses through technical and financial assistance that will result in full-time permanent jobs for eligible participants. Uses And Use Restrictions: Projects must: (1) create new employment and/or business opportunities for welfare recipients and other low-income individuals; (2) each nonprofit organization funded under this demonstration must enter into a cooperative relationship with the agency responsible for administering the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) program in the area served by the project; (3) develop a comprehensive project design that describes the work program and strategy, the training design, support services and counseling, technical and financial assistance plan, access to business capital and follow up support services; and (4) include an independent, methodologically sound evaluation of the effectiveness of the activities in creating new jobs and/or business opportunities. Funds awarded under this demonstration program cannot be used for new construction or the purchase of real property. Applicant Eligibility: Grants are made to nonprofit organizations (including community development corporations) exempt from taxation under Section 501(c) 3 or 4 of the Internal Revenue Code, to develop demonstration projects as authorized. Information Contacts: Headquarters Office: Richard Saul, Director, Division of Community Demonstration Programs, Office of Community Services, Administration for Children and Families, Department of Health and Human Services, 370 L'Enfant Promenade, SW., Washington, DC 20447. Telephone: (202) 401-9341.

5) 10.768 Business And Industry Loans. Federal Agency: Rural Business- Cooperative Service, Department Of Agriculture. Objectives: To assist public, private, or cooperative organizations (profit or nonprofit), Indian tribes or individuals in rural areas to obtain quality loans for the purpose of improving, developing or financing business, industry, and employment and improving the economic and environmental climate in rural communities including pollution abatement and control. Types Of Assistance: Guaranteed Loans. Uses And Use Restrictions: Guaranteed loans may be extended for: (a) modernization, development costs; (b) purchasing and development of land, easements, rights-of-way, buildings, facilities, leases or materials; purchasing equipment, leasehold improvements, machinery and supplies; (d) projects involving agricultural production, when not eligible for Farm Service Agency farmer program assistance and when it is part of an integrated business also involved in the processing of agricultural products and the agricultural production portion of the loan does not exceed the lesser of 50 percent of the total loan or \$1 million; and (e) pollution control and abatement. Maximum loan size is \$25 million and maximum time allowable for final maturity is limited to 30 years for land and buildings, the usable life of machinery and equipment purchased with loan funds, not to exceed 15 years, and 7 years for working capital. Interest rates for guaranteed loans are negotiated between the lender and the borrower. Applicant Eligibility: An applicant may be a cooperative, corporation, partnership, trust, or other legal entity organized and operated on a profit or nonprofit basis; an Indian tribe; a municipality, county, or other political subdivision of a State; or individuals in rural areas. Information Contacts: The contact person is Lorraine Werner in the Torrington Area Office at 307-532-4880 Ext. 4; 1441 East M St. Suite A., Torrington, WY 82240-3521.

6) 10.773 Rural Business Opportunity Grants (RBOG). Federal Agency: Rural Business- Cooperative Service, Department Of Agriculture. Objectives: To promote sustainable economic development in rural communities with exceptional needs. Uses And Use Restrictions: Grant funds may be used to assist in the economic development of rural areas by providing technical assistance, training, and planning for business and economic development. Applicant Eligibility: Grants may be made to public bodies, nonprofit corporations, Indian tribes on Federal or State reservations or other Federally recognized tribal groups, and cooperatives with members that are primarily rural residents and that conduct activities for the mutual benefit of the members. Information Contacts: The contact person is Lorraine Werner in the Torrington Area Office at 307-532-4880 Ext. 4; 1441 East M St. Suite A., Torrington, WY 82240-3521.

7) 10.769 Rural Development Grants (RBEG) Federal Agency: Rural Business- Cooperative Service, Department Of Agriculture. Objectives: To facilitate the development of small and emerging private business, industry, and related employment for improving the economy in rural communities. Uses And Use Restrictions: Rural business enterprise grant (RBEG) funds may be used to establish revolving funds, provide operating capital and finance industrial

sites in rural areas including the acquisition and development of land and construction, conversion, enlargement, repair or modernization of buildings, plants, machinery, equipment, access streets and roads, parking areas, transportation serving the site, utility extensions, necessary water supply and waste disposal facilities, pollution control and abatement incidental to site development, provide technical assistance, pay fees, and refinancing. Applicant Eligibility: Applicants eligible for RBEG grants are public bodies and nonprofit corporations serving rural areas such as States, counties, cities, townships, and incorporated towns and villages, boroughs, authorities, districts and Indian tribes on Federal and State reservations which will serve rural areas. Local Office: The contact person is Lorraine Werner in the Torrington Area Office at 307-532-4880 Ext. 4; 1441 East M St. Suite A., Torrington, WY 82240-3521.

8) 59.012 Small Business Loans (Regular Business Loans 7 (A) Loans) Federal Agency: Small Business Administration. Objectives: To provide guaranteed loans to small businesses which are unable to obtain financing in the private credit marketplace, but can demonstrate an ability to repay loans granted. Applicant Eligibility: A small business is eligible, which is independently owned and operated and not dominant in its field. Information Contacts: Wyoming District Office 100 East B Street, Room 4001, Federal Building, P.O. Box 44001, Casper, Wyoming 82602-5013; Telephone Number: 307-261-6500; Facsimile Number: 307-261-6535; TTY/TDD Number: 307-261-6527; Toll Free: (800) 776-9144, Ext. 1

9) 94.004 Learn And Serve America School And Community Based Programs. Federal Agency: Corporation For National And Community Service. Objectives: To encourage elementary and secondary schools and community-based agencies to create, develop, and offer service learning opportunities for school-age youth; educate teachers about service learning and incorporate service learning opportunities into classrooms to enhance academic learning; coordinate adult volunteers in schools; and introduce young people to a broad range of careers and encourage them to pursue further education and training. Uses And Use Restrictions: Grant funds may be used for a wide range of activities including: planning and capacity building; operating and expanding service-learning programs through grants to local partnerships; implementing and expanding school-based programs involving adult volunteers to use service-learning to improve the education of students; and providing training and technical assistance to qualified organizations. Applicant Eligibility: State education agencies, State Commissions on National Service, U.S. Territories, Indian tribes, and public or private nonprofit entities may apply. Information Contacts: Wyoming Commission on National and Community Service, Rachel A. Chadderton, Executive Director, Serve Wyoming; PO Box 1271; Casper, WY 82602; phone: 307-234-3428; toll free: 866-737-8304; fax: 307-234-3438; email: swyoming@qwest.net

10) **94.006 AMERICORPS** - Patrick Gallizzi; 308 West 21st Street, Room 206; Cheyenne, WY 82001-3663; Phone: 307/772-2385; Fax: 307/772-2389; e-mail: WY@cns.gov. Examples Of Funded Projects: AmeriCorps members serve in area elementary schools as teaching assistants, tutors, mentors, and role models. AmeriCorps members develop and lead after school programs, work with community volunteers to develop community service projects, assist in immunization projects, renovate housing in low-income areas, tutor elementary children, and staff a crisis help line for parents of at-risk children; work to improve relationships between community youth and local law enforcement officials by performing outreach, developing public safety instructional materials, conducting conflict resolution classes, and developing crime watch programs. AmeriCorps members have worked to transform a city sludge farm into a nature preserve, restore a polluted swamp to a thriving natural lake, test area drinking water, and create environmental public service announcements.

Solutions to a Recreation Center And Programs-Swimming Pool- Citizens report that they have no place to exercise. In addition, since the High School closed, they lost one of the focal points of the community. Citizens need a place to come together and participate in community events, as well as, to socialize. A community center with recreation facilities would accomplish this. The old High School could be converted or a new facility built. A recreational center could also be used as physical therapy for older citizens and for those recovering from an illness or injury. The community repeatedly expressed their desire to have a walking path and bike path from town to the cemetery area up the hill.

1) **15.225 Recreation Resource Management. Federal Agency: Bureau Of Land Management, Department Of The Interior.** Objectives: To manage recreational resource values on the public lands administered by the Bureau of Land Management and to increase public awareness and appreciation of these values. Types Of Assistance: Project Grants; Use of Property, Facilities, and Equipment; Provision of Specialized Services; Advisory Services and Counseling; Dissemination of Technical Information; Training. Uses And Use Restrictions: All projects are restricted to lands administered by BLM. Assistance can be used for managing and/or upgrading recreational resources and related facilities, and public contact/education opportunities. No regular discretionary fund is available but is highly variable each fiscal year. Information Contacts: Casper Field Office; 2987 Prospector Drive; Casper, WY 82604-2968; Phone: 307-261-7600; Fax: 307-261-7587; E-mail: casper_wymail@blm.gov. Field Manager: Jim Murkin. Examples Of Funded Projects: (1) Development of recreation facilities. (2) Cooperative visitor services to the general public. (3) Agreements to manage public land resources cooperatively. (4) Assistance agreement to promote more effective management of caves on Public Lands.

2) **15.918 Disposal Of Federal Surplus Real Property For Parks, Recreation, And Historic Monuments (Surplus Property Program; Federal Lands-to-Parks Program; Historic Surplus**

Property Program) Federal Agency: National Park Service, Department Of The Interior.

Objectives: To transfer surplus Federal real property for public park and recreation use, or for use of historic real property. Uses And Use Restrictions: Surplus real property may be conveyed for public park and recreation use at discounts up to 100 percent of fair market value and for historic monument purposes without monetary consideration. Applicant Eligibility: Only State or local units of government are eligible to apply for surplus real property for public park and recreation and historic monument purposes, and must agree to manage the property in the public interest and for public use (in the case of park and recreation purposes). Information Contacts: Intermountain Region- Regional Director, National Park Service; 12795 Alameda Pkwy; Denver, CO 80225; Tel.: (303) 969-2500. Applicants for park and recreation purposes are requested to communicate with the following National Park Service Offices: the Southeast Regional Office, New England Support Office, and the Pacific Great Basin Support Office (formerly Southeast, North-Atlantic, and Western Regional Office contacts). Applicants for historic monument purposes are requested to contact the Alaska Regional Office; the Columbia Cascades Support Office; the Midwest Support Office; the Pacific Great Basis and Pacific Island Support Office; the Philadelphia Support Office; the Rocky Mountain Support Office; the Southeast Regional Office, and the Southwest Support Office. (See your local telephone directory.) The Area Excess Property Manager is Mandy White at Fort Laramie National Historic Site; 965 Gray Rocks Road; Fort Laramie, WY 82212, tel.: 307-837-2221 or Fax 307-837-2120.

3)15.921 Rivers, Trails And Conservation Assistance (RTCA), Federal Agency: National Park Service, Department Of The Interior.

Objectives: To provide staff assistance to support partnerships between government and citizens to increase the number of rivers and landscapes protected and trails established nationwide. Applicant Eligibility: Private nonprofit organizations and Federal, State and local government agencies. Information Contacts: Intermountain Region- Regional Director, National Park Service; 12795 Alameda Pkwy; Denver, CO 80225; Tel.: (303) 969-2500. Examples Of Funded Projects: Develop new trails and greenways; protect and restore river resources, access and views; convert abandoned railways to multi-purpose trails; promote and develop systems of trails and greenways; conserve open space; establish new conservation organizations and alliances. Examples of RTCA projects include: (1) In Ivins, Utah, RTCA facilitated a series of day-long planning charettes for the Santa Clara River Reserve Trail which brought together diverse interests including ranchers and environmentalists and forged consensus.

4) 20.219 Recreational Trails Program, Federal Agency: Federal Highway Administration, Department Of Transportation.

Objectives: To provide funds to the States to develop and maintain recreational trails and trail-related facilities for both nonmotorized and motorized recreational trail uses. Uses And Use Restrictions: Funds from this program may be used for: (1) Maintenance and restoration of existing trails; (2) development and rehabilitation of trailside and trailhead facilities and trail linkages; (3) purchase and lease of trail construction

and maintenance equipment; (4) construction of new trails (with restrictions for new trails on Federal lands); (5) acquisition of easements or property for trails; (6) State administrative costs related to this program (limited to 7 percent of a State's funds); and (7) operation of educational programs to promote safety and environmental protection related to trails (limited to 5 percent of a State's funds). Applicant Eligibility: The Governor of each State must designate the State agency or agencies responsible for administering this program. Information Contacts: Philip E. Miller, Division Administrator; 2617 E. Lincolnway Suite D; Cheyenne WY 82001-5662; tel. 307-772-2101 Ext 40; Fax: 307-772-2011.

Solutions to Preserve And Promote The Historical Aspects And High School- It was a great blow to the community to lose its High School. The first choice of the town would be to get the High School back as a High School. If that does not happen, they would like to retrofit the High School for a number of uses. These could include a community museum, business center, library, health center or community center. They would even like to see child care or adult day care in the old school.

1. 84.213 Even Start State Educational Agencies, Federal Agency: Office Of Elementary And Secondary Education, Department Of Education. Objectives: To help break the cycle of poverty and illiteracy, and improve the educational opportunities of low-income families, by integrating early childhood education, adult literacy or adult basic education, and parenting education into a unified family literacy program. Uses And Use Restrictions: Subgrants are used for activities such as recruitment and screening of children and parents, design of programs, instruction of children and parents, support services, staff training, evaluation, and coordination with other programs. Funds may not be used for indirect costs. Applicant Eligibility: State educational agencies (SEAs). The subgrantees are partnerships of a local educational agency (LEA) and a nonprofit community-based organization, a public agency other than an LEA, an institution of higher education or other public or private nonprofit organizations. Any of the latter, with demonstrated quality, may apply in collaboration with a LEA. Information Contacts: Headquarters Office: Department of Education, Compensatory Education Programs, Office of Elementary and Secondary Education, 600 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20202-6132. Telephone: (202) 260-0991. Examples Of Funded Projects: The Waterville Even Start Project, in Waterville, Maine, provides instructional services that are home based, with supplemental activities provided at an Even Start Center. The adult element of the program provides literacy education in the context of parenting. Early childhood and primary education specialists work with families using a curriculum developed in conjunction with the Head Start program. At a monthly meeting adults attend parenting workshops while children participate in educational programs.

2. 84.287 Twenty-First Century Community Learning Centers, Federal Agency: Assistant Secretary For Education Research, Statistics, And Improvement, Department Of Education. Objectives: To enable rural and inner city public elementary and secondary schools or

consortia of such schools to plan, implement, or expand projects that benefit the educational, health, social service, cultural, and recreational needs of their community. Uses And Use Restrictions: Projects funded under this program must be for the purpose of meeting the needs of the residents of rural and inner city communities, through the creation or expansion of community learning centers. Applicant Eligibility: Rural and inner city public elementary and secondary schools or consortia of such schools. Information Contacts: Headquarters Office: Office of Reform Assistance and Dissemination, State and Local Service Division, Office of Educational Research and Improvement, Department of Education, Washington, DC 20208-5524. Telephone: (202) 219-2128. Examples Of Funded Projects: Funded projects include one center which expanded an existing community center to provide education and support services to at-risk families, in order to empower these families to become economically self-sufficient. Another created a learning center and six "satellite" centers, which provide information about employment, education, and social service opportunities. A third center provides services in the areas of literacy, technology, parenting skills, and employment. All of these centers are located in economically depressed areas.

3.84.358 Rural Education Achievement Program (Reap), Federal Agency: Office Of Elementary And Secondary Education, Department Of Education. Objectives: To provide financial assistance to rural districts to carry out activities to help improve the quality of teaching and learning in their schools. Uses And Use Restrictions: Grantees under the Small, Rural School Achievement Program component may use program funds to carry out activities authorized under: Title I-Part A (Grants to LEAs); Title II- Part A (Improving Teacher Quality State Grants); Title II-Part D (Educational Technology State Grants); Title III (Language Instruction for Limited English Proficient and Immigrant Students); Title IV-Part A (Safe and Drug-Free Schools and Communities State Grants); Title IV-Part B (21st Century Community Learning Centers); and Title V-Part A (State Grants for Innovative Programs). Grantees under the Rural and Low- Income School Program component may use program funds for: teacher recruitment and retention; teacher professional development; educational technology; parental involvement activities; activities authorized under ESEA Title IV-Part A (Safe and Drug-Free Schools and Communities); activities authorized under ESEA Title I-Part A (Grants to LEAs); and activities authorized under ESEA Title III (Language Instruction for Limited English Proficient and Immigrant Students). Rural Education program funds must be used to supplement not supplant other funding provided for programs activities. Applicant Eligibility: For the Small, Rural School Achievement Program eligible recipients are local educational agencies (LEAs) in which (1) the total number of students in average daily attendance at all of the schools served by the LEA is less than 600 or where each school in the LEA is located in a county with a total population density of less than 10 persons per square mile; and (2) all of the schools served by the LEA are designated with a School Locale Code of 7 or 8 under the U.S. Department of Education's National Center for Education Statistics (NCES) locator system or the LEA is located in an area of the State defined as a rural by a State governmental agency. For the Rural and Low-

Income School Program eligible recipients are State educational agencies. States then must distribute funds to local educational agencies (LEAs) on a formula or competitive basis. An LEA is eligible to receive a grant under this program only if (1) it is not eligible for funds under the Small, Rural School Achievement Program; (2) at least 20% of the school children ages 5-17 in the LEA come from families with incomes below the poverty line; and (3) all of the schools served by the LEA are designated with a School Locale Code of 6, 7 or 8 under the U.S. Department of Education's National Center for Education Statistics (NCES) locator system. If an SEA chooses not to participate in the program, the Secretary uses the State's allocation to make direct grants to eligible LEAs in the State. Information Contacts: Headquarters Office: Office of School Support and Technology Programs, Office of Elementary and Secondary Education, U.S. Department of Education, 400 Maryland Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20202. Telephone: (202) 401-0039. E-mail: charles.lovett@ed.gov.

Solutions to Housing- There is a lack of affordable housing in the town. In addition, there are some older homes that need repairs and a few vacant lots that need to be developed. One of the large concerns was the lack of available land in the town to be utilized for housing. A housing program should include new site development, as well as, new construction and rehabilitation of existing housing stock. It is critical that beginning families and others have access to affordable home loans for home ownership and for housing repair.

1) **10.410 Very Low To Moderate Income Housing Loans** (Section 502 Rural Housing Loans), Federal Agency: Rural Housing Service (RHS), Department Of Agriculture. Types Of Assistance: Direct Loans; Guaranteed/Insured Loans. Uses And Use Restrictions: Direct loans may be used for construction, repair or purchase of housing; to provide adequate sewage disposal facilities and/or safe water supply for the applicant's household; for weatherization; to purchase or install essential equipment if the equipment is normally sold with dwellings in the area; to buy a minimum adequate site on which to place a dwelling for the applicant's own use; and under certain conditions to finance a manufactured home and its site. Applicant Eligibility: Applicants must be without adequate resources to obtain housing, or related facilities. The applicants must be unable to secure the necessary credit from other sources at prevailing terms and conditions for residential type financing; be a natural person (individual) who resides as a citizen in the United States or its Territories after having been legally admitted for permanent residence or on indefinite parole; have adequate and dependable available income to meet family living expenses, including taxes, insurance and maintenance, and repayments on debts including the proposed loan. For direct loans, applicants must be eligible for payment assistance and income may not exceed the low-income limits set forth in RD Instructions. The income limits are according to the size of household as is established by the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) for the county or MSA where the property is or will be located. For a guaranteed loan the applicant's income may not exceed the moderate income limit. Information Contacts:

Regional or Local Office: The contact person is Lorraine Werner in the Torrington Area Office at 307-532-4880 Ext. 4; 1441 East M St. Suite A., Torrington, WY 82240-3521.

2)10.411 Rural Housing Site Loans And Self Help Housing Land Development Loans (Section 523 And 524 Site Loans) Federal Agency: Rural Housing Service (Rhs), Department Of Agriculture. Objectives: To assist public or private nonprofit organizations interested in providing sites for housing; to acquire and develop land in rural areas to be subdivided as adequate building sites and sold on a cost development basis to families eligible for low and very low income loans, cooperatives, and broadly based nonprofit rural rental housing applicants. Types Of Assistance: Direct Loans. Uses And Use Restrictions: For the purchase and development of adequate sites, including necessary equipment which becomes a permanent part of the development; for water and sewer facilities if not available; payment of necessary engineering, legal fees, and closing costs; for needed landscaping and other necessary facilities related to buildings such as walks, parking areas, and driveways. Restrictions: loan limitation of \$200,000 without national office approval; loan funds may not be used for refinancing of debts, payment of any fee, or commission to any broker, negotiator, or other person for the referral of prospective applicant or solicitation of a loan; no loan funds will be used to pay operating costs or expenses of administration other than actual cash cost of incidental administrative expenses if funds to pay those expenses are not otherwise available. Repayment of loan is expected within two years. Applicant Eligibility: A private or public nonprofit organization that will provide the developed sites to qualified borrowers on a cost of development basis in open country and towns of 10,000 population or less and places up to 25,000 population under certain conditions. Applicants from towns of 10,000 to 25,000 population should check with local RD office to determine if agency can serve them. Assistance is available to eligible applicants in States, Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, Guam, and the Northern Marianas. Information Contacts: The contact person is Lorraine Werner in the Torrington Area Office at 307-532-4880 Ext. 4; 1441 East M St. Suite A., Torrington, WY 82240-3521.

3) 14.110 Manufactured Home Loan Insurance Financing Purchase Of Manufactured Homes As Principal Residences Of Borrowers (Title I), Federal Agency: Housing, Department Of Housing And Urban Development. Objectives: To make possible reasonable financing of manufactured home purchases. Types Of Assistance: Guaranteed/Insured Loans. Uses And Use Restrictions: HUD insures lenders against loss on loans. Insured loans may be used to purchase manufactured home units by buyers intending to use them as their principal places of residence. The maximum amount of the loan is \$48,600, whether single or multiple modules. The borrower must give assurance that the unit will be placed on a site which complies with local zoning and land development requirements. Applicant Eligibility: All persons are eligible to apply. Information Contacts: Casper Field Office- Department of Housing and Urban Development; 150 East B Street, Room 1010; P.O. Box 11010; Casper, WY 82602-5001; Phone: (307) 261-6250; Fax: (307) 261-6245; TTY: (307) 261-6258.

4) 14.121 Mortgage Insurance Homes In Outlying Areas (203(I)) Federal Agency: Housing, Department Of Housing And Urban Development. Objectives: To help people purchase homes in outlying areas. Types Of Assistance: Guaranteed/Insured Loans. Uses And Use Restrictions: HUD insures lenders against loss on mortgage loans. These loans may be used to finance the purchase of proposed, under construction, or existing one-family nonfarm housing, or new farm housing on two and one-half or more acres adjacent to an all-weather public road. The maximum insurable loan for an occupant mortgagor on a one-family home is 75 percent of the Section 203(b) limit. Applicant Eligibility: All families are eligible to apply. Information Contacts: Casper Field Office- Department of Housing and Urban Development; 150 East B Street, Room 1010; P.O. Box 11010; Casper, WY 82602-5001; Phone: (307) 261-6250; Fax: (307) 261-6245; TTY: (307) 261-6258.

5) 10.417 Very Low-Income Housing Repair Loans And Grants (Section 504 Rural Housing Loans And Grants), Federal Agency: Rural Housing Service (RHS) Department Of Agriculture. Objectives: To give very low-income rural homeowners an opportunity to make essential repairs to their homes to make them safe and to remove health hazards to the family or the community. Types Of Assistance: Direct Loans; Project Grants. Uses and Use Restrictions: To assist very low-income owner occupants in rural areas to repair or improve their dwellings. Grant funds may only be used to make such dwellings safe and sanitary and to remove health and safety hazards. Applicant Eligibility: Applicants must own and occupy a home in a rural area; and be a citizen of the United States or reside in the United States after having been legally admitted for permanent residence or on indefinite parole. Loan recipients must have sufficient income to repay the loan. Grant recipients must be 62 years of age or older and be unable to repay a loan for that part of the assistance received as a grant. Applicant's income may not exceed the very low-income limit set forth in RD Instructions. Very low-income limits range from \$6,300 to \$22,650 for a single person household, depending on an area's median income. Information Contacts: The contact person is Lorraine Werner in the Torrington Area Office at 307-532-4880 Ext. 4; 1441 East M St. Suite A., Torrington, WY 82240-3521.

6) 81.042 Weatherization Assistance For Low-Income Persons, Information Contacts for Persons wanting Assistance is: Wyoming Department of Family Services; 2300 Capitol Avenue, 3rd Floor; Cheyenne, WY 82002-0490; Phone: 307-777-7561; Fax: 307-777-7747. For Communities: Jeff Dockter, Weatherization Program Manager; Phone: (307) 777-6346; Email: jdockt@state.wy.us.

7) WCDA and the Future of Wyoming; There is no question that LaGrange's families need decent, affordable housing. WCDA has an important role in providing that housing, and in helping families take a first step on the road to fulfilling their American dream. In addition, every home built, rehabilitated or financed with WCDA funds means more Wyoming jobs

and greater economic stability. Strong federal housing programs also help the WCDA continue to provide decent, affordable homes to Wyoming citizens.

Spruce Up Wyoming Programs. Objectives: To address the availability of decent affordable housing across Wyoming. By focusing on existing homes in below average condition, these programs provide financing for purchase and rehabilitation of houses in need of repair. **Types of Assistance:** Loans are made to individual borrowers: by using an FHA 203(k) loan, WCDA Conventional Single Close, or using a lender that will provide a construction loan until permanent financing can be secured (VA, FHA, RD) through WCDA. **Spruce Up Wyoming I Uses and Use Restrictions:** Spruce Up Wyoming I is for the purchase and rehabilitation of an existing home by first-time homebuyers. **Applicant Eligibility:** Applicants must be a first-time home buyer, Meet the income and purchase price limits for the county in which they live, Utilize a FHA 203(k) loan, and have a need for at least \$5,000 in essential repairs. **Spruce Up Wyoming II Uses and Use Restrictions:** Spruce Up II funds may be used for three purposes: Home purchase and rehabilitation, home refinance and rehabilitation, or be the first purchaser of the home after a third party has completed the rehabilitation in accordance with program requirements. **Applicant Eligibility:** The applicant must meet income limits, meet or exceed the minimum rehabilitation requirement, not exceed the acquisition cost limit, and prove the five major systems are in safe operating or will be addressed in the rehabilitation. **Contacts:** <http://www.wyomingcda.com/Main.html> Cheryl G. Gillum, Director of Housing Programs, P.O. Box 634, Casper, WY 82602; 155 N. Beech, Casper, WY 82601; Phone 307.265.0603; Fax 307.266.5414; Wyoming Relay Service for the Hearing Impaired: #711

8.) Credit Counseling in Wyoming .

FINANCIAL SOLUTIONS OF WYOMING

441 S. Center St., Suite 100

Casper, WY 82601

Phone: 307-234-8771

Toll-Free: 800-390-2227

Fax: 307-235-1618

E-mail: cody_howe2001@yahoo.com

Website:

Type of Counseling:

Home Equity Conversion Mortgage Counseling

Mortgage Delinquency & Default Resolution Counseling

Pre-purchase Counseling

INTERFAITH OF NATRONA COUNTY, INCORPORATED

1514 East 12th Street, #303

Casper, WY 82601

Phone: 307-235-8043

Toll-Free:
Fax: 307-235-8711
E-mail: interfaithnc@yahoo.com
Website:
Type of Counseling:
Renters Assistance

CONSUMER CREDIT COUNSELING SERVICE OF NORTHERN COLORADO AND SOUTHEAST WYOMING

2113 Warren Ave
Cheyenne, WY 82001-3739
Phone: 800-424-2227
Toll-Free:
Fax: 970-229-0721
E-mail: general@cccsnc.org
Website: www.cccsnc.org
Type of Counseling:
Home Equity Conversion Mortgage Counseling
Mortgage Delinquency & Default Resolution Counseling
Pre-purchase Counseling
Renters Assistance

NORTHERN ARAPAHO TRIBAL HOUSING

P.O.Box 8236
Ethete, WY 82520
Phone: 307-332-5318-158
Toll-Free:
Fax: 307-332-5496
E-mail: tanyabrown@wyoming.com

Solutions to Multifamily Housing Including Supportive Services Housing For The Elderly And Others With Special Needs. The population of Wyoming and of Goshen County is graying. Many seniors either need or will need housing that provides supportive services as meal preparation and basic nurse care. Others need multifamily housing that provides an affordable alternative to homeownership. There are a number of multifamily housing funding sources.

1.14.157 Supportive Housing For The Elderly (202), Federal Agency: Housing, Department Of Housing And Urban Development. Objectives: To expand the supply of housing with supportive services for the elderly. Types Of Assistance: Project Grants. Uses And Use Restrictions: Capital advances shall be used to finance the construction or rehabilitation of a

structure or portion thereof, or the acquisition of a structure from the Resolution Trust Corporation to provide supportive housing for the elderly, which may include the cost of real property acquisition, site improvement, conversion, demolition, relocation and other expenses of supportive housing for the elderly. Project rental assistance is used to cover the difference between the HUD-approved operating cost per unit and the amount the tenant pays. Applicant Eligibility: Private nonprofit corporations and consumer cooperatives. Public bodies and their instrumentalities are not eligible Section 202 applicants. Information Contacts: Casper Field Office- Department of Housing and Urban Development; 150 East B Street, Room 1010; P.O. Box 11010; Casper, WY 82602-5001; Phone: (307) 261-6250; Fax: (307) 261-6245; TTY: (307) 261-6258.

Solutions to Infrastructure- Future Expansion Needs- Residents of LaGrange have an outstanding water and waste system at present. They realize, however, that the future needs will probably out strip their present capacity. It is imperative to plan for these future needs early enough through planning and feasibility studies, so that they are ready with additional sewage and water capacity when needed in an estimate d5 to 10 years. Currently there is a need for better solid waste disposal systems and additional recycling opportunities.

1. 66.418 Construction Grants For Wastewater Treatment Works, Federal Agency: Office Of Water, Environmental Protection Agency. Objectives: To assist and serve as an incentive in construction of municipal wastewater treatment works which are required to meet State and/or Federal water quality standards and improve the water quality in the waters of the United States. Uses And Use Restrictions: For construction of municipal wastewater treatment works including privately owned individual treatment systems, if a municipality applies on behalf of a number of such systems. Applicant Eligibility: Any municipality, intermunicipal agency, State, or interstate agency, or Federally-recognized Indian tribal government, having jurisdiction over waste disposal. Information Contacts: Information regarding appropriate waste treatment requirements and State and Federal assistance may be obtained from the State water pollution control agency. DEQ/Water Quality Division; 122 West 25th Street; Herschler Building, 4th Floor-West; Cheyenne, Wyoming 82001; Water Quality Division's main telephone number: 307-777-7781; DEQ/WQD fax machine number: 307-777-5973

2.66.808 Solid Waste Management Assistance, Federal Agency: Office Of Solid Waste, Environmental Protection Agency. Objectives: To promote use of integrated solid waste management systems to solve municipal solid waste generation and management problems at the local, regional and national levels. Uses And Use Restrictions: Available for the allowable direct cost expenditures incident to program performance plus allocable portions of allowable indirect costs of the institution, in accordance with established EPA policies. Projects can include the following types of activities: training, surveys, education materials and programs, studies, and demonstrations; assistance to such projects shall not include any

element of construction, or any acquisition of land or interest in land, or any subsidy for the price of recovered resources. Applicant Eligibility: These funds can be awarded to the following types of nonprofit entities: public authorities (Federal, State, interstate, intrastate and local), public agencies and institutions; private organizations and agencies, institutions and individuals; and Indian Tribes. Information Contacts: By Phone-303-312-6312 or 800-227-8917. Grant index: <http://www.epa.gov/ogd/> and for non-profits: <http://www.epa.gov/epahome/nonprof.htm>.

3. 10.760 Water And Waste Disposal Systems For Rural Communities, Federal Agency: Rural Utilities Service, Department Of Agriculture. Objectives: To provide basic human amenities, alleviate health hazards and promote the orderly growth of the rural areas of the nation by meeting the need for new and improved rural water and waste disposal facilities. Types Of Assistance: Project Grants; Direct Loans; Guaranteed/Insured Loans. Uses And Use Restrictions: Funds may be used for the installation, repair, improvement, or expansion of a rural water facility including distribution lines, well pumping facilities and costs related thereto, and the installation, repair, improvement, or expansion of a rural waste disposal facility including the collection, and treatment of sanitary, storm, and solid wastes. Applicant Eligibility: Municipalities, counties, and other political subdivisions of a State, such as districts and authorities, associations, cooperatives, corporations operated on a not-for-profit basis, Indian tribes on Federal and State reservations and other federally recognized Indian tribes. Facilities shall primarily serve rural residents and rural businesses. Information Contacts: The contact person is Jerry Tamlin, Community and Business Program Director; 200 E. B. St; PO Box 820; Casper, WY 82602; Tel. 307-233-6720; e-mail: jerry.tamlin@wy.usda.gov.

4. 10.761 Technical Assistance And Training Grants, Federal Agency: Rural Utilities Service, Department Of Agriculture. Objectives: To identify and evaluate solutions to water and waste disposal problems in rural areas; to assist applicants in preparing applications made in accordance with 7 CFR 1780; to improve operation and maintenance of water and waste disposal facilities in rural areas. Uses And Use Restrictions: Funds may be used to pay expenses associated with providing technical assistance and/or training (TAT) to identify and evaluate solutions to water problems relating to source, storage, treatment, and distribution, and to waste disposal problems relating to collection, treatment, and disposal; assist applicants that have filed a preapplication with RUS in the preparation of water and/or waste disposal loan and/or grant applications; and to provide training that will improve the management, operation and maintenance of water and waste disposal facilities. Applicant Eligibility: Private nonprofit organizations that have been granted tax exempt status by the Internal Revenue Service of the United States. Information Contacts: The contact person is Jerry Tamlin, Community and Business Program Director; 200 E. B. St; PO Box 820; Casper, WY 82602; Tel. 307-233-6720; e-mail: jerry.tamlin@wy.usda.gov.

5. 10.762 Solid Waste Management Grants, Federal Agency: Rural Utilities Service, Department Of Agriculture. Objectives: To reduce or eliminate pollution of water resources and improve planning and management of solid waste disposal facilities in rural areas. Uses And Use Restrictions: Funds may be used to: Evaluate current landfill conditions to determine threats to water resources in rural areas; provide technical assistance and/or training to enhance operator skills in the maintenance and operation of active landfills in rural areas; provide technical assistance and/or training to help associations reduce the solid waste stream; and provide technical assistance and/or training for operators of landfills in rural areas which are closed or will be closed in the near future with the development/implementation of closure plans, future land use plans, safety and maintenance planning, and closure scheduling within permit requirements. Applicant Eligibility: Entities eligible for grants are nonprofit organizations, including: Private nonprofit organizations that have been granted tax exempt status by the Internal Revenue Service (IRS); and public bodies including local governmental-based multi-jurisdictional organizations. Information Contacts: The contact person is Jerry Tamlin, Community and Business Program Director; 200 E. B. St; PO Box 820; Casper, WY 82602; Tel. 307-233-6720; e-mail: jerry.tamlin@wy.usda.gov.

Nancy J. Clarke

USDA Forest Service

2468 Jackson Street

Laramie, WY 82070

Phone (307)745-2408

Fax (307)745-2593

E-Mail Address nclarke@fs.fed.us

Introduction- Many thanks to the residents of La Grange for your generous hospitality. The meals, snacks tours and accommodations were excellent. The candid discussion at the listening sessions will serve the community well when strategically planning the major projects and future of La Grange.

Infrastructure—Lack of Law Enforcement/Highway Safety

Challenges- enforcing speed limits on U.S. Highway and overall law enforcement in town.

Currently, the town depends on the Goshen County Sheriff for law enforcement. At the listening sessions a reoccurring issue/concern was the response time to incidents, lack of regular patrol.

Solutions- During the listening sessions several participants stated the town of La Grange had made past attempts and requests to the County Commissioners regarding regular patrol of the community even the possibility of having a Sheriffs Department officer live in the community. Due to the limited funding and staff available on the county level the community is faced with finding resources to assist with the issues at hand. At this point in time, the community is uncertain if hiring a law enforcement officer would be economically feasible to the community.

Although the community does not face a high crime rate the citizens expressed concerns regarding potential for break-ins, burglaries etc. A Neighborhood Watch Program could be enacted in order to keep crime at a low rate. The Neighborhood Watch Program is beneficial since it brings citizens together for the common good, improves relations between police force and the communities. The Goshen County Sheriffs Department would serve instrumental in working with the community thus providing an onset of possible regular patrols to the area.

The issue of enforcing speed limits on the main highway through town belongs to the Wyoming Highway Patrol.

Funding/Information Resources:

Law Enforcement Resources—Grant Source to Hiring a Law Enforcement Officer—The Local Law Enforcement Block Grant Program (LLEBG) Formula grants can be made to units of local government to hire, train, and employ on a continuing basis new, additional law enforcement officers and necessary support personnel.

Contact by E-Mail AskBJA@ojp.usdoj.gov

Contact by Phone (202) 616-6500

Additional information can be obtained at the website www.usdoj.gov/10grants/

Neighborhood Watch Program: The program was implemented by the Los Angeles Policy Department to educate community residents in their roles and responsibilities to crime prevention as well as what actions they can take to prevent crime. Additional information can be obtained from—Los Angeles Police Department

Crime Prevention Section

150 North Los Angeles Street, Room 818

Los Angeles, CA 90012

(213) 485-3134

<http://www.lapdonline.org/>

Highway Speed Concerns:

Wyoming Highway Department

5300 Bishop Blvd.

Cheyenne, WY 82009-3340

(307) 777-4375

www.dot.state.wy.us

Challenges:

The community stated other infrastructure concerns including paving the streets, storm drainage issues, telecommunications, visioning and planning and health care issues. Several funding sources are available to communities.

Funding Resources/Resource Information:

Infrastructure Resources: (sources for water, sewer, paving streets and health care)

USDA Rural Development loans and grants are available to eligible public entities to construct, repair, improve, expand or modify rural water supply, distribution, and treatment facilities. The loans and grants are available to eligible public entities to improve, construct, repair, expand or modify waste collection, pumping, treatment or other disposal facilities.

Loans and grants are available to eligible public entities for essential community facilities for health care, public safety and public services including street.

For more information on the water and sewer loan and grant program contact:

Jerry Tamlin, Business and Community Program Director

USDA Rural Development

100 East B Street, Room 1005- PO Box 1105

Casper, WY 82602-5006

307-233-6719

jerry.tamlin@wy.usda.gov

For more information on community facilities loan and grant programs including streets improvements/construction contact:

Jack Hyde, Housing and Community Facilities Program Director

USDA Rural Development

100 East B Street, Room 1005-PO Box 1105

Casper, WY 82602-5006

307-233-6715

jack.hyde@wy.usda.gov

Challenges:

Economic Development:

The community voiced concerns regarding business, Agribusiness development and enhancement and the availability of banking overall especially the lack of an ATM. Heard throughout several listening sessions was the need/desire of a recreation center for the community.

Business development and enhancement in La Grange can be approached from varying angles. Several citizens expressed the desire to enhance development of part-time jobs varying for the youth as well as the senior citizens. Currently, there are several empty store fronts/business fronts on the main street of the community. The community has expressed a strong desire to entice tourism to the area that will encompass the historical significance of the community. Business development centered on the tourism industry would enhance the overall spirit of the community as well as provide a destination point for travelers. Cottage industries and entrepreneurial avenues could prove beneficial for a community the size of La Grange. Attracting larger businesses will and has proven difficult. However, "home grown" businesses in rural communities the size of La Grange have proven beneficial and successful. The challenge the citizens' face is determining what type of cottage industries would be economically viable. The community should incorporate the idea to develop a strong vision and strategic plan including tourism as a segment to economic development for the community.

Funding Resources/Resource Information:

An opportunity for feasibility, planning and technical assistance exists through USDA Rural Development. The Rural Enterprise Grant (RBEG) program is a grant to a public body or a non-profit corporation. Funds can be utilized to assist small business enterprises by contracting or providing technical assistance. Examples of these are feasibility studies, business plans and training to entrepreneurs. The Rural Business Opportunity Grant (RBOG) program offers funds to eligible public bodies, non-profit organizations, Indian Tribes or cooperatives. RBOG funds can be utilized to pay costs of providing economic planning for rural communities, technical assistance for rural businesses or training for rural entrepreneurs or economic development officials. For additional information contact:

USDA Rural Development
Jerry Tamlin, Business and Cooperatives Program Director
100 East B Street, Room 1005, PO Box 1105
Casper, WY 82602-5006
307-233-6719
jerry.tamlin@wy.usda.gov

The USDA Rural Development Guaranteed Business and Industry Program (B&I) can assist businesses by providing a guarantee to the business's lender. Loans can be utilized for business acquisitions, expansion, repair, modernization or development costs, purchase equipment, machinery, supplies and other business related expenses. For additional information contact:

USDA Rural Development
Jerry Tamlin, Business and Cooperatives Program Director
100 East B Street, Room 1005, PO Box 1105
Casper, WY 82602-5006
307-233-6719
jerry.tamlin@wy.usda.gov

The Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance provides information to loan and grant programs available to state and local governments; quasi public and private profit and non-profit organizations. Contact:

www.cfda.gov

Development of several of the historical significant sites throughout the community can be assisted by Wyoming Cultural Resources Division and development of brochure materials and promotional materials for tourism interests can be obtained from the Wyoming Division of Tourism. Contact:

Wyoming Cultural Resources Division- 307-777-7013
Wyoming Division of Tourism- 307-777-7777

The Wyoming Business Council offers programs available including the Wyoming First Program (available to assist companies promote their products as “Made in Wyoming.” Also available through the Business Council is the Wyoming Department of Employment workforce training grants available to new and existing companies that create new jobs. The grants are available to companies for costs related to training new employees. Typically, the grants are \$1,000-\$1,500 per employee. The grants are subject to availability and eligibility.

Also available to Wyoming entrepreneurs and Wyoming communities is the Market Research Center (MRC). The Center was developed by the Wyoming Business Council, the Small Business Development Center (SBDC) and the University of Wyoming’s College of Business. The Market Research Center assists Wyoming entrepreneurs and Wyoming communities’ timely market research information. Overall, the information will allow businesses to obtain market information on products, industries and customers. Contact:

Wyoming Business Council
214 W. 15th Street
Cheyenne, WY 82002
307-777-2811
www.wyomingbusiness.org

Rural communities have those individuals that have an entrepreneurial spirit but are not aware of where to develop business plans, obtain financing etc. The Small Business Development Center provides an abundance of information and assistance to business owners. The assistance includes business plan assistance, accounting, and marketing. The Laramie County Community College offers such assistance. Contact:

Laramie County Community College (LCCC)
1400 E. College Drive
Cheyenne, WY 82001
307-778-5222
www.lccc.cc.wy.us

The University of Wyoming located in Laramie, also has Small Business Development Services available. Contact:

University of Wyoming
1408 Ivinson St
Laramie WY 82070
307-766-4047
www.uwyo.edu

The Wyoming Women’s Business Center offers a business plan guide. In addition, the Center has a micro loan program (\$2,500 and less) available to small businesses. Contact:

Rosemary Bratton
Wyoming Women's Business Center
PO Box 3661
Laramie, WY 82071
E-Mail wwbc@uwyo.edu
Web <http://www.wyomingwomen.org/>

Challenges:

Quality of Life:

Citizens of rural communities every where are concerned about the quality of life. Not only are there concerns about the present issues but also the issues the community will face in the future. La Grange expressed their concern of the quality of life in their community by articulating the need for a walking path, preservation and promotion of historical aspects and the preservation of the high school which is of historical significance to not only the community but the State of Wyoming as well. During the listening sessions a common thread of concern was articulated regarding the beautification of the town. Several small projects can be enhanced by the citizens, churches and businesses in the community. 4-H Clubs, Boy Scouts and other youth organizations are often seeking for community projects to undertake. However, additional planning and funding can be sought through a variety of resources. As I have iterated throughout my writing, I cannot emphasize the importance of visioning and strategic planning for a community. Without visioning and planning all the good intentions and "wishes" for projects in the community will not become a reality. Along, with the visioning, planning and commitment of the citizens, I recommend an individual or organization be trained in grant writing skills. The Western Wyoming RC&D offers grant writing courses twice annually.

The Transportation Enhancement Activities Local (TEAL) grants program is administered by the Wyoming Highway Department. Projects are required to be located off the state highway system, be transportation related and commit environmental value to the transportation system. Bike and walking paths, roadside landscaping and historic preservation area projects that can be funded through the program. Grants range from \$100,000 to \$200,000. The grants require a twenty percent (20%) match. For additional information contact:

David Young
Wyoming Department of Transportation
5300 Bishop Blvd.
Cheyenne, WY 82009
Phone- 307-777-4384
E-Mail- Dave.Young@dot.state.wy.us

Tracy Williams
Wyoming Trail
Phone- 307-777-8681
<http://wyotrails.state.wy.us/trails/rtp.htm/>

Several times during the listening sessions “tree planting” was heard. The National Arbor Day Foundation offers towns that join the Foundation (\$10.00) ten free trees and the opportunity to purchase more at low prices. Contact the National Arbor Day Foundation at their web site address: www.arborday.org/index.cfm

The State Lands and Investments Forestry Division has funding available to cities and towns, civic groups and organizations for community tree planting and education grants. Grants range from \$500 to \$3,000. A fifty percent match is required. For additional information contact:

Mark Hughes
Wyoming State Forestry Division
1100 West 22nd Street
Cheyenne, WY 82002
307-777-7586

The Wyoming Catalog of State Grant Programs is available from the Department of Administration, State Library Division, 2301 Capitol Avenue, Cheyenne WY 82002 or by calling 307-777-63333

What are the major problems and challenges in LaGrange?

- Weather/drought issues.
- Medical services especially getting to a doctor
- Guide the tour with a bunch of women and being on time!
- Employment
- Issues with speed through town.
- Businesses lack of to provide students with a place to work**
- Work with State regarding walk way across the highway.
- Railroad Crossing is blind area, needs revamped.
- Safer walkway from town to the cemetery
- Litter
- Hole in house filled in
- Burning of trash & leaves and smells bad
- No mean ugly bulls
- No robbing
- No killing of animals
- Lease your dogs
- Bigger town
- Grass over the dirt
- Sending school children out of the area....keep local school system***
- Upgrade Fire District,,,,,needing of additional funding*
- Economic Development, job growth
- Quality of telephone lines/equipment
- Price of telephone lines/equipment
- Project to create young people involvement.....
- Affordability of ranch land and assistance programs
- Young ranchers program for starting out
- Issues of rich moving in and buying up property
- Difficulties coming up with matching grant monies for projects
- Lack of sidewalks, safety issue with kids walking to school, especially when snowing
- Lack of employment, keeping the community a small town atmosphere
- Icy patios and sidewalks can hurt seniors
- Need lower taxes
- Not enough moisture for crops and livestock
- Drought
- Getting youth so we can keep the school open**
- Keeping youth in the community and keeping them active*
- Not enough fast to work in the town's businesses**
- No land available for business and housing development; landlocked*****
- Need more to do in town

- No high school
- Not as many gatherings as when had HS
- Lack of law enforcement*****
- Student work time is limited
- Need jobs in area
- Find job that you want and then the time away from family when commute
- Childcare**
- High cost of phone service**
- Poor quality of phone service**
- School district owes lots of land
- Losing some of the businesses
- Punished because not enough people to make cost effective
- Cell phone very limited at best**
- Not much freedom, too much private land
- Not enough water
- Frontier Bible school
- Bible school kids are destructive and don't get into trouble
- Friendly community**
- Great people
- Not enough street lights
- Skunks
- Community has large elderly population on fixed income, problems with medical facilities.*****
- Dearth of young folks in public school, creating hardship in public school funding etc.*****
- Overall, services for elderly.*****
- Getting the state to cooperate getting medicines, must travel to Torrington several times to get medical supplies.*****
- No jobs for youth, elderly etc.*****
- Distance from larger communities such as Cheyenne, Scottsbluff.*****
- Speed of traffic down main street through town*****
- Pave the streets****
- Distance for elderly to travel for medical services****
- Housing overall, prices and supply*****
- Travel/distance to travel for jobs*****
- Job opportunities for students*****
- Law Enforcement, no patrol, county does not seem concerned, long response time***
- County road maintenance*
- Cost of the telephone services*
- Cell phone coverage does not work here.*
- No job base for the students*

- Law enforcement**
- No county sheriff, we pay for it but do not get services that we pay for!*
- Telecommunications problems, we pay more than anyone else in the state*
- Speeding through town, especially semi trucks**
- Lack of matching fund for grants
- Funding*
- Economic development problems due to local and transportation system
- Town is becoming a retirement community so will need services for them
- Lack of health care*
- Need to slow traffic down for safety of students*
- Need to maintain infrastructure, we are losing cash flow
- Lack of funding to maintain law enforcement*
- Gravel road needs to be paved****
- No ATM in town**
- Skunks*
- Vacant buildings on Main Street are unattractive****
- Core programs are dying off due to lack of enthusiasm
- Lost town unity when the high school closed, lost interest in civic organizations
- Can't get anyone to come to a meeting and get involved, lack of volunteerism
- Many town traditions are dying off slowly, losing family functions
- No high school*
- Speed of vehicles on the highway, travelers do not observe the posted speed limit*
- Trees are dying in LaGrange
- No place for students to walk safely at night
- Drainage system for rain
- Dogs running loose in town
- Lack of volunteerism
- People do not stay in one place for very long, it hurts businesses
- Phone service is outrageous*****
- Lack of activities for kids
- Library needs improvements**
- Local school playground equipment is out of date and unsafe
- No recycling program in LaGrange*
- Losing the high school is devastating to a community**
- There is a burned down home and hole, needs to be cleaned up
- Eyesore by the railroad due to concrete
- No cell phone service, the little that we have is very poor****
- Two blind railroad crossings without cross bucks
- Dirt roads
- Length of time to get to medical services

- Most of ranches and farms around the town are graying and no opportunity for young ag. Producers
- And why would you get into ag?
- Hard to attract and keep youth in the area
- More absentee owners in future of ag.
- Pave roads- esp farm to market
- School Board to fund as legislature envisions

What are the major strengths and assets in LaGrange?

- Mayor
- Bible School***
- Friendliness of town and open minds!
- Senior Citizen Program*
- Public School
- Location of community, travel time is manageable.
- Overall caretaking of homes
- Fire Dept/Ambulance *****
- Good H2O supply and disposal
- Town Engineer *
- Good labor force, skills etc.,,need jobs
- Bible school
- Like the bulls for bull riding
- Like the town the way it is**
- Lots of trees*
- See forever
- All the views
- Sunsets are so pretty esp. near mountains
- Wildlife
- Flowers esp. roses
- People*
- Places without a prison
- Can ride your bike anywhere
- Can go anywhere, will let you go
- Café
- Train Park
- Strength of family
- People*
- Multi generational farm families and sense of community
- Infrastructure
- Frontier Bible School
- Small community

- Labor force availability
- Good water and clean air
- Unique location, centrally located to Scottsbluff, Cheyenne
- Town Hall/Community Bldg.
- Rodeo Arena
- Clean small town,
- Don't have to worry about the kids being unsafe
- Great place with friendly people!
- Businesses that are here are very good
- People*****
- Small town atmosphere*
- Cost of doing business is low- land and utilities except phone service
- People buy local
- People stick together**
- Diverse businesses for such a small area
- Wireless internet
- In 1955 11 businesses that bought ads in HS annual; about same number as now even though different - surviving and more
- Bible college contributes to local economy
- Pass through traffic with hunting, etc.
- Good water and sewage
- Everyone know everyone, big family***
- Bear mountain and the bluffs
- Small
- Love the town
- Bible school***
- LaGrange Garage
- School
- Old houses should be torn down, they are an eyesore
- Strong EMT organization, Fire Department, Ambulance*****
- Bible School, do a lot of good for the community*****
- Location of the community*****
- People are great, friendly****
- Small town*****
- Safe Community
- Community Spirit*****
- Area Parks
- Elementary School functions are well attended by the parents
- The mountain ranges and parks
- Close enough for weekend trips to the larger cities
- Pride in cleanliness of the community

- Excellent water supply and good taste etc.....safe water supply****
- Infrastructure, sewer, water
- People*****
- Time travel to the other communities, distance isn't an issue,,,**
- Volunteers of the community to the civic organizations**
- Community has become more open to progressive change in the past decade***
- Churches are well attended and sense of community
- Pride*
- Ability to get grant funding for community hall and other areas needed
- Best fireworks display!
- Very dedicated teaching staff at school and quality of education*
- Great comments and NO Golden Arches
- People*
- Location*
- Existing businesses*
- Great tax base in Goshen County, no state income tax
- Bible school
- Tremendous community volunteers!**
- Great work ethic in LaGrange
- Great rural lifestyle
- LaGrange is home ruled and one of the few in the state that still is
- I like the dirt roads
- Fire department is excellent, great people and service
- Great parks in the town, three in this town is great for the size*
- Have a playground set for the kids
- Ambulance service is excellent*
- Friendliness***
- Great community spirit!
- Great internet service
- There is a lot that is here to live in the town
- Great water in town
- Everyone knows everyone else and what is going on
- Small community
- Elementary school***
- Bible school*
- Repair shop and garage**
- Grocery store and gas station**
- Cafe**
- Feeling of safety, you feel fine letting children play here**
- Great fireworks on the 4th of July*****
- Excellent kids programs here

- Southern hospitality in LaGrange
- Businesses are great in town
- Great community bonding, help each other out when someone dies or is sick or for anything**
- Low cost of the water and sewer
- Whole community is a family****
- The assessment happening is an asset, it is great to be able to gather and voice your opinion
- The bible college has great outreach*
- Great holiday activities
- On crossroad between Cheyenne and Scottsbluff, close to many major highways
- Cheap cost of living in LaGrange overall
- The standard of living is set high here, expect more services and that helps to move the community forward
- Clean community and lots of pride
- Acceptance of new people into the community, even if you do not live in the town
- Trash no longer burned
- Nice buildings as Town Hall
- Parks
- Rodeo arena
- LaGrange Day
- Fireworks
- Fund raisers for fire dept. as pancake supper
- Town supports fire dept. well
- Infrastructure OK
- Good people
- Bible school
- Everything we really need; gas, grocery, bar, school- K-6
- New school board with all 5 from rural areas of Goshen Co.

What projects would you like to see accomplished in the next 2, 5, 10 and 20 years?

- Business that could hire 20-25 people. (part-time/senior workforce ****)
- Assisted living for Seniors
- Walking path
- Auditorium built for school and community (for many uses; funerals etc....currently the school gym is not sufficient). 500-1000 people
- Enlarge the community building kitchen, and more storage*
- Pave the roads
- Keep alleys clean

- Keep check on the elderly
- Bring in small industries or businesses to utilize school work force
- Increase tax base
- Oil and gas wells
- Swimming pool**
- Indoor pool is best
- Activities as gymnastics*
- More stuff in Park**
- More slides at Park
- More trees*
- More parks and playgrounds in town
- A skate park
- More people**
- More game place
- More sunflowers
- Bike park****
- Hospital
- Bike course****
- Monkey bars in park
- Library- more
- Circus
- More stores*
- Tree climbing area or something like that
- More schools
- Bigger town **
- More churches
- New playground equipment at elementary school**
- Fire equipment, needs updating
- Recreation center* (utilize the high school)
- Pool
- Higher grade telecommunications /improved
- Lower costs of phone basic service (aprox cost is \$100)
- Better cellular service
- Walk path to cemetery etc
- Public transportation
- Flash on top of hill for the trains coming through
- Rangeland mgmt training for first time ranchers
- Pave streets
- Expand the library and make into more of a community center
- Museum
- Pave streets

- Storm drainage system
- Harness the wind
- Fitness center***
- Day care esp. with Bible students
- Use what have as rodeo arena
- Use for school bldg.
- Golf course
- Bowling alley
- Indoor pool
- Mini golf
- Ways to promote the community and help the local businesses
- Plan development and not along front street
- Capture more "pass through" traffic
- Water & sewage treatment needed in 10-20 years*
- Landfill needed
- Garbage service of our own versus hiring it out.
- Bank
- ATM
- Community center, recreation/ fun center basketball courts*
- Exercise equipment
- Mall
- Swimming pool*
- Racquetball
- Tennis court
- Shooting range
- Hardware store
- Reopen the high school*
- Fix up the high school
- Pave the roads
- Fishing pond
- Put in street lights
- Horse ranch
- Hotel
- Bank or ATM
- No bank or ATM
- No medical clinic
- HS back
- Fitness center
- Walking path
- Use HS for something
- Affordable housing

- Add value to ag. Products
- Dairy industry in area a possibility
- Packaging of raw product into things as pet food
- Seed production
- Small chamber of commerce
- Bank
- Radio station
- Welcome committee
- Pave the streets***
- Street runoff infrastructure
- Promote town more in the internet
- Health clinic
- Stage at community building for concerts
- Need picnic shelter and restrooms
- Agriculture processing plant
- Beauty or barber shop
- Pizza place
- Laundromat
- Car and truck wash
- Motel
- Miniature golf
- Ice skating
- Walking path***
- Preserve the old school bldg.
- Maintain the grounds around and behind the post office
- Property owners keep weeds down and no junk cars around
- Community blood pressure and medical fairs to the community
- Community Center services offered to the folks not necessarily a new building, exercise, walking path etc, heated swimming pool, bowling alley, mini golf*****
- Children's home***
- Trees in the downtown area,,,,,need replenished**
- Assisted living for the elderly (Bear Creek, LaGrange and overall area).**
- Sidewalks**
- Pre-school**
- ATM****
- Nurse or PA, weekly or bi-weekly
- Main street improvements, trees, lighting etc
- Traffic light, or stop sign
- Upgrade high school and possibly put into historical arena*
- Law Enforcement
- Cell phone tower with full time reception!*****

- Students able to work in new jobs that could/would be created**
- Safety when walking, wear light colored clothing at night
- Students can volunteer time to assist with helping the community***
- Day care
- Business development*
- Bank or a branch bank*
- Manufacturing business
- More main street businesses*
- Clothing stores, overstocked/ items.....etc.*
- More opportunities for the community to volunteer together to work on projects **
- Look at the baby boomer generation and their retirements*
- Convenience Store****
- Have local people invest in businesses, not bring in out of towners
- Bring in satellite bank from Torrington
- Pave the streets, storm wells for drainage
- Planning for future of the water and sewer system*
- Baby boom for kids to increase school enrollment*
- Set school aside as a historical site
- Home for troubled children
- Get grants for new projects
- Infrastructure improvements*
- Downtown beautification
- Walking path
- Recreation center
- Airport
- Agriculture needs to be remembered and enhanced to keep it alive
- Market agriculture
- Internet service with WYLD like other libraries in the state
- Community and youth activities
- New library equipment, lower utility costs
- Historical preservation
- More periodical subscriptions
- Recreational center, pool (indoor heated), fitness center*****
- Youth center for kids programs
- Therapeutic pool
- Need more jobs in town***
- Plant trees for windbreak and beautification****
- Remove dead trees*
- Center divide down main street with trees planted in it*
- Main street looks like an old cowboy town, add in some old fashioned lamp post
- Walking path****

- Shooting range
- Golf course*
- Need place for fellowship
- Need a recycling program
- Need railroad crossing cross bucks
- Utilize the existing buildings for community colleges to bring in some satellite courses*
- Tech school could be an asset to LaGrange
- Need a history day maybe along with the mini fair to promote LaGrange
- Use high school building since it is a historical building, don't let the state tear it down**
- Museum in high school building**
- Add high school to list of National Register of Historic Places*
- Assisted living for seniors**
- Low income housing
- Keep LaGrange distinctive and fairly small
- Bike paths
- Thirty more days of rain
- Town beautification**
- Bring in a bank or ATM*****
- Health care clinic*****
- Deputy
- Library improvements**
- School playground improvements
- Park on main street needs equipment
- Make all of the store fronts look like the frontier area
- Soda shop
- Beauty/barber shop
- Grocery shop
- Novelty shop
- Grainery
- Plumbing and electrical shops
- Carpenter shop
- Make LaGrange town theme the, "Home of the cattle drive."

1. Evidence of Community Pride:

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

2. Emphasis on Quality in Business and Community Life:

People believe that something worth doing is worth doing right.

3. Willingness to Invest in the Future:

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

4. Participatory Approach to Community Decision Making:

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

5. Cooperative Community Spirit:

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

6. Realistic Appraisal of Future Opportunities:

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

7. Awareness of Competitive Positioning:

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

8. Knowledge of the Physical Environment:

Relative location and available natural resources underscore decision-making.

9. Active Economic Development Program:

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

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

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

11. Acceptance of Women in Leadership Roles:

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

12. Strong Belief in and Support for Education:

Good schools are the norm and centers of community activity.

13. Problem-Solving Approach to Providing Health Care:

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

14. Strong Multi-Generational Family Orientation:

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

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

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

16. Sound and Well-Maintained Infrastructure:

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

17. Careful Use of Fiscal Resources:

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

18. Sophisticated Use of Information Resources:

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

19. Willingness to Seek Help from the Outside:

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

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

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

*Reprinted from Heartland Center Leadership Development, Spring 2002 *Visions Newsletter*.