## FORSYTH RESOURCE TEAM ASSESSMENT
### MATRIX
#### AGRICULTURE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ISSUE OR PROJECT Agriculture</th>
<th>RECOMMENDATIONS &amp; OBJECTIVES</th>
<th>RESOURCES</th>
<th>TIMING</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Profitable and Sustainable AG/Marketing Clubs</td>
<td>There appears to be some agricultural diversity in the area with the possibility of pursuing ethanol resources, expansion of the local meat packing plant, cottage industries and value added agriculture. The community suggested forming an agricultural marketing club that could take advantage of the Internet and ways of marketing along with forming programs for the young people to get involved in agriculture. There is also the possibility for expansion of the stockyards and feedlot along with the development of your own products.</td>
<td>Brent Poppe, Agricultural Marketing &amp; Business Development Bureau Montana Department of Agriculture Livestock Building, 303 North Roberts P. O. Box 200201 Helena, MT 59620-0201 (406) 444-2402 <a href="http://www.agr.state.mt.us">www.agr.state.mt.us</a> Montana State University Extension Service 336 Culbertson Hall, Montana State University P. O. Box 172230 Bozeman, MT 59717-1752 (406) 994-1758 Website: <a href="http://extn.msu.montana.edu/index.html">http://extn.msu.montana.edu/index.html</a> Montana Stockgrowers Association 420 California Helena, MT 59601 406-442-3420 <a href="mailto:steve@mtbeef.org">steve@mtbeef.org</a></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Marketing club expertise is currently available through the following organizations. They will assist you with establishing your marketing club, etc.
Several individuals suggested industry or vertical integration of agricultural segments. Based upon the areas resources, feedlots for finishing cattle or back grounding cattle are a possibility. The individuals involved would need to come together as a group and develop a feasibility plan, find a location, as well as feed sources, water and waste water management plans.

Purpose: To bring together those individuals who are very interested in pursuing this idea. Develop a working committee to further develop the project i.e. visiting with resource groups, visiting the Custer area feedlot, visit other feedlot operators to gather information to report back to the group so all involved can decide if this is feasible or not.

Alex Offerdahl
Market Manager Program Coordinator
Great Falls
(406) 761-4596
E-mail: kdennis@mgga.org

Brent Poppe, Bureau Chief
Montana Department of Agriculture
Marketing and Business Development
Bureau
P.O. Box 200201
Helena, Montana 59620-0201
(406) 444-2402

Jennifer Anderson
Rosebud County Extension Agent
Rosebud County Courthouse
Main Street
Forsyth, Montana 59327
(406) 365-7320

Gene Surber
Natural Resource Specialist
Montana State University
217 Linfield Hall
Bozeman, MT 59717
(406) 994-1971
esurber@montana.edu

Kari Smith
Water Protection Bureau
Montana Dept. of Environmental Quality
P.O. Box 200901
Helena, MT 59620-0901
(406) 444-3080
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Keeping young people in farming and ranching</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>There are several beginning farmer/rancher loan programs available from the following agencies.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Montana Department of Agriculture also has a loan program available for 4-H and FFA youth to finance their projects. These loans are a good education tool concerning the world of finance as well as providing funds to start these young people in agriculture.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Steve Pilcher</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Executive Vice President</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Montana Stockgrowers Association</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>420 California</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Helena, MT 59601</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(406) 442-3420</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><a href="mailto:steve@mtbeef.org">steve@mtbeef.org</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Beginning Farmer/Rancher Loan Prog.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lee Boyer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Montana Department of Agriculture</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>P.O. Box 200201</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Helena, MT 59620-0201</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(406) 444-2402</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><a href="mailto:lboyer@state.mt.us">lboyer@state.mt.us</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Farm Service Agency</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Rosebud County</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>P.O. Box 6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>270 South Prospect</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Forsyth, MT 59327-0006</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(406) 356-7333</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Farm Credit Agency</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>103 North Sixth Street</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>P.O. Box 1787</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Miles City, MT 59301-1787</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(406) 233-3105</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Forsyth producers have easy access to the interstate, which is probably their best transportation resource. Railroad rates are difficult to change but they could garner information concerning railroad rates and what is being done from the following sources.

**Ag Co-op**

The Montana USDA/Rural Development has a cooperative specialist on board in their Bozeman office that is quite knowledgeable regarding the establishment of agricultural cooperatives and I would urge contact with him if there were enough interest within the ag community. The establishment of some type of value added or vertical integration of agricultural products could prove to be invaluable to the Forsyth area.

**Irrigation**

In an effort to enhance the value of irrigation, the Department of Natural Resources and Conservation has established the irrigation development program. Headquartered out of Billings Montana, Pat Riley has already established several contacts with irrigators in the Forsyth area. A key proposal that this program has developed with the Lower Yellowstone Irrigation Districts is the Montana Natural Resources Act. This proposed federal legislation would authorize new irrigation development in Montana in the Lower Yellowstone and Lower Missouri River basins. The Act also secures low cost Pick Sloan Power for

---

Jim Christiansen  
Montana Wheat & Barley Committee  
P.O. Box 3024  
Great Falls, MT 59403-3024  
(406) 761-7732  
(406) 761-7851  
Fax:  
[www.wbc.agr.state.mt.us](http://www.wbc.agr.state.mt.us)  
[wbc@state.mt.us](mailto:wbc@state.mt.us)

Montana Department of Transportation  
P.O. Box 201001  
2701 Prospect Ave.  
Helena, MT 59620-1001  
(406) 444-6200

Bill Barr, Cooperative Specialist  
Montana USDA Rural Development State Office  
P.O. Box 850  
900 Technology Blvd.  
Bozeman, MT 59771  
Phone: 406.585.2545  
Fax: 406.585.2565  
E-mail: [Bill.Barr@mt.usda.gov](mailto:Bill.Barr@mt.usda.gov)  
Web: [www.rurdev.usda.gov/mt](http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/mt)

Kirk Montgomery  
Cartersville Irrigation District  
PO Box 668  
Forsyth MT 59327  
Phone: 406-347-5472
existing irrigation and planned future development. This effort will bring new investment into irrigation in Montana and will assure continued low cost hydropower be delivered to Montana irrigators. Water rights for new irrigation may be secured through the local conservation district. With a 1978 priority date, conservation districts have a substantial water right for future irrigation development along the Lower Yellowstone River. The priority date is important because it is ahead of the instream flow right held by the Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks. By contacting the local conservation district or the DNRC’s representative in Miles City you can find out more information on these water rights.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Address</th>
<th>Phone</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jerry Nypen</td>
<td>Manager</td>
<td>Lower Yellowstone Irrigation District</td>
<td>406-4331306</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Mount Pleasant Road</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Sidney MT</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Phone: 406-4331306</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Barbara Yoder</td>
<td>Executive Director</td>
<td>Yellowstone River Conservation District Council</td>
<td>406-247-4414</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1371 Rimtop Drive</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Billings, MT 59105</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>George Jordan</td>
<td></td>
<td>US FWS</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>2900 4th Ave. North</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Room 301</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Billings, MT 59105</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Phone: 406-247-4414</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pat Riley</td>
<td>Program Manager</td>
<td>Irrigation Development Program</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Department of Natural Resources and Conservation</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Airport Industrial Park</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Billings, MT 59105</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Phone: 406-247-4414</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Duane Claypool</td>
<td>Program Manager</td>
<td>Conservation District Water Reservations</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Department of Natural Resources and Conservation</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>PO Box 276</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Miles City, MT 59072</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## FORSYTH RESOURCE TEAM ASSESSMENT
### MATRIX
#### CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ISSUE OR PROJECT Capital Improvements</th>
<th>RECOMMENDATIONS &amp; OBJECTIVES</th>
<th>RESOURCES</th>
<th>TIMING</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| • Drainage, Storm Sewers, Streets and Curbs | There was a lot of concern on the drainage and storm sewers, streets and curbs, sidewalks and lighting for the exit ramps. The City has a long-range plan for prioritizing and fixing the concerns and doing other major projects. With the City owning adequate equipment, the labor could be done through the City/County employees. There are several State and Federal loan and grant programs available that provide financial assistance to communities to assist with both the planning process and funding for completing the projects. The Town of Forsyth has developed a Capital Improvements Plan (CIP). A CIP is typically a 5 to 20 year working document that should be updated yearly. The CIP if utilized as intended will provide the community with a timeline and proposed budget to make improvements to infrastructure throughout the town. Typically a CIP will include the following infrastructure projects:  
  - Water system  
  - Wastewater system  
  - Road/Transportation system improvements  
  - Storm Sewer/drainage  
  - Park improvements  
  - Fire Department  
  - Sidewalks | Mitch Copp, Program Director  
USDA Rural Development - Rural Utilities Service  
P. O. Box 850  
Bozeman, MT 59771  
(406) 585-2529  
E-Mail: Mitchel.Copp@mt.usda.gov | Nick Rich  
CDBG-ED Program Specialist  
Commerce Loan Fund  
301 South Park Avenue  
Helena, MT 59602  
Phone: 406-841-2735  
Fax: 406-841-2731  
Email: nrich@state.mt.us |
Your local planner or consultant can either develop or update your CIP. Doing a “Needs Assessment” and involving the community in public meetings will help in determining project priorities. Plus keeping the community informed helps everyone understand why projects are prioritized the way they are.

There are many financing strategies available to complete projects. Implementing these strategies can take two to five years to coordinate, thus the importance of having comprehensive planning in place.

The following people and agencies can provide guidance on applying for planning grants, preliminary engineering reports (PER) grants, or assist in giving direction on how to best approach certain projects. These agencies can also provide guidance in hiring a professional consultant.

MDT Glendive District
Bill McChesney, District Administrator
503 N River Ave., PO Box 890, Glendive, MT 59330-0890
Phone: 406-377-5296 or 888-689-5296
Fax: 406-377-8160
Email: bmcchesney@state.mt.us
http://www.mdt.state.mt.us/districts/glendive/

Gus Byrom
CDBG Program Manager, Public Facilities and Housing
Community Development Block Grant Program
MT Department of Commerce
301 South Park Avenue
Helena, MT 59620
Phone: 841-2777
Email: gbyrom@state.mt.us
http://commerce.state.mt.us/CDD/CDD_CDBG.html
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Address</th>
<th>Phone</th>
<th>Email</th>
<th>Website</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jim Edgcomb</td>
<td>TSEP Program Manager</td>
<td>Treasure State Economic Development Program</td>
<td>406-841-2785</td>
<td><a href="mailto:jedgcomb@state.mt.us">jedgcomb@state.mt.us</a></td>
<td><a href="http://commerce.state.mt.us/CDD/CDD_TSEP.html">http://commerce.state.mt.us/CDD/CDD_TSEP.html</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bob Fischer</td>
<td>Montana Department of Natural Resources Renewable Resource Grant &amp; Loan Program</td>
<td>1625 11th Ave Helena, MT 59602</td>
<td>406-444-6688</td>
<td><a href="mailto:rfischer@state.mt.us">rfischer@state.mt.us</a></td>
<td><a href="http://www.dnrc.state.mt.us/cardd/cardd.html">http://www.dnrc.state.mt.us/cardd/cardd.html</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Geri Burton</td>
<td>MT Board of Investments</td>
<td>PO Box 200126 Helena, MT 59620-0126</td>
<td>406-444-1365</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Walking/Bike Trail</td>
<td>This project could be funded, in part, through the Montana Department of Transportation’s Community Transportation Enhancement Program (CTEP). Through this program, the City of Forsyth, and Rosebud County each receive annual allocations that can be used to finance projects that are traditionally not funded with transportation dollars, such as pedestrian and bicycle facilities.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>--------------------</td>
<td>--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Thomas Martin  
CTEP Bureau Chief  
MT Dept. of Transportation  
Helena, MT  59620-1001  
P.O. Box 2010011  
(406) 444-0809  
martin@state.mt.us

Bruce Barrett, District Administrator  
MT Dept. of Transportation  
4224 Morey Street  
P.O. Box 20437  
Billings, MT  59104-4138  
(406) 657-0210  
(406) 657-0932  
Fax bbarrett@state.mt.us
## FORSYTH RESOURCE TEAM ASSESSMENT MATRIX
### RECREATION/TOURISM

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ISSUE OR PROJECT Recreation/Tourism</th>
<th>RECOMMENDATIONS &amp; OBJECTIVES</th>
<th>RESOURCES</th>
<th>TIMING</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>General</td>
<td>A skateboard park, teen or activity center, safer playground equipment at some of the parks, more activities for younger generations and more community functions were expressed as a need for the community. The community may want to organize a Task Force to facilitate the development of a skateboard park along with some of the youths interested in the development of the project. I feel the teens need to be involved in the development. They can research funding opportunities and even be involved in fund-raising activities which in turn would give them an understanding of all the issues and costs involved in planning and developing a facility. The establishment of a teen club to organize youth activities may be an idea and possibly the basement of churches or community rooms could be a starting place for supervised activities. The possibility of more high school aged after school activities, preferable work oriented, could be established, such as low rate small businesses for lawn mowing, snow shoveling, etc. and target the seniors in the community. The identification and whether the availability of Block Management in the area for hunters may also be a way to bring tourism in during hunting season. Having available maps of the specific areas and telephone numbers would be advantageous to the community if the program is available in the Forsyth area and hunters knew whom to contact.</td>
<td>Randy Lilge, Director of Parks and Recreation 316 North Park Avenue Helena, MT 59623 (406) 447-8462 E-mail: <a href="mailto:rlije@ci.helena.mt.us">rlije@ci.helena.mt.us</a></td>
<td>State of Montana Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) E-Mail: <a href="http://fwp.state.mt.us/parks">http://fwp.state.mt.us/parks</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Victor Bjornberg Travel Montana/Montana Department of Commerce P. O. Box 200533 Helena, MT 59620-0533 (406) 444-4366 E-mail: <a href="mailto:victor@visitmt.com">victor@visitmt.com</a> Website: <a href="http://travelmontana.state.mt.us">http://travelmontana.state.mt.us</a></td>
<td>Montana State Parks 1420 East Sixth Avenue Helena, MT 59620 (406) 444-3750</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
From a tourism perspective, travelers are looking for good public access to the Yellowstone River. If you look close, you can find Forsyth’s river access points. More people would stop if there are signs at key intersections to direct people. With community services and great access, people will take advantage of the opportunity to be on the Yellowstone River. With the Lewis and Clark bicentennial upon us Montana is already seeing increased tourism associated with the trail. Forsyth’s River access, if promoted, would attract some of these tourists to stop see the river where Clark floated by and visit Forsyth.

Capitalize on this Signature Event. Forsyth, just one hour east of Pompey’s Pillar, is on the trail, has good accommodations, community services, parks for groups of people and an excellent fairground. If done properly, the bicentennial celebration will be the introduction of many new people to a special place in America. Many will return; some may even choose to stay.

Doug Monger, Parks Administrator
Department of Fish Wildlife and Parks
PO Box 200701
Helena, MT  59620
Phone: 406-444-3750

Victor Bjornberg, Tourism Development Coordinator
Montana Promotion Division
Department of Commerce
PO Box 200501
Helena, MT  59620
Phone: 406-444-4366

Mr. J. Jeffrey Dietz
2109 11th Street West
Billings, MT 59102
Phone: (402) 256-8628
E-mail: dietzjjsl@aol.com
Website: www.clarkontheyellowstone.org

Clint Blackwood, Executive Director
Montana Lewis & Clark Bicentennial Commission
PO Box 201203
Helena, MT 59620-1203
(406) 443-2109
(406) 841-4004 (fax)
blackwood@state.mt.us
Skateboard Park

The Resource Team heard from the youth and from several adults that there is a need for a skateboard park in Forsyth. Several cities have established skateboard parks, including Helena, Libby and Bozeman. Libby built the first skateboard park in Montana approximately 10 years ago for $10,000. Last summer, the City of Helena completed a 10,000 sq. ft. facility for $69,000.

Begin by organizing a Task Force to facilitate the development of a skateboard park. Representatives from the City of Forsyth, Rosebud County, and the Chamber of Commerce should be joined on the Task Force by youth interested in developing the project. Possibly, a City Commissioner or someone from the Chamber of Commerce could serve as the Project Coordinator. The Task Force should then open a dialogue with representatives from the Helena Park and Recreation Department and Libby Skate Park Inc. to understand how each of these communities were able to complete their projects.

Libby:
Jane Thom
Libby Skate Park Inc.
Phone: 293-574
janiethom@yahoo.com

Helena:
Randy Lilge
Director of Parks and Recreation
City of Helena
316 North Park Ave.
Helena, MT 59623
(406) 447-8462
rlilje@ci.helena.mt.us

Potential Funding Sources:

Turner Foundation
Turner Youth Develop. Comm. Initiative
Program Department
One CNN Center
Suite 1090 South Tower
Atlanta, GA 30303
www.turnerfoundation.org

Montana Dept. of Fish, Wildlife and Parks
Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF)
Montana State Parks
1420 East Sixth Avenue
Helena, MT 59620
(406) 444-3750
www.fwp.state.mt.us/parks
## FORSYTH RESOURCE TEAM ASSESSMENT
### MATRIX
#### MARKETING FORSYTH

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ISSUE OR PROJECT</th>
<th>RECOMMENDATIONS &amp; OBJECTIVES</th>
<th>RESOURCES</th>
<th>TIMING</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Marketing Forsyth</td>
<td>There are currently several major events held in Forsyth and marketing the area to bring in additional tourists to visit the community was discussed. Signage both on the Interstate and in-town for places to visit need to be installed along with lighting on the exit ramps and welcoming signs. The community seems to work well together and some type of training outlining the sights and activities available in the area need to be implemented. City Hall has excellent handouts on things to do in Forsyth. This could be shared with the business owners and their employees so when tourists do stop and ask about things to do in and around the community, the employees/residents are willing and able to share this information. A tourist information center patterned to bring tourists through town with rest rooms; picnic tables, etc. would be a good method to get information out about the community. Possibly the senior citizens could volunteer to man the center during peak hours. Visitors are often influenced by their first impression of the community or by whomever they talk with in the community. Thus, there is a need to try ‘Super Host’ training for those employed in the gas stations, restaurants, motels, etc. If visitors are treated well and told of the many things to do in and around Forsyth, they will stay a little longer and spend more money in the community. Forsyth has so many assets that would market the community to the outside world, such as: Historical buildings downtown, Quigley Shoot, County Fair, Forsyth Days, the Museum, Team Roping events, sporting events, interstate/railroad access, the retirement community, available buildings, tie-in with the Lewis and Clark Centennial events, the Library and swimming pool, just to mention a few. There is a need for Freeway signage and in town signage to promote these things. Forsyth’s website should be maintained and updated frequently.</td>
<td>SuperHost Training</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## FORSYTH RESOURCE TEAM ASSESSMENT MATRIX

**COMMUNITY**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ISSUE OR PROJECT Community</th>
<th>RECOMMENDATIONS &amp; OBJECTIVES</th>
<th>RESOURCES</th>
<th>TIMING</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| • In General                                                                 | Beautification was a major concern of the local residents. The City has a long-range plan for fixing the streets and completing other major projects. Promote and emphasize group work and public service. Possibly set up beautification events to include media coverage and maybe some type of recognition for those who participate. 

Leadership fund-raising and marketing are key elements to initiating downtown improvements. Promote and initiate events that bring people to downtown. Forsyth offers an excellent place to raise a family. A strong feeling of community makes Forsyth a safe place to raise a child. Some people are moving back to raise their children. The difficulty is career employment. There is a good business base in retail, service with some manufacturing. Of course agriculture is the base. Growing existing businesses and attracting some new ones is the challenge. The community is focused on this issue. As we listened to the high school kids, we thought of all the graduates from Forsyth who have moved away and are pursuing careers across the country. The graduating class is ready to go; to leave Forsyth and face the real world. Graduates from 5, 10 or 15 years ago are the population that remembers simpler days growing up along the river. A community effort to contact these graduates and remind them of how great Forsyth is, along with a challenge to them to come back and invest in their hometown may bear fruit. Community leaders are already taking the first step to build on these assets. The efforts to clean-up junk cars, lawns and buildings are beginning to show results. At several of the listening sessions the idea of improving the look of Forsyth as you exit the interstate was raised. One suggestion was the development of a visitor’s center near one of the entrances to town. Another suggestion is to focus on the intersection of Front Street and 10th Avenue. Travelers often exit the freeway on to Front Street but do not cross the tracks to see downtown and all that | Gus Byrom or Ann Desch Community Development Block Grant Program Montana Department of Commerce 1424 Ninth Avenue Helena, MT 59620 (406) 444-2488 or (406) 444-1759 Montana Community Foundation 101 N. Last Chance Gulch Helena, MT 59620 Rosebud County Extension Agent |        |
Forsyth has to offer.

The resource team received mixed signals during the listening sessions regarding community volunteers. Some people said that everyone volunteers and others said they can’t get volunteers. There appears to be a need for more coordination and communications between various groups in the community. **Be proud of Forsyth, both the community and its citizens, you have a lot going for you.**
### FORSYTH RESOURCE TEAM ASSESSMENT MATRIX

**LOCAL GOVERNMENT/COMMUNITY SERVICES**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ISSUE OR PROJECT</th>
<th>RECOMMENDATIONS &amp; OBJECTIVES</th>
<th>RESOURCES</th>
<th>TIMING</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| In General       | There is a need for childcare and expansion of career counseling and entrepreneurship training. A one-stop shop for human service offices that could include WIC, daycare, public health, etc. would be beneficial for the community.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | Jim Atchison, Executive Director  
SouthEastern Montana Development Corporation  
P. O. Box 1935  
Colstrip, MT  59323  
(406) 748-2990  
Southea606@earth  
www.semde.org |        |
|                  | The need for any essential community facility for rural communities has loan and grant programs available to help with economic development of these communities. There are also technical assistance grants available through State and Federal Agencies and various organizations to help assist with writing and submission of these grants.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | Sue Gantz, Community Facilities Specialist  
USDA Rural Development – Rural Housing Service  
P. O. Box 850  
Bozeman, MT  59771  
(406) 585-2555  
E-mail:  
Sue.Gantz@mt.usda.gov |        |
| Infrastructure   | This will be a great challenge for Forsyth. Storm water, paving and curbs will be expensive. Residents want estimates on how much it would cost so that they can make the decision based on facts. On that note, I would recommend seeking a planning grant through the Treasure State Endowment Program or the Renewable Resource Grant and Loan Program. Both of these grant programs provide 50/50 project planning grants. Funds for the current project can be obtained through the South Eastern Montana Development Corporation and other State and Federal Agencies. | Mitch Copp  
USDA Rural Development  
PO Box 850  
Bozeman, MT  59771 |        |
biennium have already been allocated. However, on July 1, 2003 a new allocation of funding will be available. Planning grants can defray as much as 50 percent of the planning costs. If Forsyth can’t wait that long, a low interest loan (right now just over 3 percent) from the Board of Investment is available. Loans for preliminary engineering require only interest payments for 3 years while the community puts the project together. Then with construction of the project the loan is paid off either with grant funds or long-term debt. If the project does not move forward, then loan is amortized over a 10 year term.

Finally, as the City analyzes this investment keep a close eye on the plans and specification to assure access for the handicap. Handicap accessibility is a critical issue when putting in curbs and the community may want to involve experts and individuals from the community to assure this issue is thought about up front and implemented properly.

Newell Anderson, Coal Board
Department of Commerce
PO Box 200501
Helena, MT 59620
Phone: 405-841-2772
Fax: 406-841-2771

Mike Davis, CTEP Coordinator
Department of Transportation
PO Box 201001
Helena, MT 59601
Phone: 406-444-4383
Fax: 406-444-7671

Jim Edcomb, Program Manager Treasure State Endowment Program
Department of Commerce
PO Box 200501
Helena, MT 59620
Phone: 406-841-2785
Fax: 406-841-2771

Todd Teegarden, Pollution Control
State RLF Program
Department of Enviro. Quality
PO Box 200901
Helena, MT 59620
Phone: 406-444-5324
John Tubbs, Chief
Resource Development Bureau
DNRC
PO Box 2001601
Helena, MT  59620

Geri Burton, Bond Program Officer
Board of Investments
PO Box 200545
Helena, MT  59620
Phone: 406-444-1365
Fax: 406-449-6579
### FORSYTH RESOURCE TEAM ASSESSMENT MATRIX
#### HOUSING

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ISSUE OR PROJECT</th>
<th>RECOMMENDATIONS &amp; OBJECTIVES</th>
<th>RESOURCES</th>
<th>TIMING</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Housing</td>
<td>A need for assisted living and expansion of the retirement community living was discussed along with affordable and livable rental properties and construction of new homes to purchase. A need to rehabilitate existing older homes was also a concern.</td>
<td>Kathy Kaufman, Community Development Manager USDA Rural Development 1629 Avenue D, Building A Billings, MT 59102 (406) 657-6297, extension 4 E-mail: <a href="mailto:Kathy.Kaufman@mtbillings.fsc.usda.gov">Kathy.Kaufman@mtbillings.fsc.usda.gov</a></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>There are several loan and grant programs available for construction of new homes; purchase of existing homes; and rehabilitation of owner occupied homes and rental units. Community Facility loan and grant programs are available for rural communities and both low and guaranteed loan programs for construction of new rental units.</td>
<td>Sue Gantz, Community Facilities Specialist Laura Horn, Multi-Family Housing Specialist USDA Rural Development – Rural Housing Service P.O. Box 850 Bozeman, MT 59771 (406) 585-2555 (Sue) and (406) 585-2559 (Laura) E-mail: <a href="mailto:Sue.Gantz@mt.usda.gov">Sue.Gantz@mt.usda.gov</a> <a href="mailto:Laura.Horn@mt.usda.gov">Laura.Horn@mt.usda.gov</a></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Connie Onstad, Program Manager Community Development Block Grant – HOME Program P. O. Box 200545 Helena, MT 59620-0545 (406) 444-0092</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Bob Morgan (Single Family Housing)
Matt Rude (Multi-Family Housing)
Montana Board of Housing
P. O. Box 20052
Helena, MT 59620-0528
(406) 444-3040

Fannie Mae Foundation
Mary Lou Affleck, Senior Deputy Director
Montana Partnership Office
404 N. 31st Street, Suite 220
Billings, MT 59101
(406) 259-7049
E-mail: mary_lou_affleck@fanniemae.com

Gus Byrom
CDBG for Public Facilities and Housing
P. O. Box 200523
Helena, MT 59620-0523
(406) 444-4477
# FORSYTH RESOURCE TEAM ASSESSMENT MATRIX

## JOBS AND BUSINESS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ISSUE OR PROJECT</th>
<th>RECOMMENDATIONS &amp; OBJECTIVES</th>
<th>RESOURCES</th>
<th>TIMING</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jobs and Business</td>
<td>Support of existing businesses is a major concern as is customer loyalty. Stressing the importance of buying locally is critical in any community. A suggestion may be to have the high school students make buttons “I Love Forsyth” and sell at school activities/functions as a fundraiser. Then the local businesses could support this by offering a “Monthly Forsyth Community Day” where ALL local businesses could offer a 5-10% discount for local shoppers wearing their buttons on the designated day. This would need to be supported by all local businesses and would also help to establish customer loyalty.</td>
<td>John Guthmiller, Program Director USDA Rural Development – Rural Business-Cooperative Services P. O. Box 850 Bozeman, MT 59771 (406) 585-2549 <a href="mailto:John.Guthmiller@mt.usda.gov">John.Guthmiller@mt.usda.gov</a></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| Outreach for medical specialists to come to Forsyth on regularly scheduled days may also help to keep the residents in the community and outlying areas from traveling to Miles City and Billings to visit doctors. | American Association of Healthcare Consultants  
1926 Waukegan Road, Suite 1  
Glenview, IL  60025  
(847) 657-6964  
info@aahc.net  
http://www.aahc.net/ |