

## RECORD OF MEETING

### Williston Comprehensive & Transportation Plan Update

#### Business Input Meeting

September 23, 2008 9:30 AM

El Rancho Hotel

A public input meeting focused on the business community in Williston was held to gather input regarding community issues for the purpose of the Comprehensive Plan and Transportation Plan updates. Approximately 25 people attended the meeting (see attached sign-in sheets). City staff, elected officials, and consultants in attendance included:

Name:	Representing:
Kent Jarcik	City of Williston, Planning Department
Ward Koeser	City Commission President
Cindy Gray	SRF Consulting Group, Inc.
Rick Lane	SRF Consulting Group, Inc.
Steve Peterson	SRF Consulting Group, Inc.
Pam Schaefer	StrategySync, Ltd.

Cindy Gray from SRF Consulting Group, Inc. opened up the meeting and welcomed participants. She explained the purpose of the meeting relative to the community's decision to update the Comprehensive Plan and Transportation Plan. She stated these are early public involvement meetings, and are meant to help focus in on the issues of the community. She introduced Pam Schaefer, StrategySync, Ltd., who explained the electronic facilitation process.

After completion of the electronic facilitation process, Rick Lane facilitated questions and comments from meeting participants. The following questions and comments were received:

- Are the kinds of questions used in this electronic facilitation exercise similar to questions used in other communities? SRF responded that the topics are somewhat similar, but they're tailored to the community for the most part.
- Is there a developer coming to Williston to build more housing? SRF responded that they were aware of a proposal going before the City Commission that night. Mr. Koeser verified that.

- How do we define affordable housing? Costs of construction and materials are so high that it affects even housing that's intended to be affordable. SRF responded that affordable housing is usually a measure of the cost of housing relative to the median income, poverty level, etc.
- Some businesses can raise rates to absorb higher costs but not everyone can.
- What happens if/when the oil industry leaves? What other kinds of business opportunities are there if oil falls off again? Business diversity is very important to retaining new residents and gaining stability.
- Industry other than stores is important. Wages will go down without industrial jobs. The community needs to reduce dependence on just one industry (i.e. oil).
- Transportation – it's important to have all modes available to the population.
- Housing – meeting the demand for housing is important, but the community needs companies that will keep good jobs in community on an on-going basis.
- Truck traffic has experienced a huge increase, north, east, and west through the city.
- Question about county's involvement in comprehensive plan and transportation plan. SRF responded that the county is involved on the Planning Advisory Committee and the County Commission has a role in reviewing the plans.
- Housing should be a bigger priority than aesthetics at this time.
- Tom Rolfstad indicated that he has been contacted by interested parties from outside the community relative to meeting the need for housing and businesses.
- Workers in the oil industry have mortgages somewhere else and are probably not likely to buy homes in Williston.
- What's been done in other oil boom communities? Suggestion to look into this.
- Box Elder off of Hwy 2 bypass – this neighborhood experiences a lot of high speed traffic on Box Elder, probably generated by the trailer park.

Rick thanked meeting participants for taking the time to come to the meeting, and encouraged them to fill out comment forms and to complete the survey mailed to their home. The website for the comprehensive plan and the on-line survey was also provided.



# The City of Williston

Comprehensive Land Use and Transportation Plan Update

Sign-in Sheet

Date: Sept. 23, 2008 Meeting with: Business people at El Rancho

Name	Representing	Mailing Address	E-mail Address
1 Menle Halverson	Williston Contractors		
2 Alta Mayhugh	Williston Herald		
3 STEWART MURKOWIC	NDDOT		
4 Roger Attenburg	Self	Box 1813	
5 ALISHA DAVID	WAL-MART	4001 2 <sup>ND</sup> AVE W.	
6 Shawn Wenko	City of Williston		
7 Joe / S	KEYZ		
8 Jan N	NAP		
9 Lacey Cox	Community Action		
10 Jerry Flock	Northwestern Mutual		
11 Brian Bolinski	Downtown Plaza		
12 MARK HOLLEN	HOLLEN Auto Body		
13 Donald Anderson			
14 Melanie Stillwell	WCCU		
15 Sue Brokaw	WCCU		
16 Fran Kersh	ASBFT		
17 Jeff Zarling	Chamber		
18 Karen Quirk	NWTHSC	Box 1266	kquirk@nd.gov
19 Tom Koltzstad	Williston E.O.	Box 1306	tomr@ci.williston,nd.us
20 John Liffing	Liffing Realtors	Box 991	
21 Rev. Daniel Maurer	First Lutheran	916 Main	
22 Ricky Wm	Jerry's Services		

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Comprehensive Land Use and Transportation Plan Update

Sign-in Sheet

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Name	Representing	Mailing Address	E-mail Address
1 Larry Speen	Developing -	13106-A 49th NW	LJSn@nemont.net
2 Cindy Gray	SRF		
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