



Payette

Community Review Report

July 10-12, 2007

"We feel fortunate to have raised our kids here."

- Payette resident

Cover photo by Visiting Team member Phil Choate

Payette Community Review

July 10-12, 2007

A report presented to the
City of Payette and its citizens by the
Idaho Community Review program.

The Idaho Community Review is a collaboration of federal, state, tribal, and local governments along with the private sector through Idaho Rural Partnership.
For more information call 208-334-3131 or visit <http://irp.idaho.gov>.



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Acknowledgements

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We also thank Mayor Doug Henderson, City Clerk Mary Cordova, members of the City Council, and the rest of the Payette Home Team for the gracious hospitality we enjoyed while in Payette. The professional, organized nature of this community review was due to your efforts. Thanks also to Payette County Commissioner Rudy Endrikat for participating in the July 11 town hall meeting at McCain Middle School.

The Payette Community Review could not have been completed without the commitment, time, and knowledge demonstrated by the Home Team. These individuals coordinated the Visiting Team's time in Payette, served as tour guides, shuttled team members, cooked and served meals, endured long, hot days, answered endless questions, and most of all, served as excellent representatives for the community. Home Team members included:

Special thanks to the Payette Coordinating Team and Home Team

Coordinating Team

Mary Cordova
Jennifer Kelley
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Infrastructure

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Arts Alchemy ● A & W Restaurant ● Bahrcode
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Representative Bill Sali ● Scotch Pines Golf Course ● SW
Idaho Area Agency on Aging ● SW District Health ● TIPS
Restaurant ● U.S. Department of Agriculture-Rural
Development ● U.S. Department of Housing and Urban
Development

Summary of Review Activities

Working together, the Coordinating Teams representing the Idaho Community Review program and the City of Payette did an excellent job of creating an agenda that gave the Visiting Team the opportunity it needed to experience first hand Payette's assets, challenges, and opportunities while also allowing both planned and random conversations with Payette residents. Review activities included the following:

Day One - July 10:

- Visiting Team Orientation at Ontario Holiday Inn
- Dinner at Scotch Pines Golf Course and airplane rides at Payette Municipal Airport

Day Two – July 11:

- Breakfast at TIPS Restaurant and presentation on Payette history
- Community tours
- Lunch at Kiwanis Park
- Continue community tours
- Dinner at A & W Restaurant
- Public forum at McCain Middle School

Day Three- July 12

- Breakfast at city hall
- Report development
- Lunch at city hall
- Continue report development
- Dinner at Jimbo's Restaurant
- Public presentation and discussion at city hall



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Part I Executive Summary

This report provides an overview of a Community Review conducted in Payette July 10-12, 2007. At the request of the City of Payette, the Review was conducted by a "Visiting Team" of 19 people experienced in various aspects of community and economic development. In addition to these professionals, both the Visiting and Home Teams included high school-aged youth since one of the focus areas involved youth.

Over the three day period, the Visiting Team listened to, learned from, observed, and asked questions of community leaders and citizens to understand Payette's present assets, challenges, and opportunities. The time for this Review was excellent given Payette's high likelihood of continued growth.

Payette's Community Review and this associated report will benefit the community in many ways. Like other communities in which a Community Review has been conducted, Payette saw benefit in seeing their community through the eyes of others. Often, people visiting a community, possibly for the first time, see something as an opportunity or an asset that locals might not recognize the same way. Also, there is significant value in having the good planning, capital improvement efforts, and existing amenities that Payette has worked hard to create validated by outside professionals. As a result of the Review, City staff and other leaders now have new contacts or better understand that contacts they have known for some time within agencies and organizations that can provide funding and other assistance to advance projects in the future. Finally, this report, when combined with the City's new comprehensive plan and other planning documents, gives Payette a clearer path to follow as it prioritizes and implements such projects.

The three focus areas for this Review were selected by the City at the time of their application to the Idaho Community Review program. These focus areas were:

- **Seniors and Youth**
- **Arts, Historic, and Recreation Resources**
- **Infrastructure**

Prior to the Review, each Visiting Team member was assigned to one of these three focus areas based on their expertise. Each of the three teams independently prepared a presentation and wrote reports for their respective focus area. An issue or recommendation repeated by more than one of the teams is an indication of the subject's importance. In some instances, two teams might identify the same issue but suggest different solutions.

Visiting Team members and a brief summary of the issues and recommendations they identified are found below. Biographies for all Visiting Team members are found in Appendix A.

Seniors and Youth

Visiting Team Members

- Janet Weaver (Team Lead),
Senior Transportation Planner, Idaho Transportation Department
- Ashley Bahr (Team Lead),
Liberty High School graduate and Owner, Bahrcode Photography
- Emily Bowers,
Intern, Office of Representative Bill Sali
- Lori Brelia,
Director of SW Idaho Area Agency on Aging
- Gene Gunderson,
Director of the SW District Health Department
- Vince Moreno,
State Assistant for Natural Resources, Office of Congressman Bill Sali

Summary of Observations and Recommendations

Civic life and community involvement are vital to the growth of any community. In its application to the Community Review program, the City expressed interest in exploring how to encourage citizens of different age groups to become more active in the community.

The visiting team experienced the welcoming atmosphere that citizens recognize as a hallmark of Payette. We also observed and heard that youth, especially teen aged kids not attracted to athletics, have few outlets to pursue recreational and educational interests outside of school. The team was surprised that there were relatively few community events. While we did learn that the community has the Apple Blossom Festival, a Bluegrass Festival, and a cruise night, we were not able to learn about any other community sponsored events that

would utilize the wonderful facilities that exist in the town including the band shell and the computer labs, classrooms and gyms at the schools.



Bahrcode Photography

exist in

Based on these observations, Part III of this report contains recommendations and resources regarding:

- Fostering community involvement
- Creating recreational, educational, and other opportunities for youth
- Maintaining and building community pride and communication
- Creating a community center

Arts, Historic, and Recreation Resources

Visiting Team Members

- Gaetha Pace (Team Leader)
Executive Director of Idaho Heritage Trust
- Jeff Baker,
Vice President of St. Maries Council on the Arts
- Sharon Fisher,
Principal consultant, Gem State Community Development
- Will Hart,
Regional Director for Senator Larry Craig
- Julie Numbers-Smith,
Owner, Arts Alchemy
- Cheyne Weston,
Park Planner, City of Boise Parks and Recreation

Summary of Observations and Recommendations

Often it is through the arts, our history, and recreational activities that we experience and appreciate unique knowledge and customs that comprise a community's "*sense of place*". It's how we learn who we are in the context of our community.

The Visiting Team was impressed with Payette's historical resources and recreational amenities and saw significant potential in both. We also met and heard about numerous artists, but there didn't seem to be any arts-related entity to connect and support them. We sensed sadness about the loss of some of you most loved historic buildings, suggesting an opportunity to ensure the protection of key



remaining structures and to use photos and stories to honor the memory of buildings and people from the past.

The community's mostly volunteer effort to create a greenway along the Payette River is quite impressive and we hope to see implementation of this vision continued. Similarly, the Visiting Team hopes you continue celebrating your agricultural heritage.

Based on these observations, Part III of this report identifies recommendations and resources related to:

- Cultivating arts appreciation and education
- Building support for artists
- Capturing your history
- Revitalizing downtown
- Developing recreational and cultural facilities and programs

Infrastructure

Visiting Team Members

- Patti Raino (Team Lead)
Intermodal Planning Manager, Idaho Transportation Department
- Stewart Brent
Area Director, USDA – Rural Development
- Phil Choate
Senior Planner, Idaho Transportation Department, District 3
- Kit Kamo
Business Development, Idaho Department of Commerce

Summary of Observations and Recommendations

In Payette's Community Review application the City requested a review of both transportation and capital infrastructure. Regarding transportation, the application said the city *"contemplates expansion and/or alternative routes to meet commuter traffic needs and local congestion."* Under capital infrastructure the city was concerned about *"the many costs of growth that may not be felt for a long time."* This included concerns about deferred maintenance and compliance with environmental regulations.

The infrastructure team was impressed with Payette's forward looking capital improvement planning efforts. The City has a clear sense of what is going to be needed in upcoming years, particularly regarding your domestic water and wastewater treatment facilities. We also took note of the pride city employees take in fulfilling their particular area(s) of responsibility pertaining to infrastructure. However, we didn't see an equivalent level of planning

regarding your city streets. We also saw how you've done the best you can with a fire station that has clearly become overcrowded. With respect to transportation, vehicle and pedestrian safety along higher speed roads (e.g. Highway 95) and reconstruction and realignment of the twin bridges crossing of the Payette River received most discussion and attention from the Visiting Team.

Based on these observations, Part III of this report includes recommendations and resources related to these issues:

- Improving city water and irrigation system
- Improving wastewater treatment system
- Addressing transportation needs
- Replacing the existing fire station
- Other Infrastructure

In addition to the preceding 16 folks, the following Visiting Team members floated between the three focus areas:

- Dale Dixon (Review Co-Leader)
Executive Director, Idaho Rural Partnership
- Brain Dale (Review Co-Leader)
Operations Specialist, U.S. Dept. of Housing and Urban Development
- Jon Barrett (Report Writer/Editor)
Principal, Clearstory Studios

Relative to other Community Reviews that have been completed from Priest River to Soda Springs, the Payette Review was unique in that the Review itself was assessed by four students from George Fox University:

- Barb Cox
Development consultant, Wells Fargo Bank
- Sage Mwiinga
Student and IT specialist
- Craig Fagan
Loan analyst, Key Bank
- Justin Core
Student

Part II Introduction and Overview

Coordinated by the Idaho Rural Partnership (IRP), the Payette Community Review was a collaborative project of IRP, U.S. Dept. of Housing & Urban Development, U.S Department of Agriculture – Rural Development, Idaho Housing & Finance Association, University of Idaho, Idaho Department of Commerce, Idaho Transportation Department, Idaho Heritage Trust, SW Idaho Area Agency on Aging, SW District Health, Offices of Representative Bill Sali and Senator Larry Craig, and other federal, state, local, and private organizations.

The Community Review program provides objective observations, recommendations, and potential resources to Idaho communities with populations of 10,000 or less seeking to better understand how they might effectively approach long standing and emerging community issues and opportunities. This information is provided by a team of 15-20 professionals. These professionals are referred to as the “Visiting Team” and have expertise in various aspects of community and economic development. Hosted by a local “Home Team” that’s roughly equal in number, the Visiting Team spend three days in the community learning about issues through tours, meetings, and interviews with community leaders and residents. The review concludes on the evening of the third day with an oral presentation to the community.

The program can not instantly resolve all issues, but it has been evaluated as an invigorating, validating, unifying, and vision-creating experience by the communities who have participated. Community reviews additionally provide invaluable networking opportunities, setting the stage for future resource referrals and follow up activities. Additional information about the Idaho Community Review program can be found at <http://irp.idaho.gov> or by calling 208-334-3131.

This report communicates and provides greater detail about the observations, recommendations, and suggested resources identified by the Visiting Team during the community review that occurred in Payette from July 10-12, 2007. Payette is the 16th Idaho community to participate in the Community Review program.

A community review is initiated when the community seeking participation submits an application. Payette’s application was submitted on January 11, 2007 and is included as Appendix B. Receipt and review of the application led to pre-Review planning during the spring. At this point in the process the community more clearly articulated its needs. This discussion is important because it helps facilitate the creation of a Visiting Team that is tailored to the community’s issues. It was also at this time that the actual date of the community review was established.

In-Kind Value of the Community Review

While the in-kind value of each community review varies, it is always substantial. Imagine the cost of hiring 20 professionals in land use planning, transportation, civil engineering, economic development, arts and other cultural resources, communication, grant funding, and other fields of expertise for three 14-hour work days. Don't forget to include their travel and hotel costs. Add to this the value of the days and weeks spent on pre-review planning and post-review report writing.

At standard billing rates and travel and hotel costs, the in-kind value of community reviews generally falls in the neighborhood of \$50,000-\$75,000. As with other community reviews, the direct costs to the City of Payette were limited to some staff time and food and transportation for the Visiting and Home teams during the actual review.



Community Description

Visiting Team members benefited from an excellent, concise presentation on Payette's history by Ann Curtis, Coordinator for the Payette County Historical Society, over breakfast with the Home Team on July 11.



At one time, the Payette Valley was a major crossroads for Northwest travel. A railroad camp known as "Boomerang" sprang up at the confluence of the Snake and Payette Rivers in 1883 to serve as a base for the Oregon Shortline Railroad. As it continued to grow, Boomerang was officially incorporated as the City of Payette in 1891 in honor of Francois Payette, one of the region's most successful fur trappers and first postmaster at Fort Boise.

In the late 1800's, homesteaders settled in the valley, cleared the land for agricultural production, and built irrigation systems. The Payette area quickly became known for its fruit and row crop farming. This rich heritage remains an important part of the area's economy and sense of place.

Today Payette is a rapidly growing community of over 8,000 people. In recent years, retirees and young families are being attracted to the area's small town quality of life (e.g. low crime), affordable cost of living, and proximity to employment and other opportunities in nearby urban areas. Employee origin and destination data for the years 2002-2004 from the U.S.

Census confirm that the percentage of all Payette area workers commuting to Ada and Canyon Counties is increasing while the percentage of workers commuting to Ontario actually declined from 35.2% to 32.9% during the same period. (see Appendix C).

Employment opportunities in the Payette area are largely found in construction, health care, education, utilities, transportation, government, agriculture, and food processing. In recent years opportunities in all of these areas have been increasingly modestly, although recent development has been predominantly residential in nature.

Community Dynamics, Expectations, and Motivations for Requesting a Community Review

Payette's application to the Community Review program identifies the community's desire to benefit from *"new sets of eyes providing different perspectives on community issues"*. From both the application and on-site conversations, the Visiting Team learned that these dynamics are consistent with other Idaho communities experiencing or anticipating growth.

- In past years, the City has been able to use reserve funds to keep its budget balanced. While this approach may have made sense at one time, it can not be sustained indefinitely given that the reserve funds have not been replenished and the need to provide services to new growth is increasing. Recognizing this dynamic, it is easy to understand why the City would be interested in learning about and building relationships with potential funding sources for infrastructure, economic development, and other services.
- The community's demographic make up is changing, becoming more diverse in age, ethnicity, and cultural background. Anecdotally, it is believed by many that a significant number of new residents are coming from the Boise area and other out of state urban areas. Also, a higher percentage of Payette residents are commuting to other communities for work. It's clear that Payette seeks ways to maintain and build on its strong sense of community and place through celebration of its history and natural environment, community improvement projects, and development of community-based projects and programs related to the arts and other cultural opportunities.
- Payette places great value on its youth. The community seeks ideas and resources to improve and increase creative, educational, and recreational outlets for its young people, with special emphasis on affordable opportunities that build relationships between teens and caring adults of all ages.



In summary, Payette demonstrates a desire to grow responsibly and within its means. Based on conversations with Payette leaders and citizens, the Visiting Team suggests that, to the people of Payette, this means protecting and improving on the unique physical and social qualities that make Payette special and increasing opportunities to bring citizens and social groups of different cultural and demographic characteristics together in community. It also means planning and providing services required by new growth in a way that's financially sustainable and equitable.

"With new growth, we need to focus on protecting our quality of life, our small town atmosphere."

--Mayor Doug Henderson

Areas of Contention and Consensus

Payette is like any community. The regulars who meet for coffee at Meecham's Café debate, discuss, agree, and disagree about community issues and the problems of the world on a daily basis. Areas of contention that Visiting Team members heard during the review involved the future of the airport, the appropriate use(es) and improvements at the Bancroft Park site, whether or not more commercial development in Payette would be desirable or possible given that people can shop in nearby Ontario without paying sales tax. Not surprisingly, many residents expressed concern about how growth – growth that could increase rapidly in coming years – would or could negatively affect Payette's small town character and other qualities. These areas of concern and debate are to be expected. The Visiting Team did not take note of any large, unexpected controversies.

Payette's proximity to Oregon came up in several contexts during the review. Many community leaders and residents expressed an opinion that Payette residents prefer to shop in Ontario because doing so allows them to avoid paying sales tax. This is by far the most common reason people give to explain why there are not more retail businesses in Payette and why the businesses that do exist often struggle, close, and/or relocate to the Oregon side of the border.

Actual representative comments from leaders and citizens heard by the Visiting Team are found on page 15.

Previous Planning Efforts and Outcomes

The list of prior and recent planning efforts and major capital improvement projects below demonstrates that Payette takes its responsibility to plan for the future seriously.

- The City of Payette created the Payette Urban Renewal Agency in 2006 to encourage the revitalization of the industrial area just west of downtown.
- The City's water study was recently updated and a new water reservoir has been constructed.



- An expansion plan for the wastewater treatment plant has been completed
 - Sewer and water lines have been replaced and a road widening project has begun in the 7th Avenue North corridor. A new traffic signal has been installed at 7th Ave. and Highway 95.
 - The McCain Middle School has been completed.
 - The City has a relatively new comprehensive plan (dated 2005)
- Plans for a new fire station have been drawn.
 - Cooperated with Payette County on the widening of Iowa Street
 - The Payette Beautification Committee has installed Welcome to Payette signs and landscaping at south entry to town (Highway 95)

In January of 2007 the City instituted a new program to encourage a smoother development process. Twice a month, key city officials and staff meet with both residential and commercial developers to respond to pre-application questions and improve communication among city departments concerning development. By all accounts, this new service has proven very successful and should be used as a model for other Idaho communities.

Areas of Focus Requested by the Community

Community Reviews focus on three focus areas identified by the community on their application. The following focus areas were selected by the City of Payette for this community review:

Seniors and Youth

The City requested ideas and resources to engage citizens in community building and decision-making activities across age groups and other demographic segments. The feasibility of creating and sustaining a community center was specifically mentioned as an idea about which the City would like feedback from the Visiting Team.

Arts, Historic, and Recreation Resources

The City asked for assistance to explore ways to provide a variety of enjoyable and affordable recreation, sports, environmental, historical, and cultural arts programs and services. The City's applications expresses specific interest in ideas and resources concerning the improvement of the community's existing park and recreation assets and suggestions about potential new amenities.

Infrastructure

Growing communities have a responsibility to make sure public services and facilities will be maintained and improved to serve anticipated growth. In the context of the Payette Community Review, infrastructure includes streets and other transportation-related improvements, sewer and water service, police and fire protection, and city administration. To the community's credit, the City's application recognizes that infrastructure improvements play an important role in assuring long term economic prosperity.

The Visiting Team was divided into three teams, one for each of these focus areas. Individuals were recruited to serve on the Visiting Team because of their specific expertise in one (or more) of these focus areas. Each of the three focus area teams, then, was comprised of 4-6 members of the Visiting Team. Likewise, the Home Team (i.e. Payette community leaders and residents) were split into the same three focus area teams.

Pre-Review Planning, Coordination, and Publicity

The Payette Community Review would not have been possible without the diligent coordination provided by City Clerk Mary Cordova and city staff Jennifer Kelley, Bobbie Black, and Kellie McCombs. These individuals comprised the Coordinating Team for Payette. Their responsibilities included development of the review itinerary and creation of the Home Team. Creation of the Visiting Team and pre-Review planning was handled by Dale Dixon from the Idaho Rural Partnership and Brian Dale from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.

As noted previously, pre-review planning focused on clarifying the community's needs and expectations, establishing the date of the review, development of the review schedule, and the formation of the Home and Visiting Teams. Biographies and contact information for members of the Visiting Team are found in Appendix A.

As with past community reviews, pre-review work also included conducting a community survey. Publicity about the review, including an invitation to attend the town hall meeting in July 11 and the final presentation by the Visiting Team on July 12, and a copy of the community survey were included in the 2500 utility bills sent to Payette addresses in the weeks leading up to the review. Pre-review publicity also included a special insert in the Payette Chamber of Commerce newsletter and providing information to the local newspapers.

Results of Pre-Review Community Survey

Over 274 completed surveys were turned in at Payette City Hall. While the survey was not scientific, it did give the Visiting Team a valuable slice of community perceptions about qualities and amenities residents hold dear and the things about Payette they think need improvement. Of the survey respondents, 64% were over age 51 and 58% had lived in the community for 10 or more years.

A survey result worth noting is that a large number of survey respondents (44%) did not answer a question about the quality of the City's website, suggesting they either don't know about it or have never used it.

When asked about the **strengths and assets** that make Payette a great place to live, people who completed a survey mentioned these most frequently:

- Quiet, friendly, small town atmosphere
- Low crime
- Excellent library, swimming pool, parks, and schools.
- Public safety services, with the Fire Department being especially appreciated.
- Proximity to opportunities in Boise metro area
- Affordable cost of living

When asked to identify the **problems and challenges** facing the community, these responses were repeated most often:

- Not enough quality, good paying jobs
- Need for more retail and other services to help lessen the City's dependence on residential property tax revenue and to give residents the ability to shop in town.
- Need more recreational opportunities for youth and young families—especially for the youth who do not enjoy sports.
- The downtown needs revitalization.
- The quality of the streets needs attention, with non-existing or substandard sidewalks and dangerous intersections being mentioned frequently.
- Drug abuse
- The condition of the senior center

A complete copy of the survey results is included as Appendix D.

Review Schedule

The Payette Community Review officially began at 4:00 pm on Tuesday, July 10 when the 19 community development professionals who comprised the Visiting Team met at the Ontario Holiday Inn for an orientation session. The review concluded at about 9:00 pm on Thursday, July 12 with presentations to the community by members of the Visiting Team. A detailed itinerary is included as Appendix E. Briefly, here are highlights of activities for the three day review.

Tuesday, July 10

As noted above, the Visiting Team gathered at 4:00 pm for an orientation to meet each other and go over the review schedule and logistics. The Visiting Team then went to the Scotch Pines Golf Course for dinner and socializing with the Home Team. Over excellent barbecue, Visiting and Home Team members split up into their respective focus areas, introduced themselves, and quickly began talking about community issues and opportunities. Most Visiting Team and many Home Team members took advantage of a special offer by local pilots to fly over the community.



Wednesday, July 11

Breakfast at TIPS Restaurant featured brief comments by Mayor Doug Henderson and City Clerk Mary Cordova, followed by a presentation on the history of Payette by Home Team member Ann Curtis. With Home Team members in-tow providing information and responding to questions, the Visiting Team spent the remainder of the morning and all afternoon touring the community using bus transportation provided by the Payette School District. The three focus areas spent their time at the following facilities and areas:

- Seniors and Youth
 - *Tour Payette schools*
 - *Visit reading program at the library*
 - *Visit with kids and parents at Kiwanis Park*
 - *Tour Senior Center and visited with seniors*
 - *Visit site of proposed athletic fields near middle school*
- Art, Historic, and Recreation Resources
 - *History walk led by Don Belvoir around downtown and adjacent neighborhood*
 - *Greenway walking tour led by Chuck Kinney*
 - *Visit to twin bridges area*
 - *Kiwanis Park*

-
- *Visited site of proposed athletic fields near middle school*
 - *Visited city park and tour museum*
 - **Infrastructure**
 - *Tour domestic water-related facilities*
 - *Tour wastewater-related facilities*
 - *Visit sites of recent and proposed transportation projects and site of proposed fire station, areas north and east of town where future development is anticipated.*
 - *Visit and discuss twin bridges project and recent and potential commercial and industrial areas along highway 95*
 - *Visit existing fire station*

Given the extremely dry, hot weather at the time, the Visiting Team was relieved to catch a quick break before meeting at the A & W Restaurant for dinner.

That evening Visiting Team members attended a community meeting and listening session at the McCain Middle School, where Mayor Doug Henderson presented his 'State of the City' address to an audience of about 75 people. His comments were followed by 'State of the County' remarks by County Commissioner Rudy Endrikat.



During the second half of the meeting Payette citizens were invited to meet with members of the Visiting Team to voice their ideas and concerns about the community. The Visiting Team split up into the three focus areas to facilitate discussion and provide maximum opportunity for citizen input regarding each of the subjects. At this listening session, citizens were asked for their take on the community's strengths, assets, challenges and problems. They were also asked what projects they would like to see completed in the near term and long term.



Thursday, July 12

Following breakfast with City staff at City Hall, the Visiting Team spent the bulk of the third and final day of the review talking amongst itself about what it had observed and heard about the community, collecting additional information as needed, assembling photographs, and preparing its visual and verbal presentations for the community.

These presentations were given at a public meeting at the Payette City Hall. The evening ended with Q and A and an opportunity for citizens to speak with Visiting Team members one-on-one.

Local Representation During Review vs. Community Demographics

Like many Idaho communities, Payette's population is becoming more diverse. The 2000 Census found that 15.8% of Payette's population is of Hispanic or Latino origin. Statewide, Idaho's Hispanic population has increased by 25% since 2000 and that growth is expected to continue (*Idaho Statesman*, 10/11/07).

The Home Team seemed to be predominantly comprised of current and former members of the City Council. To a person, they were all clearly committed to improving the community. However, the Home Team could have better represented Payette's demographics. While the Visiting Team did interact with a few Hispanic community members, the Home Team did have anyone from this segment of the community. Major employers like Idaho Power and Seneca Foods were also not represented on the Home Team.



Challenges and Opportunities Expressed by the Community

Below are representative responses to the three questions Visiting Team members asked citizens on the street and at review-related events throughout the three day process. These reflections are very similar to the input received through the pre-review community survey.

- What do you like about Payette?
 - *"This is a good place to raise a family."*
 - *"We feel fortunate to have raised kids here."*
 - *"Boise is friendly. Payette is friendlier."*
 - *"As a small town, Payette is a place where you can get involved and make a difference."*
 - *"We are expanding, but not as fast as Ontario."*
 - *"We're fairly new in town and people have been very receptive to us."*
 - *"Good variety of churches."*
 - *"Our monthly expenses have been cut in half since moving here."*
 - *"Schools are great, but they need to tighten up discipline."*
 - *"Climate here is really mild, but you still get all four seasons."*
 - *"The transportation crossroads make it easy to get to places."*
 - *"We like the recreational opportunities. The golf course is excellent."*
 - *"We need measured growth... and I think they (city leaders) are doing a pretty good job."*
 - *"Our drinking water comes from the ground. We don't drink Snake River water."*

-
- *"We've owned this store for two years. We moved here from Nampa. Nampa has gotten too big... too much crime. People are getting out of there."*
 - *"I think a lot of people see the True Value hardware store as a convenience store when you don't have time to go to Ontario."*
 - *"Our neighbors are friendly and the greenway is the perfect place to walk our dog."*
- **What would you like to see change?**
 - *"We need more clothing and other stores downtown. At my business I had four employees. Now I have one. Sales tax is the issue."*
 - *"Payette is a good business town for everything but retail."*
 - *"I remember when Christmas was so busy you could hardly walk down the street."*
 - *"We need places for parties that are kid friendly so parties don't have to go to Boise."*
 - *"We do need more recreational opportunities, but they must be affordable."*
 - *"We need more vocational classes in schools."*
 - *"We need to have a fix for the high school crossing (on Highway 95)."*
 - *"I've seen Payette lose six car dealerships."*
 - *"You can build houses all day long, but if you don't have no place to work – that's no good."*
 - *"Bancroft Park is not used as much as it should be."*
 - *"Downtown is more vibrant now than it was five years ago. It seems to have more energy. But there are still plenty of vacant buildings."*
 - *"We need an environment for kids and grandkids to stay, or at least come back."*
 - *"I'd like to see increased cultural awareness of minority populations – a place at the farmers market and Apple Blossom maybe celebrate Cinco de Mayo in the parks."*
 - *"The bandshell isn't used very much."*
 - *"The community gives a lot for younger kids but there isn't a lot around for older kids."*
 - *"We need things for kids who don't do sports or skateboard."*
 - *"Unplanned growth. It's happening and we're glad to have it happening. But it's not planned well."*
 - *"The senior center leaves a lot to be desired. The people involved are nice but the building and kitchen needs help."*
 - *"I don't see the drug use changing any time soon! The kids have nothing else to do."*
 - *"My biggest worry is the drug problem. We don't want our children involved in them and I would like to see more education on drugs and alcohol and the effects they have on people and families."*
 - *"We need to continue to improve the south entrance to town."*
 - **What is your vision for Payette in 5 years? In 10 years?**
 - *"We need to determine the kind of community we will have. A bedroom community or a vibrant community?"*
 - *"I want downtown to look like it was in my youth. My family had a jewelry store."*
 - *"I would like Payette to NOT grow like towns around Boise."*
 - *"We had three theaters. Many businesses went to Oregon. What's our identity now?"*
 - *"We need to plan for growth, not plan for death."*

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- *"We've got to roll up our sleeves to make the community better. No one else is going to do it."*
 - *"Don't bemoan the sales tax established in 1968. Buck up and move forward."*
 - *"Let Payette be rural. Others can move to the city if they want the city life. Just because it says 'city limits' doesn't have to mean it's not rural."*

Part III Team Reports

This section summarizes the observations and recommendations of the three focus teams. This information is based on the three day review in Payette. During this time the Visiting Team met with city elected officials and staff, collected citizen input at a community town hall meeting, and engaged in impromptu conversations with residents. Additional information was obtained through the community survey (see Appendix D).

Seniors and Youth

Description of Focus Area

Civic life and community involvement are vital to the growth of any community. In its application to the Community Review program, the City expressed interest exploring how to encourage citizens of different age groups to become more active in the community. Public and non-profit facilities play an important role in attracting new employers and residents. A community center, which has been previously discussed by citizens and city leaders, is an example of such a facility.

General Community Comments and Concerns

- **Payette's Friendliness.** Like the two other teams, the Seniors and Youth team received many comments about Payette's friendly nature. Comments about how people are willing to help each other, about how newcomers feel welcome, and appreciation for the community's small town character all reflect this sentiment.
- **Community Pride.** We talked to a lot of folks who expressed how much they like the pride people take in their community and home. This pride is reflected in the quality of the schools, libraries, parks, fire station, and other public facilities.
- **Young People Returning as Adults.** The Seniors and Youth team heard from many that young adults who grew up in Payette want to come back after college. Many 20 and 30-somethings have come back to Payette after living and working elsewhere or serving in the military. While many love the community, comments were received that there is little for young families with kids to do.
- **Lack of Activities for Older Youth.** Team members interviewed as many teens as we could during community meetings, in the park, and at summer school. For the most part there was a feeling that the community provides activities for the younger kids, but there isn't a lot for the older youth. This opinion was voiced repeatedly by citizens who



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completed the pre-review survey. Specific ideas brought up more than once included job training opportunities, bowling alley, movie theater, drug and alcohol prevention activities, and other programs and facilities that provide alternatives for kids who don't enjoy organized sports or skateboarding.

Visiting Team Observations

The visiting team experienced the welcoming atmosphere that citizens recognize as a hallmark of Payette. The City is well kept up and there is a quiet sense of pride for the community that everyone we talked to expressed. The team was surprised at the lack of community events. While we did learn that the community has the Apple Blossom Festival, a Bluegrass Festival, and a cruise night, we were not able to learn about any other community sponsored events that would utilize the wonderful facilities that exist in the town including the band shell and the computer labs, classrooms and gyms at the schools.

Issue 1: Fostering Community Involvement

In order for citizens to become active, the community needs to look for ways to engage them by creating new opportunities for community events that will provide entertainment and build on the sense of community.

Recommendations

- Establish a community band or choir. Such a program would provide a new non-athletic, non-competitive opportunity for musicians of all ages. There are great music rooms at Payette's schools or churches for practice and the schools have great auditoriums for concerts. Summer concerts could be held in the band shell in the park. Local musical groups including church groups, mariachi bands, the new community band, or regional groups like the Orinkari Basque dancers could also asked to participate.
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- Actively develop new volunteer opportunities. This objective should be achieved in many ways. Here are a few examples that would provide a way for residents to become more involved in the life of the community:
 - Start a literacy mentoring program in which retired educators and other interested adults could work with young students to help them learn.
 - Youth could volunteer to mentor the senior citizens in the community who want to increase their computer skills.
 - The city could sponsor a clean up the park day, a rake up Payette day, a clean up the river day, or a paint the town day.

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- The senior center needs help delivering meals on wheels.
 - Complete an oral history project (see Art, Historic, and Recreation Resources portion of this report).
 - Local building contractors could adopt the skateboard park to make sure broken boards are replaced. The skateboarders and bikers need to police the area and keep it clean and the city needs to make sure there are trash cans close by to facilitate the cleanup.
- Use transportation to connect the community. If youth and seniors cannot drive, it is hard to access events and facilities. It is especially important for youth who do not have driver's licenses, low income families that have only one car and seniors who no longer drive. Supporting the creation of a regional public transit system would help the community have better access to facilities in Payette as well as activities, educational opportunities and medical appointments in Ontario and Fruitland.

Resources

- Caldwell Centennial Band. The band performs at community events and has scheduled summer concerts on selected Mondays at 7:30 in Memorial Park where the community is invited to bring a lawn chair and listen. Contact is conductor Donald ("Roby") Rodlyer, 208-459-7650.
- Caldwell Rotary Literacy Program. Contact is Dr. Gerald ("Jerry") Conger, 208-459-9655.
- Moscow Renaissance Fair is a two day celebration of spring with live entertainment, food and crafts for kids and adults of all ages.
<http://www.moscowrenfair.org/>
- The Idaho Commission on the Arts has grant funding available to promote art activities in rural communities <http://arts.idaho.gov/>
- Alive after Five in Boise is a weekly musical event sponsored by the Downtown Business Association (DBA) which also hosts Jazz on the Grove and the Holiday Tree Lighting.
http://www.downtownboise.org/m_events/dba_alive_after_5.cfm
- The Downtown Boise Association website also provides information on hosting events in Boise including guidelines for planning events in Boise parks.
http://www.downtownboise.org/m_events/organizing_events_downtown.cfm
- Rake up Boise and Paint the Town are sponsored by the Neighborhood Housing Services. Contact is Amy Lindley 208-343-4065, x117, alindley@nhsid.org, <http://www.nhsid.org/services/rakeupboise06.htm> , <http://www.nhsid.org/services/paintthetown.html>.
- Idaho Transportation Department - Division of Public Transportation. ITD is currently working with the Oregon Department of Transportation on a coordinated transportation plan. Financial support from the community will be needed to implement a transit system. Contact is Butch Ragsdale District 3 Grant Officer, 800-527-7985 or 208-334-8282.

Issue 2: Create Opportunities for Youth

The community needs to evaluate and develop activities for Payette's young people. The community has built a skate park and is working to build sports fields for baseball and soccer but the youth the visiting team spoke with were looking for other options.

Recommendations

- The community needs to encourage business expansion or new businesses to meet the needs of youth in the community. Young people expressed a need for an expanded arcade for video games and are hoping for a coffee shop with wireless internet and sofas and comfy chairs to have a place to meet friends. Others would like to see a bowling alley, dollar movie house and possibly a gymnasium that features racquet ball courts and a climbing wall.



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- The schools need to look for ways to provide job skills and training in recognition that not all youth plan to attend college. Existing classroom-like facilities could be used for evening or weekend classes in welding, woodworking, bookkeeping etc. These classes could be taught by volunteers similar to the community education classes in Boise or the community could partner with the new community college to offer satellite classes.
- Several comments in the survey point to a growing drug problem in the community. While the schools do have a drug free youth program, there is a perception that the community does not fully support the program. There is a great opportunity for businesses and civic groups to show support for the program by displaying logos, hanging red ribbons in storefront windows etc.
- Businesses and the city should look for ways to provide jobs for students that build skills. The city currently hires lifeguards and could consider adding a summer internship program in the parks or water and sewer facilities.

Resources

- Boise Summer Youth Program.
<http://kinesiology.boisestate.edu/summeryouth.htm>
<http://www.cityofboise.org/Departments/Parks/index.aspx>
<http://www.cityofboise.org/Departments/Parks/Activities/YouthServices/index.aspx>

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- Payette Drug Free Youth: Contacts are Mark Heleker or Tanya Lubbes at the Payette School District. National information is available at the National Family Partnership, including planning guides for Red Ribbon week in October 2007. <http://nfp.org/>
 - Boise School District Community Education Program, 8169 W. Victory Rd., Boise, ID 83709, 208-854-4047, <http://www.boiseschools.org/commed/sites.html>.

Issue 3: Build Community Pride Through Communication

A need exists to promote the positive aspects of living in Payette and to show the young people in the community they are valued. One way to do this is to profile a student, athlete, or youth volunteer of the week or month in the local newspaper. Residents need to attend soccer games, volleyball games, tennis matches, and band concerts to show support for the kids. The community should support activities including Future Farmers of America, the Drug Free Program and other non-sport events in the schools. The youth in Payette need to know the community is proud of their accomplishments and they have the support of the community.

Recommendations

- The community needs to develop a centralized communication tool where activities can be announced on a community calendar and where volunteers can connect with projects in the community that need to be done. One option is to have the city develop a "Some one needs you" page on the city website where individuals or non-profit groups could identify projects they need help with. Volunteers could contact the City, to get contact information for the projects after a brief screening process. Other options would be to have the information listed in a weekly column in the paper or have a civic organization sponsor the project.



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- Encourage community pride by getting the word out that people in Payette are great and the city is a wonderful place to live. Consider profiling a student of the week or having a news article where a Senior Citizen reminisces about early days in Payette. Many communities have a "This week in history 10 – 20 – 50 years ago" column to share stories of the past.

Resources

- Local history sources would include the archives to the *Independent Enterprise*, the Payette Historical Society and the Payette Senior Center.
- Caldwell's Online Community <http://www.aboutcaldwell.com/index.html> includes a community calendar, a list of places to go and things to do in Caldwell and a list on community businesses.
- Association of Idaho Cities's Youth Engagement Resources, an excellent collection of available resources to involve youth in community decision-making and strengthen youth and their families. <http://www.idahocities.org/index>, 208-344-8594.
- Search Institute, an independent national nonprofit organization that provides leadership, knowledge, and resources to promote healthy children, youth, and communities. The Institute is most known for its 40 Developmental Assets, which are positive experiences and personal qualities that young people ages 12-18 need to grow up healthy, caring, and responsible, <http://www.search-institute.org/>.

Issue 4: Need for a Community Center

The team observed that while Payette has expressed interest in building a community Center for meetings, performing arts and other events that there are numerous infrastructure assets that already exist in Payette.

Recommendations

- The visiting team recommends the community inventory existing assets including the Portia Club, Kiwanis Park bandshell, school facilities, churches, senior center, and other public buildings to determine how existing facilities could be more fully utilized. The team suggests four areas to be inventoried: (1) sports facilities and fields, (2) performing arts venues, (3) meeting rooms and (4) computer/internet access sites.
- The team suggests that the community begin to offer expanded programs in the existing facilities to help determine need and support for building a new stand-alone facility and hiring staff. Additional staff to oversee programs in current facilities would be less expensive than building, maintaining and staffing a community center and would provide expanded opportunities to citizens.
- The second floor of the senior center is completely unused due to safety and access issues. Many new initiatives recommended in this report could be located there if grant funding were obtained to make the entire building usable. Perhaps the most appropriate use(s) would be one(s) in which opportunities for relationship building between seniors and youth would be created.

Resources

- Idaho Department of Commerce Community Development Manager is Dennis Porter 208-334-2470, dennis.porter@commerce.idaho.gov. Dennis and his team have recently helped communities including Deary,

Blanchard, Worley, and Blaine County explore interest in building a community center and will be able to provide local contact information as well as funding options.

- Idaho Heritage Trust, Gaetha Pace, 208-549-1778, gaetha@mindspring.com. Inquire about conducting funding research for senior center rehabilitation.



Arts, Historic, and Recreation Resources

Description of Focus Area

"*Sense of place*". It's a phrase we hear more and more these days. But what is it, really? A community's sense of place refers to unique knowledge and customs created through adaptations its residents make between each other and the landscape. Special greetings; forms of music; food; knowledge about plants, animals, soils, and weather; holidays and other celebrations; and places and pastimes that only locals know about are all examples. Often it is through the arts, our history, and recreational activities that we experience and appreciate such knowledge and customs. It's how we learn who we are in the context of our community.

General Community Comments and Concerns

- Payette citizens want to enjoy the arts, recreation, and history IN PAYETTE. Through the pre-review survey and during the review itself, many residents expressed their desire to enjoy cultural events and recreational activities in Payette as opposed to driving to other communities.
- Sadness about loss of historic buildings. Citizen leaders serving on the Home Team shared their sadness about historic buildings that were demolished or lost due to fire over the years. The old train depot is just one example. There was a sense that the community would like to keep the unique and historic buildings still standing and somehow recognize the ones that have been lost.
- High satisfaction with parks, library, pool, and golf course. These recreational and cultural sites are the assets appreciated most often by Payette citizens.
- Pride in agricultural heritage. The close proximity of actively farmed ground and food processing/packing facilities, as well as the numerous well maintained home vegetable gardens prove that Payette's agricultural history remains valued by the community in terms of its identity and its economy.
- Payette River. The River is viewed by many as a significant recreational asset whose potential has only begun to be recognized. Floating, fishing, and hiking are the activities enjoyed most frequently.



Visiting Team Observations

The Visiting Team was impressed with Payette's historical resources and recreational amenities, and saw significant potential in both. We also met and heard about numerous artists, but there didn't seem to be any arts-related entity to connect and support them. We note the degree to which arts, historic, and recreational resources overlap with the other two focus areas (Senior and Youth, Infrastructure). For example, parks are a type of infrastructure and history and the arts are great ways to engage both seniors and youth in the community.

There is one observation and recommendation the Visiting Team feels is applicable to arts, historic, and recreation resources. You have some great facilities with a lot of potential and great people. Take stock of and build on what you already have.

Issue 1: Cultivate arts appreciation and education

There is a lot Payette can do to increase arts education opportunities in the schools and throughout the community. We also recognized the potential to develop new ways for residents to enjoy and participate in performing, literary, visual, and folk arts. In some cases, there are opportunities to incorporate the arts into existing events and facilities. Accomplishing these goals will keep Payette an attractive place for existing residents, active retirees and young families seeking cultural opportunities and small town quality of life.

Recommendations

- Develop summer evening performing artist series using the Kiwanis Park Bandshell, Bancroft Park, or a rehabilitated Portia Club. Over time, the series could be moved indoors at other times of the year. Don't limit yourselves to music concerts only. Dance performance, comedians, educational presentations, and one act plays could all be incorporated. Weiser Little Theater and Onion Skin Players (Caldwell) could be approached about staging a production in Payette.
- *Establish Farmer's Market to create additional opportunities for local artists. (see "Downtown Revitalization" below).*
- *Create "art parents" program in schools to support and improve existing arts education. This program involves adults with personal or professional interest in arts serving as volunteer mentors in schools one day per week.*



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- *Create an after school or summer program wherein elementary age kids interested in music, writing, or other art form could be mentored by high school age artists.*

Resources

- Idaho Commission on the Arts, www.arts.idaho.gov, 208-334-2119. Inquire about community development programs and grant funding.
- Idaho Humanities Council, 208-345-5346, info@idahohumanities.org, <http://www.idahohumanities.org/about/index.php>
- *Missoula Children's Theater*, 406-728-1911, <http://www.mctinc.org/>, tour@mctinc.org.
- *Log Cabin Literary Center*, <http://thecabinidaho.org/wits.htm>, 208-331-8000, info@thecabinidaho.org. Inquire about Mentoring Young Writers in the Classroom" program)
- *Idaho Shakespeare Festival*, Contact Education Assistant, Kathy Haley, 208-429-9908, kathy@idahoshakespeare.org, <http://www.idahoshakespeare.org/community/community.html>. Inquire about Shakespearience and Idaho Theater for Youth programs.
- Boise City Arts Commission: www.cityofboise.org, contacts: Tamara Cameron for advice on incorporating arts into farmer's market, 208-433-5675; Karen Bubb for advice on public art, 208-433-5677.
- Idaho Community Foundation, Jennifer Wheeler, Program Officer, 208-342-3535 <http://www.idcomfdn.org/>, grants@idcomfdn.org.
- Americans for the Arts, www.americansforthearts.org, national service organization for the support of local arts development.
- Weiser Little Theater, 208-549-1994, P.O. Box 122, Weiser, 83672
- *Onion Skin Players*, contact: Michael Strong, P.O. Box 1440, Ontario, 97914



Issue 2: Build support for artists

As noted above, the Visiting Team met several artists and heard about others. A list we created in just 2 ½ days is attached as Appendix F. We have suggestions about how various community organizations and the City can help support Payette artists and build stronger connections among the artists and between artists and the rest of the community.

Recommendations

- Form a local arts council or commission. Such an entity would develop many of the Visiting Team's arts-related recommendations. The effort could be started by forming an arts committee within the Chamber of Commerce.
- Review and revise existing ordinance regarding cultural development/historic preservation department.

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- Create an artist's cooperative gallery that would lease retail space on Main Street. Participating artists would share the retail space. The cooperative could also publish and maintain a directory of local artists.

Resources

- Idaho Commission on the Arts, www.arts.idaho.gov, 208-334-2119. Inquire about community development programs and grant funding.
- Idaho Non Profit Development Center, Lynn Hoffmann, 208-424-2229, www.idahononprofits.org.
- Art Source Gallery (in Boise), 208-331-3374, mrptfisher@msn.com, <http://www.artsourcegallery.com/>.
- Several communities in SW Idaho have formed arts councils.

Issue 3: Capture your history

We hope the recommendations and resources below will give the people of Payette some ideas and sense of direction regarding the preservation and celebration of your unique history. All of them can help develop Payette's sense of community by providing a focus for volunteer efforts by people of different ages, ethnicities, etc. Some of these ideas require more funding than others and some of them have positive implications for economic development.

Recommendations

- Complete oral history project documenting the memories of long time residents. Provided adult guidance, this project could involve Payette youth who could serve as interviewers. Oral histories could be transcribed and published could also include creation of a community documentary film. The longer you wait, the more memories you will lose.
- Create interpretive signs that celebrate Payette's history. The signs should be of a consistent design and could educate visitors and residents about (1) significant, colorful people, (2) significant buildings that have been lost, and (3) sites of historically significant events.
- Create walking tour of historic Payette. The Visiting Team very much enjoyed the tour led by Don Belvoir and Ann Curtis. We recommend that a similar self led historic walking tour be created for both visitors and residents. The tour could also be led by museum volunteers in conjunction with community events and during Idaho Historic Preservation Week (annually in May).
- Have fun with Boomerang, the name for the community that later became Payette. It's unique and quirky. It lends itself to the "You may leave, but you always come back!" tagline.
- Create annual tent city to commemorate the location of the tent city that was once found along the river.

Resources

- Idaho Heritage Trust, Gaetha Pace, 208-549-1778, gaetha@mindspring.com. Inquire about conducting funding research.
- Idaho History Center, Kathy Hodges, Oral Historian, 208-334-3863, kathy.hodges@ishs.idaho.gov
- Center for Idaho History and Politics, 208-426-1255 <http://www.boisestate.edu/history/idaho/publicat1.html>
- National Trust for Historic Preservation, 202-588-6219, mainstreet@nthp.org <http://www.nationaltrust.org/community/resources.html> and <http://www.mainstreet.org/>,
- Mark Baltes, maker of historic signs, 208-336-7111
- Noel Weber, make of historic signs, 208-336-2769

Issue 4: Downtown revitalization

Increased attention to downtown revitalization provides an opportunity to encourage the reuse of existing historic buildings such as the old City Hall. It also opens up the possibility of honoring the memory of buildings and people who are no longer part of the downtown. From our conversations, we learned that many residents perceive that downtown is more healthy and active than it was 5-10 years ago but more progress is needed to make it a place that truly draws more people for retail shopping, services, eating, and recreation. We are aware a downtown revitalization plan was created for Payette in the mid 1980's. One of our recommendations is that this plan be revisited and updated. We encourage the City, urban renewal agency, and Chamber of Commerce to keep in mind that downtown revitalization is not just about renovating building facades and sidewalks. It is also about marketing downtown and recruiting new businesses.



Recommendations

- Create weekly Farmer's Market at Bancroft Park. A twist on the traditional farmer's market would be a home gardener's exchange where residents could gather to trade home grown produce. Either way, a market would draw folks downtown, help celebrate your agricultural heritage, and provide another venue to showcase local artists.
- Expanding the urban renewal area to include Main Street would help fund downtown improvements through tax increment financing. Such improvements could spur new private redevelopment downtown.
- Revisit Downtown Revitalization Plan completed in the 1980's to determine what, if any, ideas warrant reconsideration and renewed commitment. Update plan if urban renewal area is extended to include Main Street.

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- Implement marketing and education campaign to build community pride in supporting locally owned businesses. “Put Payette First” was a tagline we heard several people voice during the review. Here’s another take on the same idea” “Shop Payette First.”
 - Incorporate public art in parks, downtown, and community gateways. Public art can highlight unique local art forms and otherwise celebrate your sense of place.

Resources

- Idaho Department of Commerce, Rural Community Development Block Grant program, Pat Madarieta, 208-334-2650 ext 2144.
<http://community.idaho.gov/RCBG/tabid/369/Default.aspx>
- U.S. Economic Development Administration, 304 N. 8th Street, Rm. 146, Boise, Idaho 83702, Rick Tremblay, rtremblay@eda.doc.gov, 208-334-1521.
- Idaho Heritage Trust, Gaetha Pace, 208-549-1778, gaetha@mindspring.com. Inquire about conducting funding research.
- University of Idaho Urban Research and Design Center, Sherry McKibben, Director, 208-343-7851, sherrym@mckibbencooper.com.
- National Trust for Historic Preservation, 202-588-6219, mainstreet@nthp.org,
<http://www.nationaltrust.org/community/resources.html> and
<http://www.mainstreet.org/>.
- SAGE Community Resources, Pat Engel or Jenn Atkinson, 208-322.7033,
<http://www.sageidaho.com/index.htm>
- Congressman Mike Simpson; Megan Milan, Appropriations, 202-225-5531
megan.milan@mail.house.gov
- Idaho Department of Agriculture, Farmer’s Markets and Direct Marketing, Mandi Thompson, 208-332-8538, mthompson@agri.state.id.us. “How-To” resources, list of Idaho farmer’s markets, etc.,
<http://www.agri.state.id.us/Categories/Marketing/FMmarketing.php>
- Rural Roots, source of information about farmer’s markets, 208-883-3462, info@ruralroots.org <http://www.ruralroots.org/default.asp>,

Issue 5: Developing recreational and cultural facilities and programs

We have recommendations to offer regarding your recreational and cultural facilities. Upon touring Payette during the review, we learned that ideas for recreational improvements are in various stages of discussion. We’d like to offer a few more ideas, especially concerning performance facilities. Please also see the Seniors and Youth portion of this chapter for additional comments and ideas regarding recreational needs.

Recommendations

- Complete new soccer fields near Middle School as planned.
- Extend Greenway from the pond to Washoe Bridge/Kiwanis Park. Eventually, incorporate interpretive signing.
- Rehabilitate Portia Club as a community venue for performance arts, educational events, and private functions.
- Explore use of irrigation canal levee as walking path.
- Parks need electrical power, updated restrooms, and drinking fountains to encourage greater use for community events.
- Creating a competitive swim team would provide another recreational opportunity for kids who do not enjoy other team sports such as baseball, football, soccer, etc.
- Add education and art component to wastewater treatment plant. Interpretive signage, models, and hands-on activities increase understanding of wastewater treatment process and related issues.

Resources

- Idaho Foundation for Parks and Lands, 208-344-7141, ifpl@mindsprings.com, <http://www.idaholands.org/index.html>, 5657 Warm Springs Avenue, Boise Idaho 83716 (for protecting private lands and providing for public access).
- U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Deb Willis, Project Manager, 208-345-2065, debra.k.willis@usace.army.mil (for assistance and funding for greenway)
- Idaho Ranch, Farm and Forest Protection Act, <http://www.idahoworkinglands.com/>. *This is proposed legislation that would provide a tax credit to land owners who choose to conserve the value of their lands to fish, wildlife, and outdoor recreation. Info: Bas Hargrove, bhargrove@tnc.org, 208-350-2207*
- Idaho Transportation Department, Transportation Enhancements Grant Program (Gail Ewart, 208-334-8489) and Safe Routes to School program (Jo O'Connor, 208-334-4475, Jo.O'Connor@itd.idaho.gov)
- Idaho Department of Commerce, Rural Community Development Block Grant program, Pat Madarieta, 208-334-2650 ext 2144.



Infrastructure

Description of Focus Area

In Payette's community review application the city requested a review of both transportation and capital infrastructure. Regarding transportation the application said the city *"contemplates expansion and/or alternative routes to meet commuter traffic needs and local congestion."* Under capital infrastructure the city was concerned about *"the many costs of growth that may not be felt for a long time."* This included concerns about deferred maintenance and compliance with environmental regulations. On the tour arranged by the home team we visited water and sewage facilities, the airport and fire station and drove roads of concern. We also added some observations on how economic development and infrastructure are important to consider together as the city develops.

Community Comments and Concerns

- Education. We need distance learning facilities and services. Perhaps FMTC or Qwest can facilitate bringing such services directly into homes (a home schooler). The community also needs to rally around the schools – try to create enrichment opportunities for young people.
- Energy. We should explore citing alternative energy facilities to Payette County.
- Economic development. A vision for more light industry and small businesses in the community; residential growth will come, but government is responsible to pave the way for that.
- Stretching public safety services. Growth will bring added burdens to police and fire services.
- Community gateways. Good signage and landmarks are needed – both north and south of town.
- U.S. 95. Concern expressed for balancing the need for economic growth with congestion along US 95. There's a desire to have sidewalks along US 95. Intersection of 6th Ave. So and US 95 was named by several people as unsafe for pedestrians.

Visiting Team Observations

The infrastructure team was impressed with Payette's forward looking capital improvement planning efforts. The City has a clear sense of what is going to be needed in upcoming years. We also took note of the pride city employees take in fulfilling their particular area(s) of responsibility pertaining to infrastructure. However, we didn't see an equivalent level of planning regarding your city streets. We hope City finds the following specific observations, recommendations, and resources for the five issues below helpful.

Issue 1: City Water and Irrigation Systems

Payette has first class and well run separate water systems for both household water and irrigation. The devotion to quality systems and long-term loyalty of key staff to the City seem to be a real plus. Your service seems to be very good, with the only exception being the troublesome sulfur problems in a couple of wells that are now only used in reserve and impact a

portion of the city water users. Facilities are very neat, weed free and are state of the art for this size of town. The city government seems to be taking the appropriate steps to insure the long term viability of this system. Other specific observations about the water systems are as follows.

- The main storage facility consists of 250,000 gallon primary and 1 million gallon secondary storage. In addition, have additional 1 MG on hill SW of primary storage facility. Storage is interconnected and automated with scata controls.
- Average daily usage is 800,000 to one million GPD with 24-26 million gallons pumped per month. Source is seven wells ranging 125-200' in depth. Water quality from wells is generally good and requires very little treatment. Five wells are used full time. Two wells with high arsenic content are used as back up and can stay within drinking water standards with blending.
- The distribution system is in good condition overall. Rob Woyak, the Superintendent of the Water Department estimates they have approximately 15% transite pipe remaining in the distribution system with the balance being ductile iron, which has a longer life expectancy. They are replacing a portion of remaining transite each year.
- A large percentage of the City is served by a separate irrigation system, including new developments. This is very positive as demand for treated water is significantly reduced by use of untreated irrigation water.
- The City water system has adequate capacity at this time, with room for limited growth.
- Current hook up fees are \$2250 per lot (\$750 permit fee + \$1500 hookup fee). In addition, the City is charging \$500 per lot for new developments annexed into the City as a development fee. The City has budgeted funds to conduct a study to implement impact fees. In addition, the City has scheduled with USDA – Rural Development personnel to update its rate study for water and sewer.
- The superintendent reports they have been adding about thirty new residential connections per year in recent years. This rate may increase as the City has proposals for 800 residential lots in various stages of the application process.
- City water rates are currently very low, with a zero base rate of \$5.17 per month for residential customers.
- Current “development fee” structure is comparable to an impact fee and the City has no underlying study that would justify the current fee structure.



Recommendations

- The City understands the “push-back” they are getting from developers concerning the development fee. While it is currently modest, it still must be properly justified according to Idaho Code. The City is currently pursuing this justification through the existing budget studies and analyses and this process needs to be completed. In the context of a new city budget that includes significant spending reductions, we recommend that funding to maintain and improve the water system not be cut.
- Water rates are currently low compared to similar systems in other rural communities. Although low rates are popular, they do not allow the City to build reserves for future growth and maintenance needs. We recommend the City proceed with planned rate study update and consider increasing rates if the study indicates this is warranted.
- In conjunction with rate study the city might also update the value of the system and determine a more current hookup fee reflecting true cost of expanding system to accommodate growth.
- A large percentage of the City is served by a separate irrigation system, including new developments. This is very positive and the city should continue this practice as demand for treated water and its associated cost is significantly reduced by use of untreated irrigation water.
- Given the lengthy lead time required to develop new additions to major systems such as water, the City's engineer and Water System Manager should proceed with methodical planning and siting of the next million gallon reservoir positioned to serve the anticipated growth in water system demand.

Resources

USDA Rural Development, David Flesher, 208-459-0761 x 116 or Nick Partin, Loan Specialist at the USDA Service Center in Weiser, 208-549-4280.

- Community Development Block Grant (Idaho Dept of Commerce), Pat Madarieta, 208-334-2650 x 2144
- U.S. Economic Development Administration, 304 N. 8th Street, Rm 146, Boise, Idaho 83702, Rick Tremblay, rtremblay@eda.doc.gov, 208-334-1521.
- Idaho Municipal Bond Bank, Liza Carberry, 208-332-2997
- Idaho Department of Environmental Quality, Tim Wendland, 208-373-0439
- Idaho Rural Water Association, Kevin McCloud, 208-343-7001
- Contact with other Idaho cities that have instituted or are actively investigating the use of Impact Fees (e.g. Cities of Coeur d'Alene, Nampa, Sandpoint, Star, Mountain Home and numerous other cities)
- Region X Environmental Finance Center, Boise State University, 208-426-1567, 1910 University Drive Boise, ID 83725.

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- Rural Community Assistance Corporation, Jim Phillips, jphillips@rcac.org, 208-855-2310.
 - Association of Idaho Cities, 208-344-8594, 3100 S. Vista Ave. Suite 310, Boise, ID 83705.

Issue 2: Wastewater Treatment System

We toured the wastewater system and viewed a process that recycled the bio part of the system, released 'treated' water into the Payette River and produced solids that were dumped at the Payette Landfill. The superintendent of the wastewater treatment plant was awarded the State Operator of the Year award for 2006. This department is responsible for over 50 miles of sewer lines, 6"-24" in size, with 4 lift stations. Regular maintenance takes two years to cover the entire system. The wastewater treatment facility has a back up generator for auxiliary power but it only runs two aerators instead of six. The south end of town is gravity flow to the wastewater treatment facility while the north end wastewater has to be sent with the aid of lift stations. Employees in this department must all be certified. The facility is very neat and orderly. It is obvious that the employees take pride in their work areas.

With the anticipated growth and the changes anticipated to keep the City in compliance with its discharge permits, the wastewater treatment plant will also require an additional digester ditch. A minor problem with anaerobic odors in west of one of the new subdivisions on the northeast quadrant is understood and will be solved in due course as additional gravity flow lines are added to intercept with the existing pressure line to move effluent more efficiently through that portion of the collector system.

Recommendations

- The treatment plant is currently operating on an expired permit. EPA has not yet determined conditions of a new permit. It is possible that it will require some phosphate testing or removal or both. This could put an added burden on the city's system and its residents. Minimally the city will need to add one additional clarifier at the treatment plant. Property remains at the site for some expansion.
- As sewer rates are increased (two increases over the past 12 months), the City should not ignore the need to negotiate a new agreement with one of the largest users, Seneca. Perhaps timing should follow the assessment of the impact of the new NPDES permit requirement that will follow the renewed negotiation with the IDEQ / EPA for that discharge permit renewal.



-
- Sewer rates are quite low compared to similar systems in other rural communities in the area. In connection with the pending rate study, we recommend the City consider raising rates to provide for reserves, to fund pending upgrades and to determine if current hook up fees are adequate.
 - It is important that the city stay on top of sewer and waste water disposal as this can stop growth and or slow economic development when a community is not in compliance.

Resources

- USDA – Rural Development, David Flesher, 208-459-0761, x116 or Nick Partin, Loan Specialist at the USDA Service Center in Weiser, 208-549-4280.
- Community Development Block Grant, Idaho Dept of Commerce, Pat Madarieta, 208-334-2650, x2144
- U.S. Economic Development Administration, 304 N. 8th Street, Rm 146, Boise, Idaho 83702, Rick Tremblay, rtremblay@eda.doc.gov, 208-334-1521.
- Idaho Municipal Bond Bank, Liza Carberry, 208-332-2997
- Idaho Department of Environmental Quality, Tim Wendland, 208-373-0439
- Idaho Rural Water Association, Virgil Leedy, 208-343-7001.
- Region X Environmental Finance Center, Boise State University, 208-426-1567, 1910 University Drive Boise, ID 83725.
- Rural Community Assistance Corporation Jim Phillips, jphillips@rcac.org, 208-855-2310.
- Association of Idaho Cities, 208-344-8594, 3100 S. Vista Ave. Suite 310, Boise, ID 83705.

Issue 3: Transportation

City Council members report that the condition of their city streets is the most common complaint from the public. The City may not be budgeting adequate funds to their street maintenance department to provide the desired level of maintenance. This is a common problem in many cities in Idaho. The City has a new street superintendent who is becoming familiar with the street issues in the community. There are several planned street improvement projects in the works. The 7th Avenue North curb, gutter, sidewalk and storm drain project has been started and should be completed by next year up to 18th Avenue. The light at 7th Ave. North has been well accepted and has helped with traffic flow. Iowa Ave. is slated for an upgrade with curb, gutter and sidewalks in 2009. The Twin Bridges rebuild is scheduled for 2009.

With regard to major arterials, the community is concerned about the high accident rates at the Twin Bridges and at the highway 95/highway 52 intersection. Pedestrian traffic at intersections on highway 95, especially at 6th Ave is a concern. When school is in session, high school students use this

crossing heavily. The intersection is marked with a cross walk, but there is a concern that highway traffic does not slow down enough and vehicle/pedestrian accidents could occur. Finally, we heard concern about congestion at highway 95 and Center Avenue. With residential growth to the east, this problem will likely worsen.

Transportation challenges the City must address include establishing a pavement management system that can be adhered to, maintaining US 95 as an arterial by encouraging business to locate downtown, rehabilitating substandard sidewalks where they exist and adding new ones where needed.

Recommendations

- The city should work closely with ITD to insure the successful completion of the US 95 twin bridges that cross the Payette before entering the city proper. The completion of the bridge will solve several safety issues evident on the tour of transportation facilities. We understand the importance of this project to the City (and County) and offer the following additional information and observations.
 - The project will replace the two bridges with a new 5-lane bridge. It is scheduled for construction in FY 2009 and the environmental and design work are complete on the project. The project title is KN 02842, Payette River Bridge, South of Payette
 - The solution proposed by the Idaho Transportation Department would address the turning and merging motions from Killebrew on the north and from access points on the north and south bound portions of 95 just south of the bridge. Other improvements will include the elimination of the cross-over at Killebrew that is so dangerous.
 - A deceleration lane will be added at Killebrew that will improve northbound traffic patterns that sometimes contribute to crashes. Sight distance will be improved for traffic at the Killebrew intersection by reorienting the bridge. The grade at Killebrew will also be raised significantly to add to the improved sight distance afforded those approaching US 95 from the east.
 - Finally, the State plans to offer property just east of the new bridge that will be unneeded following construction, to provide a new parking and put-in/pull-out point for floaters on the Payette River.
 - This last proposal must be coordinated with County funding (estimated to be \$75,000) to alter the bridge abutment on the north side of the river to enable a hike and bike path under the river to access the proposed greenway planned for that portion of the north bank between the bridge and other City of Payette parks and greenway facilities further down stream. There is a commitment in place to pay for half of the estimated cost to install the pathway at the base of the bridge abutment, but the County has not made its payment to the ITD for its half of the construction. This has put the design work on hold until the County demonstrates its commitment to this project. It is speculated that the County may be delaying its participation in this project pending the arrangement to turn over a portion of the ITD right of

way to the County on the east side of the bridge to offer a new river friendly access point.

- At the high school pedestrian crossing safety concern on US 95 the city should consider use of one or more of the following options and evaluate effectiveness: school zone speed limits, pedestrian crossing flags, caution signs and/or flashing yellow lights, and pedestrian activated crossing light. Creating a “safe routes to school” plan that addresses the concerns the community has regarding crossings (east to west) on US 95 may be worth pursuing with the aide of ITD’s new Safe Routes to Schools funding (100%) to support a planning effort.



- Develop Pavement Management and bike/pedestrian plan & budget for adequate yearly maintenance
- Property tax increases need to be considered. The City chose to defer tax increases for several years in favor of spending down a fund balance. This has now been depleted and has also led to deferred maintenance on some city streets, including 9th Street So. The Comprehensive Plan also identifies other key streets that have suffered from this practice.
- The City should develop a Capital Improvements Plan that includes regularly scheduled maintenance on city streets and plans for the maintenance and improvement of other key City assets. (*the Comp Plan and the current Municipal Transportation Plan actually address this priority, but do not provide a policy for creating the capital sinking funds for this practice*).

Resources

- Local Highway Technical Assistance Council. For assistance in developing a pavement management system, and other sources of funds for local projects, contact Lance Holmstrom at 208-344-0565 or lholmstrom@lhtac.org
- “Main Street: When a Highway Runs Through It”. Excellent book published in 1999 by the Oregon Department of Transportation to educate communities about pedestrian safety and community design associated with highways within city limits.
<http://www.contextsensitivesolutions.org/content/reading/main-street/resources/main-street-when-a-highway/>
- Idaho Transportation Department:
 - Funding resources for bicycle and pedestrian projects, Mark McNeese, 208-334-8272 or mark.mcneese@itd.idaho.gov.
 - Project Design Manager for KN 02842, Payette River Bridge, South of Payette is Monica Crider, 208-332-7177 or monica.crider@itd.idaho.gov
 - For inquiries about traffic signals and other traffic signs on US 95 contact Kevin Sablan, traffic engineer, at 208-334-8340 or

kevin.sablan@itd.idaho.gov. For Safe Routes to School contact Jo O'Connor at 208-334-4475 or jo.o'conner@itd.idaho.gov.

Issue 4: Fire Station

Currently, the fire department staffing consists of the chief, one other full time employee, and 28 volunteers. Equipment is modern and maintained in excellent condition. The Chief reports that they have adequate equipment for the needs of the department. The current fire station was built in 1947 and the department has totally outgrown this facility.

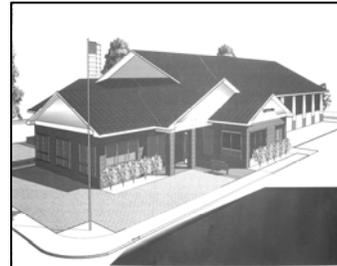


Although the department obviously uses the available space to the best possible advantage, the facility is crowded to the point that safety could be a concern on fire turnouts. The city is considering a new facility and a preliminary design has been drawn and is also considering the site location on City owned property on N. 7th street and Hwy 95.

Funding the new station is a challenge, although from our read of the community survey results and conversations with residents, we can see that the fire department and the service it provides are viewed favorably. Our sense is that the community would likely vote to pass a bond provided effective communication to voters. The fire rating for Payette is now 4 and a new ladder truck is required to achieve a level 3 rating. Clearly this will be needed in the future, but it is difficult to anticipate when it might be warranted.

Recommendations

- We highly recommend the City proceed with plans for a new fire station. It appears the 7th Street/US 95 location would be a good choice, as it would provide good response times and also a new fire station in this location would provide a good image for the City. If this location is chosen it should be coordinated with ITD's Traffic Engineer Kevin Sablan. If it has not already been done, we suggest producing an inexpensive video about the need to replace the fire station, perhaps using supervised high school students.
- Consider using a trigger to determine when a ladder truck can be purchased. The trigger would likely involve comparing the anticipated saving in fire insurance costs with the expense of the truck. The City should set a level at which the savings will enable the City to either break-even or nearly break-even on the proposition.



Resources

- USDA Rural Development, David Flesher, 208-459-0761, x116 or Nick Partin, Loan Specialist at the USDA Service Center in Weiser, 208-549-4280.
- Community Development Block Grant (Idaho Department of Commerce), Pat Madarieta, 208-334-2650, x2144.
- Kevin Sablan, Traffic Engineer, ITD at 208-334-8340 can assist with traffic studies regarding the concerns for US 95 interface with the new fire station.

Issue 5 Other Infrastructure

Other infrastructure related observations or points to consider include:

- Regarding growth, the primary concern seemed to be new residential rather than commercial or industrial. Two railroads service the Payette City area. However, there didn't seem to be much interest in the rail service. The major shipper is Seneca. There are several seasonal shippers shipping agricultural commodities.
- The airport is modest in scope and services, although it is located strategically near the growing northeast quadrant of the community. This presents both a challenge and an opportunity. On the one hand the City understands that it will require a zoning overlay for this portion of the city for the airport to continue to operate at this location (dealing with an airport easement). On the other hand there appears to be substantial interest in the airport as a location for new airport residential development that would provide access for up to 75 new airport accessible dwelling units. This market would appear to be dominated by financially well-off retired families which could bring disposable income to the community's retail markets as well as limit the demand on public services. The airport is not eligible for FAA assistance due to the proximity of other general aviation airports, so the City may need to raise the funds necessary to increase the length of the runway without federal grants. The City thinks that this can be overcome in part by charging tie-down fees at the airport and access fees to the homeowners in the airport subdivision. This will only work if the marketing program of the developer is successful.
- The City's old urban core has suffered due to retail competition from Oregon based businesses that benefit from the competitive advantage of the absence of sales tax. The downtown remains an area where a significant amount of public investment is already in place (streets, water and sewer services, as well as other commercial providers of goods and services). This investment should be protected by a proactive effort by the City to attract needed retail and services to the community that is not sales tax sensitive. This strategy could pay dividends as the commercial core is renewed and property values rise, thus enhancing the tax base and economic opportunity for citizens. The most common method to follow is the "Mainstreet USA" model for downtown revitalization. See the

portion of this report on Arts, Historic, and Recreation Resources for additional information.

- Local housing demand is said to remain strong in the face of a general downturn in the housing market. The explanation of the demand comes from retirees and families trading-up and/or seeking to leave more urban areas in favor of small town character and values. Most of these home buyers are anticipated to be newcomers to the community, thus increasing the prospect for growth. This may ultimately put pressure on the affordable portion of the City's housing stock and they may want to work with the Idaho Housing and Finance Association to develop a housing infill and housing rehabilitation program to preserve affordable units in this market.
- The City has no hospital services and must rely on services from nearby Ontario, Oregon and Weiser, Idaho. There may be a market on the west end of the Treasure Valley for an expansion of one of the legacy hospitals in Boise (St. Lukes or St. Alphonsus). The City should explore the opportunity to host such a development. It may also become an asset that attracts aging baby boomers seeking retirement living opportunities.

Misc. Resources Related to Infrastructure

The following resources may be applicable to not only infrastructure but also other recommendations contained in this report:

- Idaho Rural Economic Development and Integrated Freight Transportation Program provides low interest loans to shippers to help pay for rail sidings, intermodal facilities that could be used by businesses attracted to Payette because of its rail capacity. Its goal is to assist businesses and industries to develop and expand options for shipping freight and products to market. For more information go to: <http://www.agri.idaho.gov/Documents/REDIFITLoanApplication.pdf> or contact Laura Johnson, Idaho Department of Agriculture at 208-332-8533 or LJOHNSON@agri.idaho.gov.
- For additional guidance on Idaho airports contact Bill Statham, Planner for the ITD Aeronautics Division at 208-334-8784 or bill.statham@itd.idaho.gov.
- Senator Craig's office: Appropriations/Grants: Chelsey Penrod, 202-224-2752, chelsey_penrod@craig.senate.gov.
- Representative Simpson's office: Appropriations: Megan Milan, 202-225-5531, megan.milan@mail.house.gov.
- Governor Otter's office: Constituent Services Manager: Bonnie Butler, 208-334-2100, bbutler@gov.idaho.gov.

Part IV Summary, Strategies, and Next Steps

Several factors point to continued and very likely increased growth in Payette's foreseeable future. Your proximity to a growing metropolitan area is chief among these factors. Individuals and families will seek out your lower cost of housing, more elbow room, and small town character as the Treasure Valley continues to grow and experience higher real estate prices and other issues typically associated with more urban areas.



To its credit, the City of Payette took an impressive step toward improving its long-term health and prosperity in the context of this expected growth when you requested a Community Review in early 2007. Your next steps are crucial and will require community-based planning that engages the all segments of your population.

Summary

The challenges you are beginning to experience will continue as you grow. Without planning and leadership they will likely intensify and threaten Payette's quality of life and fiscal well being. The challenges that stick out in the minds of the Visiting Team are summarized as follows.

- Keeping Your Small Town Character as You Grow. Stating this challenge in the form of a question might look like this: As new people move into the community, how do we keep Payette a place where people know, trust, care about, and help one another? We suggest that one way to do this is to make sure new residents understand how important this is to the community and are made to feel appreciated and welcome to contribute to this aspect of living in Payette.
- Significant Infrastructure Needs on the Horizon. These improvements begin with the need for a new fire station, but also include improvements to your streets, parks, and sewer and water systems.
- City's Use of Cash Reserves to Cover Revenue Shortfalls Not Sustainable. While it worked at one time, continuing to use this cash reserve to cover revenue shortfalls is not financially sustainable, particularly in light of added infrastructure costs that will be necessitated by future growth.
- New and Anticipated Development Predominantly Residential. The challenge here is that the increased tax base produced by residential development alone does not cover the infrastructure costs associated with it. Communities striving to achieve fiscal sustainability aspire to a

balance between commercial and residential development. The Visiting Team saw and heard about some commercial development occurring within the County, but not within the city limits.

- Build Consensus about a Vision for Downtown. The more that new commercial or mixed use development can occur where services like streets, sewer, and water, the more the community will benefit from the increased tax based produced by such development (or redevelopment). Downtown is an example of such an area. The challenge for the community is that we didn't hear a clear consensus regarding a vision for downtown and the recently established urban renewal area does not include the downtown area. We did talk to several people who would like to see the downtown revitalized but remain skeptical that it's possible.
- Proximity to a State Without Sales Tax. Clearly, a large number of Payette residents shop at retail stores in Ontario because Oregon does not have a sales tax. The retailers can justify building large stores in Ontario under the assumption that this will continue indefinitely. At what point does spending \$3 in gas to drive to Ontario to buy a \$3 package of light bulbs not make sense? At that point, you've essentially paid \$6 for the light bulbs. Reframing the situation so that Payette residents know the true costs of shopping in Ontario (costs to both them and to the community) may be helpful. Another strategy might involve turning a liability into an asset. That is, use your proximity to a state without sales tax as a way to market Payette to residents and employers you want to attract.

Strategies

Below is a brief overview of strategies that can help Payette plan for and respond to the challenges above. More detailed information and resources are described by Part III beginning on page 27.

- Plan for Sustainability. If done successfully, planning for sustainability means that the youth of today's Payette will have the opportunity to enjoy the same quality of life when they are adults and have families of their own. They will enjoy the same high environmental quality, equivalent job, housing, cultural, and recreational opportunities, and the same small town character that is valued so highly today. A related key strategy is to continue investing in planning NOW. Long range land use and capital improvement planning will become much more difficult if or when the growth of Payette increases significantly in the next few years (as is entirely possible). Just ask Kuna and other communities who found themselves unprepared for growth.
- Define Your Values or Risk Having Them Defined for You. The Visiting Team was struck by how clearly residents are able to express what makes Payette a great place to live. Everyone had an opinion or story to share when asked "What does small town character mean to you?" This clarity is

an important asset because the more clearly residents of a community can describe what's important to them, the more likely it is these qualities will be recognized and protected by community leaders. If you leave the protection of these qualities to chance, you run the risk of having outside developers and others articulate what they think is best for the community.

- Improve Payette for the People Who Live There NOW. When you think about and prioritize action steps, place emphasis on those actions that will improve the quality of life for the people who live in Payette today. The less desirable alternative would be to base your decisions on the needs and preferences of people you wish to attract in the future. Be confident in Payette's desirability as a place to live. Improve your community in ways that reflect the values of your current residents and you will attract new residents who also appreciate those values.

- Public Involvement and Communication.

Cities and counties across Idaho sometimes grow frustrated and weary of the way they are treated by state and federal agencies with regulatory authority. Rules and regulations are changed without your input, leaving you to deal with new and often unfunded mandates as best you can.



Wouldn't you rather be given an opportunity to voice your ideas and know they will be taken seriously before the rules and regulations are changed? Your citizens want the same thing. If you are an elected or appointed official, treat your citizens the way you want the City treated by regulatory agencies. Provide them with opportunities for input when changes to city policies that affect them are being contemplated. Really listen to them. If you're not sure why residents hold a certain opinion or belief, ask them clarifying questions so that you understand them.

We found that a lot of Payette residents want to participate in efforts to improve the community. Take advantage of this fact. Ask them for help. Don't just involve the same cast of characters. If you want them to feel valued and if you want Payette to enjoy a strong sense of community, encourage leadership development in your youth and newer residents.

- Create opportunities for interaction and trust-building between community residents who heretofore didn't know one another. Activities and events that transcend ethnic and other differences are one example. Often this can be done through youth because everyone cares in Payette cares deeply about youth.

A community that intentionally builds trust is a resilient community.

What Next?

- Prioritize, act, evaluate, and re-focus if necessary. The Idaho Community Review Program does not expect Payette to follow through on every idea and suggestion all at once. To attempt to do so would be impossible. We suggest calling together the Home Team to go over this report together. Have the three focus areas read through their respective sections. The three focus area teams could then take turns presenting their recommendations as to next steps. This quick review process would lead to an immediate sense of direction and priority. Prioritize, act, evaluate and re-group if necessary. Make sure your objectives are timely, doable within your resources, and measurable. Remember that small, relatively easy successes lead to more success. Before committing to a course of action or when comparing one initiative to another, we recommend you consider the following questions:



- Have we done adequate planning for this initiative?
 - How does this initiative fit into the big, long-term picture of where we want to go?
 - How much will it cost? Can we afford it or otherwise obtain funding?
 - What role can volunteers play? Where/how will we get volunteers?
 - Who (e.g. an existing or needed community organization or government agency is responsible for the success of the initiative? Do they need anything before they are willing to take responsibility for this success?
 - How long will it take to see the initiative through to completion?
 - How quickly will we see the direct and indirect benefits?
 - Who will benefit most? Who will see limited benefit?
 - Does something else have to happen before we can complete the initiative?
 - Do we have to complete the initiative before we can do something else?
 - Are there external time frames we need to fit into (such as grant cycles)?
- Continue Building Relationships and Partnerships. This community review has introduced you to individuals who can help you fund capital improvements, services, and cultural opportunities. Even if you knew these people before the Review, you no doubt understand them and their agency better. Use this new information wisely. Stay in touch with them. Make sure they know what you need and what you're working toward. Not only can they help you with funding from their own agency or organization, they may also think of you when funding from a different

source comes across their desk. Maybe we've all heard the clichéd because there might be some truth to it – 90% of life is about showing up.

- Adopt Your Comprehensive Plan Land Use Map. While we realize that land use planning was not one of the focus areas selected by Payette for this Review, we were made aware that the new Comprehensive Plan has been adopted but the land use map has not. As a matter of priority, we recommend you resolve whatever issues stand in the way of adopting the land use map and adopt it. This is important because it must precede any changes to your zoning map and ordinance that may be necessary to implement the Comprehensive Plan. You are on less than solid legal ground if you present the land use map to developers and others as “official” when it has not been adopted by the City Council. If these aren't reasons enough, the Local Land Use Planning Act requires a land use map to be part of the comprehensive plan (reference: Idaho Code 67-6508).
- Prepare for new fire station bond election (or identify alternative funding). If the need is articulated appropriately, we left the community with a high degree of confidence that Payette residents would support a bond measure to fund construction of a new fire station. We also left with a finding that this is your most significant capital improvement need at this time. Contact the Association of Idaho Cities to obtain a list of other Idaho communities that have passed similar measures in recent years. Seek their advice, get maximum clarity about what you need the voters to support and why, and put the process into motion.

Getting and Staying on Track

This report and other plans that could result from it are great tools. Once the “real” work begins, however, they can sometimes be relegated to some out of the way shelf to collect dust. Don't let this happen. Use plans as roadmaps. Refer to them when ever you're having difficulty choosing between two alternatives, whenever you sense an effort is starting to get off track, or if you're asking yourself “now why are we doing this again?” Perhaps this is the most important function of a plan – to establish the goal, the purpose, a particular course of action is meant to achieve. A clearly stated goal or purpose shaped by a diversity of viewpoints will more often than not lead to the most appropriate, positive outcome. Continually compare your initiative(s) against your goals and objectives using the following criteria:

-
- Are we still working toward our goals and objectives?
 - If not, do we need to refocus our energies or do we need to reconsider our goals?
 - Are we using resources toward projects that don't lead us toward our goals and objectives?
 - If so, how can we change that?
 - Which objectives have we met?
 - Is meeting our objectives getting us closer to our goals?
 - Which objectives have we not met? Why?
 - Do we need new or additional objectives to meet our goals?

We live you with this final insight. Whenever you feel overwhelmed or in need of support, gain inspiration from the video shown on July 12 in the Payette council chambers about the elderly woman who recycled aluminum cans to raise funds for her community's swimming pool.

Appendices

Appendix A

Visiting Team Biographies

Coordinating Team

Brian Dale

Operations Specialist

U.S. Dept of Housing & Urban Dev.

800 Park Blvd Plaza IV, Ste 220

Boise, ID 83712

Brian.W.Dale@hud.gov

208-334-1088 x 3005



Brian has been involved with the Idaho Community Review process since its inception, participating in 11 reviews. He was a Co-Team Leader for the Rexburg, Ashton and Malad reviews. With HUD's Office of Field Policy Management for nearly nine years, Brian has worked extensively with communities and organizations throughout Idaho. Previously, as Executive Director of the Utah Statewide Independent Living Council, he worked with many disability related councils, advisory committees and coalitions. A certified community developer (CCD), Brian has a B.A. from Westminster College (in Missouri) and attended Community Builder training at the John F. Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University.

Dale Dixon

Executive Director

Idaho Rural Partnership

821 W. State St.

Boise, ID 83702

Dale.Dixon@irp.idaho.gov

208-334-3131

Cell: 208-272-0596



Dale is an Idaho native and lives with his wife and two children in Nampa. He was named Executive Director of Idaho Rural Partnership in January, 2005. The organization operates under a Federal Statute and Governor's Executive Order with a mission to join diverse public and private resources in innovative collaborations to strengthen communities and improve life in rural Idaho. Dale has 16-years of broadcast news and media communication experience working in radio and for CBS, ABC, & NBC-TV affiliates. Dale has traveled extensively covering a variety of stories ranging from humanitarian efforts in Romania to refueling B1 Bombers over Canada en-route to Bosnia. Dale is an Associated Press and Idaho Press Club award winner and was named an Idaho Business Review 2004 Accomplished Under 40 recipient. Dale serves in the following organizations:

- Leadership Idaho Agriculture Foundation board of directors
- Partners for Rural America, Chair
- University of Idaho, College of Agriculture & Life Sciences, Dean's

Advisory Board

- Idaho Partners for Home Buyer Education, Inc. board of directors
- Idaho Bureau of Land Management, Boise District Resource Advisory Council
- Northwest Nazarene University President's Advisory Committee
- Idaho Community Review steering committee chair

Jon Barrett

Owner, Clearstory Studios
2412 W. Bannock
Boise, ID 83702
clearstorystudios@cablone.net
208-343-1919
Cell: 208-383-9687



Jon created Clearstory Studios in 2007 to provide community planning, design, and facilitation services to Idaho communities. He has been professionally involved in all aspects of planning for 17 years as a city planner, consultant, and citizen advocate. From 1997-2006 he was the Co-Executive Director of Idaho Smart Growth. In 2004 he was named *Idaho Planner of the Year* by the Idaho Planning Association. He graduated from Washington State University in 1986 with a degree in Landscape Architecture.

Seniors and Youth

Janet Weaver

Senior Transportation Planner
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janet.weaver@itdmidaho.gov
208-334-8828



As a senior transportation planner, Janet Weaver devotes most of her professional career to working with local communities and elected officials throughout the state for the Department's Division of Public Transportation. She helps rural communities provide local transit services and remain connected despite Idaho's challenging geography. Committed to extending the reach of public transportation, Weaver works through a variety of forums to reach new audiences such as: the Idaho Rural Partnership, Idaho Department of Commerce and Labor's Rural Partnership Forums, the Governor's Conference on Economic Development and Tourism, and Congressman Mike Simpson's Funder's fairs.

Ashley Bahr

Liberty High School Graduate
Bahrcode Photography
(www.bahrcodephotography.com)
2512 Hillcrest Way
Nampa, ID 83686
ashley.bahr@maryvillecollege.edu
208-461-1820
Cell: 208-249-5249



My family moved to Idaho when I was 8 years old. I went to a private elementary school until 9th grade and Liberty Charter for all 4 years of high school. Hard work, perseverance, and a love of learning paid off. I graduated June 1, 2007, holding the titles of Valedictorian and National Honor Society President. My life is all about education. After careful consideration of my skills and passions, I have finally chosen my career path. This fall, I will be attending Maryville College in Tennessee for a double-major in American Sign Language Interpreting and Deaf Studies. After I graduate, I hope to attend Gallaudet University for a master's in early Childhood Education for the Deaf so I can fight against illiteracy in the Deaf community, one child at a time.

Lori Brelia

Director
SW Idaho Area Agency on Aging
125 East 50th Street
Garden City, ID 83714
lbrelia@sageidaho.com
208-322-7033, ext 250
Cell: 208-870-7496



Lori is a licensed social worker with a BA in Social Work and a minor in Gerontology. For the last 11 years I have worked for the Southwest Idaho Area Agency on Aging a division of Sage Community Resources. I have worked as an Ombudsman, Adult Protection Investigator, Case Management Supervisor, and am serving as the Director of the Area Agency. Working with and advocating for seniors is my passion and I find the work very rewarding.

Gene Gunderson

Director
SW District Health Department
920 Main Street
Caldwell, ID 83605
gene.gunderson@phd3.idaho.gov
208-455-5315



A retired U.S. Air Force Medical Service Corps officer, Gene is the Director of Southwest District Health; a position he has held since December 1995. Southwest District Health is a public, non-state agency that provides public health services to residents of Adams, Canyon, Gem, Owyhee, Payette, and Washington Counties. He retired from the Air Force in 1982; was employed for a short period by the University

of Minnesota Hospital System before accepting the position of Associate Director and Administrator of Mountain States Tumor Institute in Boise where he served for 11 years. From 1993 to late 1995, Gene was the private practice manager for a group of medical oncologists, in addition to managing a large regional cancer center, in Jacksonville, Florida. Having developed a love for Idaho's environment, he returned and has made Idaho his permanent residence.

Vince Moreno

State Assistant-Natural Resources
Office of Congressman Sali
802 W. Bannock, Suite 101
Boise, ID 83702
vince.moreno@mail.house.gov
208-336-9831
Cell: 208-608-3855



Originally from Vale, Oregon, I graduated from Oregon State University in 2003 with a Bachelor of Science degree emphasizing in Natural Resource Conservation. Upon graduation I worked for the Vale District BLM as a range and fuels technician for a couple of seasons. During my time in college I worked with at risk youth through the Oregon leadership institute program as a mentor/leader. Before coming to work for Congressman Sali I was employed by the Idaho Youth Ranch Hays shelter as a youth specialist working with runaway youth and youth under the care of Health and Welfare. I still spend one or two evenings a week at the shelter working with the youth.

Emily Bowers

Summer Intern
Office of Congressman Sali
emy.anna@gmail.com
208-642-9582



Emily Bowers is a high school student living in Payette, finishing her twelfth year as a home-schooler. She has lived in Payette her entire life and has been involved in the community in many ways, from campaigning for current Congressman Bill Sali, to taking Greek and Latin classes at the up-and-coming local Bible college, to leading a local youth civic involvement and leadership club. She enjoys being involved in government and politics, reading and writing, school, and teaching. Over the summer of 2007, she interned at the office of Congressman Bill Sali, while finishing her third year in Greek. She is currently finishing her senior year of high school, and teaching Latin classes in the Payette area.

Arts, Historic, and Recreation Resources

Gaetha Pace (Team Lead)

Executive Director

The Idaho Heritage Trust
46 West Main
Weiser, ID 83672
gaetha@mindspring.com
208-549-1778



Gaetha Pace has been the Director of the Idaho Heritage Trust for fourteen years. Prior to that she was Director of the Idaho Commission on the Arts. She served as Special Assistant and Deputy Press Secretary to Governor John Evans. She has also served as Director of Ada County Employment and Training, Director of Idaho Volunteers in Corrections and as a reporter. Her passions are family, friends, poetry, contemporary literature and a fine meal now and then.

Sharon Fisher

Principal Consultant

Gem State Community Development LLC
450 E. Deer Flat Road
Kuna, ID 83634
slfisher@gmail.com
208-922-4248



Sharon Fisher is due to receive her Masters in Public Administration, as well as graduate certificates in Community and Regional Planning and in Geographic Information Analysis, from Boise State in December 2008. She is a Graduate Assistant in the Public Policy Center at Boise State and is currently working for the U.S. Forest Service Boise Aquatics Lab in Technology Transfer. She has also completed the three-year Northwest Community Development Institute program. She is the author of the Kuna chapter in the forthcoming book, 100 Idaho Cities, to be published by the Association for Idaho Cities. Her writing has also appeared in Boise Journal, 2C, newwest.net/StateOfTechnology, and numerous computer magazines. She is a member of the Pi Alpha Alpha honor society for MPA students, and holds an undergraduate degree in Computer Science from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute. She makes her home in Kuna among chickens, ducks, rabbits, and cats.

Jeff Baker

Vice President

St. Maries Council of the Arts
4732 S. Arrow Point Dr. #B303
Harrison, ID 83833
jpbaker@abcinet.net
208-676-1042
Cell: 208-640-1425



Creativity in art, culture, and economic activity of rural Idaho fascinates Jeff Baker. He is currently a facilitator of the recently awarded Uniquely Idaho grant for the St. Maries and Lake Coeur d'Alene area. The purpose of the grant is to identify ways to

stimulate cultural/historic/agricultural tourism in Idaho. Jeff graduated from the University of California, Berkeley, in 1965 with a degree in marketing. His entrepreneurial experience includes starting a landscaping company in California and a wild rice agribusiness in northern Idaho. A career in aviation began as an Air Force pilot flying combat in Vietnam and ended with his retirement in 2003 as a Delta Air Lines B757/767 Captain. He now enjoys artistic expression in the form of abstract welded metal sculpture.

Will Hart

Regional Director
Senator Craig's Office
225 N. 9th Street Ste 530
Boise, ID 83702
will_hart@craig.senate.gov
208-342-7985



Will Hart is the Regional Director for southwest Idaho. Hart most recently served as the Communications Director for the U.S. Senate Environment and Public Works Committee. However, his history with Senator Craig stems back to the summer of 1993, when he was an intern in Craig's D.C. office. Later he served as a Field Representative for Craig for Senate in 1996, as his Press Secretary from 1998-2000, and as his National Communications Manager from 2002-2004. Hart also served as Communications Director for Congressman C.L. "Butch" Otter during Otter's first term. While he was raised in Alaska and Bellevue, Washington, Hart returned to his Idaho roots to attend the University of Idaho, where he earned a B.A. in History. He then worked as a Sales Representative in Idaho for Walls Clothing and as the Campaign Manager for Ron Crane for State Treasurer.

Julie Numbers-Smith

Arts Practitioner, Consultant
Arts Alchemy
1624 Holden Lane
Boise, ID 83706
jnumberssmith@gmail.com
208-869-8170



A native of Boise, Idaho, Ms. Smith is the principal of Arts Alchemy: consulting and creativity offering organizational and leadership development services through group facilitation, team building, visioning and planning. She brings over 25 years of experience to her services, from working as a theater artist to 3 years as managing director of a nonprofit theater to 10 years in community arts development at a state arts agency to 8 years as executive director of a city arts agency. Returning to Idaho in 1986, she served as managing director for Idaho Theatre for Youth for three years and became the Director of Community Development for Idaho Commission on the Arts in 1989 and served until 1999. From 1999 to 2007, she was the Executive Director for Boise City Arts Commission.

Cheyne Weston

Park Planner

City of Boise Parks and Recreation
1104 Royal Boulevard
Boise, ID 83706
cweston@cityofboise.org
208-384-4060, ext. 309



Cheyne has been working Park Planner for the City of Boise since 1998. In this position he is responsible for conceptual park planning, permitting, impact fee administration, grant writing, and public affairs. From 1990-1998 he worked for Canyon County as a zoning officer and planner. He maintains membership in several professional organizations and has a undergraduate degree in geography from the University of Oregon and a Master's degree in Public Administration from Boise State University.

Infrastructure

Patti Raino (Team Leader)

Intermodal Planning Manager

Idaho Transportation Department
P.O. Box 7129
Boise, ID 83707
pat.raino@itd.idaho.gov
208-334-8209
Cell: 208-830-0317



Patti Raino is the Intermodal Planning Manager at the Idaho Transportation Department. Most recently she managed the Department's update of their long range and strategic plans. Intermodal planning works closely with Idaho's five metropolitan planning organizations, produces the Statewide Transportation Improvement Program, manages special funding programs such as Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement, Transportation Enhancement, and Scenic Byways, as well as functional road classification and planning activities associated with rail, freight, bicycle and pedestrian transportation. She has been with the Department since 1980 and previously worked in highway safety and highway programming.

Stewart Brent

Area Director

USDA - Rural Development
2208 E. Chicago, Ste. C
Caldwell, ID 83605
Stewart.Brent@id.usda.gov
208-459-0761 x 113



Bio. not available. Stewart retired from the USDA after the Payette Community Review. As of this writing, the new contact for USDA Rural Development in Western Idaho is:

David Flesher
david.flesher@id.usda.gov
208-454-8691, ext. 116

The contact at the USDA Service Center in Weiser is:
Nick Partin, Loan Specialist
Weiser Service Center
849 E 9th St.
Weiser, ID 83672
208-549-4280, 208-549-4229 fax

Phil Choate

Senior Planner
District 3, Idaho Transportation Department
PO Box 8028
Boise, ID 83707-2028
phil.choate@itd.idaho.gov
208-334-8901
Cell: 208-860-6489



Phil has over 25 years of community and economic development planning experience – most of it in southern Idaho. He was the organizing Executive Director of East-Central Idaho Planning and Development Association, in Rexburg and was also Executive Director for IDA-ORE Planning and Development Association (now SAGE Community Services) in southwestern Idaho for 16 years as well as Executive Director for an SBA lender, Capital Matrix. Beside consulting work in the intermountain region, Phil has done planning work at the City of Austin, Texas and Boise City. Prior to joining the District 3 ITD Staff as Planner, Choate served the Intermodal Planning Section at Headquarters at ITD as Planner and Statewide Coordinator for Transportation Department programs - Congestion Mitigation Air Quality (CMAQ) and Transportation Enhancement. Choate was previously a Member and Chair of the IRP Board of Directors, as well as a Member and Officer of the National Association of Development Companies. He is a Member of the Board of Capital City Kiwanis and holds a Masters Degree from The Ohio State University. He has a wife, six children and eight grandchildren.

Kit Kamo

Business Development
Idaho Department of Commerce
700 W. State Street
Boise, ID 83702
kit.kamo@business.idaho.gov
208-334-2470, ext. 2130



Kit Kamo is a Business Development Specialist for Idaho Commerce covering regions V and VI and two counties in region III. Kit was previously involved in rural community and economic development in Eastern Oregon for over 9 years. She has worked as an administrator in the private industry sector for several years as well. She holds a Bachelor of Science Degree in Ag-Business Management and Natural Resource Management.

Appendix B

City of Payette Application to Idaho Community Review Program

Idaho Community Review Application A Community Visitation Program

Offered in Partnership by the
Association of Idaho Cities, Idaho Rural Partnership,
Idaho Department of Commerce, Idaho Housing & Finance Association, Boise State University, & U.S. Department
of Housing & Urban Development

Please submit the answers to the following questions to the Association of Idaho Cities, 3314 Grace Street, Boise, ID, 83703. Cities with populations under 10,000 are eligible to apply.

The community review program is an excellent in-kind value for its cost. Idaho Cities such as Heyburn, Jerome, Hayden, Kooskia, Priest River, Weiser, and Buhl have conducted successful community reviews for under \$2,500. Estimated costs for a community review through a private consulting firm, including salary, travel, lodging, site visit, data collection, and report fees, is well over \$20,000 for equivalent expertise from 15-18 community development professionals.

Your community must agree to accept the following responsibilities to ensure the success of the review:

- Arrange for large and small group meeting sites throughout the review with community leaders and citizens
- Appoint a home team leader for each of the three focus areas you identify who is willing to work with the visiting team leaders to plan and coordinate the community review
- Arrange community tours and meeting agendas in the three focus areas you identify
- Pay for group transportation during the community tours and all team meals (many communities have partnered with school districts and civic groups to share transportation and meal costs)
- Make lodging reservations for the visiting team
- Publicize the community review to maximize community participation
- Assist with survey data collection prior to the community review
- Provide one or two individuals during the review to assist with data entry
- Designate at least two community members to facilitate the follow-up process

Community: City of Payette
Main Contact Person: Mary Cordova
Address/City/State/Zip: 700 Center Avenue, Payette, Idaho, 83661
Phone, Fax, Email: 208-642-6024; 208-642-1412 fax; mcordova@srvinet.com

Names/phone numbers/Email addresses of the three Focus Area Team Leaders:

Focus Area Team Leaders will be appointed by the Mayor. Many members of the community have already volunteered their time to participate in this project.

3) Circle, or write in, the three focus areas that your community would like to emphasize. Focus areas might include some combination of the following:

Local Economic Development

Housing

Infrastructure

Community Design & Identity

Land Use Planning

Education

Health Care

Arts, Historic, and Recreation Resources

Seniors and Youth

Civic Life and Community Involvement

Other Focus Area(s): Local Economic Development: The City's aggressive role in facilitating economic growth and residential development has given the community new impetus and a positive attitude toward the future. The City wishes to develop a common, well-defined vision of where the City of Payette needs to be in the next decade.

In the Focus Areas identified, what specific issues does your community want to address?

1.) Infrastructure:

Transportation: Contemplate expansion and/or alternative routes to meet commuter traffic needs and local congestion. **Capital Infrastructure:** Many costs of growth won't be felt for a long time. There may be significant costs in deferred maintenance. We seek to work toward improving capital infrastructure in order to comply with environmental regulations and to capture a greater share of trade and service opportunity in our region. We need to become more resourceful and work with the citizens of the community to create a greater understanding of the city's needs and create ownership or "buy-in" of projects.

2.) Arts, Historic, and Recreation Resources:

The City of Payette would like to better to serve, educate, and enhance life for the citizens of our community. We want to explore ways to provide a variety of enjoyable and cost effective recreation, sports, environmental, historical, and cultural arts programs and services. We aim to acquire, develop, beautify, conserve, and maintain our system of parks, greenways, and recreation facilities which will assure quality leisure opportunities for all Payette and regional residents. Through doing this, it is our hope to foster a distinctive and attractive community with a strong sense of place.

3.) Seniors and Youth:

Civic life and community involvement are vital to the growth of any community. The City would like to explore how to engage multi-generational citizens to become more active in the community. Municipal facilities play a crucial role in quality residential and commercial development. We want to consider the feasibility of a community center and sustainable financial support for a center to host functions such as community meetings, performing arts & other events.

What is the best possible outcome resulting from a community review in your town?

The best possible outcome of a community review would be the opportunity to offer to the community a new set of eyes with a different perspective and provide resources that the community can tap into to help achieve its goals.

What strategic planning, business development, enhancement, revitalization, clean-up, contracted or consulting efforts have occurred in your community in the last one to three years? (attach additional sheets, documentation, brochures, or report summaries as necessary)

- In 2006, the City of Payette created the Payette Urban Renewal Agency in an attempt to revitalize the downtown industrial area.
- Fall Cleanup of Leaves & Limbs
- Updated our Water Study
- Completed a Wastewater Treatment Expansion Plan
- Replaced sewer and water lines along 7th Avenue North; beginning road widening project on 7th Avenue North
- Began Development meetings to assist with potential development plans
- Built McCain Middle School on Iowa Street
- Teamed up with Payette County to widen Iowa Street from Center Avenue to 7th Avenue North.

What other projects has your community completed in the last one to three years?

- Built a new water reservoir on 20th Street.
- Payette Beautification Committee erected "Welcome to Payette" sign.
- Lobbied for and received a traffic signal at Highway 95 and 7th Avenue North.

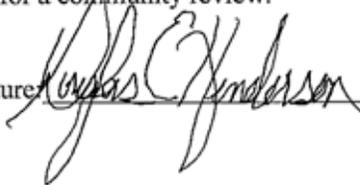
Has your community completed and implemented a Gem Plan? If so, please describe to what extent and attach a copy of the Gem Plan to this application.

No, we have not completed a Gem Plan.

What possible dates do you propose for a community review?

The City of Payette will accommodate the schedule of the review committee and is available at any time for a community review.

Mayor's Signature



Date: 1.11.07

Appendix C

Commute Shed Report

Where Residents in the Payette Area are Employed, 2002-2004

Source: US Census Bureau, *Local Employment Dynamics Origin-Destination Database* (2nd Quarter 2002, 2003 and 2004)

<u>Cities/Towns Where Payette Area Residents are Employed</u>	2004		2003		2002	
	Count	Share	Count	Share	Count	Share
* Ontario, Oregon	2,330	32.9%	2,335	33.7%	2,578	35.2%
* Payette, Idaho	987	13.9%	866	12.5%	1,021	13.9%
* Fruitland, Idaho	699	9.9%	690	10.0%	697	9.5%
* Boise City, Idaho	444	6.3%	413	6.0%	394	5.4%
* Nampa, Idaho	181	2.6%	195	2.8%	185	2.5%

<u>Cities/Towns Where Payette Area Residents are Employed</u>	2004		2003		2002	
	Count	Share	Count	Share	Count	Share
* Caldwell, Idaho	118	1.7%	114	1.6%	111	1.5%
* Nyssa, Oregon	96	1.4%	111	1.6%	81	1.1%
* Vale, Oregon	91	1.3%	91	1.3%	115	1.6%
* Weiser, Idaho	84	1.2%	94	1.4%	81	1.1%
* Portland, Oregon	57	0.8%	41	0.6%	59	0.8%
* All Other Locations	2,002	28.2%	1,978	28.6%	2,002	28.6%

Appendix D

Community Survey Results

*(written surveys completed by 275 Payette residents
immediately prior to community review)*

1. Gender

Form Response	Percentage	Count	Username
Female	58%	160 votes	Unknown
Male	39%	109 votes	Unknown
No Responses	1%	5 votes	Unknown
Male	0%	1 votes	dale.dixon@irp.idaho.gov
275 votes			

2. Age

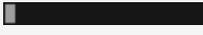
Form Response	Percentage	Count	Username
51-68	36%	101 votes	Unknown
69 and over	28%	78 votes	Unknown
36-50	18%	51 votes	Unknown
22-35	12%	35 votes	Unknown
No Responses	2%	6 votes	Unknown
14-21	1%	3 votes	Unknown
14-21	0%	1 votes	dale.dixon@irp.idaho.gov
275 votes			

3. Ethnicity

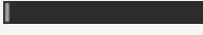
Form Response	Percentage	Count	Username
Caucasian	69%	190 votes	Unknown
No Responses	25%	69 votes	Unknown
Hispanic-Latino	2%	8 votes	Unknown
American Indian	1%	4 votes	Unknown

Asian	0%	2 votes	Unknown
African American	0%	1 votes	Unknown
Caucasian	0%	1 votes	dale.dixon@irp.idaho.gov
275 votes			

4. Years lived in community?

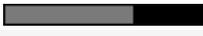
Form Response			Username
10 or more years		58% 160 votes	Unknown
Less than 5 years		18% 51 votes	Unknown
5-10 years		16% 46 votes	Unknown
No Responses		6% 17 votes	Unknown
Less than 5 years	0%	1 votes	dale.dixon@irp.idaho.gov
275 votes			

5. Where do you live?

Form Response			Username
In Payette		93% 256 votes	Unknown
No Responses		3% 9 votes	Unknown
Other area in Payette County		3% 9 votes	Unknown
274 votes			

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6. Do you commute to work in another city or town?

Form Response			Username
No		65% 179 votes	Unknown
Yes		32% 90 votes	Unknown
No Responses		1% 5 votes	Unknown
274 votes			

7. If yes, to what city or town do you commute to work

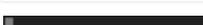
in?

Form Response	Username
Boise (3 responses)	Unknown
Caldwell (2 responses)	Unknown
Emmett (2 responses)	Unknown
Fruitland (19 responses)	Unknown
McCall (1 response)	Unknown
Midvale (1 response)	Unknown
New Plymouth (4 responses)	Unknown
Nyssa (1 response)	Unknown
Ontario (43 responses)	Unknown
Vale (2 responses)	Unknown
Weiser (3 responses)	Unknown
Wilder (1 response)	Unknown

8. City Streets & Roads

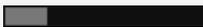
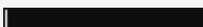
Form Response	Username
4  28% 79 votes	Unknown
5  28% 78 votes	Unknown
3  19% 54 votes	Unknown
6  8% 23 votes	Unknown
2  5% 16 votes	Unknown
1 (Very Poor)  4% 13 votes	Unknown
No Responses  2% 7 votes	Unknown
7 (Very Good)  1% 4 votes	Unknown
274 votes	

9. Bicycle & Pedestrian Access

Form Response	Username
4  22% 61 votes	Unknown
3  17% 49 votes	Unknown
2  16% 44 votes	Unknown
1  13% 38 votes	Unknown
No Responses  11% 32 votes	Unknown
5  10% 30 votes	Unknown
6  5% 15 votes	Unknown
7  1% 5 votes	Unknown

274 votes

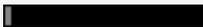
10. Police Protection & Crime Prevention

Form Response				Username
5		27%	75 votes	Unknown
6		22%	61 votes	Unknown
7 (Very Good)		16%	44 votes	Unknown
4		14%	40 votes	Unknown
3		9%	26 votes	Unknown
2		4%	11 votes	Unknown
No Responses		3%	10 votes	Unknown
1 (Very Poor)		2%	7 votes	Unknown

274 votes

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11. Building Code Enforcement & Inspection

Form Response				Username
No Responses		27%	76 votes	Unknown
5		21%	60 votes	Unknown
4		16%	44 votes	Unknown
6		14%	40 votes	Unknown
7		6%	17 votes	Unknown
3		5%	14 votes	Unknown
1		4%	12 votes	Unknown
2		4%	11 votes	Unknown

274 votes

12. Availability of local jobs

Form Response				Username
4		22%	62 votes	Unknown
3		18%	51 votes	Unknown
2		18%	50 votes	Unknown
No Responses		15%	43 votes	Unknown
1 (Very Poor)		12%	34 votes	Unknown
5		9%	25 votes	Unknown
6		2%	7 votes	Unknown

7 (Very Good)	0%	2 votes	Unknown
274 votes			

13. Quality of available local jobs

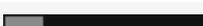
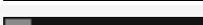
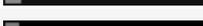
Form Response			Username
2		21% 58 votes	Unknown
3		20% 57 votes	Unknown
4		16% 46 votes	Unknown
No Responses		16% 44 votes	Unknown
1		13% 37 votes	Unknown
5		8% 23 votes	Unknown
6		2% 8 votes	Unknown
7		0% 1 votes	Unknown
274 votes			

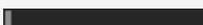
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14. Variety of local industry

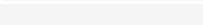
Form Response			Username
2		23% 64 votes	Unknown
3		22% 62 votes	Unknown
1		16% 46 votes	Unknown
4		14% 40 votes	Unknown
No Responses		13% 36 votes	Unknown
5		6% 19 votes	Unknown
6		2% 6 votes	Unknown
7		0% 1 votes	Unknown
274 votes			

15. Business involvement with community

Form Response			Username
No Responses		21% 58 votes	Unknown
4		20% 55 votes	Unknown
5		16% 46 votes	Unknown
3		14% 41 votes	Unknown
2		9% 26 votes	Unknown
6		8% 23 votes	Unknown

1		5%	14 votes	Unknown
7		4%	11 votes	Unknown
			274 votes	

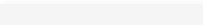
16. Water quality

Form Response				Username
5		32%	90 votes	Unknown
4		22%	62 votes	Unknown
7 (Very Good)		13%	37 votes	Unknown
2		10%	28 votes	Unknown
3		10%	28 votes	Unknown
1 (Very Poor)		6%	19 votes	Unknown
No Responses		3%	10 votes	Unknown
			274 votes	

17. Sewage collection and disposal

Form Response				Username
6		26%	73 votes	Unknown
4		20%	56 votes	Unknown
5		20%	55 votes	Unknown
7		17%	48 votes	Unknown
No Responses		4%	13 votes	Unknown
3		4%	11 votes	Unknown
1		3%	9 votes	Unknown
2		3%	9 votes	Unknown
			274 votes	

18. Friendliness of residents

Form Response				Username
6		34%	94 votes	Unknown
5		21%	60 votes	Unknown
7 (Very Good)		18%	51 votes	Unknown
4		15%	42 votes	Unknown
3		4%	11 votes	Unknown
No Responses		4%	11 votes	Unknown
2		1%	3 votes	Unknown

1 (Very Poor)		0%	2 votes	Unknown
			274 votes	

19. Involvement of churches in community

Form Response				Username
6		26%	72 votes	Unknown
5		18%	50 votes	Unknown
7		16%	45 votes	Unknown
4		16%	44 votes	Unknown
No Responses		13%	38 votes	Unknown
3		6%	19 votes	Unknown
1		1%	3 votes	Unknown
2		1%	3 votes	Unknown
			274 votes	

20. Community parks and playgrounds

Form Response				Username
5		27%	74 votes	Unknown
6		26%	72 votes	Unknown
7 (Very Good)		20%	55 votes	Unknown
4		16%	44 votes	Unknown
3		5%	14 votes	Unknown
No Responses		3%	9 votes	Unknown
1 (Very Poor)		1%	3 votes	Unknown
2		1%	3 votes	Unknown
			274 votes	

21. Recreation for children 12 and under

Form Response				Username
4		18%	51 votes	Unknown
No Responses		18%	51 votes	Unknown
5		15%	43 votes	Unknown
6		14%	39 votes	Unknown
3		12%	35 votes	Unknown
7		9%	26 votes	Unknown

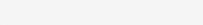
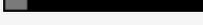
1		5%	15 votes	Unknown
2		5%	14 votes	Unknown
			274 votes	

22. Recreation for teenagers

Form Response				Username
4		19%	54 votes	Unknown
No Responses		19%	54 votes	Unknown
2		16%	44 votes	Unknown
1		12%	35 votes	Unknown
3		12%	34 votes	Unknown
5		10%	29 votes	Unknown
6		6%	17 votes	Unknown
7		2%	7 votes	Unknown
			274 votes	

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23. Recreation for adults

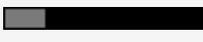
Form Response				Username
4		19%	53 votes	Unknown
1		14%	41 votes	Unknown
2		13%	38 votes	Unknown
3		12%	35 votes	Unknown
5		12%	35 votes	Unknown
No Responses		12%	34 votes	Unknown
6		10%	30 votes	Unknown
7		2%	8 votes	Unknown
			274 votes	

24. Responsiveness of local government

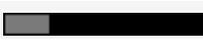
Form Response				Username
4		21%	59 votes	Unknown
5		20%	57 votes	Unknown
No Responses		17%	49 votes	Unknown
3		12%	34 votes	Unknown
6		9%	27 votes	Unknown
2		9%	25 votes	Unknown
1 (Very Poor)		5%	14 votes	Unknown

7 (Very Good)		3%	9 votes	Unknown
			274 votes	

25. Community involvement in decision making

Form Response				Username
4		22%	62 votes	Unknown
No Responses		21%	59 votes	Unknown
5		15%	43 votes	Unknown
2		12%	33 votes	Unknown
3		12%	33 votes	Unknown
1		7%	20 votes	Unknown
6		7%	20 votes	Unknown
7		1%	4 votes	Unknown
			274 votes	

26. Cooperation between city and county

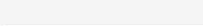
Form Response				Username
No Responses		28%	78 votes	Unknown
4		23%	64 votes	Unknown
5		13%	38 votes	Unknown
6		13%	38 votes	Unknown
3		9%	27 votes	Unknown
2		3%	10 votes	Unknown
7		3%	10 votes	Unknown
1		3%	9 votes	Unknown
			274 votes	

27. Quality of city library

Form Response				Username
6		26%	73 votes	Unknown
7 (Very Good)		21%	60 votes	Unknown
5		19%	53 votes	Unknown
4		12%	33 votes	Unknown
No Responses		9%	26 votes	Unknown
3		7%	20 votes	Unknown
2		2%	8 votes	Unknown

1 (Very Poor)	0%	1 votes	Unknown
274 votes			

28. Condition of school buildings

Form Response			Username
5		21% 59 votes	Unknown
6		21% 59 votes	Unknown
4		16% 45 votes	Unknown
No Responses		14% 39 votes	Unknown
7		13% 38 votes	Unknown
3		8% 22 votes	Unknown
2		2% 7 votes	Unknown
1		1% 5 votes	Unknown
274 votes			

29. Quality of Kindergarten-12th grade education

Form Response			Username
5		21% 59 votes	Unknown
6		18% 52 votes	Unknown
No Responses		18% 52 votes	Unknown
4		17% 48 votes	Unknown
7		10% 29 votes	Unknown
3		8% 23 votes	Unknown
2		2% 6 votes	Unknown
1		1% 5 votes	Unknown
274 votes			

30. Vocational education - job training opportunities

Form Response			Username
No Responses		22% 63 votes	Unknown
4		18% 52 votes	Unknown
3		14% 41 votes	Unknown
1		12% 33 votes	Unknown
2		9% 26 votes	Unknown
5		9% 26 votes	Unknown
6		8% 23 votes	Unknown
7		3% 10 votes	Unknown

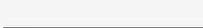
274 votes

31. Overall community quality

Form Response				Username
5		26%	73 votes	Unknown
4		22%	62 votes	Unknown
6		19%	54 votes	Unknown
3		9%	27 votes	Unknown
No Responses		8%	22 votes	Unknown
7 (Very Good)		6%	19 votes	Unknown
2		3%	9 votes	Unknown
1 (Very Poor)		2%	8 votes	Unknown

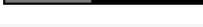
274 votes

32. City staff response to challenges in Payette

Form Response				Username
4		20%	56 votes	Unknown
5		18%	51 votes	Unknown
6		17%	48 votes	Unknown
No Responses		15%	43 votes	Unknown
3		12%	33 votes	Unknown
7		5%	15 votes	Unknown
1		5%	14 votes	Unknown
2		5%	14 votes	Unknown

274 votes

33. Usability and helpfulness of city website <http://payette.govoffice.com>

Form Response				Username
No Responses		44%	122 votes	Unknown
4		17%	47 votes	Unknown
5		12%	35 votes	Unknown
6		8%	23 votes	Unknown
3		5%	16 votes	Unknown
1		4%	13 votes	Unknown
7		3%	10 votes	Unknown

2		2%	8 votes	Unknown
274 votes				

34. What are the strengths and assets that make the city of Payette a special place to work, live, play and raise a family?

Form Response	Username
278% sewer increase to allow developer to add more areas and connect to city services.	Unknown
50 YEARS AGO!	Unknown
a few quality resturaunts and stores.	Unknown
a fine comninity frendly people city does whatit can affordgreat poliece and fire proction	Unknown
a good clean town	Unknown
a good towne	Unknown
A great place to live and very nice people new industry would be a plus.	Unknown
a small frendly comunity with aces to molst neds	Unknown
A special Freindliness exists in Payette; many paople are downtown, local government seems to be working to bring more business to Payette, downtown & otherwise	Unknown
A very nice place to raise children, but the roads are terrible. Really needed to be repaired.	Unknown
A wonderful rural area with a rural atmosphere. Payette is a very desirable place to live-the pool and library and outstanding or families.	Unknown
all in all a nice place to live	Unknown
Being closer to river activites is nice, but could be improved. I don't work in Payette, that is Ontario, because Payette does not have a strong economy. Living here is nice because home prices are low. Overall it is a decent place to raise a family.	Unknown
Better pay	Unknown
church ,schools	Unknown
Clean Area- Low crime rate	Unknown
clean, friendly	Unknown
Close to home- Trees	Unknown
Community atmosphere, cost of living	Unknown
Community envolvment is good. People are freindly, and most take pride in there homes, and town people are willing to help each other.	Unknown
Community more involved in decision making.	Unknown
compartetively Safe	Unknown
Excellent location. Small town atmosphere adequate dining facilities.	Unknown
Excellent parks and care for same. Good police and fire protection.	Unknown
Family friendly but no good paying jobs. Good schools, parks, swimming pool, skate park, outdoor walking track.	Unknown
Fire department is super good.	Unknown
Fire department is super good.	Unknown

Fire department is super good.	Unknown
For a small town it is very friendly. The rural atmosphere is good	Unknown
Freindliness of citizens, city and county employees	Unknown
Friendliness of residents. City Parks/swimming pool. Newer residential areas growing. Nearness to Boise for shopping recreation. (except for growing traffic)	Unknown
Low incidence of crime. Snake River /recreation. Green Belt for walks.	
Friendly atmosphere.	Unknown
Friendly people, 4 seasons, convenient to Boise (airport and medical).	Unknown
Friendly people, excellent services for a small city.	Unknown
friendly small town atmosphere-close to freeway easy to acces access to nampa-boise shopping.	Unknown
Get rid of Wal Mart	Unknown
Golf Course	Unknown
good place to live	Unknown
goodpeople-difficult tomake a decent livinghere. Need decent paying jobs. We are over taxed. Property c\valuations excessive lower our taxes.	Unknown
Great neighbors!	Unknown
GREAT PARKS, GREENBELT TRAIL, NICE SCHOOLS, FRIENDLY PEOPLE, GOOD LIBRARY.	Unknown
Have parks-river-archade-skate park-food- library pool etc. forkids. strongest in surrounding area. love small town atmosphere.	Unknown
Havee been very happy here, raised our family here and was satisfied as a parent. Our children all live away - better opportunities away from here.	Unknown
i dont work here in payette. where we live is a great place. where we play is nice and clean. over all it is a great place to raise a family.	Unknown
I havent lived here long enough to know to much about payette.at our age were'er retired so don't know much about raising a family here. I know I like it here.	Unknown
I like coming into payette and seeing the cross lit nic park.	Unknown
I like the new sign andlandscaping at our South entrance.	Unknown
I like the small town atmosphere. I feel it is a wonderful town. I am very thankful of the new stoplight.	Unknown
I like the small town feel	Unknown
I love payette its a small town with alot of very nice people in it	Unknown
I love the friendliness	Unknown
I love the quite rual life	Unknown
I love the slo paced, livability of payette lifestyles. emergency services are quick to respond and suted well for the community	Unknown
I Need the small town quietness of our neighborhoods. I feel the police attentiveness is high quality. The workers have been courteous & thotough.	Unknown
i think is would be cost effective to spray weeds in the street surface to cut back the frequency of resurfacing.	Unknown
I think it could be cleaned up a bit of all the wrecked cars that are around.	Unknown
I think the public library is exceptional - great facility, great staff - we miss Teresa Lynch! School are great!	Unknown
It has a good proximity to recreation and Boise.	Unknown
it is a nice quite town.	Unknown
It is a quiet place without a lot o crime or gang-relations.	Unknown

It is close to doctors, hospitals, shopping, my monthly expenses have been cut in 1/2 since we moved here.	Unknown
It's a calm town, people are freindly, it's a slow growing place, not too big or to small. As long as we keep Douglas as our mayor, we will be ok!	Unknown
It's a nice community-most people don;t bother others. most people seem to live their own lives.	Unknown
It's a small community and generally more peaceful and quiet.	Unknown
It's a small town.	Unknown
It's a small, not a lot of crime	Unknown
It's not overwhelming in population and there is lots of outdoor activties that are accessible.	Unknown
it's small & clean for the most part	Unknown
It's the friendly people that make it great for me. Also, the climate and the ease of fitting in - people aren't stuffy. Downtown needs revitalizing! more options	Unknown
Its a quite great place to live.	Unknown
Its quite and freindly	Unknown
Its still like the old days only more poor for businesses, but still has low key for families.	Unknown
love payette	Unknown
Love the sparcity of Traffic	Unknown
New Maverick Station helps	
Like knowing mayor, council persons, chief police fire chief	Unknown
Low crime rate. Small town atmosphere commuunity pride.	Unknown
Low Crime, safe streets & neighborhoods	Unknown
Most people are helpful in a crisis.	Unknown
Most schools in good repair or new. Good job snow removal/winter care. Like debris pickup. Like parks and library.	Unknown
My husband & i came here froma small town (Emmett). We wanted a small town to raise our twin girls in and from what time we have been here - it's been great. People in my neighborhood are very welcoming and nice.	Unknown
Nice people, clean town(except for the garbage cans in the streets instead of the Alleys), for the most part its quiet here, and its clos to outdoor sports & rec.	Unknown
Nice rural community. Close to tax free shopping in Ontario.	Unknown
OFFICES AND STORESAND CITY AND	Unknown
Our mayor, our schools, Apple Blossom Festival, Bluegrass festival, greenbelt	Unknown
parks are ok. but no where for family with pets to go. needs dog parks!	Unknown
Parks, swimming pool. apple blossom festival low crime, pleasant neighborhood	Unknown
Payette has a friendly citizen base, good climate. With Mark Heleker as principal the H.S. will improve and the schools in general are improving.	Unknown
Payette has always impressed me as a quality community and while it worked out well for me---	Unknown
Payette has lovely parks and a special library. The town is growing and the community should be involved in its growth.	Unknown
Payette has much to offer people in many ways. Our climate, friendliness and new schools are great assets-let's promote them.	Unknown
Payette is a good town to bring your kids up. Good schools (some teachers need to help more). Teens need more to do!!	Unknown

Payette is a great place to live and raise a family because everyone is so nice and respectful.	Unknown
Payette is a great place to live, work, and raise children because it is safe. Even when it isn't 100% crime free our family feels safe.	Unknown
Payette is a great small town w/a friendly attitude. It is close to shopping and recreation w/out the hassle of living in it. People are still individuals here instead of numbers.	Unknown
payette is a nice town. i lived in ontario all my life and then moved here 4 years ago.the green belt is wonderful and should be extended	Unknown
Payette is a nice place to live	Unknown
Payette is a quite small place the crime rate is down compared to other places. The force is good.	Unknown
payette is a safe quite community	Unknown
Payette is a semi nice small town to live and to raise kids. Some of the nice Adv's of living here are the costs of taxes, city services provided and quiet neighborhoods.	Unknown
Payette is quiet and peaceful, low crimerate.	Unknown
Payette is still small enough to feel safe in and to get to know your neighbors, close enough to big shopping and big entertainment.	Unknown
people are friendly good schools, social services and small enough yet everything (most) is within one's reach. good law enforcement.	Unknown
People in electric chairs cannot get there because sidewalks bad shape or cross streets	Unknown
police force, golf course, little crime	Unknown
Quiet neighborhoods ,low cost of living, Jerry's Markert as neighborhood store, city park, museum\history\heritage	Unknown
Quiet, nice place to live	Unknown
quite	Unknown
Quite clean small	Unknown
Quite non hurried atmosphere, cleanliness, friendly residents Accessibility of services and response to residence needs.	Unknown
Reduce costs of Services.	Unknown
Safe place to live-Homey and comfortable atmosphere.	Unknown
Safety-public ed.-friendly-peaceful-river-golf course-swimming pools-trees and parks-local government-new subdivisions and great place to live and raise our kids!	Unknown
Sidewalks. Not too much traffic, good library, swimmin pool, golf course, recreation departments, low crime rate, good churches, Greenbelt, & new subdivision.	Unknown
size	Unknown
Size	Unknown
Slow Pace, Friendly atmosphere.	Unknown
small	Unknown
SMALL ATMOSPHERE	Unknown
Small community atmosphere with a lot of great people.	Unknown
Small community with lots of friendly people.	Unknown
Small community, Close to a larger shopping area (Ontario)	Unknown
Small community- Relationships	Unknown

Small community, good schools	Unknown
small quiet town	Unknown
small town atmosphere	Unknown
Small town - clean streets - lots of trees nice pool and parks, but we don't need any more parks.	Unknown
Small town and friendly.	Unknown
Small town atmosphere	Unknown
Small town atmosphere	Unknown
small town atmosphere, low crime rate, pretty place mountain background, trees	Unknown
small town atmosphere-close to large town.	Unknown
small town atmosphere.	Unknown
Small Town Frindliness	Unknown
small town nice people close to mts adn deserts many things to do tax base low enough for me	Unknown
small town, close to rivers, clay peak and airport.	Unknown
Small town, little traffic, average schools. More of a retirement community. Nothing for 25-35 year old people with families.	Unknown
Small town, safe place	Unknown
SMALL TOWN- LITTLE TRAFFIC-NICE PEOPLE -PART FARMING AND PART CITY-NICE MIX.	Unknown
Small town-good Church activities--pool.	Unknown
Small tranquil and freindly	Unknown
Small, Quiet & Far from boise	Unknown
Small, Quiet & Far from boise	Unknown
Still small in size. Keep it that way. People are friendly. Close to shopping	Unknown
Stop urban spread! Better planning for homes-less density.	Unknown
Streets are kept clean. Most homes and yards are attractive- lots of trees. Air is clean. People are frinedly schools are good.	Unknown
Strength is size - Small towns can do big things.	Unknown
The city of Payette had affordable real estate when we bought our house. Our neighbors are friendly, and the Green Belt is the perfect place to walk our dog.	Unknown
The city of payette is very friendly, there's not a lot of crime and is well managed by the city.	Unknown
The new Maverick appears to be a great asset. When we moved from Boise to Payette 40 years ago, i found some 24 hours a day services lacking. Yet it was a great place to raise kids, nice churches and the school system was good and always striving to improve. I felt the schools were the heart of the community activities. The social groups were warm and inviting. The businesses enterprises are somewhat lacking yet those who offer services are great and friendly. The golf course has always been a great asset.	Unknown
The officials of Payette have all way foul any business community into Payette. that is why we don;t have any plan to keep people to work in Payette. What is hear is all leaving.	Unknown
The people who live here make Payette a special place!	Unknown
the people-the neighbors	Unknown
The small town atmosphere	Unknown
The smaller community is of course one of the nice things -Not a bunch of traffic,	Unknown

and etc. The schools are great and getting better! Close to camping, the lake, and etc...	
Their are already strengths here but they are not brought out. We do have a beautiful town already and a great place to live.	Unknown
There are more churches than there are bars. Apple Blossom Days-Cruise night low crime. Don't see alot of gang activities	Unknown
They give a lot to the younger kids, but there isn't a lot around for older kids.	Unknown
this city is rather quiet, mostly free of crime.	Unknown
Very friendly. Good variety of Churches. Good schools.	Unknown
Very poor	Unknown
very quiet not much traffic good hard working people	Unknown
We are close enough to the big city to make it easy to enjoy the amenities offered there without having to live with them here. In addition, we are close enough to outdoor life and activities without having to live with the weather. We have it all.	Unknown
We are pleased with the city and its citizens, streets are kept clean and police Dept. very good.	Unknown
we have a low crime rate, work cannot be found in payette co. need more industry, the city police force needs to talk to teenagers not harrass them.	Unknown
We like a central city complex where we can take care of errands and shop. Walking has saved us money on gas and it provids plenty of excerise	Unknown
We like the small community and friendly atmosphere	Unknown
weather - clean air - friendly	Unknown
wonderful community for residents,[specially retired.low cost great pool and golf courses for recreation.	Unknown
Wonderful rurla feel with limited and restrictions while maitianing a great small city convenience.	Unknown
Work- no real places to work-live-plenty of housing play- nice parks for kids- need a ymca for teens and adults Raise a family-schools are fair-need to work on getting more kids to stay in school and go on to college	Unknown

35. What are the problems and challenges facing the city of Payette in the short term?

Form	Username
Response	
1 roads in need of repair 2 need more businesses	Unknown
1.Revitalizing downtown 2.traffic on highway 95	Unknown
9th street by Albertsons is a disgrace to the city	Unknown
Activities for teenslike dances, etc. weekly or bi-weekly- they have to hangf in Ontario most of the time.	Unknown
All Payette is a bedroom for people who work at other places. this makes it hard for older people to go to doctors, I understand that two of our old business ale leaving and going to Fruitland.	Unknown
Bad idea to change the speed limit through the Business Route 95, from 35 to 25. P.H.S. sports are a joke, we need a sports director that will actually improve the system instead of holding it down. The kids have nothing to look forward to in school, so why should they bother!	Unknown

bad side walks and some bad side streets. Too high property taxes, Payette needs to live within it's means and not raise taxes to get what the city council wants. We as home owners have to and we make out.	Unknown
be careful not to create low income housing.	Unknown
Better road conditions, not just main streets but also back streets. Better control of speed limits in city.	Unknown
Better roads- reduce gangs- curbs and gutters in city recycle- curbside (we are in 21st Century) limits all streets, better h20.	Unknown
City County offices are too small to support rapidly growing populations	Unknown
City needs to close airport which costs money and does not help residents. Also, sell property north of Vistair for a housing development.	Unknown
constant fighting with city council and city staff. 50% of city council hanging onto "old guard Values" (hanigan, nelson and Mussell) we need to get serious about bringing in motels and hotels and some quality paying jobs.	Unknown
Continue to improve the south entrance to payette. Search for industry to provide clean air jobs search for a good restraurant on the highway.	Unknown
Control of Growth of city & housing Over Allocation of H2O Sources	Unknown
Control of Growth of city & housing Over Allocation of H2O Sources	Unknown
crime, street improvements, enforcement of laws on books, main street is virtually lawless. All citizen needs should be considered, not just small special interest groups.	Unknown
developing a thriving business Community I see us as a "Bedroom" Community for Ontario	Unknown
down town parking , old buledingsthat are empty	Unknown
Downtown is rundown and unattractive	Unknown
Drug use and There affects	Unknown
Drugs	Unknown
Drugs and Crime	Unknown
drugs in the schools	Unknown
Drugs meth is a growing problem children should be able to have the chance to live in a drug free comunity.	Unknown
Excessive speeding- North and ninth street.	Unknown
fis potholes in street. Improve snow plowing and sanding in the winter	Unknown
Fix the roads, they are terrible.	Unknown
Fixing infra structure	Unknown
FOR FARMING AND	Unknown
gangs	Unknown
growth and some strees and curbing in certain areas and possibly public transportaion.	Unknown
GROWTH! need to encourage buisness here so we are not forced to spend our money in OR for basic needs.	Unknown
growth, change aqway from an ag-based economy, lack of local jobs	Unknown
High property taxes. Lack of concertn by city officals- lack of continuity by city & county officials. Too high of city wages for a non-industrial town with no buisness.	Unknown
I do not see any problems. Police, Fire etc. Have done very well.	Unknown
I don't know	Unknown

I don't really know. We just moved here - it seems like Payette should plan it's growth - but, for all I know it's already being planned for. We love living here. I wish the downtown were more cuter and had smoke-free establishments to hang out at.	Unknown
I don't like the amount of sex crimes in it	Unknown
I have a cranky garbage man - perhaps he needs a promotion	Unknown
I live in a cultisac. the road is awefull.	Unknown
I think that the biggest challenge is to find something for teens to young adults, etc. to do! Ther aren't ANY places for them to just go "hang out" without having to pay a lot of money. Even Clay Peak. It's looking great, but kids who need practice and are already just barley lucky enough to have a bike etc. can't afford \$12.00 a day! I don't see the drug use changing anytime soon! The kids have nothing else to do. The skate park is great but again - that's only a "seasonal" thing. What's there to do for kids who DON'T PLAY sports or have skateboards. I could say a lot on this!(And Adults). It would be so nice to have a place to go dance etc...that doesn't have alcohol. Even a dance place for all ages, and lot's of activities! I'd be part of it if there was a person wanting to fund it! I have notebooks full of ideas! The truth on other subjects...Taxes are OUTRAGEOUS on property! It really makes it hard for the smaller guys to make it! If it wasn't for my family, I'd have nothing, and I'm a person with a lot of goals! Barely surviving though only due to God's grace!	Unknown
I would be nice if the lot as you enter Payette, that cornersis an eye sore - That doesn't do much for how Payetee looks.	Unknown
I would like to see the city become more favorable to small businesses downtown and more involved with other surrounding areas and their plans. (Fruitland, Ontario) such as events and activities.	Unknown
I would like to see the roads in town fixed and I would like to see a stronger, more aggressive police force, there are too many punks moving in.	Unknown
I'd like to see more for kids to do.	Unknown
I've lived here 8 years and i am jsut starting to know people. long-time "locals" see no reason to be "welcoming". community invironment opportunities are perceptively neraly non-exitent nor welcoming.	Unknown
Id like to see a hedge along the north edge of the south entrance, to hide the unsightly business across the street!	Unknown
Im happy here	Unknown
Improvement needed of 9th street from 2nd avenue south past Albertson's to the highway	Unknown
Improving the streets and street lighting. Bringing in new businesses and industry. Reduce drugs and illegal citizens present in our town.	Unknown
Keep drugs away from our town, it's everywhere! meth labs, ect... we nneed more community functions other than Apple Blossem	Unknown
Keeping teens away from drugs and staying out of trouble. We've had 4. They get too bored. Maybe we need some more recreational things for them to do. Examples: Skating(rollar rink), Video games(a small building) and work shops.	Unknown
Keeping the balance between rural area with rural problems by not turning it into a "city". In other words, let Payette be rural. Others can move to "the city" if they want the city life. Just because it says city limits doesn't have to mean its not rural.	Unknown
Kids wander the streets all hours. Dogs bark because people can't or won't take the time to love them. Parks should allow well behaved dogs& owners who clean up after them. It's sad that my dog can't go to the park with me.	Unknown
Lack of common sense shown by our elected officials - No new shopping available	Unknown

the continuing practice of cronyism from our elected officials.	
Lack of effective Police allowing The "Good ol Boys" to drive drunk for years abd Chief of Police attitude "Well I don't know where you're from but around here we don't inforce those laws."	Unknown
Lack of good paying jobs.	Unknown
Lack of job opportunities & viable business. Police harrass teens driving & should not be breed specific- Should be mean dog ordinance.	Unknown
Lack of shopping facilities. Lack of employment opportunities. Proper zoning restrictions	Unknown
Lack of work opportunity - Little pride displayed regarding payette-Downtown area looks more run down each year, due to our local business climate.	Unknown
LEADERSHIP!	Unknown
Like to see better job by teachers. Need mosquito spraying All Over Town. Some roads have NEVER been paved. Would like more play ground equip for toddlers and things for pre-teens. Also, after school prog. for kids until parents are home.	Unknown
lw shopping compitition. low specialty shopping.	Unknown
Make home owners clean up their places! Slow down traffic on 7th Ave-25 mph and make sure it is enforced.More jobs in Town.	Unknown
Make home owners clean up their places! Slow down traffic on 7th Ave-25 mph and make sure it is enforced.More jobs in Town.	Unknown
Make home owners clean up thier places!Slow down traffic on 7th Ave-25mph and make sure it is enforced.More jobs in Town.	Unknown
Make sure gangs are dispersed and be firm about it.	Unknown
money.l room for residential deployment. airport location hinders development around. golf course prime area cant be used.	Unknown
more jobs	Unknown
more police to stope speders	Unknown
More traffic lights - too much traffic on Hwy 95 - can't access very easily - new stoplight has helped some	Unknown
My/our biggest worry is the drug problem here in Payette. We don'twant our children involved in them & I would like to see more education on drugs & alcohol, and the effects they have on people & families.	Unknown
Need a traffic light on 95 and Center Ave. Accident waiting to happen!	Unknown
Need for more quality & variety in industry & employment. More better & varied shopping oppotunities	Unknown
Need more business stores here so don't have to go to other places for clothes, doctors, hospitals etc. I have to go two times in a taxi and they charged 20 dollars both times.	Unknown
Need more businesses in the "non retail" areas to creath quality jobs. Need two additional traffic signals on hwy 95, one at the high school and one at center street. Control growth and do not allow new subdivisions until the area (streets) can handle it!	Unknown
Need more job training programs.	Unknown
Need new bridge coming into payette.	Unknown
Need new senior center with more activities. Renovate town & encourage more business.	Unknown
Need to clean up main street-entrance to city of Payette is very unsightly. Need to get rid of junk entrepreneurs move cruise night back to A&W	Unknown

needs cat licenseing	Unknown
needs dog park. Need to repair sidewalks and roads. Sidewalks not accessable w/ strollers easily, no ramps	Unknown
no business's	Unknown
no clothing businesses close by in idaho last 20 yrs no new ones came in due to the past city council Please have road crew fix the road going out to bridge on idaho side its like a speed bump on our side Thank You	Unknown
No clothing stores. No industry. Would like to see a good Motel (clean) Some streets need black top. Lack of good jobs without having to go to Ontario for our kids.	Unknown
No growth	Unknown
No industry lack of vision	Unknown
No jobs. No recreations. And Oregon next door.	Unknown
No sales tax in Oregon, therefore no need for businesses to locate to Payette. High tax base due to no business development. No motels, very few restaurants. When some even does come to town (ie. motorcycle races) all or most of the money goes to Oregon. Need to find a way to keep that money in Payette Co.	Unknown
None that I know of.	Unknown
Not a place to buy clothes, shoes, and dry goods is a real detriment. Also, we need a mid price restaurant with some atmosphere.	Unknown
Not becoming so large we have traffic,crowding, and law enforcement problems of Boise/Nampa area.	Unknown
Not enough business, not enough positive growth	Unknown
Not enough fun activies for people	Unknown
Not enough job variety and jobs that pay enough to raise a family.	Unknown
Not enough room to name them all	Unknown
Not having shopping-more business should be willing to open in Payette	Unknown
Payette doesn't have very many employment opportunities for young people and house prices are getting so high that our 20-something kids can't afford to "make home" here!	Unknown
Payette had better grab that business growth "pie" that's going on like we're doing in Ontario or very soon Payette will be known as a Ghost Town Attraction only!	Unknown
payette needs jobs, jobs, jobs, and keeping costs of services and taxes down.	Unknown
Payette needs more jobs and shopping.Clothes and shoes would be nice. I would rather shophere then go to Ontario. Police force needs seious help. Jack Heart should be fired.	Unknown
Payette needs to consider the politics in its city and what it can do to encourage the growth of new business.	Unknown
Paying For Growth	Unknown
People in payette can't go to TVCC without paying an incredible out of state tution. The people of payette have to have an hour to go to an Idaho School.	Unknown
People on fixed income - raising property taxes so much this year - putting older folks out of their homes - unfair	Unknown
Police controlling drug and immaigrant problems.	Unknown
police force acts to maacho, i have seen them harass teenagers downtown payette no names	Unknown

Poor streets-side walks for middle school.	Unknown
Population growth, no traffic light at hwy 52 and 95, no shoulders on roads for emergencies and cycling access.	Unknown
poverty level	Unknown
Property taxes are extremely high with little public input to assessment rate and value.	Unknown
Property taxes are very high and education faces many issues.	Unknown
Providing alrernative high school- NOT Nice!!	
Bringing Business/jobs to community	
Bringing community together-could we please have a larger farmers market at city park on the weekend?	Unknown
Quality of medicalcare for elderly!	Unknown
Roads needed to be improved more than they are right now. Because of the roads have alot of pot holes and the sidewalks need to be improved too because there are certain sidewalks that aren't wheelchair accessible for people who are in wheelchairs.	Unknown
sales tax w/ none in Oregon	Unknown
See above	Unknown
side wackes bikes paths	Unknown
SIDEWALKS, CURBS, GUTTERS,DRIVEWAYHS.EXTERIOR ASSISTANCE FOR DISABLED HOMEOWNERS...(LAWNS,FLOWERS,SHRUBS,ETC.)	Unknown
SOME AREAS YARDS ARE MESSY.STREETS HAVE TOO MANY UNMOVING PARKED VEHICLES OF ALL SIZES- RV'S,BOAT, TRAILERS, AND CARS ON THE STREETS.	Unknown
Sorry i couldn't do better	Unknown
Stop being old school and get with the program - Get something for the kids to do, then there will be less crime.	Unknown
Street improvements. Personal property renovations/cleanup. More traffic lights on rt. 95 from city. More shops and restraunts. New businesses. Complete downtown cleanup and restoration. Financial help for Payette Senior Center.. Access to Greenbelt from Centenial Park. Enforce ordinances for run-down and garabage ridden properties in city.	Unknown
STREETS ARE SO CROWDED YOU CAN BARELY DRIVE DOWN THEM. LOTS OF WEEDS AROUND-PROPERTY OWNER OR SUBDIVISION DEVELOPMENTS DONT TAKE CARE OF THEM.SEEMS TO BE LOTS OF BURGLERIES AND GANG ACTIVITY.	Unknown
taxes too high for the elderly on fixed income	Unknown
Taxes! We need businesses coming into our town to increase the tax base. We don't feel enough is being done to promote this. Too much holding back and allowing Fruitland to gain by our reluctance to bring new commerce into our community.	Unknown
Taxes. Sewer system doesn't reach me. Gang activity.	Unknown
The conditions of these old trailers and old houses that some people rent to the poor. shockingly bad. some for outrageous amounts.	Unknown
The downtown facade is deterioration. Maybe less arguing and more doing would be a plus.	Unknown
THE HOUSING DEVELOPMENT PEOPLE NEED TO PICK UP MORE OF THE TAB FOR TAXES, SEWER, WATER, GARBAGE PARKS, SIDEWALKS, LIGHTS ETC. TRAFFIC!!! TOO MANY HOUSES ON 2 LANE ROADS.	Unknown

BETWEEN SEWER-TAXES-IDAHO POWER AND THE PHONE
 INCREASES. IT IS GETTING TO EXPENSIVE TO LIVE HERE. OH PLUS
 GARBAGE CAN RENTAL MORE MONEY-LESS WORK

The need for more business in the town better weed control, fix our streets ready for the people moving here. We have good police and fire, schools and administration. Let's keep it up, and 7 for our mayor Doug Henderson	Unknown
The neighbors chickens in my front yard!!!! The dog catchers don't do chickens!!!!	Unknown
The new speed limit--is a complete joke--even the police continue to speed. People are rude when we go 25 mph. Glares, flipped off-cut off etc.	Unknown
The opportunities for young people are really limited, im not sure there is much the city can do but possibly the city and county together could make a list of improvments.	Unknown
The order subdivision streets are narrow which makes parking minimal.	Unknown
The Sewer rate hike has been burden on us low income people- will it ever go down??	Unknown
The trains coming through the city limits are especially loud and frequent. Many juntions have no lights or barriers. The sidewalks many are in dispair which are a hazzard.	Unknown
Their are quite a few problems, but im sure they will iron out.	Unknown
There are several bad roads that need to be fixed.	Unknown
There is no industry to provide jobs and a tax base. A bedroom community to surrounding area. We need industry to draw people here, keep people here so businesses can survive in downtown area. Community afraid of change + growth.	Unknown
There needs to be mores for the young to do just to hang out. like movies bouwling etc. also we need mor large stores, like our own Wal-Mart, K Mart, Kings, and something with varity as not to have to go to Ontario all the time.	Unknown
There seems to be a definite "not in my backyard" mentality. Don't change and bemoan the sales tax established in 1968. Buck up & move forward.	Unknown
There should be more activities for adults and children besides bars to keep teenagers from turning to drugs and alcohol. And there should be more drug and alcohol rehabilitation centers to help the people that need it.	Unknown
to much drugs and not enuf job oportunitys	Unknown
to small	Unknown
Too much growth	Unknown
Too much low income housing. Plans for too fast growth (east end of Center Ave.). Slow down growth, plan better, watch for city council conflict of interest. Open your minds, think outside the box.	Unknown
Traffic at 16th st. going N&S.	Unknown
traffic flow & raod conditions better signs for travlers on city map	Unknown
traffic on hwy 95	Unknown
good jobs long term.	Unknown
Unplanned growth. It's happening and we are so glad to have it happen, but it's not planned well.	Unknown
Wal Mart	Unknown
water levels, over building for the wells water supply.wanting cadillac equipment for a chevorlet store. to much spending sidewalk not handycap acceseble.	Unknown
Water-sidewalks-no jobs that pay anything	Unknown
We do need new jobs so our kids have a future and more activities for the kids to	Unknown

keep off streets.	
We feel that the city is not responsive to new businesses and industry and should improve in this area!	Unknown
we need more job's for people who want them more store's .	Unknown
We need a Micron or something like it. ---- support the tax base.	Unknown
We need another traffic signal at the highschool.	Unknown
We need God put back into our schools our home, our businesses, our community.	
We need affordable recreation for our children and families. We need clothing stores as well as other stores; not Wal-Mart	Unknown
We need some shopping for clothes	Unknown
We need stores here instead of second hand stores- We desperately need a "Town".	Unknown
We need to let more jobs come into Payette and have them pay more.	Unknown
Weeds detract-sidewalks, curbs, etc	
Businesses at south entry need solid fences to hide their junk	Unknown
Continue to improve attractiveness!	
why is there no new businesses coming to payette?? Lots of hear say Payette wants no new businesses	Unknown
would be nice to have a few more activities for srs. the sc. venter leaves a lot to be desired-the prople involved are very nice-but the building and kitchen need more help.	Unknown
would like to see students moreinvolved in arts by doing real school plays with props and spelling bees. taxes are a little high water quality will have to imporove in future. More Clz (?) @ pump stations.	Unknown
Note about water quality "I am on a dead end line, no hydrant blow off. water quality in summer is very poor.	
You a d... stoplight by the high school before somebody gets killed. Clean up the pile of s... at the stoplight coming into town where it splits to weiser; lst impression is incredibly poor.	Unknown

Appendix E

Detailed Itinerary

for

Payette Community Review

Tuesday, July 10

4:00 pm Visiting Team meets at Holiday Inn in Ontario
5:30 pm Pick up at hotel for transport to evening social with home team and community leaders at Scotch Pines Golf Course & Payette Municipal Airport. Light Dinner will be served at Scotch Pines Club House with no host bar available. Short plane rides will be available to view community and rounds of golf or driving/putting range available to team members.

Wednesday, July 11

7:45 am Bus will pick up team members at hotel.
8:00 am Buffet Breakfast at TIPS restaurant
8:30 am Community tours/interviewing/discussions
Noon – 1 pm Brown Bag Lunch in Kiwanis Park with Summer Lunch Program (Java Jungle Sandwiches)
1 – 4:30 pm Tours continue
4:30 – 5:30 pm Break with transportation back to hotel
5:30 pm Pick up team members at hotel for Dinner
7 pm Public Forum at McCain Middle School

Thursday, July 12

7:30am – 8:30 am Breakfast Hosted by City of Payette Employees at City Hall
8:30am – noon Visiting Team groups work on reports
Noon – 1 pm Lunch
1 – 4:30 pm Visiting Team groups work on reports;
4:30 – 5:30 pm Break with transportation back to hotel
6 pm Dinner with City Council at Jimbo's Restaurant
7 pm Public Forum at Payette City Hall

Appendix F

Straw Poll Inventory of Arts Resources Created by Visiting Team July 10-12, 2007

Mr. Bell – visual art teacher
Cecil – western painter
Christian Band
Cowboy poets
Vicki Flyg – water color, metal sculptor
Mr. Garner – music teacher
George Gladhill – potter
Cassie Griffith – frame gallery
Mr. Hall – visual art teacher
Mary Holiday – stained glass
Diane King – actor
Chuck Kinney - potter
Susan Lemew – mural
Paul MacEntie – music teacher
Jim McKay - bluegrass
Mrs. McMillian
Petuz – flowers
Two quilting groups