



LARAMIE COUNTY PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

Planning • Building

MEMORANDUM

TO: Cheyenne Metropolitan Planning Organization

FROM: Gary Kranse, Planning and Development Director

DATE: July 9, 2013

TITLE: Transmittal of the South Cheyenne Community Development Association's South Greeley Highway Corridor Plan

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

As requested by the Laramie County Board of County Commissioners, the South Cheyenne Community Development Association (SCCDA) has completed a plan for the South Greeley Highway Corridor. SCCDA held a series of public meetings with local residents and business owners over the past winter and spring, identifying issues of local concern. On June 18, 2013, the Board of County Commissioners adopted SCCDA's plan, which is hereby transmitted to the Cheyenne Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for consideration.

BACKGROUND

The Cheyenne Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) initiated a corridor plan in 2010 for the South Greeley Highway Corridor, from I-80 to Terry Ranch Road. The purpose of the plan was to identify the strengths, weaknesses, and opportunities found along the corridor. A draft of the plan was prepared by an outside consultant and distributed for comment in 2012. In response to citizen comments, the Laramie County Board of Commissioners asked the South Cheyenne Community Development Association (SCCDA) to take the lead in preparing a new plan, directing the Laramie County Planning & Development Department and the MPO to work with the SCCDA, with assistance requested from the Wyoming Department of Transportation (WyDOT) and the City of Cheyenne.

SCCDA hosted a public meeting on November 13, 2012, at Laramie County Community College (LCCC), to discuss issues of general concern with community residents and local business owners. In January, 2013, SCCDA hosted a series of four area planning meetings at LCCC focusing on different sections of the corridor, with assistance from County Planning, MPO and WyDOT staff. SCCDA discussed feedback from the neighborhood at their board meetings in

February and March, producing a strategic corridor plan in April which was presented to the public at LCCC on May 2, 2013. On June 18, 2013, the Laramie County Board of County Commissioners unanimously voted to adopt SCCDA's plan—*South Greeley Highway Corridor: Main Street of South Cheyenne*.

Certain themes resonated throughout the project. Local residents consider South Greeley Highway as the Main Street of South Cheyenne. While it is recognized US 85 will remain a state highway, local access is considered just as important as through traffic. Future development should recognize that character and context as a main street rather than as a high-speed highway. This idea is consistent with the current national trend to plan Complete Streets designed for walking, biking, driving, public transportation and delivering goods.

SCCDA's plan considers action items under short-term, mid-term and long-term timeframes. Short-term objectives include traffic modeling, traffic signals, reduced speed limits, streetlights and sidewalks, crosswalks, and drainage. Mid-term Planning Objectives include road extensions and connections, improvements to port of entry enforcement, and studying a route for High Plains Road to I-25. The plan is also clear that certain changes would not be acceptable to the community. Residents of South Cheyenne are strongly opposed to raised medians, widening or increasing speed on South Greeley Highway.

This plan as adopted is a citizens' plan. On the spectrum of public participation, this effort represents local residents and business owners directly taking on the task of planning. The result is an expression of how the people who live and work in South Cheyenne want to see their neighborhood grow in the future.

ATTACHMENTS

South Greeley Highway Corridor: Main Street of South Cheyenne