

AGENDA

Community Workshop: Organizing for Action

May 7 & 9, 2019

5:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.



Event Goals:

1. Confirm community input on values, issues and vision.
2. Discuss and move towards consensus on action on key topics:
 - a. Strengthening our sense of community
 - b. Addressing affordable housing
 - c. Building a more diverse economy and managing tourism
 - d. Maintaining community character and managing growth
 - e. Creating more opportunities for youth
3. Identify next steps

Evening One: Tuesday, May 7th

5:30 Doors Open & Community Dinner

A community dinner buffet will be served starting at 5:30. Come early, get some food and say hi to your friends and neighbors.

6:00 Welcome

Members of Successful Gardiner will kick off the evening sharing why they began this effort and what they hope to get out of this workshop.

6:15 What We Heard: Overview of Community Input

To frame the evening's discussion, we will briefly review what we have heard from over 200 community members and confirm the community's values, concerns, and hopes for the future.

6:25 Identifying a Direction: Exploring Our Options

In breakout groups, we will review best practices and options for addressing key community challenges, then explore actions Gardiner could take. Each break out group will develop a draft recommendation for action with a rationale for action. This recommendation will be shared at the end of the work session. Participants will be asked to join one discussion group for the evening. The discussion group topics will include:

1. **Addressing Housing Affordability:** *Building on the Gardiner Housing Action Plan, a recent housing profile and webinar outlined strategies Gardiner can take. Different tools are available to different governance structures. We will explore these different options and explore the pros and cons of different approaches.*
 2. **Strengthening Our Sense of Community:** *Being a friendly supportive community is a core value in Gardiner. But there is a sense that people don't know their neighbors like they used to, and we may not be as connected as we used to. What could Gardiner do to strengthen our sense of community?*
 3. **Balancing Tourism and Building a Sustainable Economy:** *As the popularity of Yellowstone National Park grows, so has Gardiner's economic dependence upon tourism. An outcome of the public input process was the desire for better managing tourism and creating jobs with more livable*
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wages. What options are available for Gardiner to diversify the economy and managing tourism? Who leads on these issues? The group will define what “balanced tourism” and “a diverse and sustainable economy” look like and how Gardiner could work towards this goal.

4. **Creating Opportunities for Youth:** While Gardiner is a great place to raise a family, there is a concern that there are not enough opportunities for young people growing up nor for them to return after they leave. What would “opportunity” look like and how could these opportunities be created?
5. **Protecting Gardiner’s Unique Character:** There is no doubt that Gardiner has changed, but is it possible for a small town to maintain its uniqueness when facing development pressures? This group will explore different options available to Gardiner to address managing growth, maintaining community assets, and protecting its heritage.

7:40 Night 1 Outcomes: What Are Our Big Ideas?

Each discussion group will report back the ideas that gained the most traction. We will identify the common themes that emerged and agree on what the goals for Thursday’s discussions.

8:30 END

Evening Two: Thursday, May 9th

5:30 Doors Open & Community Dinner

A community dinner buffet will be served starting at 5:30. Come early, get some food and say hi to your friends and neighbors. We will also have posters up from Tuesday night.

6:00 Welcome & Review

To begin the evenings dialogue, we will summarize the key outcomes from Tuesday and define the goal for the evening’s discussion.

6:15 Refining Our Plan for Action

On Tuesday night, the community explored key topics. This evening’s discussion will dig deeper into these subjects and begin to refine and align across themes.

1. *Addressing Housing Affordability*
2. *Strengthening Our Sense of Community*
3. *Balancing Tourism and Building a Sustainable Economy*
4. *Creating Opportunities for Youth*
5. *Protecting Gardiner’s Unique Character*

7:25 Confirming a Direction for Community Action

In plenary, we will review final recommendations, identify any tensions between the recommendation that may need to be addressed, and where there is general agreement focus on next steps.

8:30 END
