

La Plata County Comprehensive Plan

Vallecito, CO Visioning Open House Meeting Summary

August 5, 2009

The La Plata County Comprehensive Plan visioning outreach included 1 full day vision summit, 6 open houses in locations throughout the county, a youth survey, and a community survey. All participants in the vision process answered the same four questions.

- *What do you treasure about La Plata County that you do not want to see change?*
- *What concerns do you have about La Plata County for the future?*
- *What would you like to see different or change in La Plata County in the future?*
- *What do you want La Plata County to be like in 20 years?*

Vision open house participants responded to an additional four questions that survey and vision workshop participants were not asked. Those questions were:

- *What would be the worst possible scenario for La Plata County in the future?*
- *What are the internal factors (possibly in our control) that are going to be affecting La Plata County's future that we need to consider in our vision?*
- *What are the external factors (outside our control) that are going to be affecting La Plata County's future that we need to consider in our vision?*

The comments here are from the Vallecito open house held on August 5, 2009.

1. What do you TREASURE about La Plata County that you do not want to see change?

- Open space: mountains, rivers, and forest
- Distance from metro areas
- Friendly downtown Durango

2. What CONCERNS do you have about La Plata County for the future?

- Overdevelopment
- Overbuild off mansions/second homes
- Too much interest in management and not enough interest in quality of life
- It becomes too expensive to live here

3. What would you like to see DIFFERENT/CHANGE in La Plata County?

- More cooperation between the county and city, especially with regard to regional civic projects.
- No more highways.

- C02

4. What do you want La Plata County to be like in 20 years?

- Better schools, more emphasis on regional cultural activities, not a wealthy persons haven, a place for families.
- A low population as possible

5. What would be the worst possible scenario for La Plata County in the future?

- It becomes unfriendly, and too expensive for families.
- Overdeveloped with big box stores.

6. What are the internal factors (possibly in our control) that are going to be affecting La Plata County's future that we need to consider in our vision?

- Retirement of baby boomers, gen X-ers which push development of large empty houses and who do not contribute to the community and which create more roads and highways and big box stores

7. What are the external factors (outside our control) that are going to be affecting La Plata County's future that we need to consider in our vision?

- Increased population
- Higher fuel costs
- Need for more sustainable economy