



AGENDA

HOW TO BE A COMMUNITY CATALYST: CREATING PLACE-BASED SOLUTIONS TO COMMUNITY CHALLENGES IN THE HIGH DIVIDE

A Future West Capacity-Building Workshop February 13 – 14 | Fairmont Hot Springs

Workshop Goal:

NGOs and others will be better equipped to successfully collaborate with other organizations, local governments, and citizens as they seek to overcome their community's challenges while also meeting conservation goals.

Key Questions to be Explored:

- What are the growth trends of cities and towns in the High Divide; where are we heading and what does that mean to the future of our communities?
- How can you bring people together to generate solutions to vexing community problems and take advantage of real opportunities?
- How do towns actually function; how are community decisions made?
- How can we work more effectively with elected officials & community leaders?
- How can we engage in community visioning and planning?
- Are there sources of financial and technical assistance?

AGENDA

THURSDAY FEBRUARY 13TH

1:00 ~ Welcome, Introductions and Why Are We Here?

Dennis Glick - Future West, Heather Stokes - Facilitator

1:15 ~ Data on Growth and Change in the High Divide

How have High Divide communities changed? What are the trends for the future? Future West will share the economic, demographic, and land use data you need to help your community plan for the future.

Randy Carpenter - Future West

1:40 ~ Getting in The Game - Tabletop Discussions

Breakout groups will ground truth what people are observing in their own communities: 1) Top three community growth/change trends; 2) Top three great things happening; 3) Top three community challenges.

Moderator and Workshop Participants

2:10 ~ Saving the Burg! A Remarkable Citizen and Community Effort to Revitalize Philipsburg, MT.

Jim Jenner – Film Director & Philipsburg Resident

2:40 ~ Community Assessment & Visioning

Tools and processes to profile your community's economic, demographic, and land use trends and effectively share them with your community. Case study: Gardiner, MT.

Randy Carpenter – Future West

3:10 ~ So You've Crafted a Community Vision. How Do You Make Sure It Doesn't Gather Dust on a Shelf?

Maryvette Labrie, Beartooth Front Community Forum

3:30 ~ Break

3:45 ~ Understanding Local Decision Making and Politics

Learn how to understand the local decision-making process and local government structure so you can effectively engage in your community.

Jerry Grebenc, Great West Engineering

4:10 ~ Collaborating With Local Officials - Elected Officials Share Their Experiences Working With Citizens and NGOs.

- **Kathy Rinaldi – Former Teton County Commissioner**
- **Leonard Wortman – Jefferson County Commissioner**
- **Joe Willauer – Twin Bridges City Commission**
- **Maryvette Labrie - Former Red Lodge City Council Member**

5:10 ~ Summarize the Day

6:00 ~ Reception & Workshop Dinner

FRIDAY FEBRUARY 14TH

8:00 ~ Breakfast Buffet

8:30 ~ Getting started – Overview of the Day
Heather Stokes - Workshop Facilitator

8:45 ~ Increasing Community Development Success Through Campaign Organizing
Michelle Uberuaga - Park County Environmental Council
Skye Schell - Jackson Hole Conservation Alliance

10:00 ~ Community Catalysts in Action

- From abandoned hospital to affordable housing - **Andrea Davis – Homeward Affordable Housing**
- An open space & trail system for Dillon - **Dan Downey – Beaverhead Trails**
- A farmers market brings a community together - **Toni Ruth – Salmon Valley Stewardship**
- A sculpture park inspires a community vision - **Becky Garland – Lincoln**

11:15 ~ Break

11:30 ~ Where Can I Go for Technical and Financial Assistance?

- **Joe Willauer – Headwaters RC&D**
- **Kathy Archer – USDA Rural Development Program**
- **Rebecca Shaw – Montana Department of Commerce: Community Planning**
- **Erin Farris-Olsen – Heart of the Rockies**
- **Tash Wisemiller – Montana Department of Commerce: Community & Economic Vitality Program**
- **Andrea Davis – Homeward Affordable Housing**

12:30 ~ Lunch

1:15 ~ SHARK TANK!

Following a suggested template, workshop participants will have the opportunity to share a community engagement project they are considering for feedback and kudos.

3:00 ~ Conclusion - What have we learned? Where to from here?

Special thanks to the following for their support of this workshop: the Cinnabar Foundation, the Harder Foundation, the High Divide Collaborative, the Kendeda Fund, and the Wilburforce Foundation.

Community Catalyst Workshop Template

Below is a template to help you capture the major points of the presentations and their relevance to your community development activities. It can also serve to help you think about a community development project that you may wish to present during the “Shark Tank” portion of the workshop.

What Is Your Community Like Today?

- Top three things you love about your community (things like its friendliness, its downtown, its schools, etc)
- Top three great things that are happening
- Top three things that you wish were different about your community
- Top three challenges to making it a better place

Where Does Your Community Seem to be Headed?

- Community Assessment – How has the community changed?
 - Physical form – what is the state of the downtown, where is growth happening (in town or out in rural areas), are you losing open space, etc?
 - Economy – how has employment and commerce changed?
 - Social – how has the way people interact changed?
 - Demographics – is the community younger? Older? More diverse?
 - Community Well-Being – affordability, mental and physical health, etc?
- Community Assessment – How is the community trending?
 - Do you expect the changes identified above to continue?
 - If not, how will those trends change?

Community Project Campaign Framework

- A campaign is like a road map. What would your road map look like?
 - What are your campaign goals?
 - Who are the key decision makers?
 - Who are your potential partners, and who might be opposed?
 - What is your media strategy?
 - What are your resource and research needs?
 - What are the actions you will need to take and what is the timeline?
 - How will our community be better when we complete those actions?

Sustainable Funding/Resources

- What funding sources currently contribute to your community's development?
- What are some new funding sources to explore for the following items?
 - Community planning
 - Infrastructure and Services
 - Building Trails and Parks
 - Ensuring Affordable Housing
 - Business attraction and retention
 - Downtown revitalization
 - Health and human services

Based on the above, what thoughts come to mind for a proposal for a new initiative in your community that you would like to share during the "Shark Tank" exercise?