Envision Lincoln

Community Report

Appendix 2 and Appendix 3
Appendix 2. Summary of Envision Lincoln Community Survey

Survey Time Frame and Availability

A Community Survey for the Envision Lincoln project was circulated in Lincoln between October 20, 2017, and December 3, 2017. The survey was made available first using a Google Form, then using Survey Monkey, and it was at all times available in paper, returnable to Karyn Good. On November 9, the Blackfoot Valley Dispatch circulated the survey to 600+ subscribers and the survey was posted on the Envision Lincoln Facebook page. In addition, approximately 70 individuals who had expressed interest in the Envision Lincoln project received a link for the survey via email. Those who attended the October 10 Envision Lincoln meeting were asked to circulate the survey to others they knew.

Survey Participation

- Seventy-nine respondents
- Sixty-seven percent identified as full-time residents; 25 percent identified as part-time residents; 3 percent work in Lincoln but do not live there; and 6 percent identified as not living in Lincoln
- Age distribution: 3 percent under 18; 9 percent 18–35; 26 percent 36–50; 30 percent 51–65; and 33 percent 65+

In Lincoln, the Census Bureau estimates that the population in 2015 was slightly fewer than 850. As such, approximately 8 percent of Lincoln’s full-time population participated in the survey.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Question 1. Using short phrases or words, what makes Lincoln a special to live?</th>
<th>Number of Respondents</th>
<th>Examples of Response</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| People/Sense of Community | 64 | • Small-town feel  
• Tight-knit community, the people  
• Great place to raise kids |
| Natural Resources | 33 | • Clean air and water  
• Scapegoat Wilderness and Blackfoot River  
• Wildlife |
| Beauty, Peaceful Place | 25 | • Slower pace, beautiful scenery  
• Beautiful place to live, quiet  
• Scenery, solitude |
| Recreation | 18 | • Lots of outdoor activities  
• Access to wilderness  
• Hunting, fishing, snowmobiling  
• Access to state and national forests |
| Community Assets | 18 | • School (8)
• Sculpture park (5)  
• Community events |
| Location | 12 | • Between three major cities  
• Nestled in the mountains |

5 The number in parentheses in this and other tables indicates the number of people who provided this response.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Theme</th>
<th>Number of Respondents</th>
<th>Examples of Response</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Economy</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>• Sustainable, diverse, and vibrant economy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• More working families as permanent residents</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• Sustainable growth. I would like to see businesses open that draw in the younger generations that want live in Lincoln, not just visit. This would help our small town to stay alive during the winter months.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• Welcoming atmosphere for more small business to move in</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• Businesses other than bars</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• Larger population, more jobs, richer economy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community Amenities</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>• An aesthetically pleasing, walkable town center</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• More appealing downtown with medians to slow traffic down and a bike/walk lane</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• More opportunities for school-aged kids as well as young adults</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• More family opportunities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>• Pride in place and community, welcoming community, young families engaged in community life, respect for diverse values</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• More inclusive</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• Retain small-town environment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• Supportive of parks and art</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health and Safety</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>• Less drugs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• Good health care</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• Reliable medical facilities; emergency services</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recreation</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>• Connector trails within community between and among attractions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• Public river access; access to our forests</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• More recreational opportunities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td></td>
<td>• Well-managed and sustained natural resources (air, water, forest) (11)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• Good schools, education valued, school supported (10)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• Address poverty and the signs of poverty in Lincoln (5)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Question 3. What is one thing you would change about Lincoln?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Theme</th>
<th>Number of Respondents</th>
<th>Examples of Response</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Drugs and Alcohol            | 14                    | • The drug use and alcoholism of a sizable number of youth and adults. The culture of the town is often based on bars and alcohol.  
• Drug issues  
• Less drugs and alcohol |
| Main Street                  | 14                    | • More attractive town center  
• Reduce the speed limit – safety and noise issues are increasing  
• Too many closed businesses on Main Street  
• Clean up and update Main Street |
| Jobs/Unemployment            | 13                    | • Better employment opportunities  
• I’d change the unemployment rate  
• Would like to see more small industry to help create jobs |
| Need for More Positive      | 8                     | • Place more value/focus on the many assets we have and build on the positive instead of dwelling on the negative  
• Gossip ring  
• Lack of support from one business to another, dog-eat-dog attitude  
• The fact that we tend to think small and to the past rather than supporting new ideas looking outside the box |

### Question 4. Which of the results statements do you think are the most important? Select three that you agree with the most.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Result Statement</th>
<th>Number Selecting this Statement</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lincoln retains its small-town atmosphere, unique natural environment, and heritage.</td>
<td>51</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lincoln has a thriving economy with diverse career opportunities based on local industry, culture, and recreational opportunities.</td>
<td>41</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lincoln’s natural environment supports and sustains our quality of life.</td>
<td>33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lincoln is a community for recreation, art, and wellness.</td>
<td>29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lincoln is a safe and healthy community.</td>
<td>28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lincoln offers a high quality of life with respectful and inclusive values.</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lincoln offers high-quality health and family services along with a vibrant community support system.</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Appendix 3. Indicator Data

ECONOMY

Figure 6. Lincoln population in 2015

![Population Breakout by Age Graph]

- 65 and over: 167
- 45-64: 381
- 35-44: 40
- 18-34: 114
- Under 18: 127

Number of Residents

Figure 7. Population change in Lincoln between 2010 and 2015

![Population Change Graph]

- 65 and over: -13
- 45-64: 41
- 35-44: -21
- 18-34: 20
- Under 18: -69

Number of Residents

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6 Data are from the American Community Survey.
7 Data are from the American Community Survey.
Figure 8. Businesses operating in downtown Lincoln, in January 2018

Businesses Operating in Downtown Lincoln
From the Pit Stop to Parker Medical Center

• Thirty businesses operate in downtown Lincoln and occupy 24 buildings
• A total of 32 commercial store fronts are available in downtown Lincoln.
• Twenty-five percent of downtown store fronts are vacant.

Figure 9. Housing occupancy in Lincoln, and Montana nonmetro areas in 2015

Housing Occupancy, 2015
Average from 2011-2015 surveys

Lincoln CDP

Montana, nonmetro

Occupied  Second Homes  Vacant

55%  41%  4%

75%  15%  10%

Data are from the American Community Survey. A census designated place (CDP) is a concentration of population defined by the United States Census Bureau for statistical purposes only.
Figure 10. Free and reduced lunch program at Lincoln School, 2013–2014 to 2017–2018

![Bar chart showing the percentage of students eligible for the free and reduced lunch program at Lincoln School from 2013-2014 to 2017-2018.](image)

- 2013-2014: 65%
- 2014-2015: 62%
- 2015-2016: 65%
- 2016-2017: 65%
- 2017-2018: 70%

Figure 11. Weeks worked per year in 2015 in Lincoln and Montana nonmetro areas

![Bar chart showing the percentage of weeks worked per year in 2015 in Lincoln CDP and Montana nonmetro areas.](image)

- Lincoln CDP:
  - Worked 50 to 52 weeks: 58%
  - Worked 27 to 49 weeks: 6%
  - Worked 1 to 26 weeks: 2%
  - Did not work: 23%

- Montana nonmetro:
  - Worked 50 to 52 weeks: 55%
  - Worked 27 to 49 weeks: 12%
  - Worked 1 to 26 weeks: 10%
  - Did not work: 23%

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\(^9\) Data were provided by the Lincoln School District.

\(^{10}\) Data are from the American Community Survey. A census designated place (CDP) is a concentration of population defined by the United States Census Bureau for statistical purposes only.
Figure 12. Hours worked per week in 2015 in Lincoln and Montana nonmetro areas\textsuperscript{11}

\begin{figure}[h]
\centering
\includegraphics[width=\textwidth]{hours_worked_per_week.png}
\caption{Hours worked per week in 2015 in Lincoln and Montana nonmetro areas.}
\end{figure}

Figure 13. Attendance at local heritage institutions and events in Lincoln, 2016–2018

\begin{table}[h]
\centering
\begin{tabular}{|l|c|c|c|}
\hline
\textbf{Institution} & \textbf{2016} & \textbf{2017} & \textbf{2018} \\
\hline
Hi-Country Historic Cabins & N/A & 580 & 40 to date \\
\hline
Sculpture in the Wild & 3,000 & 11,000 & N/A \\
\hline
Continental Divide Trail Sign-In at Post Office & 30 & 26 & N/A \\
\hline
\end{tabular}
\end{table}

\begin{table}[h]
\centering
\begin{tabular}{|l|c|c|c|}
\hline
\textbf{Event} & \textbf{2016} & \textbf{2017} & \textbf{2018} \\
\hline
Rodeo: Tickets Sold & 1,650 & 1,800 & N/A \\
\hline
Tour of the Arts & N/A & 130 & N/A \\
\hline
\end{tabular}
\end{table}

\textsuperscript{11} Data are from the American Community Survey. A census designated place (CDP) is a concentration of population defined by the United States Census Bureau for statistical purposes only.
Figure 14. Snowmobile counter data, 2011–2012 to 2016–2017\textsuperscript{12}

\textsuperscript{12} Data were provided by the Ponderosa Snow Warriors.
Figure 15. Stream and water restoration projects\textsuperscript{13}

![Types of Water Projects in the Upper Blackfoot / Lincoln Area](image)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Wetland Restoration</th>
<th>Road Decommission</th>
<th>Water Conservation</th>
<th>Riparian Revegetation</th>
<th>Fish Passage Improvements</th>
<th>Miles of Stream Restoration</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Figure 16. Total maximum daily loads in area streams\textsuperscript{14}

The TMDL program identifies sources of pollution to waterways and determines how much pollution those waters can sustain and still fully support our needs.

In the Upper Blackfoot Watershed (Lincoln area) only four stretches of water that have this classification.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Waterway</th>
<th>Metals</th>
<th>Nutrients</th>
<th>Sediment</th>
<th>Temperature</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Arrastra Creek</td>
<td>✘</td>
<td>✗</td>
<td>✔</td>
<td>✗</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Blackfoot River (Above Lander’s Fork)</td>
<td>✘</td>
<td>✔</td>
<td>✔</td>
<td>✔</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Blackfoot River (Below Lander’s Fork)</td>
<td>✘</td>
<td>✔</td>
<td>✗</td>
<td>✔</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Poorman Creek</td>
<td>✘</td>
<td>✔</td>
<td>✗</td>
<td>✔</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

These measurements are taken every two years. The ideal is to have zero waterways on the TMDL chart. Once all red ✗’s are resolved, the stream is removed from the TMDL watch list.

\textsuperscript{13} Data were provided by the Big Blackfoot Chapter of Trout Unlimited.

\textsuperscript{14} Data were provided by Montana Department of Environmental Quality and the Blackfoot River Watershed Restoration Plan/Blackfoot Challenge.
Figure 17. Animal species found in the Lincoln area

Species of concern in hunting districts 281 and 284

District 281
- Wolverine
- Hoary bat
- Canada lynx
- Little brown myotis
- Fisher
- Pygmy shrew
- Grizzly bear
- Northern goshawk
- Golden eagle
- Great blue heron
- Veery
- Brown creeper
- Black tern
- Evening grosbeak
- Trumpeter swan
- Pileated woodpecker

District 281 (continued)
- Common loon
- Cassin’s finch
- Harlequin duck
- Varied thrush
- Clark’s nutcracker
- Long-billed curlew
- Black-backed woodpecker
- Flammulated owl
- Brewer’s sparrow
- Pacific wren
- Western toad
- Westslope cutthroat trout
- Bull trout
- Subarctic darner
- Boreal whiteface
- Brush-tipped emerald
- Freshwater sponge

District 284
- Wolverine
- Canada lynx
- Fisher
- Grizzly bear
- Cassin’s finch
- Brewer’s sparrow
- Westslope cutthroat trout
- Bull trout
- Western pearlshell

Figure 18. Protected land and trails in the Lincoln valley in 2018

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Land</th>
<th>Acres</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Conservation Easements</td>
<td>24,203</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lewis and Clark Co. Land</td>
<td>36</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Trails</th>
<th>Miles</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Winter Recreation Trail</td>
<td>250</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ADA Accessible Trails</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dedicated Bike Lanes</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

15 Data from hunting districts 281 and 284 are from Animal Species of Concern, a report published by the Montana Natural Heritage Program and Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks.

16 Data were provided by Five Valleys Land Trust.
HEALTH AND WELL-BEING

Figure 19. Lincoln School District demographics, 1982–1983 to 2017–2018

Data were provided by the Lincoln School District.
Figure 20. Lincoln High School and Montana graduation rates, class of 2011–2012 to 2015–2016

Data were provided by the Lincoln School District and the State of Montana.
### Figure 21. Lincoln community events and activities

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Family</th>
<th>Adult</th>
<th>Children</th>
<th>Senior</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>WEEKLY/MONTHLY</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>High School Sport Games</td>
<td>Art and Watercolor Classes</td>
<td>Pounce School Program</td>
<td>Dominoes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sculpture Park Events</td>
<td>Sewing Classes</td>
<td>The Outdoor Club</td>
<td>Pinochle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lincoln Rodeo</td>
<td>Yoga</td>
<td>Wrestling</td>
<td>Woodcarving</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dance Lessons</td>
<td></td>
<td>Art Classes</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School Concerts</td>
<td></td>
<td>Youth Group</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Dance Classes</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>ANNUAL</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fireman’s Ball</td>
<td>Community Benefit</td>
<td>BPSW Education Days</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Annual Flea Market</td>
<td>Brewery Follies</td>
<td>Santa’s Workshop</td>
<td>Summer Fundraiser</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mini Art Show</td>
<td>Tour of the Arts</td>
<td>Vacation Bible School</td>
<td>Christmas Party</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arts Festival &amp; Barn Dance</td>
<td>Art Retreat</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Race to the Sky</td>
<td>Putt Putt Golf Tournament</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4th of July Parade</td>
<td>Bike Rally</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Skijoring</td>
<td>ATV Poker Runs</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Airport Open House</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Figure 22. Senior Center Membership (2014–2015 to 2017–2018) and Activities (2014–2017)

Figure 23. Parker Medical Center visits, 2009–2017

Data were provided by the Lincoln Senior Center.

Data were provided by PureView, which manages Parker Medical Center.
Photo by Chrissy Pepino
Cover: Evening music at Hooper Park, photo by Roger Dey

Blackfoot Challenge
405 Main St.
Ovando, MT 59854
406-793-3900
blackfootchallenge.org

The Trust for Public Land
1007 East Main St., Suite 300
Bozeman, MT 59715
406-522-7450
tpl.org

The Civic Canopy
3532 Franklin St., Suite H
Denver, CO 80305
303-293-3144
civiccanopy.org