

Email Comments on Housing Action Plan (June 2009)

I support the concept of affordable housing from the point of view of social/economic diversity being a good thing for a community; people who serve the needs of an area should not be condemned to long commutes; and the desire to preserve the beauty of the County (which will limit some development and raise prices) needs to be balanced by affordable housing, it seems to me. I have not studied the issues closely enough to respond intelligently to the questionnaire, but I trust the people doing the thinking and planning on this issue to come up with reasonable and feasible solutions.

Thanks for forwarding me this email. I wanted to attend the meeting, but it was scheduled on 5th grade continuation....so...I was working. If they want teachers to attend meetings like this then they need to be scheduled with our school calendar in mind. There are many teachers that I know of (Chris and I included) that are just barely making our mortgage payments or rent. Affordable housing is an issue that I know many of us care about and were bummed about the timing of the meeting. I took the survey and passed it along to others. Can you pass this feedback along. Thanks for thinking of us teachers!

Went to the affordable housing public meeting the other night; was amazed that there was little attendance and no teachers or anyone from Ridgway school in attendance. There was an editorial by Dave Mullings in the paper today regarding this.

Could you help me ? Do all the teachers have housing in Ridgway (who want it) ? There is a survey that has to be in by next Friday concerning this subject. I am looking for anybody I could get to fill out this survey - preferably people who might be interested in this community project.

I really do not know where the teachers stand with housing. The board has not heard from teachers about this issue lately. I know that Douglas forwarded your email on to teachers, but since school ended last Friday, it might be tough to find anyone to complete the survey. When our new superintendent gets her feet on the ground, she would be a good person for you or other folks involved in this project to meet and talk with. Her name is Cheryl Gomez and she starts work July 7. Let me know how else I can help.

The Affordable Housing issue is front and center now in Ouray County. The action group that has done much work already had a good presentation last Wednesday. Among elected officials in the towns and the county, I think there can be good support for the recommendations (see also today's Plaindealer editorial). But the good work and suggestions need community support and input. Without it, the effort could be wasted.

Some quick thoughts or survey:I,, Should be sustainable, no more 2nd homes without impact fees, candidates should live here, OK on 70-30% and 75/25% ratios but these should be adjustable as conditions warrant. Keep most in incorporated areas, mixed use OK above and behind (again adjustable if needed), II, Unless private funding available the responsibility will probably rest at least partially with the government entities. 50 units for the present - 75% low, 25% moderate. III All medium except high for counseling and mortgage assistance, Some kind of board needed to oversee use and maintenance and to **keep facility to a high standard.**