

PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Custer County has secured a Colorado Department of Local Affairs (DOLA) grant and is now ready and able to update its Economic Development Strategic Plan for Custer County. The Board of County Commissioners and the Custer County Economic Development Corporation are kicking off a three-month period of time for the citizens of Custer County to participate in the process of developing a comprehensive plan for the county. They plan a series of community meetings. The question on the table is, "What are the issues that affect Custer County that can build long term positive economic impact?" The end result will be an economic strategic plan with specific focus on improving economic health through measurable actions and results.

Certified Master Facilitator Sheryl Trent of SBrand Consulting will moderate the process from beginning to end. To participate in formulating the future economic success of Custer County, begin by filling out a survey at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/CusterCountyEDSP> or fill out hard copies of the surveys to be found at local business and government offices.

Information about the Strategic Plan, progress and details can be found on Facebook, <https://www.facebook.com/CCEconDevC/> in this newspaper, on the Custer County website <http://custercountygov.com/> , and on the Custer County EDC website <http://www.custercountyedc.com> .

Participating citizens can follow that up by attending public community meetings (time and locations to be announced) Thursday, Jan. 24, Tuesday, Feb. 4 and Tuesday, March 19.

Commissioner Bill Canda commented that "Strategic planning is the heart of creating a better life, stronger businesses and a more successful economy in Custer County. We will build on the studies and work done in the past few years and will capture the interests of the entire county with a specific set of action steps moving forward. This plan will give us focus and direction to improve the economy, help local businesses succeed and reinvest in our community as a whole."

The commissioner concluded, "It is imperative that we get as many citizens, from every walk of life in our county, to fill out the surveys. We need maximum participation to insure the plan truly reflects the vision of all of Custer County residents. Please participate!"