



## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQs)

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October 2009

### **Why does the County want to have a Comprehensive Plan?**

The Comprehensive Plan is an official, public document that helps guide the direction and type of growth that meets the needs of the region, the county and its communities. It helps local residents, developers, officials and County staff make sound land use decisions.

A Comprehensive Plan is intended to be an evolving visionary document that responds to and reflects the values of Garfield County over time. The plan needs to reflect the goals and values of the *entire* community.

### **Who is responsible for preparing the Comprehensive Plan?**

The County has retained the services of Winston Associates, a professional planning firm from Boulder, Colorado, to prepare the Comprehensive Plan Update. Residents, stakeholder groups and the County staff will also play important roles in shaping the final product.

### **How does the Comprehensive Plan get implemented?**

The Comprehensive Plan is implemented in many ways. The most common method for implementing the Comprehensive Plan is through the review of land use applications. Every development proposal is required to demonstrate that the project complies with goals and policies of the Comprehensive Plan. The Garfield County Code, including the Unified Land Use Resolution, may be modified to reflect the guidelines recommended by the Comprehensive Plan.

### **Why should I participate in the Comprehensive Plan process?**

To ensure that the Comprehensive Plan continues to reflect the interests of Garfield County residents, the public needs to express their concerns, experiences, likes, and dislikes. By participating in this process, the public has the opportunity to help find solutions to current and future problems, and have a voice in the future of the region.