

## Overview

*Garfield County conducted a survey to give definition to community quality growth issues by public opinion. The results will be used to help achieve consensus for future community planning. Garfield County hopes that the information will help the State Quality Growth Commission better understand rural perspectives as it relates to quality growth and rural communities better understand themselves and their future.*

## 1999 Planning Grant Summary

Grant Amount:	\$7,000
Matching Dollars:	\$4,000 (\$3,000 in-kind)
Match:	\$7,000
Project Cost:	\$14,000

# Garfield County Quality Growth Survey

## Local Responsibility

Garfield County conducted a county-wide survey to determine public opinion as it relates to the quality growth principles and to make more informed decisions as it relates to future planning within the County.

## State Leadership

The Quality Growth Commission awarded Garfield County with a grant in the amount of \$7,000.

## Economic Development

This was not a component of this project.

## Infrastructure Development

Forty-two percent of respondents strongly agree that existing roads in their community should be improved before the city or town spends revenue on new streets or roads. The study draws the conclusion that residential and commercial growth should occur in existing communities where adequate infrastructure is present.

## Housing Opportunity

The conclusion drawn from the study is that alternative housing options such as single family apartments, duplexes, smaller lots and the placement of mobile homes are options that are possible, but not in every community. Obtaining federal funding to construct new or rehabilitate older homes was strongly supported by 34% and generally supported by 72% of all respondents.

## Conservation Ethic

A majority of County residents support concepts in reference to scenic and sensitive areas, historical values and uses, and farmland. Residents may value the protection and preservation of critical and public lands, but they do not like how it is being carried out. "They feel that much of what is going on is being shoved in their face."

*“The survey results formed the basis for a number of unincorporated county and municipal planning projects.”*

*John Williams-Executive Director, 5 County AOG*

## Implementation

The plan has been implemented. The planning grant was used to facilitate a county-wide attitude survey. The county-wide planner employed by the Five County AOG developed the survey instrument, oversaw the survey process and tabulated the results.

## Promoting Intelligent Growth

The survey results formed the basis for a number of unincorporated county and municipal planning projects. One of the primary results was a scheme for development of private lands in Bryce Valley.

## Accomplishments

The survey was developed, tested, executed, tabulated, analyzed, and published for county and municipal officials.

## Benefits of the Planning Grant

The survey formed the basis for a number of efforts pursued by Garfield County Officials. See paragraphs above.