

## CITIZEN INVOLVEMENT

### I.

Summary: Extensive citizen involvement has been incorporated into Wallowa County's planning process.

#### CITIZEN INVOLVEMENT GUIDELINES

Goal: To develop a citizen involvement program that insures the opportunity for citizens to be involved in all phases of the planning process.

Findings: The findings below are the basis of Wallowa's County's Citizen Involvement Program.

1. The extent of citizen involvement is suitable for Wallowa County, which has a land area of 2,033,820 acres and a population of 6,630 people (.001 persons per acre).
2. Most County inhabitants reside in the incorporated towns and adjacent agricultural areas, and since much of the timber/grazing area is uninhabited, most citizen involvement was by valley residents.
3. The Wallowa County Planning Commission represents a broad cross-section of geographic locations and business interests. (appendix ID)
4. Provisions have been established for Planning staff to respond to citizen inquiries. Such responses will be reviewed yearly by the Planning Commission.
5. Planning Commission meetings are open to the public. Written records are maintained and made available to the public upon request.
6. Two-way communication between the Planning Commission and Citizens has been by both word-of-mouth and by written responses being provided where inquiries or requests have been made.
7. Planning Commission members and other county residents participated in subcommittee work involving the assembly and analysis of inventory information, development of preliminary policies

and recommendations, and preparation of maps. This has provided citizens an opportunity to participate in all phases of the planning process.

8. Technical assistance has been provided by the County Planning staff, agency personnel, and consulting planners. Such assistance is available on a continual basis to interpret technical information for citizens.
9. Written records of Planning Commission and staff decisions are maintained in order that citizens may be assured that decisions are documented.
10. The County has provided human, financial and informational resources to assist citizens in obtaining planning information and related decisions. Such assistance will be continued.

Policies: The following policies are a part of the Wallowa County Land Use Plan and will be taken into consideration by both private and public interests in making land use decisions. The policies supplement the plan map and have the same regulatory effect.

1. Wallowa County Planning Commission members will represent a broad cross-section of geographic and professional interests, and will be selected through an open, well-publicized process.
2. Notification of planning activities be made in newspapers and by radio as well as other means, in an attempt to make affected residents aware of up-coming decisions.
3. Inventory maps and other data utilized as the basis for planning discussions be available to citizens upon request, and interpretative assistance be provided.
4. Presentations of planning materials be made to civic groups and other interests upon request to explain land use planning and related concerns.
5. Opportunities be provided for the public to respond to preliminary planning documents prior

- to their finalizations.
6. Committee assistance be used to make recommendations related to specific areas or concerns in order to provide additional citizen input into the planning process.
  7. Written responses be made to planning inquiries, and records of such responses will be maintained for public inspection.

Recommendations: The following recommendations are implementation measures identified in the planning process:

1. Material be prepared for distribution to citizens in order that they might better understand planning.
2. Each year the Planning Commission and County Court meet to evaluate involvement procedures and opportunities and to make recommendations as to how citizen involvement can be improved.
3. Greater involvement be incorporated into planning decision-making.
4. A citizen involvement program will be developed by a citizen involvement committee.