**ENVISION CHAFFEE COUNTY   
Vision 3: A friendly supportive community where participation is encourages and shared cultural elements connect us**

**How Might We:** Identify measures of community strength and cohesiveness

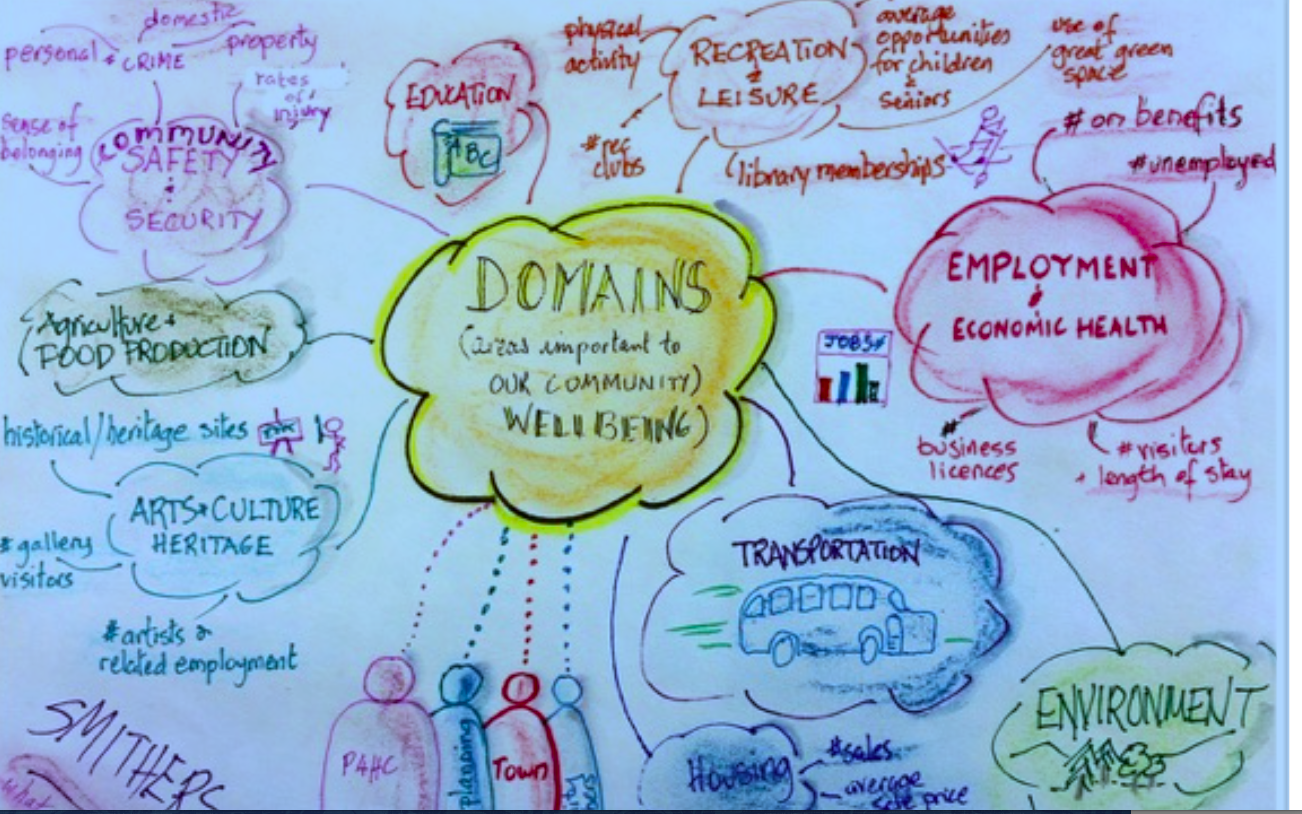
**Insights:**

*“The purpose of community is to connect people to each other and create value for all parties involved.”*

*“Community Vitality measures the strength, activity and inclusiveness of relationships between residents, private sector, public sector and civil society organizations that fosters individual and collective wellbeing.”*

*“Measure what the community cares about and tracks whether a community is moving in the right direction.”*

**Example of “Domains of Well Being” we might consider? (**Smithers WA)

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**Domains considered in the Envision Report Card #3**

1. **Community lives locally**: second homes; vrbo growth, commuters, avg. age

2. **Local Business Health**: Chamber member growth

3. **Crime Rate (eg; Safety & Security)**: # offenses

4.**Volunteerisms**: #non-profits, volunteer hrs.

Note: Seems like #1 and #2 fit better with vision #2(able to live locally and benefit from diversified community) rather than #3

**What domains do we think we should consider and possible measures?**

1. **General /Overall Satisfaction with living here**

* Subjective rating of satisfaction with our community
* #Second home owners planning (or have already) moved here
* # and reasons given by folks for move to Salida; for those who leave

1. **Sense of belonging and empowerment**

* # volunteers: Changes in # participating over time; extent of mixing of folks from both “sides”
* belief that one’s voice/opinion is heard, that one can affect the community via personal action: attendance/participation in public meetings
* places/venues for folks to gather
* # and growth of non-profits; belief that help is available and affordable
* opportunities/ease for new comers to integrate into the community
* engagement in local gov’t: voting, attending and speaking at gov’t meetings
* **Free/low-cost venues for groups to gather**

1. **Shared values yet respect for differences**

* Participation in heritage events: parades, fibark, paddlefest,county fair, Garna, etc. rates) especially those that draw people from both “sides” of our “cultural divide in # participating over time
* Letters to editor: complaints vs. compliments
* Civil discourse during public meetings , in-print, and social media
* # ,diversity (and participation) of clubs/associations

1. **Safety & Security**

* **Measures of crime rates**
* **Measures of response time, complaints, compliments**
* **No/little need to lock doors; allow children to walk to events?**

**5. Public and business services provided**

* satisfaction with public services: roads, health, police/safety etc.
* **complaints/compliments**
* **extent of “buying local”**
* # and growth of non-profits; belief that help is available and affordable from them.;

**6. Education opportunities;**

* satisfaction with public schools and adult ed/enrichment opportunites.
* **Measure of student performance (academic % extra-curriuclar)**

**7. Recreations and leisure opportunities**

* **#, variety, and accessibility of affordable opportunities for significant subgroups: children, teens, working adults, seniors**
* # ,,diversity (and participation) of clubs/associations
* **activities that bring diverse people together**

**8. others?**

**POSSIBLE NEXT STEPS**

1. **Decide if these are the right dimension to measure.**
2. **Seek objective data where possible**
3. **Draft a survey questionnaire to measure subjective satisfaction on other dimensions.**
4. **“pre-test” it on a small group and revise**
5. **Get a “representative sample of people to respond—might consider sampling by key subgroups, eg. by length of residence; by age; by SES proxy . All of these are difficult to achieve.**

Useful Web links the team might read/review

- <https://ctb.ku.edu/en/table-of-contents/evaluate/evaluate-community-initiatives/member-satisfaction/main>

https://www.smithers.ca/uploads/thinkpiece.pdf

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