

**Vision #4 - Agriculture & Development in Towns**  
**Top Ideas by Ranking & Champion(s)**

Idea		Build-Ons	Score	Champion(s)	Emails	Notes
1	Conservation leases	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* ranchers flexibility in terms of use</li> <li>* preserves ag/open space</li> <li>* be able to lease ag land (nonviable) to be used for greenhouse for local food</li> <li>* geo thermal use ideas if on lease area</li> </ul>	22	Sig Jaasrad Christie Barton	sjaastad@wildblue.net cbarton@chaffeeconomy.org	This is not an idea - it's a strategy. Need to develop this into an idea. HOW - what action needs to happen to make this a reality?
1.1	Develop a CC Ag tool box that stops ag loss by providing diverse tools to support working lands (e.g. 30 year easements, conservation leases, PDR, ATMS, etc.)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* have CC economic development create non farm income plan</li> <li>* transfer of development rights</li> <li>* payment for environmental services</li> </ul>	14			
1.2	Ability to lease water for existing ranches as well as farm to table operation.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* by using legal resources from retired/active legal professionals in our community</li> <li>* priority for senior right holders</li> <li>* voluntary non-use of irrigation water (let water pass on by so the fish can have it)</li> <li>* figure out how to pay for water storage</li> </ul>	14	Dean Roberts	ddroberts7218@gmail.com	This is not an idea - it's a strategy. Need to develop this into an idea. HOW - what action needs to happen to make this a reality?
2	Develop a funding source and distribution mechanism for payments for ecological services.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* use a portion of MMJ excise taxes</li> <li>* committee must be formed to work this great idea through</li> <li>* consider tying ag and conservation benefits into one program to increase support for a ballot measure for dedicated funding source</li> <li>* use GOCO as example of utilizing grants dispersement of funds</li> <li>* use citizen scientists to monitor water infiltration , wildlife, etc.</li> </ul>	21	Lucy Waldo Brady Everett	lucy@centralcoloradoconservancy.org everettranchbeef@gmail.com	
2.1	Tax visitors for environmental benefits.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* or develop a community funding measure</li> <li>* with a lodging tax</li> <li>* carbon/aquifer/wildlife benefits</li> <li>* broaden this to look at all options to generate revenue from community and visitors (tax, bond) to determine which is most feasible and make it happen</li> <li>* do a voluntary contribution/annual fundraiser as a source of funding to assist ag lands</li> </ul>	16			
3	Establish watershed protection incentive program.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* including payment to landowners for voluntary, proactive conservation practices</li> <li>* negotiate terms of lease based on wants/needs of landowners</li> <li>* labor force for conservation practice installations</li> <li>* incentives for organizations (all sectors) that support watershed protection financially or otherwise</li> </ul>	16			
4	Create volunteer pool (legal advice) that helps ranchers with succession planning for free.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* and provides resources that can be shared</li> <li>* online and formal meet-ups (as groups or individuals) based on need</li> <li>* field trips to ranches to see problems first hand</li> </ul>	19	Hallie Mahowald		
4.1	Create a land institute.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* that helps connect ranchers &amp; interns</li> <li>* that brings new techniques &amp; more money to ranchers</li> <li>* that curates on the ground management and shares it with other landowners</li> <li>* that hosts educational workshops</li> <li>* supports financial decisions (insurance, profitability, analysis)</li> </ul>	19	Rick Bieterman Nancy Roberts	rickbieterman@gmail.com nancyroberts1@aol.com	
4.2	Create a skills bank of professional to work pro bono in support of ranchers.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* legal, engineering, marketing, etc.</li> <li>* educate the professionals on the importance of doing this for the community (attitude adjustment)</li> <li>* including marketing/branding support for local added value products i.e. grass-fed</li> <li>* support an organic processing service to appeal to a broader audience</li> </ul>	12			
4.3	Curate and distribute resources for landowners based in on-the-ground management.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* types of operation (ex hay, cattle, solar, cabins, etc.)</li> <li>* insurance coverage plans</li> <li>* grant writing</li> <li>* equipment, i.e. seeder, keyline plow</li> <li>* educational resources</li> <li>* other field visits/tours to show techniques</li> </ul>	16			

4.4	Create a resource/databse of local ranchers and operations on the land.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* that is a call-in/dial-up website</li> <li>* included on Facebook community page</li> <li>* that includes a marketing component</li> <li>* for studies/research on successful conservation practices</li> <li>* to help with peer-to-peer connection and sharing of practices</li> </ul>	11			
4.5	Determine needs of Guidestone and CC CSU extension Service office for providing more education and support to farmers/ranchers regarding estate/succession/transition planning and internship/apprenticeships possibilities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* interview ranches and see what is missing/what they need</li> <li>* connect with broader organizations through Envision</li> <li>* technical support/paperwork help with internships etc.</li> <li>* use CSU extension over Guidestone (non-political)</li> </ul>	15	Natalie Allio	natalie.allio@gmail.com	
5	Combine the planning functions of the County and the towns.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* this group with community input defines growth (development) areas</li> <li>* evaluate entity would appoint members of their planning commission to the joint planning commission</li> <li>* IGAs to structure county and town planning efforts</li> <li>* town residents and county residents represented equally</li> </ul>	17	Dave Holt	jdavidholt@gmail.com	
5.1	Convene working groups between county and municipalities to identify growth areas to focus growth - extend serves into, add infrastructure, etc.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* create a fund to compensate land owners for perceived loss in value for zoning changes</li> <li>* compensate landowners for infrastructure access</li> <li>* identify high value ag land for special compensation grants</li> <li>* unity within town and local government</li> </ul>	14	Keith Baker Jeanne Younghaus	kbaker6474@me.com ted7jl.cp@gmail.com	
5.2	County defined growth areas have tax payer funded infrastructure.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* town would sell lands to extend infrastructure with limits on extent of infrastructure agreed to by towns and counties</li> <li>* structure under IGA with counties and all towns</li> <li>* provides economical growth and complete neighborhoods</li> </ul>	13			
6	Research the idea of an ag district (like an art district) and work with Kerry Donovan to get it into a bill.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* consder is ther a CC starter version of this?</li> <li>* get a focus and purpose of ag district</li> <li>* talk with others who have ag districts in place</li> <li>* explain benefits to ranchers of ag district</li> </ul>	N/A	Dan Waldvogle	dan@guidestonecolorado.org	
7	County government help maintain fences on county roads.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* inventory fences for who actually owns them, individual or county</li> <li>* government provide a grant writer to apply for funding to maintain fences</li> <li>* utilize local doc labor and County request</li> <li>* community service program for local "troubled" youth</li> </ul>	7	Ken McMurry	mcmurryken@gmail.com	
8	Education:curriculum, class rooms k-12 and college, promote workforce and provide matching funds for salaries.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* partner with schools/class grade/ranch - field trips</li> <li>* make it an annual thing for all school children to visit Hutchinson Ranch, Guidestone farms, etc.</li> <li>* high school students could be given projects that assist ranchers - fix fences, harvest crops, etc.</li> </ul>	16	Dave Kelly	Hirockybv@gmail.com	This is not an idea - it's a strategy. Need to develop this into an idea. HOW - what action needs to happen to make this a reality?
9	Create a local marketing campaign for local beef working with catering and local venues to sell the product at a premimum price to those wanting the CC expereince.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* recruit a local processor plant</li> <li>* encourage local wedding planners to include "guests were served CC beef" in their press</li> <li>* add festivals that promote ranch/farm events, county fair, music festival</li> </ul>	16	Chuck Azzopardi Chelsey Nutter	Azzopardi@FirstColorado.com projects@uawcd.com	
9.1	Create a regional brand. Champagne, Burgundy, Piconning Cheese are all regionally branded products. Create a regional branch such as Chaffee Beef that adds value to our local products.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* literal graphic design brand that could be distributed as a temporary tattoo</li> <li>*highlight local examples of the beef industry that already works</li> <li>* Chaffee High Country Beef bumperstickers</li> </ul>	14			
9.2	Signs at the 5 entrances to Chaffee County saying "Chaffee County Loves Our Ranches, Please Give Them a Brake" Pictures of redlight, tractor and horsemen.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* not just at entrances to county but at other strategic locations</li> <li>* ask local artists to design these</li> <li>* ask Guidestone to help fund</li> </ul>	10	Lee Rooks	lwrooks26@gmail.com	
10	Build solar.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* lease program to power ranch operations</li> <li>* make solar panel more avialable ranches</li> <li>* educating the community about advantages of solar industry</li> <li>* considering implications to neighbors</li> </ul>	11			This is not an idea - it's a strategy. Need to develop this into an idea. HOW - what action needs to happen to make this a reality?

11	Ensure Chaffee County agriculture is taking advantage of <u>all</u> USDA programs available.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* set up research group to stay on top of</li> <li>* be in contact with CSU, legislature, government entities to keep informed</li> <li>* reauthorize the conservation security program or strengthen the conservation stewardship program</li> <li>* have help from skill bank</li> </ul>	11	Greg Felt	greg@arkanglers.com	
12	Adopt-a-Ranch Animal for \$s	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* create a campaign from the adopt-a-ranch animal program</li> <li>* encourage tourists to visit ranches to meet their animals</li> <li>* also to interact with animal (move, brand, etc.)</li> </ul>	14	Karen O'Connell	dogeareoptimist@gmail.com	
12.1	Open air dinner party at a ranch, i.e. Outstanding In the Field website: long table full of people great local food and drinks in a beautiful setting.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* using local food from Scanga or from a new facility at the north end of the valley</li> <li>* have available grass-fed beef from area</li> <li>* bring local chefs, local alcohol</li> <li>* market to local residents, tourists for fundraising events</li> </ul>	8	Luz Diaz Terry Porter	luzstella2000@yahoo.com iceporter@yahoo.com	
12.2	Heritage Tourism: covered wagon rides.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* history of the ranch or area of the wagon ride</li> <li>* developing a "wild" route (to pretend you are a pioneer - discovering the rockies)</li> <li>* accompanying livestock</li> <li>* eat local food prepared by staff (river raft model)</li> </ul>	9			
12.3	Have the Farmers Market at the Fair Grounds the Saturday of the County Fair.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* encourage broader participation with a "best" pie contest or "tastiest salsa"</li> <li>* broaden marketing to visitors to educate more than just residents - the only FM at a fair</li> <li>* have interested citizens explain about ranching</li> <li>* tie in with 4-H auction</li> </ul>	13	Louise Olsen-Marquez	louise@lao-m.com	
13	Use the medical "triage" model to create zones that: protect best habitat, protect most productive ag lands, and identify best development/growth zones.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* determine zones by developing committee made up of CC, BV, Salida, Ponch planners</li> <li>* and interested local citizens</li> <li>* consider asking people/landowners how they would like to be zoned</li> <li>* create incentives to participate in zones</li> <li>* education</li> </ul>	13	Buffy Lenth Alison Ramsey	buffy@centralcoloradoconservancy.org info@garna.org	
14	Create test facilities for new crops.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* collect/use local compost from farm/ranches to use in beds</li> <li>* that also has test markets</li> <li>* use conservation easements to help pay for land acquisition</li> <li>* that are drought resistant and require fewer pesticides</li> <li>* in a variety of locations (soils, light, H2O types)</li> </ul>	N/A	Ed Berg	EBERGSEKR@msn.com	
15	Non-urban PUD to limit agriculture loss (Boulder County model)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* sell and lease back farm/ranch</li> <li>* find funding mechanisms 7-10 year agriculture leasing</li> <li>* how to decrease ag land taxes</li> <li>* offer flexibility of combining commercial and residential development with potential for a walkable community</li> </ul>	12	Keith Krebs	keithkrebssarchitect@gmail.com	