

THE MORGAN COUNTY NEWS

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Get Involved with the Envision Morgan Process

by John Barber

(Guest Commentary, 16 May 08)

Like many of you, I've seen a lot of changes taking place in Morgan County – and more are on the way. The Governor's Office conservatively estimates that we'll double our population in less than 20 years. Fortunately, we can all participate in Envision Morgan, a planning process to help protect what we love about our mountain valley, and create a desirable future for our children and grandchildren.

Through upcoming workshops and an on-line survey, Envision Morgan seeks to hear from you. What are your ideas for future jobs and housing? What are the benefits and consequences if we continue our current policies? Are there conservation strategies to explore?

A steering committee of Morgan-area citizens is guiding Envision Morgan. Committee members are committed to a transparent process in which citizens can explore the challenges associated with growth and work toward the creation of a long-term vision for the region. Under the steering committee's direction, Envision Utah, an experienced and neutral organization, is facilitating the process.

At the three workshops, residents will brainstorm how they want growth to be addressed over the coming decades. The workshops are not a public referendum or vote on any particular idea. I hope you'll attend one of the workshops (at the Morgan Middle School, 115 E. Young Street, in Morgan):

Tuesday, May 27, from 7:00 p.m. to 9:45 p.m.

Wednesday, May 28, from 7:00 p.m. to 9:45 p.m.

Wednesday, June 4, from 7:00 p.m. to 9:45 p.m.

(Please RSVP to Mary at mdavies@envisionutah.org or (801) 303-1459 if you can attend.)

The ideas from these workshops will be captured in several growth scenarios. These scenarios are “snapshots” of what the county might be like, depending on how we choose to grow. The scenarios will help us see potential impacts of today's land-use and transportation decisions on future generations. Taking the best elements from the scenarios, and steered by public preferences, Envision Morgan will create a Morgan County Vision.

If you can't attend a workshop, please complete the same survey on-line at www.envisionmorgan.org between May 27 and June 13.

Envision Morgan will create a vision that will include a county map suggesting preferred land-use patterns and a set of publicly supported guiding principles that can serve as a foundation for future land-use decisions. By taking advantage of this opportunity and working together with diligence, creativity and purpose, we will leave a brighter legacy for generations of Morgan County residents.

(From John Barber of Barber Brothers Ford and Chair of the Envision Morgan Steering Committee.)