

STURGIS MEETINGS SUMMARY

05/12/2022

IN ATTENDANCE: 13

#1 Reason why you live in Meade County? Aka: Favorite thing about Meade County?

- Love it here
- Hidden gems
- Proximity to outdoors – hunting & fishing
- Close trailhead access
- “Forever” home
- Being part of groups that influence the future
- Rural
- More opportunities
- Bright future
- Great place to raise dogs
- People
- Fun place to work
- Lots to do
- Growing
- Access to outdoor recreation
- Beautiful
- Great community/place to live
- Location – no east/west coast (culture)
- Four seasons
- Outdoor activities
- “Home”/Family

What should be **Preserved** in Meade County?

- Clean creeks with fish and access
- Public access to public lands **X7**
- Nature – open spaces **X2**
- Controlled development
- Water (quality)
- Affordable utilities
- “Starter” housing
- Low taxes
- Local history
- Community identity **X2**
- Ag lands
- Affordable housing
- Recreational areas **X3**

- Smaller government
- Public spaces
- Work life balance
- Wildlife populations
- Historic buildings and landmarks
- Water access
- Quality of life
- Heritage/Custom/Culture **X4**
- Private property rights
- Opportunity for diversified recreation
- Highway & road maintenance
- Good law enforcement & public safety
- In town bike path
- Small business

Biggest **Challenges** facing Meade County?

- Fast growth – changing expectations
- Rising cost of living and housing
- Fort Meade Way (everything)
- Incompatible land usage
- People working from home (workforce working for companies outside the County)
- No commercial businesses
- Maintaining existing infrastructure **X3**
- Influx of population that may not have our same values
- Getting/keeping quality people in leadership positions
- Providing utility services for new development – water/sewer/electric
- Controlling development
- Controlling dumping
- Controlling the boarder counties growth (and boarder counties culture from taking over)
- Preserving public access to public lands
- Regulating government with no industry for revenue
- Schools (ensuring enough services for growth)
- Growth! (amount and pace) **X3**
- Infrastructure (availability)
- County budget/taxes
- Job wages (livable wages/good paying jobs needed) **X2**
- Housing cost (unaffordable) **X2**
- Marijuana (could bring in crime)
- Teachers – educators (having enough to address growth)
- Keeping great people here while fast growth happens
- Maintaining quality communities
- Focus on smart growth & not fast money growth
- Economic challenges
- Rural Ambulance (services to rural areas)
- Seasonal community
- “Bedroom” county (lack industry, people go outside the county to work)

- Keeping the workforce
- In-fill subdivisions
- Planned growth
- Coordination/communication between various communities (Sturgis, Summerset, Faith, Piedmont, Box Elder)
- Size (physical issues and social issues – providing services/different cultures/values)
- County wages/staffing
- Property taxes (too high)
- Lack of zoning
- Urban vs Rural (culture, needs)
- Public access to public lands
- Funding for projects
- Mandated vs unmandated (funding)

Opportunities to make Meade County even better as a place to...

<p>Live</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Small house communities (affordable housing) • Careful growth planning • Restrict Air B&Bs • More tiny homes & community gardens (affordable housing) • Grants for mid-range housing assistance (mid-range households also struggling) • Incentivize smaller houses and lots • Regulate vacation rentals? • More multifamily housing • Higher density lots • Tiny houses (affordable housing) • Lower taxes (help with housing affordability) • More commerce
<p>Recreate</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Help BH Trails maintain trails • More public hunting success for bird & small game hunting • More water access • Dedicate access • Trailhead & bike path to BLM, Ft Meade, & Bear Butte • Community activities for families (movie theater) • More water-based recreation • Natural surface trails connecting all communities in I-90 strip • Spot zoning
<p>Get Around</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Do <u>Not</u> promote motorize trails in certain areas • Mass transit? (it was mentioned it was available to everyone not just senior community, suggested better advertising) • Train or business transit between communities • Better intersections • Control development – planning • Improve quality of road maintenance • ADA accessibility • Sidewalks & Bike lanes

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Alternative transportation • Bike lanes
Work & Do Business	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More industry jobs and better pay scale to keep employees in Meade County • Promote more specialty doctors • Too many Rally only businesses owning Main St. buildings (Sturgis) • Better paying & more jobs • Promote small business X2 • Highly skilled professionals bring high quality residents • Incentives for new businesses • Wi-Fi broadband • Less government regulations • Incentives for new businesses/industry • More non-Rally oriented business
Farm & Ranch	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community gardens or crop sales - stands from local farms/ranches • More support for preserving ranching culture & supporting local stores with products • Improve profits for Ag. Industry • Better farm to market • Bridge repair "load limits"
Visit	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Focus on promoting things other than Rally (cave tour routes, history tours, wine trail, birding maps, antique trails) • Allow a Rally tax – aka: toll – temperature Co. sales tax • Incentivize non-Rally businesses and attractions • Promote history and recreation • Advertise trail system