

Parachute 2040 Plan
Objectives Table

Objective	Objective Number	Timeframe	Priority	Responsible Party(ies)
Theme #1: Diversify the Economy				
Provide reliable, efficient broadband service to all residents and businesses in Town.	2-2			
Ensure that any adverse transportation effects (i.e., intensified maintenance and congestion) caused by future development are mitigated by codified processes.	4-1			
Foster and plan for the future growth and economic development of the Town.	4-5			
Revitalize commercial centers	5-1			
Recruit industries and businesses that meet the needs of existing and future residents.	5-2			
Diversify the local economy and attract high-paying, next-generation jobs.	5-5			
Expand services and amenities.	5-6			
Encourage alternative careers	5-8			
Theme #2: Maintaining a Sense of Community				
Partner with community organizations to address poverty rates and educational gaps.	1-1			
Enhance community connection and trust between the Town government and the residents of the community.	1-2			

Parachute 2040 Plan
Objectives Table

Objective	Objective Number	Timeframe	Priority	Responsible Party(ies)
Create additional advisory boards to engage more residents in Town governance and assist the Town in implementing the Objectives of this Plan.	1-3			
Balance growth with community preservation to maintain a sense of community.	2-7			
Enhance public transit experience.	4-2			
Adopt design standards for different types of streets.	4-4			
Develop and create community gathering spaces and opportunities to promote dialogue.	5-7			
Theme #3: Create a Range of Residential Types				
Ensure water and sewer utilities are adequately sized and installed for future growth.	2-1			
Maintain and create attainable housing opportunities for all of the Town residents.	2-3			
Implement property rezoning and development projects that are consistent with the Future Land Use Map to ensure the housing, retail, service, and economic needs of the community are being met.	2-5			
Develop a resiliency plan to identify where improvements are needed to create redundancy in land use.	2-6			
Meet the future housing needs of the Town.	5-3			
Improve the homeownership rate.	5-4			

Parachute 2040 Plan
Objectives Table

Objective	Objective Number	Timeframe	Priority	Responsible Party(ies)
Theme #4: Making Community Connections through Trails and Pathways				
Create a network of trails connecting parks, neighborhoods, and the Colorado River.	3-1			
Enhance parks and recreation facilities to meet desired community level of service.	3-2			
Develop a trails management plan to ensure proper design, construction, and maintenance of the trails throughout the Town.	3-4			
Connect residents to destinations through all modes of transportation.	4-3			
Theme #5: Protect and Leverage the Region’s Natural Assets and Resources				
Maintain and improve community aesthetics through the creation of standards to enhance the built environment and preserve valuable natural amenities.	2-4			
Identify prime open space areas and pursue their acquisition and preservation.	3-3			
Partner with regional stakeholders and jurisdictions to leverage and maximize existing Parks, Trails, and Public Land assets in the community.	3-5			

Plan Parachute 2040

What is a Comprehensive Plan?

A blueprint for future growth. To develop a clear vision for the Town over the next 20 years. Identifies needs and informs policies that can be easily understood, evaluated, and implemented.

Plan Elements



We're here!



- Phase 1 Community Assessment
- Phase 2 Public Outreach (Grand Valley Days)
- Phase 3 Evaluate Plan Elements and Needs
- Phase 4 Identify Goals and Actions
- Phase 5 Finalize Plan and Adoption



Existing Conditions Snapshot

Community Assessment

- Current population is 1,363. Projected population for 2040 is 3,764.
- Parachute has seen more variations of population size due to the boom and bust of the oil industry. 1995 had a growth rate of 9.1%, then in 2000 had a -0.2% growth rate.
- Projections show Parachute having a higher growth rate than the County. 2030 - 2040 is expected to see a 7.6% growth rate compared to the County's rate of 1.7%.
- Average household size is 2.61 which is slightly more than the state average of 2.49.

Figure x. Poverty Rates
Source: 2019 ACS



Figure x. Median Household Income
Source: 2019 ACS



Figure X. Population Distribution by Age Comparison

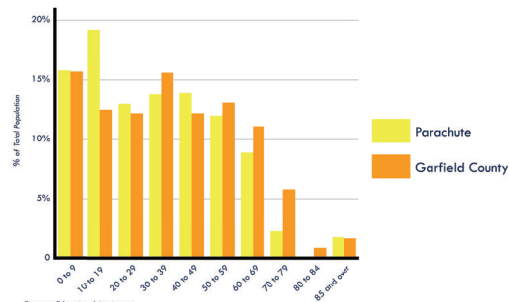


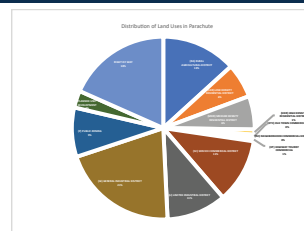
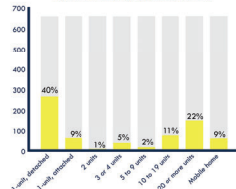
Figure x. Educational Attainment
Source: 2019 ACS



Land Use & Built Form

- 658 total housing units, most being single-family homes.
- Average cost of a house in 2019 was \$171,100 (compared to County's average cost of \$360,600)
- 76.5% of households have access to internet in Parachute, compared to the national average of 86.6%.

Figure x. Housing Type Distribution



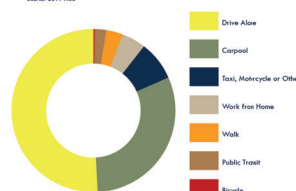
Parks, Trails, and Open Space

- Three town-owned parks: Beasley Park, Parachute Rest Area park, and Cottonwood Park.

Transportation

- Public transit options include the local PATS (Parachute Area Transit System), as well as a stop on CDOT's Bustang West Line, connecting Grand Junction and Denver.
- BNSF railways operate freight rail with two grade-separated crossings (pedestrian bridge and Hwy 215).
- Walkscore rated Parachute low, meaning infrastructure is not amenable to walking/biking and that most trips are car-dependent.

Figure x. Commuting Habits
Source: 2019 ACS



Economic Vitality

- Unemployment rate has steadily decreased since the Great Recession, and in 2019 was just under 4%. The national average at that time was 3.5%.

Figure x. Total Businesses and Employees

Source: 2019 ESRI

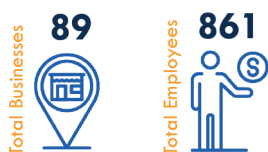


Figure x. Employment vs. Unemployment Rates
Source: 2010, 2015, 2019 ACS

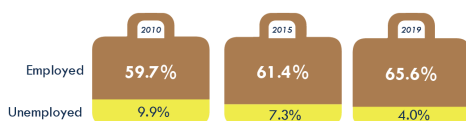


Figure x. Top Industry Employers

Source: 2019 ESRI

