

Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) 2025



2025 Community Meeting Recap for the Community of Hysham

Annually, Southeastern Montana Development Corporation (SEMDC) initiates public input throughout a four-county region to assist in developing a Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS). In the past, we have held community meetings to gain insight into trends, strengths, and concerns in various communities. This year we conducted online surveys to evaluate how things have changed from last year, and to note what projects are priorities to be completed for the following year(s). These conversations are incorporated into a five-year CEDS planning document created by SEMDC to be utilized in the process to assist the communities in Southeastern Montana.

SEMDC is working with citizens and communities to find ways to maximize positive impacts and mitigate negative ones. The more individuals in each community that understand economic change and its impacts, proactively plan, and communicate within the community and region, the better the outcomes will be.

Developed by:

Southeastern Montana Development
Corporation (SEMDC)

www.semdc.org

406.748.2990

Hysham CEDS Meeting 2025

Strengths

4th of July Event	Local Financial Institution
Access to Rosebud Library	Local Government Leadership
Active Community Foundation	Lodging
Active senior Community	Lower Yellowstone Byway
Area F Coal	Museum/culture
Yucca Theater and upgrades scheduled for 2025 and 2026	Improvements to water system in Hysham
Junque Store	Paved runway at the airport
Beautiful historic buildings	Planning Board
Café / Hardware Store / Local Ownership	Playground Equipment
Chamber of Commerce	Pool (Free)
Community Facebook Page	Pool Income
Convenience Store EXP. Increased tax base	Possible Remote Work
Community Foundation	Possible Value-Added Ag
Community Spirit "Holidays in Hysham"	Potential bedroom community (of Billings / Miles City)
Community Support and fundraising for pool	Progressive Local Gout
County Capital Improvement Plan	Proposed Wind Farm
County Seat	Public Health
Island Access	Railroad Spur/2 New Railroad Sidings
Downtown Building – possibilities	Rest Area
Education attainment level in the community	River
Electrical / Co-op	Safe / Quiet Community
EMS (Fire / Ambulance)	School System and Enrollment
Expansion of Fiber Optics	School website
Food Bank	Senate Bill 355 Funding
Four churches	Senior Activities
Fun Run/Splash Dash	Shooting Range
Garbage Canister Site	Vet Clinic
Good irrigation systems	Strong agriculture base
Growth Plan / County	Strong morals/ethics as a working Community
Hardwired Internet for home (small scale)	Street Fest Event
Highway 311 Improvements	Storage Unit Business
Highly educated agriculture workers	Shooting Range
Hunting/Fishing	Strong Volunteerism
Hysham CIP	Town/River Access with facilities
Implement dealer	UPS Service
Interstate close	New rural Airbnb options in Treasure County
Law Enforcement	

Concerns

Apathy	Lack of skilled trades, electricians, plumbers
Age increasing – lack of availability of services (pharmacy/groceries – basic) will be a factor for people looking to move here	Larger machinery / fewer employees
Wastewater mains/lagoons	Leadership & Education
City services – water, sewer, etc., high costs	Limited housing rental/Low income only
Colstrip Impacts	Major employer lives elsewhere
Competitive advantage is a challenge	Marketing of Community Foundation
Connectivity - Remote Work	Maturing Population
Decreasing property values	No grocery store
Dept of Rev Office – State Services	No Public Transportation Bus/impacts
Development - how to be a success story?	Lack of senior living services/facility
Difficult to get basic services with a small population	Old Vacant Buildings and Lots
Diversified Agriculture – Apathy	People shopping behaviors (if it were local...will people buy local?)
Frontage Road (W)	Price of utilities
FSA Office Now closed	Public Rest Rooms
	Public School Building Repairs
Fire Hall – being renovated but could use more work/lack of funding	Recruitment Challenges
“Gendered work” difficult for women to find work	School Kids not in Public Schools at Hysham
Grant \$\$ for infrastructure	Schools – lack of families with school-aged children
Hard to Engage the Community	Solid Waste Rate Cost
Housing BLIGHT	Somewhat landlocked
Housing (existing housing is limited)	Street Condition
How to capitalize on Natural Resources	Street Sweeper Needed
Keeping local land Agriculture	Tax Base
Lack of agriculture workers/support	Technology impacting jobs
Lack of diversification	The community can be perceived as exclusive
Lack of general store – clothing, etc.	Town Blight- enforcement
Lack of Highway Signage	Technology impacting jobs
Lack of Local Businesses	Settling problem at school facility/needs to be addressed
Lack of Lodging/Motel Options	Water main line condition (plant to town)
Lack of Natural Gas – Cost of business	Cost of water/sewer services

Economy

Community Marketing Strategy

Develop a community marketing strategy.

Housing, Quality of Life, Services, and Infrastructure

Bridge Repairs

Bridges in need of repair; River Rd and Pump House Rd.

Daycare

Daycare location and provider needed.

Fire Hall/Community Building

Continue to improve Fire Hall/Community Building

Lagoon Improvements

Lagoon improvements are needed.

Lift Station (2nd) Replacement

Replace 2nd lift station

Main Street Revitalization

Apply to the MT Main Street Program. Address blight and street paving needs.

School Repairs

Complete PAR for school and seek funding for repairs

Upgrade County Road Equipment

Plan for and fund county road equipment needs

Water/Wastewater Improvements

Continue to plan and fund necessary water/wastewater improvements