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July 1997

BOULDER COUNTY  
LAND USE

Dear Member of the Gold Hill Community,

Last summer you received one of the 175 surveys sent out to solicit your opinions about issues and concerns regarding Gold Hill. Over 70 responses were received, quite a good return, certainly large enough to provide a good indication of how the community feels about the issues queried.

The copy of the survey enclosed summarizes the number of responses received for each question (totals do not necessarily add up to the same number because of variations in responses). In addition, to gain some insight into the meaning of the responses numerical scores were given to each response category ( Strongly Agree +4; Agree +2; Neutral 0; Disagree -2; Strongly Disagree -4 ). These were multiplied by the number of responses in each category and then summed to a single total for each question. On the average, the number of neutral responses for each question was 15. This indicates that respondees either didn't know enough about the issue to answer otherwise ( many, based on written remarks) or they truly had no strong feelings either way.

The numerical scores reveal in many cases clear support or disagreement for many of the issues:

SUPPORT

- Q1. Development is affecting water quality or quantity (+96)
- Q2. Development of a community water system should be explored (+54)
- Q3. Development of a community sewer system should be explored (+48)
- Q4. Air pollution by dust and auto exhaust is a serious health problem (+44)  
But funding of water and sewer districts by an additional property tax was not in favor (Q.25: -4) by a slight margin. Perhaps financing through tax free bonds would be a possible alternative.
- Q9. The Gold Hill school was very strongly supported (+202)
- Q10. The community should actively support our children's education (+164)
- Q11. Strong support for a community history museum (+132)
- Q14. The Fire Department is doing a good job (+102)
- Q15. Law enforcement in Gold Hill is adequate (+64)
- Q16. Access to hiking trails should be preserved if at all possible (+106)
- Q17. Regulation of development should preserve vistas and the natural environment (+186)
- Q19. Future residential development in the historic district should be strictly controlled (+142)
- Q22. Gold Hill definitely needs a Long Range Plan to guide its future (+134)

DISAGREEMENT

- Q5,6,7. Streets and roads in and leading to Gold Hill should not be paved (-76)
- Q21. There should not be anymore business development in the historic district (-72)
- Q24. There should not be any additional taxes for street improvements (-46)

On the rest of the issues the point scores were 40 or less, indicating no strong preferences, therefore probably do not warrant further action.

Written comments provided additional insights about the feelings of the respondents. These were prioritized by the number of times they were made:

1. Access to hiking trails on private land must respect or be at the discretion of the land owner.
2. People are concerned about dog control, noise, and speeding on Main St.
3. Residents and neighbors should mind their own business.
4. Air pollution caused by horse manure and dust on the streets. This problem is caused by large number of horses from Trojan Ranch.
5. Parking problems on Main St.

Preservation of the cemetary and historic buildings.

BIM selling of land to private owners and developers.

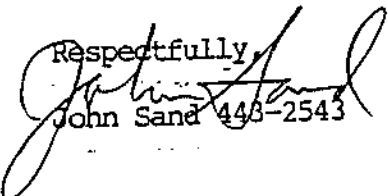
Prepare history pamphlet on Gold Hill, including values of the community.

These messages will be conveyed to the County Commissioners.

To address the interest in community water and sewer systems study groups will be put together from the 13 respondents who volunteered to help. Anyone else wishing to participate should contact Bob Mason, Chairperson of the Town Meeting, 443-3408.

The Survey Committee thanks everyone for their support of the survey. The resulting information will be invaluable for the development of a Long Range Plan for Gold Hill, and for conveying to the County Commissioners the position of the community on these many issues.

Respectfully,

  
John Sand 443-2543

Health and Safety

SCORE

RESPONSES

1 Quality and/or quantity of well water is being adversely affected by development in the Gold Hill area.

+96

Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree
3	3	26	19	19

2 Development of a community water system should be explored.

+54

Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree
7	11	13	24	14

3 Development of a community sewage system should be explored.

+48

Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree
11	8	14	20	17

4 Air pollution caused by dust and automobile exhaust is a serious health problem.

+44

Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree
7	11	15	25	11

Transportation

5 The dirt section of Sunshine Canyon road should be paved.

-78

Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree
27	13	10	10	9

6 Main Street in the Historic District should be paved.

-62

Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree
23	16	8	13	9

7 The dirt section of Four Mile Canyon road should be paved.

=90

Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree
26	15	12	8	7

8 Road maintenance is satisfactory.

+2

Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree
9	19	9	26	6

Education

SCORE

RESPONSES

9 The Gold Hill school is an essential asset to the community.

+202

Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree
2	1	6	16	45

10 The Gold Hill community should be actively involved in the education of our children.

+164

Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree
0	1	13	29	27

11 A community museum should be established to preserve artifacts and knowledge of local history and to support education.

+132

Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree
1	1	18	31	19

Civic Services

12 The Gold Hill Volunteer Fire Department is adequately funded.

+14

Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree
2	12	33	21	1

13 The Gold Hill Volunteer Fire Department is adequately staffed and equipped.

+26

Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree
0	11	38	20	2

14 Response of the Fire Department to emergencies meets expectations.

+102

Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree
0	1	26	35	7

15 Law enforcement in Gold Hill is sufficient.

+64

Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree
1	6	27	24	8

Environment

SCORE

RESPONSES

16 A strong effort should be made to preserve access to hiking trails, even those which pass through private property.

+106

Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree
7	6	7	27	23

17 Preservation of vistas and the natural environment should be a strong factor in consideration and regulation of development.

+186

Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree
2	2	7	19	40

Development

18 Tourist visits to Gold Hill are beneficial to the town.

+6

Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree
7	13	28	18	6

19 Future residential development in the historic district should be strictly controlled.

+142

Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree
3	5	6	28	27

20 The Historic Zoning Committee is succeeding in maintaining the traditional character of the Historic District.

+4

Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree
4	15	27	23	1

21 There should be more business development in the Historic District.

-72

Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree
19	17	17	11	4

Planning

22 Gold Hill needs a Long Range Plan to guide its future.

+134

Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree
2	5	6	32	23

And Finally

How interested would you be in forming a general improvement district, funded by a self-imposed property tax, for the purposes of:

SCORE

RESPONSES

- 23 Acquiring additional open space?  $+40$
- 24 Making street improvements?  $=46$
- 25 Developing a water and sewage district?  $-4$

Not at all	Indifferent	Unsure	Mildly Interested	Very Interested
17	5	10	20	17

Not at all	Indifferent	Unsure	Mildly Interested	Very Interested
28	5	10	15	9

Not at all	Indifferent	Unsure	Mildly Interested	Very Interested
23	5	9	20	12

Are there other concerns or aspects of life in Gold Hill that you feel should be addressed that haven't been touched upon in this survey?

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Other comments or suggestions:

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For discussion of any of these issues, or for questions, call:

John Sand, 443-2543 or Bob Mason, 443-3408.

Please return this survey to: John Sand, 620 Main St. (Gold Hill) Boulder, 80302-9763

OPTIONAL

Respondent's name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

I would like to help the Committee to develop a Long Range Plan

(Yes ) (No )