

Input Session
California Gulch OU6
LCSD Administration Building
Tuesday, January 12, 2010

Visitor # 1

If you have people do the survey on-line, there is more potential for the same person submitting more than one survey.

The idea of improving the MBT will be limited by the process of land acquisition. You could end up spending a huge amount of money acquiring the land – even before you make improvements.

ATVs are already not allowed access to the MBT. Already done – no need to take this action

Question # 13 – the orientation to Harrison Avenue is incorrect – Harrison runs N/S – so there is no south side of Harrison Ave on which to place a park.

When asked how to reach out and encourage more citizens to visit the website and provide input/respond to surveys: people are worn out – they do not read things about EPA or California Gulch anymore.

Focus on helping existing organizations and efforts that are already working on historic preservation and mining issues. There are lots of things that EPA could provide some funding for that would not cost a lot that would build on exiting efforts. For example, the County owns “Overlook Park” which is in an extraordinary location with incredible views. It would not cost much to enhance this park with picnic tables, add a fence to demark and make safe a parking area, add awnings, kiosks, etc. Kiosks should be durable but not expensive because they will get damaged and they will be more costly to replace if they are expensive.

Be realistic about the longevity of improvements. Anticipate the worst. Know that people will try to damage and burn things.

Based upon the type of work the County serves the community with, it could be considered one big construction company. While the County has recently gone through a tough economic time, it will continue to do its work – just maybe on a different timeline. The County understands that the kinds of things the community wants and the County wants to provide (e.g., the ball park,

the rodeo, the MBT, etc.) will come with some risks. The County proceeds with this understanding and plans for the risk. The risk does not stop the County from doing the work it needs to do to serve its community. The county is resourceful and resilient.

Visitor # 2

I am passionate about history and the region's history. All aspects of history are important – from documentation (history of grantees/grantors, warrantee deeds, etc.) to mine waste piles and historic buildings. The history that is important is the history of the entire mining district which extended to the Utah border. Anyone who was anybody was in or came through Leadville at some time.

A lot of the historical records are missing. We need to put effort into filling the gaps. We need to find more space to exhibit and store historical artifacts. We can't address all the needs for historic preservation at once. Like regulations and costs imposed by things like the American Disability Act, health concerns about exposure to asbestos, etc. it will take time to fully address the need for historic preservation.

Tourism drawn by the history of the district is important to the local economy. The history of the East side of Leadville is particularly rich. It encompasses record of the major impacts of corporate mining, smelting, and the railroad.

Remediation and mitigation of OU6 should not be done out of the context of the history of the district. The delineation of the OU's has meaning to EPA but does not necessarily make sense to Leadville, the district or the history of the district. It would be great if EPA had included historic mitigation in all of the OUs .

Change things up – integrate whatever is done on historic mitigation on OU6 into the history of the full mining district.

We need to get beyond the adversarial relationship with EPA and look towards a collaborative relationship. We are all interconnected – e.g., Leadville is in the headwaters of the AK River – what we do impacts others downstream in the watershed. How can we leverage funds to implement more preservation in an integrated way across the district?

Visitors # 3, 4 and 5

Historic preservation is important to us.

Visitor # 6

Look for ways to collaborate with others to achieve creative historic preservation. Consider private and public partnerships. One example is the possibility of EPA working with Newmont to tie developing a visitor's center in the Irene with preservation of the Ibex 4.

Explore the applicability of models for historic mitigation that have worked elsewhere to Leadville. A good example for preserving a floatation mill like the Black Cloud is what was done with the Mayflower Mill in Cripple Creek.

Look at ways to encourage and participate in collaborations between local, state and federal historical associations in enhancing the history of Leadville and the region: e.g. collaboration on building a visitor's center like the Gateway Visitor's center in Georgetown or the Visitor's Center in Idaho Springs. Use the center (or some other existing facility) as the starting point for an historical walking or driving tour of Leadville; follow the model of the Holocaust museum in DC where the visitor is given an historical identity and follows that identity through the district.