



Dillon Community Meeting #2  
October 30, 2025

**Summary:**

At the second community meeting for the Dillon Community Meetings series, residents continued to voice deep pride in their town’s character, natural setting, and small-town feel. Participants shared what they value most today and what they hope will remain central to Dillon’s identity in the years ahead. The conversation reflected broad appreciation for Dillon’s sense of place, outdoor access, and community culture.

**What Residents Value About Dillon**

Community members described Dillon as a place defined by its natural beauty, walkability, and welcoming atmosphere. The nationally recognized recreation path, lake and mountain views, and easy access to nature all contribute to a strong sense of pride. Everyday experiences such as walking to work, raising a family, connecting with neighbors, and enjoying local businesses are core parts of life here.

Participants highlighted beloved amenities and gathering places, including:

- The marina and Lake Dillon
- The Farmer’s Market
- Monday night concerts at the amphitheater
- Parks, recreation paths, disc golf, tennis and pickleball courts
- Elevation Bowl
- The town’s music and arts culture

Residents also emphasized the importance of safety, low car traffic in the town core, and the year-round vibrancy created by people being active outdoors.

**Dillon’s Identity and What Makes It Unique**

When asked what makes Dillon feel like Dillon, participants pointed to the blend of natural setting, community events, and small-town charm. Dillon's location, both lakeside and close to trails and ski areas, shapes daily life and anchors its identity as a mountain lake town with deep community roots.

In short, residents described Dillon as:

A safe, charming, nature-oriented lake town surrounded by mountains, with a strong sense of community and year-round activity.

### **What Residents Hope Never Changes**

Participants spoke passionately about preserving:

- Views of the lake and mountains
- Access to the water for kayaking, paddle boarding, and recreation
- A community made up of people who live and work here, not solely short-term rentals
- The town's small-scale character and warm hometown feel
- A healthy mix of locals, families, and workers
- The cultural importance of music and the arts
- Dillon's identity as a true lakeside community

Residents also voiced awareness of broader mountain town trends, such as rising housing costs and increasing income inequality, and expressed hope that Dillon can avoid losing its balance of full-time residents and workforce.

### **Imagining Dillon's Future**

Participants explored what Dillon could look and feel like in the future if the town continues to honor the elements that make it special.

#### **1. Urban Planning and Connectivity**

Residents envisioned a future where the lake and natural setting remain the star of the show, supported by strong collaboration among the town, local businesses, and community members.

#### **2. Economic Development and Local Business Support**

Residents imagined:

- More activities connected to Dillon's heritage and outdoor assets
- Consistent signage that helps people navigate and discover local businesses
- A bike experience that moves through town rather than around it
- Opportunities that help businesses feel confident they can thrive

- Public spaces that celebrate Dillon’s arts and mountain lake identity

**Communication, Transparency and Trust**

Participants expressed a desire for fewer websites from the Town and more user-friendly, centralized communication tools that make it easier for community members to find information.

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Keystone Policy Center

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