



Report

TITLE: RESULTS OF 2026 BUSINESS PLAN AND BUDGET PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PLAN

Meeting: Council Meeting

Meeting Date: February 12, 2025

Background

At the January 15th, 2025 regular meeting, Council approved the 2026 Business Plan and Budget Public Participation Plan.

The plan included the following tactics:

- 1) A Business Plan survey made available online through the website and social media between January 16th and February 4th, as well as for two consecutive weeks in the Community Press (January 22nd and 29th).
- 2) An idea wall known as the Brainstorm Board available on the County’s website between January 15th and February 4th.
- 3) An open house called Coffee with your Councillor held on February 4th.
- 4) Social media posts meant to educate the public on Council’s various priorities/programs leading up to the open house.
- 5) An episode of the Flagstaff County Podcast, featuring Reeve Don Kroetch, in which the 2026 Business Plan and Budget Public Participation Plan was laid out. A second episode with the Reeve to discuss “What We Heard” from residents.

Survey

The Business Plan Survey received 118 responses. The majority of respondents (52.1%) were 30-49 years old with 96.5% of all respondents residing in Flagstaff County or the hamlets, and 58.5% of respondents residing in the region for more than 10 years.

AREA	PROGRAM	% Satisfied	% Neutral	% Not Satisfied
Communications	Electronic Media	54.2	41.5	4.2
	(Comparison to last year)	51.3	44.5	4.1
	Print Media	48.7	47.0	4.3
	(Comparison to last year)	44.7	51.5	3.8
	Public Participation	37.3	52.5	10.2
	(Comparison to last year)	37.9	54.7	7.4
Economic Development	Small Business Exposure	64.4	30.5	5.1
	(Comparison to last year)	56.5	36.5	7.1
	Business Resources	44.1	50.0	5.9
	(Comparison to last year)	47.6	45.6	6.8

AREA	PROGRAM	% Satisfied	% Neutral	% Not Satisfied
Protective Services	Patrol Services	33.1	48.3	18.6
	(Comparison to last year)	28.3	51.2	20.5
Agricultural Services	Vegetation Management Municipal Lands	37.6	55.6	6.8
	(Comparison to last year)	34.9	59.8	5.3
	Water Loading Stations	55.6	41.9	2.6
Transportation	(Comparison to last year)	46.2	50.6	3.3
	Gravel Maintenance	23.1	47.0	29.9
	(Comparison to last year)	30.4	45.6	24.0
	Dust Suppressant	30.5	54.2	15.3
	(Comparison to last year)	26.0	56.5	17.5
	Service Requests	28.2	60.7	11.1
	(Comparison to last year)	26.8	65.5	7.7

Complete results from the 25-question survey are attached.

Brainstorm Board

The Brainstorm Board received seven new submissions. The top ideas were as follows:

IDEA	Description
Large farmers' market	Create a large-scale market that would become a tourist destination for the ultimate outdoor market experience.
Trails alongside Hwy 13	Build bike/running trails alongside Hwy 13 by compacting and smoothing the ditch area.
Business workshops	Implementation of workshops designed to help small businesses start, grow, and sell, leveraging the expertise of local professionals.

The submissions from the Brainstorm Board are attached.

Coffee with your Councillor (open house)

The open house was attended by six residents. Residents were encouraged to ask questions of their Councillor and bring up any concerns they had. Concerns included a visibility issue at the intersection of Twp Rd 464 and Rge Rd 152, as well as the general observation that motorists aren't properly yielding on arterial roads.

Alignment with the Strategic Plan

STRONG COMMUNITIES: Flagstaff County's commitment to Strong Communities means we will provide community services that make Flagstaff an attractive place to live for all generations.

GOAL: Build social connections to create a sense of belonging and diversity.

Recommendation

THAT Council accept the feedback gained through the Business Plan and Budget Public Participation Plan and further evaluate the feedback when reviewing the Programs and Services Priorities and in the development of the 2026 Business Plan and Budget.