



NEDERLAND VISION 2020

Draft submitted to the community and the Board of Trustees July 2011

In Nederland, our greatest assets are our residents – the diverse people who live, work, play and contribute to all aspects of our unique mountain community.

Nederland is a complete community guided by a shared vision reflecting community values and priorities. It is a place where our children thrive and people connect; neighbors know and care for one another, and community members are proud of their town, their deep and rich history, and a quality of life that is both deliberate and second to none.

Our community proudly maintains its small-town feel and distinct identity—a small is beautiful, less is more approach. While our town has grown, we have remained true to our origins while internalizing a model of sustainability in which a healthy society comes from a healthy economy and a healthy environment is essential for both.

In 2020, Nederland is a town recognized for its trails, natural areas and unwavering commitment to the environment. Open spaces are abundant and balanced with active recreation areas and opportunities. Nederland’s surrounding wilderness area and other sensitive natural areas are restored, protected and preserved.

In 2020, Nederland continues to focus planning and economic development activities on efforts that address:

- alternative energy sources to fossil fuels for transportation
- alternatives for building and the use of sustainable materials
- non-motorized travel in town
- clean air, clean water and water conservation in and around Nederland
- connections to the outdoor environment providing active, healthy lifestyles for people of all ages
- minimal/reduced light and noise pollution

- focused community education programs and stewardship to reduce environmental impact fostering agricultural, economic and community sustainability

In 2020, Nederland's elected leaders are qualified, competent and representative of the entire community. They are committed to open and clear communication with town staff and all citizens. They actively encourage connections between residents, service providers, businesses and government. Critical information is easily accessible to all, and residents feel included and have a sense of responsibility and ownership in the governance process.

In 2020, Nederland provides arts and culture, education and community activities that include the entire community and provide opportunities for youth.

In 2020, every student in Nederland schools is afforded the opportunity to succeed regardless of ability. Nederland's education system is strong, has high levels of parental involvement and higher than average youth retention rates.

In 2020, Nederland has an accessible social service system for community members. The community ensures that its aging population remains healthy, fully-integrated and an active part of the community.

In 2020, Nederland's economy is local, community based, self-sufficient and is characterized by diverse and essential products, services and jobs that both support the local community and are mindful of potential impacts on the environment.

In 2020, Nederland's economy encourages and welcomes new, non-traditional economic models, the responsible management of tourism and the stewardship of the environment. The community consistently recognizes and responsibly encourages the thoughtful and meaningful relationship between recreation, culture and the economy.

In 2020, Nederland supports its local businesses and works to attract new businesses that enhance local services while supporting local values, qualities and the 2020 vision.