

2ND COMMUNITY-WIDE FORUM
COMPILED COMMENTS FROM ACTION PLANS

What public places can support community?

ACTION: Provide a multi-purpose community center for educational and community-oriented programs and events.

1. Where could it be located? The old high school?

- Yes - Save the old high school; great central location; sounds good, facility is monitored by security; unless something else becomes available; building still in good condition; this is a good option (10)
- On land donated on the Jacona Land Grant (2)

Other comments:

- Uses for Pojoaque old school – science/technology conferences, mental health programs, seminars for educators, and summer school for training update and instruction
- It would be nice to have a community garden where the community center is - the old high school is all paved! Also a playground big enough to bike.
- Or use old HS as a post-secondary facility. ie) NMSU – extension services; Something like El Rito Community College (?) - that will offer courses for all ages; Life-long education for our Community!

2. What programs and activities should be provided for youth? For adults/seniors?

- An opportunity for youth and elders to get together – start by telling stories, might lead to oral histories?
- San Ildefonso Pueblo has a good model – programs lead by the elders for the youth.
- Wireless internet
- Road safety and road hazard emergency and CPR training
- Offer language programs ie) conversational Spanish
- Art classes
- Tours/hiking/camping
- Library or at least paperback exchange eg) People bring in books they no longer want and others many want.
- Community Garden

Youth:

- Physical activities such as tai chi, yoga, basketball etc. for youth.
- Developmental counseling for youth somehow provide a platform that gives our youth direction; Activities similar to what a boys/girls club or YMCA.
- Reading programs; homework assistance; after-school activities; music/crafts to encourage cultural heritage; mentoring programs, historical society
- Most teen pregnancies start between 2:30pm and 5pm. ie) the time school lets out and time parents come home – so have to have safe, supervised place/activities for 13-18 yr olds.
- After-school programs and day care for children

Adults/Seniors:

- Yoga, tai-chi, dancing, (organize) discounted trips such as to Yellowstone Park etc.
- Health classes, yoga instruction, swimming lessons; western/country square dancing – dancing as exercise; senior trips @ discount, clean-up neighborhoods (activities).
- Mother's Morning Out, Senior Day Out, Day Out Program for Adult Developmentally Delayed residents.
- A reading group – group picks a book to read and meets to discuss it – group continues to meet regularly.

ACTION: Create a connected trail system, which will also serve as a running course for the Pojoaque Valley High School sports teams.

1. Would you use such a trail? If yes, what would you use it for?

- Bicycling, hiking
- Bicycle "routes" for those wishing to take the bus to LA or SF
- I would not – I walk at track – safe and no snakes
- Yes – Bicycle trail to Pojoaque from Nambe?
- Great idea! Walking/hiking and cycling
- Yes – Our children, grandchildren and youth can use it
- Would like a bike trail
- Yes – walking. Should connect to a bicycle trail.
- Yes – walking
- Horse riding trail
- I use the cross-country trail at the Jacona Campus
- Daily walk of 1 hour
- Room for bikes on 503 – to Chimayo and beyond
- Hiking, bicycling
- Walking my dogs
- For cycling we could just get a street sweeper to do the highway shoulders

2. What should a trail system connect?

- Bosque trail with connections to high school trails and wellness center trail
- Acequias run through people's front or back yards. People on acequia business, checking the water, etc. need access to walk along them. But it would be a real invasion of privacy to make them into public trails. Don't do it.
- The schools, the rivers, Pojoaque Plaza to the wellness center.
- Provide a network that connects all the Valley communities so that people don't have to walk/bike on 503 etc. We see this all the time in Nambe (people on 503) and it is dangerous.
- Connection to bus stops, schools, stores, and communities. How can we cross the highways? Tunnels?
- Access to acequias
- Yes, use trails for walking and use of bicycles. Nambe to Pojoaque.
- Open areas
- Safe bike paths to school.
- Pojoaque – Nambe Pueblo; Jacona extensive trail development for bikes

How do we strengthen relationships and communication between neighbors and government entities?

ACTION: Create an entity that looks after the interests of the Valley and is able to plan cooperatively with the Pueblos, the County, State and Federal governments, and the Jacona Land Grant.

1. How might this entity be organized?

- A Community Council w/ elections – similar to the setup of the School Board
- A Community Council
- We need to incorporate and then form and City Council. This is the only solution because we have no voice/power compared to the Pueblos/casinos.
- Joint Board
- An elected Council

- Very carefully.
- Once you organize a council etc. you begin with more regulations – more regulations then means a loss of rural rights.
- A Council similar to the structure of a school board.
- Include members from: Pueblo of San Ildefonso that deal in Pueblo – land use, culture, environment. Same for Pojoaque Pueblo and Nambe Pueblo. Also members from Pojoaque Valley community areas - “citizens” from Nambe, El Rancho, Pojoaque, etc. Also, members from the Local, County, State government who also would be on top of Pojoaque Valley issues such as land use, water, environment. And local representatives of business groups and educators – ie) PV schools.
- Create a Village Council of 6 members – 2 Native Americans, 2 Hispanics, 2 Anglos
- Commissioner should hold Town Hall meetings and listen – why create yet another governing body?

2. Who should be on it?

- Local residents
- A diverse cross section of folks active in our community leadership.
- Elected officials
- Reps from each segment
- Elected officials and Indian officials
- Parents and teachers – the whole community
- Elected individuals.
- Gov. George Rivera
- Volunteers who care.
- Locals/natives who are active within the community.
- Elected, but not Pueblo governors. Need continuity.

3. What kind of authority would it need to have?

- Liaison with all the above (people mentioned above)
- To regulate, to make laws, to represent the community, to the County, State, and Indians.
- Make recommendations (posted in media and State record) directly to County Commission and State lawmakers (legislative); Make certain to track recommendations and progress.
- Elected leaders
- Enforcement by police

4. What should this entity be called?

- Pojoaque Valley Council
- Law enforcement
- Pojoaque Valley Community Council
- Community Council?
- Valley Authority
- Pojoaque City Council

ACTION: Address community problems in collaboration with governmental agencies

The Committee has identified the following as important community issues:

- **Vandalism and Graffiti**
- **Animal Control**
- **Drugs/Alcohol Abuse**
- **Teen Pregnancy**
- **Speeding**
- **Trash and Dumping**
- **Suicide Prevention**
- **Road Maintenance**

1. Which issues are of most concern to you?

- All of the above (7)
- All, but especially drugs, pregnancy, suicide.
- Vandalism, graffiti, alcohol and drugs.
- All, especially control of dangerous animals (dogs) drunk driving, trash on the roads, graffiti and drugs.
- Trash and Animal Control
- Yes – speeding on road 84
- We definitely need to do something about all of these.
- Priority #1: Vandalism in the Nambe area – Graffiti, trash, drugs, road maintenance.
- Hello! Wastewater water!
- Water Quality! Work with State and Fed governments to ID areas in Valley where private wells exceed nitrate and uranium standards. Help to get subsidies on water treatment systems (RO units etc.) in those identified areas of the Valley.
- Trash and Dumping – institute local bottle refund; Teen pregnancy – have after-school options for teens. E.g.) non-competitive sports, dance classes etc.
- Air quality and system or coordination w/ State Environment Dept. that communicates better with the Valley when air is impacted. ie) wild fire, release from LANL etc.
- Build a real home for aged or disabled folks who have to have care.

2. How can your community take responsibility for addressing these issues?

- Individuals taking responsibility; more police action; talking to schools
- Community to responds – contract neighbors. Have gatherings. Know your Neighbor program! Have a neighborhood picnic.
- Support local bottle refund program
- Support and participate a non-competitive after-school/weekend activities
- It comes down to the individual but community programs help, plus more awareness.
- Laws and enforce them!
- Unite and work together as community.
- After school programs, day care, community center, elect responsible officials (H. Montoya is terrific).
- Offer some parenting courses at this community facility. NMSU offers a great program thru extension.
- 1) Traffic controls like speed humps and roundabouts 2) Maybe some public trash cans/dumpsters around the Valley? 3) Alternatives to drugs for kids like a teen center 4) A family planning clinic in the Valley and 5) More frequent open invitation to community events that you can drop in and out like this meeting to create community feeling.
- Making sure all understand that the school is not the catch all responsibility for this. Parents need to step up.

How do you grow the local economy?

ACTION: Revitalize traditional agricultural practices.

1. Have you attended and/or purchased produce or other goods at the Pojoaque Farmer's Market?

- Local/regional farming can be viable if promoted right off highway – between Cuyamungue and Espanola. On Non-Pueblo land. Farmer's Market, indoor and outdoor and a Distribution Center for farmer's with refrigeration.
- Yes – 3 people!
- Yes – needs to be expanded. If "it" needs help it should tell us.
- Yes. (3)

- Yes – every week.
- Seen it – great. No purchases yet!
- Yes, very nice.
- Yes – I love buying organic veggies & fruit from my neighbors. Someday I hope to have cherries to sell!
- Yes – Enlarge it! Wonderful!
- Yes – Will sell grapes for jelly in 3 years.
- Yes – weekly – needs more vendors
- Yes! Every week – Love the Market
- Yes. This is great! Support our community.
- No, when and where is it?
- Never seen or heard of a market. Needs more advertisement.

2. Would you grow and sell produce or other goods at the Market? Why or why not?

- No – not a farmer
- Yes. Success of this would depend on excellent management of water and acequias. To what degree does that occur now?
- Yes, if the grasshoppers will leave any cherries to sell! And enough water to keep my trees healthy.
- In view of the water studies showing that some areas of the Valley have high concentrations of uranium in the water, and in view of studies showing that plants can take up uranium if watered with uranium –tainted water, should there be more public education and discussion of these issues?
- No time (2)
- Probably not – would rather buy other people’s produce
- No but I will buy other people’s produce. We don’t have the water to farm.

3. What other activities or projects would you support that promote continuation of agricultural practices?

- An annual agriculture fair?
- We miss the local dairy – how about a dairy coop? A limit to subdivision will be necessary or there will be no agricultural land left.
- Annual “Farming Fair” to publicize and celebrate local agriculture.
- Yes, lobby for tax credits for agricultural use.
- Some sort of farming initiative within the Valley “Farmers helping Farmers” sharing resources amongst themselves: State being a robust agricultural community.
- Keep necessary expense down. 1. Property taxes continue reduced taxes for irrigated and grazing lands 2. Keep irrigation costs as low as possible.
- Would love a dairy again.
- Re-establish dairy.
- Local 4-H; Community garden; SFC Extension Services
- Renting farmland parcels to folks to grow their own veggies.

ACTION: Promote an arts and crafts economy in the Valley.

Currently the Valley holds the following arts and crafts events:

- **Pojoaque River Arts Tour**
- **S.P.M.D.T.U Hispanic Arts Festival**
- **Pojoaque Valley Festival**

1. Would you support these and other events by attending or participating?

- Yes – have in the past
- Yes – support (8)

- Yes - Absolutely! (2)
 - Yes, but would prefer a studio tour
 - Yes – we almost always attend these events. My husband and many of our friends are artists, some of whom earn their entire living from their artwork.
 - Yes – Pojoaque Valley Festival and SPMDTU Hispanic Festival
- 2. Do you think the proposed multi-purpose community center would be a good venue to promote local artists?**
- Yes (7)
 - Yes – A good opportunity for on going exhibits. Would need some security.
 - It would be a good venue for art instruction and art shows
 - Maybe a good place for classes
 - Excellent idea to get the proposed destruction of the building in the old school (reversed).
 - I think the Community Center is a great idea! We would have to be sure that once it is built it is utilized as it was intended (Senior Center, Youth programs, etc.)
 - You betcha
 - Yes – we may be able to host our own version of the County Fair
 - Maybe. Will help the community arts in any case.

ACTION: Create a commercial zone or “corridor” for Valley businesses (Non-Pueblo).

1. Where might this zone/corridor be located?

- Near the old high school
- Wherever non-Indian highway right-of-way property exists. Do not limit to a particular “zone”; All depends on County land use approvals; on 285/84 highway.
- Yes! Absolutely! – (To comment above)
- I “second” this suggestion. (To above comment also)
- A Farmer’s Market and Distribution Center (refrigerated) – indoor/outdoor on non-Pueblo land.
- Not towards Nambel!!
- Too much growth is not good. Water usage becomes an issue; loss of cultural traditions will occur.
- Where it services the community.
- Around the old high school and heading west on 502 near the Post Office.
- Yes – for non-Pueblo businesses.
- Please no strip mall development! Not a “corridor” – this creates parking issues, traffic issues. If possible a “town plaza” style of small businesses around a pleasant walking plaza; Old high school area w/ Home Run Pizza as a nucleus could be good!

- Great Idea! (Comment above). It should be planned to avoid sprawl and reduce driving. One location is best. The old high school?

2. What businesses would you support in the Valley?

- Arts and Crafts, Restaurants, Computer support, local newspaper.
- Restaurants and professional offices
- Strictly local and small business owners. Nothing big – like Walmart.
- Locally-owned small businesses only!
- Local business – no chains.
- Student run/managed catering programs for high school.
- I agree (to above statement).
- Good restaurant
- Restaurants; dry cleaners; coffee shop/deli

- Good coffee! A Starbucks type place
- Alternate grocery store or co-op
- Delicatessen; Five and Dime Store like old Woolworths

3. What kind of support do small home-based businesses need?

- Ask Ida Carrillo
- Popular support and publicity
- Small businesses need funding from State
- A small stationer's/copy center/shipping center; DSL (Wifi Hotspot would be cool!) Affordable DSL that is.
- Wireless Internet (2)
- Provide broadband Internet (3); Access is essential!
- Hi-speed Internet access available everywhere – It would encourage people to leave their homes; ie) Go to local a local café restaurant and kids will stay current and entertained and have entrepreneurial opportunity.

How can we ensure a clean water supply?

ACTION: Improve acequia diversions and delivery systems.

1. Do you currently utilize the acequia system?

- Yes (13)
- Yes, and we participate in the annual ditch cleaning.
- Yes – I depend on my water for growing my food.
- Yes! How else could I water one acre of land with an orchard?
- Acequias are very important. I look forward to my turn to divert water from the one I am on.
- Yes – when there is water.
- Yes – but it is currently dysfunctional.
- Yes! It is the lifeline of our business!
- No

2. If yes, what specific improvements need to be made to the system?

- Have ditches cleaned better – clear trees that are invasive. This provides less loss of water; Get people to use their water rights
- Better maintenance of all having access.
- Dependable access to water; A functioning mayordomo system; A Water Bank
- A schedule – To prevent neighbor problems
- A better scheduling system; Money to repair erosion (cement all ditches).
- Find money from State or Federal government to maintain and line (cement) old and existing dirt ditches to preserve water.
- Enforcement to prevent water poaching.
- They should be cleaned as deep and as wide as before. Water is being restricted causing traps of water, creating mosquito growth.
- Have fairer use of water at Nambe Dam.
- Dependable access to water. Eg) Regularly scheduled times; line and widen main ditch so spring cleaning is not such a chore.
- Acequia Nueva – More opportunities for water. We have had one water schedule in the last two years.
- Allow agricultural credits for less than $\frac{3}{4}$ acre.
- Some means of making mayordomo function more effectively.

- The acequias need to be cleaned prior to letting the water run. Don't know the history on whether it was done this year. But looking at the flow of water in some ditches, leads me to believe some were not. Not cleaning them severely hampers the flow and efficient use of water.
 - Scheduling; Participation of all acequia members!
 - Prevent tribal people from stealing water.
 - Schedules; Parciante involvement; Education for new parciantes.
3. **If no, then why not?**
- We have legal water rights that have been denied by the mayordomo because we have only lived in the Valley for 23 years (despite being from NM). There is confusion that water is a commodity that "belongs to the old family" rather than as State law says: Water goes with the land. People are selling water rights for the money – this is a perversion of the old acequia system.
 - Our neighbor built his workshop over where the acequia is supposed to be. It would require expensive legal intervention as well cooperation of all neighbors involved to correct this situation.

ACTION: Continue to protect and utilize domestic wells.

1. What issues threaten the use of domestic wells? How can these issues be resolved?

- Overuse of water by the Pueblos; Septic systems; Enforcing regulations
- Big developers such as Gerald Peters
- Development
- Pollution; Too many wells; Need well restriction
- Developers coming in – selfish reasons
- Development that does not respect the community; I don't know if that they can be resolved – lack of respect.
- Issues can be resolved by regulating developers building housing.
- Too many wells and too little water conservation for the water supply.
- Keep the wells and get rid of septics.
- Density of home sites; Enforce current regulations governing our County.
- Not as long as special interest can make unlimited contributions to politicians.
- Small lot size/"grandfather clauses" are totally outdated. The latest regulations must have no exceptions; Too many septic systems.
- Special interest; Outside money; Unsustainable practices in a desert e.g.) golf courses
- Golf course and casino hotel use - demand or waste
- The Aamodt Settlement (tribal giveaway); The golf courses
- Dense clusters of people and animals in unrestricted land areas; Septic systems and unregulated cesspools.

ACTION: Develop and implement strategies for water conservation (e.g., use of gray water, water catchment systems, retrofitting of toilets and shower heads etc.)

1. How can we make better use of limited water resources?

- Conserve – use the water from dishes to water flowers.
- Grey water systems for new homes
- Metering will promote more water use in order to establish water rights, not conservation. Santa Fe development wants the Pojoaque Valley water rights for their development.
- Yes.

- Make water use outside based on need – orchards, vegetable (gardens), etc.; Educate people on how to conserve through the newspaper, thrifty nickel etc.
- Support to fix leaks
- No more golf courses.
- Develop incentives for water conservation
- Catchment should be mandatory – recycling!
- Encourage or require roof run-off storage and use; Require such things as low water use toilets in new construction; Find a way to stop the foolish use of water on golf course – This will take lobbying federal officials.

2. Which of the following would you support?

- ⇒ **More efficient irrigation systems**
- ⇒ **Water recycling**
- ⇒ **Water restrictions**
- ⇒ **Better hardware – toilets, showerheads, etc.**
- ⇒ **Incentives for xeriscaping**
- Yes to all (7)
- Xeriscaping and recycling
- Water recycling programs; Xeriscaping (awareness and education); Water restrictions
- Recycling – because I already do that
- Better dialogue with Pueblos regarding water use
- (Regarding irrigation) - Gates need to be improved so water doesn't leak into the wrong ditch.
- Non-waste producing industry; ie) encourage especially environmentally friendly
- None as regulation or ordinance – However a community garden could provide education and resources.
- Education is vital in these areas. Some feel their rights are infringed by regulating these things.
- When revenues are limited – who is going to have funds for incentives. Good idea but not realistic.
- Support all. Also: 1. Encourage water catchment systems, 2. Ban golf courses, 3) Ban water intensive development like hotel resorts/golf/large residential development, 4) Require/encourage water conservation and 5) educate people how to conserve and maybe a local workshop (to educate about conservation).
- I've done many of these things already. I've grown up always respecting the fact we're in an area with water shortages and will always live my life with that in mind. Water conservation has always been used in my family.

ACTION: Pursue options for wastewater management and treatment systems.

1. Would you connect to a small-scale wastewater system?

- Wastewater treatment systems that clean water (black and grey water) and return water to be used in gardens and fields; All new construction and any replacement systems should be required to use these systems. This gives 100% return on water used.
- I share this view (from above statement).
- Yes! (4); Definitely
- Yes to wastewater treatment; Yes for demonstration project; Yes to protect domestic wells; Yes to get community septic system.
- Yes, if I can keep my well (4); The system would help keep the groundwater clean and eliminate septic.
- Yes to a wastewater system, but keep my existing well.
- Yes. Use alternative wastewater systems for multi homes or individual home systems. These systems clean used water for return flow to gardens etc.

- Yes, maybe – Problem is the runaway development must maintain current lot sizes
- No (2); I have a very efficient system on well and waste
- Only if real restrictions on subdivisions are in place. Septic regulations are the only thing that stands between this Valley and 1/8-acre lots.
- Probably
- Don't have enough info yet – the jury is still out on this one!

How can we understand, resolve, and communicate land use issues?

ACTION: Communicate, evaluate, and modify existing zoning regulations as needed to address growth and land use issues, such as density, family transfers, and affordable housing.

1. What would help you to better understand zoning and land use regulations?

- A section in the Land Development Code book entitled: "Most Asked Questions"
- Need to create incentives for people to use their land/water rights beneficially or they will lose property right and rights altogether; We need to keep what little irrigated lands are left – This is crucial to traditional community as well as soil/water conservation and the environment.
- Growth and urbanization needs to be balanced with protecting rural and farming areas.
- Receive a written explanation of existing regulations to digest and then be able to evaluate with ideas.
- Give tax credits for using land agriculturally
- A one page summary of County and State regulations that is mailed to members of the community – in Spanish and English.
- A focused community forum
- Maybe a book
- A clear pamphlet available at the grocery store saying in plain language what County and State regs apply and how
- Zoning – prepare free information pamphlets; 2. Responsibility – illegal activities; work with law enforcement; 3. Land use regulations – No Santa Fe repeat! Over growth – out of control!
- Consistency – me and my neighbor are told different things just because he is friends w/ a County political figure; An easier to understand land use code; Education – item specific pamphlets – road requirements, fire protection

2. How can the community take more responsibility to minimize illegal activities in the Valley?

- Better communication with the sheriff's office; Neighborhood watch meetings; Tip phone line.
- Create a no tolerance neighborhood – High Values; It did not exist when I was growing up because before I got off the bus – my parents knew what I had done; Parents supported school and school supported parents – a value system and on the same page.
- Report problems – follow-up
- We all need to be responsible; Report suspected illegal activity.
- In big cities people parade and demonstrate
- Education and awareness
- Neighborhood watches; Don't be afraid to report incidents
- Report them!
- Resolve jurisdiction; Stop political or family influence on law enforcement and criminal convictions.
- More active in neighborhood watch.
- Make note of any observed – after being informed of what is "illegal" – and notifying proper authorities

3. What changes do you think need to be made to the current zoning and land use regulations?

- It would be nice if zoning and land use regulations were enforced!
- I was told by a land use (SFC) official that “anything is buildable”. This has got to change at both the legal level and in the attitudes of officials. Population has grown too large for everyone to be able to subdivide their property endlessly unless we want to live in a sprawling, unregulated city in 20 years.
- Letting new owners know what zoning and land use regulations are.
- Create business zone along Hwy 84/285
- Regulate mobile homes
- More man power for enforcement; High ranking County officials need to let land use enforce regulations even on their “bros”.
- We need enforcement

4. What do you think should be the smallest acceptable property size for the Valley?

- ¾ acre, (7); and 1 house; to protect water quality; as law currently requires- also perhaps community should join forces to protect some layer “green spaces”
- ½ acre (5); if we get a water system, 1 acre if we don’t; especially since we have septic systems
- 1 acre (4); too many small properties will equate to too much building on properties
- smallest should be ¼ acre (2); which is adequate for 1 dwelling
- 2 acres
- Not sure – we need more data on this

5. What do you think about family transfers of property?

- Family transfers are exactly that – Personal Private Concern; Family Issue
- OK as long as they don’t go below ¼ acre
- I’m for it but it should be no less than ¼ acre per family member with a community hook up (1 well – 1 septic system) for all family members
- They are alright if not abused
- Affordable housing affected by high SF taxes – do we get served by SF County that provides us same benefits; same tax level = same service
- What about it? Families should be allowed to do as they please!
- Ditto (for above)
- Bullshit! (for above)
- These two responses (above) are an indication of an attitude that is problematic in the Valley. #5 is a question yet the response is angry and defensive. We need to get past this. Contaminated water and over-built/developed land affects family members as much as anyone else. Family transfers have to respect the same laws as any other kind of transfer. “Grandfathering” will destroy the nature of this Valley and create an urban landscape in a few years.
- Take 5 acres – give land to your 3 children who sell it after dividing and you end up with 10 trailers and contaminated wells.
- I’m in favor
- Family transfers are ok, but subsequent sale should be prohibited for 5-10 years.
- Fine, but no grandfather clauses on size; current regs should hold.

6. Should building be allowed on irrigated land?

- Depends on size of land and type of building
- They already are!

- Only if they don't intend to irrigate it all; irrigate only on trees scrubs, flower beds
- No emphatically
- Yes. What I do on my land is my business.
- Are we dictating what people can do with their land?
- Yes to local houses family owned. No to anything commercial
- Yes if rezoned for residents
- Yes but at current regulated sizes
- Community should try to purchase large pieces as they come on the market and use for community farming and parks

7. Will current land use patterns work 25 years from now?

- No (2)
- No, because they Valley will continue to develop using more water and making more pollution and getting more crowded
- Yes – depend on youth and involvement from them
- Clustered housing – condo's and apts should be allowed
- Land use maybe, but not water – at current use will we have any?

How can we serve our youth?

ACTION: Provide community support for a quality education, and create more job opportunities and recreation for Valley youth.

1. How can the community get more involved?

- Families need to be involved. Schools and community institutions can't and should not solve the problems of the society.
- Address drop-out rate
- Promote science education in the schools – we have a large employer 10 miles away that provides excellent paying jobs for science graduates!
- Be informed on what is going on "good" and "bad" news in community and write letters and go to meetings.
- Books, reading programs, more books; Wireless Internet to encourage learning about outside world and provide resources.
- Create a Pojoaque Valley scholarship program or trust for high school students.
- Close the casinos – they'll need an alternate place to go!
- Through community center; Through this group.

2. What training programs should be the focus?

- Science and Technology
- More science training
- Emphasis needs to be on future technology
- Local crafts: weaving, pottery, woodwork, music, writing, reading, and information technology.
- Work with LANL, State and County to develop relevant classes that could lead to employment.
- Yes (to above statement).
- Build a college to train youth in vocations to stay here – agriculture, medicine, etc.

3. What specific kinds of jobs will keep the youth in the Valley?

- Technical teaching with better pay
- Teaching them to appreciate who they are and where they have come from; Appreciation leads to entrepreneurial opportunities; We have talented people here.
- Technical teaching

- Technology and arts
- Tech/Science and agriculture
- Science
- The youth really need to be kept busy – jobs , sports, so they won't be idle

4. Are programs like 4-H and FFA useful to our youth?

- Yes (3); Definitely!
- Yes! They are good sources for teaching responsibility
- They develop leadership skills that can be used in any occupation. FCCIA is operating at our HS for the past 30 years. The newspaper does not promote their success!
- Yes, extremely! Thru these programs they can leave LOVE of nature, animals, etc. – Instead of the \$ (money).
- Yes – need to be local.
- Yes! They provide skills of knowledge, leadership development, community involvement.
- I think so.

5. If not, what other programs should we try to establish?

- Training programs for all who dropped out of school, have no jobs and are out in the streets getting into drugs etc.; Contact these homes who have individuals with problems.
- Maybe more academic based programs; not all kids enjoy basketball, baseball, and soccer.
- Art and Science Clubs
- Community Garden

6. What recreational activities do we need that aren't currently being provided?

- Fun Run, Bike trails, Youth center, concert venue for youth only
- Affordable (activities) with transportation
- Art classes accessible to all community members.
- Bike Trails! Too much traffic on roads and not enough clearance for bikes.
- A place for monthly dances and other youth initiated activities.
- Dance; Book clubs – eg) Battle of the Books – usually affiliated w/libraries and schools; Youth art competition.
- Trails

ACTION: Create a Youth Council of both Pueblo and Traditional Community youth that can work directly with the School District, County and Pueblos on youth-related issues.

1. How can we best give the youth a voice in the community?

- We need to realize that our youth are the future.
- Work with Hands Across Cultures
- A radio station with youth programming and youth involvement in all aspects.
- I would like to see farming/farming practices etc. taught in schools with hands on learning and mentoring.
- Periodic panel meeting with reps from youth groups, schools, etc.
- Help them realize and be proud of their language, tradition, culture thus love the land.
- Start a Youth Council group
- Utilize existing youth leadership groups – School Student Senate, school organizations ie) Honor Society, FLCCLA (formerly FHA), church youth groups, community groups ie) 4-H, Scouts). Don't invent another group!
- I don't know. I don't believe another youth organization is the answer. The question is, how do you make them feel responsible members of the community? That starts at home.

- Give the youth a sense of importance and responsibility by offering them jobs – or, even ask them what their opinions are. I believe youth get in trouble because of lack of something to do.
- 2. Would the youth participate in a “Youth Council”?**
- Maybe
 - If it had incentives for them. Prizes? Scholarships? (modest ones)
 - I think they would; depending on the initial presentation.
 - I hope so – we need them.
 - If you tap into the youth that already are in leaderships rolls; ie) School leaders: 1 person from Student Council, 1 person each from FCCLA, BPA, TSA, FFA etc.
 - Yes
 - Probably
 - We need to make them feel important
 - Youth Court
- 3. What kinds of issues could the Youth Council address?**
- Graffiti; New center with activities – music, dance for youth; To help others
 - Youth competitions, youth activities, recognition programs
 - Drugs, alcohol, pregnancy, recreation, school drop outs, suicide, higher education.
 - Continuing culture, youth accountability, youth wants/needs in the community
 - Peer counseling
 - Drugs, alcohol, graffiti, activities, teen pregnancy
 - For teen pregnancy, teen suicide, trash, drug usage, animal control, vandalism: Involve students in the solution/problem. They are great problem solvers and tomorrow’s leaders.

Anything Else?

Tell us what you think should be added, deleted or changed from the Action Plans.

- For kids to be competitive in the 21st century; Wireless internet access in the Valley – if Rio Rancho can do it, so can we – given resources of LANL.
- I do not desire to resemble controlled and structured city limits. We are unique and I don’t want to lose that. Too often people leave what they did not like behind and then try to recreate the same environment. Why?
- A Dog Park
- The County Commissioner should investment more time to the litter problems.
- Open Space – Investigate how future valuations of property sold for open space (or conservation easements) can benefit future generations of family that sold the land.
- How does development affect the resources of the volunteer fire department?
- A park with a playground for our kids.
- Add historic preservation of Historic Buildings in Valley.
- Some specific controls on light pollution to protect our night skies.
- Public transportation locally and regionally.
- Illegal activities - get more police surveillance on them. Report all unlawful activities to County Sheriffs.
- People living at the Pojoaque Terraces should be assessed taxes for use of school.
- Yes. (To above statement)
- Add: Permanent, ongoing discussions with federal reps regarding our situation with the Indians. We need a federal voice for our unique situation. We are continually overruled by Indian action.
- Programs for adults with developmental disabilities such as: day out programs to give caregivers a break and allow clients to interact with peer group. Supported employment - or at the very least a willingness by local businesses to hire the mentally handicapped.
- Street sweeper – for highway sides.