

**3. What is your Vision for Eagle? Discuss population, economic base, demographics at each point. Tie to current situation and explain the path the town would travel to get to your vision.**

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**ELLEN BODENHEMIER:** My vision and strategy for Eagle is moving towards an internally, self-sufficient economy by putting locals first. To do this we must know who we are and pull on demographic data, as Bill Shrum said “our demographics are our destiny”. The 2018 household Eagle County survey listed Eagle as the number one place to live in Eagle County. Eagle is a desirable, community-minded, real small town and I would like to put it on a path to prosper into a sustainable community.

Addressing housing concerns, encouraging the import and local production capacity of Eagle and maintaining and enhancing the quality of life for locals is the path I will take to get Eagle to my vision.

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**MAREN CERIMELE:** A recent presentation on demographics hosted by the Eagle Chamber showed that Eagle is the number one community in which people want to live given the choice. People want to be a part of this community, perhaps to raise a family, start a business or become engaged in the town’s vitality efforts, but we are lacking in housing inventory to meet their needs. Responsible growth while preserving the community’s culture is vital to Eagle’s sustainable future. Only 13% of the community is aged 20-34 years old indicating a lack of living-wage, entry-level job opportunities as well as attainable housing options. Eagle needs to focus on economic diversification as well as varied housing options, both for sale and rent, in order to retain this population to fill jobs as Eagle’s aging population retires.

Additionally, a strong tourism economy can provide residents the opportunity to live and work locally, reducing traffic while increasing leisure opportunities and economic vitality. I consider Sylvan Lake State Park and the Eagle River Park to be untapped gems helping position Eagle as an outdoor adventure mecca.

My decision-making framework as a trustee will be based on community sustainability and economic prosperity which includes social, economic, and environmental aspects. Learn more at [facebook.com/maren2020](https://facebook.com/maren2020).

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**DAVID GABOURY:** Our community needs to support growth that enhances the lives of our citizens while being responsible stewards of our land and resources. This is particularly challenging for Eagle, as there is a real constraint to the available, buildable land that limits ultimate growth. We must grow because with it comes opportunity and vitality, at the same time it must occur wisely.

The path forward in one word this involves balance – expanding both our business and residential base; supporting diverse, attainable residential options; encouraging vibrant neighborhoods and a strong downtown core; more sustainable energy and water use that is cost effective; and supporting a strong town staff.

My experience is that to be a thriving business or community, there are multiple areas that need to all work together. When they do, great things can be accomplished.

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**CHARLIE GUNDLACH:** Eagle is being discovered as a great place to live, work, and raise a family. Amazing schools, unparalleled outdoor access, great restaurants (and coffee shops), and a tight knit community make this place the envy of many. My vision for Eagle is to strengthen already existing assets, while further diversifying and growing our town's economic base and demographics. If we are to get to the next step and attract more restaurants, nightlife, innovative companies, and entrepreneurs, we need to grow. Both from a demographic standpoint, but also from a revenue standpoint. We can't accomplish all of the things that people want here (i.e. more restaurants, more shopping, 'facelift' projects, land conservation) without raising the town's revenue.

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**KYLE HOILAND:** My vision for Eagle is to maintain a high quality of living with access to affordable housing, access to the outdoors and other small town amenities, like locally owned restaurants and breweries, and a safe environment for our families and children.

Eagle will be a town for all: a town where you can settle down and raise a family; a town where you can live for a few years and move on to the next adventure; a town that you can vacation and enjoy the outdoors & laid back mountain life style; a town where you can grow old & feel

like part of the community. In essence, we have these things already but we need to maintain it and protect it.

With the current world situation, I'm proud of our town for making the effort to maintain & protect our lifestyle. I've seen the efforts made to support local businesses and have had the opportunity to join in that effort. People have taken the lead in providing food baskets to our seniors. Households are following the recommendation to shelter in & practice social distancing but we're also finding the balance of being outside and I'm seeing more families take walks together. I believe this will be our new norm for a few months and would encourage our friends, neighbors and fellow citizens, to continue to implement these behaviors.

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**W MIKEL "PAPPY" KERST:** With the growth in the town's population since moving here has grown by over 60 percent, having added challenges. With my understanding of the history of how most of this has come about. The town experiencing lots of growth in the Community and many changes at the Staff level. I have been and will continue to be a guiding source for other Board members and for the Community. With lots of new faces running for the Board this year, my experience will be an asset to helping this new Board grow forward, without forgetting its past and with an ability to learn from history. I look forward to assisting further with the Town of Eagle Residents with issues and serve the community.

Being on the board of Trustees has given me a high level of understanding for our Town's processes and policies. I do understand that not everyone is going to be happy with every decision and I want

to ensure that our new Board communicates at the highest level with the Community so that we are all living and working together in a positive and productive manner.

As a community member I have always been involved in functions

The relationships I have developed over the many years of living and working in Eagle are very important – to me and for the Community. I would like to continue our Town’s development of these relationships – in the business community and with other government entities.

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**ADAM PALMER:** Eagle is rich in history, sense of community, outdoor recreation, and its people. My vision is to build upon these strong bones and invest in existing infrastructure to support an appropriate level of infill development downtown and west Eagle to strengthen and grow our existing tax base. Rather than growing out, my vision of Eagle is to grow inward for vibrant mixed use, bikeable and walkable communities that retain our small town character.

I believe in economic development strategies that can build healthy, equitable, and prosperous communities, not only support existing businesses, but recruit new ones driven primarily by locals -- on average, most businesses (70%) are started by people who already live here. We are also in a great position to attract a remote workforce with continued development of broadband service. Let's create the right marketplace and resources to support the next Bonfire Brewery, QuietKat, or Rever in our community.

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**YVONNE SCHWARTZ:** My vision for Eagle is to create a town with a diverse population of people that are working together to provide a Town that has a variety of small businesses, an appreciation for the Arts, and a celebration of the outdoors. We have a great start on the majority of these things. As you know, we have a plethora of trails, river spots, and outdoor recreation areas. This is great, but we are lacking a variety of housing options to support the demographic of people ages 20-30 years old. That means many of our business owners are working non-stop to fill in for the lack of people needed to take service jobs in our town. If you go to almost any business in Eagle you will see the business owner sitting at the front desk, waiting tables, making food, washing dishes. While that might sound charming that tells us our small business owners are struggling. They are working 60-80 hour weeks and many of them can agree are NOT making enough money to even support themselves. We need to look logically at projects in our town that will provide new types of housing that is attainable for lower income people. I also believe that communication between our town and it's residents needs to be improved. I am committed to streamlining that communication so that residents have the information they need to be informed and contribute to the discussion of how we run our town.

My platform is based upon environmental sustainability, economic vitality, and preservation of surrounding open space and recreation. I believe in retaining our quality of life while supporting a vibrant mixed use built environment in our downtown, connecting downtown to the Eagle River Park and other areas, and focusing on innovative economic diversification strategies.

But that's just my opinion. Ultimately what I believe in through a representative democracy is a transparent, engaged local government that, through involved dialogue and strategic planning, empowers and supports the desires and vision of its people to identify the vision as well as how to get there.