Approximately 100 homes were lost in the Town of Lyons during the 2013 Colorado Front Range Flood. Almost all the homes destroyed were lower or moderate-income units, almost completely wiping out affordable housing in the community, and displacing most if not all affected residents. The loss of affordable units, together with enormous price increase of current housing, has contributed to a significant rise in the median income of Lyons residents (increasing from $60,000 to $94,000), making it challenging for teachers, Town staff, service industry workers and others to live where they work. In addition to the difficulty of maintaining affordable housing, due to Lyons’ location at the intersection of State Highway 7 and US Highway 36, there is a high influx of cars, making it difficult and hazardous to walk or ride bicycles. The inability to easily walk or bike from place to place causes both negative environmental and health impacts to Lyons residents and causes tourists to take less time to visit shops and restaurants. In addition, the community is not well served by public transportation.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY OF STUDIO WORKSHOP //
Team members discussed where the Town of Lyons was in terms of housing and accessibility 20 years ago, how they are now, what the future holds if the community does nothing differently. Town of Lyons staff shared their thoughts on the effects of the 2013 floods and the general sentiments of Lyons residents currently. The team discussed these challenges, potential solutions to them. On the second day of the workshop, the group took a deeper dive into potential solutions, resources, and ideas for the community. The workshop resulted in a set of new ideas, a list of resources to assist the Town, and the beginnings of a strategy for a new marketing campaign that focuses on what the Town of Lyons will look like in 2020.

TEAM MEMBERS //
Megan Garn, CU Denver Master Student & Town of Timnath
Andy Hill, DOLA
Ian Hyde, DOLA Office of Resiliency & Recovery
Johanna Jamison, DOLA Main Street
Tiffany Martindale, Town of Lyons Main Street
Lisa May, Nonprofit, Fundraising, and Strategy Consultant
Kim Mitchell, Town of Lyons
Don Sandoval, DOLA
Michelle Stephens, Ecology and Environment
Julie Urh, CU Boulder Doctoral Candidate
Carl Young, Huerfano County Economic Development
Brian Varrella, CDOT
In the past two years, the Board of Trustees has been trying to find land for affordable housing, to capitalize on $4 million in federal Community Development Block Grants – Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR) funds set aside for Lyons. Lyons can receive $40,000 in CDBG-DR funds per each new affordable housing unit (up to $4 million total for new affordable housing in town). Other federal funds were lost in 2015 when a proposal for using part of Bohn Park to build subsidized, affordable Boulder County Housing Authority rentals and some Habitat for Humanity for-sale affordable homes (a total of 50-70 units) was rejected in a town vote: 498 Lyons voters supported it, and 614 Lyons voters opposed it.

Population: 1,293
Stakeholders + Partners:
- Displaced Lyons Residents
- Lyons Employers and Employees
- State Agencies

Assets:
- Up to $4 million in federal funding are set aside for new affordable housing in Lyons
- Assistance from Department of Local Affairs

Obstacles:
- In considering where to build new affordable housing, there are remaining sentiments of fears of losing small town feel with increased traffic and decreased property values, viewshed and park space if an area becomes platted for an affordable housing development.

**REsources //**
- 3rd Party Facilitators
  - Heather Bergman (Peak Facilitation)
  - Lisa Rosintoski (Fort Collins)
- Department of Local Affairs
  - Housing needs Assessment
  - Developers-why Lyons is desirable
- Colorado Geological Survey
  - Colorado School of Mines
  - Karen Barry
- Comprehensive Plan
  - Sonoran – Scenario planning
- Marketing/Messaging
- Bangthetable.com
- Local Businesses
- Guest Column in Newspaper
- EMS (friends outside of government, Mike Chard)
- Regional Preferences
  - Vision Utah
- Design Competition
  - Van Allen
- Colorado Department of Transportation

**DeseReD ouTCoMeS //**
If successful, the Town of Lyons will not just return to where it was before the 2013 Flood occurred but will create a shared vision that the community will achieve in 2020. The community will be more connected and diverse. Those who live and work in Lyons, including teachers, police officers, Town staff, and service workers, will have the ability to live in Lyons and have easy access to trails and bike lanes that connect to the downtown corridor.
**ACTION STEPS**

1. *Reach out to Community Members – Current Residents and Potential Residents* These community members who may be service industry works, artists, musicians, teachers, police officers or town employees. Or it may be anyone that is excited about the future of Lyons and excited about living, working, and growing with the Town of Lyons.

2. *Tell Success Stories!* Collect positive and inclusive stories from those identified in Step One. These stories can be in the form of coffee talks, one-on-one conversations, social media, twitter, video clips from business owners or workers. Asking what’s your ideal worker or community member for Lyons 2020? What you love about Lyons?

3. *Vision the future of Lyons: Lyons2020.com.* Spread the sound bites and vision retrieved from Step Two and show what people love about Lyons and what people want Lyons to look like in the year 2020. Also reflect on what is going well in the Town of Lyons. The building of the Library and the Bridge should also be a part of this. This serves as a beacon of hope for residents to move past the floods of 2013. Furthermore, these stores and data can be used to show the demand and need for affordable housing, and can build support for affordable housing among residents and developers.