



## Status of Teton County Commissioners' Priorities

In early 2015, the Board of County Commissioners (BoCC) established a list of priority projects and initiatives. This list continues to evolve as projects get completed and county needs change. We will update this list periodically to keep the public informed of the current work the BoCC is engaged in.

### **Economic Development, Affordable Housing, Education**

**Economic Development** - Teton County is working with the cities and other local and state organizations to facilitate economic development in Teton Valley. For the past three years, the County has matched funds from Idaho Department of Commerce to create and support the Teton Valley Business Develop Center (TVBDC), which is the organization responsible for implementing Teton County's Economic Development Plan ([http://www.tetoncountyidaho.gov/pdf/codePolicy/2013-0610\\_Adopting\\_May\\_2013\\_Economic\\_Development\\_Plan.pdf](http://www.tetoncountyidaho.gov/pdf/codePolicy/2013-0610_Adopting_May_2013_Economic_Development_Plan.pdf)).

The BoCC requested and is now assisting with a collaborative partnership between TVBDC, Chamber of Commerce, and the Geotourism Center. This will allow the three entities to pool resources and consolidate efforts to help existing businesses thrive while also supporting start-ups and relocations that will create more family wage jobs in Teton County.

**Affordable Housing** – The BoCC has been working with the cities of Victor, Driggs, and Teton as well as Jackson/Teton County, Wyoming to implement strategies for developing more work force housing in Teton County, including the re-establishment of a Housing Authority. The BoCC is currently seeking technical assistance on a work plan that will outline the most effective tools, strategies, entities, and funding options to help address the housing shortage in Teton Valley.

**Extension Educator** - The BoCC has been working closely with the University of Idaho (U of I) in hiring a new Teton County Extension Educator. The U of I and the County collaborated in writing a job description for someone to help enhance local food systems and agriculture-based businesses in Teton County. The new Extension Educator for Teton County will also be a designated leader for 4-H youth programs and is tasked with broadening the breath, depth, and reach of these youth leadership and educational programs.

**Collaboration with Teton County School District** - Members of the BoCC have been attending Teton County School District meetings, strategic planning sessions, and other community-based initiatives to collaborate on educational enhancement in Teton Valley. They will also be working directly with the school board to help inform the new school facility bond measure to address the elementary school building deficiencies.