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BUILDING RESILIENT COMMUNITIES (BRC)

Annual Report | Wyoming Business Council

WYOMING

BUILDING RESILIENT COMMUNITIES 2026 ANNUAL REPORT

MEMO

TO: Wyoming Legislative Services Office

FROM: Bert Adam, Investments Director, Wyoming Business Council

SUBJECT: 2026 Business Ready Community Report, Report ID 1041

DATE: October 30, 2026

Thank you for your continued interest in and support of our mission to strengthen Wyoming's economy. Included, you will find our annual update on the **Building Resilient Communities** program (BRC, formerly the Business Ready Community). The contents of the report follow Wyoming State Statute §9-12-601(o): *"On or before November 1 of each year, the council shall report to the Joint Appropriations Committee and the Joint Minerals, Business and Economic Development interim committee information on the administration of the Business Ready Community program. The report shall include a list of all grant and loan requests made in the previous twenty-four (24) months, the amount approved by project, expenditures by project and the progress for each project as of the date of the report."*

This year's report provides the information required by statute, along with added context on the program itself – its new name, the updated rules that took effect in 2026, and a look at its impact over the past several years. Enclosed you will find:

- **About the Program:** An overview of BRC, its new name – Building Resilient Communities – and the infrastructure and planning it funds.
- **2026 Program Updates:** The updated program rules effective in 2026 and the combined application deadline adopted for the transition year.
- **Program Impact:** A summary of the program's results in recent years, including its growing role in addressing Wyoming's housing needs.

- **Application Summary:** Grant and loan requests from the last 24 months, including request amounts, dates, funded amounts and projects not funded. *(Fulfills the reporting requirement under §9-12-601(o).)*
- **Ineligible Applicants:** A list of applicants ineligible due to noncompliance with reporting requirements on BRC projects.

Please contact me if you have any questions.

Bert Adam
Investments Director, Wyoming Business Council
bert.adam@wyo.gov

ABOUT THE BRC PROGRAM

In 2026, the Business Ready Community (BRC) grant and loan program became **Building Resilient Communities** – a new name for the same BRC that Wyoming communities have relied on for more than 20 years. The change keeps the familiar acronym while better reflecting the program's work today: helping communities build the publicly owned infrastructure and local capacity that make private investment and job growth possible. *(In statute, the program remains the Business Ready Community program under W.S. §9-12-601; "Building Resilient Communities" is its operating name.)*

Through BRC, the Business Council helps communities finance the water, sewer, roads, land, spec buildings, business and industrial parks, and community facilities that address barriers to economic growth. Eligible applicants include Wyoming cities, towns, counties, and joint powers boards, along with the Northern Arapaho and Eastern Shoshone tribes. Funding comes as grants and, for revenue-generating projects, low-interest loans, in an effort to address barriers to economic growth, including planning.

2026 PROGRAM UPDATES

Governor Gordon signed the updated BRC program rules on **February 27, 2026.** To give communities and local economic developers time to understand and align with the new requirements, the Business Council combined the program's June 1 and September 1, 2026 application deadlines into a single **August 1, 2026** deadline.

Applications from that cycle will be presented to the WBC Board of Directors in December 2026 and to the State Loan and Investment Board (SLIB) in January 2027. The program's standard deadlines – February 1, June 1, September 1, and November 1 – resume thereafter, with exceptions for addressing a barrier to growth with a committed business and community planning.

PROGRAM IMPACT

Over the past several years, BRC has been one of Wyoming's most impactful tools for turning economic-development strategy into built infrastructure. From 2021 to 2025, **BRC invested $65.7 million** in Wyoming projects that generated an estimated **$1.45 billion in economic impact** – *about $22 for every state dollar* – supporting **1,824 jobs** and roughly **$34.5 million in state and local tax revenue**, per third-party analysis by Applied Economics. The past 24 months reflect that impact – from business-committed projects like Mesa Solutions in Evansville to community-readiness infrastructure such as the Southwest Wyoming Regional Airport terminal in Sweetwater County and SEEDA's high-tech park in Sheridan, to the Guernsey senior center and library and the multiple planning grants that help smaller communities chart their own economic futures.

A notable recent development is BRC's growing role in addressing local housing challenges. In the past year, the program directed roughly $8.8 million toward critical housing-enabling infrastructure in Douglas and Wright – the water, sewer, and road improvements that turn raw land into buildable lots. These are among the program's first investments aimed squarely at Wyoming's housing shortage, reflecting how communities are putting BRC to work against one of the state's most pressing economic barriers.

To see how BRC investments take shape community by community, explore our regional project profiles at wyomingbusiness.org/regions *(select a region to view detailed project reports for that area)*.

BRC PROJECTS – PAST 24 MONTHS (10/01/2024-10/01/2026)

COUNTY	ACCOUNT	PROJECT	TYPE	SLIB DATE	STATUS	GRANT AWARD	LOAN AWARD	EXPENDITURES TO DATE
Albany	City of Laramie	WyoTech Training Expansion	Project (Business Committed)	4/3/2025	Pending	$5,000,000	$5,000,000	-
Big Horn	Town of Burlington	Economic Development Plan	Planning	6/5/2025	Completed	$40,000	-	$40,000
Campbell	Town of Wright	Wright Estates Phase II	Projects (Community Readiness)	6/8/2026	Construction	$3,179,648	-	-
Converse	City of Douglas	Seven Trails Commerce Center Infrastructure Improvements	Projects (Community Readiness)	6/8/2026	Pending	$5,701,748	-	-
Lincoln	Lincoln County	Sewer Project	Project (Community Readiness)	10/2/2025	Pending	$4,008,020	-	-
Natrona	Town of Evansville	Mesa Solutions	Project (Business Committed)	10/3/2024	Construction	$8,964,713	-	$3,804,610
Platte	Town of Guernsey	Senior Center & Library Project	Project (Community Project)	2/6/2025	Construction	$750,000	-	-
Sheridan	Sheridan Economic & Educational Development JPB (SEEDA)	High-Tech Park, Phase 2	Project (Community Readiness)	10/3/2024	Construction	$4,426,000	-	$2,321,631
Sweetwater	Rock Springs-Sweetwater Co Airport JPB	Southwest WY Regional Airport Terminal Continuation	Project (Community Readiness)	10/3/2024	Construction	$2,000,000	$5,000,000	$4,613,228
Uinta	City of Evanston	Comprehensive Economic Development Master Plan	Planning	6/5/2025	Construction	$100,000	-	-
Washakie	Washakie County	Economic Development Master Plan	Planning	6/5/2025	Construction	$75,000	-	$31,268

NONCOMPLIANT PROJECTS

COUNTY	APPLICANT	PROJECT	REPORT DUE DATE	TYPE OF REPORT
Natrona	Town of Bar Nunn	Community Center & Town Hall	8/14/2025	Final Infrastructure Report