



Live-work units

*New development pays for its proportionate share of infrastructure costs and required services. There is adequate capacity in water and wastewater facilities prior to approval of new development. Water storage needs have been achieved without causing unnecessary negative visual impact.*

## ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

*Downtown is a focal point of activity. This vibrant center extends out from Broad Street to include the Little Thompson River drainage to the north and Elm Street to the south. These new commercial areas complement the adjacent historic residential areas. Small shops line the streets. Trees, flowers, benches, tables and street lamps create a wonderful pedestrian realm where residents and visitors love to linger. All storefronts are occupied. Buildings are well maintained and look attractive. Infill lots have been developed with new buildings that maintain the existing historic character. The new greenway along the Little Thompson is like a linear park, providing green space that supports passive and active recreation and a great community gathering space. There is an interesting mix of locally owned and operated stores. Favorites include the fly rod shop, coffee shop, natural food store, bookstore and hobby shop. Art galleries, antique stores and renowned restaurants add to the attraction. There is a bike rental shop for visitors who wish to take to the trails.*

*Downtown entices visitors to the community making Milliken a true destination, rather than a place people pass through. New overnight accommodations, including bed and breakfast inns, enable visitors to stay and*



*explore Milliken and its surrounding recreation areas. Visitors may choose to attend the Farmer's Market, a music festival, art exhibit or other special event, or just get away from the city.*

*A discreet parking structure serves both commuters and downtown shoppers, helping to minimize the visual effect of cars. A downtown plaza forms the heart of downtown and has become a major community gathering place and location for community events. There are also small office and light industrial uses, research firms and a variety of cottage industries.*

*These uses are developed following design standards that ensure compatibility with the character of the community. The architectural styles used for new businesses provide interesting, high-quality buildings while maintaining the small town charm of Milliken.*

## ENVIRONMENT

*The natural environment, the town's most distinguishing feature, has been preserved and integrated into all aspects of community life. Milliken's tremendous open space resources provide clean water and air, beautiful scenery, wildlife habitat, and economic opportunities. They also help reinforce Milliken's identity and offer recreational opportunities for residents and visitors alike. Nature lovers come from many places to enjoy the beauty of the river bottoms and the plant and animal life. People can run, walk, skate or ride along Milliken's extensive trail network and explore its open lands and learn about its wildlife, history and agricultural heritage.*

*Just west of Town, between Milliken and Johnstown, is an open space area that serves to help define Milliken and Johnstown as standalone communities with separate identities.*

*Through intergovernmental agreements, Milliken has fostered a spirit of cooperation with its neighbors.*

*New developments are built in harmony with the natural environment and take into consideration the physical constraints of the site, as well as aesthetic and ecological values of the land. Steep hillsides, drainage ways and riparian areas are protected.*

## PARKS AND RECREATION

*The Thompson River corridor serves as the main artery for the Town's fabulous biking and walking trail system. This system extends from outside of Town and throughout the community, connecting open space and recreation areas, schools, public facilities, neighborhoods, commercial areas and downtown. Along Highway 60 there are several safe pedestrian crossings that link the north and south sides of Town linear park, and a trail system that connects to Johnstown occupies the floodways along both the Big and Little Thompson Rivers. This park and trail system joins a similar network of recreation and open space areas along the South Platte River. The bluffs north of the Big Thompson River are free of visual intrusions. Hikers can enjoy a grand overlook of the bustling community. The southern hills are linked to town by trails that follow natural drainages and canals. The summit – Wildcat Mound – is protected from development, and the public has access to this regional landmark. Cluster type development at the perimeter of the community is low density and rural, and helps preserve the Town's unique identity and character.*

*Milliken's economic vitality has been achieved by allowing appropriate new development, enhancing the community as a visitor destination, and encouraging small local business. The strong economy, combined with creative funding strategies, has enabled the Town to invest in a number of desired amenities. There is a new recreation center, swimming pool, and library.*

## EDUCATION

*In the southeast part of town, there is a new elementary school. This complements the local middle school, which has undergone upgrades over the years to remain state-of-the-art. A new high school has been located on the west edge of town to serve the growing number of local students. All of these schools are vitally important to the Town. They are essential to educating our youth, sustaining our families, and creating a sense of community.*

*Overall, Milliken is a wonderful place to call home, with an unsurpassed quality of life.*

## 5.7 DRAFT ENVISION MILLIKEN DOCUMENT REVIEW

The Discussion Draft of Envision Milliken was released for community review in October 2009 through November 2009. The complete Draft Plan was posted on the Comprehensive Plan web site and Town of Milliken web page. The Draft Plan was available to members of the public in both print and Compact Disk format, upon request. Although not required for a discussion draft, copies of the Draft Plan were sent to all adjacent and overlapping units of government.