

# Gunbarrel Focus Group

# Trainer Evaluation

# Participants

June 19, 2017

10 total

All female

A range of ages

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It's about public access

# Boulder places an emphasis on education and access, yet Gunbarrel has no library.

The community needs:

- A place to access information and resources.

- A place for civic discourse.

- A place to be safe and feel safe.

- Spaces to meet.

- Spaces where a sense of community is nurtured and given room to develop.

- Access to computers, printer and copiers.

Libraries are special  
places

# A library is a “magical” place.

Participants feel that a library is a unique place; it is more than a place to meet or pick up a book.

A library is where the “magic happens for a child.”

It plays a special role in the development of a child, it is where they can discover the magic of exploring new worlds, learning new ideas and finding new characters through books. This is not something that happens in every classroom or in every home; kids need to be able to come to the library. It should be part of the experience of growing up.



King Soopers is the only  
culture in town

# A grocery store is not a cultural center.

Participants really, really want a local library.

They want:

It to feel like part of the neighborhood.

To be able to have “our library.”

It to be an easy place to meet, relax and hang-out.

To feel welcomed without having to buy something or feel like someone is watching how long they stay.

A safe place for everyone – for young families, for teenagers, for adults, for seniors to gather.

We are Boulder

# We should get the same services.

Again and again, participants returned to the idea that they pay taxes and are therefore owed the same services that Boulder city residents receive.

They pointed out that they lack the services that Boulder residents enjoy, such as a:

- Library

- Recreation center

- Developed parks

There was a strong sense among participants that they have been “disregarded.”

They are desperate for any library services, even a book mobile, although they really want more than that.

But, we've been  
underserved

# There is sense of frustration.

Participants feel that there is no overall voice representing Gunbarrel and their needs.

They pointed out that there are no long-term organizations that have invested in the community.

There are no civic-groups, or branches of civic-groups, in Gunbarrel.

There are no long-term businesses that have rooted themselves in the community.

There is a general lack of services and civic spaces.

Participants believe that there is little long-term planning in place to help build a sense of community.

And, it's hard to “just go  
to Boulder”

# Close. And yet, very far.

It is hard for young families and seniors to “just go to Boulder.”

The bus is not convenient or time efficient.

The Boulder branches are not convenient for Gunbarrel residents; they are fairly central within Boulder and all on the west side of town.

Most people don't want to drive to the library.

They don't want to fight traffic.

Several people, only somewhat jokily, said this was an environmental matter; they want to access the library by foot and bike.



Must Haves

# They'd like to have every service, but if they need to choose, books rule the day.

Pick up requested items was the most important service.

9 people selected this option

Followed by:

6 people | Book check out

6 people | Reading spaces/places to hang out

4 people | Meeting spaces for the community

3 people | Programs

Almost every participant checked every service when first asked to select which library service they would like to see in Gunbarrel.

# Programs are important. At this point, easy access to programs is more important than what the program is about.

56% of participants rated programs as “very important.”

Only 1 participant said that programs were “not at all important.”

Every person had participated in at least one library program in the past.

More important than the type of program is ease of access – they want to be able to attend library programs by biking or walking to the library with their family. They don’t want to have to travel to the Main Library for a 6pm program on a Tuesday night – they want to attend that same program in their community.

# Operating Hours

# People chose their top 3 days.



# And their top 3 times.

