

Hotel Construction Builds Economic Growth, Partnership

Evanston, Wyoming, a small town located along Interstate 80, serves as a stopping point for travelers, and energy development employees. The nature of its location and industry has not allowed for a lot of growth. Many residents must leave town to find steady employment.

Dharmesh Ahir understood the need for jobs in the community, and saw the potential for hospitality. Evanston is a great stopping point along the way to Yellowstone National Park and attracts a lot of summertime tourists. The town did not yet have a branded hotel, and Ahir who is experienced in the hospitality industry, pursued financing to construct a new hotel.

When looking at his options, Ahir sought the financing expertise of ANB Bank in Cheyenne. The lender was familiar with USDA Rural Development's Business and Industry Loan Guarantee program and submitted an application to the USDA Rural Development office in Casper, Wyoming. The guarantee allows the lender to offer better rates and terms, ultimately benefiting the borrower.

In 2004 a new Holiday Inn Express was built in Evanston adjacent to I-80. Since the onset of construction in 2004 to its current success, this hotel provides economic stability in the area. "We play a very pivotal role in terms of being able to provide employment in this community," said Ahir. He currently employs 27 full- and part-time employees at the hotel. The opportunity for stable jobs allows the employees to stay in the community and contribute to its overall long-term vitality.



The friendly staff at Holiday Inn Express accompanied by owner and manager, Dharmesh Ahir.

Obligation Amount:	\$2,804,500
Date of Obligation:	02-01-2005
Congressional District:	Representative Cheney, District 01; Senator Enzi, and Senator Barrasso
Partners:	ANB Bank, Cheyenne, Wyo.
Demographics:	Southwestern Wyoming, Evanston population: 11,866
Impact:	Construction of a new Holiday Inn Express, 27 new jobs
