



BUSINESS ATTRACTION, BUSINESS RETENTION

1. Business attraction: Agriculture and ag industries
2. Business attraction: Boating industry
3. Business attraction: International business
4. Business attraction: Market the fiber optic backbone
5. Business attraction: Organize “ambassador” teams of local business leaders
6. Business attraction: Supply chains for existing manufacturers
7. Business attraction: Support, assist the Chestertown Business Campus
8. Retention: Survey to learn how to help existing businesses thrive
9. Retention: Identify key business and industry sectors



COLLABORATION AND COMMUNITY OUTREACH

1. Collaboration: Closer ties between Chestertown Downtown, Kent businesses
2. Collaboration: Community 'negativity'
3. Collaboration: Other stakeholders in economic development.
4. Collaboration: Communications among business owners
5. Collaboration: Business, town connections w/ Washington College
6. Collaboration: 'Influence the influencers' in the business community
7. Collaboration: Education providers (KCPS, WC, CCC)
8. Collaboration: MD Department of Commerce
9. Collaboration: Relations between County and towns
10. Outreach: Build consensus for the new Strategic Plan once done
11. Outreach: Celebrate local business successes
12. Outreach: Conflicting ideas of what "success" is



GOVERNANCE, GROWTH, QUALITY OF LIFE

1. Governance: Advocate for Maryland rural hospital legislation
2. Governance: Hire a grant writer for fair share of Federal funds
3. Governance: Intra-county governmental communications
4. Governance: Local tax environment for business growth, 'double taxation'
5. Governance: All county departments should have strategies for economic development
6. Prepare for growth: Assess and plan for infrastructure
7. Prepare for growth: Assist municipalities with growth plans
8. Prepare for growth: Enlarge county zones permitting commercial/industrial
9. Prepare for growth: Enlarge county zones permitting residential
10. Quality of life: Low-wage environment yet high cost of living
11. Quality of life: Racial issues/diversity
12. Quality of life: Shopping/amenities
13. Quality of life: Small population



COMMUNITY SERVICES, WORKFORCE LIMITS, JOB OPPORTUNITIES

1. Community services: Health care
2. Community services: Limited transportation access to health care, advanced education
3. Community services: Make fiber widely available
4. Community services: Make improvements in KCPS, grow student population
5. Workforce limits: Housing
6. Workforce limits: Small size
7. Workforce limits: Training
8. Workforce limits: Gap between KC businesses and KCPS
9. Job opportunities: Trailing spouses
10. Job opportunities: WC grads
11. Job opportunities: Young county residents