



THE COMPETITIVE COMMUNITIES INITIATIVE

CCI ASSESSMENT TOOL FOR THE FOUNDATIONS FOR GROWTH

FOUNDATIONS:

SKILLED & ADAPTIVE WORKFORCE

GOOD BASIC & ADVANCED PHYSICAL INFRASTRUCTURE

ACCESS TO CAPITAL FOR BUSINESS GROWTH AND EXPANSION

ACCESS TO TECHNOLOGY AND BUSINESS MODERNIZATION RESOURCES.

PRO-COMPETITIVE BUSINESS POLICIES AFFECTING THE LOCAL BUSINESS CLIMATE.

SOCIAL INFRASTRUCTURE NECESSARY FOR A HIGH QUALITY OF LIFE.

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FOUNDATION: SKILLED & ADAPTIVE WORKFORCE

Questions the Planning Team might consider:

Has a needs and skills assessment with business been conducted?

What are the needs of the current workforce?

What are the skills of the current workforce?

Is our education system providing basic skills including reading writing, math communication and problem solving in grades (Kindergarten +12)

Are schools providing training for the current workforce?

What are the opportunities to retrain the existing workforce?

What entrepreneurial training is available? What should be available?

FOUNDATION: BASIC & ADVANCED PHYSICAL INFRASTRUCTURE

Questions the Planning Team might consider:

Are local utilities available and affordable?

Are the sewer and water systems safe and adequate for current and future needs?

Is the sanitary and storm sewers working properly? Do they need updated or expanded?

Do we have an industrial park or industrial site that has adequate infrastructure and space for current and future needs?

Is there a need to develop more housing?

Is there good street and roads?

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Is there available public transportation?

What communication systems link business and residents with global and export systems?

Is there solid waste disposal program?

Is there a capital improvements plan and budget system for basic infrastructure needs?

FOUNDATION: ACCESS TO CAPITAL FOR BUSINESSES

Questions the Planning Team might consider:

What are the financial resources available in the community for businesses?

What other financial resources are available to businesses at the regional, state or federal level?

Is there a need to create more financial resources?

What tax incentives are available to businesses for various phases of business start ups, growth etc..?

FOUNDATION: BUSINESS ACCESS TO TECHNOLOGY & MODERNIZATION.

Questions the Planning Team might consider:

What technologies are businesses utilizing?

What technologies are businesses needing?

Is fiber optics available in the area and access to the Internet?

Is local product research being developed?

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Are there areas in the region where research is being conducted and accessible to businesses?

What energy audits and solution resources are available to local business?

Do local businesses have business and marketing plans? Do they need assistance in developing a plan?

FOUNDATION: PRO-COMPETITIVE BUSINESS POLICIES

Questions the Planning Team might consider:

Are the tax rates for local businesses in line with those in the area?

Is the comprehensive land use plan updated?

Is their appropriate zoning?

Are codes uniformly being enforced?

Are their tax and fee incentives provided by local government?

Is there a central business development organization or system?

Does signage attract customers?

Is parking sufficient? and Traffic patterns beneficial?

Is there a business retention program in the community?

FOUNDATION: SOCIAL INFRASTRUCTURE & HIGH QUALITY OF LIFE.

Questions the Planning Team might consider:

Does our community have a stable economy for all residents?

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Are we in need of Housing for (less advantaged, elderly, first time home buyers)?

Is there adequate Public transportation?

Are there areas that need aesthetic appearance improvements? (i.e. lighting, sidewalks, clean-up)

Is public safety being addressed for all individuals in the community?

What are our Health care needs?

What programs and services are available for all age groups?

What environmental issues need to be addressed?

Does our community have a Historic preservation program?

Is there a volunteer organization development and leadership in the community?

What physical and cultural amenities are available or needed in the community?

Are parks & recreational opportunities available to our community residents?

What cultural amenities are needed? Visual and performing art, humanities etc..