



ECONOMIC GROWTH WORKING GROUP

MEETINGS 2 & 3

SUMMARY OF PROGRESS

The second and third working group meetings were held on June 6 and June 26, 2019 from 5:00 – 7:00 p.m. There were eighteen (18) attendees at meeting 2 and eight (8) attendees at meeting 3. The second meeting was spent developing draft objectives for each of the four (4) action items. The room was broken out into four (4) groups. Each group was provided 20+ minutes to review a goal and its objectives. Then, the groups rotated goals so that each group had the opportunity to provide input on all four goals and its associated objectives. Then, at the third meeting, the attendees voted by modified consensus on the wording of each goal. Based on the feedback, these goals were further refined to be clearer and more concise. Another highlight of the meeting was representation by early-childhood education and K-12 schools to discuss kindergarten readiness and workforce preparation. Due to the small attendance at the third meeting, the facilitators chose to focus all together on one goal at a time. Attendees reviewed Economic Growth Goal #1.

- Cultivate a vibrant community **with a strong education base that promotes a skilled technical workforce that attracts a diverse quality of jobs.** ~~by promoting a strong education base along with a skilled technical workforce.~~
- Make Bourbon County a place ~~to establish, expand and do business and~~ **that encourages responsible economic growth and diversification.**
- Promote ~~understanding and growth of~~ the tourism industry as a vital component of broadening the county's overall economic base.
- ~~Encourage Revitalization of~~ the urban core ~~districts of~~ Millersburg, North Middletown, Paris, **and the rural growth areas of Bourbon County.**

DRAFT OBJECTIVES for Economic Growth Goal #1:

Quality of life

- a. **Encourage a variety of cultures and income levels, resulting in a vibrant and diverse community.**
- b. **Invest in quality of life measures that residents and business owners seek including parks, open space, historic resources, public transportation, and public services.**
- c. Land use policies promote equitable distribution and connectivity of accessible housing, recreation, and other community facilities. *(Suggested change: **Provide policies that promote equitable distribution and connectivity of accessible housing, recreation and other community facilities.**)*
- d. Provide entertainment and other quality of life opportunities that attract and retain young, and culturally diverse professionals, and a work force of all ages and talents to Bourbon County. *(Suggested change: **Provide entertainment and other quality of life opportunities that attract and retain culturally diverse young professionals, and a work force of all ages and talents to Bourbon County.**)*

Education

- e. **Support and assist local education efforts of Pre-K through post-secondary institutions to produce an available and skilled labor pool.**
- f. Collaborate with business and industry leaders and institutions of higher learning to foster a capable and skilled workforce while engaging agencies that address the lack of prosperity for residents by reducing joblessness. *(Suggested change: **Collaborate with business and industry leaders and educational institutions to foster a capable and skilled workforce. Reduce joblessness by creating or supporting agencies that address a Labor Ready Work Force.**)*

Job Opportunity

- g. Strengthen efforts to develop a variety of job opportunities that lead to prosperity for all. *(Suggested change: **Strengthen efforts to develop a variety of sustainable job opportunities.**)*
- h. **Strengthen regulations and policies that property the agricultural economy, including but not limited to local food production and distribution, agritourism and equine industry.**
- i. To improve the resident employment base of Bourbon County and attract workplace uses that can provide the types of jobs that will provide Bourbon Countians with a viable alternative to out-migration for employment. *(Suggested change: **To increase the resident employment base of Bourbon County.**)*