**WARRENTON ECONOMIC VITALITY ROADMAP**

**MEETING NOTES**

**August 20, 2018**

**Priorities for Action**

Based upon community surveys, focus groups and the Roadmap assessment phase, 5 themes surfaced as potential priorities for action. They are listed below in no particular order along with the number of votes received by those in attendance at the August 20 meeting.

1. Make Downtown Warrenton more livable and attractive. 30 votes
2. Elevate Warrenton’s potential as a place/destination for beautiful scenery and nature. 17 votes
3. Build a desirable and market-ready workforce. 24 votes
4. Address nuisance properties (residential and commercial). 19 votes
5. Rebrand the image of city government/staff. 3 votes

The group divided into three action teams based on the top 3 priorities for action and began completing an action sheet. Below are the notes summarizing the small group discussion from August 20.

**Nuisance Properties**

* **Challenge**
  + Building in disrepair
  + junk yards
  + kids safety
  + fire/tall grass
* **Goal**
  + Reduce nuisance properties
  + Sustain a cleaner and more attractive downtown
* **Slogan**
  + By committee?
* **Actions (90 Days)**
  1. List of available properties
  2. Committee to review properties and strategy
  3. Research existing/new codes and have community review

**Workforce**

* **Challenge**
  + Diversify employment
  + Need family-wage jobs
  + Drugs?
  + Qualified?
  + Shallow pool of candidates
  + Data Center: Is it coming?
  + N Coast Business Park
* **Goal**
  + Next generation live and work here
  + Family-wage jobs (examples: Costco, Lektro, Coast Guard, Hampton)
* **Actions (90 Days)**
  1. Learn from Employment Department
  2. What are gaps?
  3. Connect businesses and schools to learn
* **Opportunities**
  + Clatsop Works, Anna Stamper

**Downtown**

* **Challenge/Opportunity**
  + Beautifying downtown and filling empty buildings
  + Lack of sidewalks
  + Traffic by 9th and Main
  + Recruiting business owners as active participants
  + Diversity of businesses
  + Defining downtown
  + Warrenton: S. Main Ave. from SW 9th St. to 4-way stop; E. Harbor Dr. from 4-way stop to NE King Ave.
  + Hammond: Pacific Dr. from 4-way stop to the curve
* **Goal**
  + 100% occupancy of commercial spaces
  + Beautification of buildings and current businesses (appearance consistency)
  + Safety
* **Slogan Ideas**
  + Wonderful, Water, Winner, Warrenton Works, Warrenton Wins
* **90-Day Outcomes**
  + Compiling data on occupancy rate and what commercial spaces are available (inventory)
  + Form a beautification committee
  + Bike racks
  + Trash cans
  + Benches
  + Added lighting
  + Landscaping
  + Design theme or code