



**Haven & Yoder**

Community Workshop Recap

October 16, 2024

Participants: 16

## DATA WALK

### Data Source: Love Where You Live Survey

#### II. Economic Perceptions In Our Community

In regard to your community, how would you assess current business conditions and employment opportunities.

Please select one answer for each of the following:

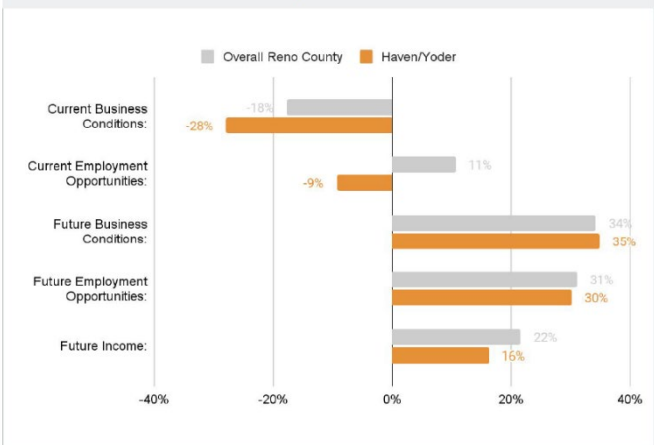
<b>a. Business Conditions</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Good <input type="checkbox"/> Bad <input type="checkbox"/> Normal	<b>b. Employment Opportunities</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Jobs plentiful <input type="checkbox"/> Jobs not so plentiful <input type="checkbox"/> Jobs hard to get
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In regard to your community, what are your future expectations for the following.

Please select one answer for each of the following:

<b>a. Business Conditions</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Better <input type="checkbox"/> Worse <input type="checkbox"/> Same	<b>b. Employment Opportunities</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Better <input type="checkbox"/> Worse <input type="checkbox"/> Same	<b>c. Income</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Increase <input type="checkbox"/> Decrease <input type="checkbox"/> Same
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### Our Economic Perceptions Report, pg. 4



Workshop Prompt: What might be behind the uncertainty about the current economic conditions?

- Outdated infrastructure and limited housing.
- Inflation, uncertainty, job vs housing options for middle class.
- Job availability, need something more than restaurants.
- Job availability doesn't meet housing needs.
- Global conditions and people downsizing ?? local government corruption and county, law enforcement being held accountable.
- Higher expense with more uncertainty of how to make ends meet.
- Employment opportunities with good wages
- More houses, wages.
- Inflation, election, local job market.
- Election & how it polarizes individuals & businesses.

Workshop Prompt: What gives residents so much more hope for future economic conditions?

- New business and support of them.
- New housing & younger population moving in.
- New businesses and established.
- Growth & support of city & its boards.
- When they see new businesses open.
- Supporting new business, get younger people involved in community.
- Wildcat landing.
- Government local & national, community that cares and wants change.

## Data Source: Love Where You Live Survey

Please use the following scale to indicate how you feel about your community and leadership.

1 = Strongly Disagree

2 = Disagree

3 = Somewhat Disagree

4 = Neutral

5 = Somewhat Agree

6 = Agree

7 = Strongly Agree

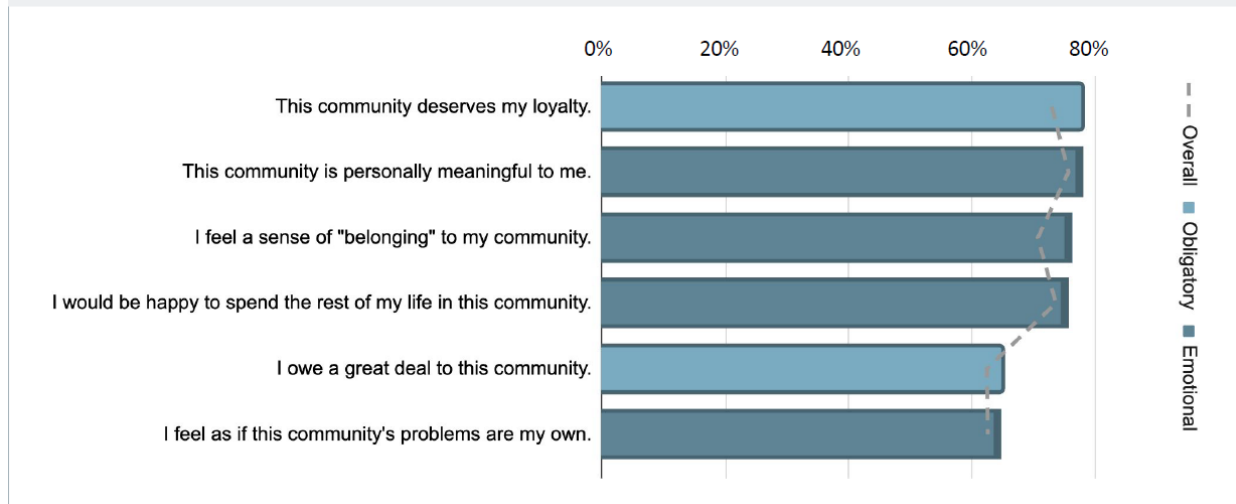
If you are unsure or do not want to respond, please use the following option:

0 = Do not know/No response

Report, pg. 7

# Confidence In Our Local Community

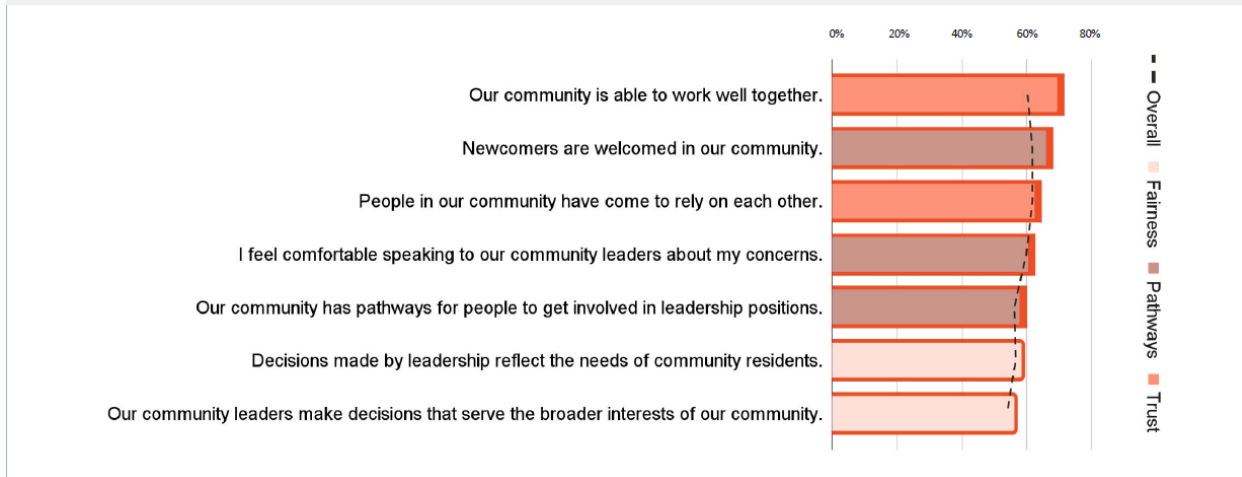
## Community Confidence: Personal Commitment



Workshop Prompt: How might we increase residents' sense of responsibility toward the community?

- Engage them – invite to meetings.
- Listen.
- Increase buy-in.
- Transparency or more communication around boards and council.
- Relationships. Different age groups, backgrounds coming together so people can see the change/impact.
- It's hard to get people involved. Commonly said I didn't know there was a meeting.
- Find out why they are not...
- Educate them on their value by being involved.
- Community pride or ownership
- Block parties branding to the foundation. Highlighting points to address from the brainstorming. Citywide cookout spaghetti feed or carnival ...

## Community Confidence: Local Leadership



Workshop Prompt: How might we involve more voices in decision making?

- Relay how to be more involved, town hall meetings.
- Respect different perspectives so people have confidence that they will be heard.
- People need to get involved where decisions are being made, not after the fact.
- Invite people in to share experience and be heard. Create expectations and follow through.
- Get more people from the county on board that effect the county.
- Asking different people to join and become active within our community.
- Have people at the top that are asking the right question to create discussion.
- Leadership needs to hear the county residents.
- Make sure people know the ways they can share concerns/ideas/etc.
- Get the public more engaged with government.

## Community Confidence: Vision



Workshop Prompt: What might give residents a better idea of where the community is headed?

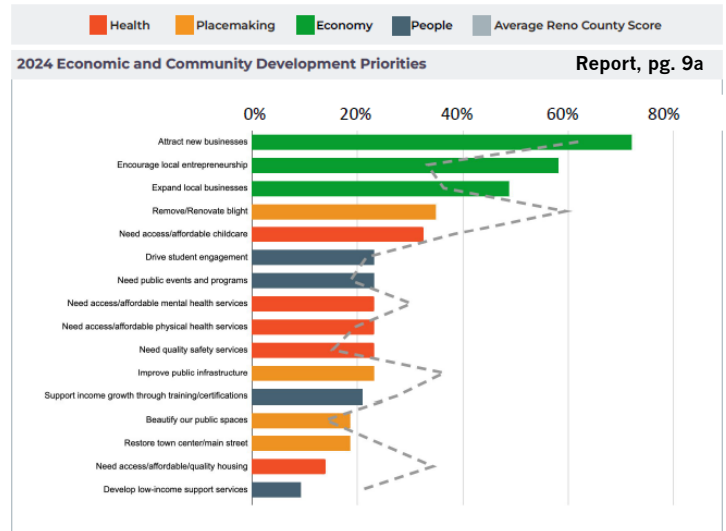
- Social Media.
- Public information for the decisions when finalized.
- Loss of “Hutch News” and similar has made communication more difficult.
- Need a way to get public news out to community.
- Celebrate wins, transparency, focus on what people care about – kids, family, health, etc.
- More town halls at small towns.
- A clean plan for the future.
- More social media, live city council meetings online.
- Hearing from community leaders and government officials.
- More frequent communication direct to residents vs getting info just from the paper.

## Data Source: Love Where You Live Survey

Understanding your communities economic and community development priorities **IN OUR COMMUNITY.**

Please select your top 5 economic and community development priorities.

- \_\_\_ (Resilient Economy) Attract new businesses
- \_\_\_ (Resilient Economy) Expand local businesses
- \_\_\_ (Resilient Economy) Encourage local entrepreneurship
- \_\_\_ (Vibrant Place) Remove/renovate run-down properties
- \_\_\_ (Vibrant Place) Improve public infrastructure (sidewalks, roads, parks, etc.)
- \_\_\_ (Vibrant Place) Beautify our public areas
- \_\_\_ (Vibrant Place) Restore our town center and main street
- \_\_\_ (Engaged Citizens) Create and refine programs to improve student engagement in the community
- \_\_\_ (Engaged Citizens) Develop training and certification programs to support income growth
- \_\_\_ (Engaged Citizens) Develop community pride through public events and programming
- \_\_\_ (Engaged Citizens) Develop more effective low-income family support programs
- \_\_\_ (Healthy Citizens) Expand access to quality and affordable (monthly payments <30% of household income) housing
- \_\_\_ (Healthy Citizens) Expand access to quality and affordable childcare support services
- \_\_\_ (Healthy Citizens) Address access and affordability of local Physical Health services
- \_\_\_ (Healthy Citizens) Address access and affordability of local Mental Health services
- \_\_\_ (Healthy Citizens) Improve the quality of safety and emergency services (Police, Fire, etc.)



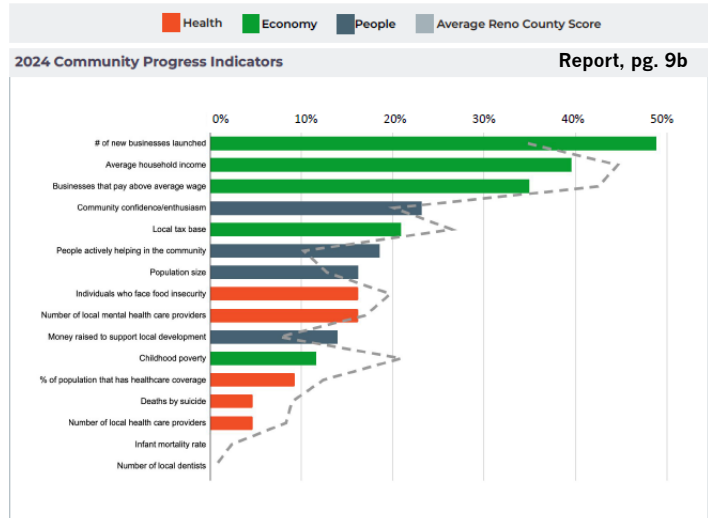
Workshop Prompt: What would it take to create change on the top priorities?

- Create more housing to bring in people.
- Monetary incentives for new housing and businesses
- Spend money in Reno and encourage young people to embrace business opportunities early.
- Attract the right businesses – industry & manufacturing.
- People to fill jobs, housing to get those people, daycare for children.
- More housing, expanded assistance (tax & credits) to existing businesses.
- Make less ‘red tape’ for new business.
- Asking local existing business what it would take to expand.
- Use Reno County businesses for projects.
- Electric Grid.
- Community engagement, educate, and marketing our community.

## Data Source: Love Where You Live Survey

In a span of 1-3 years, which community metrics would you hope to improve upon. Select up to 3:

- Number of new businesses launched in the community
- Number of new businesses that pay above average wages
- Average household income
- Population size
- Amount of money raised to support local development
- Local tax base (wages, sales, property)
- Number of people actively (>5 hours/month) engaged in community development
- Community confidence and enthusiasm
- % of local population who has some health care coverage
- Number of Mental Health Providers available locally
- Number of Primary Health Providers available locally
- Number of Dentists available locally
- Number of deaths caused by suicide
- Individuals who face food insecurity
- Childhood poverty rate
- Infant mortality rates



Workshop Prompt: What would it take to create change on the top progress indicators?

- More community.
- Marketing our community, education.
- Get more people to live here.
- More community support to local businesses.
- Try to stop the population decline, more housing and job creation.
- Hire local and educate work force to move up.
- Citizen engagement and awareness.
- Cast vision for what Reno County has to offer to attract new people.
- Jill has started at EDC – this will be a big help.
- Community pride.
- Community pride, citizen involvement, attracting business.
- Doctors' practices need the opportunity to be independent.

## BOLD IDEAS

### Workshop Prompt:

- What one opportunity or priority could make the biggest difference in our community in the next year?
- If this community was 10 times bolder to make progress on it, what big idea would you recommend?

### Workshop Participant Responses:

1. A total & absolute goal & plan to address infrastructure, specifically electrical. (25 points)
2. Attract manufacturing & production type business with large incentive and tax breaks. Work with local land owner to sell key location with infrastructure ready to support the growth. (24 points)
3. Combination gas station/chain restaurant located close to 96 highway. Establish and support local grocery store. (23 points)
4. Wildcat landing (23 points)
5. Housing – bring new families into town. Wildcat landing, new opportunity to build. Create more rentals and or houses to buy. Get the youth involved and ask them what would make Haven the perfect place to live and work. Then put into action. (21 points)
6. Having a grocery store and other businesses for ‘daily’ living needs. Expand on city grants with state grants to help support. Maybe as a coop working along the school for business training. (21 points)
7. Promote Wildcat Landing, get lots sold. Start next housing project. It takes years to actually see progress. EDC to aggressively market town.
8. Manufacturing jobs that could support families. Community leaders actively looking for business to come to reno county. Advertise that we have railways and airport that can be used to transport goods and company executives.
9. Increase the number of single family affordable homes. This community has been pretty bold with moving this forward. Find land for this.
10. Community Pride: supporting local businesses, proud and thankful for where we live, encouraging one another, people realizing they make a difference. Community projects where we work together, ie: youth gathering place, subsidized daycare, etc.
11. Have more community engagement, more people need to get involved in volunteering or active in boards. Replacing the electrical infrastructure so negative comments were not passed around on social media giving Haven a bad name.
12. Appeal to the younger families looking to create solid foundations for growing their families and futures with housing, employment, entertainment. Monthly community event to participate in for community to mix and mingle to find support amongst each other.



13. Each invested/engaged person find and develop one person to bring along so that they will be changed in our community in a meaningful way. Go all in on housing (especially Haven area) get people to live here who will then desire and support resources and amenities.
14. A night out like a branded block party, bounce houses for kids, information tents or booths for adults to inform, garner interest in goals of community pride, involvement. Bike ride like a poker run on smaller scale. Scavenger hunt or craft festival.
15. Find an event or opportunity to get 50% of our population together. A Reno County based entertainment or theme park.
16. Priority: zero in on bringing more business by having things like Fall Fest or something like that more often. Maybe internship with high school students about to leave school.
17. Make more housing affordable, make more day care available.

## LEADERSHIP IS AN ACTIVITY

Workshop Prompt: What can you do to immediately make progress on a big idea? Where do you have discretion and freedom to act? What can you do without more resources or authority?

Workshop Participant Responses:

- Find ways to engage families & stakeholders.
- Lead by example. Encourage participation by those you have influence over.
- Engage in more public meetings in the county and the city.
- 15% of utilizing myself would, could be to visit with someone younger in order to volunteer to become involved in attending city council meetings and functions to support pride goals manifested by social interactions for the whole family.
- We are each leaders at some level. Support your community, encourage others to get involved. Share the issues you believe are important and why.
- Attend council meetings – bring a friend. Thank your leaders!
- Attend all town meetings & listen more than talk. Gather info and communicate with city council and Haven EDC.
- Understanding the budget. Current tax dollars spend on what services in my town? What do my taxes look like with projects needed in the community? During already challenging times.
- Educate myself on the issue of our electrical grid with facts and spread the word.
- Become more involved in the city ‘business’ by attending more meetings. Become more informed around key areas. Ask more questions!
- Engage in understanding the need and asking the right questions? Speak about the issue while listening to responses to navigate a path forward. Take personal steps to mitigate my impact towards the situation.