

Appendix D: CEDS Survey Results (Open Responses)

Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) Survey

Q4 How can your county use its best resources to boost the economy?

Answered: 648 Skipped: 335

#	Responses	Date
1	Jobs Use those resources to develop jobs	3/13/2017 9:51 AM
2	Businesses By developing realistic training curriculum that focuses on future business needs that includes comprehensive health fields, manufacturing, and IT.	3/13/2017 8:58 AM
3	Economic development through group and advertising	3/12/2017 9:49 PM
4	By identifying a need that involves resources resident within Burke County but yet aren't being recognized/utilized to strengthen the local economy	3/12/2017 8:32 PM
5	Utilizing all public resources to enhance low income families to excel in their lives and become self sufficient	3/12/2017 4:26 PM
6	Education Young People Invest in public education and in the young people of Burke County	3/11/2017 9:41 PM
7	Businesses Jobs Attracting businesses to come to Burke County. Jobs left with the ending of furniture business. Very little opportunity except in healthcare.	3/11/2017 6:34 PM
8	Education Invest in education	3/11/2017 4:32 PM
9	Community College Industry Our Caldwell Community College and Technical Institute can set up training classes for almost any industry that requires assistance.	3/11/2017 11:56 AM
10	Planning to assist in developing multi-family residential, apartments and townhomes, other than subsidized projects. Caldwell has too many workers who have to live outside the County due to lack of inventory of housing	3/11/2017 9:53 AM
11	Businesses Education Start with the education system to train individuals in certain areas. Then recruit businesses that need those skilled laborers.....i.e.: the Furniture Academy	3/11/2017 8:24 AM
12	MAKE MORE FAMILY /SENIOR CITIZEN FRIENDLY	3/11/2017 7:51 AM
13	Community College Jobs Use the community college to train people laid off from the loss of manufacturing jobs.	3/11/2017 7:09 AM
14	Jobs Bring in new employers to create new jobs	3/11/2017 6:15 AM
15	Tourism Improve ROADS in VALDESE for tourism!!!	3/11/2017 3:56 AM
16	Invest in future growth	3/10/2017 9:59 PM
17	Community College Jobs Bring in manufacturing jobs that utilize the degrees the local Community Colleges provide. NOT health care. This area is over-loaded with health care degree holders, which has driven the pay down \$2-\$5 lower than the national average. Free WiFi connectivity in public spaces.	3/10/2017 9:22 PM
18	Education encourage diversity...educate in technical areas	3/10/2017 8:35 PM
19	Businesses Attracting small and large businesses and companies thru low taxation, especially near and in maiden and with incentives.	3/10/2017 8:34 PM
20	Jobs Invest in job training	3/10/2017 6:41 PM
21	Community College Offering more night/ evening classes at the community college so people who work can still go to school if they desire	3/10/2017 6:27 PM
22	Education INVEST in PUBLIC Education, including EARLY Childhood Education!	3/10/2017 5:29 PM
23	Young People Bring back the young people. Please improve green spaces and make the area more attractive to young people - culture, arts, outdoor events/spaces	3/10/2017 5:06 PM
24	Jobs Continue to support CCC&TI's involvement with App State, support STEM and Early College, and their involvement with technical jobs within the County.	3/10/2017 4:46 PM
25	Support the public schools for our students, economic vitality and containment of health and social welfare programs.	3/10/2017 3:57 PM
26	Get rid of the conservative city leaders and replace them with progressive individuals that aren't afraid to try new policies.	3/10/2017 3:49 PM

Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) Survey

27	I think Catawba County can use Lake Hickory and Lake Norman to promote water based recreation. The County has a lot of historical preservation that could be used to create more prestigious historical areas to live and play in. Catawba County is also part of the Carolina Threadrail Network.	3/10/2017 3:47 PM
28	Education Focus on education and training! Develop the workforce of today and tomorrow!!	3/10/2017 3:20 PM
29	Industry Jobs Training for skilled jobs within this industry	3/10/2017 3:18 PM
30	Businesses Jobs Continued business recruitment to bring in new jobs	3/10/2017 3:12 PM
31	Jobs Create more jobs, create more affordable housing, better public transportation to WHOLE county	3/10/2017 2:53 PM
32	Combine large unused factory and store space with a good transportation hub and a large hands-on experience factory population to produce products like modular homes.	3/10/2017 2:49 PM
33	Businesses Stop making it hard to do business in the county. I.E. - Not only through our own experiences, but also through the experiences of our customers, building in the county is often difficult and expensive due to the processes and inspectors. We have heard repeatedly how difficult and frustrating it is do build commercial buildings in our county simply because the attitude and push back companies get. If we simply started to try to help people rather than looking for/ creating issues it would make a huge difference.	3/10/2017 2:34 PM
34	Redevelop the areas that are full of vacant buildings. Use the hospital building for some type of ART.	3/10/2017 2:30 PM
35	Education Workforce development and education. Our populace is sorely under educated. Too many children are born to unmarried mothers who use drugs, have no work ethic, have no skills, who do not feed their children nutritious food and who have terrible parenting skills. We have to change the culture from one of making babies, using drugs, and living off the government to one of getting an education, working hard, and getting married before producing children.	3/10/2017 2:28 PM
36	High School Training upcoming youth starting in the Middle and High Schools.	3/10/2017 2:09 PM
37	Businesses Fund more businesses and things to do.	3/10/2017 2:02 PM
38	Create an environment where people want to work AND live. Recruitment is tough.	3/10/2017 1:37 PM
39	Businesses Community College The framework is in place for a vibrant, balanced small city (Hickory). Go get a big winner of a business to make this place a destination. This requires tax incentives (I know you know that, but lets do this thing!) Attract big events to the convention center to make Hickory a destination (i.e. we have the NC-SHRM coming in 2019). Also, 2019 is the 75th anniversary of the Miracle of Hickory. Tell this story. This defines the very best of us >>> https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=z1UzRVOLsmo Learn from Hickory Hops...the entire downtown becomes a destination. Do more quality festivals. Encourage CVCC to reach out to Wilkes Community College and try to get a few Merlefest performers to perform in Hickory the week before the festival. There are hundreds of performers... we need a few to make this happen.	3/10/2017 1:28 PM
40	If people with brains could get elected to office it would be the biggest help. If not, then at least if the elected officials could do away with the good old boy and partisan network. Hell it is like listening to 7th graders argue about things. We need diversity (women and minorities) to help us get out of this quagmire.	3/10/2017 1:21 PM
41	more events. Night out on the square. Example: shops have sales and put their names out to the community and restaurants provide samples or discounted foods/wine tastings. More affordable living. We have 9-11 complexes that are ALL income based. That is wonderful we are catering to the needy but what about us who make over 21,000 but not quite enough to rent a home/townhome or apartment that rent reaches up to the 800 range. We need a affordable places to live so we can not have to travel 30 miles out of our town just to find a half decent place to live.	3/10/2017 1:13 PM
42	Market Market Assets	3/10/2017 1:06 PM
43	Businesses continue to attract new businesses	3/10/2017 1:01 PM
44	Market Market the benefits working in the county brings to the companies	3/10/2017 1:00 PM
45	Education The county needs to support those things that make our county unique in order to attract young families. The Bond Initiatives are good, but we need to do more. Education is important and we should provide support to the unique educational facilities such as Catawba Science Center.	3/10/2017 12:58 PM
46	More/cheaper skills-based training through CVCC	3/10/2017 12:37 PM
47	Education training and development of trade skills and the encouraging a vocational pathway for youth education instead of a one dimensional approach to academics	3/10/2017 12:31 PM
48	Education High School Jobs collaborate on education and training to improve overall education attainment, to provide high school graduates who are ready to work or be trained and to teach new and needed skills to adults to provide a trained workforce and attract more jobs	3/10/2017 12:15 PM

Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) Survey

49	Create affordable housing(apartments,townhouses, single-family detached homes) for all income levels along with cultural and recreational events/activities for all age levels, especially graduating college students and retirees.	3/10/2017 12:06 PM
50	Businesses Industry Jobs The working population needs to increase to supply workforce of the future. Investments in attracting and keeping 18-55 year olds need to be made now. Also, investments in properties that are attractive to new business and industry need to be made to create jobs for our workforce.	3/10/2017 11:58 AM
51	Market MARKETING THE AREA.	3/10/2017 11:53 AM
52	Jobs Create new jobs	3/10/2017 11:52 AM
53	Ensure the public is aware of the resource	3/10/2017 11:48 AM
54	Education Ensure there are plenty of education opportunities in a variety of fields	3/10/2017 11:48 AM
55	Industry Jobs Recruit labor intensive industries with high paying jobs.	3/10/2017 11:47 AM
56	Improve schools	3/10/2017 11:46 AM
57	Quality of life is tremendous and the story needs to be told.	3/10/2017 11:43 AM
58	Mecklenburg County is a significant driver of NC's economy. and due to proximity, the Catawba region benefits Mecklenburg's progress.	3/10/2017 11:40 AM
59	Take advantage of natural resources. Make the community a good place to play as well as work.	3/10/2017 11:35 AM
60	Businesses Better digital engagement. Our municipalities, organizations and businesses are still way behind. Many don't even have websites or use social media.	3/10/2017 11:27 AM
61	Jobs Boost job opportunities to Burke Co.	3/10/2017 11:17 AM
62	Jobs Bring job opportunities with livable wages.	3/10/2017 11:15 AM
63	Jobs More training for new/different jobs coming into the area.	3/10/2017 10:57 AM
64	Market Utilize the lakes and location. Market that were a small town but with big cities close by and about an hour from anywhere	3/10/2017 10:51 AM
65	Community College Workforce Community College work force training	3/10/2017 10:46 AM
66	Better advertising, buying local, making better connections to schools and other community outreach programs.	3/10/2017 10:26 AM
67	Re-establish manufacturing	3/10/2017 9:56 AM
68	Jobs Jobs, Jobs, Jobs....Take people off Government aid so they will go to work	3/10/2017 9:10 AM
69	Education Educationally.	3/10/2017 9:07 AM
70	no idea	3/10/2017 8:30 AM
71	J O B S !	3/10/2017 7:42 AM
72	Burke County has a great school system and is located geographically in a most desirable area. We need to continue to use this to keep young adults here.	3/10/2017 7:05 AM
73	We have many empty buildings that could either be used/rented or demolished and green spaces created. Magnolia Plaza is one where it would be highly beneficial to the residents out Hwy64 to have a city green space.	3/10/2017 5:38 AM
74	Promoting schools & funding them based on the needs not what fits the budget.	3/9/2017 8:57 PM
75	Na	3/9/2017 8:30 PM
76	Education Jobs Education, job training, substance use/abuse rehabilitation, mental health	3/9/2017 8:16 PM
77	Unknown	3/9/2017 6:42 PM
78	Businesses Jobs Continue to bring in new business in multiple sectors to continue to create new jobs	3/9/2017 6:12 PM
79	Jobs Anything that will provide more jobs for the community.	3/9/2017 5:38 PM
80	Tourism More tourism advertising for environmental treasures, like Table Rock, Lake James, South Mountain State Park	3/9/2017 3:08 PM
81	Further development of down town Morganton.	3/9/2017 2:19 PM
82	Tourism Increase advertising for tourism for Lake James.	3/9/2017 2:06 PM
83	Not sure	3/9/2017 12:41 PM

Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) Survey

84	Tourism Tourism could be a focus, with scenic areas both in the mountains and along the lakes. This could also be a pitch for retirees or others looking to relocate to the area.	3/9/2017 11:58 AM
85	Get a new school superintendent who has a better vision of vocational needs.	3/9/2017 11:52 AM
86	Jobs Bring more job opportunities to our area so that more people will move to our area and boost our county economy.	3/9/2017 11:39 AM
87	Jobs Local jobs incentives and workforce development	3/9/2017 11:36 AM
88	Businesses Fill vacant buildings with businesses	3/9/2017 11:32 AM
89	Businesses Invest more in our local businesses. Local businesses should interact more with community stakeholders and make members aware of who they are and what they offer to promote "buy in".	3/9/2017 9:28 AM
90	Training classes through CCC&TI.	3/9/2017 8:46 AM
91	Implement more resources and ways for individuals to become employed, and be able to afford health care.	3/9/2017 8:30 AM
92	CUT TAXES	3/9/2017 7:32 AM
93	Businesses Education Jobs Encourage education/business alliances and develop vocational programs in the schools that promote job readiness.	3/9/2017 7:23 AM
94	Industry Give incentives to attract new industry to our area.	3/9/2017 7:22 AM
95	Businesses Young People Invest in downtown, small businesses. Young people (18- 30) are looking for vibrant downtowns with walkability and restaurants that stay open past 8 PM. We can find a way to pay the bills, we just want a place to enjoy our lifestyle and spend our money!	3/8/2017 11:31 PM
96	Jobs Provide opportunities for others to be engaged and resourceful and offer job opportunities	3/8/2017 11:03 PM
97	Businesses Incorporate more small businesses	3/8/2017 10:33 PM
98	Build on things that going well already	3/8/2017 9:45 PM
99	Market use agriculture as a selling point for the community and use farmers markets and clean eating as selling points for our community	3/8/2017 8:51 PM
100	Need to fill the empty buildings we have with a company employing 300-400 starting out at \$15/hr. Need to take advantage of WPCC. WPCC needs to expand in the downtown area. Need to take advantage of the new artisan feel.	3/8/2017 8:47 PM
101	Community College Jobs I think the College does a great job bringing people into the community.	3/8/2017 8:08 PM
102	Businesses Bring in new retail stores & offer new business to locate outside of the cities.	3/8/2017 6:22 PM
103	Education Invest in education	3/8/2017 6:11 PM
104	Tourism Tourism	3/8/2017 5:16 PM
105	Burke County has a lot of potential as a tourist destination with numerous outdoor recreational opportunities. The Catawba River, Lake James, and the mountains (notably Linville Gorge) are huge draws for outdoor enthusiasts. Building on current offerings in a way that makes minimal impact on the environment and landscape would help to boost visits to the area. The new Fonta Flora trail is one example of a step in the right direction.	3/8/2017 5:00 PM
106	To help low income families	3/8/2017 4:24 PM
107	Businesses Jobs bring in more business/jobs	3/8/2017 4:11 PM
108	Provide better transportation for customer to be able to get to work.	3/8/2017 3:36 PM
109	We have too many empty buildings that are sitting empty, which would be a great place to start.	3/8/2017 3:20 PM
110	Tourism I feel that our location at the foothills and near the Linville Gorge lends itself to tourism, which could be emphasized even more than it is.	3/8/2017 3:08 PM
111	Businesses bring in business suited for the demographics	3/8/2017 3:06 PM
112	Businesses Jobs Bring in new businesses and jobs.	3/8/2017 2:51 PM
113	unsure	3/8/2017 2:49 PM
114	Businesses It can advertise and advise businesses to come to the county and occupy these many empty stores that now exist because the building of the newmall emptied them. It can encourage low rent availability.	3/8/2017 2:24 PM
115	Businesses There is plenty of land for businesses. Poverty is widespread.	3/8/2017 2:16 PM

Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) Survey

116	Industry Seek and encourage more retail and industrial development and employ more people...our people are our best asset.	3/8/2017 2:12 PM
117	Businesses Provide tax incentives for new businesses and restaurants.	3/8/2017 1:59 PM
118	Create a desire to spend money around the lakes and state parks which will result in sales taxes of all kinds being generated, food, lodging, apparel,automotive, gas etc.	3/8/2017 1:49 PM
119	Jobs bring the companies back that were once here (like furniture and hosiery) and provided jobs and opportunity for our citizens	3/8/2017 1:48 PM
120	Education Education	3/8/2017 1:34 PM
121	Industry Offer incentives to bring more industry to this area.	3/8/2017 1:31 PM
122	Tourism Tourism - Beautiful countryside for hiking, camping, etc.	3/8/2017 1:19 PM
123	Education Jobs Offer more education and training programs to all middle and lower class people that is free or affordable. Help out the nonprofit organizations with more grant money to help middle and lower class income people with programs that educate and train them so that they can have a better opportunity to get a job	3/8/2017 1:19 PM
124	Tourism tourism -- beautiful land, great restaurants boasting farm-to-table and local breweries and wineries	3/8/2017 1:13 PM
125	Quit building new facilities and update the ones that exist.	3/8/2017 1:07 PM
126	Education Improve pay for education.	3/8/2017 1:01 PM
127	Businesses Jobs Many empty buildings and strip malls with nothing in them. Businesses that open in them would provide jobs and let locals shop or use services in this county instead of going elsewhere	3/8/2017 12:58 PM
128	Tourism Tourism	3/8/2017 12:54 PM
129	Ecotourism of Lake James	3/8/2017 12:33 PM
130	Businesses High School Industry Jobs Continue to appeal and attract businesses and industry to Burke County. Offer more activities and business opportunities to attract younger families. Strengthen our community for the future by supporting public schools and providing job opportunities for them after high school.	3/8/2017 12:29 PM
131	Businesses Increasing incentives and lowering taxes for businesses to move here.	3/8/2017 12:26 PM
132	Tax distribution evenly between municipalities	3/8/2017 12:25 PM
133	Have a 21st Century mindset instead of the good ole boy and scratch each other's backs mentality.	3/8/2017 12:17 PM
134	We can include coursework for students who are going to go straight into a skilled trade rather than focusing on pushing a 4 year college on every student.	3/8/2017 12:09 PM
135	Not spend the money on fancy street signs in the city limits!	3/8/2017 11:44 AM
136	Market Better marketing	3/8/2017 11:44 AM
137	Education One of our largest employers in the county is the school system. Because of that, there are a lot of education opportunities in the county.	3/8/2017 11:29 AM
138	Jobs More Higher paying jobs with better benefits	3/8/2017 11:28 AM
139	Community College Community colleges should promote adjunct faculty to full time positions.	3/8/2017 11:16 AM
140	Jobs Job Creation Into Existing Facilities	3/8/2017 11:15 AM
141	Businesses Jobs It needs to draw in more business and trade jobs.	3/8/2017 11:11 AM
142	getting people to work addressing mental health issues supporting people with addictions and domestic violence	3/8/2017 11:11 AM
143	Jobs create new jobs	3/8/2017 10:51 AM
144	n/a	3/8/2017 10:35 AM
145	Market Continue with marketing	3/8/2017 10:30 AM
146	Jobs Bring back manufacturing jobs!	3/8/2017 10:30 AM
147	hire more, have more fun activities for the county, need more sites/etc. to bring in tourists, variety of entertainment	3/8/2017 10:29 AM
148	Jobs My county can use it's resources to boost the economy through jobs that can bring more people to live in the area and spend their money in the area.	3/8/2017 10:27 AM
149	We have a beautiful county, mountains, lake, parks. We also have plenty of room for growth.	3/8/2017 10:25 AM

Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) Survey

150	NA	3/8/2017 10:17 AM
151	Industry I'm not sure I understand your question. What is our best resources? We have some textile industry, a poultry plant, but very little else to attract anyone to our county. We need to bring the furniture industry back.	3/8/2017 10:16 AM
152	Jobs I think the county needs to do a better job of informing the citizens of what resources we actually have and how we can help make decisions about budgets and spending.	3/8/2017 10:14 AM
153	Industry Tourism Promote tourism and local industries to boost the economy.	3/8/2017 10:10 AM
154	Interstate access and proximity Recreation	3/8/2017 10:06 AM
155	n/a	3/8/2017 10:05 AM
156	Businesses I think if we build on the existing business structure and make sure we include something for all groups- adults of all ages and youth.	3/8/2017 10:03 AM
157	Jobs Making more jobs	3/8/2017 9:56 AM
158	Businesses Burke County has several empty manufacturing/furniture buildings that could be utilized to attract other companies or businesses.	3/8/2017 9:51 AM
159	Education I truly believe that the county needs to invest more in the education system of Burke County. If the schools are top-notch, families will want to settle here instead of just seeking work here and settling in other counties because of educational quality. We have a good system, but with the right resources, it can be top-notch!	3/8/2017 9:36 AM
160	I think that this county could and would boost the economy if they were to consider hiring people from inside the county. If people work outside the county it is more convenient for them to shop outside the county before they get home.	3/8/2017 9:36 AM
161	Tourism Nature's Playground - tourism	3/8/2017 9:30 AM
162	Businesses Trying to attract new businesses and even some manufacturing would be great!	3/8/2017 9:25 AM
163	Tourism I think tourism would be a way good way to boost the economy.	3/8/2017 9:22 AM
164	Businesses We need to develop the potential of the workforce that is in Burke County along with recruiting businesses that would thrive in the country.	3/8/2017 9:22 AM
165	Education Fund education	3/8/2017 9:20 AM
166	Businesses Attract more businesses to the area.	3/8/2017 9:17 AM
167	Businesses Make the county more business friendly and attractive for new business to come to Burke	3/8/2017 9:17 AM
168	Tourism Tourism would be a great economy boost. We are a gateway to so many tourist spots...outdoor and shopping.Also many of our residents have experience in furniture. Let's tap into that resource and bring it back to the USA.	3/8/2017 9:14 AM
169	Stop wasting money.	3/8/2017 9:03 AM
170	Reach out to the youth. They need to find a way to connect with them so they will want to stay and do their part to contribute and not leave to relocate somewhere else.	3/8/2017 9:03 AM
171	By encouraging consumers to purchase locally made goods and services.	3/8/2017 8:59 AM
172	support and provide for latino community, partner with the school system for workers post-graduation,	3/8/2017 8:58 AM
173	I'm not really sure.	3/8/2017 8:56 AM
174	Businesses Young People Bring in stores and businesses that attract young people. This is a great family town but the young people get into too much trouble with nothing to do.	3/8/2017 8:56 AM
175	Businesses Tourism Boost tourism & build/promote retirement communities. Raise the minimum wage in Burke Co. We have too many working poor! If people make more money, they spend more money, and the economy grows. Bring back furniture manufactures that have closed. Get rid of Wal-mart and big-box stores that drain money from the local economy, and instead insensitize local owned business an co-ops that keep money circulating in Burke Co. Promote/support the arts-and-crafts community.	3/8/2017 8:54 AM
176	utilize furniture plants	3/8/2017 8:52 AM
177	Education Invest in STEM education; especially in alternative schools. These kids "don't connect" in traditional settings, so provide opportunities to engage these kids in learning.	3/8/2017 8:51 AM

Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) Survey

178	Tourism Burke County should invest more in tourism and environmental projects. We are "Nature's Playground" and should use our abundant resources to put us on the map. Continue investing in trails and outdoor activities while focusing on Green Energy (wind, solar, hydroelectric...)	3/8/2017 8:50 AM
179	Instead of building new use current vacant buildings with parking, structure, etc. already established. Which Burke Co. did when they expanded their county offices (taxes office, water office, etc.) but would like to see more of along with other public agencies do also.	3/8/2017 8:50 AM
180	Industry Provide incentives to attract new industries and grow existing industries	3/8/2017 8:42 AM
181	we have people skilled in manufacturing that just need a place to put those skills to use	3/8/2017 8:40 AM
182	Investing in the county	3/8/2017 8:38 AM
183	Businesses Bring more businesses to our area	3/8/2017 8:37 AM
184	Furniture or something else made locally. Many people are fed up with sub par products coming from China, and will pay top dollar for locally made.	3/8/2017 8:37 AM
185	Reach out to the ones who really NEED assistance.	3/8/2017 8:37 AM
186	Industry Don't waste the old Manufacturing Buildings. Turn them into another Industry.	3/8/2017 8:34 AM
187	Businesses Attract more business to our county.	3/8/2017 8:34 AM
188	Education Invest in education and offer help toward college for those who stay and work in the county.	3/8/2017 8:33 AM
189	More solar and alternative energy resources	3/8/2017 8:30 AM
190	Businesses promote small businesses more	3/8/2017 8:26 AM
191	Businesses By creating an environment where people and businesses want to come.	3/8/2017 8:23 AM
192	Businesses More entertainment, shopping and restaurants to make people and businesses move here. Accentuate Lake James and downtown areas.	3/8/2017 8:22 AM
193	We need folks to come in. Everyone is moving out. There is no reason for young families to settle here. We are a community of retirees who don't want their taxes raised.	3/8/2017 8:20 AM
194	Allow companies to come in so that people will be hired and that money will stay in our county.	3/8/2017 8:19 AM
195	Jobs jobs !!!	3/8/2017 8:19 AM
196	Industry We need more technical training in our schools so students can work in the industries we have.	3/8/2017 8:19 AM
197	Businesses High School Provide more businesses that have entry level positions for high school graduates	3/8/2017 8:17 AM
198	Jobs Provide more fulltime jobs with benefits	3/8/2017 8:13 AM
199	Jobs Work with each department and hire within departments for outside jobs.	3/8/2017 8:12 AM
200	Businesses Increase wages and attract more businesses	3/8/2017 8:09 AM
201	Businesses Invest in up and coming businesses and popular, successful business - not just what has "always" worked.	3/8/2017 8:01 AM
202	Jobs Bring factory jobs back that pay a fair wage from overseas.	3/8/2017 7:57 AM
203	Businesses There are plenty of empty buildings that could be used for a variety of businesses. Offer tax breaks/incentives for new or expanding businesses.	3/8/2017 7:57 AM
204	more factory work	3/8/2017 7:55 AM
205	Education Give to educational programs. Also give to programs the provide training in trade areas such as auto mechanics, brick laying, etc.	3/8/2017 7:55 AM
206	Businesses Jobs bring in more job opportunities /businesses	3/8/2017 7:51 AM
207	I don't know	3/8/2017 7:49 AM
208	Jobs Bring in manufacturing and jobs	3/8/2017 7:42 AM
209	Businesses reopen factories that have shut down Bring back businesses	3/8/2017 7:32 AM
210	Jobs Make smaller towns more appealing. Provide more chain stores. Provide more job opportunities in the outskirts of the county.	3/8/2017 7:28 AM
211	Education Put more money in education to help prepare for the future generations that will be leading the county	3/8/2017 7:23 AM

Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) Survey

212	To pay the state employees more and give better benefits.	3/8/2017 7:21 AM
213	Businesses Incentivize small and expanding businesses to move to the area by providing low interest loans, tax breaks/credits.	3/8/2017 7:21 AM
214	There are still trained artisans from our furniture factory days living in this county, but they are slowly leaving us. We need to offer "home made" furniture as an alternative to the poorly made and in my opinion styled "furniture" out there today. It would sell!	3/8/2017 7:15 AM
215	Better PR campaigns	3/8/2017 7:03 AM
216	By bringing in new companies and by offering them incentives to come into the county!	3/8/2017 6:56 AM
217	Industry Bring some industry back to our county!	3/8/2017 6:55 AM
218	Bring companies back to some of our smaller towns so they can have growth.	3/8/2017 6:53 AM
219	Support small, innovative manufacturers	3/8/2017 6:23 AM
220	Take care of it's own by rewarding efforts to better our county.	3/8/2017 6:19 AM
221	Businesses Create more entrepreneurial ventures by initiating "business incubator" programs to boost business creation.	3/8/2017 6:14 AM
222	Jobs training at WPCCC for jobs of the future	3/7/2017 11:21 PM
223	Education High School NCSchool for Math and Science is a good start. Now also bring into the county something for the high school students that focuses on trades, so that when they leave High School, they graduate High School with a Certification in a Trade area, such as Auto-Mechanics, or Cosmetology! Remember, not all students will be going into a 4 year university, and if we had options for that type of schooling here in this county, Students wouldn't need to go to McDowell or Spindale to receive their education in these areas.	3/7/2017 11:06 PM
224	I am not sure	3/7/2017 10:58 PM
225	Bring back some of the manufacturing companies	3/7/2017 10:47 PM
226	Industry Jobs Tourism The natural beauty can be utilized to draw more tourism in. Incentives should be increased to draw in small industry to increase the diversity of job base.	3/7/2017 10:21 PM
227	Education Industry Invest in education and industry recruitment	3/7/2017 10:07 PM
228	Jobs more technology related jobs	3/7/2017 10:03 PM
229	Unsure	3/7/2017 9:58 PM
230	Tourism Utilize Geographical make-up to bring in tourism.	3/7/2017 9:42 PM
231	Capitalize on keeping the younger generation here through modernization and nightlife.	3/7/2017 9:32 PM
232	I have no idea.	3/7/2017 9:25 PM
233	Vacant buildings - former shopping and manufacturing venues with empty parking lots are pretty prominent.	3/7/2017 9:22 PM
234	Training for lower income people in technology.	3/7/2017 9:19 PM
235	Tourism Part of Burke is near a river...tourism.	3/7/2017 9:16 PM
236	Create more opportunities for residents. Many residents work in surrounding counties	3/7/2017 9:08 PM
237	I believe the training of a dependable workforce is our best resource.	3/7/2017 9:08 PM
238	Diverssify	3/7/2017 8:57 PM
239	With the new breweries, cool restaurants, and mountains, I'd say the county has a great opportunity to attract more hikers/outdoorsmen. Also, being right on a major US interstate, more needs to be by the exits to attract travelers. For example, why not have a truck stop or a trucking firm?	3/7/2017 8:55 PM
240	Education Tourism I would like to see more tourism relate activities available. I think better restaurants would help our economy. I think our downtown area has been bringing more people out. I would like to see our downtown area grow more. I feel bringing better education opportunities, such as the school of math and science will be helpful. I feel we need to grow/ improve our healthcare as well. Our healthcare has a bad reputation in this area and I think more people would like to live here if they trusted our healthcare options more.	3/7/2017 8:55 PM
241	Education By supporting its educational institutions	3/7/2017 8:53 PM
242	Better public transportation	3/7/2017 8:49 PM

Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) Survey

243	Our best resources are our people. Put them to work using those skills.	3/7/2017 8:43 PM
244	N	3/7/2017 8:42 PM
245	Focus on diversity of communities and rural landscape.	3/7/2017 8:35 PM
246	High School More advancement in agriculture; add technical high school	3/7/2017 8:35 PM
247	Education Jobs provide more entry level jobs that also offer career and educational advancement opportunities	3/7/2017 8:31 PM
248	Businesses Downtown business could stay open later.	3/7/2017 8:30 PM
249	Community College Industry Workforce We have industrial space that could be repurposed. Our community colleges could facilitate a skilled work force.	3/7/2017 8:27 PM
250	Education Put more money into public education	3/7/2017 8:26 PM
251	Businesses Engage more fully the minority members of the community in planning and also by supporting the establishment of more minority businesses.	3/7/2017 8:20 PM
252	Tourism Tourism and recreation.	3/7/2017 8:12 PM
253	Businesses Allow new businesses in to the county.	3/7/2017 8:10 PM
254	?	3/7/2017 8:10 PM
255	By continuing to preserve the small town atmosphere by being timely and not making it a full blown retirement community.	3/7/2017 8:06 PM
256	we need to rec. grants for heavy ind.relocate here.	3/7/2017 8:01 PM
257	Businesses Jobs Continue to bring in new businesses with jobs available for local people. Give current businesses incentives to grow and therefore hire more employees.	3/7/2017 7:51 PM
258	Businesses Recruit new businesses	3/7/2017 7:50 PM
259	Take advantage of the state institution	3/7/2017 7:45 PM
260	More concerts like at Morganton festival.	3/7/2017 7:40 PM
261	Jobs Needs more jobs	3/7/2017 7:39 PM
262	Make better use of what facilities are already here. NCSD is a good example	3/7/2017 7:39 PM
263	More school outreach.	3/7/2017 7:36 PM
264	Community College Tourism Focus on environment, tourism, the community college, state government and upcoming school of math and science. Build capacities and partnershipships	3/7/2017 7:31 PM
265	Jobs We have people experienced in textiles, furniture, machinest, but no jobs. The people are our best resource.	3/7/2017 7:29 PM
266	Market We are in a beautiful area. Need to market to younger outdoor activities.	3/7/2017 7:27 PM
267	Young People More money for public schools and opportunities for young people.	3/7/2017 7:26 PM
268	Not sure	3/7/2017 7:25 PM
269	Education By promoting our public education system.	3/7/2017 7:24 PM
270	Education Use the educational opportunities of Burke County. BCPS is a great system. WPCCC offers an opportunity to get a two year degree close to where you live. The Higher Ed. Center offers classes from local universities. The NCSSM is coming in the next few years. There is much to be proud of in the county with the public school system and on and off campus opportunities.	3/7/2017 7:22 PM
271	what resources?	3/7/2017 7:17 PM
272	Industry Have industries move back in to the area.	3/7/2017 7:12 PM
273	Invest in a healthy lifestyle for the community by providing grants/money to build walkways, etc..	3/7/2017 7:04 PM
274	Businesses Jobs Recruit more businesses in order to provide more jobs	3/7/2017 7:03 PM
275	Jobs More jobs	3/7/2017 6:57 PM
276	Education Train and educate students and folks out of work.	3/7/2017 6:56 PM
277	Utilizing forest products appropriately. Use solar and wind resources to reduce dependence on the local power grid.	3/7/2017 6:48 PM
278	Increase outdoor recreation opportunities	3/7/2017 6:44 PM

Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) Survey

279	Tourism Promote our beautiful area for tourism.	3/7/2017 6:43 PM
280	Businesses Bring businesses to the area, increase teacher pay.	3/7/2017 6:37 PM
281	Businesses We need to make it easier for businesses to locate in our county. We need more opportunity to draw people to the area and therefore increase the county as a whole.	3/7/2017 6:36 PM
282	Keep unemployment rates low.	3/7/2017 6:34 PM
283	Businesses We need to develop a plan to attract businesses to our area.	3/7/2017 6:22 PM
284	Tourism Invest in attracting tourism Craft beer Improve locally owned high quality dining establishments	3/7/2017 6:19 PM
285	Invest in building new homes.	3/7/2017 6:15 PM
286	There's not a lot unless we want to be know as an area for retirement	3/7/2017 6:12 PM
287	Expand training at WPCC	3/7/2017 6:10 PM
288	I really don't know.	3/7/2017 6:05 PM
289	Jobs Get more jobs in Burke County	3/7/2017 6:01 PM
290	ldk	3/7/2017 5:57 PM
291	Many textile vacant buildings... bring textile and furniture making back to Burke County	3/7/2017 5:50 PM
292	Furniture and Textiles need to be brought back	3/7/2017 5:47 PM
293	Businesses STEM is coming to Morganton and there will be many businesses needed to support the people coming in for the school.	3/7/2017 5:41 PM
294	We could use our natural resources to better support energy needs (solar, wind, etc). We need to reduce the environmental nastiness of factories. The Case Chicken factory smells awful as does the Carbon City Plant. The Carbon City Plant in particular is an ugly eyesore. It takes our town down to have that on a main road leading into town.	3/7/2017 5:40 PM
295	Jobs Create more jobs. Bring back factories/textiles	3/7/2017 5:39 PM
296	Utilize and repair existing structures and convert them to meet the needs of the community instead of building new ones. This will also help with property values of surrounding properties.	3/7/2017 5:39 PM
297	Education More support to the Public School system for technical education	3/7/2017 5:35 PM
298	Businesses Industry Bring new industries to the county. We've lost furniture and textiles. We need to bring back businesses.	3/7/2017 5:35 PM
299	Put people back to work.	3/7/2017 5:33 PM
300	Businesses Bring in more businesses	3/7/2017 5:32 PM
301	Industry Jobs By bringing in jobs to help the failing furniture industry.	3/7/2017 5:32 PM
302	Market Brewing is a growing market in the county. More resources put toward this will bring in people and grow the community.	3/7/2017 5:31 PM
303	Businesses More businesses	3/7/2017 5:29 PM
304	Education Textile, better use of education and training for 21st century careers	3/7/2017 5:28 PM
305	I believe we could use a better walking track on the eastern end of Burke County and more adequate programs for the aging.	3/7/2017 5:28 PM
306	Jobs Create more jobs!	3/7/2017 5:23 PM
307	Businesses We have a lot of empty buildings that can be used to house new businesses.	3/7/2017 5:22 PM
308	Provide more opportunities in the school system for students to graduate with a certificate with their diploma	3/7/2017 5:20 PM
309	Use the available Buildings from old factories	3/7/2017 5:18 PM
310	Businesses There are a lot of empty buildings that could be utilized for businesses. Also the county Commissioners need to use the tax surplus to bring in business instead of giving the health department friends big raises.	3/7/2017 5:17 PM
311	Build infrastructure to help boost more interest into moving into the area.	3/7/2017 5:17 PM
312	We need more technology and green energy manufacturing.	3/7/2017 5:16 PM

Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) Survey

313	Education Invest in vocational education, addressing the healthcare and manufacturing needs. Implement a better public transportation system.	3/7/2017 5:13 PM
314	Education Jobs Educational futures through WPCC and other resources and getting more people into jobs rather than onto federal support.	3/7/2017 5:13 PM
315	Education Education	3/7/2017 5:12 PM
316	Offer more incentives to keep shopping here vs other counties.	3/7/2017 5:07 PM
317	Businesses Promote business opportunity by removing regulations that prohibit business expansion and make it hard to business in our counties.	3/7/2017 5:05 PM
318	Industry Bring more industry back to the county	3/7/2017 5:04 PM
319	Unsure.	3/7/2017 5:04 PM
320	Tourism Tourism, parks, and recreation. Health care.	3/7/2017 5:03 PM
321	Hire people within the county. Repurpose old buildings instead of building new ones.	3/7/2017 4:49 PM
322	Education Support Education	3/7/2017 4:49 PM
323	Jobs Create more jobs and offer higher wages.	3/7/2017 4:33 PM
324	Unsure	3/7/2017 4:12 PM
325	Jobs Create more jobs and give people more incentives	3/7/2017 4:07 PM
326	Use county location and beauty to entice people to live and work in Burke	3/7/2017 12:40 PM
327	Tourism cultural heritage tourism, outdoors "Nature's Playground"	3/7/2017 12:34 PM
328	Education Education	3/7/2017 12:11 PM
329	Offer more events, priced affordably, for the younger populations (20-28, 28-38). Also at times other than 8-5pm, when we are working.	3/7/2017 12:06 PM
330	Work to encourage students into training programs to address specific needs of the economic community. No sense to train race car drivers, if we are not going to build a race track.	3/7/2017 11:55 AM
331	Businesses Market Solicit companies to fill all the empty manufacturing buildings in the county. Provide training to help current businesses improve their P/L so they can stay competitive in their current market.	3/7/2017 11:42 AM
332	Businesses offer incentives for small businesses to operate in the county, tax credits, etc.	3/7/2017 11:37 AM
333	Needs to continue to promote those assets that appeal to younger people - greenways, access to outdoor activities, breweries.	3/7/2017 11:28 AM
334	Exploit our location - I40 corridor	3/7/2017 11:26 AM
335	to support low income people	3/7/2017 11:22 AM
336	Industry Begin to develop industry that is attractive to younger families	3/7/2017 11:19 AM
337	Industry Jobs We currently have a large Industrial park that was built but has not been put to use. Our county needs to put more effort into developing this park for future jobs.	3/7/2017 10:05 AM
338	I don't know.	3/7/2017 9:38 AM
339	Jobs Market promote innovation within the specified domain so that new markets and new opportunities can create more jobs;require those unemployed to volunteer at non-profit organizations to gain skills and contacts that will help them be successful at their next job	3/7/2017 9:07 AM
340	By reaching out to get people of the county involved and motivated.	3/7/2017 9:03 AM
341	Industry Tourism They are trying to promote tourism. If the opportunity arises to bring the furniture industry back, that would be great.	3/7/2017 8:55 AM
342	Education Continue to support the arts and higher education	3/7/2017 8:40 AM
343	Bring in people o work, live and play!	3/6/2017 10:42 PM
344	Concentrate on small/intermediate manufacturing facilities.	3/6/2017 5:51 PM
345	Jobs I believe investing in companies that want to bring jobs and have a lasting impact on the community is where we need to focus.	3/6/2017 3:42 PM

Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) Survey

346	Stop spending monies on third party or any party to "study" the feasibility of what the local government should spend money on - example \$700K on if the County should build another jail. PLEASE!	3/6/2017 3:19 PM
347	Tax advantages to companies to locate here have benefited other areas.	3/6/2017 3:00 PM
348	Tap into culturally diverse populations to gauge growth potential. Include varying ages as well.	3/6/2017 1:47 PM
349	Businesses Education Recruiting businesses & provide education opportunities to assure a trained/trainable workforce for those and existing businesses.	3/6/2017 1:35 PM
350	Push trade school possibilities.	3/6/2017 1:13 PM
351	Businesses Jobs We seem to have few opportunities for people with advanced degrees (particularly in biotech, engineering, research, etc.). Many of my peers chose to go other places for stronger job opportunities and better career advancement options (banking, biomedical, etc.). Finding ways to help encourage both small business development and bring in some larger employees would be nice. Better support for starting your own business would be nice. In trying to start my business, it has been very difficult to determine what steps to take within our county (compared to the readily available resources in other places).	3/6/2017 1:06 PM
352	Jobs Formalized training for jobs	3/6/2017 12:55 PM
353	Businesses Education Industry Support education at all levels to attract talented people to support business and industry.	3/6/2017 12:25 PM
354	Provide financial resources for additional training, expand mass transit.	3/6/2017 12:22 PM
355	Tourism Tourism is something that I've seen an upswing in and the revitalization of the down town area.	3/6/2017 12:20 PM
356	Emphasize local economy	3/6/2017 12:17 PM
357	Encourage and promote variety in the types of economic opportunities that exist and are developing in the county.	3/6/2017 11:58 AM
358	High School Put resources into students at Challenger High School because they will then come back to this area to work after graduation. Challenger is in need of a building to house all students & staff in one location on the grounds of CVCC.	3/6/2017 11:57 AM
359	Use the lake as an attraction; create more entertainment venues; use the parks as an attraction	3/6/2017 11:31 AM
360	Businesses Tourism Look to continue to grow small business. Attract seniors. Leverage farm-to-table and micro-breweries to grow tourism.	3/6/2017 11:08 AM
361	become a travel destination, great environment and parks for recreation	3/6/2017 10:23 AM
362	Our citizens are our best asset. Continue to invest in developing and retraining people to work in new economy.	3/6/2017 10:10 AM
363	Alexander County is a beautiful area. More parks (like Rocky Face) would bring more people to this area and boost the economy. Since the area is known for agriculture and technical fields, it would be great to look into some kind of technical college for this area.	3/6/2017 10:04 AM
364	Outdoor activities--hiking, rock climbing, etc. (Linville Gorge) Tourists	3/6/2017 10:00 AM
365	entrepreneurship	3/5/2017 1:47 PM
366	Better proven leaders in paid positions. Advertise better. Be forward thinking and invest in areas of interest for middle age and younger generations. Diversify its economic base. There's more potential than just yard sale companies, chicken houses, and correctional facilities.	3/5/2017 8:46 AM
367	1. Decide what you want to invest in, then do it. 2. Create beautiful spaces, not continuing to build/widen roads with no wide sidewalks 3. Discourage multiple entrances to streets - force traffic to turn at lights	3/4/2017 5:56 PM
368	Do something to make this area attractive to Millenials and young families. There is NOTHING to do here.	3/4/2017 4:49 PM
369	Businesses Industry The bond is a disaster. 60M for more parks, a stupid walkway next to a train track... An industrial park in a very inconvenient location that goes right past elected officials businesses. I park in Burke county that will be funded by city residents. NO PARK in Mt. View but we pay the ridiculous tax rate. We should have never fixed the sink hole property- an out of town person owns it.	3/4/2017 4:36 PM
370	Market Marketing and program development.	3/4/2017 2:07 PM
371	Industry advertise our resources and recreational assets. develop our industrial park	3/3/2017 7:35 PM
372	Businesses Develop business park potential at regional Foothills airport. Support runway expansion under Trump infrastructure commitment plans to come by 2020. Develop 100k sq ft spec building on Kathy Road Burke Business Park or sell it to a private buyer even if at a \$\$\$ loss. One good size company or buyer would well take the entire site so limited is its size.	3/3/2017 6:08 PM

Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) Survey

373	Tourism Our best resources are location and environment. We should promote tourism and hospitality as well as a place to retire.	3/3/2017 5:01 PM
374	Brewing perhaps, increasing awareness about recreational opportunities and build more of them (like Hickory Hops and Oktoberfest).	3/3/2017 4:19 PM
375	Businesses Revitalize and renovate old unused buildings to attract new business.	3/3/2017 3:41 PM
376	Education By being visible and educating citizens.	3/3/2017 3:33 PM
377	Businesses Industry Expand the Burke Industrial Park. Our county has done next to nothing to recruit businesses into that area. It's a wasteland.	3/3/2017 3:31 PM
378	Community College Downtown Morganton should attract more shops and restaurants that would appeal to visitors. The CoMMA should book better shows that appeal to younger crowds. The community college should improve its infrastructure to attract events like outdoor concerts on the lawn. Someone should open an entertainment complex with a bowling alley and other amenities that would appeal to teenagers and families.	3/3/2017 3:09 PM
379	Industry Market Market the Hwy 16 expansion to bring new industry to southern part of the county.	3/3/2017 3:09 PM
380	We currently have the two largest internet based companies in our area (Google, Apple), yet we do not offer free Wi-Fi or a ultra high speed access to the internet. The 321 corridor is a fast growing area and should be pushed for growth and the attraction of millenials.	3/3/2017 3:02 PM
381	Tourism Promote tourism and a great retirement aera.	3/3/2017 2:45 PM
382	Jobs Specialized training for jobs in manufacturing.	3/3/2017 2:21 PM
383	Market Enhanced advertising and marketing strategies	3/3/2017 9:18 AM
384	Housing	3/2/2017 8:23 PM
385	Businesses Education More communication between businesses (including non-profit), education system and local government	3/2/2017 10:56 AM
386	Create a research and development culture. We need to become an economy of ideas, creativity and intelligence, not a simply a storehouse for such; google/apple.	3/2/2017 9:58 AM
387	Work to reopen some of the furniture factories that have been shut down.	3/2/2017 7:47 AM
388	Education More education to the general public of what is already out there	3/1/2017 4:01 PM
389	Though the local newspaper, internet and social media.	3/1/2017 3:27 PM
390	Education Support education	3/1/2017 3:21 PM
391	By utilizing the younger generation. What their interest is and how they can contribute to society after graduation. Also NEW ROADS!!	3/1/2017 3:07 PM
392	Jobs By supplying good job and activities for the communities so that they can bring in more people and money into the area.	3/1/2017 2:58 PM
393	Businesses trying to draw in new businesses to provide more employment inside the county	3/1/2017 2:57 PM
394	Jobs We need to bring more jobs back to this county. We are a manufacturing county and an agricultural county but the quality of life does not attract people to move to our county	3/1/2017 2:52 PM
395	Maybe a couple more festival for spring and summer	3/1/2017 2:34 PM
396	Have better partnerships with employers and agencies s	3/1/2017 2:03 PM
397	Putting more people to work. Loosening the reins on hiring procedures and giving former offenders more chances to prove themselves	3/1/2017 1:45 PM
398	Businesses We have some great attributes like Rocky Face Park, the orchards, 4-wheeler and dirt bike trails, and others... However we desperately need to update our main street and down town. We have businesses growing here but we need a specialty restaurant as well that offers outdoor dining for spring, summer and fall. One that will can have local bands or performers or at least be a short walk to hear the summer concerts in town and offer craft beer. With all of the orchards we have I would love to see a restaurant that feautured Hard Apple Cider and some apple themed menu items. Let's make down town live again!	3/1/2017 12:52 PM
399	Education Recreation and environmental education	3/1/2017 8:15 AM
400	Be willing to to train new ppl	3/1/2017 5:55 AM

Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) Survey

401	Jobs Providing more jobs and expanding the city. Feel like we get the same types of places that move to the area all the time. Example: Mattress Firm	2/28/2017 3:47 PM
402	We can use our local resources like technically skilled labors to rehab some of our abandoned buildings around downtown and surrounding areas so that new companies have more incentive to use an existing building instead of building a new structure.	2/28/2017 3:43 PM
403	Education Jobs by expanding the education levels of our students in technically oriented programs and prepare the for jobs of the future	2/28/2017 3:26 PM
404	Train and encourage the youth to develop work skills.	2/28/2017 10:37 AM
405	Better entertaining activities	2/28/2017 8:49 AM
406	Industry Support industry	2/28/2017 12:31 AM
407	Start an incubator, and/or accelerator for entrepreneurial start-ups. Start & support a venture/angel capital group to help put equity funding into these more promising start-ups	2/27/2017 10:54 AM
408	Jobs Create more entry level jobs, non-skilled jobs	2/27/2017 10:06 AM
409	Training Workers	2/27/2017 9:53 AM
410	Refill empty shopping centers with new stores	2/27/2017 8:52 AM
411	Offer building space to new companies/employer.	2/27/2017 8:08 AM
412	We need a hospital. We are probably going no to loose our Hospice because of this. Our county is under paid and over worked. We do not have enough EMS trucks/staff to keep up with the demand. We are currently getting another automotives store that will now make 4 different chains not to mention locally owned garages/automotive. Agriculture is HUGE in our town. How can we promote it better and take advantage of it as a resource.	2/27/2017 8:05 AM
413	infrastructure	2/27/2017 7:46 AM
414	Businesses There are oppotunities (land in particular) for businesses to purchase and get established in my county.	2/26/2017 10:39 PM
415	Community College The people and the collaboration are the best resources in Alexander County. There is still opportunity for improvement in this area, if the county, town, Community College and school system were to develop an Alexander County Strategic Plan for development and progress and involved community; the sky would be the limit.	2/26/2017 6:03 PM
416	Community College Continue to expand our local community college opportunities	2/26/2017 4:13 PM
417	Provide engaging opportunities for all age groups to experience various oppotunities that will remain in the county.	2/26/2017 7:16 AM
418	By making use of the diversity of its people, and their abilities and expertise. Our people are our best resources. The only problem, our economic resources are slim.	2/25/2017 7:42 PM
419	By bringing together various age groups to bounce ideas off each other.	2/25/2017 1:02 PM
420	Businesses It can try to focus on small businesses and try to strengthen the economy from the bottom up.	2/25/2017 1:14 AM
421	Businesses Small business support	2/24/2017 6:47 PM
422	Focus on maintaining these resources as promotion to lead to the betterment and relation in other needed areas.	2/24/2017 6:38 PM
423	My county can use its resources to inform and train humans to fulfill these growing positions in order to boost the economy.	2/24/2017 6:27 PM
424	Market Our county has lots of breweries. Marketing those as a tourist destination could help permanently bring people to our area.	2/24/2017 6:07 PM
425	Burke county receives many tourists annually and therefore could boost the economy by catering to tourists traveling to the mountains by opening new restaurants, hotels, and entertainment venues.	2/24/2017 5:33 PM
426	Better promotion of the strengths of Alexander County.	2/24/2017 4:54 PM
427	The county can tap into its water recreation resources by creating a "paddle trail" or greenway trail, to encourage visitors and local residents to exercise and experience the outdoors.	2/24/2017 4:45 PM
428	support medical and recreational infrastructure	2/24/2017 4:42 PM
429	Spend money and invest in the future	2/24/2017 4:35 PM
430	Invest in water and sewer	2/24/2017 4:33 PM
431	Education Jobs To continue to educate people for the 3,000 plus jobs open.	2/24/2017 3:16 PM

Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) Survey

432	Businesses We need a comprehensive sewer system to attract new businesses in area. We would also benefit by building our own water management system instead of paying Catawba County for Water	2/24/2017 2:53 PM
433	Tourism Continue to try to bring more manufacturing to the area. Invest in more local breweries and hospitality for tourism. Burke County is so beautiful.	2/24/2017 2:44 PM
434	buy and shop local	2/24/2017 2:42 PM
435	Businesses A "Visit Taylorsville" ad featuring our small town friendly service and local businesses would be helpful if advertised in the Hickory area. Possibly a billboard. Just an idea...	2/24/2017 2:42 PM
436	Tourism Tourism. We have mountains, a lake, and a fabulous county park for rock climbing and hiking. With views and an agricultural base, we could be the next Napa!	2/24/2017 2:40 PM
437	Businesses Reasonable incentives (be it financial or limiting restrictions/ordinances) for businesses to come to or expand in the county.	2/24/2017 12:53 PM
438	Businesses Education Jobs Young People The county best resources are it's young people. If the young people had job opportunities, a good quality of life and entertainment then they would return after higher education to boost the economy. What is the county doing to encourage opportunities to retain is best resources? Some of the counties best natural resources are Rocky Face Park and Lake Hickory. Businesses that support both recreations could benefit the economy.	2/23/2017 10:54 PM
439	High School Jobs Tourism The way it can use them is not only to look to attract tourism but to engage in the community already living in here. By boosting creation of living-wedge jobs for those who are "uneducated" or only have a High School Diploma/GED.	2/23/2017 10:28 PM
440	Businesses Education Invest in education, business partnerships, etc.	2/23/2017 8:30 PM
441	Community College Putting money toward community college courses.	2/23/2017 6:52 PM
442	Our roads and Bridges need work	2/23/2017 1:00 PM
443	Advertising and Branding	2/23/2017 12:50 PM
444	Businesses Appeal to businesses looking to relocate by offering lower taxes, utility incentives and pitching the importance of Interstate 40	2/23/2017 12:36 PM
445	It's people are it's best resource! Being opened minded as to what they (the people) can offer, what they can develop, and what they need now and into the future will provide the necessary guidance for growth!	2/23/2017 11:56 AM
446	Industry Advertise available "for sale" spaces. Maintain roads to be attractive to industries. Continue to promote community events.	2/23/2017 11:53 AM
447	Market Young People We have a tremendous amount of recreational options that are underutilized or unmarketed. This includes numerous unique parks, nature trails, greenways, and the lake. These should be marketed properly to increase the flow of young people into the area, or at least stop them from leaving in large quantities to competing areas, some even adjacent or very close.	2/23/2017 10:39 AM
448	Businesses Education Market Educate the younger generation on current economic status and woes. Challenge them to develop ideas and marketing strategies to help the businesses in our county. Be prepared to assist in renovations of existing buildings in our county. Tax incentives are also a plus to encourage new or existing companies to stay. Businesses need water and sewer capabilities.	2/23/2017 9:06 AM
449	Education Use education programs to retrain individuals	2/22/2017 1:11 PM
450	Community College Connect Cooperative Extension with community colleges, FFA and aging farmers with acerage to build the agricultural economy in new and innovative ways.	2/22/2017 10:44 AM
451	Businesses Continue to promote new businesses into the area	2/22/2017 7:58 AM
452	Jobs Recruit high-paying low skilled jobs.	2/22/2017 3:35 AM
453	They could provide more training for Healthcare employees and make it more accessible county residents.	2/21/2017 9:27 PM
454	Ecotourisim	2/21/2017 8:30 PM
455	Tourism Available land for residential development. Local farms for farm to table restaurants. Lake Hickory, Rocky Face Park to develop tourism	2/21/2017 8:23 PM
456	Businesses Encourage small town businesses instead of big box stores	2/21/2017 7:59 PM
457	Businesses Jobs The county can use its best resources to boost the economy by focusing on bringing business and job opportunities for young professionals.	2/21/2017 6:39 PM

Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) Survey

458	I feel that the county could be freshened up. We have a lot of older building that could be renovated it remodeled.	2/21/2017 4:46 PM
459	Try to lure tech and alternative energy companies to the county.	2/21/2017 4:20 PM
460	Tourism It would be best served to increase Hospitality, restaurant, and tourism. Good strides are being made in this direction	2/21/2017 2:40 PM
461	Industry Buy and support local industry and entities. Refuel the system.	2/21/2017 1:57 PM
462	Jobs Bring jobs back to the county by giving a tax break to make it attractive to move there. Instead we pass a silly alcohol referendum that will have little impact.	2/21/2017 12:45 PM
463	Businesses Continue to offer tax cuts to existing companies to build and retain labor in the county. Actively recruit new businesses who could use our available workforce.	2/21/2017 12:37 PM
464	Businesses Support small businesses and continue help manufacturing move back to this area.	2/21/2017 12:19 PM
465	To continue renewing the current buildings and infrastructures we have to revitalize the area.	2/21/2017 12:18 PM
466	Not work in isolation as a county. PARTNER with the region. You get more this way. Going it out alone as a county is short-sided. WORK with Caldwell, Burke and Alexander counties.	2/21/2017 11:57 AM
467	Businesses Encourage support of local businesses by arranging deals between manufacturing and agricultural sources and partners that use the manufactured or agricultural goods. For example, encourage local restaurants to use locally sourced food items.	2/21/2017 11:51 AM
468	Businesses Industry Our natural resources are our best resource. We need to protect our mountains, lakes, forested areas and use them to promote quality of life when recruiting industry, small business, millennials, retirees, etc.	2/21/2017 11:31 AM
469	Make serious preparations for the growing aging population. By creating an "Aging Friendly Community" our retired and soon to be retired residence will invest back into the community.	2/21/2017 10:21 AM
470	Promote available resources	2/21/2017 9:56 AM
471	The best resources are people. Enable them to earn.	2/21/2017 9:40 AM
472	We have some of the best climate conditions and ample water supply than anywhere in the country. We also have a great work ethic in our people	2/21/2017 8:46 AM
473	Jobs Use to create diverse economic development opportunities to recruit and retain jobs and other career opportunities.	2/21/2017 8:24 AM
474	Better recreational facilities	2/20/2017 10:06 PM
475	I think we have a good county but we need things that will make people stop here instead of driving through to Boone or Hickory.	2/20/2017 8:16 PM
476	Pay employees more	2/20/2017 3:43 PM
477	Education provide training and education to the community and bring in additional attractions (ie: shopping centers, resturants) to the county to attract people to move to the area.	2/20/2017 2:45 PM
478	Jobs Get more jobs in the county and get more people back to work in better paying jobs.	2/20/2017 2:30 PM
479	Tout the rail line that runs through part of the county, subsidize it's expansion if needed.	2/20/2017 12:57 PM
480	Use existing buildings to enhance quality of life opportunities e.g. a two screen movie theater, skating, bowling, laser tag, mini museum that provide science, geological, ocean, and environmental experiences.	2/20/2017 12:10 PM
481	Businesses Jobs Tourism Keep family farms running. Finance & cut taxes for small businesses. (65% of new jobs are produced by small businesses, not large corporations) Would like to see housing around organic farms. (New idea becoming popular benefiting home owners & farm) Agro tourism also.	2/20/2017 11:47 AM
482	Tourism By promoting tourism, One of the major accesses to the mountains, skiing and other outdoor activities.	2/20/2017 11:42 AM
483	entertainment/activities	2/20/2017 10:32 AM
484	Businesses Take advantage of the beautiful area, e.g., recreation areas, Catawba River, mountain range for trails and hiking. Need more businesses in Town of Taylorsville and encourage business to stay open in evening and weekends.	2/20/2017 10:32 AM
485	Market continue to market area	2/20/2017 9:50 AM
486	looks like incentives to lure them in does the trick, but commissioners want to spend that money elsewhere. low utilities and low tax rate is an incentive as well.	2/20/2017 9:39 AM

Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) Survey

487	Tourism Utilize local historical references. Apply for national historical marker (Smithsonian, etc) to generate tourism and boost local history programs. Utilize local farming for local use.	2/20/2017 9:24 AM
488	Jobs JOB FAIR	2/20/2017 9:13 AM
489	Businesses Support local businesses and better communication.	2/20/2017 9:08 AM
490	Businesses Jobs By attracting new businesses to the area to stimulate new jobs.	2/20/2017 8:59 AM
491	Attract more retail, especially apparel.	2/20/2017 8:39 AM
492	Jobs Draw college graduates back to jobs in this county with better jobs. Most never return. Passage of the alcohol referendum was a great first step.	2/20/2017 1:03 AM
493	It can't without effective leadership	2/18/2017 9:32 PM
494	Find the root of the problem. Don't work on issues at the surface level. Look deeper into why people are unable to keep employment, treat those issues to build a stronger community.	2/18/2017 6:06 PM
495	Sell the location	2/18/2017 4:13 PM
496	Clean it up! Keeping the streets, ROWs, and sidewalks clean is much easier and cheaper than repaving, striping, etc. Code enforcement is a must for those who let their properties go, but it has to start with local government maintaining their own areas of responsibility.	2/18/2017 3:51 PM
497	Jobs Bring in jobs.	2/18/2017 9:07 AM
498	Businesses give incentives to keep and to entice business relocate in catawba county	2/18/2017 3:29 AM
499	Charge a toll to everyone going south on 321 on the weekend! Spend there money in Caldwell County.	2/17/2017 6:15 PM
500	Great location and access to bigger cities	2/17/2017 5:18 PM
501	Alexander County has great natural beauty that I think is untapped. The inability to sell alcohol has limited that development but hopefully now will be possible. Slow but possible.	2/17/2017 5:04 PM
502	Building renovation/reuse	2/17/2017 4:30 PM
503	Businesses Education The best resource in any county is its people and offering better educational services and recruiting more businesses to build or move to the area will boost the economy.	2/17/2017 3:59 PM
504	Industry Develop a strategic plan for redevelopment of vacant industrial properties.	2/17/2017 3:38 PM
505	Industry By offering incentives to new and expanding industry.	2/17/2017 3:28 PM
506	Businesses Let companies know about property that is available and what kind of workforce is ready or can be trained if they want to locate their business here.	2/17/2017 2:58 PM
507	I am not sure	2/17/2017 2:30 PM
508	Stimulate residential development	2/17/2017 1:58 PM
509	Businesses More retail and entertainment must be present before our county can continue to grow and take pride in local businesses.	2/17/2017 1:49 PM
510	Continue keeping down illegal drugs for safety and lower health cost.	2/17/2017 12:36 PM
511	High School Industry The best resources are its people. Industries should work with colleges and high schools to inform students of opportunities and encourage students to stay in the area or return after college.	2/17/2017 11:10 AM
512	Utilization of old buildings, land on main roads	2/17/2017 10:25 AM
513	Education Educate, train and encourage honest labor and reward	2/17/2017 9:22 AM
514	Education Tourism tourism and education	2/17/2017 9:00 AM
515	I don't know.	2/17/2017 8:31 AM
516	Tourism Encourage more tourism	2/17/2017 8:00 AM
517	Education High School Recruit manufacturing to the county. Improve post High School Education in Technical areas.	2/17/2017 7:57 AM
518	Education Industry Education/Training, grow industry	2/17/2017 7:49 AM
519	Businesses Skills training and small business assistance. That in turn will attract big business	2/17/2017 2:05 AM
520	Collaborate with Government Agencies, grants and private partners	2/16/2017 10:03 PM

Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) Survey

521	Expand knowledge of what is needed in today's world and put this knowledge to practical use.	2/16/2017 9:16 PM
522	Promote what we have better	2/16/2017 9:06 PM
523	Allow nontraditional people to contribute ideas and talents.	2/16/2017 8:00 PM
524	Businesses Develop long term and short term plans between business, government and public agencies.	2/16/2017 6:07 PM
525	expand highway 127	2/16/2017 5:54 PM
526	Proximity to lake Rural Setting	2/16/2017 5:27 PM
527	Advertising and cooperation. Use of CVCC site in county.	2/16/2017 5:21 PM
528	Businesses Network business together to utilize locally produced goods locally.	2/16/2017 5:18 PM
529	Businesses Develop some of the land for business.	2/16/2017 5:06 PM
530	Businesses lower taxes... put money to help the people not use their money (taxes) to help big business	2/16/2017 5:01 PM
531	Join the mainstream economy & stop hiding behind religion	2/16/2017 4:39 PM
532	Empty buildings could house production of solar/electronic/plastics all kinds of production that our people are good at. Best resource: people.	2/16/2017 4:34 PM
533	Industry Tourism Agriculture/Rocky Face Park has become an important tourism draw, build on its success with other non-sport related parks/People are a resource - Offer more training at CVCC Alexander Center for current industries as well as be able to tailor training to potential industries that are willing to locate here. / Leverage rail sites	2/16/2017 4:28 PM
534	Businesses Jobs Lobby the state to allow the 4 county area the opportunity to switch from property taxes to sales taxes. This will change the taxes being applied mostly to what we produce to what we buy. This will immediately make our counties the most competitive in the Country for keeping and attracting manufacturing jobs. At a minimum we need to remove property taxes on manufacturing equipment and buildings and if the revenue must be replaced a local sales tax would tax products not made here and only the products that are made here if they are sold here. Stafford Texas did this over 20 years ago and has boomed ever since THE CITY OF STAFFORD CITY WITH NO CITY PROPERTY TAXES Nationally acclaimed for its unique achievements, visionary leadership and prudent fiscal management, the City of Stafford is a dynamic, friendly community ideally located and encompassing what is described as an "Island of Business Opportunity" and as a family-oriented place to live. STAFFORD'S ACCOLADES Stafford Named Third Best Place to Start a Business in Texas - NerdWallet, July 23, 2015 10 Great Low-Tax Places to Retire - U.S. News and World Report, November 28, 2008 100 Best Places to Live and Launch - CNN Money, July 2, 2008 How Stafford Can Afford To End Property Taxes - The Wall Street Journal, July 12, 1995	2/16/2017 4:27 PM
535	High School Use the school system to prepare the non-college bound students to be work ready when leaving High School. The pool for actual workers in the county is very shallow.	2/16/2017 4:13 PM
536	I believe the recent vote for selling alcohol in Alexander county is going to bring new places to the community.	2/16/2017 4:11 PM
537	Support Agriculture and it's services.	2/16/2017 4:07 PM
538	support networking opportunities and instruct the county government and schools to look for NC made products as a regular part of the buying process	2/16/2017 4:06 PM
539	Businesses Organize a committee of business owners to spur participation and growth in the uptown area of Alexander County. Revitalization must be a joint effort.	2/16/2017 4:02 PM
540	Businesses Leveraging innovative new businesses and being conducive to expansion of currently growing businesses.	2/16/2017 3:59 PM
541	Industry Tourism offer incentives to new industry, invest or attract additional entertainment ventures or other attractions that would promote and encourage tourism	2/16/2017 3:41 PM
542	Industry Growth of new industries in large scale, like automotive or construction equipment	2/16/2017 3:24 PM
543	Make areas for tiny houses community. Then make them affordable and help more people own their own homes. Better for our economy.	2/16/2017 2:58 PM
544	Make known the assets we have available.	2/16/2017 2:47 PM
545	Jobs The County should put an effort into economic development incentives, and working to promote a multi-modal pedestrian system throughout the county. I believe that by bringing in jobs and creating a functional green way system, we will be able to retain and recruit residents.	2/16/2017 1:28 PM
546	Good question.	2/16/2017 1:14 PM

Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) Survey

547	Businesses Combine the school districts under 1 board for economy of scale. Encourage new business with tax breaks in early years.	2/16/2017 1:13 PM
548	High School Industry We need more internships for our High School students...let them train and work at the industries in our county. If they are given the opportunity and training we may be able to retain them once they graduate!	2/16/2017 12:08 PM
549	Jobs More jobs; train unskilled individuals; fill existing buildings;	2/16/2017 12:08 PM
550	Jobs Help residents reach existing jobs by adding public transportation	2/16/2017 11:42 AM
551	Go toward Energy Alternative Options, computer technology	2/16/2017 11:22 AM
552	Have more services for seniors to help keep and attract more seniors to this area. They are the biggest demographic.	2/16/2017 11:08 AM
553	Businesses Business incentives	2/16/2017 11:06 AM
554	Businesses construction and renovation of roads, buildings, bridges etc The county needs to be more business friendly--many of the regulations (and some of the inspectors) are a hindrance to current small businesses and a red flag for businesses looking to relocate to our area	2/16/2017 11:02 AM
555	Businesses recruit businesses	2/16/2017 10:53 AM
556	Businesses Jobs Provide training so worker's skills match the jobs that are open. Have a have open house weekend where people can visit existing businesses to get to know opportunities available Have businesses give information as to what related businesses could supply materials and people qualified to help both businesses grow.	2/16/2017 10:46 AM
557	Education Through education	2/16/2017 10:39 AM
558	Businesses Lower tax rates/tax incentives to encourage businesses to return to the region	2/16/2017 10:37 AM
559	Jobs continue to create entry level jobs	2/16/2017 10:25 AM
560	Jobs Better paying jobs to the area and diversity.	2/16/2017 10:24 AM
561	Community College Education Industry Jobs Workforce As has been stated, working to solidify a residential base of young professionals that are attracted to the county, bringing in education and perspectives from different areas to richen their new home. Catawba County is experiencing an aging population that needs to be "replaced" by the best candidates possible. Avenues to drive this type of growth include investing in industries that require more intellectual capital than manual capital, with supporting income. The standard labor force of the county that have typically worked in textiles, large-scale manufacturing, or similar jobs need to understand that they have both the capacity and means to achieve rewarding employment without the frightening cost of college. CVCC has excellent training programs, some of which are certificate based, that support the county by ensuring there are trained electricians, mechanics, CNA's, etc. Education can also support the traditional agrarian economy by allowing its managers to understand the macroeconomics of their product, as well as updated production methods and environmental impact. Further, this county needs a trauma center with specialty capability. Every day double digit number of patients are taken out of county, with their insurance and income, for services that could be provided here. With a unique mixture of urban areas and rural areas with long transport times, we are failing the medical needs of our community and forfeiting valuable income.	2/16/2017 10:07 AM
562	Jobs More American made products with American made parts, more jobs for American people	2/16/2017 9:41 AM
563	Jobs There's many empty facilities that are readily available to growing companies for use in this county. That would help them, by having space ready to occupy, and help the community by brining new jobs and economic growth.	2/16/2017 9:22 AM
564	Education Jobs Make a connection between education and practical, available jobs; show people that manufacturing isn't dangerous or hard on your body anymore because of technology; show that manufacturing is a steady income and that it's not going overseas	2/16/2017 9:09 AM
565	Offer openings to citizens within the county.	2/16/2017 9:05 AM
566	Bring back production to Catawba county and stop outsourcing	2/16/2017 8:48 AM
567	More training	2/16/2017 8:36 AM
568	The best resource in my county is the people. So by finding out the strengths of those people, asking them what it is they want in their community, and then utilizing them to their full capacity will naturally boost the economy regardless of the economic opportunity.	2/16/2017 8:31 AM

Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) Survey

569	Market Honestly I know more about Catawba County because I live so close the line - it's closer for me to do most things in Catawba County. I know Caldwell has alot of agriculture. I know there are some fruit/vegetable stands and a farm that sells organic meat and dairy.... maybe something to connect and promote more of these small farms so the community can access them easier... Alot of things are in Lenoir. Revitalizing Granite Falls and developing a farmer's market?	2/16/2017 8:25 AM
570	Geography; centrally located in the region. Lower cost of living.	2/16/2017 8:20 AM
571	Businesses Education Jobs tax incentives for businesses. We are an over educated society with everyone thinking a college degree equates to jobs and money, it doesn't often work that way. Our people need jobs or the middle class will continue to seep into one large pool of low income depression.	2/16/2017 8:10 AM
572	Education Educate and train	2/16/2017 8:04 AM
573	attract more diverse companies	2/16/2017 7:22 AM
574	Since 80% of employees are county employees they should carter to the county employees and the salaries of all of them from the lowest.	2/15/2017 11:38 PM
575	Services for seniors.	2/15/2017 10:23 PM
576	Promote our quality of life, solid infrastructure, and environment.	2/15/2017 10:11 PM
577	Young People attract and keep young people here	2/15/2017 8:34 PM
578	Jobs More jobs in health care and use of WPCC to prepare for vacancies.	2/15/2017 7:39 PM
579	Focus on natural beauty and experiences that can come from there. Identify large tracks of land that have ability to bring major manufacturer.	2/15/2017 7:15 PM
580	Jobs By creating better paying jobs instead of expecting people to live off Minimum wage yet allow insurance companies, banks, real estate, medical supplies & pharmacies to control the County/State & low income people cannot afford to pay rent/mortgage payments & never own a home or a car. Utilities is too high & if you don't live at what the State considers poverty, you are sometimes left with making choices between medicine, food, going to the MD & etc. Folks in this county are hurting, most folks never get a night out to have fun thus causing havoc at home with family & etc. Way too many regulations, it makes it hard for some folks to be able to enjoy a good life.	2/15/2017 6:17 PM
581	promote cutting edge technologies and innovative companies - Apple and the totally green off the grid server farm	2/15/2017 5:36 PM
582	Jobs Young People Creating more jobs and opportunities for young people.	2/15/2017 5:34 PM
583	Offer more types of resources in different locations.	2/15/2017 5:27 PM
584	Catawba County should focus on the drug problem in the area. Hickory is rated the fifth worst place in America for opiate abuse. That is embarrassing. The county needs to be "cleaned" up if they expect the economic situation to get better. There is a criminal roundup on a weekly basis and shootings occur all the time now. There are whole communities that base their whole existence on drugs. Look at the mobile home parks and low income apartments. The owners of these areas should be held somewhat responsible for what happens on their property. Increase the police force and put more money into cleaning the community.	2/15/2017 5:19 PM
585	I truly don't know but start with closing the gap in information/perception of what this county has and does not have.	2/15/2017 5:13 PM
586	Market Regional marketing, more interaction with CVCC and MSC	2/15/2017 5:00 PM
587	Tourism Boost Tourism Numbers, Athletic complexes	2/15/2017 4:57 PM
588	Businesses Spend more money on attracting business that is not manufacturing.	2/15/2017 4:56 PM
589	Need to subsidize medical doctors in order to provide the best possible medical care to the smaller towns of the area.	2/15/2017 4:55 PM
590	Education offer under skilled employees no cost continuing education while being employed at their location	2/15/2017 4:55 PM
591	Develop downtown areas, make shopping areas and parks more attractive	2/15/2017 4:44 PM
592	Burke County needs to pay attention to the working person, not just the retired person. Build something for the kids to do besides parks. Start up teen hang outs and programs so they have somewhere to go - this is for all counties.	2/15/2017 4:44 PM
593	Market Market the low tax rates and close proximity to several state parks and easy access to I-40	2/15/2017 4:27 PM
594	Education Increase educational opportunities and scholarships for higher education. Provide additional funding for K-12 education. Provide additional support for the arts.	2/15/2017 4:27 PM
595	Businesses The demand for services and products will provide the best resource for economic growth, if the government will stay out of the way and not give benefits to one type of business over another.	2/15/2017 4:19 PM

Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) Survey

596	Community College Industry Strengthen partnerships between industry and our community colleges for applicable training. Give Economic Development staff the resources they need to retain existing industry and recruit new ones.	2/15/2017 4:16 PM
597	Industry Bring in industries for all skill levels that will invest in the community and stay here long-term.	2/15/2017 4:15 PM
598	Have a cost of living raise	2/15/2017 4:14 PM
599	Industry Jobs Catawba county has an opportunity to really focus on the organic lifestyle with the rich farms we have. That is a growing trend among families right now. Also, more and more people are wanting job opportunities with flex schedules that accommodate families and lifestyles. Industry that can accommodate that would be an asset.	2/15/2017 4:12 PM
600	Businesses Spend more money to bring in new businesses.	2/15/2017 4:04 PM
601	Jobs To bring people to out community to fill jobs.	2/15/2017 3:39 PM
602	Education We need to advertise more about the resources that exist in my county. Secondly, we need to focus our limited resources on areas to help our economy grow, such as giving more options for secondary education. We need a four year college option other than Lenoir-Rhyne, because currently the cost is too high at that university. Otherwise, I seed my friends leaving for lower cost colleges in other parts of North Carolina and not returning home.	2/15/2017 3:33 PM
603	Industry Tax incentives for new industry that can serve a workforce that is aging. But also invest in companies that will attract a new younger demographic.	2/15/2017 2:49 PM
604	Education Provide adults with affordable education to learn a new skill. Sponsor more public events and things to do to draw people to our area or keep families from wanting to leave due to lack of things to do. Develop programs for kids so that they want to stay in our area once educated.	2/15/2017 2:12 PM
605	Encourage manufacturing to our county. This brings dollars into our area and can put our local folks to work.	2/15/2017 1:51 PM
606	Attracting talent - both from a people and company standpoint. To do that, you need incentives to go each way.	2/15/2017 1:50 PM
607	Businesses More positions for experienced business professionals. More internship opportunities for teens	2/15/2017 1:36 PM
608	funding for public schools	2/15/2017 1:20 PM
609	Industry The best resource that Catawba County is its geographic position with the County being located near Charlotte, Asheville and Winston-Salem. This should be the main selling point to bring industry to the county. The County also has low water/sewer and electricity rates compared to other regions.	2/15/2017 12:33 PM
610	Support friends of hickory for a comprehensive unified regional website	2/15/2017 11:53 AM
611	Continue to work to attract new companies or organizations to the county	2/15/2017 11:41 AM
612	Encourage the development of attractions for younger generations. For example, the parks projects offer promise. I would like to see more resources go to developing alternative energy projects. This has proved to be feasible in Catawba County.	2/15/2017 11:40 AM
613	Market we have great resources and assets - we need to market our cities and county better to the outside world - we need to put Hickory and surrounding region on the ma.	2/15/2017 11:13 AM
614	I'm not sure	2/15/2017 11:02 AM
615	1) Provide resources for public schools (specific to technology advancement for teachers and students) 2) Entertainment opportunities that are attractive to multiple generations. e.g., Asheville is thriving in breweries and retail - we need a niche for Hickory.	2/15/2017 11:00 AM
616	Young People Create or encourage activities. Example: A place on Lake Hickory where canoes/kayaks could be rented. When people have activities available, they'll be less likely to turn to drugs, etc. These things would also be attractive to young people.	2/15/2017 10:46 AM
617	Try to attract young professionals. Understand what millennials want. Promote trails, breweries, and music.	2/15/2017 10:42 AM
618	Jobs Job opportunities are improving. Make Catawba County a more desirable place to live to draw more young adults. More entertainment opportunities; expand and improve bike/pedestrian infrastructure (particularly throughout Hickory).Better affordable rentals properties.	2/15/2017 10:21 AM
619	Burke County can use the natural resources to bring people to the area. The county has a great lake as well as great opportunities to hike. There are a lot of outdoor options for the economy.	2/15/2017 9:57 AM
620	The natural environment is under utilized in this area.	2/15/2017 9:24 AM
621	Jobs Prepare skilled workers at comm college, machinists, etc., keep kids in school Play up real estate affordability, climate, cost of living, etc./ bedroom comm to WNC, Asheville Create jobs	2/14/2017 9:22 PM

Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) Survey

622	??	2/14/2017 7:37 PM
623	Create affordable housing and public transportation	2/14/2017 5:45 PM
624	Agriculture and furniture resources could be better developed	2/14/2017 4:11 PM
625	Jobs cut over paid unneeded jobs in county government ex: engineer	2/14/2017 3:48 PM
626	Education High School By using empty spaces next to roads, stores, or where bushes already grow to plant vegetables and garden goods for local burger shops. The towns service men and the high school agriculture group could maintain it while benefiting in education as well. Also, Apple trees and other fruit trees thrive in this location while providing food with a beautiful scenery.	2/14/2017 1:46 PM
627	Jobs Stop reducing property values and stop increasing property taxes. Hire only within the county for county government jobs.	2/14/2017 1:22 PM
628	Significant benefit packages to attract new manufacturing companies.	2/14/2017 12:11 PM
629	Have a better cooperative attitude between the town and the county government. We could "be" so much more than we are right now.	2/14/2017 11:57 AM
630	Businesses Workforce Encourage, recruit, provide incentives for entrepreneurship, small manufacturing and other support businesses that pay an honest wage. In addition there has to be a recognition that the current available work force is not trained for higher technology and addiction to drugs and alcohol prohibits them from pursuing/qualifying for work...this issue has to be addressed and is in the top three health concerns for this community in the latest Health department's report.	2/14/2017 11:51 AM
631	Community College Jobs Investment into infrastructure, such as high speed internet access throughout the county - not just the city limits, and working with the community college to offer more training programs in the evening to allow people to improve their skills while continuing to work their day job.	2/14/2017 11:26 AM
632	Technical Training at college level	2/14/2017 11:09 AM
633	The old Alexander county hospital could be turned into some kind of great training center. Also the old walmart building in Taylorsville beside tractor supply could be turned into a great opportunity for the community. Skating, movie anything!	2/14/2017 10:59 AM
634	Support public transportation.	2/14/2017 10:57 AM
635	Its time to study the zoning ordinances and make adjustments as needed(many sections are outdated) Encourage mixed use development.	2/14/2017 10:41 AM
636	Workforce Be more respectful of the work force needs.	2/14/2017 10:21 AM
637	Cut salaries of anyone making over \$100,000 and give the others a raise.	2/14/2017 10:08 AM
638	Tourism cultural heritage tourism	2/14/2017 9:59 AM
639	Jobs Bring in better/ higher paying jobs & retailers	2/14/2017 9:33 AM
640	Find more local locations for selling/distributing their locally manufactured wares.	2/14/2017 9:08 AM
641	Education Market Additional marketing, outreach, education, use of Social Media and technology to promote things we have.	2/14/2017 8:50 AM
642	Education Focus attention on various housing needs and education. Both are important issues for the 20-30 somethings that Caldwell County needs to keep and attract to the area.	2/13/2017 5:20 PM
643	Young People As a 28 year old myself, I lived in Catawba County for 26 years and grew up there. I have lived in Burke County now for 2 years and I think they both relate. I think there are a lot of young adults who really enjoy the area and would raise a family here but a lot of times they feel like if they stay, they will not have the economic opportunity that larger cities have. In a nutshell if the area can retain young people I think that is the basis to fixing most of the other issues in itself. I think Catawba county and the City of Hickory are leading the way for the area to do just that.	2/13/2017 5:13 PM
644	Jobs Market We need to diversify our offerings. Many of the of the assets from above are our historical job creators but have not weathered as well, in reaction we take huge hits in jobs and the local economy when two or three sectors falter. We need to market the high end assets, with good paying jobs to attract more people into the area and keep the ones we have.	2/13/2017 4:10 PM
645	Get internet options into every home in the county.	2/13/2017 4:09 PM

Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) Survey

646	By making Alexander County a more desirable place to live and work. We're losing people ages 18-40 to other communities. Some come back to raise families, but most don't. We have some good opportunities here, but it's a rural way of life.	2/13/2017 4:06 PM
647	Jobs Attract working-age population (talent) to help fill jobs, recruit new employers, and increase tax base.	2/13/2017 4:02 PM
648	Jobs Economic Development Commission is doing a good job.	2/13/2017 3:51 PM

Q5 What adaptive capabilities do you see for the county's economy? Adaptive capabilities might be specific skills in the county's workforce or in the built environment (such as vacant manufacturing plants or box stores) in your county that can guide a strategic renewal process.

Answered: 600 Skipped: 383

#	Responses	Date
1	See above.	3/13/2017 8:58 AM
2	So important to expand opportunities for job training for people immediately after high school or even before	3/12/2017 9:49 PM
3	Training offered by Western Piedmont CC can be customized to address specific training.	3/12/2017 8:32 PM
4	Utilizing all the County's Resources to build better opportunities for employment for low income families	3/12/2017 4:26 PM
5	Vacant Buildings There are lots of vacant plants that need to be sold and reopened.	3/11/2017 9:41 PM
6	Furniture Vacant Buildings lots of empty furniture company buildings. empty store buildings.	3/11/2017 9:05 PM
7	Furniture Vacant Buildings There are a number of vacant buildings both retail and industrial. Skilled workforce includes construction, agricultural, furniture/industrial	3/11/2017 8:00 PM
8	Furniture Manufacturing Vacant Buildings We have vacant furniture manufacturing buildings and empty big box stores and mall area.	3/11/2017 6:34 PM
9	Manufacturing See Number 4 above. We have multiple empty manufacturing plants available for utilization.	3/11/2017 11:56 AM
10	See question 4. answer. increased employment building trades	3/11/2017 9:53 AM
11	The vacant warehouses could be converted for different uses	3/11/2017 8:24 AM
12	Furniture Vacant Buildings empty furniture buildings becoming stores and apartments	3/11/2017 7:51 AM
13	Furniture Manufacturing Vacant Buildings We have several vacant manufacturing plants and people skilled in furniture construction.	3/11/2017 7:09 AM
14	Furniture Manufacturing Manufacturing opportunities in former textile and furniture plants	3/11/2017 6:15 AM
15	Vacant Buildings Empty buildings Large youth workforce	3/11/2017 3:56 AM
16	Manufacturing Many old manufacturing buildings that are abandoned	3/10/2017 9:59 PM
17	The entire Big Lots shopping center at exit 104 could be put to use for public works: example - move the public library there (use the existing library building exclusively for genealogy and local history, bring in more resources for Appalachian history, Joara, etc). Improve the recreation facilities, too. I'd also like to see better public transportation in the area. As far as I can tell, the majority of the workforce in this area is unskilled labor.	3/10/2017 9:22 PM
18	Vacant Buildings use the vacant buildings in some manner	3/10/2017 8:35 PM
19	Many empty warehouses and plants that need to be upgraded or leveled and new ones for opportunities to come in.	3/10/2017 8:34 PM
20	Retraining	3/10/2017 6:41 PM
21	Furniture Need a way to put the furniture/ textile workers back to work. Lots of unemployment because industry has moved overseas	3/10/2017 6:27 PM
22	Existing Spaces Vacant commercial spaces	3/10/2017 5:29 PM
23	Vacant Buildings Vacant plants	3/10/2017 5:08 PM
24	Manufacturing Vacant Buildings Vacant Manufacturing plants, Almost vacant shopping complexes.	3/10/2017 5:01 PM

Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) Survey

25	Existing Spaces Manufacturing It's difficult to re-tool an existing manufacturing building to meet specifications necessary for new manufacturing or IT needs. Often cheaper to tear them down and rebuild. Local governments should encourage repurpose such facilities/land to improve quality of life, such as museums/open space/restaurants/parks/mass transit centers, etc. to help the area become more attractive for existing and prospective large employers.	3/10/2017 4:46 PM
26	I think we should adapt by replacing the dinosaurs in public office with new, energetic leaders with fresh ideas.	3/10/2017 3:49 PM
27	Manufacturing Vacant Buildings rail road for passenger use, regional airport for passenger use, vacant manufacturing buildings to be used in creating prestigious warehouse districts	3/10/2017 3:47 PM
28	Manufacturing Vacant Buildings vacant manufacturing buildings	3/10/2017 3:43 PM
29	Skilled trades to support business and industry! Prepare high school students for vocational trades. Build apprentice programs!	3/10/2017 3:20 PM
30	Skill development in the trades either through the high schools or community colleges.	3/10/2017 3:12 PM
31	Manufacturing Continue to remodel and repurpose abandoned mills or manufacturing plants for other uses.	3/10/2017 2:53 PM
32	Workforce Factory work force Empty factories Empty storefronts Good high tech IT, Google Transportation hub, trucking and train	3/10/2017 2:49 PM
33	New Businesses I believe the LR and CVCC can be huge assets in helping create a workforce that can support existing businesses and help bring in new ones.	3/10/2017 2:34 PM
34	New Businesses Many vacant locales could be utilized for new businesses.	3/10/2017 2:30 PM
35	Education It has to start with the public schools and community college. Both entities are working hard already to prepare the workforce but more needs to be done to guide high school students toward furthering their education. We especially need to nurture girls to set their hopes and expectations higher, to believe they can achieve, that there is something besides getting pregnant in their future. The social problems are CAUSING the workforce problems!!!! We have to stop the cycle to improve our economy. It's all tied together.	3/10/2017 2:28 PM
36	Vacant Buildings The vacant plants are outdated. We need new construction.	3/10/2017 2:09 PM
37	Vacant Buildings Lots of vacant buildings in Lenoir.	3/10/2017 2:02 PM
38	Existing Spaces Furniture Vacant Buildings There are certainly some vacant buildings in the area! There is a lot of vacant retail space. People from surrounding areas used to travel to the Unifour to purchase furniture. We need to rekindle that or find a new tourism opportunity.	3/10/2017 1:37 PM
39	Hollar Mill, Moretz Mill, Transportation Insights... keep re-purposing mill-type buildings to enhance the area's character and functionality.	3/10/2017 1:28 PM
40	Manufacturing More baseline no skills needed manufacturing, because there is a glut of unskilled workers. That is what it seems everyone wants. We have a great area to develop for tourism, but no one seems to believe in this. And it will be hard to develop high tech industry here and attract those workers with the fundamentalist attitudes that are so prevalent in this county. The difference between Caldwell and Catawba county is striking.	3/10/2017 1:21 PM
41	not much that I am aware of.	3/10/2017 1:13 PM
42	Education Education	3/10/2017 1:06 PM
43	Using the area as R&D, capitalizing on land and plant availability, low cost of living	3/10/2017 1:00 PM
44	There needs to be a comprehensive development plan so that our community looks good and is organized with infrastructure to support growth. If our strategy is to offer "cheap" land, then we end up with lots of empty boxes.	3/10/2017 12:58 PM
45	Plenty of abandoned factories, excited residents	3/10/2017 12:37 PM
46	Manufacturing Vacant Buildings vacant buildings and transition from rural strong work ethics into a manufacturing supported utilization of available realestate.	3/10/2017 12:31 PM
47	Existing Spaces Furniture Vacant Buildings Multiple empty furniture plants. Empty retail buildings. Access to green spaces and rivers.	3/10/2017 12:20 PM
48	Leverage our assets - abundant power and water, excellent community college willing and able to customize training programs, proximity to Charlotte	3/10/2017 12:15 PM
49	Use vacant facilities for apartments, retail, cultural venues.	3/10/2017 12:06 PM

Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) Survey

50	THIS DOES NOT FIT SPECIFICALLY IN ADAPTIVE CAPABILITIES, BUT IS A REAL NEED I SEE EVERY DAY. LABOR MARKET INFORMATION NEEDS TO BE REAL TIME OR AS CLOSE AS CAN BE FOR BOTH THE EMPLOYERS AND CLIENTS AN WELL MARKETED I WORK WITH EMPLOYERS EVERY DAY, AND THEY, AND QUITE OFTEN THEIR HOME OFFICE DOES NOT KNOW THE CURRENT ECONOMIC CONDITIONS, AND HOW IT AFFECTS THEIR RECRUITMENT AND RETENTION.	3/10/2017 11:53 AM
51	Manufacturing New Businesses Vacant Buildings New business in vacant manufacturing plants and box stores	3/10/2017 11:52 AM
52	Manufacturing Vacant Buildings Development of a plan/use for vacant commercial buildings. Promote the sq.ft that is available to other non-manufacturing industries.	3/10/2017 11:48 AM
53	Education To keep our college educated young people in the area we have to have excellent job opportunities.	3/10/2017 11:47 AM
54	Use of older buildinga for new purposes would be great	3/10/2017 11:46 AM
55	Vacant Buildings Continue grants for vacant building regeneration and upgrading existing facilities	3/10/2017 11:43 AM
56	not qualified to answer	3/10/2017 11:40 AM
57	Education Existing Spaces Vacant Buildings Vacant industrial buildings, beautiful business park space at exit 96. Educational training through community college system.	3/10/2017 11:17 AM
58	New Businesses Vacant Buildings Multiple empty buildings should be made available for use and at reasonable prices to encourage new businesses as well as expansion for current businesses.	3/10/2017 11:15 AM
59	Vacant buidings	3/10/2017 10:57 AM
60	Workforce Continued re training of our work force	3/10/2017 10:46 AM
61	Existing Spaces Manufacturing Vacant Buildings We have many vacant manufacturing plants. Many of these jobs were moved overseas (thanks Clinton). At this point many have become safety hazards and should be torn down to make space available for modern buildings, housing, or community renewal likes parks and recreation.	3/10/2017 10:26 AM
62	Manufacturing Vacant Buildings Many people with manufacturing experience Many vacant plants Infrastructure still in place to support manufacturing	3/10/2017 9:56 AM
63	Manufacturing Corporate companies are moving out because of the talent attraction to the area. Need more manufacturing companies companies to move here a utilize the vacated buildings.	3/10/2017 9:10 AM
64	Furniture Furniture.	3/10/2017 9:07 AM
65	improve access to transportation	3/10/2017 8:39 AM
66	none	3/10/2017 8:30 AM
67	Basic classes at our local community college for carpenters, electricians and maintenance Our economy in this area does not afford high tech jobs	3/10/2017 7:42 AM
68	Manufacturing Vacant Buildings There are lots of empty manufacturing buildings & fewer family owned businesses, because larger stores are making competitive pricing difficult.	3/9/2017 8:57 PM
69	Na	3/9/2017 8:30 PM
70	Manufacturing Several vacant manufacturing, retail outlets available, ready for re-purposing.	3/9/2017 8:16 PM
71	Unknown	3/9/2017 6:42 PM
72	New Businesses Vacant Buildings Continue to encourage the repurpose of vacant buildings to lure new business and create new jobs	3/9/2017 6:12 PM
73	The stores on Enola Road need to be filled with something that will be successful and stay.	3/9/2017 5:38 PM
74	Education Vacant Buildings Increased re-purposing of empty buildings, like the Education Center at I-40 Exit 105 and the new stores in the Magnolia Plaza	3/9/2017 3:08 PM
75	Morganton has many skilled labors.	3/9/2017 2:19 PM
76	?	3/9/2017 2:19 PM
77	New Businesses Bring in new businesses.	3/9/2017 12:41 PM
78	Vacant land along the Highway 321 corridor is available and ready for both commercial and industrial development. Skilled workforce is available, but community college can target training for recruitment of specific industry.	3/9/2017 11:58 AM
79	Aid local companies with expansion.	3/9/2017 11:52 AM

Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) Survey

80	Many empty lots that could be used for factories or box companies.	3/9/2017 11:39 AM
81	Workforce technological skills and "soft" skills	3/9/2017 11:36 AM
82	Vacant Buildings The use of a vacant building to create somewhere positive and productive for our teenagers in this county would be awesome. Examples would be a place where kids who have an interest in arts could go and learn or advance in the field of arts. Additional, indoor recreation facilities could be a possibility as well. Basically, after school and weekend social opportunities.	3/9/2017 9:28 AM
83	Manufacturing Has many manufacturing plants that have been shut down , or not put to use. Many of the plants have probably been shut down due to the fact that these jobs are now being sent over seas.	3/9/2017 8:30 AM
84	Education We need a strong vocational program that allows students to differentiate their educational preferences and we need to promote problem based learning and other strategies such as integrated curriculum that allow students autonomy and practice with critical thinking and research. Within the community, there has been a recent push in community revitalization but we still have way too many vacant commercial properties.	3/9/2017 7:23 AM
85	Furniture I don't see any. All the closed furniture factories are closed down and demolished.	3/9/2017 7:22 AM
86	Downtown Giant, wide streets (built for transfer truck). Hire local construction companies to carry out streetscape plans, which is the first step to improving our downtowns. Let's reimagine and build something beautiful!	3/8/2017 11:31 PM
87	Provide the training needed too fulfill goals of job	3/8/2017 11:03 PM
88	Vacant Buildings Use vacant buildings; build on what's working; market to all ages	3/8/2017 9:45 PM
89	Vacant Buildings There are some vacant buildings where plants previously closed down.	3/8/2017 8:08 PM
90	Workforce Make available to unemployed or new people to the work force access to job specific training outside of CVCC, uncomplicated through new employers.	3/8/2017 6:22 PM
91	Furniture empty textile and furniture plants	3/8/2017 5:16 PM
92	Existing Spaces We have a number of vacant stores and shopping centers, some of which have been vacant for over a decade. We also have several empty spaces where factories have been torn down.	3/8/2017 5:00 PM
93	lots of old factories sitting empty, lots of stores sitting empty, restaurants sitting empty, gas stations sitting empty	3/8/2017 4:11 PM
94	Furniture New Businesses Vacant Buildings We still have several vacant furniture plants and tracts of land that could be used. We have all of the old "Walmart Shopping Center" that can be used better. Rural King has just moved in and seems to be having a great beginning. What businesses do they know that would also like to locate here to fill up those store? The Fiddler's Run Shopping Center is mostly empty since the "new Walmart" center opened. What can the county do to help businesses move back in there? What is/ are the deterrents for that area? It has been mostly empty for over 4 years. There is a large chunk of the population that lives in that part of the county. They would love to have a closer place to shop. Clothing stores? Bakery? Salon/Spa?	3/8/2017 4:09 PM
95	Bring in companies to fill these vacancies with job opportunity	3/8/2017 3:36 PM
96	see response in #4	3/8/2017 3:20 PM
97	Manufacturing Vacant Buildings Many vacant manufacturing plants.	3/8/2017 3:10 PM
98	Furniture Manufacturing We need more industry, whether it be textile or furniture. Any sort of manufacturing should be aided by providing opportunities for students to take courses that will enable to transition straight to the job force. (Many students will never be college or university track.)	3/8/2017 3:08 PM
99	not sure	3/8/2017 3:06 PM
100	Manufacturing Vacant Buildings vacant manufacturing plants, empty lots- from manufacturing plants	3/8/2017 2:51 PM
101	Vacant Buildings we have a lot of empty buildings and a large unskilled workforce with factory experience	3/8/2017 2:49 PM
102	Vacant Buildings There are many nice shop buildings that are vacant.	3/8/2017 2:24 PM
103	Vacant Buildings vacant plants	3/8/2017 2:16 PM
104	New Businesses Continue to use/renovate old buildings to open new businesses.	3/8/2017 2:12 PM
105	Furniture Vacant Buildings Vacant furniture plants	3/8/2017 2:11 PM
106	Manufacturing There are several empty box stores and manufacturing plants.	3/8/2017 1:59 PM
107	unused buildings/facilities can be changed and developed into training centers for larger/updated businesses and factories.	3/8/2017 1:56 PM

Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) Survey

108	Convert the old Town of Drexel water plant into a warm water fish hatchery to cultivate fish for LKJ and Rhodhiss. The number of catch able fish increases the number of trips involving the items spelled out in question #4.	3/8/2017 1:49 PM
109	Vacant Buildings take the vacant plants and return the companies that were once there or bring in other companies to advance in the community jobs and resources	3/8/2017 1:48 PM
110	New Businesses Vacant Buildings I feel that we have many vacant building from old plants and as a result of business moving to the new Walmart shopping center. I would like to see these buildings filled with new businesses. I know many people who go to other cities for shopping. It would be nice to bring businesses in so we don't have to go else where to shop.	3/8/2017 1:37 PM
111	Vacant Buildings Use the stores that we already have sitting vacant instead of building new ones!!!!	3/8/2017 1:36 PM
112	Education Education with emphasis on technology would be helpful.	3/8/2017 1:34 PM
113	It would be interesting to see what the levels of performance our high school students achieve (work keys test)	3/8/2017 1:31 PM
114	We need to offer incentives to companies to come to our county. We have a vacant industrial park that needs to be used.	3/8/2017 1:19 PM
115	Vacant Buildings We have several vacant buildings that need to have other types of businesses take them over and make them into some type of either training facilities or places of employment	3/8/2017 1:19 PM
116	Furniture vacant furniture factories are going to waste. these could be put back to use in furniture or turned into other oportunities	3/8/2017 1:13 PM
117	I don't know.	3/8/2017 1:07 PM
118	Existing Spaces Renovate empty work spaces.	3/8/2017 1:01 PM
119	Bring competitive sports to Lake James (water skiing, boat racing, bass tournaments, etc.)	3/8/2017 12:33 PM
120	Education With the help of the local board of education, provide training for jobs of the future such as wind and solar power. The NC School of Science and Math coming to the area will revive the community with added hotels and restaurants.	3/8/2017 12:29 PM
121	Vacant Buildings There are several empty buildings that could be re-purposed or demolished making way for an updated building.	3/8/2017 12:26 PM
122	Empty stores and factories	3/8/2017 12:16 PM
123	Vacant Buildings We have several vacant buildings that can be used.	3/8/2017 12:09 PM
124	Manufacturing Vacant Buildings Manufacturing workers and vacant store buildings	3/8/2017 11:44 AM
125	Manufacturing Vacant Buildings many vacant manufacturing plants	3/8/2017 11:44 AM
126	Vacant Buildings Vacant plants	3/8/2017 11:37 AM
127	Furniture In years past, furniture was big in our county and there are a lot of skills present here for production-type work.	3/8/2017 11:29 AM
128	Bigger retail stores that people travel to other counties to shop	3/8/2017 11:28 AM
129	Existing Spaces Create free art spaces/studios for the multicultural artists that live and work in the region.	3/8/2017 11:16 AM
130	Manufacturing Vacant Manufacturing Facilities and Retail Stores	3/8/2017 11:15 AM
131	Vacant Buildings We have a lot of vacant buildings and stores. Bring in stores and restaurants. Supporting small businesses.	3/8/2017 11:11 AM
132	Vacant Buildings Vacant plants	3/8/2017 10:52 AM
133	Furniture vacant furniture land	3/8/2017 10:51 AM
134	n/a	3/8/2017 10:35 AM
135	Vacant Buildings using our empty buildings for recycling	3/8/2017 10:32 AM
136	Vacant Buildings Fill the empty stores/buildings with stores like Target.	3/8/2017 10:30 AM
137	Manufacturing Vacant Buildings Breathe life into the vacant manufacturing plants and closed businesses!	3/8/2017 10:30 AM
138	Manufacturing Vacant Buildings vacant manufacturing plants, empty buildings	3/8/2017 10:29 AM
139	Manufacturing Vacant Buildings There are many vacant manufacturing buildings in the area and also land.	3/8/2017 10:27 AM

Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) Survey

140	engineering or technical	3/8/2017 10:25 AM
141	Furniture Workforce There are many vacant furniture factories that we could maybe bring in new work force.	3/8/2017 10:25 AM
142	Vacant Buildings We have lots of empty building throughout Burke county.	3/8/2017 10:17 AM
143	Existing Spaces Manufacturing Vacant Buildings There are many vacant business/retail spaces in the Magnolia Plaza and Fiddlers Run shopping complex. There are several vacant manufacturing plants as well.	3/8/2017 10:16 AM
144	Vacant Buildings The old Wal-Mart store stood vacant for a number of years which hurt the businesses in that area. When the Walmart super center opened, all businesses from Fiddler's Run area vacated except for a few. Many buildings that are not very old still stand vacant in this strip mall area. We need anchor stores spread out over town so the smaller businesses don't go belly up. Target store at Fiddler's Run would be great.	3/8/2017 10:16 AM
145	Vacant Buildings We need to find and PROMOTE additional restaurant businesses to come to Burke. It's a shame that McDowell County has a greater variety of restaurants than we do. There have been several restaurants go into the Mull Building, but there hasn't been much promotion to help get the businesses started. We also have a lot of vacant buildings and land that could be utilized for Big Box Companies to renovate.	3/8/2017 10:14 AM
146	Downtown Vacant Buildings Vacant buildings and a vibrant downtown scene in Morganton could significantly boost the economy of Burke County.	3/8/2017 10:10 AM
147	Vacant Buildings Vacant buildings need to be utilized for growth by allowing existing local businesses to occupy and renew our existing infrastructure	3/8/2017 10:06 AM
148	n/a	3/8/2017 10:05 AM
149	Vacant Buildings We have a number of empty buildings and storefronts. Can some be used for new markets, such as somewhere for kids to shop? Can empty buildings become facilities for activities (art, athletics, bowling, dance, entertainment...)?	3/8/2017 10:03 AM
150	Vacant Buildings vacant buildings on Enola Road where Bath and Body Works and Food Lion are located. This could be used for many things.	3/8/2017 9:56 AM
151	Manufacturing Vacant Buildings Vacant manufacturing plants	3/8/2017 9:42 AM
152	New Businesses The sky is the limit in Burke County as far as reclaiming structures for use. This could used as a PR tool to get new industry into the area. Grants could be used to help new businesses become established.	3/8/2017 9:36 AM
153	Vacant Buildings Alexander County has a lot of vacant buildings. More businesses need to be sought and brought into the county. Therefore more jobs and if people are working here, they will spend their money here. Why, because they are to tired to go anywhere else.	3/8/2017 9:36 AM
154	Manufacturing Vacant Buildings Mixed use for vacant manufacturing plants - See Hollar Mill and others in Hickory...	3/8/2017 9:30 AM
155	Vacant Buildings We have so many empty existing buildings and retail places that need to be filled that it would be great to see "life" brought into those places before building new buildings.	3/8/2017 9:25 AM
156	Manufacturing Vacant Buildings There are many vacant buildings in Caldwell and Burke County. These buildings could be remodeled for schools and manufacturing.	3/8/2017 9:22 AM
157	There are may buildings that can be repurposed.	3/8/2017 9:22 AM
158	Many available buildings and properties that could be transformed into viable businesses.	3/8/2017 9:17 AM
159	Vacant Buildings We have a lot of empty buildings	3/8/2017 9:17 AM
160	Vacant Buildings We have many vacant buildings that could be utilized for industry, retail, or shelters for those in need.	3/8/2017 9:14 AM
161	Manufacturing Transformation of existing manufacturing facilities.	3/8/2017 9:03 AM
162	New Businesses Vacant Buildings There are lots of buildings for lease/sale. If we could utilize them to attract businesses to move there and bring in more jobs. Also there is lot of vacant houses and land. We can build new affordable houses and update those abandoned ones for renting out.	3/8/2017 9:03 AM
163	Vacant Buildings vacant buildings	3/8/2017 8:58 AM
164	New Businesses Vacant Buildings There are many businesses that have moved out of the area leaving many vacant buildings and people without jobs. We could lure new industry into the area offering reduced tax rates. This would insure more people put back to work and less drain on the resources.	3/8/2017 8:56 AM
165	Vacant Buildings Renovate and use old abandoned buildings instead of letting them sit empty and useless. What a waste!!	3/8/2017 8:56 AM

Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDs) Survey

166	Furniture Manufacturing A lot of skilled furniture manufactures and millers looking for good paying jobs.	3/8/2017 8:54 AM
167	Existing Spaces Lots of empty "space," but little incentive to come to Morganton?	3/8/2017 8:51 AM
168	There should be a plan developed for the adaptive reuse of big box stores. What can these places become once the "Walmart" or "Lowe's" moves to bigger/better	3/8/2017 8:50 AM
169	Manufacturing Vacant Buildings Have many many vacant manufacturing plants and retail stores	3/8/2017 8:50 AM
170	Manufacturing Vacant Buildings Strong community college and public school system to provide specific training - empty manufacturing buildings across the county - industrial park land off of I-40.	3/8/2017 8:42 AM
171	Bring back jobs to our area	3/8/2017 8:38 AM
172	Furniture We have several furniture factories that are unused at this time	3/8/2017 8:38 AM
173	Vacant Buildings Take old, empty buildings and put businesses/restaurants in them	3/8/2017 8:37 AM
174	There are so many places sitting empty. We need stores like Target, or Old Navy. That way, we don't have to go spend our money in a different county. We moved everything to Morganton Heights killing off other areas of the city.	3/8/2017 8:37 AM
175	New Businesses New eaterys LARGE franchises instead of small business entrepreneurial attempts	3/8/2017 8:37 AM
176	Not sure	3/8/2017 8:34 AM
177	New Businesses Vacant Buildings using vacant plants, buildings, etc. to support new and existing businesses with tax breaks to bring jobs and economic development	3/8/2017 8:30 AM
178	Vacant Buildings vacant plants	3/8/2017 8:26 AM
179	Vacant Buildings several empty buildings could be used for more retail opportunities	3/8/2017 8:24 AM
180	Furniture Vacant Buildings Furniture skilled laborers,agriculture...empty buildings ready for business	3/8/2017 8:23 AM
181	Education We need more businesses to come that employ college educated workers. Engineers, technology, etc.	3/8/2017 8:22 AM
182	Furniture Vacant Buildings Yes, many vacant buildings because all of the businesses that built Burke County (furniture and textiles) mved to Mexica and China.	3/8/2017 8:20 AM
183	Manufacturing Not sure but we do have a lot of empty manufacturing plants that could be restored and reused.	3/8/2017 8:20 AM
184	Existing Spaces The Old Walmart Plaza on Burkemont Road has empty spaces. Fiddler's Run has empty spaces.	3/8/2017 8:19 AM
185	We have many open stores in several areas of the county. We need businesses to come here and fill these stores.	3/8/2017 8:19 AM
186	Several empty warehouses	3/8/2017 8:17 AM
187	New Businesses Use existing structures/buildings as easy to relocate to facilities for enticing new business	3/8/2017 8:15 AM
188	Manufacturing We need more manufacturing plants to come back to burke co.	3/8/2017 8:13 AM
189	Create a vocational high school. Provide training to high school students who can graduate with marketable skills.	3/8/2017 8:10 AM
190	New Businesses we have several locations that could house new businesses.	3/8/2017 8:09 AM
191	Many vacant warehouses on the outskirts of Morganton. Skills being taught at the middle-high school areas are aiming largely at skills needed in technical jobs such as engineering and critical thinking skills.	3/8/2017 8:01 AM
192	Empty plants	3/8/2017 7:57 AM
193	See above response	3/8/2017 7:57 AM
194	There are many vacant area to work with.	3/8/2017 7:55 AM
195	Furniture lots of vacant furniture factories	3/8/2017 7:51 AM
196	No comment	3/8/2017 7:49 AM
197	Manufacturing Available buildings for manufacturing Specific job training	3/8/2017 7:42 AM
198	revamp building and bring in new companies	3/8/2017 7:32 AM
199	Vacant Buildings There are vacant plants/factories, as well as open land available for new growth.	3/8/2017 7:28 AM
200	Vacant Buildings There are lots of empty buildings that could hold future businesses	3/8/2017 7:23 AM
201	Vacant Buildings Have more textile businesses and use buildings for business instead of being empty	3/8/2017 7:21 AM
202	Furniture Vacant strip malls/shopping areas; vacant furniture/textiles.	3/8/2017 7:15 AM

Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) Survey

203	New Businesses Vacant Buildings We have so many empty stores that should be utilized by incoming businesses instead of new builds creating future empty stores if their businesses fail.	3/8/2017 7:15 AM
204	Poll WPCC to determine what graduation programs have been the most utilized in the past 6-7 yrs	3/8/2017 7:03 AM
205	Vacant Buildings There are many vacant company buildings across the county that could be utilized!	3/8/2017 6:56 AM
206	Furniture Vacant Buildings Vacant furniture plants	3/8/2017 6:55 AM
207	It wold be nice to have a Home Depot & some other companies that would build on the eastern end of the county. Not everything needs to be on the western end of the county.	3/8/2017 6:53 AM
208	Many open store fronts that could be used if prices were reasonable.	3/8/2017 6:19 AM
209	Vacant Buildings Vacant factory buildings abound, but most would not meet current building codes or are of inefficient design. Plenty of available land which is zoned commercial.	3/8/2017 6:14 AM
210	natural resources of rivers for kayaking, mountains for hiking; large state campuses for potential development;	3/7/2017 11:21 PM
211	Vacant Buildings See my commentary above. Reuse the empty buildings for those schools.	3/7/2017 11:06 PM
212	Vacant Buildings We have MANY vacant buildings and factories.	3/7/2017 10:58 PM
213	Manufacturing Renovations of large empty manufacturing plants	3/7/2017 10:47 PM
214	There are vacant stores, vacant factories, vacant, properties, and vacant houses. Introducing passenger train here could greatly boost tourism. Putting in a hike/bike trail from the Gorge to the South Mountains would increase outdoor recreation draw.	3/7/2017 10:21 PM
215	more growth in the Eastern part of the county	3/7/2017 10:03 PM
216	Unsure	3/7/2017 9:58 PM
217	I think that we could see a rise in technology jobs in our county. We have had an increase in technology plants in surrounding counties.	3/7/2017 9:42 PM
218	There are several older or unused structures that could be repurposed.	3/7/2017 9:32 PM
219	I don't know.	3/7/2017 9:25 PM
220	This county has no real growth. There are several empty industrial sites that could be repurposed.	3/7/2017 9:19 PM
221	Existing Spaces Furniture Vacant Buildings Vacant spaces where furniture plants used to be.	3/7/2017 9:08 PM
222	Furniture Vacant Buildings Our furniture industry's departure left many vacant buildings. Some have been repurposed, and some have been raised. However, I would like to see the vacant buildings used to attract other industries with the help of economic incentives.	3/7/2017 9:08 PM
223	Vacant shopping centers	3/7/2017 8:58 PM
224	"	3/7/2017 8:57 PM
225	We have an empty Fiddler's run and old Walmart. We have empty factories too. We need to fill these up and keep people from going to Hickory to spend money.	3/7/2017 8:55 PM
226	Mechatronics and empty storefronts in older shopping centers	3/7/2017 8:53 PM
227	Take advantage if existing structures at bcsd, broughton, etc	3/7/2017 8:46 PM
228	Manufacturing We are a manufacturing community.	3/7/2017 8:43 PM
229	Vacant Buildings Vacant plants, empty box stores	3/7/2017 8:35 PM
230	there are many empty places that could become places for learning and training- we have lots of talented craft people in the area and I am sure there are others who never had a chance	3/7/2017 8:31 PM
231	Vacant Buildings We have many vacant buildings that used to house "big box" stores.	3/7/2017 8:30 PM
232	See above	3/7/2017 8:27 PM
233	reviving old factories that have been closed and putting people back to work.	3/7/2017 8:26 PM
234	Furniture Vacant Buildings There are many empty furniture and textile buildings that could be used for businesses.	3/7/2017 8:20 PM
235	Existing Spaces Since the establishment of the new mall there are many empty spaces in existing strip malls.	3/7/2017 8:20 PM
236	Access to the interstate.	3/7/2017 8:12 PM

Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) Survey

237	Vacant stores and land with economic potential	3/7/2017 8:10 PM
238	?	3/7/2017 8:10 PM
239	Vacant Buildings Vacant buildings	3/7/2017 8:03 PM
240	Drexel plt. 1 properly developed	3/7/2017 8:01 PM
241	I see that as a great opportunity for economic growth and more jobs if the right businesses are attracted to and have incentives to open up in our area.	3/7/2017 7:51 PM
242	Vacant Buildings Job training, encourage redesign and use of vacant buildings, incentives to remodel existing structures	3/7/2017 7:50 PM
243	Vacant Buildings Fill the vacant buildings	3/7/2017 7:45 PM
244	Manufacturing Vacant Buildings empty manufacturing buildings	3/7/2017 7:40 PM
245	Vacant Buildings We have empty buildings that could be used to start new jobs	3/7/2017 7:39 PM
246	Make better use of existing campus facilities at NCSD. Place a regional law enforcement training center there. Math and science for middle school, etc. Renovate the athletic facilities to have a swimming pool that the high schools could use for competition. Bleachers for football field that Forest Hill Elementary could have used for their games.	3/7/2017 7:39 PM
247	More vocational studies in school.	3/7/2017 7:36 PM
248	Furniture Reuse of box stores and empty furniture industry businesses	3/7/2017 7:31 PM
249	Vacant Buildings Burke County has plenty of empty buildings that could be utilized if businesses were willing to come to this county.	3/7/2017 7:29 PM
250	Not sure	3/7/2017 7:25 PM
251	Vacant Buildings Vacant Walmart building on Burkemont Rd.	3/7/2017 7:24 PM
252	Vacant Buildings There are vacant buildings and big box stores (Fiddlers Run and Magnolia Plaza/Old WalMart location). Business should look at these opportunities. They are close to I-40 and on the fringe of the Morganton city limit so they are still close to town.	3/7/2017 7:22 PM
253	Vacant Buildings Vacant buildings, land	3/7/2017 7:19 PM
254	get rid of republicans	3/7/2017 7:17 PM
255	Vacant Buildings Many vacant industrial buildings are present.	3/7/2017 7:12 PM
256	Create vocational opportunities for our youth to provide for the community.....greenhouses, training for vocational positions., etc.	3/7/2017 7:04 PM
257	New Businesses We have several older school buildings that could be used to house new businesses or even nice homes.	3/7/2017 7:03 PM
258	Vacant Buildings Vacant buildings	3/7/2017 6:57 PM
259	Hands on applications as well as problems solving and design.	3/7/2017 6:48 PM
260	Use old factory buildings for climbing gym to attract adventures tourism	3/7/2017 6:44 PM
261	Manufacturing Vacant Buildings Vacant manufacturing plants, vacant stores and businesses	3/7/2017 6:43 PM
262	Develope the business park on Kathy. Road.	3/7/2017 6:43 PM
263	Workforce Large teacher/ state work force	3/7/2017 6:37 PM
264	Vacant Buildings Yes we have vacant plants. I think the strengths we offer are the mechanical skills, musical skills and the desire to serve the needs of others in our community.	3/7/2017 6:36 PM
265	Manufacturing Filling of box stored and empty manufacturing facilities would benefit tourism and consumers.	3/7/2017 6:34 PM
266	Furniture We have an empty business park that is available off Kathy road. Many of our furniture facilities are empty.	3/7/2017 6:22 PM
267	Existing Spaces Green space for recreational opportunities	3/7/2017 6:19 PM
268	Springs Roads has some opportunities for development, down through St. Peters Road. There is a nice boat access, which is a best kept secret. This area has the potential to develop into some type of recreational facility for families. It is a really beautiful unused area back there.	3/7/2017 6:15 PM

Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) Survey

269	Downtown Vacant Buildings Use those vacant buildings to develop lofts and apartments like downtown Winston-Salem is doing	3/7/2017 6:12 PM
270	Furniture Textile and furniture resources need to be utilized	3/7/2017 6:10 PM
271	When our children become juniors I school they need to learn a trade of some sort. All children are not college material. They need to get rid of common core out of schools.	3/7/2017 6:01 PM
272	Manufacturing Vacant Buildings There are a lot of vacant manufacturing plants to utilize.	3/7/2017 5:57 PM
273	Vacant Buildings Vacant buildings	3/7/2017 5:52 PM
274	Manufacturing Vacant Buildings vacant manufacturing plants	3/7/2017 5:50 PM
275	Vacant Buildings Bring a Target,Kohls to vacant buildings	3/7/2017 5:47 PM
276	Vacant Buildings Broughton Hospital just recently build a new building and the old hospital is vacant.	3/7/2017 5:41 PM
277	The county needs a PR person in advertising that promotes the areas historical and natural areas...such as Joara, Revolutionary War, Native American, Appalachian Culture. The natural hikes, the little known areas are not readily known.	3/7/2017 5:40 PM
278	Furniture Too many furniture factories sitting empty	3/7/2017 5:39 PM
279	Continue to convert empty structures into apartments, community centers, and small businesses.	3/7/2017 5:39 PM
280	Furniture Vacant factories exists in Burke. Skilled textile and furniture laborers are being lost to other counties/states due to related industry loss in the last couple decades.	3/7/2017 5:35 PM
281	Furniture Furniture used to be good	3/7/2017 5:33 PM
282	Manufacturing Too many empty manufacturing plants.	3/7/2017 5:32 PM
283	Manufacturing Vacant Buildings Utilizing vacant manufacturing plants is a great idea. Building quality housing. Bring quality restaurants to the area. Creating additional outside places for families.	3/7/2017 5:32 PM
284	Manufacturing Provide manufacturing plants for the work environment. Box stores help the economy too.	3/7/2017 5:31 PM
285	Vacant Buildings Turn any vacant buildings into something useful, like a brewery.	3/7/2017 5:31 PM
286	Vacant Buildings Vacant plants	3/7/2017 5:29 PM
287	Furniture Abandoned textile and furniture plants	3/7/2017 5:28 PM
288	New Businesses Write more grants for replacing old buildings for new businesses	3/7/2017 5:23 PM
289	Vacant Buildings We have a lot of vacant buildings that could be used for businesses or other things.	3/7/2017 5:22 PM
290	Turn vacant stores into something with a purpose.	3/7/2017 5:19 PM
291	Vacant Buildings Vacant buildings	3/7/2017 5:18 PM
292	Answered in question 4	3/7/2017 5:17 PM
293	Existing Spaces Vacant Buildings There are many vacant textile buildings in Burke county that would offer other businesses ready made space.	3/7/2017 5:17 PM
294	We have prime industrial sites on railheads with ancillary industries.	3/7/2017 5:16 PM
295	Manufacturing Invest in engineering and manufacturing resource solutions	3/7/2017 5:13 PM
296	Encourage more industry to come into Burke though tax Breaks, compensation and incentive program packages to workers and use or renovations of so many of our vacant stores and factories.	3/7/2017 5:13 PM
297	Depressed people hungry for work.	3/7/2017 5:12 PM
298	Existing Spaces Furniture Vacant furniture factories and empty down town space.	3/7/2017 5:07 PM
299	Burke County has excellent public schools that prepares our students for the workforce and college.	3/7/2017 5:05 PM
300	Restore vacated buildings and invest in bringing back industry	3/7/2017 5:04 PM
301	Many old factory buildings could be used for new enterprises.	3/7/2017 5:04 PM
302	Vacant Buildings Vacant plants.	3/7/2017 5:03 PM
303	Downtown Craft breweries. Wine bars. Downtown restaurants. Housing downtown.	3/7/2017 4:49 PM
304	Vacant Buildings Vacant lots, buildings	3/7/2017 4:33 PM

Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) Survey

305	Unsure	3/7/2017 4:12 PM
306	Manufacturing Vacant Buildings A lot of vacant manufacturing buildings	3/7/2017 4:07 PM
307	Furniture re-purposing old furniture plants much like was done in Catawba County	3/7/2017 12:34 PM
308	none	3/7/2017 12:11 PM
309	Fiddler's Run Shopping Center - mostly empty	3/7/2017 12:06 PM
310	Vacant Buildings Multiple empty buildings. Work on tax breaks and other fringe benefits to entice businesses to fill those buildings. Other industry will follow the activity.	3/7/2017 11:55 AM
311	Downtown Vacant Buildings Encourage small business ownership. Tax incentives to fill vacant buildings. Grants to improve the look of downtown buildings. Marketing for county awareness.	3/7/2017 11:42 AM
312	Downtown Vacant Buildings Use vacant buildings in downtown Morganton to get vendors in - offer incentives to do business downtown	3/7/2017 11:37 AM
313	Existing Spaces There are multiple empty plant sites in Burke County and an abundance of space at Broughton Hospital. How could those resources be utilized versus just watching the deterioration.	3/7/2017 11:28 AM
314	Large tracts of state property that could be opportunities for public/private partnerships	3/7/2017 11:26 AM
315	Vacant Buildings more company's use the vacant buildings	3/7/2017 11:22 AM
316	Plenty of empty factories and stores.	3/7/2017 11:19 AM
317	Manufacturing We do have some empty manufacturing plants that could be revived.	3/7/2017 10:05 AM
318	Downtown Vacant Buildings Vacant buildings, continued downtown Morganton development	3/7/2017 9:38 AM
319	Furniture Vacant Buildings Vacant furniture plants and psychiatric hospital as well as acres of land that could be used for sustainable agriculture	3/7/2017 9:07 AM
320	Furniture Manufacturing Bring furniture manufacturing back. There are many experienced upholsterers that are unemployed.	3/7/2017 8:55 AM
321	Downtown Building a nice hotel close to downtown to draw more tourist. We have a beautiful town, breweries, TGIF's, a lot of tourist would come more and enjoy the downtown area if they had a close place to stay.	3/7/2017 8:44 AM
322	Education Burke County has natural beauty and an ideal location. The county's support for diversity, the arts, and education is paying off. Asheville's success has come because it has embraced liberal arts. Burke county seems to have finally recognized the benefits of this strategy.	3/7/2017 8:40 AM
323	People are willing to work and want good paying jobs in BC. Training can be offered at WPCC.	3/6/2017 10:42 PM
324	Vacant Buildings Utilize the Industrial Park beside I-40. This has been built for years, but never occupied. Try to use existing empty buildings to lure industry, rather than rushing to build new facilities.	3/6/2017 5:51 PM
325	Manufacturing Vacant Buildings Vacant business building to attract a corporate business. Manufacturing and accounting professions seem to be able to thrive.	3/6/2017 3:42 PM
326	New Businesses Vacant Buildings Renovation can be realized and economically unlike the expense for the Doblin building which has left a less than desirable building. Vacant structures are not necessary. Tax incentives may bring in new business.	3/6/2017 3:19 PM
327	Manufacturing Vacant Buildings There are several options of vacant manufacturing plants and box stores available.	3/6/2017 3:00 PM
328	Vacant Buildings Many stores and plants are still vacant, there is potential there. There is an entire, wonderful shopping center off of I-40 that is almost totally vacant.	3/6/2017 1:47 PM
329	Vacant Buildings Recent and ongoing road improvement of major intersections in high traffic areas, continuing to use vacant facilities - stores, plants, etc...	3/6/2017 1:35 PM
330	Robotics - building and using	3/6/2017 1:13 PM
331	* We do seem to have vacant areas. * We have strong trade programs at CVCC (mechatronics, welding, etc); however, I do not know if we have the jobs for those programs.	3/6/2017 1:06 PM
332	Vacant Buildings numerous vacant buildings	3/6/2017 12:55 PM
333	Education High speed, reliable internet infrastructure and affordable, widespread access for business, the community and education.	3/6/2017 12:25 PM

Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) Survey

334	Again, local businesses - brewery, crafts, restaurants, etc.	3/6/2017 12:20 PM
335	Fiddler's Run Shopping Center needs to be put to better use. I also feel like the K-Mart shopping complex is on its last leg.	3/6/2017 12:18 PM
336	Existing Spaces Vacant Buildings A lot of vacant buildings and spaces above businesses that can be renovated into living spaces.	3/6/2017 12:17 PM
337	Vacant Buildings Plenty of vacant buildings that can certainly be converted.	3/6/2017 11:46 AM
338	Vacant Buildings vacant plants School of Science and Math in 2020 Broughton campus redesign	3/6/2017 10:23 AM
339	Healthcare (i.e. CNA) and technology training for workforce	3/6/2017 10:10 AM
340	Downtown Furniture Manufacturing just about any technical field, manufacturing, agriculture. There are many old furniture factories sitting empty and downtown Taylorsville is just sad. I would love to see a brewery or something go there to give people a place to hang out.	3/6/2017 10:04 AM
341	Vacant Buildings Convert Magnolia Plaza vacant buildings into a homeless shelter with wrap around mental health and substance use services, supportive housing, creating tiny houses, etc.	3/6/2017 10:00 AM
342	entrepreneurship	3/5/2017 1:47 PM
343	Medical and pharmaceuticals. Sports and recreation. Progressive farming.	3/5/2017 8:46 AM
344	Furniture Furniture skills,	3/4/2017 5:56 PM
345	Should remove unsightly, vacant businesses. Looks very depressing when driving past and doesn't facilitate a healthy, robust economy.	3/4/2017 4:49 PM
346	Vacant Buildings Most of the vacant buildings have been bulldozed down. When will the Corning building be bulldozed down?	3/4/2017 4:36 PM
347	Manufacturing Burke County has a lot of manufacturing plants and empty lots/box stores that could attract businesses and growth.	3/4/2017 12:30 PM
348	NCSSM 2012 and Broughton Re-purpose is a 100 year impact event for city and county. Need better highway corridor for north /south through Burke. Outer years Caldwell and McDowell will have improved 4 lanes to the lesser advantage of Burke. 4 lane planning speed-up of Hwy 18 Morganton to Lenoir 10 miles would greatly help.	3/3/2017 6:08 PM
349	We don't have much to offer. Our workforce is limited. Most of our mfg assets are old school. We'll have to build to get anyone to come here.	3/3/2017 5:01 PM
350	Vacant Buildings I think Hickory has done a great job of repurposing vacant plants and perhaps more modeling can be done in other areas of Catawba and Burke counties. In Burke Co., there are adaptive capabilities in Fiddlers Crossing since so many stores left to move to the new Wal-Mart.	3/3/2017 4:19 PM
351	Manufacturing Vacant Buildings Several vacant manufacturing plants and stores	3/3/2017 3:41 PM
352	We have a good bone structure as far as buildings and land.	3/3/2017 3:33 PM
353	Furniture There are dead or dying furniture plant buildings and strip malls all over this county. Aren't there are a lot of former Drexel and Henredon employees with furniture and upholstery skills?	3/3/2017 3:09 PM
354	None. Unskilled workforce and unusable built environment.	3/3/2017 3:09 PM
355	Manufacturing "New" manufacturing is looking for a smaller footprint with a taller ceiling height to maximize the ROI. The svschools MUST take the initiative to bring back vocational skills. Computers are great, but they cannot come to your home and repair plumbing or electrical issues.	3/3/2017 3:02 PM
356	Workforce development	3/3/2017 2:45 PM
357	Furniture The furniture academy is an excellent example. The vacant hospital would be awesome to entice health care services back to the county.	3/3/2017 9:18 AM
358	Vacant Buildings Vacant Buildings	3/2/2017 8:23 PM
359	Manufacturing Vacant Buildings vacant manufacturing plants and grocery stores	3/2/2017 10:40 AM
360	Downtown Vacant Buildings Many vacant buildings in downtown taylorsville.	3/2/2017 7:47 AM
361	There are various large parcels of land for sale in the hildibrand and long view areas for business development and as an added bonus they have access to a major railroad Norfolk Southern for transporting or importing finished goods.	3/1/2017 8:55 PM
362	Re entry advantages	3/1/2017 6:00 PM

Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) Survey

363	Use all the old plant buildings in Burke Co that have closed down for economic opportunities	3/1/2017 4:01 PM
364	Education Partner with community resources such as after school program, YMCA, and libraries to leverage educational programming to reach ALL youth in skill development	3/1/2017 3:21 PM
365	Local Amazon distributor is the only thing I can think of, honestly I have no idea	3/1/2017 3:07 PM
366	Furniture Manufacturing Different types of manufacturing would be good at this time it is mostly Furniture factors.	3/1/2017 2:58 PM
367	Furniture Vacant Buildings vacant stores and furniture plants	3/1/2017 2:57 PM
368	Vacant Buildings We have many empty buildings that need to be used. We have many needs for our people in this county that are not being met,	3/1/2017 2:52 PM
369	Vacant business turn into as work place	3/1/2017 2:03 PM
370	Existing Spaces Use current space instead of building new space.	3/1/2017 11:57 AM
371	Infrastructure changes that create more drought resilient communities.	3/1/2017 8:15 AM
372	Build more spect building in hopes of drawing more business	3/1/2017 5:55 AM
373	New Businesses Vacant Buildings We have a lot of existing empty structures that could be re-purposed by companies instead of allowing new construction. I would like to see more use of what we already have instead of building new structures that may become vacant in another few years because the businesses go under or move out of the area.	2/28/2017 3:43 PM
374	The strategic reuse of the Historic Broughton Campus can be a major driver for our economy. This can lead to the re-development of other under-used or blighted properties	2/28/2017 3:26 PM
375	i'm not sure at this point	2/28/2017 8:49 AM
376	Vacant Buildings Vacant buildings	2/28/2017 12:31 AM
377	"Older" knowledge and skills base of Woodworking, metal-working, upholstery, could be trained and apprenticed into more CNC-based machine skills for high-school-only . "Newer" technology, coding, machine-printing, health services skills also need strong college support and tie-ins with local industries.	2/27/2017 10:54 AM
378	Trade schools	2/27/2017 10:06 AM
379	Training Worker	2/27/2017 9:53 AM
380	Manufacturing Vacant Buildings vacant shopping centers and manufacturing buildings that should be repurposed	2/27/2017 8:52 AM
381	Manufacturing Vacant Buildings We have lots of empty building for manufacturing.	2/27/2017 8:08 AM
382	Downtown Alternative Energy Sources, Tourism, Revitalize the downtown area.	2/26/2017 6:03 PM
383	Renovation of existing facilities to accommodate businesses	2/26/2017 4:13 PM
384	There are several unoccupied buildings or units that could be utilized to provide work places or gathering places in the community. Bowling alleys have been repeatedly mentioned, but something of that nature would provide jobs to the community as well as attractions that keep people in the county spending money. Simple appropriate entertainment opportunities would do a lot to keep our small town thriving.	2/26/2017 7:16 AM
385	Education Vacant Buildings There are a number of vacant buildings due to the loss of industry in the county. Most of the skilled labor in our county (skilled in industrial labor) has reached retirement age. Those who aren't of retirement age have trouble finding work. I don't know what adaptive capabilities our county has unless it's in the medical field, educational field, or low wage labor.	2/25/2017 7:42 PM
386	N/A	2/25/2017 1:02 PM
387	I think there are many places that Burke County can improve the workforce. They need to be more adaptive to the growing industries and help secure more jobs.	2/25/2017 1:14 AM
388	None	2/24/2017 7:34 PM
389	Manufacturing Manufacturing, small business	2/24/2017 6:47 PM
390	Vacant Buildings Utilize the vacant buildings to attract businesses or use the buildings for beneficial purposes such as an emergency shelter, etc.	2/24/2017 6:38 PM
391	I have noticed the growing shrub and agricultural business in Burke County. Many people in Burke County are geared towards jobs in this field, which can benefit the overall economy.	2/24/2017 6:27 PM
392	Existing Spaces We have lots of vacant industrial space and a lack of non-income based apartments.	2/24/2017 6:07 PM

Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) Survey

393	Manufacturing Vacant Buildings Vacant manufacturing plants in Morganton and Valdese Vacant storefronts in Morganton (Burkemont Avenue and Enola Road)	2/24/2017 5:35 PM
394	Manufacturing Vacant Buildings Vacant manufacturing plants, empty shopping centers	2/24/2017 5:33 PM
395	Existing Spaces We need to keep more of the workforce from leaving the county. Develop additional space for businesses to expand or locate here.	2/24/2017 4:54 PM
396	Downtown Manufacturing Vacant Buildings Several former manufacturing facilities are vacant and some downtown business buildings are also vacant. Tenants can be attracted to these facilities due to their proximity to a thoroughfare (US 64) and nearby interstate highways, as well as the utilities infrastructure already in place.	2/24/2017 4:45 PM
397	land for retirees to build on	2/24/2017 4:42 PM
398	Redesign of vacant areas. Be a destination for the next generation by providing housing and recreational opportunities	2/24/2017 4:35 PM
399	Addition of outdoor parks/assets that could attract younger citizens to area...mountain biking, kayaking, other.	2/24/2017 3:26 PM
400	Building business parks - public and private, then sell	2/24/2017 3:16 PM
401	Existing Spaces Provide support to demolish & environmentally clean abandoned factories. This will more easily provide space to build new factories since generally water, sewer, high capacity electricity is already in place.	2/24/2017 3:12 PM
402	No sewer availability is stunting growth in area. We need to work diligently on a solution to this problem.	2/24/2017 2:53 PM
403	Manufacturing Individuals suited for manufacturing & local community colleges (WPCC/CVCC) who can train individuals in technical skills. In my opinion, Morganton also has a better nightlight for young adults than Hickory has. The greenway and ALLLL the parks are a plus!	2/24/2017 2:44 PM
404	Skating rink , bowling ally in abandoned wal mart.	2/24/2017 2:42 PM
405	New Businesses The local government is very easy to work with and welcome new business owners with limited experience. Very supportive and helpful with start-ups	2/24/2017 2:42 PM
406	Education Furniture With woodworking and craftsmanship, furniture is still king here. Friendly people, but education is a bit of a barrier.	2/24/2017 2:40 PM
407	High schools and community colleges offering courses to provide skills that employers are looking for.	2/24/2017 12:53 PM
408	Alexander County's adaptive capabilities are the community of Bethlehem. Currently the Bethlehem Community pays 30% of the county property taxes. If Bethlehem had sewer available it could attract business and development that could bring in more revenue in from Catawba County and more residential development to increase the property tax income for the county. Sewer is imperative for the development of Bethlehem.	2/23/2017 10:54 PM
409	Education The major employers are in healthcare, but we have CaseFarms and Continetal that hire those with a High School Education/GED or bellow. We need more jobs like that.	2/23/2017 10:28 PM
410	Vacant Buildings Use of vacant buildings for attracting new retail.	2/23/2017 7:41 PM
411	I don't know.	2/23/2017 6:52 PM
412	New Businesses Vacant Buildings I would like to see vacant buildings torn down and something new in it's place or remodel them for new business.	2/23/2017 1:00 PM
413	Reuse of existing buildings and facilities	2/23/2017 12:50 PM
414	Manufacturing Vacant Buildings vacant manufacturing plants,	2/23/2017 12:48 PM
415	Workforce Start with working ethics from an early age. Our work force needs to know that YOU will have to work and YOU should understand why, working responsibilities and that there is a chain of command with respect to supervision (Everyone can't be the Boss).	2/23/2017 11:56 AM
416	I see a highly trainable workforce available that was laid off as factories left town. Partner CVCC with factories to get the workforce job skills they need.	2/23/2017 11:53 AM
417	Manufacturing The lake can and is being adapted to be an indirect economic driver. The buildings need to be completely redone for the most part for manufacturing use to current specifications and the demand (or spec buildings). I believe that programs to productive adapt the actual workforce are there but came about a few years too late as many capable workers have completely left the workforce, through one way or another.	2/23/2017 10:39 AM
418	Businesses need water and sewer.	2/23/2017 9:06 AM
419	Vacant Buildings There are big boxes, warehouses and smaller buildings that are vacant that should be recycled or remodeled to bring in newly inspired businesses.	2/22/2017 1:11 PM

Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) Survey

420	Vacant Buildings Several empty buildings can be used for aquaponics, or mushroom farms.	2/22/2017 10:44 AM
421	Promote the local community colleges and make them affordable to new students to develop skills.	2/22/2017 7:58 AM
422	Encourage pro union companies (not just companies that are anti union).	2/22/2017 3:35 AM
423	Unsure.	2/21/2017 9:27 PM
424	Great landscape for promoting healthy living, working and playing. This should be focus given the current health condition of many of the residents.	2/21/2017 8:30 PM
425	Manufacturing Vacant Buildings There is an abundance of vacant box stores (some brand new) and manufacturing plants that can guide a strategic renewal process.	2/21/2017 6:39 PM
426	There is amazing opportunity for small businesses of they had the capital to start up.	2/21/2017 4:46 PM
427	No idea what this question is about...	2/21/2017 4:20 PM
428	Perhaps tax incentives to fill empty business locations in town	2/21/2017 2:40 PM
429	not certain	2/21/2017 1:57 PM
430	Vacant Buildings Look just about anywhere in the county and you will find empty buildings.	2/21/2017 12:45 PM
431	Furniture Manufacturing We have people who know production, from furniture to fiber optic cables. Bring in more manufacturing to leverage those skills.	2/21/2017 12:37 PM
432	Manufacturing New Businesses Vacant Buildings Vacant manufacturing plants and buildings, a strong chamber and a great initiative to support business locally and entice new and young talent to come to our area.	2/21/2017 12:18 PM
433	Downtown Existing Spaces Manufacturing New Businesses Investing in existing spaces by potentially lowering tax rates, giving tax credits for small businesses that want to use existing downtown manufacturing or retail spaces, and encouraging outside chains and larger businesses to renovate existing spaces and occupy them rather than clearing land and building new spaces.	2/21/2017 11:51 AM
434	Manufacturing Vacant Buildings Continued transformation and re-purposing of vacant manufacturing facilities and removal of dilapidated buildings will create a fresh slate for new industry.	2/21/2017 10:21 AM
435	Revitalization of brownfield sites. Business and industrial park(s). Sound and scalable infrastructure.	2/21/2017 8:24 AM
436	I do not see any that are vital and are not fulfilled.	2/20/2017 10:06 PM
437	Clean up the county of old buildings that are no longer in use. The more run down they look the more it looks like business does not work in our county.	2/20/2017 8:16 PM
438	Nothing for google, they took the money and ran. What a joke for our county.	2/20/2017 3:43 PM
439	Furniture New Businesses Vacant Buildings We have several vacant buildings that were former furniture plants, that could be utilized for new businesses.	2/20/2017 2:30 PM
440	We have several large plants that are either empty or partially empty.	2/20/2017 12:57 PM
441	This county needs a comprehensive revitalization project to modernize existing structures, offer incentives for tourist and out of county and state businesses to invest in Alexander County.	2/20/2017 12:10 PM
442	Vacant Buildings vacant buildings, factories, etc	2/20/2017 10:32 AM
443	Manufacturing Vacant Buildings Plenty of vacant manufacturing plants and empty buildings in county and town of Taylorsville.	2/20/2017 10:32 AM
444	capacity in water treatment facilities	2/20/2017 9:50 AM
445	New Businesses Vacant Buildings the majority of our workforce has no special skills, no new jobs coming in to require/train for special skills. the majority of our workforce has stopped looking for work and are living off our dime. there are too many vacant unsightly buildings, but too costly to renovate or remove. with no new businesses, no money comes into the county to help fund these efforts.	2/20/2017 9:39 AM
446	Furniture Manufacturing New Businesses This county has several furniture and manufacturing facilities that could be utilized for new businesses or bought by the county for parks, recreation, schools, daycare centers, etc.	2/20/2017 9:24 AM
447	Furniture We have several furniture plants that could be converted to new industry or used as shipping warehouses for whole sale companies.	2/20/2017 9:22 AM
448	I SEE HICKORY AND CONOVER USING OLD VACANT BUSINESSES BY CLEANING THEM UP AND PUUTING SMALL BUSINESSES IN THEM. "WORKS WELL"	2/20/2017 9:13 AM

Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) Survey

449	Downtown More spec buildings. Convert older buildings in our downtown urban core to residential over retail.	2/20/2017 9:08 AM
450	Manufacturing Vacant Buildings There are plenty of empty buildings, however they are not to code for many of the larger manufacturing businesses that may look to come to the community.	2/20/2017 8:59 AM
451	Existing Spaces Manufacturing Turning vacant manufacturing space in retail/office/residential.	2/20/2017 8:39 AM
452	New Businesses Utilize vacancies like the Market Basket which is vacant to draw new business and offer county tax incentives to new initiatives, as well.	2/20/2017 1:03 AM
453	Vacant Buildings several vacant buildings/box stores good location	2/19/2017 6:15 PM
454	Hickory and Catawba county do not adapt this why we are behind our neighboring counties who have like Lincoln Gaston Buncombe Iredell	2/18/2017 9:32 PM
455	Convert old buildings into a purpose to care for the less populations or tear down them to take the lack of safety away.	2/18/2017 6:06 PM
456	Vacant Buildings Vacant buildings	2/18/2017 3:51 PM
457	Furniture There are many people from the furniture industry or textile industry here that are knowledgeable but there is no opportunity for them.	2/18/2017 9:07 AM
458	Put more money in the music scene , everyone and there brother have talent and with some events and grant money would help a lot. More exposure!	2/17/2017 6:15 PM
459	Vacant Buildings A good number of vacant buildings are located here.	2/17/2017 5:18 PM
460	Manufacturing Vacant Buildings Vacant manufacturing plants for sure.	2/17/2017 5:04 PM
461	Vacant Buildings We have many factory type buildings and empty storefronts that could contribute to renewing the economy if emphasis is taken off immediate profit and put on future economic stability.	2/17/2017 4:32 PM
462	Vacant Buildings Vacant buildings	2/17/2017 4:30 PM
463	Existing Spaces Vacant Buildings The people in the county need more soft skills and there are plenty of vacant plants & office spaces available that could be utilized to accomplish this as well as encouraging businesses to move to the area	2/17/2017 3:59 PM
464	There needs to be an emphasis on careers in the local schools and there is a need for middle class housing.	2/17/2017 3:28 PM
465	Expanding the County's water system and developing a sewer system would help bring more businesses.	2/17/2017 2:58 PM
466	Vacant Buildings many empty buildings that could be utilized or refurbished to house other businesses, or housing options for homeless, lower income, as well as others	2/17/2017 2:30 PM
467	A plan for reuse of existing land and facilities.	2/17/2017 2:24 PM
468	Vacant retail	2/17/2017 1:58 PM
469	Vacant Buildings There are still many vacant buildings that could serve as sites for future business and industrial growth.	2/17/2017 1:49 PM
470	Vacant Buildings Remodel more vacant plants for local art sales, food, and clothing.	2/17/2017 12:36 PM
471	Furniture Furniture and textile industries have shut down plants in the area and people have to retrain or move away. The opportunity here is for county leaders to encourage new industries to move here, take advantage of the plants that have been abandoned, take advantage of the skilled workforce available and work with colleges and high schools in training workers.	2/17/2017 11:10 AM
472	Vacant Buildings Vacant buildings	2/17/2017 10:25 AM
473	Need more toolmaker/machinist training programs and focus in the high schools and community college systems. Need enhanced hands-on skilled labor training.	2/17/2017 9:17 AM
474	Manufacturing Vacant Buildings there are vacant manufacturing plants and box stores available.	2/17/2017 9:00 AM
475	I don't know.	2/17/2017 8:31 AM
476	Vacant Buildings Lots of vacant buildings - old galaxy could become an ALdi which would do great in Alexander county.	2/17/2017 8:12 AM
477	None	2/17/2017 8:00 AM
478	Improved skill set such as computer skills and technical skills in labor force	2/17/2017 7:57 AM
479	Utilizing old vacant factories would be a big plus. Hickory seems to be doing well at that	2/17/2017 2:05 AM

Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) Survey

480	Vacant Buildings Vacant plants, progressive community college	2/16/2017 11:28 PM
481	Education Developing the Broughton Property, Partnering with both private individual, companies and state and federal governments to enhance the opportunities. Faster training and education to produce the skilled workers needed for new hi-tech industries.	2/16/2017 10:03 PM
482	Manufacturing This is not a manufacturing resource, but adaptation of the community to become even more receptive to our country's retiring population.	2/16/2017 9:16 PM
483	Lots of opportunity for business	2/16/2017 9:06 PM
484	The workforce is undereducated and superstitious. There needs to be widespread support for life long learning as there is for the high school football teams. Leaders should examine how their personal lives reflect the past and CLOSE OUT CHANGE,	2/16/2017 8:00 PM
485	Vacant Buildings There are some vacant plants but not as many as a year ago. We have a trainable workforce. Technical and skilled programs should return to the high school in addition to internship opportunities for high school students.	2/16/2017 6:07 PM
486	don't restrict	2/16/2017 5:54 PM
487	Manufacturing Empty stores in Taylorsville Former Walmart bldg. Several empty manufacturing locations	2/16/2017 5:27 PM
488	Available sites with rail connection.	2/16/2017 5:21 PM
489	The old hospital. It would be great to redevelop into a community center. It could house the Health Department, DSS, and even a drug rehab/counseling center.	2/16/2017 5:18 PM
490	Downtown Vacant Buildings Downtown Taylorsville and Bethlehem need to developed....empty buildings need businesses.	2/16/2017 5:06 PM
491	Locate Jobs for the Older 50plus people who have lived here their entire life and paid taxes.	2/16/2017 5:01 PM
492	Furniture Manufacturing Expanding the CVCC furniture manufacturing training facility to train more specific electronics, etc.	2/16/2017 4:34 PM
493	Furniture Manufacturing Furniture manufacturing skills, industrial park land availability	2/16/2017 4:28 PM
494	rail, freeways, skilled and motivated workforce, open land and brownfields, Sunshine, climate	2/16/2017 4:27 PM
495	Focus on what makes Alexander County appealing to begin with and grow that. Spend less time trying to force Alexander County into the 21 Century. By doing that we are contributing to an average world that in comparison of what we are capable of being is well below average currently.	2/16/2017 4:13 PM
496	Vacant Buildings vacant walmart building empty grocery store	2/16/2017 4:11 PM
497	Alexander County should have some of its focus on markets outside of Alexander County	2/16/2017 4:06 PM
498	Vacant Buildings We need uptown restaurants and shops. There is plenty of room and vacant buildings. Need an entertainment venue and schedule. After work social opportunities could also be hosted. All in an effort to keep local citizens in the county rather than taking this business to other counties.	2/16/2017 4:02 PM
499	Vacant Buildings Some adaptive use has been made thus far, but there are other opportunities as there are plenty of empty storefronts and larger production buildings. The hospital building is a sorely missed opportunity for creative adaptation.	2/16/2017 3:59 PM
500	Vacant Buildings many vacant plants and box stores that could be converted to other indoor recreation use such as an ice skating rink or other recreational or entertainment venue	2/16/2017 3:41 PM
501	Caldwell Community College	2/16/2017 3:24 PM
502	Existing Spaces Use more spaces to provide housing for homeless	2/16/2017 2:58 PM
503	Existing Spaces Plenty of large building space which might require a lot of capital to make usable.	2/16/2017 2:47 PM
504	The localized access to highway and interstates systems.	2/16/2017 1:28 PM
505	Perhaps work with surrounding counties to make things happen for both counties? Every county seems to have their own set of strengths and weaknesses...perhaps one can help support the other and both can benefit from working together.	2/16/2017 1:14 PM
506	Business centers like recent Springs Road growth - away from just hwy 70 growth.	2/16/2017 1:13 PM
507	There is a wealth of resources (students) in our schools-collaborate and work with the school systems to advance our kids and provide them with opportunities.	2/16/2017 12:08 PM

Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) Survey

508	create an environment where young adults return here after college	2/16/2017 12:08 PM
509	Large areas of land for building distribution centers	2/16/2017 11:22 AM
510	Manufacturing Should turn an old manufacturing plant into a new senior center in the Newton area.	2/16/2017 11:08 AM
511	The good old "Tech" schools should be brought back that teach specific trades without requiring the extra classes like art appreciation that don't apply to the actual job.	2/16/2017 11:06 AM
512	Manufacturing Vacant Buildings vacant manufacturing plants; stores	2/16/2017 10:53 AM
513	I like the fact that some of the older buildings have been remodeled and repurposed in the area, it would be nice to see more of that happening instead of new buildings being built.	2/16/2017 10:46 AM
514	New Businesses Purchase an area of run-down houses, raze them, build new affordable houses (available to even high income people) sell the houses at a slight profit. The area will be revitalized, making it more attractive to future businesses and workers, and the tax revenue will be higher than it is from run-down properties.	2/16/2017 10:46 AM
515	Education Educational opportunities are available through numerous college satellite programs. ASU, WCU, Lees McRae, CVCC, WPCC, CCC&TI etc. once skills/degrees are achieved, individuals move to areas where pay rates are higher, Charlotte/Asheville.	2/16/2017 10:37 AM
516	there are a lot of people who only have a high school degree	2/16/2017 10:25 AM
517	Manufacturing Vacant Buildings Vacant manufacturing plants, limited advancement opportunities in the area. Limited progression in innovation and diversity.	2/16/2017 10:24 AM
518	Education Furniture Vacant Buildings Catawba County has a large number of vacant plants and mills. Some great work has already happened with the renovation of Moretz Mills and the Transportation Insight buildings, but I'd love to see that extend to the underutilized areas of Longview and the remainder of the county (Conover, Maiden, etc). Without knowing the number of existing mattress stores in the county, I know there is a documented phenomenon of mattress stores occupying empty big box buildings, especially after 2008. (http://freakonomics.com/podcast/mattress-store-bubble/). This is a successful model because of low barrier to entry and low overhead, and would work nicely with the existing furniture industry and sales. For the outlying areas of the county, many practices that are standard have come into vogue in the popularity of organic production and a "more simplified life" (for example, canning, cooking from scratch, gardening, raising livestock). We have a wealth of knowledge that have lived their entire lives based on that experience, and would probably appreciate being able to share it. A great educational and developmental opportunity exists if we can connect our native experts with people from other areas that want to learn these skills. Much value could be added by transforming our existing farmland into specialty production or energy production (solar panels, etc).	2/16/2017 10:07 AM
519	Instead of building new resource the old and preserve the great history of our county	2/16/2017 9:41 AM
520	see #4	2/16/2017 9:22 AM
521	Vacant Buildings plenty of vacant old plants and stores that could be repurposed	2/16/2017 9:09 AM
522	Vacant Buildings I see that there are several projects in process and that have been completed utilizing these empty buildings and with great success. It is a great idea to continue the renovation of more buildings.	2/16/2017 9:05 AM
523	There are a lot of old buildings that could be revamped.	2/16/2017 8:48 AM
524	Yes, many company's are adapting to these existing dwellings	2/16/2017 8:36 AM
525	Vacant Buildings I'm sure there are vacant plants. Just don't know alot about that	2/16/2017 8:25 AM
526	We have plentiful old factories and buildings that could be repurposed.	2/16/2017 8:10 AM
527	Manufacturing Redevelopment of former manufacturing sites/buildings and land-use planning for future growth	2/16/2017 8:04 AM
528	Manufacturing There needs to be different places that the young people can go- drug free. More manufacture plants for those that have the skills and lost their jobs	2/15/2017 11:38 PM
529	Vacant Buildings Multiple empty buildings	2/15/2017 10:23 PM
530	Capitalize on natural environment, there is plenty of unused buildings.	2/15/2017 10:11 PM
531	One level housing is needed for the aging adults or one level condos.	2/15/2017 7:39 PM

Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) Survey

532	Vacant Buildings Workforce Adaptive capabilities?? If you have to define what you are asking you can assume it is not understood. There are numerous vacant buildings, that is not an asset. Rather just the opposite. Strategic renewal should start with natural positive assets that can bridge and connect to other industries and assets. Our workforce is not very good but we have done it to ourselves. We have pushed out those willing to work, being left with those not capable or willing. The only way to fix is to bring in/attract a skilled or semi skilled workforce from elsewhere as well as put things in place where those less fortunate (criminal past, addiction, etc..) can build skills and remain employed. We also have to stop catering to box box stores without forcing them to create and build attractive buildings. They want to be here, especially walmart. To let them continue to build extremely unattractive buildings does nothing but continue to devalue the entire area.	2/15/2017 7:15 PM
533	Furniture Manufacturing Catawba county needs to think outside the box and keep moving away from furniture manufacturing and move towards more hi-tech	2/15/2017 6:26 PM
534	Workforce Give some of these buildings a face lift & start up some kind of work force where folks can make a decent living, own a home & try to teach their children the rewards of working instead of having everything given to them & they never understand what it is like to own a home. Restore some of the older homes in the count & allow folks to help with the restoration & be able to own a home. Most buildings & houses should be restored & put to use.	2/15/2017 6:17 PM
535	Maybe encourage more technical schools here to create a workforce of advanced technicians - Maybe a Western Region School of Science and Math or maybe a Western Region : Research Triangle Park	2/15/2017 5:36 PM
536	Many vacant warehouses / mills.	2/15/2017 5:34 PM
537	Catawba County needs more scientific research, environmental, and healthcare opportunities.	2/15/2017 5:27 PM
538	Education Vacant Buildings Get rid of all the vacant buildings that have sat here for years falling into disrepair. It makes our county look like a war zone. How can you expect houses to sell at a premium when there may be 2 or 3 derelict commercial buildings on the same road. Stop building parks all over the place. Parks are nice, but there are so many other areas the county could focus on. Support education and the arts. Fix up the streets and stop lights to allow the better movement of goods. It would be nice to have an expressway from northern Catawba County to the new Hwy 16. If you want money to come into the county people need to be able to move around the county quickly.	2/15/2017 5:19 PM
539	Downtown Downtown infill, building reuse	2/15/2017 5:00 PM
540	Turn old ware houses / plants into affordable living areas, develop self sufficient mini communities	2/15/2017 4:57 PM
541	Manufacturing Strong manufacturing workforce or low skill labor. Workforce can be trained to do higher skill jobs, and should train workforce for higher skill jobs. Update some of the old homes in the area.	2/15/2017 4:56 PM
542	Existing Spaces There seems to be a lot of empty retail space that could be re-purposed for needed ventures (e.g., senior care).	2/15/2017 4:55 PM
543	Vacant Buildings still a number of vacant factories and other business buildings	2/15/2017 4:55 PM
544	open source learning centers in vacant locations computer literacy programs offer positive psychology structure to improve generational poverty	2/15/2017 4:55 PM
545	Downtown More mixed use (Walkable) communities. Improve downtown areas which already has the structure in place.	2/15/2017 4:47 PM
546	Vacant Buildings There are numerous vacant buildings that could house businesses	2/15/2017 4:44 PM
547	Burke County needs to encourage more growth in inviting bigger and more corporations to offer more of a variety of jobs.	2/15/2017 4:44 PM
548	Vacant Buildings Partner with local entrepreneurs to renovate vacant buildings for discounted use in their business	2/15/2017 4:27 PM
549	Existing Spaces Furniture Manufacturing There are a lot of people who know the furniture trades, but most of them are retired. Maybe some could be retrained for more modern furniture manufacturing. There are a lot of empty manufacturing facilities. Maybe some of these spaces could be renovated and repurposed. A lot of county residents make pottery, either as a hobby or as an occupation. More could be done to market and support these persons.	2/15/2017 4:27 PM
550	Vacant Buildings there are many vacant factories and box stores available in the County. The old KMart building area has been renovated and has sat unfilled for several years now.	2/15/2017 4:19 PM
551	Give the small business man a break. There are so many county codes and ordinances compared to neighboring county's like Lincoln that it is ridiculous.	2/15/2017 4:19 PM
552	Existing Spaces I like that the County has used a lot of the old mills and created new spaces instead of tearing them down. they are a part of our history and now can be a part of our future as well.	2/15/2017 4:15 PM
553	Vacant Buildings There are plenty of run down vacant building where the lots can be turned into open gardens and such	2/15/2017 4:14 PM

Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) Survey

554	Existing Spaces Vacant Buildings We have a lot of vacant structures in the county that could be used for various businesses. The hard part is updating the buildings and having a usable space. Possibly some type of grant to help businesses update buildings.	2/15/2017 4:12 PM
555	Furniture Vacant Buildings there are a lot of vacant furniture plants and the old Kmart building are vacant. I'd like to see some good anchor stores come in that appeal to the middle class.	2/15/2017 4:10 PM
556	Vacant Buildings Renovating vacant buildings.	2/15/2017 3:39 PM
557	Education Vacant Buildings Currently, I do see some vacant buildings that could be renewed into a multi use building or what I would like to see is a stronger small business or entrepreneurship incubation building. We do have an abundance of workforce with labor skills but lacking in skill trades, or secondary education skills.	2/15/2017 3:33 PM
558	Existing Spaces New Businesses There are still lots of vacant mills. I don't know if they are the best spaces to unfit for new businesses.	2/15/2017 2:49 PM
559	Manufacturing Need to development of greater skills in the robotics field and machining side of manufacturing.	2/15/2017 2:12 PM
560	Existing Spaces Manufacturing We do have vacant spaces in the county that are suitable for new manufacturing facilities.	2/15/2017 1:51 PM
561	R&D, technology	2/15/2017 1:50 PM
562	Old Kmart Bldg. in Conover.	2/15/2017 1:25 PM
563	the old kmart store in conover	2/15/2017 1:20 PM
564	Education Catawba County must ready to move-in shell buildings ready for industries to move into. The lack of shell buildings has cost the County thousands of jobs in the last 10 years. Also, the focus should be on bringing jobs that pay above a living wage and preferably starting salaries of at least \$40,000 per year. People will not move or stay in a county/region were all of the available jobs pay between \$8.00 and \$10.00 per hour. County residents must also strive to improve their educational attainment level and job training skills.	2/15/2017 12:33 PM
565	Attract young people	2/15/2017 11:53 AM
566	Vacant Buildings I think there are plenty of vacant plants in the county that could be repurposed.	2/15/2017 11:41 AM
567	Vacant Buildings There are a number of vacant buildings/properties in the Hickory, Lenoir, Morganton area that could be renovated. This has been successfully completed in Hickory in a number of locations.	2/15/2017 11:40 AM
568	Downtown we need to invest in our downtowns - people are drawn to lively downtowns - creating incentives for retail and food and downtown living could be game-changing.	2/15/2017 11:13 AM
569	Existing Spaces New Businesses Vacant Buildings We have lots of vacant buildings that could provide the space for new or expanding businesses and industries. We have a strong community college that can train the needed workforce.	2/15/2017 11:02 AM
570	Education In this area we have Google and Apple. Let's utilize the momentum of these companies to further expand technological and web development opportunities. App technologies are among the fastest growing technologies in the world- let's teach our kids to write the code to develop these apps through the public school systems, community college and LRU. Bringing faster internet access to education agencies and to the home. e.g., Google Fiber, etc. could open significant opportunities for our area. There are examples of companies developing or relocating to areas where the highest internet access is available (note: this is NOT what is currently provided through Charter Spectrum, etc.). Look at an example in Salisbury, NC - the first US city to provide 10 GB internet. In areas where funding is provided to teach through public schools - the economic development always follows. Look to Mooresville for a premier example. Within the last 7-10 years they implemented a one-to-one initiative in their public schools - student achievement increased along with the housing market and local economic development. The formula for successful economic development is clear - invest in a comprehensive effort through local public schools. We can make this happen in Hickory and thrive once again. Investing in public schools is the key factor.	2/15/2017 11:00 AM
571	Need to find industry that takes of advantage of existing labor force rather than changing labor force.	2/15/2017 10:42 AM
572	Manufacturing There is a lot of old manufacturing infrastructure to repurpose. There may be unused railroad tracks to convert using Rails to Trails.	2/15/2017 10:21 AM
573	The county needs to review their ordinances. There are many people that come and visit Burke County, but chose no the live in the area due to the high number of ordinances.	2/15/2017 9:57 AM
574	Furniture More "trade" blue collar skill training in schools and community colleges Repurpose old furniture factories, town of Drexel? Arts and crafts	2/14/2017 9:22 PM
575	Existing Spaces Shared use space that motivates social cohesion and shared work collaboration while promoting tourism/social assets of the community too.	2/14/2017 8:31 PM

Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) Survey

576	Furniture Used to be really big in furniture.	2/14/2017 7:37 PM
577	We have lots of vacant factories and stores.	2/14/2017 5:45 PM
578	Downtown There are many closed down stores downtown, they could be turned into something more productive.	2/14/2017 4:11 PM
579	Vacant Buildings too many empty buildings	2/14/2017 3:48 PM
580	The old Wal-Mart would be a great indoor greenhouse to help grow some fruit trees and vegetables that could be sold cheaply or donated to local produce stands or burger shops to help lower the price of food. Once again the high school agriculture and volunteers could help maintain the building.	2/14/2017 1:46 PM
581	Manufacturing Vacant and cleared lots for manufacturing that has remained vacant since land was prepped 10years ago. Vacant factories.	2/14/2017 1:22 PM
582	Manufacturing Manufacturing workforce with several vacant storefronts and warehouses.	2/14/2017 1:13 PM
583	Manufacturing Older manufacturing plants can be repurposed. Rivers, mountains, agriculture sector tourism. Emphasis of existing equestrian facilities. Apple cider brewery.	2/14/2017 12:11 PM
584	I want to see the leadership (civic, businesses, elected officials) in Alexander County/Taylorsville come together to create a specific long range strategic plan that addresses our economy future that would give us a guide to follow. Right now we are treading water, going no where--or if some know where we are going they are not sharing that goal.	2/14/2017 11:57 AM
585	New Businesses Vacant Buildings Retraining the workforce that currently resides in Burke with technology skills is in process, jobs are available, however, the partners that have addressed this are finding that there is not a desire with the current workforce to receive the training. Public/private investment in vacant buildings has gone well in Burke and it needs to continue aggressively. In the next 10 years we are looking at a potential influx of new residents, businesses and companies. Housing, retail, services are not currently in place to provide for this type of change but the partners involves are pursuing/recruiting and creating the broad range of support for this influx so that we will be ready at the optimum time.	2/14/2017 11:51 AM
586	Manufacturing Vacant Buildings Vacant manufacturing buildings and governmental buildings	2/14/2017 11:09 AM
587	Manufacturing Vacant Buildings Vacant manufacturing plants and vacant box stores are certainly available in Burke County. Perhaps Western Piedmont Community College has the capability to help with training/re-training a workforce.	2/14/2017 11:08 AM
588	The old Alexander county hospital so many options, the old walmart. Something for the youth in the county.	2/14/2017 10:59 AM
589	Make working in the county a feasible lifestyle choice with affordable housing and training and transportation	2/14/2017 10:21 AM
590	ldk	2/14/2017 10:08 AM
591	development of toursim, hospitality	2/14/2017 9:59 AM
592	Vacant Buildings I see some vacant or previously under used plants coming back to life rather than more out of county, which is good. I also see a lack of adapting capabilities towards modernization.	2/14/2017 9:08 AM
593	Manufacturing There are a multitude of vacant properties from manufacturing in Caldwell. I could see them working into a Murray's Mill type environment, since there is no mall or other eatery/ shopping arena in that area.	2/14/2017 8:50 AM
594	It would be nice to have more entertainment and retail opportunities in Caldwell County. I drive to Burke or Catawba to see a movie or to shop (if I can't order it on Amazon). Additionally, improve the image of healthcare in the county. No one in my household of 4 has a healthcare provider (medical or dental) in the county. Even if it is not true, the perception is that Catawba County has better healthcare providers. A few large, clean and well maintained parks would be lovely. Again, both Burke and Caldwell are superior in this area.	2/13/2017 5:20 PM
595	Manufacturing I think the country is starting to go back to buying things made in America. It's actually starting to turn in to a trend which is great. With the manufacturing history of this area if that trend continues we can utilize that to our advantage. We have the infrastructure in place that a lot of other areas do not have from when there were a lot of factories operating in years past that new companies can tap in to.	2/13/2017 5:13 PM
596	New Businesses Providing access to modern facilities and a flexible workforce to fill jobs to attract new and innovative businesses. Since the private sector is no longer making the investments in their workforce like they once did, it may be time for the public sector to fill that niche.	2/13/2017 4:10 PM
597	Existing Spaces Furniture Turn vacant furniture factories into something for the younger generation to do. Skating rink, mini golf, movie theater. There is space - use it.	2/13/2017 4:09 PM
598	Furniture Vacant Buildings CVCC Alexander Furniture Academy, Alexander Industrial Park, vacant buildings (industrial and commercial), recent passing of ABC referenda, affordable land	2/13/2017 4:06 PM

Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) Survey

599	Downtown Manufacturing Built environment - renewal of vacant factories, box stores, neighborhoods specifically around downtowns Workforce - upfitting traditional manufacturing skills to adapt to new technologies through workforce development	2/13/2017 4:02 PM
600	Vacant Buildings We certainly have vacant plants and box stores.	2/13/2017 3:51 PM

Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) Survey

Q7 Does your county currently market its assets?

Q8 If you answered yes to the previous question, please give some examples of county marketing efforts.

Answered: 300 Skipped: 683

#	Responses	Date
1	General Marketing Social Media Buncombe County markets French Broad River clean ups and riverside concerts to promote water sports and environmental importance; Henderson County has a 6 mile paved walkway between public parks, tho' that's spread by word of mouth. There are enough breweries here, and no more are needed, but it seems to be a big draw since social media brought Asheville to the "Beer City, USA" spotlight a couple of years ago.	3/13/2017 8:58 AM
2	Festivals and Events Billboards, Festivals,	3/12/2017 9:02 PM
3	"Working in Burke" publication	3/12/2017 8:32 PM
4	Social Media Social media workforce development blue ridge community action agency services	3/12/2017 4:26 PM
5	local govt has a dept for economic development	3/11/2017 8:00 PM
6	Chamber of Commerce Social Media Our Chamber of Commerce in undergoing a renaissance with additional staffing especially emphasizing media know-how and tourism. Emphasis is growing on connecting with Millenials through a broad spectrum of social media, most of which I haven't a clue about.	3/11/2017 11:56 AM
7	Chamber of Commerce Programs of Caldwell County EDC; Caldwell Chamber of Commerce	3/11/2017 9:53 AM
8	Festivals and Events General Marketing Advertisements for festivals	3/11/2017 3:56 AM
9	Billboards on I-40 seem to be the current promotional focus.	3/10/2017 9:22 PM
10	General Marketing Constantly seeking and advertising to companies for surrounding areas and commnutites as well as out of state and country.	3/10/2017 8:34 PM
11	Billboard	3/10/2017 6:47 PM
12	Internet, billboards, newspapers, radio, TV	3/10/2017 5:29 PM
13	Signage new signage	3/10/2017 5:06 PM
14	Festivals and Events I know the City of Lenoir's Downtown association works hard to promote downtown businesses through beautification, events, etc.	3/10/2017 4:46 PM
15	Development of promotional materials including videos profiling our community.	3/10/2017 3:12 PM
16	Festivals and Events General Marketing The NC Career Center in Catawba does alot of events in marketing	3/10/2017 3:03 PM
17	Chamber of Commerce Chamber of Commerce and EDC tries, both need more staff	3/10/2017 2:53 PM
18	Catawba County EDC	3/10/2017 2:34 PM
19	Social Media Social media. Chamber.	3/10/2017 2:23 PM
20	General Marketing Several mediums such as newsprint, radio and local advertising	3/10/2017 2:16 PM
21	EDC works hard	3/10/2017 1:01 PM
22	Wayfinding systems, #myhky, #hickorywellcrafted	3/10/2017 12:37 PM
23	Festivals and Events billboards, TV adds, career fairs - but it could be done much more effectively	3/10/2017 12:31 PM
24	Made Magazine	3/10/2017 12:29 PM
25	General Marketing The Economic Development Corporation markets the county nationally and internationally to recruit new business and industry to the County.	3/10/2017 11:58 AM
26	THROUGH THE CHAMBER, EDC, WPCOG, MUNICIPALITIES, AND PUBLIC PRIVATE PARTNERSHIPS, AND SPECIAL PROJECTS.	3/10/2017 11:53 AM
27	Local EDC should be going this	3/10/2017 11:52 AM
28	Industrial parks, large commercial developments, opportunities for redevelopment of vacant properties	3/10/2017 11:48 AM

Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) Survey

29	EDC does this as well as the Chamber and city and county gov.	3/10/2017 11:47 AM
30	Downtown morganton	3/10/2017 11:46 AM
31	Chamber of Commerce Chamber of Commerce, CVCC, EDC	3/10/2017 11:43 AM
32	--	3/10/2017 11:40 AM
33	General Marketing I think our EDC works great attracting new industry. But it would be great to have a cohesive marketing plan for existing businesses and organizations to utilize or benefit from.	3/10/2017 11:27 AM
34	Internet, your organization, media.	3/10/2017 10:57 AM
35	General Marketing My yes is only partial. I believe the county does an adequate job advertising the outdoors/nature side, but does not focus on the other aspects.	3/10/2017 10:55 AM
36	Chamber of Commerce Chamber of Commerce and EDC	3/10/2017 10:46 AM
37	Chamber of Commerce Chamber of Commerce, Ads played at movie theater prior to movie, but these could be improved.	3/10/2017 10:26 AM
38	General Marketing Chamber and EDC appear to be making effort to market Caldwell County as a viable market for living & working.	3/10/2017 9:56 AM
39	Festivals and Events commercials, flyers, festivals	3/10/2017 9:07 AM
40	Our local paper and a local TV channel	3/10/2017 7:42 AM
41	Active Morganton Downtown assoc. and active Burke County Chamber	3/10/2017 7:05 AM
42	Na	3/9/2017 8:30 PM
43	The county has prioritized its assists to build a retirement community. There is room for attracting additional demographic groups.	3/9/2017 8:16 PM
44	Billboards, ads in publications promoting Burke as a retirement area	3/9/2017 6:42 PM
45	Town works closely with EDC as well as the chamber to promote the town and its offerings	3/9/2017 6:12 PM
46	Chamber of Commerce Newspapers Chamber of Commerce, news letters, news paper, word of mouth.	3/9/2017 5:21 PM
47	Billboards, TV Ads, Radio Ads, Internet Ads	3/9/2017 3:08 PM
48	General Marketing Bill boards,	3/9/2017 2:19 PM
49	Festivals and Events Social Media Job fairs, billboards, local news herald, social media and community events but we need more.	3/9/2017 9:28 AM
50	"Nature's Playground" signs, billboards	3/9/2017 9:11 AM
51	Chamber of Commerce The Chamber of Commerce and EDC are available with pertinent opportunities.	3/9/2017 8:46 AM
52	General Marketing TV advertising	3/9/2017 7:32 AM
53	Western piedmont community college The bean stalk journey Catawba meadows Comma Morganton, Mt view, and Valdese recreation department	3/8/2017 8:51 PM
54	Movie theater ads	3/8/2017 6:11 PM
55	internet, newspaper	3/8/2017 5:15 PM
56	General Marketing I have seen minimal marketing on billboards, usually emphasizing the lake or hiking trails.	3/8/2017 5:00 PM
57	General Marketing Signs along I40. I would like to see more advertising of our natural resources.	3/8/2017 3:08 PM
58	paper, internet	3/8/2017 2:57 PM
59	Welcome Center, Magazines, City Awards	3/8/2017 2:51 PM
60	Chamber of Commerce Chamber of Commerce work, website, video, Leadership Burke	3/8/2017 2:49 PM
61	Timber Plant nurseries Breweries	3/8/2017 2:24 PM
62	Charter Blue Ridge Health	3/8/2017 2:11 PM
63	Ex. Gateway to the Blue Ridge	3/8/2017 1:49 PM
64	General Marketing Websites with adequate information, newspaper with advertising, great internet service	3/8/2017 1:19 PM

Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) Survey

65	Breweries are highlighted with pictures in the newspaper. Our recreation facilities are currently under construction for improvements.	3/8/2017 1:07 PM
66	Festivals and Events Trail of Faith tourism and festivals.	3/8/2017 1:01 PM
67	Social Media Brochures, Social Media, Newspaper, Radio	3/8/2017 12:54 PM
68	Chamber of Commerce Chamber of Commerce Visitor Center	3/8/2017 12:29 PM
69	Main St. Morganton and Valdese both promote themselves a lot !	3/8/2017 12:16 PM
70	General Marketing There are billboards up along I-40 that advertise for tourism.	3/8/2017 12:09 PM
71	BBB and burke economic development	3/8/2017 11:44 AM
72	General Marketing The EDC does a wonderful job marketing the land that is available, and the vacant buildings that could be renovated.	3/8/2017 11:29 AM
73	Caldwell County Economic Development Commission	3/8/2017 11:20 AM
74	General Marketing Markets beautiful environmental region.	3/8/2017 11:16 AM
75	Foothills Higher Education Center, WPC	3/8/2017 11:15 AM
76	billboards, brochures, social venues	3/8/2017 11:11 AM
77	General Marketing Advertising in Marketing Magazines, Economic Development Commission that is very active, incentive packages	3/8/2017 11:08 AM
78	General Marketing billboards/advertisements	3/8/2017 10:51 AM
79	signs along the interstate	3/8/2017 10:30 AM
80	General Marketing Signage Billboards along the interstate advertise many businesses and the visitor's center. There have been new directional signage for locations of interest set up in key traffic areas.	3/8/2017 10:16 AM
81	Promotions through billboards and social networking.	3/8/2017 10:10 AM
82	billboards	3/8/2017 10:05 AM
83	Social Media I often see articles and social media regarding our community. The school system does a super job getting positive stories out.	3/8/2017 10:03 AM
84	N/A	3/8/2017 9:36 AM
85	Ed Phillips	3/8/2017 9:30 AM
86	Billboard signs along 40 in neighboring counties. Ads in free magazines.	3/8/2017 9:14 AM
87	General Marketing Signs on Burkemont Avenue that advertise the Greenway and other Morganton attractions	3/8/2017 8:59 AM
88	Festivals and Events Greenway, events in the county, schools promotion of performance	3/8/2017 8:58 AM
89	websites	3/8/2017 8:25 AM
90	Newspaper,Big Dawg radio	3/8/2017 8:23 AM
91	Billboards, tourism agency	3/8/2017 8:22 AM
92	Festivals and Events General Marketing advertisements, festivals, billboards, FB,	3/8/2017 8:20 AM
93	General Marketing The county has marketed the greenway areas.	3/8/2017 8:19 AM
94	General Marketing Billboards on the highway, marketing in magazines such as Our State, commercials on local TV and advertising on radio stations in surrounding areas such as Charlotte.	3/8/2017 8:01 AM
95	Billboards on I-40	3/8/2017 7:57 AM
96	General Marketing mailers, advertisements in newspaper, billboards	3/8/2017 7:51 AM
97	Chamber of Commerce Chamber of commerce ads tourism ads	3/8/2017 7:42 AM
98	VEDIC, Burke Dev	3/8/2017 7:21 AM
99	General Marketing Billboards, have heard of external (out of county) advertising campaigns but i have not HEARD any myself	3/8/2017 7:03 AM
100	internet, local mags.	3/8/2017 6:19 AM

Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) Survey

101	General Marketing Signage Travel and tourism are marketed via billboards, signage and online ads. Not enough marketing of our workforce and manufacturing base.	3/8/2017 6:14 AM
102	Exit 105 bridge "art" of mountains.	3/7/2017 11:21 PM
103	Catawba Meadows	3/7/2017 11:06 PM
104	Billboards along I-40, ads in magazines	3/7/2017 10:58 PM
105	billboards; Buy in Burke campaign	3/7/2017 10:03 PM
106	Regional magazines	3/7/2017 9:58 PM
107	n/a	3/7/2017 9:42 PM
108	General Marketing Seasonal Local Farmers Market	3/7/2017 9:32 PM
109	outdoor activities	3/7/2017 9:22 PM
110	Billboards	3/7/2017 9:17 PM
111	Festivals and Events Fairs, runs	3/7/2017 9:08 PM
112	General Marketing Billboards, local advertising, regional advertising, multimedia advertising, internet advertising.	3/7/2017 9:08 PM
113	Billboards, local access TV, radio, publications	3/7/2017 8:53 PM
114	Some are listed on Morganton.com	3/7/2017 8:49 PM
115	Billboards	3/7/2017 8:46 PM
116	General Marketing Marketing done through BDI.	3/7/2017 8:43 PM
117	General Marketing signs and advertising	3/7/2017 8:31 PM
118	Billboards, Chamber, brochures	3/7/2017 8:10 PM
119	Festivals and Events Lake James Real Estate Downtown Morganton and Valdese festivals Wineries and Breweries Day hiking and exploring	3/7/2017 8:06 PM
120	Billboards	3/7/2017 7:51 PM
121	General Marketing Social Media local advertising, social media	3/7/2017 7:50 PM
122	Festivals and Events festivals, greenway	3/7/2017 7:40 PM
123	NA	3/7/2017 7:39 PM
124	Updated directional signs, interstate bulletin boards	3/7/2017 7:31 PM
125	General Marketing I feel that if we marketed our county more - maybe more businesses would be interested. We market Lake James - but only the wealthy can live there.	3/7/2017 7:29 PM
126	Morganton has a brand that focuses on a small town type of feel that showcases the mountains, greenway, Catawba river, etc. This is great. Families look for these types of assets when moving to an area. I speak for my wife and myself when I say that. We like being near Morganton, but close to the Linville Gorge, Lake James, Greenway, etc.	3/7/2017 7:22 PM
127	billboards about Lake James	3/7/2017 7:13 PM
128	Festivals and Events General Marketing Job fairs, advertising	3/7/2017 7:03 PM
129	Festivals and Events Fall Festival	3/7/2017 6:57 PM
130	Festivals and Events Signage New signage around town. Chamber events.	3/7/2017 6:48 PM
131	General Marketing Radio ads, billboards along the highway. They do advertise but could do more.	3/7/2017 6:36 PM
132	Public school system represented across state.	3/7/2017 6:34 PM
133	Local paper and internet	3/7/2017 6:22 PM
134	Chamber of Commerce Newspapers Local news paper, Chamber of Commerce	3/7/2017 6:15 PM
135	Social Media Social media	3/7/2017 5:45 PM
136	Festivals and Events Tourism through the WNC wineries and breweries and local festivals are a few examples.	3/7/2017 5:41 PM
137	Social Media billboards, social media, website, email, signs, newspaper.	3/7/2017 5:40 PM

Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) Survey

138	General Marketing Facebook Advertising on radio and tv	3/7/2017 5:29 PM
139	General Marketing The county markets itself to tourists, beer enthusiasts and the schools market themselves and all the great things that are occurring in them.	3/7/2017 5:17 PM
140	General Marketing Our marketing could be much more focused and incentivized.	3/7/2017 5:16 PM
141	Billboards Flyers Facebook	3/7/2017 5:11 PM
142	Billboards, brochures, web site	3/7/2017 5:04 PM
143	web and newspaper	3/7/2017 4:12 PM
144	Social Media Billboards, social media, media	3/7/2017 12:40 PM
145	Festivals and Events Burke Tourism does a great job of highlighting Burke's assets and events.	3/7/2017 12:34 PM
146	Social Media Billboards along I-40, Hwy 181. Facebook/ Social Media, also Burke Co. has been featured in several NC based magazines (eg: Our State Magazine)	3/7/2017 12:06 PM
147	Tourism Economic Development	3/7/2017 11:43 AM
148	Chamber of Commerce Festivals and Events General Marketing Downtown Morganton sends out e-mail blasts often and the Chamber of Commerce also advertises events	3/7/2017 11:37 AM
149	Festivals and Events D2U newsletter telling events in the community, Facebook pages, emails from the chamber and News Herald	3/7/2017 11:35 AM
150	General Marketing Burke County has an app that is available and they appear to be aggressively trying to utilize technology to reach the public. Valdese has an energetic Facebook page and Morganton uses their Downtown Development marketing plan to get the word out.	3/7/2017 11:28 AM
151	Signage Web presence, signage, active development agencies	3/7/2017 11:26 AM
152	It is trying to promote tourism. They use signs and billboards.	3/7/2017 8:55 AM
153	Newspapers TGIF, Monthly coupon book, and news paper.	3/7/2017 8:44 AM
154	General Marketing Local support for the arts and marketing our natural scenic and cultural opportunities has resulted in an obvious change in the area's appearance and feel.	3/7/2017 8:40 AM
155	General Marketing Newspaper, bill boards, websites	3/6/2017 10:42 PM
156	General Marketing The Morganton area, is well publicized and marketed and includes the draw of the surrounding mountains in it's advertising but I would not say that the rest of the county is always advertised as well.	3/6/2017 1:47 PM
157	n/a	3/6/2017 1:13 PM
158	BDI is conducting a campaign to reach middle school and HS students to help them with career choices	3/6/2017 12:55 PM
159	Billboards, flyers	3/6/2017 12:35 PM
160	Inadequately; newsletter in our utility bill. Brochure in Sunday paper.	3/6/2017 12:22 PM
161	General Marketing They attempt to market local outdoor recreation facilities.	3/6/2017 11:58 AM
162	Our State, Southern Living, billboards	3/6/2017 10:23 AM
163	General Marketing They market things and embellish the results. We are attracting people here but grossly underprepared to live up to our marketing efforts.	3/5/2017 1:47 PM
164	General Marketing Markets outdoor opportunities for our beautiful area.	3/4/2017 4:49 PM
165	Communications coming out of the Tourism office mostly. More can be done.	3/4/2017 2:07 PM
166	Burke Tourism & Chamber, BDI	3/3/2017 6:08 PM
167	General Marketing Tourism marketing is our best. BDI is doing better. State Parks are improving.	3/3/2017 5:01 PM
168	General Marketing Billboards, magazine advertising....but not enough	3/3/2017 3:31 PM
169	Department of Tourism does a good job	3/3/2017 3:14 PM
170	Chamber of Commerce The Chamber of Commerce does a good job promoting the area.	3/3/2017 3:09 PM
171	Festivals and Events Multitudes of events and places to go hike, bike, or whatever. Recreational facilities open to the public and offering team sports would enhance attraction.	3/3/2017 3:02 PM

Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) Survey

172	General Marketing Billboard and magazine advertisements	3/3/2017 2:45 PM
173	Festivals and Events billboards r/t schools, print materials r/t community college offerings, Rocky Face park events in local paper/facebook etc.	3/3/2017 9:18 AM
174	There is promotion of our natural resources for hiking, biking and visiting, but I don't recall seeing much else. I would like to see a campaign around our diverse work force. I think our residents could use some positive reinforcement that they are skilled and their work is important to the sustainability of our county.	3/2/2017 10:56 AM
175	Economic Development Tourism thru local museum	3/2/2017 10:40 AM
176	Community letters	3/1/2017 6:00 PM
177	Make magazine	3/1/2017 3:21 PM
178	General Marketing We have large manufacturing companies that market their products and companies but it is still not enough because our county does not offer incentives to move people and their families here.	3/1/2017 2:52 PM
179	Social Media Social media sites	3/1/2017 1:45 PM
180	Yes within the county. But I think more efforts could be made to reach outside the county. For example what you could do if you would spend a day in Alexander County. Kind of like Southern Living does for small towns. The What's What to visit.	3/1/2017 12:52 PM
181	General Marketing The Chamber and Visitor's Center constantly market the natural resources in the county for visitors. WPCG and BCPS market the school systems.	3/1/2017 11:57 AM
182	Festivals and Events General Marketing The town of Morganton does a great job of promoting festivals, events, concerts, etc to the local population. I am not sure how much they advertise to the surrounding driveable market. I also don't know how many people visit Burke County from other areas.	2/28/2017 3:43 PM
183	TDA works to promote our tourism industry, BDI promotes buildings and sites for new opportunities to consultants across the county	2/28/2017 3:26 PM
184	Bond referendum, Chamber informational meetings, WPCG informational meetings	2/27/2017 10:06 AM
185	Paper, radio, billboards	2/27/2017 7:46 AM
186	Social Media The EDC works to promote Alexander County through a variety of media and the school system uses social media to publicize great things going on in the system.	2/26/2017 10:39 PM
187	General Marketing Social Media Social media. Marketing could be better	2/26/2017 6:03 PM
188	General Marketing Professional and aggressive marketing personnel in county	2/26/2017 4:13 PM
189	General Marketing One thing that Burke County, specifically Morganton, has done as of late is introduce several breweries downtown. These breweries are marketed locally as well as regionally in efforts to attract consumers.	2/24/2017 6:27 PM
190	Social Media Great Facebook and Social Media presence. Business Spotlight videos are cool. Website for economic development has awesome "Alexander County" video	2/24/2017 4:54 PM
191	The County has an Economic Development Association.	2/24/2017 4:45 PM
192	General Marketing Parks marketing	2/24/2017 4:35 PM
193	Business NC magazine and they seem connected to NC officials and all the local governments seem to get along - county/cities/towns.	2/24/2017 3:16 PM
194	Economic Development Corporation	2/24/2017 3:12 PM
195	Billboards, tourism center, web	2/24/2017 2:44 PM
196	Festivals and Events Apple Festival, Rocky Face Park, Apple Blossom Festival - Facebook, local TV, newspaper, radio, and flyers	2/24/2017 2:40 PM
197	The EDC office tries	2/24/2017 12:53 PM
198	Buy Local program. Promotes running and road races and Rocky Face Park.	2/23/2017 10:54 PM
199	The Hickory Well Crafted and now the new directional signs	2/23/2017 8:30 PM
200	General Marketing River walk; bond projects; chamber and hickory metro advertise	2/23/2017 7:41 PM
201	Burke Development, Inc.	2/23/2017 3:55 PM
202	General Marketing Advertising and Branding	2/23/2017 12:50 PM

Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) Survey

203	Chamber of Commerce The city of Hickory has worked extensively to brand Hickory. The Catawba Chamber of Commerce created MADE magazine.	2/23/2017 12:48 PM
204	I agree, but I feel they can and should do more!	2/23/2017 11:56 AM
205	General Marketing Hickory seems to lead the way in marketing.	2/23/2017 10:39 AM
206	The local paper does an excellent job to promote business and keep citizens informed of new opportunities.	2/23/2017 9:06 AM
207	General Marketing Social Media billboards, flyers, benches, tv, radio, social media, print publications. bus advertisements	2/22/2017 11:57 AM
208	Chamber of Commerce EDC & Chamber of Commerce do great work!	2/21/2017 6:16 PM
209	Festivals and Events Well the county and city of Taylorsville are trying to do more to involve the community by adding the Old Fashioned Christmas activity and the addition of another street Festival, but coming from NJ and being here 9 years, I feel there is more that can be done if more small businesses like tea rooms, art galleries, moderate to fine dining could be attracted to the county.	2/21/2017 2:40 PM
210	Viable Visitor Center and Economic Development efforts	2/21/2017 1:57 PM
211	General Marketing NCWorks and the Manufacturing Solutions Center have been great advertisement for our area, and they also give tours to those who are interested. Hickory.Well.Crafted has jumped on board and helped with advertising opportunities we have, and many of the chamber investors are now getting on board to work together to teach people in the community of what we have and where we need their help to grow - like with yearly classes, such as, Leadership Catawba and the Hickory Young Professionals Group.	2/21/2017 12:18 PM
212	General Marketing Trying to market entertainment and outdoor activities. Trying to keep young folks here and young families.	2/21/2017 11:57 AM
213	General Marketing I am not sure if our County markets its assets. If it does, I do not believe that it adequately markets to average residents who may be living in or moving to our County. My perception is that residents who are seeking to learn more about our County's assets need to do far to much individual research on platforms that are not very easy to navigate (i.e. outdated/less-than-optimal webpages, inaccurate search engines that encompass areas too broad) and that use language that is not easily understood by residents of all education levels.	2/21/2017 11:51 AM
214	Burke County magazine, billboards on I-40, ads and features in magazines (Our State)	2/21/2017 11:31 AM
215	General Marketing Caldwell Chamber tries to market some of the above, but more can be done in all areas and by different avenues	2/21/2017 9:56 AM
216	Chamber of Commerce General Marketing Both EDC and Chamber of Commerce work to market, tourism, entrepreneurship, and large industrial/manufacturing opportunities.	2/21/2017 8:24 AM
217	Alexander County Development Council via Twitter and FaceBook; Alexander On Line Business Directory	2/20/2017 12:10 PM
218	N/A	2/20/2017 9:50 AM
219	General Marketing Public radio, Bill board signs and magazine articles in various publications.	2/20/2017 9:22 AM
220	General Marketing Chamber/EDC advertising in publications and attending trade shows.	2/20/2017 8:39 AM
221	County website and brochures.	2/20/2017 1:03 AM
222	Social Media social media City Snippets	2/19/2017 6:15 PM
223	Chamber of Commerce Chamber of commerce and economic development commission	2/18/2017 4:13 PM
224	Festivals and Events Festivals, events, great local tv channel 190 Ccgtv!,brew and grill club is great!, Local people promote alot of the events too.	2/17/2017 6:15 PM
225	Festivals and Events Different organizations are trying provide better ways for people in this are to identify what is going on. There are more events happening here, but we are all not aware of all of the great things Hickory offers.	2/17/2017 5:18 PM
226	Facebook, Radio, etc	2/17/2017 5:04 PM
227	General Marketing There are marketing efforts in with print and electronic media but the efforts are scattered among several agencies.	2/17/2017 3:38 PM
228	Festivals and Events Social Media Cash mobs, events shared on social media by schools/churches/arts center	2/17/2017 3:30 PM
229	Social Media EDC website & social media presence, professionally produced video promoting the County, contracting with a consultant to attract retail businesses.	2/17/2017 2:58 PM
230	General Marketing bill boards, radio spots and print advertising	2/17/2017 2:30 PM

Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) Survey

231	Business magazine.	2/17/2017 12:36 PM
232	Through the Burke County web site.	2/17/2017 11:10 AM
233	Festivals and Events Apple Festival and other festivals in our county	2/17/2017 8:21 AM
234	General Marketing B86 advertising	2/17/2017 8:12 AM
235	Festivals and Events Through trade magazines and national articles. National Parks Promotion along with Lake James Summertime weekly events and shows.	2/16/2017 10:03 PM
236	General Marketing I would think we could always improve marketing.	2/16/2017 9:16 PM
237	Heads on beds.	2/16/2017 8:00 PM
238	Gary Herman, Economic Development, David Isenhour	2/16/2017 5:27 PM
239	EDC activities, local paper, and community college information in paper.	2/16/2017 5:21 PM
240	General Marketing Some are marketed via newspaper and Facebook	2/16/2017 5:06 PM
241	Development association is hopefully doing this.	2/16/2017 4:34 PM
242	General Marketing EDC Website and other EDC advertising	2/16/2017 4:28 PM
243	Charlotte Partnership community development	2/16/2017 4:07 PM
244	General Marketing Gary Herman is the only person I know marketing Alexander County. He needs a consorted group effort to assist him.	2/16/2017 4:02 PM
245	EDC efforts online and in print publications	2/16/2017 3:59 PM
246	online	2/16/2017 3:41 PM
247	Chamber of Commerce Festivals and Events General Marketing thru low level festivals & farmers markets, chamber of commerce	2/16/2017 3:24 PM
248	Festivals and Events health fairs, women's show	2/16/2017 2:58 PM
249	The Chamber and the EDC are the two main groups.	2/16/2017 1:28 PM
250	Website, PR releases, logo, open Board meetings	2/16/2017 1:13 PM
251	Website, articles in paper and on radio	2/16/2017 12:22 PM
252	billboards, online, newsletters	2/16/2017 12:08 PM
253	Chamber of Commerce Chamber of Commerce; tourism promotion	2/16/2017 10:53 AM
254	General Marketing LR university and CVCC advertise services regularly	2/16/2017 10:25 AM
255	availability of products made here in our county	2/16/2017 9:41 AM
256	economic development - recruitment of large manufacturers through grants, incentives	2/16/2017 9:09 AM
257	General Marketing nation wide, marketing	2/16/2017 8:36 AM
258	Festivals and Events General Marketing I see marketing about events in Lenoir - festivals downtown and activities at the Civic Center.... Mainly through billboards and emails	2/16/2017 8:25 AM
259	I really appreciate the Convention Center and in the past I traveled to other cities to attend various conventions but now people come here...great work!	2/16/2017 8:10 AM
260	EDC Tourism and visitors bureau	2/15/2017 10:37 PM
261	We are just beginning the strategic plan process.	2/15/2017 10:11 PM
262	on local radio	2/15/2017 8:34 PM
263	General Marketing Signs, advertising	2/15/2017 7:39 PM
264	General Marketing What about no? I never see Catawba or caldwell in The State magazine as many other counties advertise there. LR is there, gaston, meck, etc.... maybe because we do not have something to market???	2/15/2017 7:15 PM
265	General Marketing Social Media social media and print advertising	2/15/2017 6:26 PM
266	Festivals and Events General Marketing Events for Seniors are marketed very well. The Greenway & Parks are marketed. Some events are marketed, however, most are too expensive to attend. The newspaper, radio & etc. is a source of marketing.	2/15/2017 6:17 PM

Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) Survey

267	General Marketing Markets Tourism, Legion World Series, and other local attractions	2/15/2017 4:57 PM
268	The Caldwell Chamber and Economic Development Commission keeps the public informed.	2/15/2017 4:55 PM
269	IF they do i have never seen or heard it	2/15/2017 4:19 PM
270	Social Media Internet, social media, print, magazine, email.	2/15/2017 4:12 PM
271	Social Media Facebook/Instagram social media efforts.	2/15/2017 3:39 PM
272	Under the sails series, salt block opportunities, workforce solutions center, small business center.	2/15/2017 2:49 PM
273	Chamber of Commerce General Marketing The Chamber of Commerce markets our recreational place in the region. The Breweries are always marketing their products and venues including music - entertainment. The City has a digital newsletter biweekly that promotes local activities and opportunities in Burke County - focusing on the Downtown area.	2/15/2017 1:51 PM
274	Festivals and Events Social Media City and county websites, social media and newsletters Local event apps	2/15/2017 1:36 PM
275	General Marketing Furniture Market, Hospitals (Frye, Catawba), Fiber Optics...	2/15/2017 1:25 PM
276	Hickory Live. Well. Crafted Campaign. Catawba County EDC and Chamber web sites	2/15/2017 12:33 PM
277	Life, Well Crafted is effective. We need to get the message out to colleges and universities so that their graduates can receive the message.	2/15/2017 11:40 AM
278	General Marketing NOT WELL! we need to market to residents and small business (liveability!) - don't be afraid to say "hickory" or "newton" - Towns have more appeal and personality than a county.	2/15/2017 11:13 AM
279	newspaper articles, road signs	2/15/2017 11:02 AM
280	Hickory, well crafted	2/15/2017 10:46 AM
281	Chamber of Commerce Tourism, visitors center Chamber of Commerce/BDI Downtown efforts	2/14/2017 9:22 PM
282	Attempts by the chamber, EDC, and county to highlight economic development news.	2/14/2017 8:31 PM
283	Seen a video on Facebook	2/14/2017 7:37 PM
284	General Marketing The Chamber advertises al ot for tourism and re location	2/14/2017 5:45 PM
285	Social Media Burke County Tourism- I-40 Billboards, Social Media Feeds, collaboration between Trolley and Wineries/Breweries and Restaurants	2/14/2017 12:27 PM
286	Social Media Social media, work with railroad, library, and community college	2/14/2017 12:11 PM
287	I answered "YES" but I do not think they are doing an effective job. The Economic Development office does not seem to be accountable for results. IMO there's lots of "busy-ness" and "fluff." At least the CFAC committee worked to get the ABC referendum passed. Hopefully, that will begin to produce some positive efforts in the future.	2/14/2017 11:57 AM
288	The county and city work through BDI in recruiting and sustaining manufacturing/small business.	2/14/2017 11:51 AM
289	General Marketing I think our county is marketing assets through BDI and Burke County Travel and Tourism. There are billboards on I40 and several websites and facebook pages. However I think this mainly advertises Burke County as a spot for tourism. As I checked off the assets that I perceive we have in Burke County, I was pleasantly surprised to find so many. Perhaps we should do more to market these assets to businesses and industries.	2/14/2017 11:08 AM
290	Chamber of Commerce Burke County's website and the Chamber of Commerce.	2/14/2017 10:57 AM
291	The Burke Chamber Toursim Development Authority actively promotes Burke's greatest assets as Nature's Playground	2/14/2017 9:59 AM
292	General Marketing EDC marketing on Facebook and twitter	2/14/2017 9:08 AM
293	Chamber of Commerce Chamber of Commerce brochures	2/14/2017 8:19 AM
294	General Marketing I feel like Catawba County is working on branding and marketing itself, it's a work in progress.	2/13/2017 8:41 PM
295	General Marketing Well I know Catawba County does it better than any other county in this area in my opinion. With Hickory being the hub of the area, I think their efforts with marketing will catch on and help everybody in the end.	2/13/2017 5:13 PM
296	EDC	2/13/2017 4:13 PM
297	General Marketing There have been multiple marketing efforts over the past 20 years. Many seem to die on the vine. Little effort is made past a new logo and push to get everyone to see it. Only a few institutions or individuals are out on the street trumpeting for our community. And too much effort has been spent rehashing our past successes, while those same industries have left acres of abandoned buildings and moved out of the area.	2/13/2017 4:10 PM

Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) Survey

298	Social Media Local EDC promotes in newspapers and magazines, radio, social media	2/13/2017 4:06 PM
299	Through the EDC and CVB	2/13/2017 4:02 PM
300	Chamber of Commerce EDC and Chamber of Commerce do	2/13/2017 3:51 PM

Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDs) Survey

Q16 Do the municipalities within your county promote the restoration of their downtown areas?

Q17 If you answered yes to the previous question, please list the town and give examples.

Answered: 496 Skipped: 487

#	Responses	Date
1	Hendersonville developed the downtown area to include an active spring and summer entertainment venue with major street closure that does not affect the businesses who are downtown. Very business and family friendly with cool entertainment.	3/13/2017 8:58 AM
2	Lenoir Lenoir has a very active group of people who work to keep business buildings filled. No historic restoration money is available except for small flow economic facade grants	3/12/2017 9:49 PM
3	Valdesse Valdese-- festivals, community movies, health opportunities, holiday activities	3/12/2017 9:02 PM
4	Valdesse Town of Valdese....currently 2 new eating establishments are planning opening within 2 - 4 months. Local employer Meridan making sizeable investment in Valdese.	3/12/2017 8:32 PM
5	Valdesse Morgantown Valdese NC	3/12/2017 4:26 PM
6	Hildebran Hildebran--rebuilding library and senior center	3/11/2017 9:41 PM
7	Taylorsville Taylorsville. use of older/vacant buildings	3/11/2017 8:00 PM
8	Morganton Morganton has restored business buildings within the downtown area, beautification projects, etc.	3/11/2017 6:34 PM
9	Hickory Downtown hickory	3/11/2017 4:32 PM
10	Lenoir Lenoir - Renovation of downtown area Hudson - Promotion of the HUB venue Granite Falls - emphasis on downtown beautification	3/11/2017 11:56 AM
11	Lenoir City of Lenoir. Programs of Lenoir Mainstreet Town of Granite Falls also	3/11/2017 9:53 AM
12	Newton-Streetscapes Project about to begin. Newton offers grants and incentives to buy and repair older downtown buildings.	3/11/2017 8:24 AM
13	Lenoir Lenoir and Hudson	3/11/2017 6:15 AM
14	Valdesse VALDESE, awnings on old store front businesses.	3/11/2017 3:56 AM
15	Morganton Morganton does seem to encourage businesses to develop downtown. Restaurants, breweries, bakeries, etc. The problems: inadequate parking, shops close early, lighting is inadequate/unsafe, no reliable accessible public transportation...	3/10/2017 9:22 PM
16	Hickory Hickory - downtown area	3/10/2017 9:05 PM
17	Conover. All businesses Dow town are original buildings.	3/10/2017 8:59 PM
18	Hickory Lenoir Morganton Morganton and Lenoir have done a lot...Hickory has made progress	3/10/2017 8:35 PM
19	Matching grant's in maiden.	3/10/2017 8:34 PM
20	Hickory Hickory - sails on the square	3/10/2017 6:27 PM
21	Valdesse Valdese - new businesses supported, new park	3/10/2017 5:29 PM
22	Lenoir Lenoir, promotes growth and the arts	3/10/2017 5:08 PM
23	Hickory Hickory, new park, sails	3/10/2017 5:06 PM
24	Morganton Valdesse Downtown Morganton has had great vision that is now coming into reality. Valdese has a great community flavor.	3/10/2017 5:01 PM
25	Lenoir Lenoir does through its downtown association, Granite through festivals.	3/10/2017 4:46 PM
26	Conover with excellent infrastructure including sidewalks provided for over 30 years and in recent years investment in a downtown park.	3/10/2017 3:57 PM

Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDs) Survey

27	Hickory If "Somewhat" was an option to pick for question 16, I would've picked it. I live in Hickory and do see some examples of downtown restoration by the construction of facilities like the Downtown Park and one day the City Walk. But also at the same time I feel like I see several empty commercial spaces in Downtown and this makes me think differently.	3/10/2017 3:47 PM
28	Chapel Hill, apartment, condo and retail new construction continues.	3/10/2017 3:20 PM
29	Morganton Valdesse Down town Morganton and Valdese	3/10/2017 3:12 PM
30	Hickory Hickory, Connie Kincaid of HDDA does a fabulous job but needs more staff and resources.	3/10/2017 2:53 PM
31	Hickory Hickory has a Historic Society responsible for historic areas	3/10/2017 2:34 PM
32	Lenoir Lenoir engages constantly in uptown development in multiple ways.	3/10/2017 2:28 PM
33	Hickory Hickory. Encouraging businesses. Hosting events in the square. New signage	3/10/2017 2:23 PM
34	Hickory Hickory downtown	3/10/2017 2:16 PM
35	Hickory Downtown Hickory has some nice projects	3/10/2017 2:09 PM
36	Lenoir lenoir. new restaurants and businesses of all kinds coming into the downtown area.	3/10/2017 1:53 PM
37	Hickory Conover has recently announced a revitalization and Hickory has been doing so continuously for a few years.	3/10/2017 1:37 PM
38	This process would be smoother if a VC would purchase Tim Cline's holdings.	3/10/2017 1:28 PM
39	Lenoir Lenoir has done some great things such as rerouting utilities, public art, economic incentives, public venues, promoted events, etc. Hudson is starting to make a few in roads.	3/10/2017 1:21 PM
40	Hickory Hickory - Bond for Riverwalk & Citywalk Conover - Downtown Restoration	3/10/2017 1:14 PM
41	Hickory newton, hickory	3/10/2017 1:01 PM
42	Hickory Hickory, \$40M Bond and Lowes Food City Park, Z. Baker Park are examples, but they are only a beginning. And its arguable about how much is the "city" and how much citizens that make this happen.	3/10/2017 12:58 PM
43	Hickory Hickory and Winston-Salem have both been actively revitalizing downtown areas and repurposing facilities to attract different and new businesses and people to live and be active in the downtown areas	3/10/2017 12:31 PM
44	Morganton Morganton. The Mainstreet program provides grounds maintenance and opportunities for funding beautification programs.	3/10/2017 12:20 PM
45	Granite Falls downtown buildings façade initiative	3/10/2017 12:01 PM
46	Hickory Hickory - Hollar Mill, Moretz Mill, Transportation Insights	3/10/2017 11:58 AM
47	Conover Hickory HOLLAR MILLS, HICKORY, CONOVER STATION, CONOVER	3/10/2017 11:53 AM
48	Down Town Lenoir is looking good and providing places to eat and shop	3/10/2017 11:52 AM
49	Hickory Hickory - Sails on the Square, downtown park	3/10/2017 11:48 AM
50	Hickory Hickory, see uptown revitalization.	3/10/2017 11:47 AM
51	Grants to new businesses	3/10/2017 11:46 AM
52	Hickory Hickory just passed a bond referendum to spend over \$40m	3/10/2017 11:43 AM
53	grants, pocket parks, and signage	3/10/2017 11:43 AM
54	Lenoir Lenoir just finished working with DBD on new branding	3/10/2017 11:27 AM
55	Morganton Morganton downtown	3/10/2017 11:17 AM
56	Morganton. Increasing businesses in downtown	3/10/2017 11:15 AM
57	Lenoir Lenoir. Article in local paper about tearing buying and tearing down dilapidated houses.	3/10/2017 10:57 AM
58	Morganton Morganton - It has been working to reinvigorate the downtown area since I moved here in 2013.	3/10/2017 10:55 AM
59	Hickory Hickory. Renovating the old buildings.	3/10/2017 10:51 AM
60	Morganton Morganton. Bike and walking trails, Greenway, downtown benches, flowers and well kept streets and sidewalks. Keeping downtown stores filled.	3/10/2017 10:51 AM
61	Lenoir Lenoir Downtown Assoc	3/10/2017 10:46 AM

Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDs) Survey

62	Morganton Morganton, various beautification projects	3/10/2017 10:26 AM
63	Lenoir Uptown Development in Lenoir has been strengthened over time. Many events are held downtown to provide support	3/10/2017 9:56 AM
64	Morganton morganton, the whole of down town	3/10/2017 9:07 AM
65	Morganton Morganton	3/10/2017 9:07 AM
66	ON going improvements to our infra structure	3/10/2017 7:42 AM
67	Morganton Morganton, just look at the downtown.	3/10/2017 7:05 AM
68	Morganton Morganton, they have an active Merchant's Association and seem to be consistently active in improving that area.	3/10/2017 5:38 AM
69	Morganton Morganton...town hall and municipal service offices relocated to renovated factory space. Businesses and schools have made similar moves.	3/9/2017 8:16 PM
70	Morganton Morganton Main Street program local events, festival etc.	3/9/2017 6:42 PM
71	Our downtown area is full of excellent restaurants, a few bars, and unique shops.	3/9/2017 5:38 PM
72	Morganton Morganton-Beautification project	3/9/2017 3:41 PM
73	Morganton Valdesse Morganton - re-purposing buildings on East Union Valdese - planned addition to Library by re-purposing home bequeathed to the Library	3/9/2017 3:08 PM
74	Morganton Morganton Down town concerts and events.	3/9/2017 2:19 PM
75	Morganton Morganton. Courthouse, Utilization of vacant building space	3/9/2017 2:19 PM
76	Morganton Morganton	3/9/2017 2:06 PM
77	Valdesse Valdese, bringing in new businesses.	3/9/2017 12:41 PM
78	Town of Granite Falls - Facade Improvement Incentive Grant Program Downtown Wi-Fi project under development Parking for Plug-in Electric Vehicles in downtown, to be installed in Spring 2017	3/9/2017 11:58 AM
79	Morganton Morganton has a half hearted effort to promote downtown.	3/9/2017 11:52 AM
80	Morganton Morganton has added several businesses downtown to be a more inviting community.	3/9/2017 11:39 AM
81	Lenoir Façade grant programs, Projects such as "taking Lenoir to the second floor"	3/9/2017 11:36 AM
82	Morganton Downtown Morganton's appearance has improved over the years, new lighting and walkways	3/9/2017 11:32 AM
83	Unfortunately they are turning vacant businesses into breweries. Live in small town and we have 4 so far.	3/9/2017 10:33 AM
84	Brewery's, housing for elderly/retired population, restaurants and more have been recently added.	3/9/2017 9:28 AM
85	Morganton Morganton - downtown area is nice	3/9/2017 9:11 AM
86	Lenoir Lenoir has done a good job in downtown restoration with venues for entertainment and buildings.	3/9/2017 8:46 AM
87	Conover Hickory Newton I'm very proud of city of Conover and city of Newton for their streetscape plans, but I'm ready for actual progress and turning those drawings into reality!	3/8/2017 11:31 PM
88	Morganton Morganton...festivities, entertainment	3/8/2017 11:03 PM
89	Morganton Morganton - there is always a downtown development...root and vine, new breweries,	3/8/2017 8:47 PM
90	CLaremont...although some buildings on main street have been upgraded, there are not any business beside, investment & insurance with the exception of Marleys Mexican & Pizza & an almost empty building for local church quilts.	3/8/2017 6:22 PM
91	Morganton Morganton, built bike roads, new sign post	3/8/2017 6:11 PM
92	Morganton Morganton	3/8/2017 5:18 PM
93	Morganton Morganton, downtown area around courthouse square	3/8/2017 5:16 PM
94	Morganton Morganton--new street signs, improved curb appearance	3/8/2017 5:00 PM
95	Morganton Valdesse Main Street Morganton, Drexel, and Valdese	3/8/2017 3:23 PM
96	Morganton Main Street program - Morganton	3/8/2017 3:23 PM

Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) Survey

97	Morganton Morganton Many small businesses have started up in our downtown area. Just recently a bike path was created for bike enthusiast.	3/8/2017 3:20 PM
98	Morganton Valdesse Morganton downtown is constantly undergoing improvements as is Valdese.	3/8/2017 3:08 PM
99	Morganton Valdesse Morganton and valdese	3/8/2017 2:57 PM
100	downtown restoration with condos and festivals to bring attention back to downtown	3/8/2017 2:49 PM
101	There has been attempt to revitalize the downtown buildings with restaurants and breweries.	3/8/2017 1:59 PM
102	Valdesse Valdese area just brought in a Mexican food restaurant in a vacant building and it bringing in a bakery/coffee shop in a different empty building.	3/8/2017 1:56 PM
103	Valdesse Drexel is going through some upgrades of its' small down town as has Valdese.	3/8/2017 1:49 PM
104	Morganton Morganton, I feel the city has used resources to improve and bring business to the downtown area	3/8/2017 1:37 PM
105	Morganton Morganton-- updating the building uptown, making condo-apartments out of old textile buildings	3/8/2017 1:36 PM
106	Beautification is important; parking space is not.	3/8/2017 1:34 PM
107	Morganton Morganton-The City of Morganton had an old manufacturing plant restored and open up their offices there. Blue Ridge Community Action restored an old restaurant and moved their offices there.	3/8/2017 1:19 PM
108	Morganton Morganton has put a lot of work into beautifying the downtown area, complete with signaga	3/8/2017 1:13 PM
109	Valdesse Valdese seems to always be making improvements to the downtown area.	3/8/2017 1:07 PM
110	Valdesse Valdese has downtown renovation.	3/8/2017 1:01 PM
111	Morganton Morganton...new signs, new light posts, flower beds, etc.	3/8/2017 12:58 PM
112	Morganton Downtown Morganton, NC shops, restaurants, bars, breweries, cinemas, etc.	3/8/2017 12:33 PM
113	Morganton Morganton-historic homes, promotion of new business in historic downtown	3/8/2017 12:29 PM
114	Downtown revitalization programs.	3/8/2017 12:26 PM
115	Valdesse Facade projects in Valdese	3/8/2017 12:16 PM
116	Morganton Valdesse Valdese and Morganton have revitalized their downtown areas.	3/8/2017 11:44 AM
117	Flowers decorations new business support	3/8/2017 11:37 AM
118	Lenoir Lenoir and Hudson	3/8/2017 11:29 AM
119	restoration architecture.	3/8/2017 11:16 AM
120	Morganton Valdesse Valdese and Morganton are both revitalizing their downtown areas.	3/8/2017 11:15 AM
121	Morganton Morganton- new businesses have been started recently. The city has fixed the roads and painted downtown stores. Lots of plants have been planted.	3/8/2017 11:11 AM
122	Façade grants, incentive grants, free downtown WI-FI begin installed	3/8/2017 11:08 AM
123	Have been restoring and building downtown	3/8/2017 10:52 AM
124	historical sites	3/8/2017 10:51 AM
125	n/a	3/8/2017 10:35 AM
126	Morganton Morganton downtown stores such as kitchen Connection	3/8/2017 10:30 AM
127	Morganton Morganton seems to have a viable downtown business group	3/8/2017 10:30 AM
128	Morganton Morganton has restored uptown and added to the uptown area.	3/8/2017 10:27 AM
129	There is a limited number of examples. The best I can describe is an old factory was turned into businesses and apartments.	3/8/2017 10:16 AM
130	Morganton Valdesse Morganton and Valdese are reinvesting in their downtown areas with road improvements, and incentivizing businesses to relocate downtown, especially restaurants and breweries.	3/8/2017 10:10 AM
131	Morganton Valdesse Morganton does a great job with the downtown revitalization. Valdese provides loans for business relocation but no refurbishment of buildings for recruiting	3/8/2017 10:06 AM
132	n/a	3/8/2017 10:05 AM

Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDs) Survey

133	Morganton Morganton Local stores in downtown have grown in number and look nice. There are more restaurants and breweries, providing places to go for an evening out.	3/8/2017 10:03 AM
134	Morganton Valdesse They provide events that attract people to downtown - updated some of the buildings and signage and bring in more retail businesses. (Morganton and Valdesse)	3/8/2017 9:51 AM
135	Hickory Hickory	3/8/2017 9:42 AM
136	Valdesse Valdesse is consistently reclaiming existing buildings to use for new businesses.	3/8/2017 9:36 AM
137	Main St. program & grants for certain start ups	3/8/2017 9:30 AM
138	Provide grants and other subsidies to provide retail and other spaces.	3/8/2017 9:25 AM
139	Morganton The City of Morganton has done a great job in revitalizing the downtown area along with the development of a Greenway.	3/8/2017 9:22 AM
140	Morganton Morganton Festival	3/8/2017 9:20 AM
141	Hildebran Upgrade in Hildebran	3/8/2017 9:17 AM
142	Morganton Valdesse Valdesse is undergoing a small restoration and Morganton is on the try.	3/8/2017 9:14 AM
143	Hickory Hickory - upgrading the city with new walkways, expanding the 321, updating some roads, building new buildings for new businesses	3/8/2017 9:03 AM
144	Morganton Morganton downtown	3/8/2017 9:02 AM
145	Hildebran The county does, but Hildebran needs a lot of work. There is little to no progress with the exception of the new senior center. There are buildings that sit empty and the eye-sore of the burnt old HS building.	3/8/2017 8:58 AM
146	Morganton Morganton the Greenway	3/8/2017 8:56 AM
147	Morganton Morganton and Valdeese have very nice town centers.	3/8/2017 8:54 AM
148	Morganton Morganton-radio announcements	3/8/2017 8:52 AM
149	Morganton Morganton - current projects at Drexel Plant, Kimbrels Building in downtown. Rehab of the old mill building into City Hall and apartments. Mixed use of plant that currently houses Maria's Italian Eatery.	3/8/2017 8:50 AM
150	Hildebran Morganton Valdesse Downtown Morganton, Valdesse, Hildebran.....beautification but many many many vacant buildings	3/8/2017 8:50 AM
151	Morganton Valdesse Morganton and Valdesse both provide small business grants to maintain the downtown areas and attract businesses.	3/8/2017 8:42 AM
152	Valdesse Valdesse does good job	3/8/2017 8:38 AM
153	New things are going into downtown to make it more lively	3/8/2017 8:38 AM
154	Morganton Morganton - best, thriving downtown area I have seen	3/8/2017 8:37 AM
155	Morganton Morganton - Downtown Development; Historic Morganton Festival; Historic Burke Foundation	3/8/2017 8:36 AM
156	The new directional sign.	3/8/2017 8:34 AM
157	a lot of new decorative items downtown	3/8/2017 8:26 AM
158	Morganton Morganton-downtown spaces have been rented, concerts in summer	3/8/2017 8:24 AM
159	Morganton morganton, nice sidewalks, bike lanes	3/8/2017 8:24 AM
160	Hickory Hickory Station, Moretz Mills and several other places getting renovated.	3/8/2017 8:23 AM
161	Morganton Morganton- several new breweries have opened	3/8/2017 8:22 AM
162	Morganton Morganton - fixed up downtown	3/8/2017 8:19 AM
163	Lenoir Lenoir has turned buildings into Hospice care stores.	3/8/2017 8:19 AM
164	Morganton Valdesse Morganton and Valdesse both have a strong relationship for developing businesses and bringing in new businesses.	3/8/2017 8:19 AM
165	Morganton Morganton: New Fire Department, History Museum.	3/8/2017 8:17 AM
166	Morganton Morganton. Promotes and encourages downtown activities and businesses.	3/8/2017 8:15 AM
167	Morganton Morganton, NC. Our county works hard to make up grades in and around all areas.	3/8/2017 8:13 AM

Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) Survey

168	Morganton Morganton downtown is wonderful	3/8/2017 8:10 AM
169	Morganton Morganton Downtown revitalization	3/8/2017 8:09 AM
170	Morganton Downtown Morganton program and it's employees deal in events to raise money and create a community of people while planning with business owners, architects and artists on how to best preserve the historical value of downtown buildings while catering to a growing millennial population via venues and events.	3/8/2017 8:01 AM
171	Morganton Morganton - sidewalk improvements, signs, flowers, etc	3/8/2017 7:57 AM
172	festivals	3/8/2017 7:55 AM
173	more businesses and newer pubs	3/8/2017 7:51 AM
174	Valdese Valdese	3/8/2017 7:45 AM
175	Morganton Valdese Valdese downtown/parks Morganton downtown/parks	3/8/2017 7:42 AM
176	Morganton Valdese Morganton and Valdese	3/8/2017 7:41 AM
177	Morganton Morganton has a beautiful downtown area. The Historic Morganton festival and free friday night concerts bring people into downtown. There are several restaurants/breweries located in downtown.	3/8/2017 7:37 AM
178	too many people not working and taking advantage of welfare and free health care this needs to stop	3/8/2017 7:32 AM
179	Valdese Valdese - Historic Main Street Foundation, Historic Downtown Valdese, Building Re-use grants	3/8/2017 7:21 AM
180	Morganton Morganton - Festivals and revitalizing businesses; advertising at local theaters	3/8/2017 7:15 AM
181	Morganton Morganton has been renovating their downtown areas	3/8/2017 7:13 AM
182	Valdese Valdese: historic storefronts, etc..	3/8/2017 7:03 AM
183	Morganton Morganton has a nice downtown however our county areas are extremely poor.	3/8/2017 6:23 AM
184	Morganton Morganton - extensive renovations of old mill and commercial buildings.	3/8/2017 6:14 AM
185	Morganton Morganton	3/7/2017 11:46 PM
186	Morganton Morganton; grants issued to various downtown businesses	3/7/2017 11:21 PM
187	Morganton Morganton Historic District	3/7/2017 11:06 PM
188	Valdese Valdese - currently rehabbing an old building into a deli/bakery. Valdese is also adding a new Mexican restaurant - rehabbing a different building.	3/7/2017 10:58 PM
189	Opening and repurposing empty buildings downtown	3/7/2017 10:47 PM
190	Morganton Morganton downtown area well developed with restaurants movie and shopping	3/7/2017 10:43 PM
191	Morganton Valdese Morganton is promoting an upgraded rather than restored downtown. Valdese has restored and upgraded its downtown.	3/7/2017 10:21 PM
192	Morganton Morganton has a downtown development program	3/7/2017 10:07 PM
193	Valdese Valdese - murals	3/7/2017 10:03 PM
194	Morganton Morganton. Downtown building constantly repaired and kept up.	3/7/2017 9:42 PM
195	Morganton Valdese Morganton, Valdese	3/7/2017 9:31 PM
196	Morganton Morganton-Continuously rebuilding the downtown area.	3/7/2017 9:25 PM
197	Morganton Valdese Drexel is like a ghost town and sad when you drive through it. Others, like Valdese and Morganton have done a good job!	3/7/2017 9:22 PM
198	Restore older buildings	3/7/2017 9:08 PM
199	Morganton Valdese In my opinion, Morganton and Valdese do the best job at self-promotion.	3/7/2017 9:08 PM
200	Morganton Valdese Morganton is doing well downtown with the new Breweries. Valdese is trying, but outside of those two municipalities, I would say no.	3/7/2017 8:55 PM
201	Morganton Morganton: Downtown Development tax, thriving downtown, new restaurants	3/7/2017 8:53 PM
202	Morganton Valdese Morganton Valdese	3/7/2017 8:51 PM
203	Morganton Morganton. They have turned old Premier building into city offices and apartments.	3/7/2017 8:43 PM

Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) Survey

204	Morganton Morganton- active downtown revitalization	3/7/2017 8:35 PM
205	grants, newsletters and many efforts to bring people to down town	3/7/2017 8:31 PM
206	Morganton Morganton has a developing downtown with shops, resteraunts, and breweries.	3/7/2017 8:27 PM
207	Morganton Morganton. Ten years ago, I never went downtown for recreation. Now I go twice a week.	3/7/2017 8:12 PM
208	Morganton Morganton, Downtown Revitalization	3/7/2017 8:10 PM
209	Morganton Valdesse City of Morganton City of Valdese	3/7/2017 8:06 PM
210	Morganton Morganton...downtown	3/7/2017 8:03 PM
211	Morganton Morganton: restructure old buildings	3/7/2017 7:50 PM
212	Main Street program	3/7/2017 7:45 PM
213	breweries, eateries	3/7/2017 7:40 PM
214	Down town renovation	3/7/2017 7:39 PM
215	Morganton Valdesse MORGANTON has a downtown development board. Valdese also has downtown initiatives	3/7/2017 7:31 PM
216	beautification projects, owner operated businesses, bike routes, downtown is well maintied. It is the rural areas that need help.	3/7/2017 7:29 PM
217	Morganton Morganton, downtown renovation	3/7/2017 7:27 PM
218	Morganton Morganton	3/7/2017 7:26 PM
219	Reuse of warehouses and buildings. Town festivals and use of town square for entertainment	3/7/2017 7:25 PM
220	Valdesse Valdese has been promoted as a Historic town and work has been completed for beautification purposes.	3/7/2017 7:24 PM
221	Morganton morganton has done a great job with this promotion. downtown is very welcoming and easy to navigate.	3/7/2017 7:22 PM
222	Morganton Burke - Downtown Morganton. Still many businesses and reasons to go down there - courthouse still there and functioning.	3/7/2017 7:13 PM
223	Valdesse Valdese-refurbishing buildings for restaurants. murals.	3/7/2017 7:04 PM
224	Valdesse Valdese, concert in the park, waldensian festival	3/7/2017 7:03 PM
225	Morganton Morganton, town hall	3/7/2017 6:56 PM
226	Morganton Blowing Rock. The chamber and town consistently host festivals and events. Morganton. Downtown use the courthouse area for tgif events and there is the historic downtown festival.	3/7/2017 6:48 PM
227	Morganton Morganton, Main Street renevation.	3/7/2017 6:43 PM
228	Valdesse Valdese NC actively supports the businesses on main street and have given financial support to renovate buildings so a business can use it.	3/7/2017 6:36 PM
229	Morganton Morganton Breweries Restaurants	3/7/2017 6:34 PM
230	Morganton Morganton. Downtown is a business hub.	3/7/2017 6:22 PM
231	Morganton Morganton. Downtown shops, restaurants, and breweries havr all opened up in recent years. There are some grants people can get to open businesses downtown.	3/7/2017 6:19 PM
232	Morganton Morganton. Main Street	3/7/2017 6:13 PM
233	Morganton Morganton is doing a fine job keeping the downtown alive	3/7/2017 6:05 PM
234	Morganton Morganton- historic downtown	3/7/2017 6:02 PM
235	Old Court House	3/7/2017 6:01 PM
236	Hildebran Hildebran is building a new library	3/7/2017 5:55 PM
237	Morganton Morganton	3/7/2017 5:52 PM
238	New storefronts, with businesses. Apartment living above businesses Parks and recreation	3/7/2017 5:50 PM
239	Valdesse Valdese	3/7/2017 5:43 PM
240	Revitalized downtown and restored historic courthouse are two examples.	3/7/2017 5:41 PM

Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) Survey

241	Morganton Morganton They have in the last 20 year plan restored the trading area and the apartments and stores across the street. They have revitalized the vacant stores in some areas such as Rural King. One area that really needs to be looked at is the Carbon City Road. It is an eyesore. The buildings are rundown and the sidewalk leading to the Greenway is dangerous. There also needs to be a sidewalk from the KFC to Hardees in front of Freedom High. There is nowhere to walk there until you arrive at the Freedom park. While I realize this is not the downtown area-It is an area that needs great improvement.	3/7/2017 5:40 PM
242	Morganton ..have noticed new "Morganton Downtown" signs appearing throughout city limits	3/7/2017 5:35 PM
243	Morganton Morganton has taken the opportunity to bring in more local fare in restaurants and arts.	3/7/2017 5:32 PM
244	Morganton Morganton	3/7/2017 5:29 PM
245	Newton refurbished the old post office for a theater	3/7/2017 5:23 PM
246	Morganton Morganton has newer businesses that provide more entertainment for different age groups.	3/7/2017 5:22 PM
247	For the wealthy so they can walk to the breweries and get drunk and not have to drive.	3/7/2017 5:17 PM
248	Morganton Morganton, and restoration of the downtown areas	3/7/2017 5:17 PM
249	Morganton Valdesse Morganton and Valdesse primarily.	3/7/2017 5:16 PM
250	Morganton Valdesse Downtown revitalization programs Morganton and Valdesse.	3/7/2017 5:13 PM
251	Morganton Valdesse Morganton and Valdesse- flowers, businesses, lights	3/7/2017 5:13 PM
252	Morganton Morganton. Restoration of courthouse, museums, downtown historic homes and storefronts.	3/7/2017 5:13 PM
253	Downtown Revitalization projects	3/7/2017 5:09 PM
254	Morganton Morganton - incentives given to open business downtown	3/7/2017 5:07 PM
255	Zahra Baker park and new downtown park.	3/7/2017 5:05 PM
256	Morganton Valdesse Morganton Valdesse	3/7/2017 5:04 PM
257	Morganton Morganton	3/7/2017 5:03 PM
258	Always offering incentives trying to get new businesses in the uptown area	3/7/2017 4:07 PM
259	Hickory Hickory is investing money in its downtown through its new greenway and park.	3/7/2017 1:37 PM
260	Morganton Morganton...old courthouse, other businesses	3/7/2017 12:34 PM
261	Revived store fronts, more shops opening within the Downtown area.	3/7/2017 12:06 PM
262	some converting warehouse and factory space into apartments and retail	3/7/2017 11:55 AM
263	Valdesse Valdesse	3/7/2017 11:43 AM
264	A grant has just been awarded to Smitty Bolick to help restore a building on main street in Conover.	3/7/2017 11:42 AM
265	Morganton Downtown Morganton	3/7/2017 11:38 AM
266	Morganton Somewhat in downtown Morganton = can do better to help keep vacant buildings filled by offering small business incentives - work with landlords, etc.	3/7/2017 11:37 AM
267	Planting flowers, decorating for the holidays, painting, new landscaping	3/7/2017 11:35 AM
268	Burke County Turned old historic buildings into useful office space/housing. Burke County.	3/7/2017 11:34 AM
269	Morganton Valdesse Valdesse - Very aggressive of business recruitment and event promotion Morganton - Revitalized downtown Morganton, particularly attracting younger people because of the breweries	3/7/2017 11:28 AM
270	Morganton Just look at downtown Morganton. Excellent support from the City	3/7/2017 11:26 AM
271	Mainstreet organization	3/7/2017 11:19 AM
272	Morganton Morganton, NC There have been new businesses such as restaurants and retail added to our downtown area.	3/7/2017 10:05 AM
273	Morganton Morganton, downtown development, downtown hotel grant, repurposing buildings, Reimagining Broughton incorporates connection with downtown	3/7/2017 9:38 AM
274	Morganton Morganton-money raised to renovate The Community House Road signs created to identify resources in the area	3/7/2017 9:07 AM

Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) Survey

275	Valdesse Valdese- trail of faith, fixing up older buildings or making a memorial to them. Still using historic buildings and keeping them in good condition...The Old Rock School.	3/7/2017 9:03 AM
276	Morganton Morganton has signs up to promote tourism and has changed the street signs.	3/7/2017 8:55 AM
277	Preservation of several historic homes, bicycle lanes	3/7/2017 8:44 AM
278	Morganton Morganton -- many small businesses seem to be successful as downtown area has worked hard to remain vibrant during years of low economy.	3/6/2017 6:14 PM
279	Morganton Morganton, Downtown structures are not vacant and have thriving business. On the down side, some of these only last a year.	3/6/2017 3:19 PM
280	Morganton Downtown Morganton has had a lot of new businesses/restaurants open within the last couple years. The Community House located in downtown was recently renovated outside with donated funds.	3/6/2017 3:00 PM
281	Morganton Morganton has recruited many new businesses to the downtown area that encourage more frequent visits by population and yet maintains a hometown feel.	3/6/2017 1:35 PM
282	Hickory Occupying The Square stores in Hickory	3/6/2017 1:13 PM
283	Rutherfordton is marketing outdoor recreation, recycling, and branding using new logos	3/6/2017 12:55 PM
284	Morganton Morganton - converted old mill into county offices and restaurant	3/6/2017 12:35 PM
285	Restoration of mills such as Hollar Mill.	3/6/2017 12:25 PM
286	Mill area downtown has been revitalized. New shops, etc.	3/6/2017 12:22 PM
287	Morganton Morganton - all the new businesses in downtown and concerts on the square.	3/6/2017 12:20 PM
288	Morganton Morganton. They promote, but I don't think they do it well. Many of us can't afford the restaurants, bakeries, galleries, or shops downtown. In addition, I have NO interest in breweries.	3/6/2017 12:18 PM
289	Morganton Morganton, what more is there to say.	3/6/2017 11:58 AM
290	Hickory Hickory	3/6/2017 11:31 AM
291	Each of our towns have done a tremendous job of "downtown revitalization."	3/6/2017 11:08 AM
292	Morganton Morganton - vibrant downtown with shops, restaurants, breweries although limited hours open	3/6/2017 10:23 AM
293	Morganton Morganton has done a great job over the years to keep downtown relevant. Must look for opportunities for new businesses to be able to afford to be in downtown.	3/6/2017 10:10 AM
294	Morganton Morganton--lots of development over the past few years	3/6/2017 10:00 AM
295	Valdesse Valdese Main Street Program	3/6/2017 9:50 AM
296	some areas have been modernized, but many vacant office spaces exist in downtown area.	3/4/2017 4:49 PM
297	Town of Rutherford College. We do not have a defined downtown area but we're dedicated to preserving our history through the R C Historical Society and the many artifacts kept in our history display.	3/3/2017 7:35 PM
298	Morganton State recognized Morganton Mainstreet Program, City 2030 Plan& Zone ordinance update success	3/3/2017 6:08 PM
299	Morganton Valdesse Both Morganton and Valdese have active promotional agencies.	3/3/2017 5:01 PM
300	Lenoir Granite Falls- building was renovated for brewery. Lenoir- several new restaurants in renovated spaces downtown.	3/3/2017 3:41 PM
301	Conover very business oriented and progressive.	3/3/2017 3:33 PM
302	Morganton Valdesse Morganton - Morganton Downtown Revitalization project; Morganton Downtown Development Association; Main Street projects Valdese - Small Town Main Street	3/3/2017 3:31 PM
303	Morganton Morganton	3/3/2017 3:15 PM
304	Morganton Valdesse Morganton, constantly revitalizing Valdese, revitalizing	3/3/2017 3:14 PM
305	Morganton Morganton	3/3/2017 3:09 PM
306	Hickory Hickory Downtown needs help. It appears private entities own blocks of buildings and the area is not laid out well to attract anything other than alcoholic consumption...that appears to be the theme of all of our "towns".	3/3/2017 3:02 PM
307	Morganton Morganton - Billboards and magazine ads	3/3/2017 2:45 PM
308	Morganton Morganton, NC Breweries, theater, concerts on the square it is an active downtown area	3/3/2017 2:28 PM

Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDs) Survey

309	Hickory Hickory, recent renovation of vacant mill facilities, improvement to infrastructure and planning for future City Walk	3/3/2017 2:21 PM
310	Hiddenite: new eatery, new gas station, enhanced visitor center and museum, playground facility at elementary school	3/3/2017 9:18 AM
311	I've seen areas restored or re-purposed, but I'm not aware of any "active promotion"	3/2/2017 10:56 AM
312	Troutman NC, revitalization of parks and walkways	3/1/2017 6:00 PM
313	Taylorsville Taylorsville	3/1/2017 3:27 PM
314	Buildings on 127 and LR BLVD	3/1/2017 3:21 PM
315	By restoring old run down building to make them into different types of things.	3/1/2017 2:58 PM
316	Conover Hickory Conover - newly built Conover Station and park Newton - downtown association hickory - restoring some old, unused properties into newly thriving businesses	3/1/2017 1:45 PM
317	Morganton Valdesse Morganton-look for good fit for downtown store fronts. Town of Valdese-look for good fit for downtown store fronts, new park being built.	3/1/2017 11:57 AM
318	Morganton Morganton	2/28/2017 9:29 PM
319	There is a current plan to restore a lot of the former Broughton Hospital Buildings.	2/28/2017 3:43 PM
320	Morganton Valdesse Morganton with 10 year plan, Valdese with re-development of property	2/28/2017 3:26 PM
321	All municipalities have spent more than its fair share to promote downtown.	2/28/2017 10:37 AM
322	Hickory Hickory downtown	2/28/2017 8:49 AM
323	Burke	2/27/2017 9:32 AM
324	Several shops have opened again on Main Street, such as Merchants on Main and The Music Store.	2/26/2017 7:16 AM
325	Taylorsville Taylorsville,NC	2/25/2017 10:15 PM
326	New designs and marketing business opportunities	2/24/2017 6:47 PM
327	Morganton Morganton- the implementation of breweries, restaurants, and shops to attract community members as well as tourists to come to the area.	2/24/2017 6:27 PM
328	The Downtown Development Association works very hard to promote downtown. We have won several awards for the restoration of downtown. Specifically, the Premier Hosiery Mill was turned into high end apartments and city hall several years ago.	2/24/2017 6:07 PM
329	Morganton Morganton: Has promoted the restoration of the Old Courthouse on the town square, has provided for the enhancement of downtown through the opening of breweries and other restaurants.	2/24/2017 5:33 PM
330	Taylorsville Taylorsville has partnered with NC Dept. of Commerce to offer businesses Building Reuse grants.	2/24/2017 4:45 PM
331	Hickory Hickory	2/24/2017 4:35 PM
332	Hickory Hickory -- walkway in process	2/24/2017 3:26 PM
333	Hickory Hickory - the public/private partnerships to fix up the old mills near downtown and the city's improvements to downtown with a stage with original music and other events.	2/24/2017 3:16 PM
334	Morganton Valdesse Morganton, Valdese. I live in Valdese. We are using existing old buildings in downtown for restaurants (100 Main & new Mexican restaurant coming to town). Also local stores, thrift shops, etc.	2/24/2017 2:44 PM
335	Taylorsville Downtown Taylorsville has very few old buildings that are not in use today	2/24/2017 2:42 PM
336	Lenoir Lenoir, I believe they offer incentives to businesses locating to the area	2/24/2017 12:53 PM
337	The old Court house is now a museum and the downtown is kept up to keep it's small town feel, especially during Christmas.	2/23/2017 10:28 PM
338	Hickory Hickory - the downtown area and older buildings	2/23/2017 8:30 PM
339	Hickory Hickory- Sails; new downtown playgrounds	2/23/2017 7:41 PM
340	Hickory Hickory	2/23/2017 7:28 PM
341	Hickory The sails in downtown Hickory are available but an indoor swimming pool would have been much better.	2/23/2017 6:52 PM
342	Morganton Valdesse Morganton, Valdese	2/23/2017 3:55 PM

Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) Survey

343	Hickory To some degree in Hickory; but never enough.	2/23/2017 3:19 PM
344	Hickory Hickory. They have focused on grants for some of the unused buildings.	2/23/2017 12:48 PM
345	Morganton Valdesse Morganton Yes - Valdesse Yes, The others are trying but don't have the resources or traffic flow.	2/23/2017 11:56 AM
346	Statesville and Troutman both made tremendous investments in downtown appeal.	2/23/2017 11:53 AM
347	Hickory Hickory- activities on the square, city walk, and Friends of Hickory (private investments) into the downtown park. Hollar Mill, Moretz Mill, and T1 restoration projects.	2/23/2017 10:39 AM
348	Newton-- Ribbon cutting events and festivals in the downtown corridor	2/22/2017 4:41 PM
349	Newton downtown has brought in business, has 2 performance venues, adequate parking and keeps its downtown clean and safe. It is now home to the Foothills Folk Art Festival.	2/22/2017 1:58 PM
350	Hickory Hickory and Newton are Mainstreet Communities.	2/22/2017 1:11 PM
351	Conover Hickory Newton City of Newton has gotten grants for restoration as well as brining new businesses into the downtown area.	2/22/2017 7:58 AM
352	Newton	2/22/2017 3:35 AM
353	Newton Newton seems to be investing and publicizing its downtown restoration plans effectively.	2/21/2017 6:16 PM
354	Morganton Valdesse Festivals Morganton, Valdesse	2/21/2017 2:41 PM
355	See above, but more can be done. I watched two communities start as a farmers community and manufacturing blue collar community turn their downtown areas into magnificent opportunities for tourism.	2/21/2017 2:40 PM
356	Hickory Hickory, Claremont, Newton Conover	2/21/2017 12:45 PM
357	Hickory Hickory. The Sails, the new kids park, the new signage downtown. Lots of examples.	2/21/2017 12:37 PM
358	Conover Hickory Newton City of Hickory, City of Claremont, Town of Catawba, Downtown Newton, and Conover, are all focused on the Innovate Catawba Idea - of growing and giving our community a chance to thrive, by utilizing and revitalizing the current businesses and positives we have to work with in our areas.	2/21/2017 12:18 PM
359	Hickory Always marketing events in downtown Hickory. Newton is beginning to start marketing itself as well.	2/21/2017 11:57 AM
360	Hickory Newton, Conover, and Hickory have all seen rehabilitation projects in vacant mills and former manufacturing plants, as well as former railway depots. However, there are many older buildings that help to characterize all of these downtown areas that remain vacant and outdated.	2/21/2017 11:51 AM
361	Morganton Morganton - participation in the NC Main Street program, numerous revitalized buildings downtown which are occupied by businesses and/or residential uses	2/21/2017 11:31 AM
362	Conover; free wifi downtown, greenway walking paths, new sidewalks, downtown buildings cleaned up and repainted, old manufacturing plant re-purposed, new development downtown, promotion of small businesses.	2/21/2017 10:21 AM
363	Lenoir Lenoir - encouraging business within downtown area	2/21/2017 9:56 AM
364	Lenoir Lenoir, Granite Falls, Hudson	2/21/2017 8:24 AM
365	Lenoir Lenoir does a good job of bringing business to the uptown area.	2/20/2017 8:16 PM
366	Lenoir Lenoir, promotes area with special events, especially cars shows once a month, around 2000 people view this event.	2/20/2017 3:43 PM
367	Lenoir there has been a lot of downtown revitalization in the city of Lenoir over the last 10 years	2/20/2017 2:30 PM
368	Newton Newton is doing a downtown plan to make streets walkable and adding bike lanes.	2/20/2017 11:47 AM
369	Morganton Morganton - downtown district	2/20/2017 9:50 AM
370	Lenoir Lenoir, downtown square veterans memorial and officer down memorial.	2/20/2017 9:24 AM
371	Lenoir Lenoir, side walks, Street lights, stage in the downtown area for gathering and concerts, music is played in the open areas that can be heard as some one is walking, strong effort is made to invite new business to the down town area	2/20/2017 9:22 AM
372	Newton, creating a sense of place, increased walkability, bringing restaurants/retailers to downtown as well as the arts.	2/20/2017 9:08 AM
373	Lenoir Lenoir has placed lots of time and money into the rejuvenation of the downtown area. They have redone sidewalks, used signs, and used monuments.	2/20/2017 8:59 AM

Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) Survey

374	Lenoir Lenoir- all utilities have been placed underground. Façade grants. Working to attract residential development on the 2nd floor. Beautification efforts with plantings and trees.	2/20/2017 8:39 AM
375	Hickory Hickory - Sails on the Square and new directional signs Conover - Manufacturing Solutions Center and new signs for downtown	2/19/2017 6:15 PM
376	Lenoir Lenoir has grown beautifully over time, even in my life (25 years) I would love to see more opportunities to make a different for our forgotten populations (homeless, lack of affordable housing or employment, and seniors without support)	2/18/2017 6:06 PM
377	Lenoir Lenoir-downtown revitalization	2/18/2017 4:13 PM
378	Lenoir Lenoir has spent a ton of money downtown and it looks better than it used to. Wish there were more businesses, restaurants, and entertainment opportunities.	2/18/2017 3:51 PM
379	There hasn't been anything new lately, but there have been a brewery and a wine shop opened in the past couple years	2/18/2017 9:07 AM
380	Hickory In Hickory the Moretz building on LR blvd, Hollar Mills restorations and Transport Insight.	2/18/2017 3:29 AM
381	Lenoir Lenoir	2/17/2017 6:15 PM
382	There are great ideas like the "city walk, Walking track/Boardwalk," but I haven't heard when it is supposed to start. A little more could be done to promote the "happenings" in our downtown area.	2/17/2017 5:18 PM
383	Lenoir Lenoir. Our little downtown is doing well but could use more businesses and walking traffic. Not sure what that city is doing to promote business growth.	2/17/2017 4:32 PM
384	Lenoir Lenoir - significant emphasis from local government; little interest from private sector	2/17/2017 4:30 PM
385	Lenoir Lenoir-National Register Historic District; National Main Street certified community; just developed an excellent brand for downtown with multiple stakeholder participation.	2/17/2017 3:38 PM
386	Lenoir Lenoir	2/17/2017 3:28 PM
387	Lenoir Lenoir. Existing Main Street and economic development programs.	2/17/2017 2:24 PM
388	Town square landscaping	2/17/2017 1:58 PM
389	Lenoir Lenoir and other municipalities with Caldwell County are trying, with limited resources, to restore their downtown areas, but it is very difficult without retail establishments and entertainment venues to draw families there.	2/17/2017 1:49 PM
390	Newton Newton is planning for growth of youth and not a lot for baby boomers.	2/17/2017 12:36 PM
391	Newton-new business filling empty store fronts.	2/17/2017 12:22 PM
392	Morganton Valdesse Morganton and Valdese have both engaged in revitalization projects. These projects have both towns more welcoming to all.	2/17/2017 11:10 AM
393	In the past couple years, more business are utilizing space such as empty buildings on main street. Tearing down of falling structures, replacing old trees that are hazards and beautifying the town.	2/17/2017 10:25 AM
394	Hickory Hickory did upgrade Union Square a year or two ago adding the sails.	2/17/2017 8:31 AM
395	Taylorsville businesses are coming back to downtown Taylorsville	2/17/2017 8:21 AM
396	Statesville Downtown revitalization.	2/17/2017 7:57 AM
397	Union Square, Hickoy	2/17/2017 7:49 AM
398	New restaurants, businesses	2/17/2017 7:38 AM
399	Hickory Hickory Hollar and Moretz Mills	2/16/2017 11:28 PM
400	Morganton Morganton City Hall is located in a restored building The Old Railroad Depot is full of businesses. Rural King just remodeled and to open soon in the Old Walmart Building. Several on-going businesses have remodeled and continue to do business there from Car parts Manufacturing to furniture manufacturing, etc.	2/16/2017 10:03 PM
401	Lenoir Lenoir Downtown restoration. Improved landscaping.	2/16/2017 9:16 PM
402	Hickory Hickory- new privately funded park. I do not understand why tax dollars support marketing (DDA) for a place with so many vacant buildings.	2/16/2017 8:00 PM
403	Building new downtown park.	2/16/2017 5:21 PM
404	Taylorsville Taylorsville - Alexander County Government Center going in old bank and Merchants on Main in old YMCA..	2/16/2017 5:18 PM

Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) Survey

405	park being cleared in downtown	2/16/2017 4:34 PM
406	Conover Conover Station in Conover	2/16/2017 4:27 PM
407	I am referring to Alexander County.	2/16/2017 4:02 PM
408	Development of a downtown park is the latest example.	2/16/2017 3:59 PM
409	Lenoir Downtown Lenoir Business Assoc. Hudson Uptown Building	2/16/2017 3:24 PM
410	Hickory Hickory redoing the old mills	2/16/2017 2:58 PM
411	Lenoir Lenoir, Granite Falls, and Hudson	2/16/2017 1:28 PM
412	Internet service is very high in this area. There are a lot of small towns in the area that need a face lift, businesses, etc. Look first at Maiden. It's a dump.	2/16/2017 1:14 PM
413	Hickory Hickory...love the Mill and the new restaurants and shops	2/16/2017 12:08 PM
414	Morganton Morganton updating buildings and sidewalks. Encourages new businesses downtown.	2/16/2017 11:11 AM
415	Hickory Hickory with Transportation Insight building, Moretz Mills and Hollar Mills.	2/16/2017 11:08 AM
416	Hickory Hickory, recently renovated Hollar Mill, Moretz Mill and another factory	2/16/2017 11:07 AM
417	Morganton City of Morganton Main Street program	2/16/2017 10:53 AM
418	Hollar Mill, Insight	2/16/2017 10:46 AM
419	Hickory Newton Hickory - proposed riverwalk Newton doing a plan, but it must be implimented	2/16/2017 10:46 AM
420	Main Street programs provide limited funding for building façade restoration	2/16/2017 10:39 AM
421	Hildebran Valdesse Valdese has made improvements to downtown area. Hildebran is a total disgrace to the community as no renovations have been made to old High School building since the fire. The gym is closed which was used for youth recreation sports, the pool has not been repaired/reopened, tennis courts are in shambles. These are total opposites to Valdese facilities in same county. Town of Hildebran needs to look at what Valdese has developed for citizens.	2/16/2017 10:37 AM
422	Conover Hickory Newton City of Newton Revitalization	2/16/2017 10:36 AM
423	Hickory downtown Hickory - continues to maintain a variety of shops and restaurants	2/16/2017 10:25 AM
424	Hickory Hickory - Moretz Mills and Transportation Insight	2/16/2017 10:07 AM
425	Newton, new businesses being added	2/16/2017 9:46 AM
426	Newton, repurposing of old buildings such as the old textile plants for new businesses	2/16/2017 9:41 AM
427	Taking vacant buildings and restoring them for businesses such as restaurants and gyms	2/16/2017 9:24 AM
428	Hickory Hickory; union station area	2/16/2017 9:22 AM
429	Hickory Hickory - most of the buildings downtown are occupied, at least on the lower level	2/16/2017 9:09 AM
430	Hickory Hickory, Newton	2/16/2017 9:05 AM
431	Lincolnton, Named 9th in the nation for the preforation of its downtown and historical sites.	2/16/2017 8:36 AM
432	Hickory Hickory, just finished the park, the Sails, etc...	2/16/2017 8:31 AM
433	Hickory Hickory - updating Downtown Hickory	2/16/2017 8:20 AM
434	Hickory Hickory and Newton	2/16/2017 8:20 AM
435	Hickory The Sails in Hickory have become a central location for many events.	2/16/2017 8:10 AM
436	Conover Conover Station	2/16/2017 8:05 AM
437	Hickory Hickory - recent improvements to water and sewer improvements downtown.	2/16/2017 8:04 AM
438	Hickory Hickory Newton Conover	2/15/2017 10:37 PM
439	Hickory Hickory Newton Conover, seem to be do a lot more in this area over last 5 years.	2/15/2017 10:11 PM
440	Hickory moretz mill, hickory	2/15/2017 8:34 PM
441	Morganton Morganton. Some downtown housing, but not enough affordable housing for the elderly on fixed incomes.	2/15/2017 7:39 PM

Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) Survey

442	Hickory Lenoir Morganton Hickory, granite falls, and lenoir have all either begun or tried to in the past. Hickory's plan is great if they will spy get on the stick. Has taken too long and the momentum seems lost. In granite and hudson they have refurbished a few factories to make eateries and other minor businesses, Lenoir seems to have given up although in the summer their drive in and festivals do bring a large crowd. Morganton similiar to lenoir.	2/15/2017 7:15 PM
443	Hickory hickory and conover - re-use of abandon factories	2/15/2017 6:26 PM
444	Newton has done some face lifts but sure does need a lot more done. Some of the old buildings need to be restored or torn down & allow new business to come in & be able to not have to pay excessive taxes & insurance on employees.	2/15/2017 6:17 PM
445	They tore down a couple of buildings.	2/15/2017 5:19 PM
446	Newton - I'm aware of Newton trying to shake things up through their DDA. Seems like a hustle and bustle happening there.	2/15/2017 5:13 PM
447	Newton newton sidewalk plans	2/15/2017 5:07 PM
448	Hickory Hickory - downtown farmers market, Sails, and façade improvements	2/15/2017 5:00 PM
449	Lenoir Lenoir. Attractive street lamps & signs, planting of white crepe myrtles approaching town from east, attractive restaurants in vacant buildings, flower planters on sidewalks, some apartments in business buildings, etc.	2/15/2017 4:55 PM
450	Newton Newton is starting its 5-year master plan.	2/15/2017 4:47 PM
451	Lenoir Lenoir- Downtown Lenoir has been remodeled in recent years, providing for more businesses and entertainment oppurtunities	2/15/2017 4:44 PM
452	Morganton Morganton - All downtown	2/15/2017 4:44 PM
453	Farmers Mkt downtown.	2/15/2017 4:31 PM
454	Conover Newton-Downtown Development Association Conover-Conover Station	2/15/2017 4:27 PM
455	Newton I have heard Newton is planning this. I woudl like to see Conover to plan this as well but have not yet heard that this is in the works.	2/15/2017 4:19 PM
456	Conover Hickory Newton I see a lot of restoration in downtown Newton, i am not sure if that is a natural demand or if the city has had some planning involved in it.	2/15/2017 4:19 PM
457	Hickory Hickory	2/15/2017 4:16 PM
458	Lenoir Lenoir and Newton are both going through main street programs to help revitalize their downtown areas. Lenoir has new restaurants and stores, one that received a grant to remodel the entrance.	2/15/2017 4:16 PM
459	Conover - Restored the old Worlong Glove mill and it now housed a branch of the County Library and other things.	2/15/2017 4:15 PM
460	Claremont. They try to maintain sidewalks in all areas and encourage the use of them with various community activities. Needs more focus on old buildings and bringing business to those buildings.	2/15/2017 4:12 PM
461	Hickory Hickory and Newton renovated several older vacant buildings which have been turned into restaurants or venues. Friends of Hickory recently completed their new park in the downtown Hickory area.	2/15/2017 3:39 PM
462	Hickory Downtown Hickory has had many facelifts. Stage areas for bands, and has attracted local owned businesses to have a presence there.	2/15/2017 3:33 PM
463	Hickory Hickory does and newton is working on it. Hickory has invested in under the sails and the farmers market. But it seems that it's up to individuals to make downtown better. That isn't how it should be. The county needs to incentivise downtown development. And work on getting all of the ownership out of the hands of certain individuals who could care less about Hickory's economic growth.	2/15/2017 2:49 PM
464	Grants for local businesses to upgrade or preserve. Yannis porch upstairs - the new coming cocktail bar and Fonta Flora brewery.	2/15/2017 1:51 PM
465	Hickory Hickory downtown dev assoc Newton ddamore is needed	2/15/2017 1:36 PM
466	Hickory Hickory, grants for remodeling and development in town.	2/15/2017 1:25 PM
467	Hickory Downtown Hickory has invested in sails on the square and better lighting downtown as well as three-hour parking instead of confusing 1 to 2 hour parking areas.	2/15/2017 12:33 PM
468	Hickory Hickory - friends of hickory park. City walk bond project.	2/15/2017 11:53 AM
469	Moretz Mill, Hollar Mill, Transportation Insight Building	2/15/2017 11:40 AM

Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) Survey

470	Hickory Somewhat - but only when led by the private sector - When an investor comes in Hickory city adequately supports restoration - but i believe the city needs to lead more in this and provide incentives upfront	2/15/2017 11:13 AM
471	Hickory Hickory - vacant building restoration grants.	2/15/2017 10:46 AM
472	Hickory Hickory. Very nice downtown. Few vacant spaces. Good events.	2/15/2017 10:42 AM
473	Hickory Hickory's sails at Union Square, downtown shops and restaurants, events. Newton's Folk Art Festival downtown was great; I hope it continues.	2/15/2017 10:21 AM
474	Morganton Downtown Morganton specifically has seen a lot of restoration in the changing dynamic of businesses coming into downtown. There are now three breweries located downtown.	2/15/2017 9:57 AM
475	Morganton Morganton, bringing breweries and other businesses into the downtown area.	2/15/2017 9:24 AM
476	Hickory The city of Hickory has the Downtown Development Association which aims to fill building vacancies downtown as well as planning community events in the downtown area.	2/15/2017 9:04 AM
477	Morganton Morganton Morganton savings bank Courthouse square	2/14/2017 9:22 PM
478	Growing with development of City Walk, interest to see how we can spur similar connectivity and development outside of specific track planned for (Ridgeview, connectivity to neighborhoods/FRMC)	2/14/2017 8:31 PM
479	Taylorsville Taylorsville	2/14/2017 7:37 PM
480	Claremont. Town leaders are encouraging to small business owners to utilize Main Street buildings.	2/14/2017 6:02 PM
481	Morganton MOrganton-We have many local businesses and restaurants downtown. They are locally owed. The City also host many events including Art walks, festivals, and holiday activities	2/14/2017 5:45 PM
482	Creating an ampitheater in town will help have more public events	2/14/2017 4:11 PM
483	Morganton Valdesse Morganton & Valdese participate in the Main Street programs offering a variety of small loan programs for merchants	2/14/2017 12:56 PM
484	Morganton Morganton- Townhall, Renovation of old Factory buildings to retail and 2nd floor housing. Grant funds to support downtown bulding restoration.	2/14/2017 12:27 PM
485	Morganton Morganton Main Street program is a model for the state.	2/14/2017 11:51 AM
486	Morganton Valdesse The City of Morganton has long been a leader in downtown revitalization through participation in the Mainstreet Program. Also we had leaders in government who had vision and foresight to make the investment to revitalize downtown. The City of Morganton has worked hard to recruit a variety of businesses such as breweries and retailers that carry current products without forgetting the long-time merchants. They offer small grants to help small businesses upgrade their facilities and invest in equipment. I believe the Town of Valdese has also participated in the Mainstreet Program and has a strong downtown area.	2/14/2017 11:08 AM
487	Tax breaks are provided, a resurgence was seen a few years back. Many of those places have changed ownership/management multiple times in the last few years.	2/14/2017 8:50 AM
488	Hickory Hickory, Conover	2/14/2017 8:19 AM
489	Conover Hickory Conover (Conover Station) Hickory (Union Square - hate the sails though) Newton is trying	2/13/2017 8:41 PM
490	Lenoir Lenoir has made vast improvements to their downtown in the last few years. Restaurants, Friday night events on the square, etc.	2/13/2017 5:20 PM
491	Burke County Hickory Hildebran I live in Eastern Burke County so I am actually closer to Hickory than any other municipality with the exception of some small towns like Hildebran and Long View. Hickory is really trying to promote downtown and from my understanding hopefully the new ideas with the bond projects it will really help restore the downtown and other areas. Maybe with that investment, other towns and municipalities will benefit as well. I'm	2/13/2017 5:13 PM
492	Conover Hickory Hickory, mill renovations, infill Newton, downtown streetscape Conover, Conover Station	2/13/2017 4:13 PM
493	Many of the towns in the Catawba County have made concerted efforts towards downtown revitalization. Some are having an easier time than others.	2/13/2017 4:10 PM
494	Hickory Newton Hickory - sails on the square, downtown devt. assn., riverwalk Newton - streetscapes plan Conover - improvement plan/sidewalks & streetscapes; renovation of former manufacturing buildings	2/13/2017 4:02 PM
495	Lenoir Lenoir, but I don't remember the name of the group	2/13/2017 3:51 PM
496	Brining in new business	2/13/2017 3:39 PM

Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) Survey

Q20 Do you believe there are gaps in educational resources? (Including K-12 Community College, University, ect.)

Q21 If you answered yes to the previous question, please specify.

Answered: 380 Skipped: 603

#	Responses	Date
1	Community College For low economic people, ease of attending community college training is not reaching a lot of unskilled people.	3/12/2017 9:49 PM
2	I don't think there is enough incentive to pursue secondary education when there are no local jobs available for them.	3/11/2017 6:34 PM
3	Public Schools The education opportunities available to children are not the same for all schools. The public schools in the wealthier areas receive a better education than the low income areas.	3/11/2017 4:32 PM
4	Needs to be more dialogue between industry and schools and college to determine what industry needs are that education centers can adapt to and provide	3/11/2017 9:53 AM
5	Community College High School if you graduate from high school with low scores or learning disability. no skills learning. Community college is to expensive and no educational money is available for skill classes	3/11/2017 7:51 AM
6	Not all schools are funded equally. Low income students are concentrated in lower funded schools.	3/11/2017 7:09 AM
7	Budget restrictions, lack of available funds, i.e. Teachers buying classroom supplies with their own money	3/11/2017 6:15 AM
8	Poor investment in education	3/10/2017 9:59 PM
9	4-Year University Community College Public Schools Burke county public school system has struggled in recent years. There is a disconnect between the Community College and the 4 year public NC universities in terms of adequate preparation of students.	3/10/2017 9:22 PM
10	Technical Training not enough technical training	3/10/2017 8:35 PM
11	Quality of education is suspect to lack of discipline and too much choice for student behavior.	3/10/2017 8:34 PM
12	Community College High School Community college is marketing to high school age kids instead of the people who need to go back to school to learn a trade	3/10/2017 6:27 PM
13	Need to better support all PUBLIC education!	3/10/2017 5:29 PM
14	4-Year University Need a four-year college. It's good that App has a center here, but it's not a place that college kids can go to live. And industry I think looks more favorably at being around a research university where students come to live and study full-time, rather than commute from home.	3/10/2017 4:46 PM
15	K-12 could be premier learning environments, but there are those left behind in several schools. Also the lack of books or access to computers in lieu of books is an issue that is a learning stumbling block for many.	3/10/2017 3:57 PM
16	No apprentice programs, very little focus on skilled trades	3/10/2017 3:20 PM
17	K-12 education works to statistics not educations	3/10/2017 2:49 PM
18	Public Schools Always a struggle to adequately staff public schools	3/10/2017 2:34 PM
19	It's a very small county, but there is NOT enough available access to art programs, etc.	3/10/2017 2:30 PM
20	Public Schools The problem is in the public schools. Students are not well educated when they graduate. Poor grammar is the norm. There is an appalling lack of education in social studies, civics, communication skills, and social skills. Too many children have a very poor diet.	3/10/2017 2:28 PM
21	I believe they are being worked on but not enough connectivity	3/10/2017 2:23 PM
22	The effort is overdue, but starting	3/10/2017 2:09 PM
23	High School Public Schools K-12 public schools don't have adequate budgets or resources and there are not many private options available for high school.	3/10/2017 1:37 PM

Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) Survey

24	<p>Community College High School Need more technical programs for high school, not just all college prep. Community College needs to be more active in acquiring new programs for certification, 1 and 2 year degree programs. Cycle some out after a while. I mean how many pharmacy techs can one county or area support? There gets to be market saturation after a while. Offer the programs for a few years, then bring on something new. Another biggie is that the community college offerings for continued education are lacking. While there are lots of classes in some specific areas, huge areas are ignored altogether. And there are virtually no plain old "enrichment" classes for somebody just wanting to explore an area before making a commitment to an entire curriculum. What happened to the Small Business program at CCC&TI? Very few if any classes being offered.</p>	3/10/2017 1:21 PM
25	public state university	3/10/2017 1:01 PM
26	K-12 is stretched for financial support. And they are having problems engaging parents. Catawba Science Center is an incredible educational resource and needs to be financially supported by city and county as other science centers are being supported. The science center is a huge resource to our schools and attracts families from other counties to our city.	3/10/2017 12:58 PM
27	Mostly in communicating the availability of manufacturing academy, furniture academy, etc	3/10/2017 12:37 PM
28	vocational development. Strong emphasis on academic degree with little in the trade skill development - big gap in both communities and across the state	3/10/2017 12:31 PM
29	Although we have a distance learning center for ASU, we need more university opportunities here.	3/10/2017 12:15 PM
30	High School There is a disconnect between the skills needed in our existing industries and the skills developed in the students. Although some pathways exist to local, skilled, well-paying jobs, those pathways are not adequately marketed to the high school students and the underemployed.	3/10/2017 11:58 AM
31	High School Need more training made available at the high school level for students to learn a specific skill.	3/10/2017 11:52 AM
32	There are resources, I think there is a gap in connecting people with those, and with engaging students in K-12 schools putting them on the right path to take advantage of those resources	3/10/2017 11:48 AM
33	This is up to the individual. It's out there if they are willing to work hard for it.	3/10/2017 11:47 AM
34	Not enough support for teachers	3/10/2017 11:46 AM
35	High School More career planning and guidance for graduates entering workforce directly from high school. Apprenticeships????	3/10/2017 11:15 AM
36	Need better education for a wider variety of workplace needs	3/10/2017 10:51 AM
37	Generational issues from the past furniture and textile industries	3/10/2017 10:46 AM
38	Need more 21st century resources and real world applications.	3/10/2017 10:26 AM
39	trying with CCP, but in the beginning stages	3/10/2017 9:07 AM
40	Not enough funding is provided to every school. Some schools receive their appropriate designation (ie - Title I) others don't.	3/10/2017 9:07 AM
41	need smaller class sizes and more teacher assistants	3/10/2017 8:30 AM
42	Public Schools We chose to homeschool rather than enroll our children in our local public schools. With new options, we now enroll our children in NCCA's online charter school. I wish our neighborhood schools were of higher quality.	3/10/2017 5:38 AM
43	Teachers spend too much of their money to fulfill required & expected materials in classrooms.	3/9/2017 8:57 PM
44	High School Many students do not graduate high school with higher level thinking skills	3/9/2017 6:42 PM
45	I am just not sure the opportunities that exist are promoted properly and if there are adequate funding options for those interested	3/9/2017 6:12 PM
46	Public Schools More funding for public schools.	3/9/2017 2:19 PM
47	4-Year University Need a 4 year University. Not just the offering of a few classes from distant Universities.	3/9/2017 2:06 PM
48	Need reduced class sizes. Need more choices for struggling students. Need more choices literature for E C students. Need more assistants.	3/9/2017 12:41 PM
49	Vocational Training Vocational training in grade schools needs to be expanded.	3/9/2017 11:52 AM
50	Need to expand programs from ASU on the CCC&TI campus	3/9/2017 11:36 AM
51	Staffing in K-12 schools was down, has improved some, but still needs improvements.	3/9/2017 11:32 AM

Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) Survey

52	Schools not fully funded per pupil as rest of state.	3/9/2017 7:32 AM
53	High School High stakes testing has driven the fun out of education for students and teachers, absurdly frequent benchmarking means a loss of instructional days, there are few opportunities for daily exercise/play at the middle school level, teachers are tied to instructional software programs that seem to provide incentives for the central office personnel rather than results in the classroom, and we need a strong vocational program. STEAM academy is a dog and pony show that students dread and teachers resent. It has taken the very teachers who gifted kids need, the ones who used to differentiate daily and act as resources for staff at various schools, completely out of the classroom. We no longer have Renzulli learning, which would allow true individualization of every lesson and should be available to every student and teacher.	3/9/2017 7:23 AM
54	Public Schools Lack of funding to public schools for educational supplies and equipment (textbooks, projectors, classroom supplies)	3/9/2017 7:22 AM
55	K-12 needs to do a better job promoting WPCC to its students and parents.	3/8/2017 8:47 PM
56	The gaps I believe are specifically related to the budget that is allotted to the county for education.	3/8/2017 8:08 PM
57	High School Vocational Training Everybody isn't college material & needs to be more vocational training job specific for those not intending on going to college in the high schools, when they graduate they have the skills to make a decent living.	3/8/2017 6:22 PM
58	There should be more money given to the k-12 schools	3/8/2017 6:11 PM
59	No money for supplies, programs, resources that schools need.	3/8/2017 5:18 PM
60	4-Year University High School The school system is too focused on making sure that all students go to a 4 year university. This philosophy needs to change. Yes, everyone needs some level of education beyond high school, but not everyone needs to apply or go directly to a 4 year university after high school graduation.	3/8/2017 4:09 PM
61	inadequate funding for Pre-K through Secondary Schooling	3/8/2017 3:23 PM
62	It is assumed that all students will pursue a college or University education. This is patently false. The percentage of the population that is not invested in these types of higher education should have access to training for jobs that do not require English and math 101.	3/8/2017 3:08 PM
63	vocational education has fallen	3/8/2017 3:06 PM
64	Under-funding to Public Education	3/8/2017 2:51 PM
65	High School What educational resources?????? I teach high school math and we have not text books, or teacher book to guide us with resources. I have to develop and find all my resources on my own. I don't even have enough paper to make all the copies I need. Students in Elementary school all have access one to one of a laptop/computer.....we don't have that in high school (where it is needed more).	3/8/2017 2:15 PM
66	Cost of secondary education keeps students who are in medium income homes from attending college because of inability to receive grants.	3/8/2017 1:14 PM
67	High School Need more high school career choices.	3/8/2017 1:01 PM
68	High School High schools are geared too much toward 4 year college. The students who would benefit from training to prepare for a job or skilled workforce are not being served as well as I think they could be.	3/8/2017 12:58 PM
69	*Nicer college campus needed-facilities are outdated *State funding to continue to update and improve our aging schools	3/8/2017 12:29 PM
70	Public Schools Public School System needs to get a grip on its security and education for its students	3/8/2017 12:25 PM
71	Children are not prepared to enter the workforce if they do not attend college.	3/8/2017 11:44 AM
72	Workforce We need better work force development in from HS to entering the workforce.	3/8/2017 11:44 AM
73	More Federal and State funding is needed.	3/8/2017 11:15 AM
74	Public Schools Public schools could improve much more to prepare the youth for college and the workforce. Investment into charter and magnet schools that provide more opportunities would help our county.	3/8/2017 11:11 AM
75	I work in a rural school. There are differences in the schools- depending on where you live.	3/8/2017 11:11 AM
76	Funding	3/8/2017 10:52 AM
77	not enough people with college degrees	3/8/2017 10:30 AM
78	Public Schools The public school system needs improved funding to support special populations, English as Second Language learners (and their families), improved ratio in student to school nurse availability	3/8/2017 10:30 AM

Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) Survey

79	There needs to be more support provided to schools so they have the faculty and manpower to provide resources and opportunities for students to know all the opportunities available to them throughout their school career and beyond. Schools in our area are working with minimal staff and increased classroom size which hurts everyone.	3/8/2017 10:27 AM
80	Lack of funding.	3/8/2017 10:25 AM
81	Common core curriculum from state objectives	3/8/2017 10:17 AM
82	4-Year University High School I work in education. We focus too much on testing that is required by the state and not enough on getting students ready for careers. Not all students are going to four-year universities. We need job skills badly in the high school.	3/8/2017 10:16 AM
83	It appears, based on the recent article in the paper, that the school system has a couple of people at the top that are making ridiculous salaries. We should be spending more money on teachers than Central Office personnel.	3/8/2017 10:14 AM
84	n/a	3/8/2017 10:05 AM
85	I believe that if we make sure our K-12 schools are funded adequately, beginning with early learning, we build a stronger base for future education. Sometimes I think we forget that the youngest learners need that strong foundation so the higher education can build upon it.	3/8/2017 10:03 AM
86	High School Helping high school AIG students know how to function in the regular population. Checking accounts, savings, study habits, multi tasking.	3/8/2017 9:56 AM
87	I truly feel the county should appropriate a higher percentage of funds to the school system. This would allow the school system to promote programs to develop students who would in turn give back to the community.	3/8/2017 9:36 AM
88	4-Year University Community College High School I believe that there are some gaps within the education resources because there are some people who are not totally prepared when they leave high school. This prohibits them from achieving their goals at a Community College and even a 4 year University. Then those who are able to go on to further their education are not given an opportunity to work so they don't return to Alexander County.	3/8/2017 9:36 AM
89	Community College High School It's only perception and poor PR. The High Schools are starting to work well with the local community college and local businesses (along with the Chamber and BDI) to get a better vertical alignment between school to work BUT we can still do much more to get on the same page and work collaboratively and to get the word out to the community of what is available to students and workers that want/need re-training.	3/8/2017 9:30 AM
90	Basic reading and math skills are lacking.	3/8/2017 9:25 AM
91	Coming from a 12 year teacher, I believe that the gaps we have are created by the State of NC and the federal government. So many children are passed on to the next grade level when they are not ready. Student attendance is a huge issue and parents are not held accountable.	3/8/2017 9:22 AM
92	Public Schools The Burke Public Schools don't have enough textbooks. Teacher pay is below national averages.	3/8/2017 9:20 AM
93	we need more options for training in occupational fields	3/8/2017 9:16 AM
94	Our schools are competitive with each other and not in it for the children. We are too concerned with the letter grades of our schools to give our children a well balanced quality education.	3/8/2017 9:14 AM
95	4-Year University NO local access to a 4 year college/university	3/8/2017 8:59 AM
96	There is not enough staff at the schools to help provide students what they need for the best education possible. No one wants to listen that this is a huge problem.	3/8/2017 8:59 AM
97	Opportunities for the increasing Latino community, parents and post-graduation from HS latinos. There are some opportunities for learning English, but they are overcrowded and have waiting lists.	3/8/2017 8:58 AM
98	Students are promoted in elementary and middle schools before mastering the skills outlined by the state.	3/8/2017 8:56 AM
99	You change the program constantly. You don't give what you put in place a chance to develop to its full potential.	3/8/2017 8:56 AM
100	4-Year University Nearest 4-year university is Ap-State, about an hour away, outside our county.	3/8/2017 8:54 AM
101	Why isn't Science taught at EVERY school in the county? Science is the subject that teaches how to think!	3/8/2017 8:51 AM
102	High School I believe that we need a vocational high school that will provide more programs in conjunction with WPCC such as HVAC, plumbing, and electrical.	3/8/2017 8:42 AM
103	the kids are not prepared at all to face a workforce,	3/8/2017 8:40 AM
104	funding	3/8/2017 8:38 AM
105	Public Schools I work in the Burke County Public School system - our state leaders don't prioritize funding education or paying teacher salaries as they should.	3/8/2017 8:36 AM

Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) Survey

106	4-Year University The Closest Universities are UNC-Asheville and App State.	3/8/2017 8:34 AM
107	The school system is currently cutting spending due to a major deficit.	3/8/2017 8:33 AM
108	High School Need AP Courses for all high school students (9-12) and online courses to earn college credits	3/8/2017 8:30 AM
109	We need more resources in our K-12	3/8/2017 8:26 AM
110	Not enough money is spent on k-12 schools.	3/8/2017 8:23 AM
111	High School We need more technical classes in high school to prepare our kids for skilled work.	3/8/2017 8:19 AM
112	We need a University here in our county	3/8/2017 8:13 AM
113	High need of a vocational highschool	3/8/2017 8:10 AM
114	Middle school teachers are not rewarded and appreciated for their efforts, which in turn, causes teacher turnover.	3/8/2017 8:09 AM
115	k-12 schools not adequately funded	3/8/2017 8:03 AM
116	Teachers are not supported. They are often vilified by the county school administrators. They are not allowed to teach, but rather micro-managed into insignificance.	3/8/2017 7:57 AM
117	Need a 4-yr University or more course offerings from a 4-yr University for something besides education or business, such as health care -Nursing, offered at night for people who work or have families.	3/8/2017 7:57 AM
118	I don't think any get the necessary funding to meet all the needs.	3/8/2017 7:55 AM
119	university level is lacking	3/8/2017 7:51 AM
120	Public Schools Public Schools are poor.	3/8/2017 7:41 AM
121	When switching from the standard course of study to the recent common core curriculum, there were many gaps between grade levels for certain skills	3/8/2017 7:23 AM
122	We do not have a University in our area. You have to commute.	3/8/2017 7:21 AM
123	Public Schools My children are in public school and the quality is hit and miss. We have good years and poor years with the quality of the teaching. It is not consistent or deeply innovative.	3/8/2017 6:23 AM
124	More emphasis on trades (welding, plumbing, electrical, machining, etc.) to encourage students to create and support small business. More entrepreneurial career paths should be encouraged and backed up with a solid incubator program for small business.	3/8/2017 6:14 AM
125	K-12 flexibility is a strength; for example, career and college promise classes at WPCC are excellent, but we lack transportation to support that initiative	3/7/2017 11:21 PM
126	4-Year University Community College TRADES and Technology schooling! Not everyone is going to be going to a 4 year university or community college. Our county needs options for those who will not! Such as a Technical College or Trade School.	3/7/2017 11:06 PM
127	Community College Education k12 not equal for all in providing services to every unique individual student. More students need to utilize the community college	3/7/2017 10:43 PM
128	No University and K-12 schools are difficult for students and parents	3/7/2017 10:07 PM
129	n/a	3/7/2017 9:42 PM
130	Public Schools overcrowded and underfunded public school system	3/7/2017 9:31 PM
131	High School School systems are continuously stripped of funding and therefore current resources are dates. Technology is improved, but textbooks are almost non-existent in the high schools.	3/7/2017 9:25 PM
132	Too many excuses- no one doing anything to close the gap	3/7/2017 9:08 PM
133	Instructional materials available, school-wide subscriptions to ebooks, assessment materials for special needs	3/7/2017 9:01 PM
134	4-Year University Community College Not all students are ready to enter a community college or 4-year university. Many are not prepared academically. There is a huge need for a vocational school here in Burke County.	3/7/2017 8:58 PM
135	There are gaps in the use of technology, workable and realistic PLC's for teachers, not keeping all students current with technology, lack of classroom supplies, lack in funding, and teachers. Some schools are bursting at the seams and others are have several empty classrooms per hallway.	3/7/2017 8:55 PM
136	I think we need more education resources in the area. We have our schools, but I would like to see a childrens' museum, outdoor education programs or other resources to promote education outside of the schools. I feel I have to take my children to other communities to give them these opportunities.	3/7/2017 8:55 PM

Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) Survey

137	Technical skills	3/7/2017 8:51 PM
138	High School Need a vocational high school	3/7/2017 8:46 PM
139	High School Technical/career high school needed	3/7/2017 8:35 PM
140	Community College many people unable to afford community college or college	3/7/2017 8:31 PM
141	There is a need for a academically focused magnet or charter school.	3/7/2017 8:27 PM
142	There are not enough funds for educational resources.	3/7/2017 8:20 PM
143	I work with an outreach organization and am aware that there are many adults in our county with limited education.	3/7/2017 8:20 PM
144	Not enough support personnel in the special needs populations	3/7/2017 8:06 PM
145	Vocational experience needed	3/7/2017 7:50 PM
146	Public Schools Large class sizes in public schools might hinder student learning and access to certain educational resources.	3/7/2017 7:36 PM
147	I think we do well in preparing our students bound for college. We desperately need a vocational school for those that decline or can't afford college.	3/7/2017 7:29 PM
148	More money for schools	3/7/2017 7:26 PM
149	Money is allocated based on free and reduced student population. However, there are many families that just miss qualifying and therefore they need to look at skill of workers as well.	3/7/2017 7:24 PM
150	High School My daughter said high school did not prepare her for 4 yr college	3/7/2017 6:56 PM
151	There is a lack of higher end design and production education in the k12 system.	3/7/2017 6:48 PM
152	Our county has had so many cuts that we run on a shoe string budget. We do the best with what we have but I see that our children are missing services as our staff is spread so thin.	3/7/2017 6:36 PM
153	Lots of public education resources.	3/7/2017 6:34 PM
154	They definitely could use more money for their education systems.	3/7/2017 6:15 PM
155	More money is spent on testing children than anything else	3/7/2017 6:12 PM
156	They take children that can learn and move forward with them the rest are left behind.	3/7/2017 6:01 PM
157	4-Year University Community College An affordable four-year university is too far away. The community college and the satellite programs they host from universities are just not enough.	3/7/2017 5:57 PM
158	Huge gaps in funding K-12	3/7/2017 5:52 PM
159	High School Big gaps of available resources between elementary, middle school and high school resources within various locations in the county	3/7/2017 5:50 PM
160	The K-12 resources are poor. There is inadequate funding for staff and the schools are in constant and overlapping fundraising mode. There are very limited supplies and teachers are frequently asked to work at fundraising events in the evenings despite the fact that many teachers work second jobs.	3/7/2017 5:40 PM
161	High School More technology is available to elementary than high school students	3/7/2017 5:39 PM
162	High School Middle and high schools need more 1:1 technology for students. Internet access need to reach the more outward areas of the counties.	3/7/2017 5:39 PM
163	Public Schools low family incomes; K-12 Public school system needs more support from County Administration	3/7/2017 5:35 PM
164	Teachers are struggling with having enough school supplies. As well as the amount of teachers in general needs to be looked at.	3/7/2017 5:31 PM
165	lack of funds, need more technology in classrooms such as chrome books and Ipads, getting better though	3/7/2017 5:28 PM
166	WPCC	3/7/2017 5:28 PM
167	We need after school programs for students from low income families.	3/7/2017 5:22 PM
168	Industries and educational institutions do not seem very connected....	3/7/2017 5:21 PM
169	High School Students graduate high school but have no skill to go straight into the workforce	3/7/2017 5:20 PM
170	The County does not support the schools like they should. The Health Department yes because of close relations but the schools they have animosity towards.	3/7/2017 5:17 PM

Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) Survey

171	More money available to higher ed than to k-12	3/7/2017 5:17 PM
172	Vocational Training Gap between vocational training programs and county industry- specifically furniture and information technology.	3/7/2017 5:13 PM
173	Workforce I don't believe that we are creating a skilled motivated work force	3/7/2017 5:11 PM
174	Resources needed for EL populations	3/7/2017 5:09 PM
175	No 4 year public college within an hour of here. Many 2 year.	3/7/2017 5:07 PM
176	4-Year University WPCC App State Gardner Webb Lenoir Rhyne UNCA	3/7/2017 5:04 PM
177	Funding for students	3/7/2017 4:49 PM
178	Public Schools Need more funding for public schools	3/7/2017 12:40 PM
179	would like to see better performing schools	3/7/2017 12:34 PM
180	K-12 is poor	3/7/2017 12:11 PM
181	High School We begin training kids to be professional baseball players at 4 years old. Why do 30%+ of our graduating high school seniors not know what they want to do after high school?	3/7/2017 11:55 AM
182	Community College Technical Training We need technical schools in our county other than the community college, i.e., automotive, electrical training, plumbing --- tech colleges for blue collar jobs	3/7/2017 11:37 AM
183	4-Year University A lot of people don't necessarily go to college or a 4 year university.	3/7/2017 11:34 AM
184	The biggest concern I hear is that there is no 4 year college in Burke County.	3/7/2017 11:28 AM
185	Schools are adequate but plenty of room for improvement	3/7/2017 11:26 AM
186	I do not feel k-12 promotes the college enough, but in general feel the education of k-12 is just not what it should be	3/7/2017 9:51 AM
187	There needs to be more hands on activities for K-12. To motivate and stimulate learning for young children. All the electronic resources are a great asset but I believe that the kids are losing valuable skills because of too much electronics. My daughter didn't even know what a dictionary was in 5th grade.	3/7/2017 9:03 AM
188	WPCC CCP programs	3/6/2017 10:42 PM
189	Community College Community college is excellent and connects students to universities.	3/6/2017 6:14 PM
190	K12 funding is lagging behind other counties because of low tax base.	3/6/2017 3:42 PM
191	There should be more collaboration between all the entities mentioned above to create a comprehensive educational picture.	3/6/2017 1:47 PM
192	I feel that the future plans for education will close the gaps.	3/6/2017 1:35 PM
193	n/a	3/6/2017 1:13 PM
194	4-Year University Community College High School Technical Training There needs to be better exposure to students of the areas opportunities so that more people stay in the area. We need stronger CTE programs in our schools, better support for early colleges/community college in high school programs, and better support for students who need trade/technical training. It would also help if we had an actual university in the area (Lenoir Rhyne is not enough).	3/6/2017 1:06 PM
195	High School Transportation is an issue for work-age young folks after high school	3/6/2017 12:55 PM
196	There are inequities in educational resources in K-12 schools especially when compared to the resources in wealthier communities.	3/6/2017 12:25 PM
197	NO local university (except LRU which is expensive) that provides enough program options for students. Students need additional financial resources in addition to PELL; WIOA funds significantly trimmed for adult students.	3/6/2017 12:22 PM
198	4-Year University Our area needs good comprehensive access to a public 4 year university beyond what is offered through WPCC or CVCC.	3/6/2017 12:18 PM
199	More funding needs to be put in our students!	3/6/2017 11:57 AM
200	High School Higher level courses, e.g., physics, foreign language, etc. simply is not offered in each of the high schools; we need to leverage virtual learning to better leverage available resources, e.g., teachers.	3/6/2017 11:08 AM
201	students are under-prepared for college. We aren't taught to think critically, we are taught to regurgitate memorized information for standardized testing. In Alexander County there are many students who don't see college as an option so they automatically settle for something in a technical field.	3/6/2017 10:04 AM

Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) Survey

202	No University	3/6/2017 10:00 AM
203	4-Year University K-12 is poorly performing. Reasonably closest university is a private institution.	3/5/2017 8:46 AM
204	Community College K-12 is not properly preparing students to be successful at either a community college or college.	3/4/2017 9:35 PM
205	A large percentage of BCPS graduates are not college or work prepared.	3/4/2017 2:07 PM
206	Community College High School I feel the K-12 schools are underfunded and there is a high level of illiteracy in Burke County. I don't know if students are being encouraged to go on and achieve higher education at the community college or university levels.	3/4/2017 12:30 PM
207	Community College State funding system-wide lacking /inadequate for community colleges	3/3/2017 6:08 PM
208	Our STEM program is growing; WPCC offers courses as needed; we are getting a School of Math & Sciences.	3/3/2017 5:01 PM
209	High School More students in Burke Co. could take advantage of dual enrollment/college classes if transportation to the college could be offered. Recent high school grads often come to Western Piedmont not ready for college level classes.	3/3/2017 4:19 PM
210	Community College Public Schools Burke County Public Schools graduates a lot of kids who are not ready for college or careers. But it's not alone. All of NC's public education system is dumbed down and ineffective for many kids. Western Piedmont Community College, however, produces successful graduates.	3/3/2017 3:09 PM
211	Public Schools Charter schools and vouchers would not be a hot topic if the public school system/systems produced a quality product. Combine the 3 systems, eliminate duplicate administrators, take advantage of economies of scale, pay teachers properly. You would be amazed at the results!	3/3/2017 3:09 PM
212	Schools have taken away vocational and pushed College. Not every family has the financial ability to send their child to a college.	3/3/2017 3:02 PM
213	Some people can't afford college, and end up in dead-end jobs.	3/3/2017 2:21 PM
214	People don't have opportunity due to low income	3/1/2017 8:55 PM
215	4-Year University There should be ways to gain certifications instead of two or four year degrees	3/1/2017 6:00 PM
216	Not enough community involvement to educate public on the services they have available.	3/1/2017 4:01 PM
217	High School Reaching the financially struggling populations. Entering CVCC or a university is too difficult for non-college graduates. Just getting registered is too difficult. Pathways and opportunities in HS for most parents to understand and manage with the tight schedules provided by the individual high schools that are driven by limited resources!	3/1/2017 3:21 PM
218	I think with early college starting up all that should improve	3/1/2017 2:34 PM
219	Need to start working with children at an earlier age to make them ready to transition into college or into a job - making them understand they must work and not live off of government assistance	3/1/2017 1:45 PM
220	Closing of elementary schools will be negative for K-12. Busing students will cause hardships unnecessary to children and parents.	3/1/2017 1:11 PM
221	4-Year University Four year university opportunities	3/1/2017 8:15 AM
222	Not gaps per say but there are gaps in the way information on programs and opportunities are marketed to the public.	2/28/2017 3:26 PM
223	Community College There is almost no emphasis on promoting trade skills. This used to be the job of the Community College, but that seems to have gone to academia.	2/28/2017 10:37 AM
224	4-Year University Poorly performing schools and little access to four year college.	2/28/2017 12:31 AM
225	Absence of an independent state university branch, with emphasis on technology core competencies that extend existing skill/knowledge base	2/27/2017 10:54 AM
226	Need trade schools, not everyone can afford college.	2/27/2017 10:06 AM
227	Worker training classes	2/27/2017 9:53 AM
228	4-Year University Community College We better access to a 4 year university.and more skill training courses/degrees offered at the community college.	2/27/2017 8:08 AM

Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) Survey

229	School system is lacking in many areas. The state is interested in 1 thing...DATA. Teachers can't teach and administration is too busy climbing the ladder and looking good. They only target a certain skill set....college bound students. There is little to no emphasis put on workforce. Not everyone is meant to have a college education; but everyone should be given access to skill sets that would allow them to be a vital contributing citizen of Alexander county. Meet the children on their level providing the skills to achieve in life. More than not they are not receiving it from home. Teach basics, there is nothing wrong with being common. I do believe our CVCC campus is providing more work/labor related classes.	2/27/2017 8:05 AM
230	Public Schools More funding is needed for public schools!	2/27/2017 7:26 AM
231	Community College More opportunities are needed at the community college level.	2/26/2017 10:39 PM
232	My grandson, who graduated in the top ten of his graduation class is now trying to get into masters school. The cost of applying for scholarships is ridiculous; he has to supply each application with transcripts from his schools; each transcript cost. He supports himself with a part-time job at WalMart. He's a brilliant young man, he's been accepted to the university of his choice, but is struggling to get the funds to register. This, and I'm teaching junior college students who're there for the Pell Grant, and nothing more.	2/25/2017 7:42 PM
233	High School High school classes do not prepare for college	2/25/2017 1:14 AM
234	Community College Funding is scarce in education. Teachers cannot make copies because the school cannot afford paper. The teachers send home progress reports shrunk down so tiny you can barely read it so they don't waste paper and copies. The teachers should be worrying about what they are teaching instead of what materials they have to teach with. The community college in Alexander County offers no degrees and is more of a continuing education building than a community college. If the students of Alexander County could see money being invested into an Alexander Community College that would offer them a degree maybe it would bring some pride back to stay in this county.	2/24/2017 10:13 PM
235	Vocational Training School system not always supported, more opportunities for career/vocational training	2/24/2017 6:47 PM
236	4-Year University We do not have a 4 year University close by. I think the NC School of Math & Science coming to Burke County will greatly improve our educational opportunities here.	2/24/2017 6:07 PM
237	Technical Training Need more technical training - skilled trades, e.g. auto mechanic, plumber, electrician, skilled construction and bricklayer, etc.	2/24/2017 5:35 PM
238	Little to no funding for new textbooks, large Hispanic population makes teaching in English only difficult	2/24/2017 5:33 PM
239	county is restrained by the belief that it has a great system. Students are not prepared for college. Other students rarely have a great work ethic.	2/24/2017 4:42 PM
240	4-Year University The community needs to provide more support to Lenoir-Rhyne University. It's a wonderful asset that is overlooked by local leaders.	2/24/2017 4:35 PM
241	Public Schools Frustration that there are 3 public school systems in Catawba County and few visible signs of collaboration.	2/24/2017 3:26 PM
242	Soft skills are greatly lacking in the majority of people that apply (written) and interview for positions in our plant.	2/24/2017 3:12 PM
243	Community College Classes are very limited in community college and no university is available	2/24/2017 2:49 PM
244	Lack of adequate funding for public education from the State level.	2/24/2017 2:42 PM
245	Lack of funding for K-12 schools.	2/24/2017 9:44 AM
246	K-12 is funded by the State based to the student population. Alexander County has lost a huge number of students in the past 10 years.	2/23/2017 10:54 PM
247	High School Many of our schools are in some way still segregated, mostly because of housing and districts being so spread out in the county. Downtown elementary schools are not considered adequate because of the high population of Latino, and low income students.	2/23/2017 10:28 PM
248	Schools focus only on testing not teaching- K-12	2/23/2017 7:41 PM
249	Public Schools The public K-12 school system needs more funding.	2/23/2017 7:28 PM
250	Cuts in funding to public education.	2/23/2017 3:19 PM
251	All must start and encourage the basics all along the way	2/23/2017 12:50 PM
252	Our schools do not receive adequate county funding. When compared to other MSAs, Catawba funds at around \$1,500 per student. Many other areas fund at a higher rate.	2/23/2017 12:48 PM
253	4-Year University There is not a public 4 year university in the unifour area.	2/23/2017 12:36 PM

Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) Survey

254	We are blessed to have the available college systems in our area! However, as a business owner I see the gap is in keeping those with the skills at home and in the willingness to work!	2/23/2017 11:56 AM
255	Community College We do have the community college building being for students to obtain GEDs, training for manufacturing, professional development, etc. Is it being used for higher education??? For example, associates degree or college transfer classes.	2/23/2017 9:06 AM
256	lack of charter and private schools...	2/22/2017 11:57 AM
257	High School Public Schools I am concerned that our public schools and high schools especially are not engaging their students to look beyond grade school to reach for a skill or trade to lead to a financially satisfying career. Exception is STEM West	2/22/2017 10:44 AM
258	Community College No preK. No outreach to potential students especially for community college	2/22/2017 7:58 AM
259	Public Schools Eliminate the standards and standardized testing in public schools.	2/22/2017 3:35 AM
260	More opportunities in fields that are not recognized as valuable. trades, arts, entertainment fields	2/21/2017 8:30 PM
261	Updated library services	2/21/2017 6:39 PM
262	Public Schools Most NC public schools are under-funded.	2/21/2017 4:20 PM
263	College	2/21/2017 2:40 PM
264	When the elementary schools are forced to sell cheap products all year long to get a printer or new playground and then you see no results. Yet the HS gets a 5 star facility for softball, some priorities are out of whack!	2/21/2017 12:45 PM
265	4-Year University We're too far away from any real non-religious four-year colleges. I know you can't make something out of nothing just because you wish to have it so, but we're not doing good enough with just Lenoir-Rhyne as our only close option.	2/21/2017 12:37 PM
266	Community College High School Unfortunately, I feel like the K-12 schools have a hard time keeping up with where they would like to be due to limited resources, from the outside looking in. However, I do see where Catawba Valley Community College and LRU are working hard to help collaborate with the high schools in order to efficiently train and allow the upperclassmen in skilled trades, and/or in the best way to apply for scholarships and colleges, whichever their choices may be.	2/21/2017 12:18 PM
267	We need to put a greater focus on education and actually having graduates that are ready to work and live in the real world. They need to know how to balance a check book and TALK to people.	2/21/2017 11:31 AM
268	We have educational institutions but they are underfunded by both the State and County.	2/21/2017 11:31 AM
269	4-Year University While there is access to 4 year University programs for this area through private, extension and on-line programs, I believe it would be a benefit to Catawba County to invite an extension of one of the State Schools.	2/21/2017 10:21 AM
270	Community College Gaps exist between K-12, community college, and university systems in how they connect the content in the classroom to real opportunities in the workplace at all levels.	2/21/2017 8:24 AM
271	Public Schools First you omitted Pre K programs. There is not enough funding for public school and we do not have a University that offers classes in the community.	2/20/2017 12:10 PM
272	There should be a UNC college in the area, not just a private one. We need more resources in arts/music education.	2/20/2017 11:47 AM
273	4-Year University Community College no access to a university that helps with 4+ years of education. also, the community college leaves much to be desired.	2/20/2017 9:39 AM
274	KIDS NEED MORE FIELD TRIPS TO SEE THEIR COMMUNITY INSTEAD OF LEARNING IT ALL FROM A BOOK.	2/20/2017 9:13 AM
275	High School I think we are not giving students the skill set that they need to succeed after high school. The real world is tough, disappointing and not always fair -- they have no coping skills because we are teaching them that everyone is a winner and that just not the case. Not everyone is 4 year college material. We need to educate students that there are great jobs and careers that do not require a 4 year education. We need to change the image of manufacturing jobs.	2/20/2017 9:08 AM
276	4-Year University With a few exceptions (LR, Higher Ed Center) the population has to leave the region to pursue a four-year degree.	2/19/2017 6:15 PM
277	School district only promotes more education, needs to also suggest technical paths	2/18/2017 4:13 PM
278	The schools need to put industrial trades and everyday living skills back into the school. We are doing an injustice to our youth by not exposing them to the trades. These are jobs that will always be needed. It's great to prepare a child for college and become book smart, but everyone is not going to be a teacher or a dr or a lawyer. What about electricians, plumbers, woodworkers, etc.	2/18/2017 9:07 AM

Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) Survey

279	While we have a thriving K-12	2/17/2017 5:04 PM
280	As a homeschooling family, we do not feel that there are many resources made available to us and wish for more community resources outside the school system. We pay taxes for schools and teachers and resources that we do not use.	2/17/2017 4:32 PM
281	I think the gaps exist in the ease of gaining continued education	2/17/2017 3:59 PM
282	The resources are available but not always funded at the levels needed to meet the challenges of a global economy and its changing workforce requirements.	2/17/2017 3:38 PM
283	Lack of articulation of credit and workforce opportunities for after hour degree completion opportunities.	2/17/2017 3:28 PM
284	I believe we need more technical/vocational services	2/17/2017 2:30 PM
285	Public Schools Vocational Training The constant testing is taking away valuable time from public schools for vocational/career training. Too little attention is given to helping individuals cultivate their talents toward successful careers.	2/17/2017 1:49 PM
286	Not enough skilled workers to help in job finding for college students. Families cater to kin.	2/17/2017 12:36 PM
287	Overcrowding in schools-K-12	2/17/2017 12:22 PM
288	Transportation for children who academically have the ability to attend the Challenger Program but can not because they lack the transportation to get to the school.	2/17/2017 12:21 PM
289	Industry should work more with colleges and schools.	2/17/2017 11:10 AM
290	4-Year University The closest university is at least a thirty minute drive for some people, distance could be an issue for some.	2/17/2017 10:25 AM
291	High School Qualified and interested STEM teachers are rare in the high schools. STEM related clubs and higher level opportunities are severely limited. Calling something STEM related does not make it so. Benchmark the eastern side of the state.	2/17/2017 9:17 AM
292	School nurses are not available daily in our schools since they often are assigned multiple schools. The American Pediatric Association recommends 1 nurse to 700 students and now there is 1 nurse to approximately 1400 students. Nurses have an important role in the schools and their ratios should be improved. I want a nurse in my children's school every day available to them rather than traveling between the schools.	2/17/2017 8:34 AM
293	Technical Training Lack of hard skill technical training and computer skills in Alexander County	2/17/2017 7:57 AM
294	Need additional Public University opportunities	2/17/2017 7:49 AM
295	Poor K12 system	2/16/2017 11:28 PM
296	Children do not know enough, not mature enough to engage in the workforce and many not prepared to enter college.	2/16/2017 10:03 PM
297	There are institutions in the area but they stay on their isolated campuses. With the amount of vacant retail and office space there is opportunity for outreach. EX: Springs Road Poetry Center. Now, that might attract non WASP people, but we need to incorporate some diversity into the fabric of the community.	2/16/2017 8:00 PM
298	High School Need more technical courses on the high school level.	2/16/2017 6:07 PM
299	Matching educational opportunities with any projected economic growth opportunities.	2/16/2017 5:27 PM
300	I believe that the elementary schools in our county are struggling to make mediocre grades, when compared to the state of NC. Also, there is a group of unskilled workers out there that still don't know about the opportunities available at CVCC Alexander Campus.	2/16/2017 5:18 PM
301	Funds are limited.	2/16/2017 5:06 PM
302	Sports are more important to locals than education, parents don't support academics as they should.	2/16/2017 4:34 PM
303	Community College Public Schools Technical Training Residents need more access to community college programs in Alexander County. There are some, mainly Certifications based though. Need to be able to earn 2 year technical degree at CVCC Alexander Center by offering more training in evenings and on weekends. K-12 is suffering financial losses due to state funding cuts because student population in Alexander County at public schools has decreased quite a lot.	2/16/2017 4:28 PM
304	Workforce There is a large gap from graduation to the University level from prep work. The school system is more focused on test scores to pass (using short cuts to achieve good scores) than the actual process of understanding the curriculum. I experienced this in being taught how to ace math problems via graphing calculator but when going into a University taking a placement test that doesn't allow calculators which forced remedial courses.	2/16/2017 4:13 PM

Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) Survey

305	Schools should make a specific effort to discuss career planning and how to make a living in today's environment-they do not now do this	2/16/2017 4:06 PM
306	Earlier detection and assistance to children with learning disabilities!	2/16/2017 4:02 PM
307	We need a better K-12 program	2/16/2017 1:28 PM
308	4-Year University Community College High School The city of Hickory schools K-12 are horrible. The Community College could be better if Administration did not pay themselves high salaries. It would be nice to have better access to a 4 year University other than LR.	2/16/2017 1:14 PM
309	High School More collaboration between companies and our high schools	2/16/2017 12:08 PM
310	I believe resources for individuals with disabilities are completely absent and often local schooling enables poor behavior instead of fostering independence.	2/16/2017 11:42 AM
311	Assistance for special needs, learning disabled is not supported well by the county. Parents are accused of it being a discipline issue rather than offering services through the school system.	2/16/2017 11:22 AM
312	No university	2/16/2017 11:11 AM
313	Need more effort in Appalachian State having more campus opportunities in our region.	2/16/2017 11:08 AM
314	4-Year University Community College Lenoir Rhyne is a 4 year college but is private and not affordable, funding to K-12 has been cut while community college is building	2/16/2017 10:46 AM
315	There needs to be opportunities for people to quickly learn skills for a particular job, without taking unrelated academic classes--much like the tech schools were years ago. Parents need to be trained so they can portray the importance of education and studying to their children so the graduation rate rises.	2/16/2017 10:46 AM
316	Community College Public Schools The public school system continues to do what they have done in the past, the gaps will remain. Community College/University encourage graduates to leave the area to obtain higher compensation.	2/16/2017 10:37 AM
317	The university that is near is grossly over priced and the average person can't afford to attend.	2/16/2017 10:24 AM
318	Community College High School I see the primary barrier as encouraging high school students to continue on to community college, even if they stop at the certificate level. If that can be overcome, they have a much better chance of being gainfully employed. Being able to achieve that may also pave the way for pursuing further training, whether through traditional degrees or free online resources like Coursera or Udacity.	2/16/2017 10:07 AM
319	Workforce the gap between skilled and nonskilled work force	2/16/2017 9:41 AM
320	unaffordable to too many	2/16/2017 9:28 AM
321	Preschool and early years more resources, need to be put into place	2/16/2017 8:36 AM
322	Get rid of CORE!!!!	2/16/2017 8:20 AM
323	I don't see the majority of students coming through the system up to pace and prepared. CVCC is a great resource but it seems like it concentrates on Nursing and Furniture. LRU is too expensive for the majority of people living in our community.	2/16/2017 8:20 AM
324	As a country we need to educate our youth on the great potentials that are available for skilled workers rather than our students all going to university and starting life tens of thousands of dollars in debt for a career that may not even be available.	2/16/2017 8:10 AM
325	The three schools systems compete for resources. We should have one school system for Catawba County.	2/16/2017 8:05 AM
326	High School Lots of people do not have the money or are unable to go from high school to college due to finances.	2/15/2017 11:38 PM
327	Few options for low income	2/15/2017 10:23 PM
328	Separate school systems with redundant costs in Catawba and in other counties grossly over paid super for what they provide. School system is a product of the population. Maslow's hierarchy is in play.	2/15/2017 7:15 PM
329	i think that because we dont have a skilled workforce hi tech manufacturing or research will not find this area attractive	2/15/2017 6:26 PM
330	High School I think Teachers pay should be equal to Nurses. If we have great teachers & principals, just maybe we would not have so many young folks having to go to rehab & therefore having to pay extremely high wages to Nurses to take care of them. It has never made sense why School Teachers cannot be paid a decent wage like Nurses & etc. They are equally important.	2/15/2017 6:17 PM
331	High School The educational attainment is not that high in Catawba County. Lots of people stop going to school after high school or GED. Not many college educated.	2/15/2017 5:36 PM

Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) Survey

332	4-Year University Lenoir Rhyne is the closest 4 year university and yet it is beyond expensive.	2/15/2017 5:27 PM
333	Public Schools LR is too small to support this community, it either needs to expand its attendance or a public university will be needed to bring more people in. Charlotte/Winston-Salem/Asheville are all just far enough away for people to live in this area and also go to school there.	2/15/2017 5:13 PM
334	Lack of text books K-12, no public university in the region	2/15/2017 5:00 PM
335	Community College No public University in here. Lots of Community College.	2/15/2017 4:56 PM
336	Community College Public Schools Skill trades classes in public schools should be re-introduced - even to the degree of providing skill trades in conjunction with the community college.	2/15/2017 4:55 PM
337	Community College There is CVCC & LRU. LRU is terribly expensive and CVCC is not the most desirable community college in the area.	2/15/2017 4:44 PM
338	High School There used to be programs in high school that prepared each student for the path they wanted to travel - 4 year college path, 2 yr college path, vocational, etc. Now everyone is in the same group?	2/15/2017 4:44 PM
339	There is a large number of older adults with minimal education, and many younger well-educated adults are moving away from Alexander County.	2/15/2017 4:27 PM
340	4-Year University Good K-12 schools, although there is always room for improvement. CVCC, Lenoir-Rhyne University, Appalachian State University satellite location	2/15/2017 4:27 PM
341	k-12 not adequate	2/15/2017 4:24 PM
342	I think Catanwba has great resources in Challenger Early COLlege and Discovery HS as an option for students however there are so few students who they can accept that the program does not meet the need of more students. If you have 200 applying and only room for 60 there is clearly a need.	2/15/2017 4:19 PM
343	Community College High School High School issues. While the majority of students are there to learn the 1% of the trouble makers maintain a constant level of disruption and distraction to the other students. While i understand it is the 1%'s right to an education we sacrifice to full potential of the other students in having to stop class to deal with constant problems. There are often brag sessions by educators about Challenger High School. the biggest reasons for their success is the fact that if a student cause a disruption they are sent back to our "regular" schools to cause disruptions there instead. Elementary and Middle school has similar problems but can be easier managed for the most part. College and community college is easy, if they are a problem they get removed from class/school.	2/15/2017 4:19 PM
344	Community College Beyond community college, there are limited undergraduate and graduate programs available within the 4 county region.	2/15/2017 4:16 PM
345	Some schools are more skilled at developing children socially, academically and emotionally than others in the area.	2/15/2017 4:14 PM
346	4-Year University University options is the biggest challenge. Lenoir-Rhyne has very high cost. Myself and friends had to leave the area for a university education that was more affordable.	2/15/2017 3:33 PM
347	Public Schools Our county has three systems in the public schools all of different wealths and achievements. I can't stand how the hickory system seems to get more preference financially when the rural systems need it more. They are without access to after school programs within walking distance. They don't have access to parks or public transportation to get there. Where I work, many of them don't have access to Internet, city water, and sewage.	2/15/2017 2:49 PM
348	Relevancy, ie practical application toward professional development and advancement is needed when teaching K-12 students and when marketing cvcc and lru edu degree programs	2/15/2017 1:36 PM
349	Community College There is only one community college and one university in Catawba County.	2/15/2017 1:25 PM
350	students aren't getting the attention they need because class sizes are too big (27 in my students class). It seems like every year the funding for schools goes down.	2/15/2017 1:20 PM
351	4-Year University Community College Catawba County suffers from a lack of teaching staff. Budget cuts have made classroom sizes larger, while at the same time teacher moral is at all time low and the amount of time spent on filling out forms and teaching only to a test is increasing. The region itself suffers from not having a large university located in the region. Catawba County and the region would be in a much better position economically it a large university while at 5,000 students staying in dorms or off campus were located here. A lack of a four-year university actually holds us back in getting higher paying jobs that require a four-year to come to the region. Finally, the political influence of community colleges is too large in the County and the region.	2/15/2017 12:33 PM
352	We are minimally competitive for the southeast - must improve on all fronts. Please see K-64 project from CVCC	2/15/2017 11:53 AM
353	Workforce We need to do a better job in the K-12 environment to illustrate the importance of skilled work forces.	2/15/2017 11:22 AM

Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) Survey

354	K-12 should be one system in Catawba County - better use of resources...HOPEFULLY the K-64 initiative will really make a difference	2/15/2017 11:13 AM
355	The need for more technology hardware for use by students and their families. We need reliable high-quality broadband access in our communities, especially rural areas.	2/15/2017 11:02 AM
356	Public Schools Funding should increase for public schools.	2/15/2017 11:00 AM
357	Need an affordable 4 year college in the region. Maybe a public one.	2/15/2017 10:42 AM
358	Public Schools K-12 public schools are not well-performing. Particularly those in lower-income areas.	2/15/2017 10:21 AM
359	Community College I think that WPCC is a wonderful affordable opportunity to the residence of Burke County, however I think that there is a gap between the Community College level and the University level.	2/15/2017 9:57 AM
360	How to educate non English speaking students???	2/14/2017 9:22 PM
361	Our greatest educational resource is also our least supported. We need to think of innovative ways to attract and retain quality educators, even when state policies and pay can deter them.	2/14/2017 8:31 PM
362	Public Schools We need to improve our public schools but this includes the whole state	2/14/2017 5:45 PM
363	Community College We need more classes offered at our community college campus	2/14/2017 4:11 PM
364	Community College Community College	2/14/2017 1:46 PM
365	High School High school workforce development. Too much emphasis on everyone being college prep and not life prep.	2/14/2017 1:13 PM
366	K-12 Technology programs	2/14/2017 12:11 PM
367	Technical Training Inadequate educational resources for technical training	2/14/2017 11:09 AM
368	High School A large percentage of high school students graduate in Burke County. However, if a student is not planning to attend college, it seems there are few opportunities for employment for those people. Perhaps that is related to our area and economy rather than a gap in educational resources however it should be considered and addressed at some point.	2/14/2017 11:08 AM
369	We needed better programs for EC students. We need better programs for those who graduate early. We need better programs for those who choose to homeschool. We need opportunities for kids in the evenings and on weekends.	2/14/2017 10:59 AM
370	Community College We have a community college, but not a 4 year college.	2/14/2017 10:57 AM
371	Community College Connections between training programs and employment opportunities, even through the community college or local non-profit help associations.	2/14/2017 10:21 AM
372	Need more funding for extracurricular activities	2/14/2017 9:59 AM
373	Early College, Middle College have added to our resources. We need a College setting, rather than a satellite office from another college. We need to promote the Appalachian involvement at CCC&TI	2/14/2017 8:50 AM
374	I believe more attention needs to be placed on early childhood education. Too many children in our area cannot read on their appropriate reading level. To make our community thrive, we need every child born to be an active, engaged, contributing part of the community.	2/13/2017 5:20 PM
375	4-Year University I think there is a gap in this area between high school and the next phase of the young adults' lives. There is either a push to go to a 4 year university for a business type education or not doing anything but part time work for long periods. I think pushing kids for college isn't right for everybody. Trade skills are very important and companies are having a hard time finding workers and many times you can make the same if not more money than many jobs that require a master's degree. I think guidance and higher education should play just as big of a role and the full time college student models.	2/13/2017 5:13 PM
376	In Catawba County kids aren't pipelined into local jobs like they could be. They should be told at an early age what types of jobs are hiring and encouraged to settle into jobs like that locally. In Caldwell, Alexander and Burke Counties I am afraid about the education the students receive in general. They don't seem to be good readers or critical thinkers and they certainly are not exposed to different worldviews. Maybe having some teachers who grew up outside the region would expose them to different worldviews.	2/13/2017 4:13 PM
377	High School We have too many school systems in Catawba County. Also, school resources are being pinched at the Federal and State level. We have Elementary, Middle and High School students who share textbooks because there isn't enough money to purchase the needed amount to cover the class. How can our area, let alone the state attract families, when we so obviously care little to nothing about educating our populace.	2/13/2017 4:10 PM

Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) Survey

378	4-Year University I think more students would obtain a 4 year degree with a more affordable College or University in the area, within daily commuting distance.	2/13/2017 4:09 PM
379	4-Year University We have a satellite campus of CVCC, but not a full campus... and no 4-year college (Lenoir-Rhyne is the nearest)	2/13/2017 4:06 PM
380	not enough funding to support the classroom-based resources needed to equip students with technologies and skills of the future	2/13/2017 4:02 PM

Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) Survey

Q23 Do you believe your community has gaps in healthcare services?

Q24 If you answered yes to the previous question, please specify.

Answered: 313 Skipped: 670

#	Responses	Date
1	Insurance Friends still use free health clinics if they don't have insurance, and are very satisfied with the treatment they get there.	3/13/2017 8:58 AM
2	Specialists Lack of specialists	3/12/2017 9:02 PM
3	Bills are higher for tax paying citizens	3/11/2017 9:41 PM
4	Hospitals No hospital in Alexander County.	3/11/2017 8:00 PM
5	Specialists Availability of specialists and pain management resources	3/11/2017 6:15 AM
6	Poor emergency dept	3/10/2017 9:59 PM
7	Hospitals No community hospital. For profit healthcare only.	3/10/2017 6:47 PM
8	Insurance Income and insurance coverage issues	3/10/2017 6:41 PM
9	For anything outside of the normal health problems, you end up going to wake forest	3/10/2017 6:27 PM
10	Hospitals Miss Valdese General Hospital. Need an urgent care in the Rutherford College/Valdese area	3/10/2017 5:29 PM
11	There's not an adequate transportation network to get sick people the care they need.	3/10/2017 3:49 PM
12	Mental Health Working poor do not have good access to health care. State needs to expand Medicaid. Very little support for mentally ill. They go to emergency rooms or jail.	3/10/2017 3:32 PM
13	Insurance Not Affordable The poor do not have enough money to afford insurance or for healthcare.	3/10/2017 2:53 PM
14	Hospitals We don't have a hospital.	3/10/2017 2:30 PM
15	Insurance Everywhere you go you see people with horrible dental problems. Too many people do not go to a dentist or have dental insurance. Obesity is epidemic in our community. There seems to be a lack of education about nutrition and preventative health care.	3/10/2017 2:28 PM
16	understaffed	3/10/2017 2:09 PM
17	Hospitals There are two hospitals in Catawba County; one is thriving but the other seems to be floundering even with a recent sale to a larger system.	3/10/2017 1:37 PM
18	Frye is terrible, the concept of a "hospitalist" is a failed model. Catawba is a good facility, but if I needed advanced medical care I would look outside the area. There are exceptions.	3/10/2017 1:28 PM
19	Services Specialists we just have primary care in Caldwell County, with some minor specialist offerings. If you have anything serious like heart disease, you have to go outside the county for treatment, unless you want to have a heart cath in a freaking mobile unit. And if they find a blockage, they cannot fix it in the mobile unit...have to go to Frye or Catawba for that, so why have it done at Caldwell in the first place. Caldwell should focus just on primary care, and should move into geriatric care. There could be a niche there for rehabilitative services. They have many empty beds.	3/10/2017 1:21 PM
20	Very few primary/behavioral health decisions.	3/10/2017 1:13 PM
21	Other areas are attracting top qualified healthcare providers with state of the art equipment, facilities, and jobs with less case load numbers and higher pay.	3/10/2017 12:20 PM
22	Specialists Not enough qualified PCPs and specialists. A patient has to leave the area too many times in order to receive an accurate diagnosis/treatment.	3/10/2017 12:06 PM
23	Hospitals One hospital. Closed other one	3/10/2017 11:46 AM
24	--	3/10/2017 11:40 AM
25	Doctors Hospitals Disconnection of communication with hospital as well as hospital and family doctors.	3/10/2017 11:15 AM
26	Hospitals The only hospital is owned by a large group. If that organization has problems it could affect the only hospital in our county.	3/10/2017 10:57 AM

Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) Survey

27	Doctors It seems doctor offices would prefer people just use urgent care and the ER is overcrowded with Medicaid patients there for non emergencies that should just be at a regular dr office.	3/10/2017 10:43 AM
28	Not Affordable Not enough affordable options.	3/10/2017 9:07 AM
29	Services Our population boom exceeds the services available	3/10/2017 7:42 AM
30	Outside of metro areas folks with transprtation issues are underserved	3/10/2017 7:05 AM
31	Insurance Not Affordable If health care is provided by government agencies, families pay little or nothing for health care. If parents work & are married then insurance & fees are usually beyond what the family can afford.	3/9/2017 8:57 PM
32	Mental Health Services Mental health, substance use/abuse, services for those in poverty.	3/9/2017 8:16 PM
33	Doctors Hospitals Disconnect between the doctors offices, urgent care, and hospital	3/9/2017 5:38 PM
34	Large numbers are uncovered or depend on Medicaid	3/9/2017 5:21 PM
35	Hospitals Specialists An additional hospital and more specialists would be beneficial.	3/9/2017 11:58 AM
36	Hospitals No choice in hospital care. CMC only cares about expanding administrative personnel. An example is the huge new office building.	3/9/2017 11:52 AM
37	Current gaps will be filled in the near future by UNC-CMH expansion	3/9/2017 11:36 AM
38	Care for illegal immigrants especially school aged children is difficult to find in our area	3/9/2017 11:32 AM
39	Mental Health Services Mental health services are terrible.	3/9/2017 10:33 AM
40	Hospitals Caldwell Hospital does not have a specialty in heart care.	3/9/2017 8:46 AM
41	Doctors Whether family practice or urgent care, there are always a long wait to be seen, and it is rarely an actual Doctor, but a semi-qualified physicians assistant.	3/9/2017 7:22 AM
42	Not Affordable not affordable	3/8/2017 10:33 PM
43	Hospitals Services Hospital reputation varies among people in community; health department staff not consistently welcoming to people using services	3/8/2017 9:45 PM
44	Hospitals The hospital in its community isn't well known for taking great care of the patients and frankly be	3/8/2017 8:51 PM
45	Insurance With a high number of people without insurance we need to find a better way to serve the. So they don't flood the local ERs.	3/8/2017 8:47 PM
46	Insurance Specialists Little to no access to healthcare for low income, homeless, uninsured, etc. Costs are prohibitive to those without insurance, and there is no free clinic, forcing many to use the ER. Specialists such as vision, dental, etc are especially costly and prohibitive.	3/8/2017 5:00 PM
47	Too high for drs	3/8/2017 4:24 PM
48	Doctors Only a couple urgent care centers. If a person doesn't have a primary care doctor, the ER may be their only--expensive-- medical care option.	3/8/2017 4:09 PM
49	Insurance Medical assistance for the under insured	3/8/2017 3:36 PM
50	new health care act	3/8/2017 3:06 PM
51	More after hours health care venues	3/8/2017 2:51 PM
52	Hospitals Poor reputation of the local hospital	3/8/2017 1:59 PM
53	Not Affordable Services Not all people can afford services	3/8/2017 1:36 PM
54	Hospitals Only one true hospital with no competition.	3/8/2017 1:01 PM
55	Insurance Not Affordable No clinics for people who are not eligible for government assistance but can't afford insurance	3/8/2017 11:44 AM
56	Trauma Center No Trauma Center	3/8/2017 11:20 AM
57	Not Affordable It is not affordable and negligent.	3/8/2017 11:16 AM
58	No admissions to CHS Blue Ridge Valdese campus puts unneeded strain on local EMS system.	3/8/2017 11:15 AM
59	It could use more urgent care and better qualified healthcare resources.	3/8/2017 11:11 AM

Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) Survey

60	Doctors Services I have a special needs son. The majority of his doctor's appointments are out of town. In fact, he is not able to get some of the services he needs because I work and cannot drive a long distance to get him what he needs.	3/8/2017 11:11 AM
61	inadequate for all who live here	3/8/2017 10:52 AM
62	Doctors Uninsured children do not have access to a dentist or primary care doctors.	3/8/2017 10:30 AM
63	Hospitals Shutdown of hospitals leaves only one choice for county	3/8/2017 10:25 AM
64	Not Affordable Affordability	3/8/2017 10:25 AM
65	Services Quality of services	3/8/2017 9:56 AM
66	Insurance Services Do not have resources for rehab services - people don't qualify for medicare / medicaid and not enough income for insurance though marketplce	3/8/2017 9:42 AM
67	I have personally observed the the quality, or lack there of, the local medical center provides for the elderly as opposed to younger individual. Quality healthcare should be administered to the elderly (80+) as well as all others.	3/8/2017 9:36 AM
68	Many people choose to seek healthcare outside the county. I personally experienced a nurse from Family Care Center that advised me if she saw me having an asthma attack that she would not do anything to assist me. So why would I want to go to a health care facility where a person felt that way towards me?	3/8/2017 9:36 AM
69	Medicare has not been expanded in this State.	3/8/2017 9:20 AM
70	Hospitals Our local hospital is not known for its quality ER care. Many go to the neighboring counties for emergency care, myself included.	3/8/2017 9:14 AM
71	Hospitals Even though we have an Urgent Care now the waiting time in the ER at the hospital has not changed much. The wait is way to long.	3/8/2017 8:59 AM
72	Not Affordable Low-income for our latino community does not have accessible and affordable healthcare options, to include dental, vision, etc.	3/8/2017 8:58 AM
73	Insurance Insurance	3/8/2017 8:56 AM
74	Hospitals Trauma Center Only one local hospital; NO local trauma center???	3/8/2017 8:51 AM
75	Places for the elderly in the skilled nursing facilities	3/8/2017 8:50 AM
76	We need more "speciality" areas	3/8/2017 8:37 AM
77	Hospitals Grace Hospital/Blue Ridge Healthcare has never had a good reputation for quality healthcare. I would always go to Valdese Hospital instead.	3/8/2017 8:36 AM
78	Hospitals Only 1 Hospital in Lenoir.	3/8/2017 8:34 AM
79	Hospitals No hospital or urgent care available in Alexander county	3/8/2017 8:30 AM
80	Insurance not enough care for those under or not insured	3/8/2017 8:24 AM
81	Mental Health Still difficult for some to access healthcare/mental health professionals	3/8/2017 8:20 AM
82	Health Care For Veterans	3/8/2017 8:17 AM
83	The health dept has very minimal resources. This stems from the fact that we do not have enough taxes coming into the county which in turn stems from the fact that we do not have enough people working in the county. Now rather that is due to a lack of jobs available or the lack of the populations will to work is questionable.	3/8/2017 8:10 AM
84	Hospitals Services Grace Hospital is seriously lacking and the majority of people don't want to go there for emergency or routine services.	3/8/2017 7:57 AM
85	Hospitals terrible hospitals	3/8/2017 7:55 AM
86	Doctors recent experience has shown little assistance by the knowledge of doctors, staff, and quality of care	3/8/2017 7:51 AM
87	Hospitals Our healthcare hospital is not a good one for major issues.	3/8/2017 7:21 AM
88	Hospitals You can be diagnosed at our local hospital but you can not be treated. You have to be sent to other hospitals for actual surgeries or treatments.	3/8/2017 7:15 AM
89	Good specialized medical care such as neurologists, etc	3/8/2017 6:56 AM
90	Mental Health Mental health and substance abuse support is weak or non-existent.	3/8/2017 6:23 AM
91	Specialists lack of MD specialists	3/7/2017 11:21 PM

Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) Survey

92	Specialists To often we have to drive to Charlotte, Asheville, Greensboro, or even Raleigh to seek out specialists.	3/7/2017 11:06 PM
93	Alternative healthcare is very lacking.	3/7/2017 10:21 PM
94	Not Affordable Affordable health care is non existent, no psychiatric care available, very limited OB/GYN care	3/7/2017 10:07 PM
95	n/a	3/7/2017 9:42 PM
96	gaps due to wealth disparities	3/7/2017 9:31 PM
97	Medicare	3/7/2017 9:08 PM
98	Elderly healthcare	3/7/2017 8:58 PM
99	I often feel I need to go elsewhere to trust the healthcare I am receiving.	3/7/2017 8:55 PM
100	Doctors Many local doctors refer their patients to Asheville, Winston-Salem, or Charlotte because there seems to be more success there than here	3/7/2017 8:53 PM
101	Not many have it	3/7/2017 8:49 PM
102	Not Affordable Affordable healthcare is An issue	3/7/2017 8:46 PM
103	Hospitals I know the nurses are overworked at the local hospital, resulting in less than stellar care of patients.	3/7/2017 8:43 PM
104	Doctors Our Health care lacks in many areas. There are many doctors poking at a patient and they are all giving this person different medicines that could be dangerous. There is a lack of communication.	3/7/2017 8:20 PM
105	Hospitals Many folks express concern about care at the local hospital. (part of Carolina Healthcare System)	3/7/2017 8:20 PM
106	Specialists Many of the specialist have limited hours and are coming from other areas	3/7/2017 7:45 PM
107	Specialities like orthopedics, dermatology	3/7/2017 7:31 PM
108	Not Affordable Need affordable continuing care retirement centers for those who worked hard but can not afford excellent care.	3/7/2017 7:27 PM
109	Insurance Not Affordable Affordable for people without insurance	3/7/2017 7:26 PM
110	There is a HUGE NEED for drug treatment programs and older adults who are NOT Medicaid struggle to pay bills and live month to month.	3/7/2017 6:56 PM
111	We need more holistic options available.	3/7/2017 6:43 PM
112	We are largely giving healthcare for basic needs. More difficult cases must go to Frye or Mission.	3/7/2017 6:36 PM
113	Doctors They don't recognize local doctors they over charge.	3/7/2017 6:01 PM
114	They do not pay Burke County EMS personnel enough to keep highly skilled medics and paramedics long term.	3/7/2017 5:57 PM
115	Not Affordable We all need affordable care if working.	3/7/2017 5:47 PM
116	Hospitals Specialists The healthcare is poor. There are no specialists for diabetes in the area (endocrinologist). There is inadequate care provided in the local hospital. Choices are very limited.	3/7/2017 5:40 PM
117	More than 1 pediatric "unit" should be available. Stricter regulations for prescriptions being written by healthcare providers and criteria to check on and follow up on patient use of controlled substances.	3/7/2017 5:39 PM
118	The health care here is poor compared to surrounding areas.	3/7/2017 5:37 PM
119	Services Families that are undocumented have a hard time accessing proper health services at a decent price.	3/7/2017 5:22 PM
120	Training programs for medical fields.	3/7/2017 5:13 PM
121	Hospitals Healthcare locally is not known to be very good. Especially the hospital.	3/7/2017 5:07 PM
122	Specialists More specialists	3/7/2017 5:04 PM
123	Insurance Not enough dentists who will accept insurance that state covers; high prices of medical assistance	3/7/2017 5:04 PM
124	Hospitals Specialists Poor care and lack of specialist at local hospitals.	3/7/2017 5:03 PM
125	Reputation	3/7/2017 4:49 PM
126	Insurance Gaps between the poor and the people who have insurance	3/7/2017 12:40 PM
127	lack specialties	3/7/2017 12:11 PM

Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) Survey

128	There are just not enough resources to help homeless receive the care needed. Non-profits are limited as government assistance disappears.	3/7/2017 11:42 AM
129	inadequate healthcare due to incompetent personnel	3/7/2017 11:28 AM
130	Specialists The lack of specialists, although there has been an effort to bring more specialists in - the sense is that you still need to go to a larger healthcare system for physicians who treat more complicated diseases regularly.	3/7/2017 11:28 AM
131	Carolinas Healthcare is not up to par, more money driven than quality of care.	3/7/2017 9:51 AM
132	Services Very few specialty services offered; typically have to travel to a bigger city for those services	3/7/2017 9:07 AM
133	Many people report going out of the county for their healthcare.	3/7/2017 8:55 AM
134	Insurance Even those fortunate enough to be fully insured still suffer financial hardship when faced with any medical procedure beyond routine screenings	3/7/2017 8:40 AM
135	The care at our local facility makes most people want to attend a facility in another town. Although our surgery center was recently upgraded and I have not heard responses since this happened.	3/6/2017 3:00 PM
136	Free clinics and other alternatives need to supported and explored to help the hundreds living at or below the poverty level in this area.	3/6/2017 1:47 PM
137	n/a	3/6/2017 1:13 PM
138	We do have many specialties; however, for most serious conditions you are still having to go to Winston, Asheville or Triangle. We do have an excellent NICU/birthing center at CVMC.	3/6/2017 1:06 PM
139	I think there are still people that do not have access to healthcare. lower income citizens.	3/6/2017 12:20 PM
140	Hospitals Gaps in the fact that Carolina's Healthcare System seems to have a monopoly on Healthcare in the area and wants to wash away our community heritage of Grace Hospital! It would be nice to have systematic competition for healthcare in the Morganton area.	3/6/2017 12:18 PM
141	There's finally an urgent care in Alexander Co. But if something actually happened and I needed more intensive care I would die.	3/6/2017 10:04 AM
142	Good work being done with establishing a Federally Qualified Health Care Center for the uninsured but still needs more providers with dental.	3/6/2017 10:00 AM
143	Hospitals Services We have pharmacies, chiropractors, weak urgent care, weak family practice, no specialty services, no hospital.	3/5/2017 8:46 AM
144	Not Affordable There are few options for individuals who can not afford healthcare, especially males.	3/4/2017 9:35 PM
145	Mental Health Services I would assume there could always be additional services for disadvantaged populations and persons needing substance abuse and/or mental health services.	3/3/2017 4:19 PM
146	Mental Health I don't think that low-income people, people with substance abuse problems, and people with mental health problems are able to get adequate care.	3/3/2017 3:09 PM
147	Doctors Hospitals Services Loss of active hospital services, Urgent Care services opened a couple years ago, local doctors remain. EMS must go out of county for acute services - distance for care a barrier for some residents.	3/3/2017 9:18 AM
148	Insurance Knowing what providers take what types of insurance and can care of what types of illnesses	3/2/2017 8:23 PM
149	Doctors Hospitals Alexander county has access to an urgent care and doctors offices only. We do not have a county hospital.	3/2/2017 7:47 AM
150	Hospitals There is no hospital in our community or pediatricians	3/1/2017 2:57 PM
151	Hospitals WE NEED A HOSPITAL!!!!!!!!!!!!!!	3/1/2017 2:52 PM
152	Hospitals Services I believe every community has gaps and could do a much better job with providing faster healthcare services - way too much waiting an hospital Emergency Rooms	3/1/2017 1:45 PM
153	Last information received, more than 1,000 citizens being denied medicad benefits. Yet, healthcare is critical to the elderly and poor.	3/1/2017 1:11 PM
154	Mental Health Yes, mental health for children-child psychiatrist.	3/1/2017 11:57 AM
155	Insurance There is only one medical facility that takes in patients with no insurance. Insurance is too costly to keep. There is also not a VA facility within reasonable driving distance for the elderly.	3/1/2017 8:15 AM
156	Not enough Family Practice and Speciality Physicians forcing patients to travel outside Burke County to seek care	2/28/2017 9:29 PM

Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) Survey

157	Hospitals Insurance Services There are gaps in all community's as far as healthcare goes and there will be until our leadership decides to fix this with universal healthcare. Stop gap measures such as ACA and whatever the current administration offers will now close these gaps. Public hospitals will still face the issue of not being reimbursed for services, being required to treat everyone, whether they have insurance or not and billing those that can pay for those treatments.	2/28/2017 3:26 PM
158	Hospitals No Hospital or ER	2/28/2017 11:17 AM
159	Standard of care is behind larger cities, facilities and state of the art knowledge are not current.	2/28/2017 12:31 AM
160	Mental Health substance abuse and mental health.	2/27/2017 1:26 PM
161	Uninsured and underinsured. We do have a FQHC but they are understaffed	2/27/2017 10:06 AM
162	Hospitals No hospital	2/27/2017 9:53 AM
163	Hospitals We have no medical hospital or in-patient psychiatric care for adults or youth, nor an in-patient detox center. We do not have good access to a psychiatrist either.	2/27/2017 8:08 AM
164	Doctors Hospitals As I stated earlier there is no hospital. The recent Addition of an urgent care is nice but EMS continue to transport outside of the county when more care is needed due to lack of equipment and facility generated supplies that a hospital would Offer. For example testing, MRI, CT, needing to be followed by or admitted by a Doctor.	2/27/2017 8:05 AM
165	Hospitals no hospital	2/27/2017 7:46 AM
166	Hospitals No hospital and one Urgent Care.	2/26/2017 10:39 PM
167	Doctors Hospitals We have local doctor offices but not hospitals or emergency care facilities.	2/26/2017 7:12 PM
168	Hospitals No hospital in county	2/26/2017 4:13 PM
169	Hospitals No hospital in our county	2/25/2017 10:15 PM
170	Hospitals There is no hospital in Alexander County. It just recently got an urgent care facility.	2/24/2017 10:13 PM
171	Insurance Access to care with transportation, medication prices, lack of insurance to those in need and those that are working part-time, etc. without children.	2/24/2017 6:38 PM
172	Although my community has certain gaps in its healthcare system, I believe this problem is evident in most to all healthcare systems in the United States. The issues can range from from almost insignificant to catastrophic.	2/24/2017 6:27 PM
173	Services If people need a specialized service, they have to leave the county. Two Urgent Care's recently opened in Burke County which helped the gaps in services.	2/24/2017 6:07 PM
174	Services Pain Management Clinics Substance abuse treatment Dialysis Services are clumped in Morganton area **	2/24/2017 5:35 PM
175	Insurance Few options for poor individuals. Local clinics pick up the slack, but many people go without health insurance	2/24/2017 5:33 PM
176	Hospitals No hospital operates in Alexander County which means there is no emergency room care.	2/24/2017 4:54 PM
177	Hospitals No hospital in the county.	2/24/2017 4:45 PM
178	Hospitals lack of a hospital	2/24/2017 4:42 PM
179	Mental Health Services more Mental Health Services needed	2/24/2017 4:35 PM
180	No twenty four care	2/24/2017 4:33 PM
181	Hospitals No hospital in Alexander County	2/24/2017 3:12 PM
182	Hospitals No hospital or urgent care facilities out of immediate town of Taylorsville	2/24/2017 2:53 PM
183	There is no care available for gynecology, obstetrics, or pediatrics in Alexander County	2/24/2017 2:49 PM
184	Hospitals I like Grace Hospital ok, but when my husband was deathly ill, my preference was Catawba Valley Medical Center. The only time we had to visit Grace ER, he was stuck in the hallway on a gurney the entire time. It was strange, BUT the staff was awesome and they helped him. Pfeiffer Wellness Center is great. I love the facilities and programs, and they have an excellent staff.	2/24/2017 2:44 PM
185	Hospitals No working Hospital.	2/24/2017 2:42 PM
186	Hospitals Though we now have an urgent care, we do not have a hospital.	2/24/2017 2:40 PM
187	Specialists There are not enough specialists (ie. neurologists, dermatologists, etc.) to serve our area without tremendous (months) of wait times for appointments.	2/24/2017 12:53 PM

Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) Survey

188	Hospitals No hospital in the county and only one Urgent Care. However,there is a good Health Dept.	2/23/2017 10:54 PM
189	It is hard to determine but there are many uninsured people still in the county that fall in the lack of medicaid expansion by the state government.	2/23/2017 10:28 PM
190	Low income and underinsured or uninsured have hard time obtaining health care. Need sliding for scales in practices	2/23/2017 7:41 PM
191	There are families that lack access to health care and dental care.	2/23/2017 12:48 PM
192	With regards to our size and location in the State, we have an excellent healthcare system available. However, if something major needs to be done WE ALL go to Asheville, Charlotte or Winston Salem.	2/23/2017 11:56 AM
193	Doctors Hospitals We have doctors and urgent care facilities, but no hospital.	2/23/2017 9:06 AM
194	Lack of counseling for individuals going through serious heath challenges.	2/22/2017 1:58 PM
195	Not Affordable affordable facilities, resources	2/22/2017 11:57 AM
196	Lack of medical providers that will take Medicare or Medicaid	2/22/2017 7:58 AM
197	Do not deport immigrants. Give them citizenship and register them to vote.	2/22/2017 3:35 AM
198	No emergency care facility	2/21/2017 8:30 PM
199	No emergency care in the county. Not enough family practices available	2/21/2017 8:23 PM
200	Hospitals We do not have a hospital in the county.	2/21/2017 4:46 PM
201	Hospitals We don't have a hospital or trauma facilities. Two years ago and Urgent Care Facility moved into the community, which was a great improvement.	2/21/2017 2:40 PM
202	Hospitals Services The "hospital" has been shuttered twice. Therefore so folks have to drive over 30 to get hospital services.	2/21/2017 12:45 PM
203	Hospitals While family practices and the health department do a wonderful job, our two hospitals are lacking skilled physicians and surgeons.	2/21/2017 12:19 PM
204	Hospitals Our local hospital closed.	2/21/2017 11:31 AM
205	Specialists I have to travel to a larger urban area in order to see the specialist I need. Primary care physicians seem to be overbooked.	2/21/2017 11:31 AM
206	To many people need to leave Catawba County to receive skilled medical care; cancer, heart, vision, GI. This is particularly true for our Veterans.	2/21/2017 10:21 AM
207	Hospitals no hospital	2/20/2017 4:00 PM
208	Healthcare is all we work for to pay. It is so expensive there is no money left for anything.	2/20/2017 3:43 PM
209	Need additional medical facilities which are open extended hours.	2/20/2017 2:45 PM
210	Hospitals Poor quality of treatment and facilities at Caldwell Memorial Hospital.	2/20/2017 12:57 PM
211	Hospitals We do not have a hospital, obstetrician, gynecologist, cardiologist....	2/20/2017 12:10 PM
212	Doctors Specialists family doctors are closing offices; doctors remaining aren't taking new patients (so you have to go outside of county for primary care); you also have to go outside the county for specialists; urgent care centers are popping up everywhere but they just refer you to emergency room or family doctor if its anything other than a cold.	2/20/2017 9:39 AM
213	Dermatology.	2/20/2017 8:39 AM
214	Hospitals Bethlehem desperately needs an urgent care facility. Also, Taylorsville needs an emergency room/hospital.	2/20/2017 1:03 AM
215	Not sufficient after-hours clinics. Access to specialized care for an aging population is limited.	2/19/2017 6:15 PM
216	Caldwell memorial has room for improvement	2/18/2017 4:13 PM
217	Doctors We refuse to use Caldwell Memorial outside of emergencies. It's nasty, unprofessional, and has unethical doctors. They try to get bigger rather than better.	2/18/2017 3:51 PM
218	The quality of health care here is poor. The responsiveness from the dr's is slow and not aggressive.	2/18/2017 9:07 AM
219	Insurance I have insurance and it's hard to pay insurance on family plan and meet deductibles.	2/18/2017 3:29 AM
220	Wish I knew .	2/17/2017 6:15 PM
221	Hospitals Specialists No hospital. Very few specialists.	2/17/2017 5:04 PM

Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) Survey

222	Doctors We lack specialized doctors in several fields. In my case, I would love to see a local dermatologist and more selections in terms of OB/GYN doctors.	2/17/2017 4:32 PM
223	Hospitals Services Hospital has poor reputation and seems to be interested in growth than quality of services	2/17/2017 4:30 PM
224	Not Affordable The gaps are the same nationwide, where the low-moderate income population are not able to afford healthcare.	2/17/2017 3:59 PM
225	Insurance The gaps are primarily related to the high numbers of the population who do not have health insurance. Many have chronic health conditions that are very expensive to manage without good health insurance coverage.	2/17/2017 3:38 PM
226	Hospitals STILL NO HOSPITAL!	2/17/2017 3:30 PM
227	Hospitals There is no hospital in the County.	2/17/2017 2:58 PM
228	Mental Health Services need more specialized children and geriatric services including psychiatric services, mental health services are definitely lacking	2/17/2017 2:30 PM
229	No local healthcare	2/17/2017 1:58 PM
230	Hospitals Services Specialists Extremely poor emergency room service at our local hospital. Also, there are many specialists still in-recruited for our area; therefore, clients have to seek services outside the county.	2/17/2017 1:49 PM
231	Doctors Doctors push drugs more than health.	2/17/2017 12:36 PM
232	Insurance Not Affordable Persons are going w/o health insurance& health care-cannot afford it	2/17/2017 12:22 PM
233	Hospitals Specialists This is working toward a better system, but there are still areas of improvement. Such as hospital, ER, and Specialists are needed	2/17/2017 10:25 AM
234	Hospitals There is only one hospital choice in Burke county and it is not a great choice. The hospital is terrible and needs a way to recruit better physicians. They need a better NICU and maternity care system,	2/17/2017 8:34 AM
235	Hospitals Specialists No hospital and only a few family practices no specialist	2/17/2017 8:12 AM
236	Hospitals Nearest hospital is 25 miles away.	2/17/2017 7:57 AM
237	Hospitals Large hospital in the county	2/17/2017 2:05 AM
238	Little access to specialty care	2/16/2017 11:28 PM
239	Doctors Hospitals No hospital, too few ambulances, too few doctors and dentists.	2/16/2017 6:07 PM
240	Doctors Hospitals No hospital Need more doctors Assisted Living in Southwestern part of county.	2/16/2017 5:27 PM
241	Hospitals No hospital	2/16/2017 5:21 PM
242	Doctors Hospitals No hospital in the county and few doctors.	2/16/2017 5:18 PM
243	Hospitals We do not have a hospital, although the Urgent Care is a blessing! They cannot do the blood work that my father requires, as he has had a liver transplant. So, we are forced to go to Catawba County for his healthcare.	2/16/2017 5:18 PM
244	Hospitals No hospital in county.	2/16/2017 5:06 PM
245	Services need free health services for50 plus	2/16/2017 5:01 PM
246	Hospitals No hospital	2/16/2017 4:34 PM
247	Hospitals Specialists No hospital. Very few specialists in our county.	2/16/2017 4:28 PM
248	Home health is lacking	2/16/2017 4:07 PM
249	Hospitals No Hospital	2/16/2017 4:07 PM
250	Hospitals Services No county hospital or ER services available	2/16/2017 3:59 PM
251	Mental Health Services some gaps in serving individuals in areas outside Hickory/Newton areas in more rural sections of the county - including physical and mental health services	2/16/2017 3:41 PM
252	Services Specialized surgical service for one. I'm not sure about other specialties.	2/16/2017 2:47 PM
253	Not Affordable Seniors need affordable care for dental work and a way to get new glasses. Medicare does not cover these things and it would keep people out of the emergency rooms to get antibiotics and from falling. Many times they fall because they are not seeing properly. I know of a lady that hasn't had a new pair of eye glasses in 14 years.	2/16/2017 1:14 PM
254	Hospitals No local hospital	2/16/2017 12:22 PM
255	Insurance Not Affordable Lack of affordable dental care and medical insurance.	2/16/2017 11:42 AM

Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) Survey

256	Hospitals Services No hospitals available in Alexander County. You have one urgent care. there is little variety for physicians and the ones available to me in my area are booked up so far ahead that they can never see us when we are sick. we got o Catawba County for better service.	2/16/2017 11:22 AM
257	I believe that we have not promoted the health care options in our community in an effect manner	2/16/2017 11:02 AM
258	Specialists In order to go to a specialist most people still go to Charlotte or Winston-Salem or Asheville	2/16/2017 10:46 AM
259	Insurance inadequate insurance options for working adults	2/16/2017 10:36 AM
260	dentists	2/16/2017 10:25 AM
261	There are limited Specialty physicians here.	2/16/2017 10:24 AM
262	Trauma Center No trauma center of any level.	2/16/2017 10:07 AM
263	Most major health concerns redirect to surrounding counties	2/16/2017 9:49 AM
264	Services The lack of available speciality healthcare due the large number of patients transferred out of county for services that should be available right her	2/16/2017 9:41 AM
265	Insurance Not Affordable lack of affordable insurance / too high co-pays/deductables	2/16/2017 9:28 AM
266	Insurance Little healthcare for those with no insurance. Those with insurance have large deductibles	2/16/2017 9:24 AM
267	Insurance There are still many uninsured and under-insured. Obamacare has been a disaster to many!	2/16/2017 9:22 AM
268	More specialty providers are needed	2/16/2017 8:05 AM
269	Hospitals We have neurosurgeons on staff at both hospitals although, we send out every neuro pt. that needs assistance to Wake or Baptist.	2/15/2017 11:38 PM
270	Few providers for low income, especially dental	2/15/2017 10:23 PM
271	Dermatologist.	2/15/2017 7:15 PM
272	Insurance The wait times, the co pays, the expensive supplies & the insurance companies dictating our lives instead of allowing us to make our own decisions about our health care.	2/15/2017 6:17 PM
273	Insurance As long as you have money then you are perfectly fine to receive all the healthcare you want. If you are from a poor family then you grow up with no health insurance and when problems or severe illnesses (cancer) arise you have to suffer.	2/15/2017 5:27 PM
274	Insurance Services To my knowledge, there is still a lot of people who don't have insurance or inadequate insurance, and only uses the healthcare services when a crisis happens. Need to make sure uninsured or inadequately insured gets sufficient coverage.	2/15/2017 4:56 PM
275	Doctors Claremont cannot attract quality doctors, and the ones who come last only a year or two at most.	2/15/2017 4:55 PM
276	Services Veterans Services	2/15/2017 4:55 PM
277	Hospitals Very difficult to find a primary health care physician that you feel comfortable and our hospitals have limited capability. Many times folks are sent to Charlotte or Winston-Salem.	2/15/2017 4:44 PM
278	Hospitals The regional hospital is now closed, and is used to host an occasional flea market in it's decaying parking lot.	2/15/2017 4:27 PM
279	Insurance Not Affordable Some people fall between the cracks because they don't qualify for Medicaid and can't afford private insurance, even with ACA subsidies. Dental care is often out of reach for these people also. There are inadequate treatment options for substance abuse and mental illness.	2/15/2017 4:27 PM
280	Specialists Trauma Center I have had to travel to Charlotte for my child to see specialists. We do not have trauma centers locally so many patients have to be airlifted out to other areas.	2/15/2017 4:19 PM
281	Insurance Because if you make too much to qualify for medial assistance, but your job doesn't offer insurance - even with the ACA, the cost of prescriptions for a chronic illness can be life threatening.	2/15/2017 4:15 PM
282	For our size I believe we have a range of family practices and a range of specialized care. More advanced care is sent out but I believe we have a good base to start care for our citizens.	2/15/2017 4:12 PM
283	Doctors Services There are doctors in the area who treat patients like they are criminals when they are only trying to get the services that they are eligible for.	2/15/2017 4:10 PM
284	Insurance Health insurance options for low wage, under employed and unemployed when not qualified for Social Security, Disability, Medicare or Medicaid should exist	2/15/2017 1:36 PM

Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) Survey

285	I have seen where the very poor are extremely limited to health care.	2/15/2017 1:25 PM
286	Hospitals Services Despite the County having two hospitals, it does not have a level one hospital with type of medical services available that you would see at Baptist in Winston-Salem or Carolinas Medical Center in Charlotte. This hurts us in recruiting retirees to come to the region.	2/15/2017 12:33 PM
287	Insurance If anyone is diagnosed with something serious, they usually travel to Charlotte or Winston-Salem for treatment. For those with insurance, Hickory is only for treating everyday illnesses that will go away quickly even without medical attention.	2/15/2017 11:02 AM
288	Services We see it more in the older adult population. Medicare only pays a portion of needed services for the elderly.	2/15/2017 9:57 AM
289	Mental Health Dental!!! Mental/ emotional health Substance abuse	2/14/2017 9:22 PM
290	Services We have good access to traditional healthcare services, both in town and through referrals regionally. We need to apply a greater focus in two areas: investment in community/population health/prevention and research.	2/14/2017 8:31 PM
291	Hospitals We only have one Urgent care, no hospital, very little specialties	2/14/2017 7:37 PM
292	Hospitals No hospital.	2/14/2017 6:25 PM
293	Hospitals I do not trust our local hospitals due to past experiences	2/14/2017 5:45 PM
294	Hospitals We have no hospital and a single urgent care facility. No large Pharmacy's such as walgreens or cvs to provide flu shots or a minute-clinic type	2/14/2017 4:11 PM
295	Hospitals No hospital for emergencies	2/14/2017 3:48 PM
296	Hospitals No hospital.	2/14/2017 1:46 PM
297	Hospitals Mental Health No hospital/ emergency room. No mental health professionals except for state funded clinic that is sometimes without a psychiatrist.	2/14/2017 1:22 PM
298	Hospitals No hospital	2/14/2017 1:13 PM
299	Services The opportunity for equitable healthcare services.	2/14/2017 12:27 PM
300	Services No emergency services.	2/14/2017 12:11 PM
301	Hospitals There is a "perception" we need a hospital. Face it, this county could not support one. We are fortunate to have a prompt care center. We need more rescue squads to serve the rural areas.	2/14/2017 11:57 AM
302	Hospitals No Hospital in the county, only an urgent care with fairly "normal" hours.	2/14/2017 11:26 AM
303	Insurance People who don't qualify for medicaid and do not have insurance or are under-insured still lack access to medical care. Transportation is also an issue for medical care.	2/14/2017 11:08 AM
304	People with substance use disorders are often not referred to treatment. With a high number of folks living in poverty, they don't have a primary care physician.	2/14/2017 10:57 AM
305	Hospitals Having an Urgent Care is an improvement, but the lack of a hospital handicaps this county. Unsure of the feasibility of one operating here due to the close proximity of so many other neighboring hospitals.	2/14/2017 10:41 AM
306	Insurance Inadequate transportation and challenges for those people who do not receive an insurance supplement but receive no health benefits through work.	2/14/2017 10:21 AM
307	Can't keep good medics, dispatchers, or other emergency personnel because of pay	2/14/2017 10:08 AM
308	Hospitals No hospital	2/14/2017 9:33 AM
309	Doctors There are more hair salons and used car lots than there are doctors or medical facilities available in the county.	2/14/2017 9:08 AM
310	Services The Caldwell Emergency Department is poor to horrible. Service is poor, treatment is lacking and the facility needs renovation to compete locally. Additionally, education needs to be in place on management of aging population. Our healthcare system is inadequate to manage the upcoming silver tsunami.	2/14/2017 8:50 AM
311	I am not aware of any gaps, only the perception of poor quality.	2/13/2017 5:20 PM
312	Hospitals We don't have a hospital.	2/13/2017 4:06 PM
313	Trauma Center Access to specialty care (dentistry, diabetes/chronic disease management, eye care, colonoscopy) for low-income/self-pay individuals; trauma center	2/13/2017 4:02 PM

Q32 Do you have any other thoughts about the region's economic competitiveness that you would like to share with us?

Answered: 341 Skipped: 642

#	Responses	Date
1	Jobs Choose to live in Caldwell and love it. Many do not have the advantages I have had. Deep poverty is still their lives and their futures because of lack of good jobs. Flows down to their children.	3/12/2017 9:49 PM
2	Jobs Misc. Opportunities Retaining Young People We need to provide local job opportunities in order to keep our young people from moving away	3/11/2017 9:41 PM
3	more entertainment venues is needed.	3/11/2017 9:05 PM
4	It is centrally located in the western part of our state. Beautiful scenery and many areas for growth outward into the other counties.	3/11/2017 6:34 PM
5	Lenoir has started a major expansion of its greenway trail system that bodes well in making our city/town more attractive to retirees who wish to maintain fitness.	3/11/2017 11:56 AM
6	We need a long term plan to determine our needs, i.e educated/qualified workforce and good housing choices (not just subsidized affordable housing) that all government entities, County and Municipalities, will buy into to and develop a marketing strategy	3/11/2017 9:53 AM
7	Improve Streets	3/11/2017 3:56 AM
8	need more technical training...use community college resource better	3/10/2017 8:35 PM
9	Support Public Education from prenatal through Associate's Degree!!!	3/10/2017 5:29 PM
10	Need to expand educational levels for new aged manufacturing and technology.	3/10/2017 5:01 PM
11	Providing the highest quality public education to our students is the key to the region's economic competitiveness. It will allow us to overcome obstacles of our shifting economy and attract and retain a community of citizens that thrive. I wonder if consolidation of the school systems in Catawba County would assist that goal.	3/10/2017 3:57 PM
12	It's a complete shame that this area, which is located in one of the country's mega-regions, has fallen behind economically, while other areas within the region continue to grow and prosper. It must be addressed that while some external factors, out of the control of county and municipal leaders, have led to the region's economic downturn, a portion of the blame can be placed on the conservative, parochial mindset of the privileged few decision makers that has led parts this area to look unlike some disheveled, little known country in Asia. It's beyond time for the county and city commissioners to admit their mistakes, resign from their positions, and encourage the younger generation of Americans to prove that they are capable of doing better.	3/10/2017 3:49 PM
13	i don't understand why our region is not doing better. We have community colleges, two universities near by and good public schools. there is a disconnect somewhere.	3/10/2017 3:32 PM
14	Jobs A comprehensive plan including industry jobs does not exist!!	3/10/2017 3:20 PM
15	Businesses The "Good ole boy" system is still at work. We need to welcome minorities in small business, keep LR grads here by offering more for single adults to do to engage with each other.	3/10/2017 2:53 PM
16	The is a wage gap problem in our area. Too many office personnel are way underpaid. People can't live on \$8 or \$10 an hour. You have to look at the root cause and deal with it. Too many people in our community are under educated, have no social skills, have no life management skills, use drugs, have preventable health problems and have no work ethic. The middle class is shrinking and the poverty ridden lower class is growing.	3/10/2017 2:28 PM
17	Jobs Retaining Young People We have been slow to develop, and now playing catch up to Charlotte. As a result, we are losing young people to them for jobs and quality of life decisions.	3/10/2017 2:09 PM
18	Entertainment We need more family friendly activities, both indoor and outdoor.	3/10/2017 2:02 PM
19	Let's break up the secret-society, elite-few mindset and collaborate in tangible ways.	3/10/2017 1:28 PM

Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) Survey

20	Jobs Catawba and Burke counties seem to be much more progressive than Caldwell and Alexander. If I want a boatload of unskilled workers for low paying jobs, I would set up shop in Caldwell or Alexander. If I wanted more highly skilled workers with more abilities and initiatives, I would look to Catawba and Burke. These surveys have been being done for 20 years it seems, and nothing ever changes. The County Commissioners are all on some stupid power ride. All they want to be is a big fish in a little pond and want to get re-elected. Re-elected means keep taxes low, so not much money goes into really really trying to improve the community for the long term. It is all about short term gains and/or status quo. so sad.	3/10/2017 1:21 PM
21	We have to invest in K-12 Public Education	3/10/2017 1:14 PM
22	Businesses More collaboration between Gvt, Non-Gvt, private business.	3/10/2017 12:58 PM
23	Businesses Focusing on the good businesses, good infrastructure, and available working pool skilled or at a minimum capable of being taught with resources to do so will strengthen the county.	3/10/2017 12:31 PM
24	Misc. Opportunities I think that Burke, Catawba and Caldwell should collaborate more and not be in competition with each other and promote our area as a region of opportunity	3/10/2017 12:15 PM
25	Businesses It will serve better to keep religion out of places of business especially any government establishments. It must not occur to people that not everyone want to be subjected to that no matter what your religion is.	3/10/2017 12:06 PM
26	Keep working at it. I know it is not easy but the efforts will pay off.	3/10/2017 11:47 AM
27	Economic development is a team sport. You can't be an island within the state.	3/10/2017 11:40 AM
28	Retaining Young People We need to make the area so that young people want to stay and move here.	3/10/2017 11:34 AM
29	I love my community. I seek ways on participating. It would be great to help empower those who have never been involved in the community do so. Better awareness of committees to serve on for our citizens to participate in. They just don't know and don't know how to find out.	3/10/2017 11:27 AM
30	Good education system, great location for shipping, close proximity to Asheville/Charlotte metro areas.	3/10/2017 11:17 AM
31	Businesses Competitive Incentive Packages to draw big businesses here.	3/10/2017 11:15 AM
32	Accessibility Need more housing options, i.e. apartments, townhouses, etc. continue improvements on access roads from the interstate into downtown.	3/10/2017 10:51 AM
33	Caldwell county would benefit from a good movie theater.	3/10/2017 10:43 AM
34	Jobs Misc. Opportunities County job fairs with a wide variety of opportunities for our area that is widely advertised.	3/10/2017 10:26 AM
35	Businesses I own a small company. My biggest issue in growing my company (65% of my business is in Catawba County) is hiring quality workers. Workforce is lazy and rather be supported by the Government. There will be no growth in any sector if people do not want to work.	3/10/2017 9:10 AM
36	Better pay and support in the school systems	3/10/2017 8:30 AM
37	Our area is as well maintained as possible with the loss of tobacco textiles and furniture -this is hard to recover We have been in recession a lot longer than others areas	3/10/2017 7:42 AM
38	Na	3/9/2017 8:30 PM
39	More public transportation.	3/9/2017 2:06 PM
40	Need more assistance with medical bills for lower to middle class families.	3/9/2017 12:41 PM
41	Misc. Opportunities Would like to see a cohesive branding effort for the area at- large. This could tie-in with the bond referendum efforts in Hickory and highlight the growth and opportunity that exists across the 4 counties.	3/9/2017 11:58 AM
42	Repurpose old factories into something besides Walmart.	3/9/2017 11:52 AM
43	Teacher pay is by far an area that there is little competitiveness in. Good teachers who are able to move to better paying schools out of state or county will move to those schools.	3/9/2017 11:39 AM
44	Not at this time.	3/9/2017 9:28 AM
45	N/A	3/9/2017 8:30 AM

Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) Survey

46	Jobs Retaining Young People I am currently searching for apartments in the Catawba county area, and it's extremely frustrating. There are tons of places for income restricted housing, and a tiny few in hickory well beyond my budget, but it's next to impossible to find a 1- 2 bedroom apartment/house/duplex/ etc for less than \$700 that isnt a dump. I'm a single young woman with a steady job, and I'd like to stay in this county, there's just nowhere to live (that makes economic sense). Please build more small apartments for regular people with a single income budget (400-600 monthly). If I'm spending a huge chunk of my income on housing anyway, I'll do it in Charlotte or Greenville SC, where I'll enjoy it a lot more.	3/8/2017 11:31 PM
47	None at this time.	3/8/2017 11:03 PM
48	Look beyond the same people; broaden ideas by bringing innovative thinkers to the table	3/8/2017 9:45 PM
49	Businesses I'm not sure we are competitive. We have several small businesses but very little large 300+ employee businesses	3/8/2017 8:47 PM
50	I think Burke County has grown a lot with the shopping development. The schools are working hard to make sure the students are growing and keeping up as well. Teachers work really hard and should be shown how valuable they are.	3/8/2017 8:08 PM
51	Jobs Instead of trying to move in more people into low income housing, we need to be making the ones on assistance, get training, get & keep a job & get more retail stores here, Marshalls & decent stores moved away & nothing ever replaces the ones leaving.	3/8/2017 6:22 PM
52	None at this time.	3/8/2017 5:18 PM
53	Burke County has a fairly diverse population--in terms of economic status, race/ethnicity, religion, sexual orientation, age, etc--and I would love to see this incorporated more in development planning and marketing. It seems like most of the development/events/marketing materials are aimed at a certain audience (essentially, white middle or upper-middle class, straight, etc) and I think we would better serve our community (and others) by representing the full spectrum of our diverse population.	3/8/2017 5:00 PM
54	Businesses Burke County still seems to be focused on careers and a mind-set from about 20 years ago. It needs to focus on up-coming careers and businesses and how best to get our citizens ready for these new areas.	3/8/2017 4:09 PM
55	I do feel that our county does not recruit larger companies that would hire larger amounts of people, in areas like manufacturing, technology, etc.	3/8/2017 3:20 PM
56	Jobs I would like to see our community partner with specific industries to enroll workers in "on the job" or hands on type training class sessions.	3/8/2017 3:08 PM
57	We need to be more competitive.	3/8/2017 2:51 PM
58	Encourage stores like Pennies, Hamricks, etc. and some more good restaurants to locate here. We need more competition. we also need to fill up all of these empty buildings that are not being used.	3/8/2017 2:24 PM
59	Morganton in particular needs to venture away from the redneck persona and strive to be more like Asheville. Country Music stars at the festival are terrible and the drug/pill problem is serious. People think BURKE county is drugs/rednecks and we need to move away from that	3/8/2017 2:17 PM
60	I would like to see more large-chain restaurants come to Morganton. (i.e. Texas Roadhouse, Outback, etc.)	3/8/2017 1:59 PM
61	Resource based marketing requires that there be a resource for all who visit and it has to be more than just a view!	3/8/2017 1:49 PM
62	Our schools continue to teach much the way the did twenty years ago. A new approach is necessary.	3/8/2017 1:34 PM
63	No	3/8/2017 1:07 PM
64	Morganton would be served greatly by more commerce...restaurants, donut shops, craft stores, etc. Many people drive to Hickory for restaurants and shopping and much of the money spent by Burke county residents goes to another county.	3/8/2017 12:58 PM
65	Our leaders need to think outside the box instead of what they may gain from the process. Think about the citizens more than they do about their own careers.	3/8/2017 12:17 PM
66	none	3/8/2017 12:09 PM
67	no	3/8/2017 11:28 AM
68	Bring in educational lottery money for the community colleges to fund the humanities and arts.	3/8/2017 11:16 AM
69	no	3/8/2017 10:51 AM
70	Add stores like Target, Publix, etc, add more quality restaurants	3/8/2017 10:30 AM
71	One of our high schools could be converted into a vocational school.	3/8/2017 10:16 AM

Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) Survey

72	Accessibility Businesses More money and incentives for business retention versus business recruitment. Small business is not supported like large business or corporations. Its a shame that small business has no access to incentives. Burke County is like every county in the US, building industrial parks and recruiting with huge tax breaks. Instead of focus on those two items, invest in what is already in place. Drastically lower taxes for development of housing. Invest and capitalize on recreation with private entities to create the desire to relocate to Burke.	3/8/2017 10:06 AM
73	Morganton is a beautiful little town and has much to offer and still more potential to bring people here. Adding something to downtown can help.	3/8/2017 10:03 AM
74	Jobs More textiles, jobs for teenagers and young adults who are in school or college.	3/8/2017 9:56 AM
75	Jobs Burke County is a beautiful area to live in but there is nothing here to attract or keep our children here once they graduate from college. If you don't work for the state, school system or health care - there is very little to offer "job wise". Because for years this county depended on the furniture industry, when they all started closing there was nothing for that particular workforce to fall back on - except government support -welfare, foodstamps, etc. Therefore over time there has been an increase of illegal drug manufacturing and usage. There needs to be a variety of manufacturers - technology, hosiery/apparel, automotive, etc.	3/8/2017 9:51 AM
76	I do think we need to advertise the wonderful aspects that are currently present on Burke County. It is okay to BRAG!	3/8/2017 9:36 AM
77	We need more stores in Alexander County. We have Walmart and Food Lion. There is no competitiveness in our county.	3/8/2017 9:36 AM
78	none	3/8/2017 9:22 AM
79	As a poor rural county, Burke is at a disadvantage with the more urban counties to attract and retain young professionals. However, Burke is a good place to raise a family. We need to focus on ways to attract young professional families. That suggests having a strong public school system.	3/8/2017 9:20 AM
80	no	3/8/2017 9:17 AM
81	We have a beautiful community with many resources that could do so much more without the petty politics that have plagued our county for too many years.	3/8/2017 9:14 AM
82	no	3/8/2017 8:56 AM
83	Businesses Retaining Young People Encourage businesses to come to Morganton, NOT prevent young people from "starting up" here.	3/8/2017 8:51 AM
84	I would like to see the County collaborate more in time, efforts and finances to projects with municipalities within their County.	3/8/2017 8:50 AM
85	Misc. Opportunities No, but I would like to share this.....#15 did not have a comment section....my community does not have but I answered for the whole county.....However, I would like to see places as elaborate as the greenways of Morganton also in the eastern burke area!!!! No where near the opportunities for kids in eastern Burke to ride bike, walk, Martha's park, and be outside like in Morganton.	3/8/2017 8:50 AM
86	Jobs We must do a better job of recruiting industry to this area!!	3/8/2017 8:42 AM
87	There needs to be a bike lane around Lake James. I think this would help with safety of bike riders but also would bring a wealth of tourism to the area.	3/8/2017 8:38 AM
88	It appears.... there are more attempts to make the mid level income population work harder for successful income and less attempts for higher income population to be successful. - Opinion only. Thank you	3/8/2017 8:37 AM
89	Jobs In Burke County we need industry, technology, manufacturing to come into our area. We are not growing and helping our citizens by having a Super WalMart with minimum wage jobs.	3/8/2017 8:36 AM
90	Once Furniture went Overseas, the area DIED.	3/8/2017 8:34 AM
91	None at this time	3/8/2017 8:34 AM
92	better incentives for all teachers	3/8/2017 8:26 AM
93	none	3/8/2017 8:24 AM
94	no	3/8/2017 8:22 AM
95	Yes, we need some or we are going to be that little whistle-stop town that people remember from there childhood but isn't there anymore.	3/8/2017 8:20 AM
96	I personally believe more industry should be established in burke county.	3/8/2017 8:17 AM
97	Jobs Schools could pay workers more especially those working in high risk jobs.	3/8/2017 8:12 AM

Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) Survey

98	no	3/8/2017 8:09 AM
99	Jobs There is a growing number of teachers and funding towards our STEM education in Burke county that many of us feel is the most important aspect to growing this community and getting jobs back to Burke. We are working hard to graduate skilled workers with critical thinking skills that may help in a technical or industrial setting, also working with programming and mechanical engineering.	3/8/2017 8:01 AM
100	Jobs I wish Burke county would invest in our schools and change administration goals that empower teachers and students rather than control and dictate. I also wish Burke county would invest in bringing jobs back to the area.	3/8/2017 7:57 AM
101	Jobs Misc. Opportunities We are not competitive but have many opportunities for growth and greater employment that we have let slip by due to failed leadership at the county and city levels. Many of our educated young adults leave and do not return because a lack of job opportunities.	3/8/2017 7:57 AM
102	I feel that eastern Burke County needs a recreation facility.	3/8/2017 7:55 AM
103	none	3/8/2017 7:49 AM
104	Misc. Opportunities Need Walking trails, more natural gas, and solar opportunities	3/8/2017 7:45 AM
105	Need to increase safety and lower crime rates. Downtown areas feel safe, but smaller communities feel neglected. Also, I would like to see cleaner, more up to date restaurants in the outskirts of the county. Smaller towns seem to lack appeal.	3/8/2017 7:28 AM
106	none	3/8/2017 7:23 AM
107	Bring in companies that pay livable wages and have good benefits!	3/8/2017 6:56 AM
108	Businesses Invest in creation of "growth businesses" (e.g. biotechnology, robotics, automotive supply chains, hard automation components, medical devices, etc.).	3/8/2017 6:14 AM
109	Misc. Opportunities flight of the millenials to urban areas is an issue; natural beauty and recreation attracts them, but we need competitive employment opportunities fueled by training at WPCC	3/7/2017 11:21 PM
110	Educate, Educate, Educate....Also, build on our closeness to the mountains. Look into CLEAN energy sources....	3/7/2017 11:06 PM
111	we are not as fast paced as Mecklenburg County, but we have excellent resources.	3/7/2017 10:58 PM
112	Jobs Vocational training at the high school level for many not attending college. Begin early obtaining job skills. More jobs for minorities... forgotten in work force.	3/7/2017 10:43 PM
113	Because of significant economic setbacks in the past which has bereft the county of much of its manufacturing base the populace is not prepared educationally or emotionally to step up to significant economic growth. Evidently there is not much here to incentivize small industry to locate here, because it is not happening. It would be wonderful if someone sold the assets of Morganton and got things moving again like it once did.	3/7/2017 10:21 PM
114	None	3/7/2017 9:58 PM
115	n/a	3/7/2017 9:42 PM
116	As a veteran teacher with 12 years experience there is no monetary incentive to stay in this community.	3/7/2017 9:32 PM
117	No.	3/7/2017 9:25 PM
118	Entertainment Activities for younger and teen, school-age children are lacking- birthday party venues, such as bounce gyms, trampoline parks, and bowling alleys would be appealing for weekend entertainment without having to drive so far to find indoor places for gathering of students.	3/7/2017 9:22 PM
119	Misc. Opportunities Make opportunities available to all not just the select few. The hardest working ones are the ones you least expect.	3/7/2017 9:08 PM
120	I believe our biggest challenge is to attract manufacturers to come to our area.	3/7/2017 9:08 PM
121	Burke County needs to have an economic identity. The county has a lot going for it, it needs to figure out what it wants to be.	3/7/2017 8:55 PM
122	Businesses I feel like we are trying to grow as a community. We are finally allowing some chain restaurants, besides fast food, into the town. I feel like Morganton has stopped economic growth due to the influence of a few people who have not wanted competition in the area. I like to see a mix of local businesses and chain businesses.	3/7/2017 8:55 PM
123	Jobs Need to have collaboration between schools and manufacturers in establishing advanced manufacturing jobs.	3/7/2017 8:43 PM
124	We DO NOT need more "dollar stores" in the county.	3/7/2017 8:30 PM
125	Needed innovative industry.....	3/7/2017 8:27 PM

Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) Survey

126	Our county needs to focus on putting people back to work in order to build the economy and fund our public schools	3/7/2017 8:26 PM
127	I realized in filling this out that I am not as well informed as I would wish to be.	3/7/2017 8:20 PM
128	Businesses Jobs Morganton is still the Queen of the Highlands and attracts many people and business leaders around the state. The city did a great job with keeping our downtown alive and thriving.	3/7/2017 8:06 PM
129	repeal nafta we need our ind. back	3/7/2017 8:01 PM
130	no	3/7/2017 7:40 PM
131	Jobs I think we need to create jobs and make people work instead of handing out to them. American people have became lazy and I believe it is our fault. People have learned how to play the system to their advantage. I think it is time to buckle down on these free loaders.	3/7/2017 7:39 PM
132	Businesses Jobs Misc. Opportunities This county needs businesses that offer competitive wages, health benefits, etc. for people with and without without a college education. Unless you work in healthcare or the education system, there are not very many opportunities for people to even work full-time. People cannot afford to raise a family on part-time minimum wage jobs. Maybe Burke County needs to take lessons from Caldwell and Catawba counties on how to draw business to the county.	3/7/2017 7:29 PM
133	Jobs More should be done to bring jobs for less skilled workers. Equip them with training at a low or no cost fee.	3/7/2017 7:24 PM
134	sucks	3/7/2017 7:17 PM
135	Please work to complete the trail system that could run from Linville through to South Mountain Park. It could be a big economic pull for our county.	3/7/2017 7:13 PM
136	Jobs Misc. Opportunities We need more jobs than just fast food opportunities.	3/7/2017 7:04 PM
137	Poor education produces a poor and unproductive workforce.	3/7/2017 7:03 PM
138	Accessibility Has access to outdoor recreation but fails to attract adventure tourism like buncombe and watauga	3/7/2017 6:44 PM
139	Jobs I think burke county has a lot of potential when it comes to economic growth. However there is no jobs that offer competitive pay especially in the public education sector.	3/7/2017 6:37 PM
140	Businesses We have lost our tax base as industry has left the area. We need to bring in business.	3/7/2017 6:36 PM
141	Development would reduce the need to travel to surrounding areas for consumers.	3/7/2017 6:34 PM
142	Yes, there needs to be more public gas. In the rural areas, you are forced to buy propane. It cost is like filling up house with gas at local gas station, which is really expensive. I think this is an area that needs to be explored, especially since you have elderly and at-risk living in many rural areas. Just my thoughts.	3/7/2017 6:15 PM
143	Businesses Yes things are going well since we have Morganton Geoghts but I would like to see different businesses such as Hobby Lobby and Barnes and Noble come to Morganton	3/7/2017 6:12 PM
144	Not really	3/7/2017 6:05 PM
145	They need to bring back cursive writing and history to school.	3/7/2017 6:01 PM
146	The lack of public transportation. Lack of restaurants serving healthy choices (such as a juice bar or a place to get salads or meals cooked with fresh wholesome recipes). There are also not many choices in theaters. There are no craft stores such as hobby lobby, Michaels or AC Moore. I love our town but we need to realize why people travel to Hickory to find some of these things.	3/7/2017 5:40 PM
147	Utilize the airport that is local.	3/7/2017 5:39 PM
148	It's just sad to see what once was a booming industry (furniture and textiles) in this county has almost disappeared, and so many lives/families have been directly affected over the past 20-25 years because of it.	3/7/2017 5:35 PM
149	No	3/7/2017 5:31 PM
150	None	3/7/2017 5:29 PM
151	Not as economically competitive as we should be.	3/7/2017 5:28 PM
152	Jobs I believe Catawba county had done a tremendous job in developing economically. The only change I would like to see are more indoor sports venues for the children and youth to use!	3/7/2017 5:23 PM
153	Businesses Our town has huge potential. I would love to see more for children (such as a kids museum like found in rutherforddon /Kid senses) I would love to see more small business in our unique downtown.	3/7/2017 5:18 PM
154	It is not like this is really going to change anything in Burke County until there are some changes in the County and City of Morganton government.	3/7/2017 5:17 PM

Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) Survey

155	Burke county is a great area and has so much to offer. We need to accentuate the positives of the area.	3/7/2017 5:17 PM
156	We need to be aggressive in promotin future ready industry and green tech.	3/7/2017 5:16 PM
157	Businesses Allow business to thrive and expand. Lower business tax and regulations. The previous will lead to economic expansion and therefore increased tax revenues. Let the economy grow from the private sector, not the public sector.	3/7/2017 5:05 PM
158	Better restaurants.	3/7/2017 5:03 PM
159	Government should get out of the way	3/7/2017 12:11 PM
160	Entertainment activity will cause activity. celebrate small victories and look for the larger ones.	3/7/2017 11:55 AM
161	Need more industry.	3/7/2017 8:55 AM
162	I feel that Burke County is on the right track. Asheville has provided a blueprint for success in the area. Attract the arts and industry will follow	3/7/2017 8:40 AM
163	Retaining Young People We need....more areas for our young people to gather...new skating rink , ice skating, bowling, rock climbing facilities. Update date BC public library- modern space for kids to study. Free Wifi. Indoor shooting range. Big open farmers market. An area like Biltmore Square Park- residential and shops. Build it and they will come!	3/6/2017 10:42 PM
164	Continue marketing and telling the stories of successes in our area. Much happens that no one knows about; it's like many want to keep any success as secret for fear of growing larger. There must be managed growth to avoid becoming a ghost town.	3/6/2017 6:14 PM
165	Businesses It would be interesting to know what is being used to attract new business and industry to the area. Tax incentives? We have a beautiful place with a lot to offer!	3/6/2017 1:47 PM
166	I feel that the local specific restaurants, breweries, wineries, greenways and promoting and participating in sustainable programs (and offering products to consumers) in agriculture, beekeeping, energy sources and arts/crafts do much to attract young families as well as encourage local young adults to remain and contribute to a vibrant community. This should continue to be strong areas of focus.	3/6/2017 1:35 PM
167	no	3/6/2017 1:13 PM
168	Misc. Opportunities I chose to stay here for family. If it were not for my husband's strong family ties, I would not have chosen to stay in the area. Economically, there were much better opportunities for me elsewhere.	3/6/2017 1:06 PM
169	I hope we are not putting our eggs all in one basket with the Broughton redo project and the Western School of Science and Math!	3/6/2017 12:18 PM
170	Businesses Obvious that the textile and furniture business leaving the area and significant negative impact. However this area could revitalize by become a more sustainable area for people working in and out of Charlotte. A feasible rail-line for commuting into the city from Conover and Newton would be a good idea. More vital downtown, similar to a Morganton would appeal to those willing to travel to Charlotte.	3/6/2017 11:46 AM
171	People would stay in the area because of family ties IF they felt like it was mainstream, lively, and a good place to live.	3/6/2017 11:31 AM
172	Misc. Opportunities quit trying to bring back large furniture/textile plants and focus on smaller boutique opportunities. Target small craft breweries, wineries, specialty shops, made to order furniture, etc.	3/6/2017 10:23 AM
173	There is no strategic plan for our community, only independent entities running in circles developing their own individualized missions and visions. Enormous lack of strong leadership at the top.	3/5/2017 1:47 PM
174	Accessibility Misc. Opportunities Local brand should be reviewed. There's a mass exodus each workday morning leaving the county for better work opportunities and higher pay. Give people a reason to stay, work, and play. Tax rates do not justify local amenities. Dream big on occasion. Vibrancy and vitality should be a common theme. Be aggressive in negotiations for tech companies, manufacturing, healthcare. We have great opportunities with railroad access. Take advantage of our natural resources- lake, mountains, hiking, rock climbing, etc. And have places for people to stay locally. Keep leadership accountable and don't be afraid to keep fresh faces in those positions.	3/5/2017 8:46 AM
175	Businesses Our area is dying - we need to bring businesses here to make our community attractive to middle class families.	3/4/2017 4:49 PM

Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) Survey

176	You people need to get your heads out of your asses. Parks will not bring employers to Hickory. I feel like you are digging to further "help" lazy people who have made a career of taking handouts. This place is a has been. People who come back say time has stood still if not reversed. The second I start to go south or east the counties are growing. Lincoln country keeps adding building just off of 321 and they keep adding more. Maybe our shinny new Bojangles and truck stop on 321 will reduce Catawba county's unemployment by 25-30 people. As soon as my kid graduates high school we are gone. Our local leadership has killed this county just like the politicians in DC. Thanks for allowing me to voice my opinion- I know it won't change anything but I hope you feel guilty for what has happened here for at least a second.	3/4/2017 4:36 PM
177	great potential beginning to come to fruition. Needs more employment in technology, science and high service to attract workforce of 20-45 years of age	3/3/2017 6:08 PM
178	Things are looking up in Burke County. We need state of the art broadband, a modern employer that will hire our youth and young professionals. We've got to attract and keep 25 - 55 age group. One good 21st century employer would ignite everything else.	3/3/2017 5:01 PM
179	I'm extremely worried about the growth of Hickory (or lack thereof) and hope new industries can come in and that the region will continue to experience diversity in ethnic background, age, etc.	3/3/2017 4:19 PM
180	I would love to see more entertainment options for young professionals in the area	3/3/2017 3:41 PM
181	We need to promote ourselves better. Tell our good stories.	3/3/2017 3:33 PM
182	Businesses Why is Lenoir/Caldwell County ahead of Burke in getting large corporations to move into their county? Burke has I-40; shouldn't be any competition, but Burke County does not market itself enough or in the best way to get these businesses to move into our county.....in my opinion!	3/3/2017 3:31 PM
183	Misc. Opportunities I'd like to see Downtown Morganton and the 800 acres that includes Broughton, WPCC, the Deaf School and (soon) the NC School of Math & Science transformed to draw both new residents and tourists. I hope to see new housing, hotels, shops, restaurants, and recreation/entertainment opportunities. Crumbling buildings (like the old Drexel plant buildings near Roses) need to be demolished. It would be wonderful if Burke County could entice some major, national manufacturers to relocate here.	3/3/2017 3:09 PM
184	Businesses Jobs Retaining Young People Stop being envious of places like Greenville, SC and Chattanooga, TN. That is not Catawba County. Consider Lincoln County Business Park, a picture of manufacturing diversity. Look at the land available in Catawba County along US321. Build a business park that will attract JOBS. You can still try your snooty "Class A" business park behind CVCC, which was sold as a \$15M project, not a \$5M project, before the bond wording was quietly change to include the " or other uses" wording. Even the HDR in announcing passage said "The latter (\$15M) funds a business park to attract private job creators". GM is not going to move their HQ to Hickory. Hickory could not even keep Corning, although I understand from Corning insiders the Hickory mayor gave it his best Boss Hog try. Young people need jobs to remain in the area, not sidewalks and iconic bridges along the N&W railroad track. Catawba County should set its economic development sights / \$ on the Hwy 16 expansion and forget Hickory. Hickory is going nowhere with its 40% increase in future property taxes thanks to the bond referendum. Municipal suicide by greedy politicians.	3/3/2017 3:09 PM
185	Businesses The area needs to band together and promote the Foothills region rather than a this is mine attitude. There are many attributes in the region and if the areas would work towards a common goal, it might draw more attention to industry and retail business. Any team is stronger than one individual.	3/3/2017 3:02 PM
186	We have to find a way to keep our middle age families.	3/3/2017 2:45 PM
187	Misc. Opportunities Increase public safety levels: more law enforcement personnel and solicit higher level of health care facility back to community. Increase opportunities for national restaurants/clothing/department stores to locate here - keeping funds here verse over county lines. Thus, establishing a safe, enjoyable community between Charlotte and the Blue Ridge. Alexander County needs to be a more open community, an equal partner with our neighbors.	3/3/2017 9:18 AM
188	Alexander's EDC is waste of money	3/1/2017 6:44 PM
189	NA	3/1/2017 3:07 PM
190	I am disappointed in the state that our county is in. Our county passed the alcohol referendum and as soon as this happened I could see new projects beginning. I was very excited when I heard that we were getting an Aldis but my hopes were short lived when I learned that we were getting ANOTHER autoparts store in front of Goody's along with ANOTHER car wash. Why can't we grow??? Why can't we have better stores, restaurants, venues for our people????? I am one that will go out of town to purchase most items because the selection and prices are just that much better.	3/1/2017 2:52 PM
191	The region would do well to open up to the renewable energy market that is exploding in more developed parts of NC. Also there should be more promotion to buy local and increase Farmer's Markets and Co-Ops	3/1/2017 8:15 AM
192	n/a	2/28/2017 3:47 PM

Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) Survey

193	Entertainment I would like to see more indoor activities for people of all ages not necessarily provided by the government. Like a new bowling alley, indoor trampoline play ground, or something to do on a rainy day.	2/28/2017 3:43 PM
194	Businesses Our region, along with every other rural region in the state is working from a deficit position and will continue to do so until the state decides to put assets at our disposal to allow for infrastructure development, business recruitment and increased training to level the playing field with our urban neighbors. There are few or no assets set aside to address this issue and all we have heard are hollow promises with not substance or small pots of money intended to pacify complaints.	2/28/2017 3:26 PM
195	As a start we need to emphasize "no traffic".	2/28/2017 10:37 AM
196	no	2/27/2017 8:52 AM
197	Jobs We do not have adequate public transportation. Greenway does not offer lower-income persons a way to get to a job on a daily basis. Consequently, if someone in our county does have an auto, they cannot better their life circumstance.	2/27/2017 8:08 AM
198	Misc. Opportunities I would like to see more entertainment/social opportunities for our children and families in the years to come!	2/26/2017 10:39 PM
199	Misc. Opportunities Alcohol is not the answer to our community growing. People taking time to develop meaningful opportunities for our community to participate in and grow is what will keep our small town thriving. If I wanted to live in a larger city, I would move to one. I enjoy the small-town feel that we have, but there are ways to keep the small-town feel and provide economic opportunities.	2/26/2017 7:16 AM
200	Misc. Opportunities No, but thank you for the opportunity.	2/25/2017 7:42 PM
201	No	2/25/2017 1:02 PM
202	Invest in keeping the youth in Alexander County	2/24/2017 10:13 PM
203	Much improved recently and progressive in comparison, but much more work to be done.	2/24/2017 6:38 PM
204	I believe this survey adequately covered a variety of topics that allowed me to accurately reflect Burke County.	2/24/2017 6:27 PM
205	Misc. Opportunities I think a lot of opportunities for millennials have begun to come to our region but mostly in Catawba County/Hickory. We do not have near as many opportunities in Burke County. I also think the NC School of Math and Science will be a huge boost for our economy. Our county also lacks newly constructed homes. The majority of the homes for sale are built around 1980 or earlier. I think the lack of newer housing and nice apartments drives millennials away from Burke County.	2/24/2017 6:07 PM
206	Retaining Young People Need to provide incentives for our young people (ages 18-24) to remain in the area	2/24/2017 5:35 PM
207	Businesses Misc. Opportunities I would like to see Alexander County and/or Taylorsville marketed with a catchy, well-thought-out, meaningful slogan and logo to entice visitors. I would like to see more recreation and boutique business opportunities. Unfilled niche small businesses could include: a small movie theater, a specialty coffee shop, book store, bicycle shop, ice cream shop, clothing store, and more. It could be beneficial to have a "Made in Alexander" festival to promote and showcase textiles, plastics, furniture, machined metal, and other products made here and invite the public but also industry professionals. This could be held annually or every 2 years.	2/24/2017 4:45 PM
208	I love this community and I want to see it revitalized!	2/24/2017 4:35 PM
209	Retaining Young People I watch the crime reports some. We need help keeping people, especially young adults, away from drugs, especially in Lenoir and Hickory. They are ruining their own lives and others lives and clogging up the court system.	2/24/2017 2:44 PM
210	Businesses We need to beef up computer technologies, food services, small business, tourism (we live in a most beautiful area of the world!), and keep the craft of furniture, beer, and wine in the forefront.	2/24/2017 2:40 PM
211	Entertainment Jobs Our region has a wonderful climate and many recreational activities. It seems younger folks are seeking more nightlife than our area has to offer. If we could offer affordable housing, good paying jobs and nightlife, our area would one of the most sought after areas to live in the state.	2/24/2017 12:53 PM
212	Ideas and concepts seem to be driven by the same people and investors--over and over.	2/23/2017 3:19 PM
213	Available workforce must get away from drug abuse and must have a desire to help themselves	2/23/2017 12:50 PM
214	Businesses Work from within with available resources in regards to both the people and the current businesses large and small. Make tax incentives and assistance available to the current businesses so that they may grow as you would for a new business wanting to come in.	2/23/2017 11:56 AM

Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) Survey

215	Drug use is out of control and is a key base level problem that affects everything that builds to a strong workforce and community. Studies regularly show our MSA in the top 5-10 in drug abuse. This problem bleeds down to workforce, livability, the attractiveness of the community.	2/23/2017 10:39 AM
216	Businesses I would like to see our county compete economically with our surrounding counties. We are lacking restaurants, businesses, retail, growth, and so much more. We have got to make Alexander County appealing to outsiders in order to get people to stay, come back, and/or move here. Our tax base is ridiculously high and that doesn't help either.	2/23/2017 9:06 AM
217	Newton should have a brewery.	2/22/2017 4:41 PM
218	More frequent public transportation options and inter-county options. It might alleviate congestion if there was a bus service to Charlotte for commuters. I'm looking forward Amtrack operating out of Conover.	2/22/2017 1:58 PM
219	Would like to see the county encourage economic development along the Hwy 16 corridor, ie; hotel, entertainment complex, sports complex, etc, so as to attract growth from Mecklenburg County region.	2/22/2017 1:11 PM
220	Need better roads and more utilities. Hope new industries and more medical facilities come to the county. Too many people have to work outside our County which causes County to lose sales taxes, etc.	2/22/2017 10:51 AM
221	Businesses As a community we have to encourage a more diverse and educated workforce to invite businesses to join us.	2/22/2017 10:44 AM
222	Catawba needs a competitive two-party system.	2/22/2017 3:35 AM
223	No.	2/21/2017 9:27 PM
224	Poor planning in downtown has created a situation where the town has no distinct identity. The older buildings follow no theme as to give the feel of a warm, inviting small town. The court house is a mid-century modern design that feels completely out of place for a town this size. There are too many traffic lights for a town this size, more than downtown Lenoir, Wilkesboro, or Hickory. Parking should be reworked to allow pull-in parking instead of parallel, which would provide more spaces for customers. This community has tremendous potential with the right leadership and proper use of funding, grants, and other available resources. The county should take advantage of the incredible location to encourage eco and agro tourism.	2/21/2017 8:30 PM
225	I am involved in commercial real estate. Greatest obstacle to growth is lack of or inadequate public sewer.	2/21/2017 8:23 PM
226	Accessibility Just that the smaller towns surrounding Hickory could use a dose of economic development in order to make the entire region competitive. Hopefully surveys like this one are made available to more people than those who follow the City Government websites on social media (i.e. those without internet, social media accounts, the ability to access web sites).	2/21/2017 6:39 PM
227	N/a	2/21/2017 4:46 PM
228	This town (Taylorsville) can become so much more than it presently is. I believe a lot of people agree!	2/21/2017 2:40 PM
229	none	2/21/2017 1:57 PM
230	Misc. Opportunities We do need more skilled younger people to either stay here for opportunities or move here for the same.	2/21/2017 12:37 PM
231	Please stress that WDB work regionally. I think the k-64 initiative should be done regionally. I just think we could pool resources better and 4 counties united beats one striving county, while the other three flounder.	2/21/2017 11:57 AM
232	Accessibility Businesses Entertainment I would like to see the continued revitalization of our downtown areas by making the spaces more appealing to small businesses, specifically restaurant/entertainment related businesses, and also more appealing for a growing population of younger and more active persons of a variety of backgrounds, ideologies, and personal preferences. In addition, I think that local retailers (specifically in clothing and in downtown areas) should be encouraged to modify their hours to be open at times that make them more accessible to the general population that works more traditional "9-5" hours. Many of these businesses operate on the same schedule and one can't help but wonder what the economic benefits would be if our downtown spaces were more accessible and engaging during the evening hours. A suggestion could be to organize some scheduled "night on the town" events to see how business is affected once or twice a month for these downtown businesses if they are open from 11:00 a.m.- 9:00 p.m., for example. I believe that this would encourage many people from all different ages and backgrounds to explore our downtown areas and keep their money local. It could also encourage more walking about town to shop and dine, resulting in a healthier population.	2/21/2017 11:51 AM
233	We are not competitive at all. Just recently passed ABC referendum and are just now getting things going for the community.	2/21/2017 11:31 AM

Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) Survey

234	Jobs Misc. Opportunities I think we struggle with the lack of a skilled workforce. There are jobs available for skilled workers as well as opportunities for training, but there are many barriers to transitioning an individual from unemployment to a skilled position. (lack of transportation, child care issues, need for a paycheck which prohibits an individual from taking time off to attend school, lack of understanding of the connection between education and quality of life)	2/21/2017 11:31 AM
235	Misc. Opportunities There are many opportunities within the region. It is imperative that we work together as a region to build on the strengths that each county and/or municipality. It is imperative that all levels of education (K-12, community colleges, universities) work to better understand workforce needs and to set an end-goal for graduates/completers to be more than simply a degree holder but rather a well-rounded employee who understands how to use the knowledge associated with that degree and apply it to whatever career journey he/she takes.	2/21/2017 8:24 AM
236	No	2/20/2017 10:06 PM
237	Businesses Bring back furniture and the small businesses associated with it.	2/20/2017 3:43 PM
238	We worry to much about handing things out to people who will not work. Everyone tired of supporting people who are lazy.	2/20/2017 2:30 PM
239	Jobs Manufacturing jobs are desperately needed to support a viable middle class.	2/20/2017 12:57 PM
240	Until we change mindsets in this county, we will continue to struggle with being competitive with surrounding counties.	2/20/2017 12:10 PM
241	Businesses Jobs I think government should try to help the people who lost jobs & live here rather than bribe businesses from out of state or country to locate here. What I have seen of these businesses, they cost us in infrastructure, they bring their own people, they hire construction from out of state & very few local people get jobs. (I wrote permits & saw first hand.) And I'm not too fond of the extra traffic & farmland disappearing either. Everyone needs to start thinking about quality of life along with economic development. I grew up here and I have lived in Charlotte & other large cities. I don't want this region to become a large city with large city problems. Growth will start to deplete our water resources. The drought we had not long ago had our neighboring cities wanting our water.	2/20/2017 11:47 AM
242	Nothing for singles with no kids to do in this area. No one wants to move here in my age bracket. When my friends and i get together, it isn't here because we have nothing to go do. I regularly spend money outside this community on rec and leisure	2/20/2017 10:32 AM
243	Businesses Hickory's infrastructure is years ahead of Lenoir, Granite Falls, and Hudson. This must improve to be competitive for businesses and government employees.	2/20/2017 9:24 AM
244	Businesses I THINK THE CITY OF CLAREMONT NEEDS TO GROW AND ADD MORE EATING PLACES TO DRAW IN MORE BUSINESS. IF WE CAN MAKE SOME OF THE VACANT BUSINESSES MORE AFFORDABLE SO THAT SMALLER BUSINESSES CAN THRIVE AND MAKE IT WITOUT HAVING TO WORRY ABOUT MAKING RENT EVERY MONTH.	2/20/2017 9:13 AM
245	Good luck	2/18/2017 4:13 PM
246	Jobs Misc. Opportunities This area must become more aggressive to obtain better paying jobs and more opportunities	2/18/2017 9:07 AM
247	"Don't try to be anything that your not" the right people your promoting it to see though it . I they will like you for what you are.	2/17/2017 6:15 PM
248	Very happy with our competitiveness but wish we had another "larger" company since Corning is moving to help sustain us.	2/17/2017 5:18 PM
249	The narrow mindedness of many residents who seem to foster a protectionist attitude do great harm to further development. Until this change in attitude takes place, I do not see further development.	2/17/2017 5:04 PM
250	We have a great town but it can always improve and growth brings change and more people to the area boosting the economy and allowing us to do more and more for our population.	2/17/2017 4:32 PM
251	We're willing and have a lot to offer - give us a chance to compete.	2/17/2017 4:30 PM
252	Jobs I think our region has done a much better job in facing its challenges than some areas in NC; the work never ends but we have leadership that continues to learn, implement, and revise to meet our challenges.	2/17/2017 3:38 PM
253	Our EDC works hard to remain a front runner for recruitment.	2/17/2017 3:28 PM
254	Physical "facelifts" are needed for many buildings situated in the main corridors of our county. Their downtrodden look gives visitors a negative image of our county.	2/17/2017 1:49 PM
255	Misc. Opportunities Widen the landfill road and clean up the trash. Equal opportunity for all to live safe and happy. Safe walking on road sides. Reduce NC high taxes.	2/17/2017 12:36 PM

Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) Survey

256	In order for Catawba County to grow and sustain itself, thought should be given to marketing to the 20-35 year olds who are looking for a "settle down". How can the county draw them here to buy a home, establish roots, and stay to raise their family?	2/17/2017 12:21 PM
257	We need more restaurant choices to decrease wait times. We also need more clean parks for children and better family entertainment. I would love to see a trampoline park, a Monkey Joes, Indoor/outdoor water park, another splash pad in the Viewmont area. I would like to see Registered Nurses in every school every day instead of them only being available to my child 2-3 days per week. I would also like a strict leash law in all surrounding communities. People enjoy getting out and walking their pets as a family but it becomes a challenge when your children and leashed pets are constantly approached by unleashed pets.	2/17/2017 8:34 AM
258	Jobs I think we are not competitive at all with regions like Charlotte and Asheville when it comes to jobs and entertainment.	2/17/2017 8:31 AM
259	Accessibility Should be some way to utilize access to Railroad in Alexander County to recruit companies to relocate.	2/17/2017 7:57 AM
260	The alcohol referendum should help a bit	2/17/2017 2:05 AM
261	Property taxes are becoming a real burden for Senior Citizens on fixed incomes.	2/16/2017 10:03 PM
262	Accessibility Our region's location lends itself to a great climate, and a landscape that is beautiful. Plus the location accessibility to surrounding destinations is a huge asset.	2/16/2017 9:16 PM
263	Encourage people to rise above their raising!	2/16/2017 8:00 PM
264	Entertainment We need an active chamber of commerce in Taylorsville and in the southern end of the county in Bethlehem and we need an informed and experienced economic development association working and planning on a full time basis.	2/16/2017 6:07 PM
265	Old money does not want any changes. We educate our children and they must leave Alexander county to find work.	2/16/2017 5:54 PM
266	Accessibility Businesses Jobs Misc. Opportunities Retaining Young People -Need to find niche for Alexander County in area other than manufacturing. -Young people move to Raleigh and Charlotte area for variety of job opportunities. -Constant drain of best and brightest graduates. -Pursue grants through Fox, senators . -Find out what grants and infrastructure money will come down pike from Trump administration. - Push Andy Wells to work with State to gain funds for Alexander County. -Pursue investments from Out-of-Country corporations. -Push for second bridge on NC 127 to make access better. - Look at outer loop for Hickory through Bethlehem and Grace Chapel, Granite area to 321 to ensure flow of traffic if issues with 321 bridges. -Better connector road from Southwest Alexander to NC 16 in Bethlehem to increase traffic flow to north of Alexander County. -Encourage improved water quality through education efforts -Use technology/internet resources to market Alexander County. -Encourage development of unique agricultural crops for Alexander County - Consider recruitment/development of call centers in renovated Taylorsville downtown and other available space, i.e. old Walmart. -Seek construction of a Veteran Administration dual facility as part of restructuring of VA services (Community Hospital/VA long term care facility. -Seek military/National Guard training facility in former Game Lands near Highway 64 on Alexander/Caldwell Border. - Encourage development of new FAA aircraft guidance facilities on Barrett's Mountain. -Alexander County was once a tourist destination with All Healing Springs Hotel, Sulfur Springs, Study for Biltmore House, etc. Present to large hotel chain to develop tourist hotel like Greenbrier in WVA. -Expand Hiddenite Center to Tamarack, WVA or Greenbrier crafter venues with promoted trips. Could include Apple Orchard self-picking, craft making such as area outside Boston Mass. _Determine complimentary businesses for chicken farms. I KNOW, JUST DREAMING!	2/16/2017 5:27 PM
267	We are fortunate to have rail services in Alexander County.	2/16/2017 5:21 PM
268	I believe that our county could support several more restaurants; no big chain type but Mom and Pop type. Hopefully, there are folks out there to make it happen!	2/16/2017 5:18 PM
269	The repeal of HB2 would help the entire state.	2/16/2017 4:34 PM
270	Businesses There needs to be a regional approach to economic development. Monthly meetings between Unifour counties EDC directors as well as quarterly meetings between EDC boards to identify all Unifour strengths and weaknesses and develop a plan and IMPLEMENT (all caps because implementation rarely happens.) Plan would identify sectors of industry and business that could thrive here and the factors that would go into getting those businesses to locate to this area.	2/16/2017 4:28 PM
271	Jobs Many Economists around the world have already realized that in a truly global marketplace with low transportation cost that they can no longer heavily tax only the products they make in their area and only lightly tax the products made elsewhere. As the large tax breaks being granted to companies indicate the race to 0% property taxes has started. The first communities to get there will attract the most jobs. The last ones will be lucky to have any movable jobs left.	2/16/2017 4:27 PM

Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) Survey

272	Businesses The EDC has been a good try but we need to bring the Chamber back and let the industries in the county take care of it. The EDC has grown it's own department, along with entertainment for the county but when it comes to actual businesses coming in, I don't believe the EDC has been able to prove it's value.	2/16/2017 4:13 PM
273	it always important to discuss economic development with the public and invite the public to networking events	2/16/2017 4:06 PM
274	Businesses So many people speak of the revitalization of uptown Taylorsville. I work directly in that area but do not know of any plans, meetings, or upcoming efforts. How are citizens and business owners made aware of these items? Is there a committee? How does one volunteer or get involved?	2/16/2017 4:02 PM
275	if the focus is on keeping younger individuals in this area, then there must be emphasis on building and maintaining sports, entertainment, dining and nightlife options that can compete with the draw of the Charlotte area. Consider taking a closer look at the Asheville area and the offerings available there.	2/16/2017 3:41 PM
276	CCC & TI needs to include more trade training, there is a shortage & need for skilled carpenters / mechanical / electrical / masons ect.	2/16/2017 3:24 PM
277	Not really, but you did not list my race which is Caucasoid or Caucasian. Correct terminology is very important to me!	2/16/2017 2:47 PM
278	Jobs Retaining Young People We need to do something to keep young people here. They want to work, they want a night life, they need good schools for their children. We are going to be old and our families will be gone and unable to help us and will have to rely on others to help us. Many of us have been through hard economic times, losing jobs, going back to school to get degrees, we have lost our 401K's to survive and those of us that were fortunate to have had stock somewhere have lost them...or had to use them to survive...so many people that have stayed in this area that will age out here will have no one to help them and no money to help take care of them and they will be knocking on the doors of DSS looking for help. We see a mess coming our way.	2/16/2017 1:14 PM
279	Mirror Greenville SC	2/16/2017 12:08 PM
280	Misc. Opportunities There needs to be more opportunity for employment and more opportunities for restaurants to come into the area. This would provide more employment options for people.	2/16/2017 11:22 AM
281	None	2/16/2017 10:53 AM
282	I think that the county is making strides in certain areas but other areas are lacking.	2/16/2017 10:46 AM
283	Jobs People have to learn to perform jobs to make productivity high enough so wages are livable. Just having a company where the mean average is high does not guarantee that the non-management employees have a livable economically survivable wage..	2/16/2017 10:46 AM
284	Entertainment Very sad that due to Burke County regulations, all economic activities around Lake James are on the McDowell county side of the Lake.	2/16/2017 10:37 AM
285	no	2/16/2017 10:25 AM
286	Misc. Opportunities The region should work on embracing culture and diversity. The people in the community can't compete amicably until different cultures, religions, and ethnicities are embraced and financial stability is an opportunity for more of the citizens in the area. Until then more people will leave the area or need financial assistance.	2/16/2017 10:24 AM
287	We can develop in ways that do not require us to return to what has been done in the past. By helping people to understand their own value and capabilities, they can learn that they don't have to find employment the same way their parents and grandparents did. Implementing this grand idea starts with education, and those that work in it. Teachers, resource officers, social workers, community services, etc. are usually undersupported, and definitely undersupported in the realm of public education. As government, we can't expect all of our residents to be given the basics of what they need at home. Yet, these are the individuals that will shape our environment, so we need to invest in the people that invest in them.	2/16/2017 10:07 AM
288	No	2/16/2017 9:41 AM
289	Would like to see a Trader Joe's, Ulta, and Bonefish come to the area.	2/16/2017 9:24 AM
290	1. Bring industry back to this area from foreign countries 2. Increase funding to put a school nurse in every school 3. Have more internships for high school students to explore interests and career possibilities, both college-bound and workforce-bound.	2/16/2017 9:22 AM
291	no not at this time	2/16/2017 8:36 AM
292	Alot of the downtowns are off the main road - 321... need a way to draw/ direct people into the downtown areas of Granite, Hudson even Lenoir....	2/16/2017 8:25 AM
293	Catawba County and Hickory need to get over their associated identity with furniture. Gaston County had a hard time exiting it's identity as the king of textiles. It is only starting to succeed beyond that identity because it was consumed as bedroom community of Charlotte.	2/15/2017 10:11 PM

Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) Survey

294	Start with beautification and walkability. Selling a 1975 Pinto is difficult enough, if you cannot identify assets then perhaps it is time to figure out a cost effective way to build a few. If nothing else those who are here will benefit.	2/15/2017 7:15 PM
295	Jobs I would love to see more jobs, more choices in health care & more affordable housing to all folks.	2/15/2017 6:17 PM
296	If there were EXCELLENT public transportation - maybe something even cutting edge- I don't know what that would look like but if Catawba County could be know for that place where you can get anywhere on public trans that would be cool.	2/15/2017 5:36 PM
297	This county has zero respect or investment in safe and walkable communities. I was struck by a car while jogging in my neighborhood and was told it was my fault. The cop said pedestrians have no safety rights when walking onto a street which means you are free to strike anyone you want who is touching the road and you won't be charged. So no. Safe and walkable communities are not possible unless the pedestrian laws in this state change because there isn't a point in going for a walk with your family if you are told it's your fault when a car comes speeding towards you and knocks you into the air at 40mph.	2/15/2017 5:27 PM
298	This was a bright and vibrant community no more than 20 years ago. It's sad to see the decline of a once nice family friendly area. Catawba County will never be competitive until they realize the county needs to be "cleaned" and more focus on family. Stoop catering to small groups of people and look more towards the middle class. It seems like the only people this county representatives care about are the wealthy and poor minorities. While the middle working class is eat up with taxes to support the wealthy peoples pet projects and the poor people's lack of income. Please, look at the middle class for once.	2/15/2017 5:19 PM
299	Charlotte/Winston-Salem/Asheville are all far enough away to be there own metros but close enough to compete with us. How do we deal with that? For instance, how has Winston-Salem separated itself from Greensboro? How has Greensboro separated itself from Raleigh or Durham? Are we in the same position as the Burlington metro, in the middle of booming economies that we can't play ball in?	2/15/2017 5:13 PM
300	Please use a Health in All Policies approach to planning	2/15/2017 5:07 PM
301	Businesses Need to promote MSC and commit additional resources to allow it to expand to allow more start-up and entrepreneurial businesses will locate in the region	2/15/2017 5:00 PM
302	Businesses Jobs Need more higher paying jobs. Need more to attract higher paying businesses to the area.	2/15/2017 4:56 PM
303	Misc. Opportunities Unless employment opportunities and adequate health care are addressed, Catawba county will float to mediocrity.	2/15/2017 4:55 PM
304	There's still a gap between the white & black communities, esp. re. economics, housing, and safety.	2/15/2017 4:55 PM
305	Accessibility There is no encouragement for single parents to work. It is easier to rely on the public system to support them. If a person uses a public service then they should be required to work, in some capacity, to contribute to the system. Generational and inherited ideas about poverty and acceptance are rampant. Access to resources should be on a earned basis not a given basis.	2/15/2017 4:55 PM
306	Build some places for teens to hang out at so they don't have to race up and down the highways and hang out in Restaurant parking lots doing nothing.	2/15/2017 4:44 PM
307	Please invest in the Jaycee City Park. The trails, bathrooms and tennis courts need attention desperately. it is a frequently used park but not treated as such.	2/15/2017 4:31 PM
308	Perhaps now that Alexander County is no longer "dry," we will be able to attract restaurants, bars, and stores that can help generate some badly needed revenue.	2/15/2017 4:27 PM
309	Businesses Helping to promote and support our art and science museums would help them offer enhanced programming that would be attractive to businesses and industries considering locating here. Providing more entertainment options and more affordable housing options for young adults would tend to attract more of them. The government should try to partner with non-profits and the faith community to reach our goals.	2/15/2017 4:27 PM
310	I think any progress we made in NC in general has been hindered by the bathroom laws. NC definatley has some work to do on becoming more diverse and acceptign of others.	2/15/2017 4:19 PM
311	Businesses Jobs For the most part Catawba County has done a good job in economic growth. I feel however that this is a credit to its citizens and not by government management. If anything government slows the growth and i have seen first hand business move just down the street in the Denver area into Lincoln county to get away from Catawba constant nit picky ordinances and codes.	2/15/2017 4:19 PM
312	I don't understand most of this survey.	2/15/2017 4:17 PM
313	I think its a shame that at this point in time in Catawba County there are areas that still aren't able to be served by cable tv service, have water lines or sewer lines available.	2/15/2017 4:15 PM

Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) Survey

314	Misc. Opportunities I would like to see more opportunities in apprenticeship programs, especially in a skilled trade. There is very little here. My friends and family were able to find many more opportunities in other NC cities, which they decided to leave. Mostly around my age, pretty soon I will be left with only old people. I think more affordable university options would really help younger people stay or want to come back.	2/15/2017 3:33 PM
315	Our community doesn't include young professions in the conversation. If you want us to move here, ask our opinion about what industries we would want to work for.	2/15/2017 2:49 PM
316	You ask do we have adequate high speed internet - yes but the cost is prohibitive for many of our residents. And the same for cost of housing - I'm not sure we really support affordable housing and we are working on the transportation issue at this time.	2/15/2017 1:51 PM
317	Businesses I don't think the region is going to go anywhere until we start doing the things needed to attract business and talent. And encouraging existing business to not only stay, but grow and evolve.	2/15/2017 1:50 PM
318	Our roads do not have bicycle lanes and that makes it impossible to use bicycles without it being a hazard.	2/15/2017 1:25 PM
319	Jobs Misc. Opportunities The region is clearly losing the battle in attracting persons age 20 to 35 to come to the region. If you talk to high school students, most of them want to leave the area as soon as possible and never come back. People in the 20s outside the region also have a negative view concerning economic opportunities. As older workers continue to retire over the next ten years, this issue will become even more critical to the area's economy. The region should learn about what other areas are doing to be successful in bringing in those groups. Local governments and EDCs should also only focus on bringing in high paying jobs (at least \$40,000 or more into the region). If you bring in higher paying jobs, the lower paying jobs will come by themselves without any government assistance. This formula will be the only way to really move the needle and add population to the region.	2/15/2017 12:33 PM
320	MUCH potential, but need organization and CLEAR vision to take advantage of resources already here as well as attract outside younger people who will remain. Please support friends of hickory which is trying to fulfill this role!	2/15/2017 11:53 AM
321	This community needs to wake up and quit holding on to the years past. In order for us to be a thriving community it will take a huge commitment on the sides of government and private sector to build a community that people of all ages will have something that they can get behind.	2/15/2017 11:22 AM
322	have excellent assets, but we are not telling the story well to our own residents or to the rest of the state/country. POTENTIAL!!!!	2/15/2017 11:13 AM
323	Entertainment Jobs We drug screen job applicants - this can be a barrier to hiring. Economic Development could start with making sure everyone is ready to work when work is available. If people are turning to drugs, they can't get out of their situation. This may be a Chicken-Egg thing, but what alternate activities can people engage in?	2/15/2017 10:46 AM
324	Misc. Opportunities There has been a lot of focus on workforce development and economic opportunities, which is good and necessary. There should be equal focus on making the county a desirable place to live and developing a sense of place. A great way to connect with the community would be more bike/ped infrastructure throughout the city (Hickory)--bike lanes and sidewalks where we might otherwise drive. Bike/ped should not all be relegated to parks; it should be a viable means of transportation. Focus these investments in lower-income areas.	2/15/2017 10:21 AM
325	I would like to see our region be one that brings younger generations to the area as well as keeping the older adults in the area. Finding a happy medium between various generations.	2/15/2017 9:57 AM
326	Improve county gov pay, we lose good people to other towns Looking forward to new science/ math school and its stimulus Need more low income/ affordable housing and transitional! Concerned about unskilled immigrants...and their children	2/14/2017 9:22 PM
327	We need help!	2/14/2017 7:37 PM
328	Misc. Opportunities Its a great place but would like to see more grant opportunities for the non-profit sector because many citizens rely on non-profits.	2/14/2017 5:45 PM
329	Have to drive out of county for decent wages	2/14/2017 3:48 PM
330	Entertainment I would love to see the old hospital be used or removed to prevent illegal activities. Things it may be used as is an indoor flea market or farmers market. It could also be used by the high school for swimming. The police department to train in as well as other emergency crews. There is many more things it may be used as, it is only causing harm by not using it.	2/14/2017 1:46 PM
331	Entertainment Misc. Opportunities A lack of goods and opportunities forcing citizens to travel out of county to purchase many items. Affordable quality clothing/shoes, entertainment such as cinema and child activity centers, specialty items such as pet supplies, recreational activities equipment, party supplies, electronics, appliances, medical products, children's clothes, maternity, baby products, and some groceries.	2/14/2017 1:22 PM

Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) Survey

332	The key word here is "competitiveness," in that, sadly, Alexander County is perceived as the "poor step-child" of the area. That perception is perpetuated by many of the leaders of this county. They need to get rid of that idea. They could do great things if they step out of the self-imposed limitations.	2/14/2017 11:57 AM
333	Businesses Jobs Somehow we need to address the workforce in our area. It seems business owners struggle to fill open positions now. Our people are not work ready - even with basic skills. Also most conversations regarding new jobs seem to revolve around manufacturing, can someone please begin to think outside that box? The economy is different now. I'm not sure those manufacturing jobs everyone thinks of will ever be available again. We need a good cross-section of economic development and not focus totally on one industry.	2/14/2017 11:08 AM
334	Jobs Misc. Opportunities Our region struggles to attract young professionals. The immediate variables for this problem are job opportunities and housing. I believe Alexander County has a lack of housing opportunities for young professionals. For example, a new hire teacher that is new to this area will likely live in rental property out of the county versus in county. Better resources should be available to showcase available housing options for this group.	2/14/2017 10:41 AM
335	Quit buying and clearing land that benefits nobody	2/14/2017 10:08 AM
336	Get ready for the senior Tsunami, with Dementia and ALZ on the crest of the wave. We are not prepared for what is coming with healthcare, home care, and general services for people with cognitive disorders and their families.	2/14/2017 8:50 AM
337	Businesses A county resource to help the smaller downtown areas that can't afford to, or aren't big enough, for their own downtown development association would be nice, Town of Catawba has a lot of vacant downtown buildings with few resources to recruit/retain businesses.	2/13/2017 8:41 PM
338	Jobs Retaining Young People Keep marketing the area and keep working hard to help bring and retain young people. It is vital to the future of the area. I think the area does fine with senior care and entertainment for the age group but for years it was pushed to become a retirement community but that does not keep the area competitive for jobs which are much needed, just services. I think Hickory is doing a great job trying to get things going and be a leader for the area. The economy is getting better slowly but surely so I hope it keeps going and we take advantage of future endeavors. Keep up the great work and God Bless.	2/13/2017 5:13 PM
339	Jobs Our region needs to take a hard look at where it wants to be economically in the next 20 years. Do we keep investing in low paying jobs that gets everyone to work, but leaves them dependent on government and social programs to make ends meet. Or, do we start now to rebuild the foundation of our economy with better education, focusing in on recruiting higher end jobs and in turn targeting young entrepreneurs and educated workers back into our area.	2/13/2017 4:10 PM
340	Jobs Misc. Opportunities If Alexander County doesn't expand its entertainment and job opportunities, kids are not going to want to live here when they finish college.	2/13/2017 4:09 PM
341	Businesses Alexander County has difficulty attracting businesses and residents because it's in the middle of Wilkes, Iredell, Catawba, Burke, and Caldwell counties... about a 20-minute drive to anywhere with more to do.	2/13/2017 4:06 PM