

## Constant Contact Survey Results

Campaign Name: Tri-State Development Stakeholder Survey

Survey Mailing List: 300+

Survey Submits: 37

### MULTIPLE CHOICE

Please help us learn more about you.		
Answer Choice	Number of Responses	Responses Ratio
I work for an economic development organization.	11	30%
I am a business owner.	8	22%
I work with a non-profit organization providing services to the tri-state region.	6	16%
I work in education.	2	5%
I am an elected official.	3	8%
I am a community stakeholder with an interest in promoting the opportunities of the tri-state region	7	19%
Total	37	100%

### NUMERIC SCALE

Agriculture: The primary goal of this taskforce is to support and spur economic growth and employment opportunities in agriculture. This task force will work with and through U.S. farm groups, State departments of agriculture, State regional trade groups, agricultural and industry organizations, and institutions of higher learning to draw on all available expertise to maximize the positive impact of agriculture to our region.		
Answer Choice	Number of Responses	Responses Ratio
1 (Not very important)	1	2%
2	0	0%
3	6	16%
4	15	41%
5 (Extremely important)	15	41%
Total	37	100%
Comments: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. We live in a rural, agricultural area. I have connections to several farms through family or business even though I am not a farmer myself.</li> <li>2. This is of great importance for my community. I hope we can keep small farmers in mind with planning. Family farms translate into community members, school children, and future leaders.</li> <li>3. A coordinated effort of an entire region in three states along the Mississippi River.</li> <li>4. Very limited growth opportunity, those that can are and the barrier to entry is too high. I agree with supporting Ag, but this is not the greatest opportunity for our communities.</li> <li>5. How crucial broadband is for our farmers and how some farmers are benefitting from the this high tech tool.</li> <li>6. Increasing use of the ports should come under this.</li> <li>7. Ag is and always will be the core of our economy in the Midwest.</li> </ol>		

**Broadband Connectivity and Wireless Access:** this taskforce would work to address rural access to essential services and technologies.

Answer Choice	Number of Responses	Responses Ratio
1 (Not very important)	0	0%
2	0	0%
3	6	17%
4	8	23%
5 (Extremely important)	21	60%
Total	35	100%

Comments:

1. I live in a rural area & have terrible internet!
2. Connectivity of the subject region is essential.
3. The taskforce should not spend resources in Wireless access. Wireless will not the future of broadband. Efforts should be focused on FIBER.
4. Allowing anyone to compete globally from rural America is a game changer. Access is one of the components necessary in creating the environment for individuals and families to move back to the rural.
5. Please investigate Viasat Opportunities. They're doing great things from Airlines to over sea internet connects. Seems it would be a quick answer to so many issues in the rural area.
6. Feel that there is more momentum here than ever before, and not sure it should take front and center focus. Perhaps have it as a piece of ag since those areas are usually without service?
7. There is nothing more important than this to bring us all into the 21st century.
8. Can't do business these days without fast broadband.

**Building Community - Population Recruitment and Retention:** this task force would design place-based strategies to welcome new community members from around the globe, creating inviting and accessible workplaces and opening doors for talent relocating to our communities which will lead to more opportunities for all.

Answer Choice	Number of Responses	Responses Ratio
1 (Not very important)	0	0%
2	2	5%
3	2	5%
4	11	30%
5 (Extremely important)	22	60%
Total	37	100%

Comments:

1. Getting quality employees (or any employees really) is getting harder & harder. And if we don't get more young people to come to the area, we have no future.
2. This is of paramount concern. I am glad to see retention as a priority. We need to build communities that people want to stay in even if they go away for schooling after high school.
3. An essential requirement to enhance economic viability for the region.
4. We lack the infrastructure in housing and shovel ready industrial development and should be a priority.
5. We need to show our region as a viable alternative for relocating businesses and supporting a strong workforce.
6. Show results of population growth in areas where high speed internet access is available in rural Missouri.
7. Highly important. Could also be hard to get together as many places in the tri-state area see themselves as competitors on this front.

8. Housing and Childcare are huge barriers!
9. Critical to our region as our businesses growing, we need to attract workers of various skills.

Economic and Workforce Strategies: created to discuss and assist in implementing strategies for growth in all areas of economic development including job creation, workforce development, innovation, and entrepreneurship. Recognizing that economic developers must be champions for their communities, this task force would highlight best practices, collaborate when appropriate, and work together to attract investment from outside of the region.

Answer Choice	Number of Responses	Responses Ratio
1 (Not very important)	0	0%
2	0	0%
3	2	5%
4	12	33%
5 (Extremely important)	23	62%
Total	37	100%

Comments:

1. This is where the future is for our area & for our kids (who we hope will stay in the area). Our communities will be what we make of them.
2. A main reason why a higher education institution should be intimately involved as a major coordinator and contributor to this effort.
3. Great stuff, but we lack the infrastructure to even attract from outside the region. It is my opinion, that an effort to plan, design, and build locations ready for outside investment is a start.
4. I think WAY too much is lumped into this category. Narrow the focus. Perhaps just one on entrepreneurship. That seems to be key in many small communities. But to try and do everything listed will mean a lack of focus on anything.
5. Again, housing and childcare should be of focus when talking about workforce.

Education: the task force for education would take a leadership role in ensuring public and private collaboration in developing and executing a regional economic plan to improve education at every level.

Answer Choice	Number of Responses	Responses Ratio
1 (Not very important)	0	0%
2	1	3%
3	5	14%
4	19	51%
5 (Extremely important)	12	32%
Total	37	100%

Comments:

1. Quality education leads to quality employees & quality opportunities.
2. I would like to see how institutions of higher education could work together regionally instead of cannibalizing one another for students, funds, and outreach.
3. Critical
4. Focusing on the trades.
5. Hmmm...this doesn't strike me as needed...but education entities need to be involved...but perhaps embedded in all the groups or another one.

Housing: this taskforce would work to provide recommendations and solutions to combat the housing crisis in our regional communities.		
Answer Choice	Number of Responses	Responses Ratio
1 (Not very important)	0	0%
2	3	8%
3	6	16%
4	11	30%
5 (Extremely important)	17	46%
Total	37	100%
Comments: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. We are working on this as a county.</li> <li>2. I have mixed feelings on this one. Everyone is always championing the underdog (the poor who need housing) but the way to do this is NOT to punish the (decent) landlords.</li> <li>3. A critical part of pursuing economic advances.</li> <li>4. Already spoke on this.</li> <li>5. Important! But hasn't there been a taskforce for a while...and what has it done? Unless a unique something is brought to the table, I feel it will be lots of LMI talk.</li> <li>6. We need more builders in NE Missouri</li> <li>7. Workforce housing should be of focus and not just low-income.</li> <li>8. In Quincy, we have a short supply of every housing category, we need townhomes, condos, apartments to low income housing to provide housing.</li> <li>9. Workforce has to live somewhere.</li> </ol>		

Legislative Considerations: this task force would be devoted to breaking down the nuances of proposed and pending legislation impacting the tri-state region, the potential outcomes and opportunities, and the ways in which communities can respond.		
Answer Choice	Number of Responses	Responses Ratio
1 (Not very important)	0	0%
2	3	8%
3	9	24%
4	11	30%
5 (Extremely important)	14	38%
Total	36	100%
Comments: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. I am sure this is very important, but it is not my area of expertise. I am always skeptical of politics really helping anyone except politicians!</li> <li>2. Our legislatures in the region, in an attempt to pander to voters, are moving our states backwards in ways that will leave us behind. We have to move forward, and that includes speaking with a united voice for legislatures to act sensibly.</li> <li>3. good luck navigating the politics of Illinois</li> <li>4. Critical at all levels.</li> <li>5. Feel it should be done by state, unless the focus is just on federal stuff.... How do we create a Delta Regional Authority like group with the Tri-State area--that's what I want to know! Then you can draw in tons of grant money--just like they do!!!</li> <li>6. I would recommend at least one legislator or government official on each of these task forces if possible.</li> <li>7. Government needs to make it easier to do business.</li> </ol>		

Media and Marketing: this taskforce would assist in developing media and marketing initiatives to promote the region, its desirability, and the vast opportunities available here.

Answer Choice	Number of Responses	Responses Ratio
1 (Not very important)	1	3%
2	4	11%
3	12	32%
4	9	24%
5 (Extremely important)	11	30%
Total	37	100%

Comments:

1. If effective, this could be very important in getting young people to come to the area & stay in the area. be sure to have young people on the task force, as they communicate differently & view media & marketing very differently.
2. Required to ensure success for this effort.
3. Very important once the infrastructure is prepared.
4. Fold into the attraction/retention of people. Used to be called Tourism taskforce right. Which-get people to visit here, and hope they like it to stay.
5. VERY IMPORTANT! A regional identity can make or break ED in a region.

Regional Health and Wellbeing: this taskforce would address access to quality health and mental health services in the region, promote innovative solutions to healthcare gaps, share best practices among rural serving health organizations, and promote quality of life initiatives throughout the region.

Answer Choice	Number of Responses	Responses Ratio
1 (Not very important)	1	3%
2	1	3%
3	11	30%
4	14	37%
5 (Extremely important)	10	27%
Total	37	100%

Comments:

1. Just remember that our local healthcare providers are not the "bad guys" (Blessing for example). They are working in an extremely challenging environment. I am not sure this problem can be solved on the local level, but it is worth discussing.
2. Very important and provides some strong existing institutions to lend enhanced credibility to the operation as well as key service providers for the economic health of the region (in addition to physical health).
3. Agreed--highly important and speaks to quality of life. There is also a Poverty Index that I know Iowa as looked at (Lee County perhaps). Levels of poverty could fit in here. How do we get those in generational poverty OUT of it.
4. Cost of local healthcare is extremely high, we need task force to look into this.

Rivers and Inland Waterways: this taskforce would focus on securing updates and funding resources to sustain ports and projects integral to our manufacturing and agricultural economies.		
Answer Choice	Number of Responses	Responses Ratio
1 (Not very important)	1	3%
2	1	3%
3	7	19%
4	16	43%
5 (Extremely important)	12	32%
Total	37	100%
Comments: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. We need to capitalize on our location - the river should be a huge asset.</li> <li>2. A critical element that ties all of these elements and the entire region together.</li> <li>3. Important, but unless put with ag or something, very few have intimate knowledge of this area. Used to be a larger transportation taskforce.</li> <li>4. We should be working on attracting container shipments, ports and expanded locks and dams.</li> </ol>		

Rural Revitalization: This taskforce would address areas such as rural population declines, main street programs, attracting new families and businesses, and other emerging topics.		
Answer Choice	Number of Responses	Responses Ratio
1 (Not very important)	0	0%
2	3	8%
3	5	14%
4	9	24%
5 (Extremely important)	20	54%
Total	37	100%
Comments: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. This seems related to many of the above topics but I agree - retaining population &amp; attracting businesses is critical.</li> <li>2. This matters. We can rebuild our states with a renewed, growing rural population. Rural communities need to embrace change and inclusion to make this happen.</li> <li>3. The critical mass that is the overall economic basis of our entire region.</li> <li>4. I like this as opposed to economic and community development taskforce.</li> <li>5. Seems all-inclusive of other task forces, not sure the exact direction this one would take, but overall agree it's important!</li> </ol>		

Tourism, Recreation and Destination Development - this task force will focus on destination promotion as it contributes to highlighting the benefits and key areas critical to tourism, attraction for relocation decisions, quality of life for residents, as well as resident's attitude about where they live.		
Answer Choice	Number of Responses	Responses Ratio
1 (Not very important)	0	0%
2	4	11%
3	7	19%
4	13	35%
5 (Extremely important)	13	35%
Total	37	100%
Comments:		

1. Not sure how much Quincy has to offer tourism-wise, bit the area in general probably has a few things. Maybe we need to focus on developing more things before we focus on attracting tourists.
2. Insures quality of life resources for residents of the region.
3. Sounds like the marketing one.
4. We already do this well. Not as important a focus.

Transportation: An original part of the TSDS and highly successful in the past, this task force would continue to focus on the issues concerning highway improvements and road safety, bridges, rail systems, and airports.

Answer Choice	Number of Responses	Responses Ratio
1 (Not very important)	0	0%
2	1	2%
3	6	16%
4	9	25%
5 (Extremely important)	21	57%
Total	37	100%

Comments:

1. If it is hard to get to us, people & businesses are not going to come. And we definitely need a new bridge sooner rather than later.
2. Along with the Mississippi River our transportation system links our region to the world.
3. Old taskforce that needs a refresh
4. #1 Priority should be a Hannibal Expressway around town.
5. Must continue this focus since these items require upgrades and improvements including new bridge over Mississippi. What about in the City of Quincy, Broadway is in very poor condition.

## CHECKBOXES

Which 3 task forces do you believe are currently the most important and relevant to the tri-state region?

Answer Choice	Number of Responses
Agriculture	8
Broadband Connectivity/Wireless Access	20
Building Community: Population Recruitment & Retention	15
Economic & Workforce Strategies	15
Education	2
Housing	12
Legislative Considerations	5
Media & Marketing	0
Regional Health & Wellbeing	2
Rivers & Inland Waterways	4
Rural Revitalization	10
Tourism, Recreation & Destination Development	8
Transportation	13
Other	0
Total Responses – choices cast	114

Would you have any interest in serving on any of the task forces?	
Answer Choice	Number of Responses
1. Agriculture	3
2. Broadband Connectivity/Wireless Access	4
3. Building Community: Population Recruitment & Retention	9
4. Economic & Workforce Strategies	8
5. Education	3
6. Housing	6
7. Legislative Considerations	6
8. Media & Marketing	4
9. Regional Health & Wellbeing	2
10. Rivers & Inland Waterways	3
11. Rural Revitalization	7
12. Tourism, Recreation & Destination Development	6
13. Transportation	5
Other	0
Total Responses – multiple taskforces chosen per respondent	66