

SEDC WORKING DOCUMENT ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT VISION AND GOALS FOR INCLUSION IN THE 2022-2032 TOWN OF SALISBURY POCD

To All SEDC Members,

We (Janet, Robert and Tom) have taken a first pass, working with the SEDC Mission Statement, and the Regional CEDS and the current Salisbury POCD. We invite you to participate in this process. Here's what we have so far, taken from the Google Doc we have created, as updated 12/8/21). THIS IS A DOCUMENT IN PROGRESS, AWAITING YOUR COMMENTS AND SUGGESTIONS. Anyone wanting to participate should ask one of us for access to the googledoc. Given POCD deadlines, this version is also being sent to PZC Chair and Administrator, marked clearly as a Working Document. Note that the bracketed "Because" statements under each point provide the reason, the cause, the problem being addressed, and will probably be removed in the final version.

VISION STATEMENT. Over the next ten years

A.1. (Because many of our Main Street storefronts are currently either empty or filled by entities that do not meet the needs of everyday retail customers) Our Town will maintain a hospitable environment for retail and other businesses and services that provide employment opportunities for local residents. We will expand our understanding of Main Street businesses to include Internet-based businesses and e-commerce, and co-working spaces and other support services for them.

A.2. (Because Internet-based and e-commerce businesses have different needs than traditional retail enterprises, and because they are the future of commerce) We will encourage Internet-based businesses and other e-commerce, and aid them where possible through dialogues with town government and local non-profit organizations.

A.3. (Because current retail and e-commerce businesses are at a competitive disadvantage due to of lack of adequate high-speed Internet and spotty mobile service) Our Town will work with other towns in the region to ensure ubiquitous high-speed Internet service and seamless mobile connectivity.

A.4. (Because too many of our storefronts and other commercial enterprises are owned by people and entities that do not live in Our Town and may not share our values and vision for the Town) We will encourage our own residents to invest, in part or in full, as partners or shareholders or sole proprietors, in Main Street properties, in order to keep local businesses and the character of our Main Streets in local hands.

B. (Because our housing stock no longer provides adequate numbers of units for low- and middle-income residents and workers in local enterprises and essential

services) Our Town will continue to strive for a more diverse housing stock, in order to accommodate people of all ages and economic levels who want to or need to live and work here, especially those who can provide essential services to residents. Specifically, the EDC believes that the Town will benefit by having mixed retail and residential buildings on or near to our Main Streets.

C. (Because of the onrush of climate change challenges and the depletion of natural resources) We will encourage the Town to be continue to look for and implement ways in which it can promote transitions to a more sustainable future. Specifically, the EDC will encourage and assist the Town to do more to achieve Net Zero by 2030, and simultaneously to look for and capitalize on synergies that meet sustainability goals, town vitality goals, and business-profitability goals.

IMPLEMENTATION GOALS

A.1.1. (Because hard information about the needs and aspirations of current and planned business entities in Our Town is scarce) We will work to ascertain the needs and aspirations of current and future business entities, so as to assist them in becoming stable and growing enterprises.

A.1.2. (Because Our Town and region have abundant natural resources, a vibrant history, important cultural attractions, and a high-ranked public educational system) We will assiduously promote Our Town's and the region's cultural, educational, and recreational aspects so as to attract and sustain new business entities.

A.1.3. (Because many storefronts and commercial buildings are owned by individuals and entities who reside elsewhere and may not share our values and vision for the Town) We will review Main Street building ownership and establish working relationships with owners and with retail renters with a view to encouraging normal essential goods and services enterprises to survive and thrive in these buildings.

A.1.4. ...

A.2. ...

A.3 (Because the area lacks the ubiquitous high-speed Internet service and seamless mobile connectivity that will be essential for future business competitiveness) We will stay involved with NWC Connect and NW COG in an effort to forge a regional solution for ubiquitous high-speed Internet service and seamless mobile connectivity.

A.4 ...

B. (Because our housing stock no longer provides adequate numbers of units for low- and middle-income residents and workers in local enterprises and essential services) We will throw our support behind the efforts of the Town's Planning and Zoning Commission and Affordable Housing Commission to the extent that these entities are aligned with our vision on providing a more diverse housing stock for the Town.

C. (Because we estimate that within the next ten years, at least 50% of all vehicles in this region will be electric-powered) We will promote the providing of level-2 (or better) charging stations in parking lots on or close to our Main Streets.

D. (Because parking continues to be a problem for the sustainability and growth of our businesses) Within the legal constraints under which our Planning and Zoning Commission must act, we encourage a loosening of vehicle parking requirements, and the addition of a requirement to have bike and e-bike parking racks on close to our Main Streets.