

Regional Economic Summit

November 19, 2004



Electronic Town Hall Meeting Summary

Demographics

- Eighty-one percent believe demand comes first.
- King County heavily represented, but all four counties represented, as well as interests from outside the region (equal for both “where you work” and “where you live” questions).
- Almost equal number of businesses and public sector, and a strong showing of non-profit sector.

Strengths and Weaknesses

- Ratings much higher as a “place to live” than a “place to have a business” – but, not too bad rating for “place to have a business.”

Regional Economic Foundations

Foundation	Rating	Comment
Quality of Life	7.8	Almost nobody voted in bottom third
Tech Transfer & Commercialization	6.7	60% in middle third
HR & Training	6.6	60% in middle third
Social Systems & Infrastructure	5.8	60% in middle third, more in bottom third
Business Climate	5.6	75% in middle third
Support Small Business	4.4	30% in bottom, nobody voted in top third
Physical Infrastructure	3.6	Over 50% in bottom third

- over -

Sponsors:



Leadership

- Public sector thinks fairly high of public sector, not too badly of private sector
- Private sector thinks quite highly of private sector, not too badly of public sector, but the spread is larger
- Non-profit sector thinks public and private sectors are doing just about the same

Tradeoffs

- Retention is a higher priority than recruitment; almost no one had recruitment as the sole focus (a third felt that retention is dramatically more important than recruitment)
- Maximizing opportunities is more important than sharing the benefits - perhaps because through the opportunities benefits are created
- Quality of life is of equal importance as hard costs
- Far and away, providing infrastructure is more important than providing incentives (some thought infrastructure was dramatically more important, no one thought incentives thought incentives was dramatically more important)