

# **Business Walk**

A fun & effective business retention & expansion program for your community.

## What is a Business Walk?

A "Business Walk" is a day dedicated to learning more about your local businesses through face-to-face interviews on their turf. Local leaders visit each business with the hopes of gathering the knowledge they need to help their community and strengthen relationships. The "walk" can also be a celebration of local businesses corresponding to an existing celebration or as a new event. UW-Extension uses the responses to those interviews to generate a simple, easy-to-read report that decision makers can use to help strengthen their local businesses.

# Why Walk?

- To understand the issues facing your business community.
- To build working relationships between decision makers and local businesses.
- To celebrate and promote your local businesses.
- To provide local businesses with educational resources.

## The Walking Guide

The following text will outline the 8 steps needed to conduct your own "walk". Because every community is different, the "Walking Guide" is meant as a road map, not a formula. The "Steps" of the guide are as follows:

- Step 1: Who's In Charge?
- Step 2: Who's With Me!
- Step 3: Save the Date
- Step 4: Plan the Walk
- Step 5: Talk the Walk
- Step 6: Walk the Walk
- Step 7: Find Your Story
- Step 8: Tell Your Story





# Business Walk: walking guide



## Step 1: Who's in Charge?

Who from your community will serve as the "point person" for the "walk"? Is it a chamber director, mayor, village president, council member, board member, or business leader? It doesn't make much difference, but it should be someone that represents the community at-large and has the means to rally troops and deploy resources.



## Step 2: Who's With Me!

The "Business Walk" is a simple program, but it does require some planning. It's important that the person in charge of orchestrating the program have support. This is largely a communications and event planning exercise, so choose your team accordingly. Some folks are "thinkers", and some folks are" doers". You'll need both.



## Step 3: Save the Date

Community calendars are already full of activities throughout the year. It is important to choose a date that can either stand alone or "piggy-back" onto an existing celebration. Once you arrive on a date, get the word out to the community, especially to the businesses you hope to meet with.



Sit down with your team and determine what resources you'll need to make your "walk" a success. Here are some things to consider:

- Walkers: How many people will you need to effectively meet and speak with each of your businesses in a day? Typically, teams of (2) people are given a certain number of businesses to meet with, within a designated timeframe. One person is identified as the "primary walker" the other as the secondary walker. The "primary walker" is responsible for initiating conversation, shaking hands and asking the first (3) questions. The "secondary walker" is responsible for filling out the provided survey form and asking the (7) follow-up questions.
- Schedule: There are several things to consider for the day. What works well for your business owners? What works well for the media? And, what works well for your team? Make sure that the emphasis remains on the business owners. The "walk" is meaningless without their participation. Ask each business owner what works best for them. If needed, divide up the area into morning and afternoon walks and use the lunch hour to meet and compare notes.



- Press: Make sure the local newspaper and radio are aware of your event. If possible, have someone follow a team to take pictures and document the day.
- Gifts: Show your appreciation to your local businesses. If you have the
  resources, leave them a gift, a card, or at least some literature on how you
  plan to use the information that they have provided. Some communities
  bring gift bags that include gift cards and educational materials for local
  businesses.



## Step 5: Talk the Walk

For your "walk" to be a success, you'll need to spend time marketing it. The purpose of your marketing efforts is three-fold:

- 1. To generate positive "buzz" to encourage participation.
- 2. To promote local businesses' role in defining the community.
- 3. To promote local leadership's role in strengthening local businesses.

Some methods you may want to consider:

- Traditional Media: Newspaper, radio, postcards, utility bills, and newsletters.
- Electronic Media: Facebook, websites, Twitter, and electronic newsletters.
- Guerilla Marketing: Non-conventional approaches to "getting the word out". (One example might be to host a student coloring or photo contest to generate materials for posters, stickers, flyers, playing cards, etc.)

**Note:** It's best to let your local business owners know what to expect ahead of time. Please feel free to share with them the purpose of the "walk", how you intend to use the results of the "walk", and the list of (10) questions.



# Step 6: Walk the Walk

Spend the day meeting with your local business owners in their stores, shops, and restaurants. The "walk" works best if you travel in twos. The "primary walker" shakes hands and initiates discussion, while the "secondary walker" takes notes using the provided survey form.

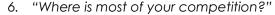
Once the team walks into a business, the "primary walker" shakes hands, maybe gets a photo taken, and asks (3) quick questions:

- 1. "How's business?"
- 2. "What do you like about doing business here?"
- 3. "What can we do to help you succeed?"

Next, the "secondary walker" asks (7) follow-up questions:

- 4. "How long have you been in business here?"
- 5. "What type of business is this?"





- 7. "Where do you purchase most of your supplies & support services?
- 8. "How much does your business rely on the internet?"
- 9. "How many full-time and part-time employees to you have and how will that change over the course of the year?"
- 10. "How do you recruit new workers?"

## Step 7: Find Your Story

Once you have finished your 'walk', submit the provided survey forms to your local Extension Educator. Extension will work with the UW-Extension Center for Community & Economic Development to generate a brief report that you can bring back to your community. The report will contain the following items:

- Purpose of the "Business Walk"
- Description of the Methodology
- Summary of the (3) Primary Questions
- Summary of the (7) Secondary Questions
- Summary of Common Themes
- Acknowledgements and list of resources for "Next Steps"

## Step 8: Share Your Story

It is important to share your report with your stakeholders. This may include local business owners, elected officials, chambers of commerce, and the Public. This is only the report. The next step is to act based on the outcomes of your "walk".

## Acknowledgments

This program is based off other successful Business Walks from communities in other parts of the United States and Canada. The (3) primary questions are based on other Business Walks programs while the (7) secondary questions are based on the University of Minnesota's Business Retention & Expansion survey instrument. Both programs were recommended to this agent at the 2012 IEDC Business Retention & Expansion Training Event in Vancouver, B.C. In addition, local business leaders and Chambers of Commerce participated in developing the final version of the survey instrument found in this document.

For more information regarding "Business Walk", please contact:

Todd W. Johnson, Land Use & Community Development Outreach Program Manager The University of Wisconsin-Madison, Division of Extension (715) 425-3941, twjohnson6@wisc.edu



# Business Walk: survey form

| Cor  | nmunity Name   | e:                     |                             |         |             |             |                  |              |                |              |                 |                 |                 |       | W              | /alk  | Date:                 |                        |
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| 2    | "What do<br>you like<br>about doing<br>business<br>here? |                        |                             |         |             |             |                  |              |                |              |                 |                 |                 |       |                |       |                       |                        |
| 3    | "What can<br>we do to<br>help you<br>succeed?"           |                        |                             |         |             |             |                  |              |                |              |                 |                 |                 |       |                |       |                       |                        |
| 4    | How long have  | e you bee              | en doing b                  | usiness | here        | e? (fill in | #'s fc           | or all)      |                |              |                 | (year           | rs)             |       |                |       | (month                | ns)                    |
| 5    | "What type of b  | ousiness is            | this?" (sele                | ect one | ∍)          | Retail      | Serv             | /ice         | Offic          | се           | Indus           | strial          |                 |       | Oth            | er (c | describe)             |                        |
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## A Collaboration of

Fennimore Area Chamber of Commerce Fennimore Industrial & Economic Development Corp. City of Fennimore University of Wisconsin Extension-Grant County

## Compiled by



Todd W. Johnson, CRD Agent/Assistant Professor University of Wisconsin Extension-Grant County



September 13, 2013

# 2013 Fennimore Business Walk

A "Business Walk" is a day dedicated to learning more about your local businesses through face-to-face interviews on their turf. Local leaders and volunteers visit each business with the hopes of gathering the knowledge they need to help their community and to strengthen relationships. The primary goals of the walk are:

- To understand the issues facing your business community.
- To build working relationships between decision makers and local businesses.
- To celebrate and promote your local businesses.
- To provide local businesses with educational resources.

On Tuesday, August 6<sup>th</sup>, over a dozen volunteers led by the Fennimore Area Chamber of Commerce conducted their first Business Walk. They met with over 50 businesses face-to-face and collected over 20 businesses retention surveys online. This following text summarizes what was learned from their efforts.

#### The Questions

Volunteers were paired into groups of two and provided with a survey form. The questions on the survey were used to generate and to document discussion. The (3) primary questions were:

- 1. How's business?
- 2. What do you like about doing business here?
- 3. What can we do to help you succeed?

The volunteers followed up with a series of technical questions used to help sort the data from the initial (3) questions.

- 4. How long have you been doing business here?
- 5. What type of business is this?
- 6. Where is most of your competition?
- 7. Where do you purchase most of your supplies & support services?
- 8. How much does your business rely on the internet?
- 9. How many full-time & part-time employees do you have? How will that change over the course of the year?
- 10. How do you recruit new workers?

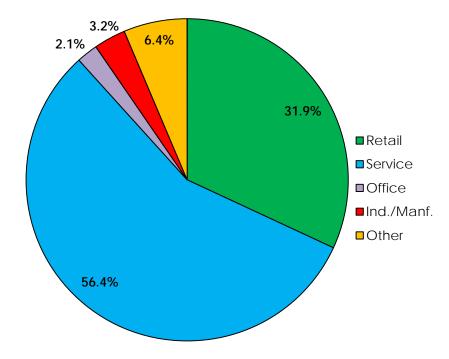
In addition to the standard Business Walk questions, the Fennimore Area Chamber of Commerce developed a second set of questions as follows:

- 1. In your opinion, what is or could be the brand for business in Fennimore?
- 2. Would you be interested in participating in a cooperative marketing promotion that would give you discount advertising and brand Fennimore as a whole to recruit more customers/business?
- 3. Are you interested in a mentorship program that would allow you to mentor a new business?
- 4. Are there any specific areas in which training or assistance might be helpful to you?

## Who Responded?

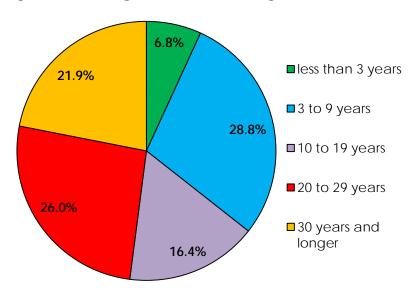
76 businesses participated in the Business Walk survey either face-to-face or online. Volunteers asked business owners and managers to define the type of business they operated (retail, service, office, industrial/manufacturing, or other). Roughly half of the businesses noted "service" and almost a third used "retail" as part of their definition. Very few identified themselves as being "industrial/manufacturing" and "office".

Figure 1: Who Responded?



In addition, volunteers were able to find out how long those businesses have been doing business in Fennimore.

Figure 2: How Long Have You Been Doing Business Here?





### 1. How's Business?

Businesspeople were asked, "How's business?" and were given the choices of: "very good", "good", "okay", "bad", and "very bad". Of the 76 responses, nearly 70% reported "very good" and "good" with only 4% reporting "bad" and "very bad".

Figure 3: How's Business? (All Types)

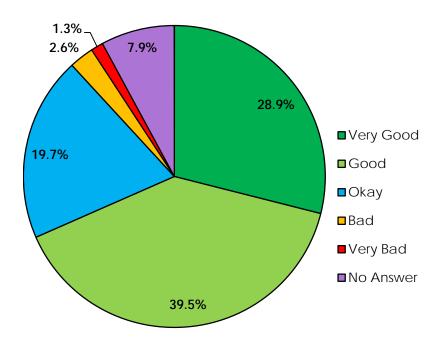


Figure 4: How's Business? (By Type)

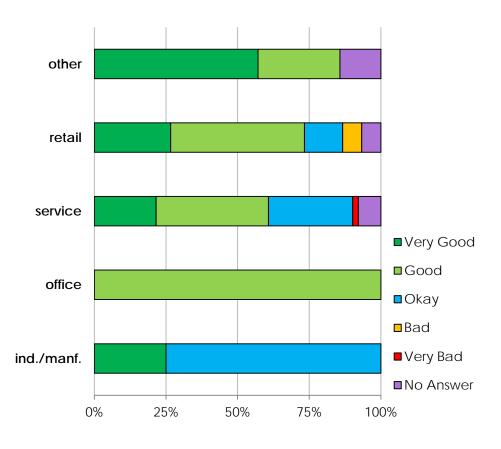


Figure 4 illustrates that while a majority of the businesses are doing well, different types are doing better than others. It should be noted that the small number of office and industrial/manufacturing firms who responded the survey paints a "distorted" image of how all other businesses of those industries are doing in Fennimore.

#### How's Business, By Tenure?

Business owners and operators have been in business for a variety of duration. Of those businesses who responded, the "youngest" business was (1) month old and the "oldest" business had been operating for (55) years.

■ Very Good 30 years and longer ■ Good 20 to 29 years ■Okay 10 to 19 years ■Bad 3 to 9 years ■ Very Bad less than 3 years ■ No Answer 0 10 15 20 25 **Number of Businesses** 

Figure 5: How's Business? (By Tenure)

#### How's Business, By Size?

Businesses reported the current number of full-time and part-time positions along with any projections they might have for the near future. Although part-time varies from business to business, in order to compare the size of businesses, part-time positions were assigned a value of ½ of full-time positions (FTE). Figure 6 shows how larger firms slightly better than those under 2 FTEs.

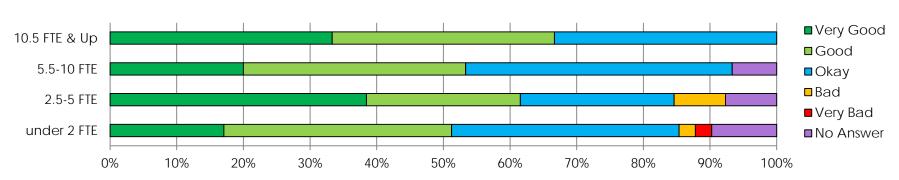


Figure 6: How's Business? (By Size)



#### Workforce

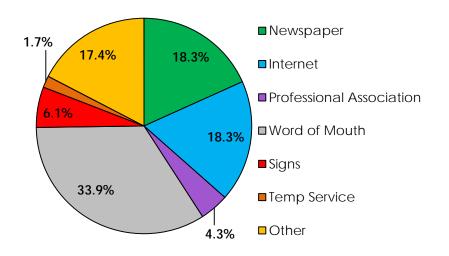
Volunteers were also able to collect information as to the future growth of these businesses. For the most part, many of the businesses are planning for limited growth over the next year. That said it is estimated that businesses in Fennimore will be adding an additional 15 full-time jobs and 16 part-time jobs within the year.

Figure 7: Current & Projected Employment (in 1 year)



A "Strong Workforce" was noted as one of the primary reasons why businesses like doing business in Fennimore. References were made to Southwest Technical College as a resource for finding new employees. When asked how businesses recruit new employees, most relied on "word of mouth". Figure 8 illustrates how businesses find new talent.

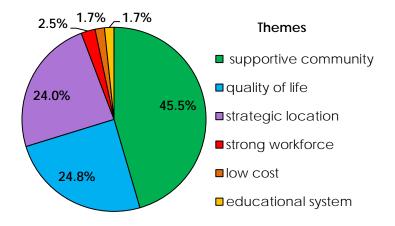
Figure 8: How Do You Recruit New Employees?



## 2. Why Fennimore?

Business owners and operators spent time with volunteers talking about why they like having their business in Fennimore. Responses varied greatly and were categorized into the themes shown in Figure 10.

Figure 9: Why Do You Like Doing Business Here?



Some specific examples included:

"It's good to be in a small town-a supportive community. I like to do business locally and businesses support each other."

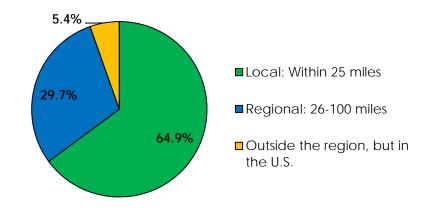
"The people, families, and community are close knit. People try to help each other when they can."

"...very supportive school board. Good partnerships with SWTC and CESA...Great community support."

#### Where's the Competition?

Volunteers were able to gather information about where businesses feel their competition comes from. Owners and operators were asked to choose between the following categories: "Local: 0-25 miles", "Regional: 26-100 miles", "Outside the Region, but in the U.S.", or "Outside the U.S.".

Figure 10: Where Is Most of Your Competition?



Because most of the businesses who responded were either service or retail, one can assume that this would contribute to the strong local and regional focus.

#### Where Do Businesses Purchase Supplies & Support Services?

Business owners and operators were asked where they purchased their supplies and support services. Most were able to find what they needed within 100 miles of their place of business. Only a small fraction (1.4%) needed to purchase something outside of the country.

Figure 11: Where Do You Purchase Most of Your Supplies?

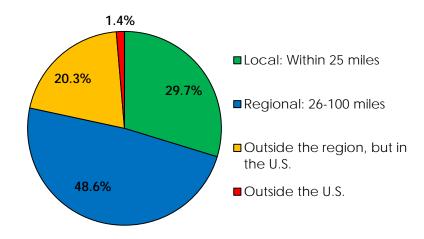
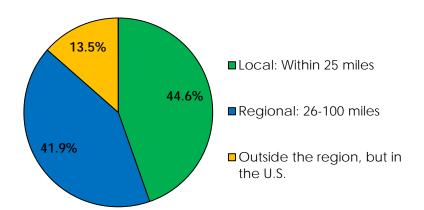


Figure 12: Where Do You Purchase Most of Your Support Services?





## 3. What Can We Do to Help You Succeed?

One of the most exciting aspects of the Business Walk is finding out from local businesses what they need to succeed. Openended responses varied, but were synthesized into the "themes" found in Figure 13.

Figure 13: What Can We Do to Help You Succeed?

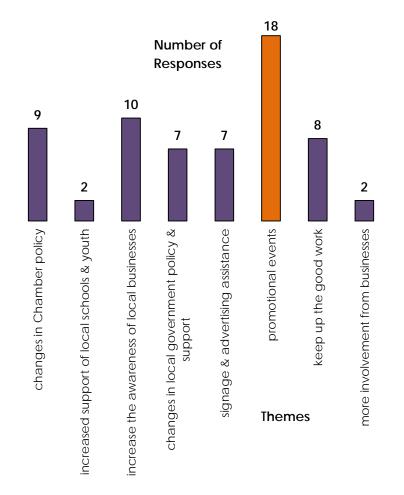


Figure 13 clearly illustrates that the most common theme among respondents was "promotional events".

Some other comments from the survey included:

- "Help me attract quality staff by making this a great place to live."
- "Chamber is doing good things. Keep doing what we are doing. Cohesive build on strengths."
- "Billboard at the city entrances with featured rotating businesses."
- "Provide some type of medical insurance to lower costs."

### **Training & Resources**

Business owners and operators were given a list of topics from which training and resources could be made available (See Figure 14).



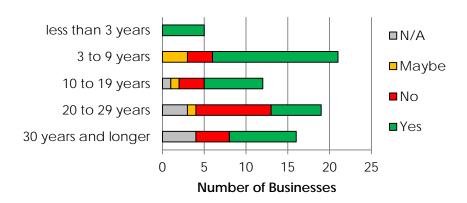
Figure 14: What Training or Assistance Might Be Helpful To You?



#### **Cooperative Marketing**

When asked about whether or not the business owner or operator would be interested in cooperative marketing, responses were somewhat favorable.

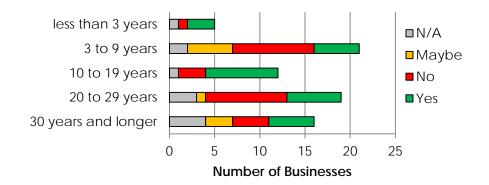
Figure 15: Would You Be Interested In Cooperative Marketing?



#### **Business Mentoring**

Volunteers asked businesses if they would be willing to serve as a mentor to a new business.

Figure 16: Would You Mentor A New Business?



The strongest support for mentoring a new business came from those businesses that have operated between 10 to 19 years.



#### Internet

Volunteers spent time with business owners and operators to find out how much businesses rely on the internet.

Figure 17: How Much Does Your Business Rely On the Internet? (All Responses)

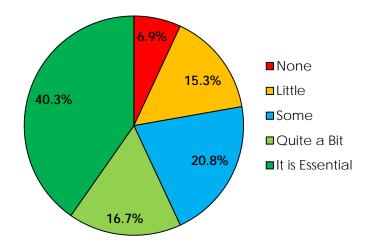
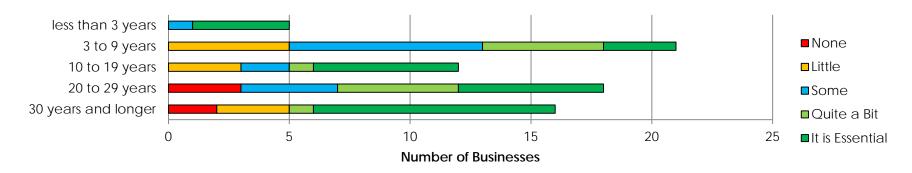


Figure 18: How Much Does Your Business Rely On the Internet? (By Tenure)



For the most part, the internet appears to be important to businesses in Fennimore regardless of tenure. "Older" businesses (20 years and longer) were the only ones reporting "None". For the "younger" businesses, internet service is a high priority

#### Branding

Businesses were asked, "In your opinion, what is or could be the brand for business (as a whole) in Fennimore." The following responses were recorded:

- SWTC/Tourism/Fishing and Hunting
- SWTC
- Hometown service
- Friendly and good people
- Lifestyle: School system, family connectedness. Good place to raise kids.
- Focus brand on progress. Limited use of brand/jingle because he works many communities.
- I like "City on the Move"
- Unique Shops/Hidden Treasures
- Slogan a joke for some
- Not much to work with as far as tourism and combine efforts in tourism with other regional events.
- Our customers enjoy the local sites and artisian type of businesses. We see lots of Carr Valley Cheese shopping bags and local wines & beers. Fennimore could use more small specialty shops. Having a local bakery, cheese shop and other shops would also keep the business in Fennimore rather than people shopping elsewhere.
- Never really thought about it before
- We have a lot to offer in rural setting-Education-Our kids can compete with top kids everywhere
- Igor Agriculture Center
- Foster the potential of our location in the region. The heart of the region. Fennimore as a lifestyle choice.
- Railroad Theme
- We have a fishing destination here in the Driftless Region.
- I don't have a slogan, but Fennimore has a very capable and willing work force within a 25 mile

- radius. Our town is attractive, friendly, and forward thinking.
- Hometown, small town shopping.
- Bring in more business more fair-wages work options.
- Does like connection with railroad-good for business
- Small town
- Friendly
- Shop Local
- Fennimore Community "small and strong"
- Provide fewer reasons for people to take commerce elsewhere/make sure commerce remains that is essential (ex. Pharmacy, Dr, Grocery)
- Small town feel with small town prices.
- Not sure what you are asking.
- No brand awareness, used to have Fennimore cheese, no longer.
- City on the move for the last 13 years
- Neighbors helping Neighbors
- City on the move-needs to be changed
- What are we known for-wine country, cheese factory, agricultural
- Crossroads/SWTC(very important)
- Small town service.
- Local and honest
- "There's more in Fennimore"
- Crossroads. Work with the "More" in Fennimore.
   Emphasize: Recreation Business Education.

The most common themes that derive from the list focus on:

- Education
- Small town quality of life
- Outdoor recreation
- Strategic location
- Community.

### Conclusions

The 2013 Fennimore Business Walk was a success. It achieved the (4) primary goals:

- To understand the issues facing your business community.
- To build working relationships between decision makers and local businesses.
- To celebrate and promote your local businesses.
- To provide local businesses with educational resources.

The volunteers and businesspeople all found the Walk positive and enlightening. Several commented about when to conduct the next Business Walk. Hopefully, the information in this report can serve as a baseline from which future "Walks" will build from.

#### **Acknowledgements**

Special thanks to all the hard work done by the Fennimore Area Chamber of Commerce, the Fennimore Industrial & Economic Development Corporation, the City of Fennimore, and especially to our dedicated "walkers".

#### Questions

For questions regarding this report and "Business Walks", please contact:

Todd W. Johnson, CRD Agent/Assistant Professor University of Wisconsin Extension-Grant County (608) 723-2125, todd.johnson@ces.uwex.edu



|                    |   |   | Ten     | ure      |         | Business Type |                                       |   |  |   |                       | Employr                                | ment |      | Ho       | w do you red                          | cruit new     | workers?                 |   |               |   |                         |           |                 | Training or         | assitance   | e that migh                 | ht be hel         | lpful to y          | ou?                  |                                    |  |
|--------------------|---|---|---------|----------|---------|---------------|---------------------------------------|---|--|---|-----------------------|--|------|------|----------|---------------------------------------|---------------|--------------------------|---|---------------|---|-------------------------|-----------|-----------------|---------------------|-------------|-----------------------------|-------------------|---------------------|----------------------|------------------------------------|--|
| How's<br>Business? | What do you like about<br>doing business in<br>Fennimore?   | What can the City of<br>Fennimore, Fennimore<br>Chamber, and Fennimore<br>Industrial Economic<br>Development do to help<br>you succeed?                     | (years) | (months) | Service | Office        | Where is your<br>most<br>competition? | Where do you<br>purchase most<br>of your<br>supplies? | Where do you purchase most of your support services? | How much<br>does your<br>business rely<br>on the<br>Internet? | # Full-time Emp Today | # Part-time Emp Today                  |      | Year | Internet | Professional Association Temp Service | Word of Mouth | Other                    | In your opinion, what i<br>or could be the brand<br>for business (as a<br>whole) in Fennimore?      |               | interested in<br>mentoring a new<br>business? | Marketing & Advertising | Financing | Cash Management | Obtaining Equipment | Real Estate | Hiring Employment Relations | Creating Identity | Business Succession | Inventory Management | Other                              | Notes:   |
| Good               | Small area, but still reach<br>out to larger area<br>(Dubuque & Galena),<br>friendly, great place.  | Dues structure for<br>chamber   | 6       | 0        | •       |               | Regional: 26-100<br>miles             | Region: 26-100<br>miles                               | Region: 26-100<br>miles                              | Some  | 1                     | 0                                      | 1    | 0    |          |                                       | •             |                          |   | Yes           | Other - Maybe in future                       | •                       |           |                 |                     |             |                             | •                 | •                   |                      |                                    |  |
| No Answer          | Fun-more networking   |   | 10      | 0        | •       |               | Local: Within 25<br>miles             | U.S. 100+ miles                                       | U.S. 100+  | It is Essential   | 0                     | 1                                      | 0    | 1    |          |                                       |               |                          |   | Other - N/A   | Other - N/A                                   |                         |           |                 |                     |             |                             |                   |                     |                      | N/A                                |  |
| Good               | Size of town-support<br>stable business/Cost of<br>businesses & stress is bad.<br>Increased cost.   | Let people know what<br>they have, before you<br>lose it. Support local<br>schools.   | 9       | 0        |         |               | Local: Within 25<br>miles             | U.S. 100+ miles                                       | Local: 0-25 miles                                    | Some  | 10                    | 12                                     | 12   | 13   |          |                                       | •             | Sign on do               | or SWTC/Tourism/Fishin g and Hunting  | Other - Maybe | Other - Enjoyed<br>SWTC event.                |                         |           |                 |                     |             |                             |                   |                     |                      | N/A                                | Shop local - Good things<br>happening. As for joint<br>marketing: Small budget, not \$<br>for this, part of dues.  |
| Good               | Wide variety of customers-<br>statewide International -<br>towing service requests.   | No suggestions. Be more inclusive, follow through on activities with business (members & nonmembers)  | 36      | 0        | •       |               | Local: Within 25<br>miles             | Region: 26-100<br>miles                               | Region: 26-100<br>miles                              | Little  | 1                     | 0                                      | 1    | 0    |          |                                       |               |                          | SWTC  | Yes           | Yes   | •                       |           |                 |                     |             |                             |                   | (                   |                      |                                    |  |
| Very Good          | Good to be in small town,<br>supportive community,<br>like to do business locally<br>and businesses support<br>each other.  | The chamber is good<br>marketing. They have a<br>lot of events. Good<br>collective marketing.<br>Ideas- property<br>development. Not a lot to<br>pick from. | 18      | 0        | •       |               | Local: Within 25<br>miles             | Local: 0-25<br>miles                                  | Local: 0-25 miles                                    | Quite a Bit   | 1                     | 0                                      | 1    | 0    |          |                                       |               |                          | Hometown service  | Yes           | Yes   | •                       |           |                 |                     |             |                             |                   |                     |                      |                                    |  |
| Good               | Community & people  | Doesn't hear that much<br>about chamber activities<br>and what does chamber<br>need. Willing to volunteer.  | 7       | 0        | •       |               | Regional: 26-100<br>miles             | Region: 26-100<br>miles                               | Region: 26-100<br>miles                              | Some  | 6                     | 2                                      | 9    | 3    |          |                                       |               | Job cente<br>billboard   | and Friendly and good people  | Yes           | Yes   | •                       | •         | •               |                     |             |                             |                   |                     |                      |                                    | Would be willing to help with Chamber events (even though the shop is not a Chamber member). Dennis Friedericks used to ask him to help w/the chicken barbecue really liked helping set up/clean up, etc.  |
| No Answer          | People are friendly   | Open to suggestions-just starting out   | 0       | 1        |         |               | Local: Within 25 miles                | Region: 26-100<br>miles                               | Region: 26-100<br>miles                              | It is Essential   | 1                     | 0                                      | 1    | 0    | ,        |                                       |               |                          |   | Yes           | Yes   | •                       | •         | •               |                     |             | •                           | •                 | •                   | •                    | Business<br>planning<br>management | Hopefully by October will be hiring. Interested in maybe hiring a SWIC student or more.  |
| Good               | Location on highway   |   | 8       | 0        |         |               | Regional: 26-100<br>miles             | Region: 26-100<br>miles                               | Region: 26-100<br>miles                              | Quite a Bit   | 1                     | 9                                      | 1    | 9    | •        |                                       |               |                          |   | Yes           | No  |                         |           |                 |                     |             |                             | •                 |                     |                      | management                         | a owne stadent of more.  |
| Very Good          | Community - you know<br>the people, seeing the<br>travelers.  | Help with<br>advertising/Fundraising<br>opportunities   | 20      | 0        | •       |               | Local: Within 25 miles                | Region: 26-100<br>miles                               | Region: 26-100<br>miles                              | Quite a Bit   | 5                     | 8                                      | 5    | 8    |          |                                       | •             | Notice on<br>door at sto |   | Yes           | Yes   |                         |           |                 |                     |             |                             |                   |                     |                      |                                    | Most training done by corporate.<br>Tourism business very important:<br>business increases with other area<br>events (ie. Country on the River,<br>Pdc, Civil War, Bosc, Hunters)  |
| Good               | Know everybody-can be negative or positive  | Provide some type of<br>medical insurance to<br>lower costs   | 18      | 0        | •       |               | Local: Within 25 miles                | Local: 0-25<br>miles                                  | Local: 0-25 miles                                    | It is Essential   | 20                    | 2                                      | 22   | 2    |          |                                       | •             | SWTC<br>Instructors      |   | Yes           | Yes   | •                       |           |                 |                     |             |                             |                   |                     |                      |                                    | John Wells company has done a<br>great job for his business -<br>Website gets more hils than<br>phones/tires. For joint marketing:<br>Probably would if price is right   |
| Good               | Community needs to<br>support local businesses &<br>each other. Small<br>community. Simplifies<br>promotions / don't have<br>to sell yourself as much.  | Regionally continue<br>support/promotional<br>opportunities coop<br>advertising   | 14      | 0        | •       |               | Local: Within 25<br>miles             | Region: 26-100<br>miles                               | Local: 0-25 miles                                    | It is Essential   | 1                     | rest<br>are<br>indep<br>enden<br>t (5) | 1    | 0    |          |                                       |               |                          | Focus brand on<br>progress, Limited use<br>of brand/jingle<br>because he works<br>many communities. | Yes           | Yes   |                         | •         |                 |                     |             |                             |                   |                     |                      | Business<br>planning.              | Feels there are certain parts of Fennimore that need tlc. Feels park boards aren't doing their jobs - city needs to step in & take over & move toward progress, doesn't feel city is moving in a progressive manner which then reflects badly to bringing in new business/families to Fennimore. How community is perceived is part of Chamber responsibility. |
| Good               | Fennimore is fairly central to the districts we serve.  | Help me attract quality staff by making this a great place to live.   | 50      | 0        | •       | •             | Regional: 26-100<br>miles             | U.S. 100+ miles                                       | Local: 0-25 miles                                    | It is Essential   | 28                    | 6                                      | 30   | 5    | •        | •                                     | •             |                          |   | No            | No  |                         |           |                 |                     |             |                             |                   |                     |                      |                                    |  |
| Good               | Small community; easy to<br>build relationships with<br>customers.  | Keep having promotional events.   | 45      | 0        |         |               | Local: Within 25 miles                | Local: 0-25<br>miles                                  | Local: 0-25 miles                                    | Quite a Bit   | 1                     | 0                                      | 1    | 0    |          |                                       |               | na                       | I like "City on the<br>Move"  | Yes           | Other - Maybe                                 | •                       |           |                 |                     |             |                             |                   | •                   |                      |                                    |  |
| Very Good          | Small town friendliness; we have the best customers!  | Just keep doing what you're doing.  | 23      | 0        | •       | •             | Local: Within 25<br>miles             | Region: 26-100<br>miles                               | Region: 26-100<br>miles                              | It is Essential   | 2                     | 1                                      | 2    | 1    | •        | •                                     | •             |                          |   | Yes           | No  |                         |           |                 |                     |             |                             |                   |                     |                      |                                    |  |
| Bad                | We are pretty much left to operate on our own without a lot of requests from the city. We are kept informed of changes and programs going on in the city. If I have a question, I can usually get everything answered in a timely manner. | Keep doing what they are<br>doing. They offer a wide<br>variety of programs to<br>better most businesses.   | 15      | 6        |         |               | Local: Within 25<br>miles             | Region: 26-100<br>miles                               | Region: 26-100<br>miles                              | Some  | 4                     | 0                                      | 4    | 0    |          |                                       | •             |                          |   | Yes           | Yes   | •                       |           |                 |                     |             | •                           |                   |                     |                      |                                    |  |

| How's<br>Business? | What do you like about<br>doing business in<br>Fennimore?   | What can the City of<br>Fennimore, Fennimore<br>Chamber, and Fennimore<br>Industrial Economic<br>Development do to help<br>you succeed?   | 3                      | (months) | Service | · · | Other | Where is your most competition?     | Where do you<br>purchase most<br>of your<br>supplies? | Where do you<br>purchase most<br>of your support<br>services? | How much<br>does your<br>business rely<br>on the<br>Internet? | # Full-time Emp Today<br># Part-time Emp Today | ime Er  | # Part-time Emp in 1<br>Year | newspaper<br>Internet | Professional Association | Temp Service | Word of Mouth | Other  | In your opinion, what is<br>or could be the brand<br>for business (as a<br>whole) in Fennimore?   | interested in<br>participating in a<br>cooperative<br>marketing<br>promotion? | interested in<br>mentoring a new<br>business? | Marketing & Advertising<br>Financing | Cash Management | Obtaining Equipment | Real Estate | Hiring<br>Employment Relations | Creating Identity | Business Succession | Inventory Management | Other   | Notes:  |
|--------------------|---|---|------------------------|----------|---------|-----|-------|-------------------------------------|---|---|---|--|---------|------------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------|--------------|---------------|--|---|---|---|--------------------------------------|-----------------|---------------------|-------------|--------------------------------|-------------------|---------------------|----------------------|---|---|
| Okay               | Personal contact-meet<br>new people-promote all<br>Fennimore has to offer   | Chamber is doing good<br>things. Keep doing what<br>we are doing. Cohesive -<br>build on strengths.   | 5                      | 2        | •       |     |       | Local: Within 25<br>miles           | Local: 0-25<br>miles                                  | Region: 26-100<br>miles                                       | Little  | 1  | 2 0     | 3                            |                       |                          |              | •             |  | Unique<br>Shops/Hidden<br>Treasures   | Yes   | No  |                                      |                 |                     |             |                                |                   | •                   |                      |   | For joint marketing: Like<br>Fennimore Maps/Maybe travel<br>planner/Like groups with less<br>expensive ads  |
| Okay               | Convienent  | More events in Fennimore<br>Area/More support from<br>Chamber<br>members/community  | 7                      | 0        | •       |     |       | Local: Within 25<br>miles           | Region: 26-100<br>miles                               | Region: 26-100<br>miles                                       | Some  | 0  | 3 0     | 3                            |                       |                          |              | •             |  | Slogan a joke for some  | Yes   | No  | •                                    |                 |                     |             |                                | •                 |                     |                      |   | Need to get more people to walk<br>in the door! Willing to hold<br>benefits and chamber events. As<br>for joint marketing: Insurance and<br>Advertising discounts for<br>Boscobel chamber members,<br>Radio Ads w/Chamber would be<br>great   |
| Okay               | Small town, friendly people.  |   | 20                     | 7        | •       |     |       | Outside the region, but in the U.S. | U.S. 100+ miles                                       | Local: 0-25 miles   | It is Essential   | 13   | 1 13    | 1                            | •                     |                          |              | •             |  |   | No  | No  |                                      |                 |                     |             |                                |                   |                     |                      |   |   |
| Very Good          | I like how Fennimore is<br>always trying new things<br>and how it involves my<br>business in local events!<br>Thank You:)   | I am very happy with my<br>status is Fennimore  | 11                     | 2        |         |     | •     | Local: Within 25<br>miles           | Region: 26-100<br>miles                               | Region: 26-100<br>miles                                       | It is Essential   | 0  | 1 0     | 1                            | •                     | •                        |              | •             |  |   | No  | No  |                                      |                 |                     |             |                                |                   |                     |                      | no  |   |
| Very Good          | Everything about it. Location on Main street hugel Big presence and windows. Customer base is very broad. People like thrift store shopping.  | Have better knowledge of other businesses to provide info to customers.   | 9                      | 0        |         |     |       | Local: Within 25<br>miles           | Region: 26-100<br>miles                               | Region: 26-100<br>miles                                       | Quite a Bit   | 4  | 1 4     | 1                            | •                     |                          |              | •             | Directly in store;<br>church bulletins<br>and store<br>purchases   |   | Yes   | Other - Possibly                              |                                      |                 |                     |             |                                |                   |                     |                      | Customer<br>Service/Relatio<br>ns                               | Store is just one more draw to come to Fennimore. Town-to-town marketing: Lanc, Fenn, Bosc. [other comments on hard copy]   |
| Okay               | Good and loyal people   | It is tough   | 27                     | 8        | •       |     |       | Local: Within 25<br>miles           | Local: 0-25<br>miles                                  | Local: 0-25 miles   | None  | 3  | 0 don't | don't<br>know                |                       |                          |              |               | Upper<br>management<br>takes care of   |   | No  | No  |                                      |                 |                     |             |                                |                   |                     |                      | None  |   |
| Very Good          | Nice Community-People<br>are nice and practicing in<br>a small community has<br>advantages  | Keeping up with<br>technology and Easier<br>access to service<br>industries in area   | 29                     | 0        | •       |     |       | Regional: 26-100<br>miles           | Region: 26-100<br>miles                               | Local: 0-25 miles   | It is Essential   | 1  | 2 1     | 2                            |                       |                          |              |               |  | Not much to work<br>with as far as tourism<br>and combine efforts<br>in tourism with other<br>regional events.  | No  | No  |                                      |                 |                     |             |                                |                   |                     |                      | N/A   |   |
| Very Good          | Good & Loyal workforce<br>The Tech and WWTC in<br>LaCrosse Logistics with<br>UPS in Dodgeville and Ex in Dubuque. Location<br>between Minneapolis, Des<br>Moines, Chicago.  |   | 33                     | 0        | •       |     |       | Outside the region, but in the U.S. | u.S. 100+ miles                                       | Local: 0-25 miles   | It is Essential   | 45   | 2 45    | 0                            |                       |                          |              | •             |  |   | Other - N/A   | Other - N/A                                   |                                      |                 |                     |             |                                |                   |                     |                      | N/A   |   |
| Very Good          | Our business in a beautiful part of the country which attracts city people for the major cities in the midwest to come and get away from it all. Our customers come to fish and hunt, we also get a lot of people who enjoy the peace and beauty of the area. |   | 1                      | 9        | •       |     |       | Local: Within 25<br>miles           | U.S. 100+ miles                                       | U.S. 100+   | It is Essential   | 2  | 0 2     | 0                            |                       |                          |              |               | We don't hire, we don't have employees-basically my husband and myself do the work and run the business. I don't foresee the need to have employees. | Our customers enjoy the local sites and artisian type of businesses. We see lots of Carr Valley Cheese shopping bags and local wines & beers. Fennimore could use more small specialty shops. Having a local bakery, cheese shop and other shops would also keep the business in Fennimore rather than people shopping elsewhere. | Yes   | No  |                                      |                 |                     |             |                                |                   |                     |                      |   | Advertising is very expensive and I've cut a lot out and only going with local forms of advertising. My website is what attracts customers. I haven't heard people say - "I saw your ad (fill in the blank)". People tell me they found us on the web. We have set up a Facebook page because our website is seen by many but I'm limited with how much info I can put on it. Facebook allows me more room. |
| Okay               | The people,families,and community close knit, people try to help each other when they can.  | Help set things up around agricultural community  | 43                     | 0        | •       |     |       | Local: Within 25<br>miles           | Region: 26-100<br>miles                               | Local: 0-25 miles   | Little  | 1  | 0 1     | 0                            | •                     |                          |              | •             | Family Business  | Never really thought about it before  | Yes   | Other - N/A                                   |                                      |                 |                     |             |                                |                   |                     |                      | Nothing in<br>particular,<br>don't change<br>too many<br>things | Tries to work with local businesses<br>as much as possible. Partners with<br>SWTC, this is growing in<br>polyalarity. For joint marketing:<br>Depends on time of year -<br>probably would   |
| Good               | Very supportive school<br>board-Good partnerships<br>with SWTC, CESA, Great<br>community support (ie.<br>Friends of Fennimore<br>Elementary)  | As expand "Dream Bigger" program help promote this to get students out into places of employment. Be mentors form partnerships - work experience opportunities very important for students. | since<br>begin<br>ning | 0        |         |     | •     | Regional: 26-100<br>miles           | Local: 0-25<br>miles                                  | Local: 0-25 miles   | It is Essential   | 72 :   | 35 72   | 35                           | •                     | •                        | •            | •             |  | We have a lot to<br>offer in rural setting-<br>Education-Our kids<br>can compete with<br>top kids everywhere  | Yes   | Yes   | •                                    |                 |                     |             |                                |                   |                     |                      |   |   |

| How's<br>Business? | What do you like about<br>doing business in<br>Fennimore?  | What can the City of<br>Fennimore, Fennimore<br>Chamber, and Fennimore<br>Industrial Economic<br>Development do to help<br>you succeed?  | (years)                             | (months) Service | Office |     | there is your<br>most<br>ompetition? | Where do you<br>purchase most<br>of your<br>supplies? | Where do you purchase most of your support services? | How much<br>does your<br>business rely<br>on the<br>Internet? | # Full-time Emp Today | Ε        | # Full-time Emp in 1 Year | Year<br>Newspaper | Internet | Professional Association | Temp Service | Word of Iniculia | Other                   | In your opinion, what is or could be the brand for business (as a whole) in Fennimore?   | cooperative   | interested in<br>mentoring a new<br>business? | Marketing & Advertising | Financing | Cash Management Offering Credit | Obtaining Equipment | Real Estate | Employment Relations | Creating Identity | Business Succession | Inventory Management | Other               | Notes:  |
|--------------------|--|--|-------------------------------------|------------------|--------|-----|--------------------------------------|---|--|---|-----------------------|----------|---------------------------|-------------------|----------|--------------------------|--------------|------------------|-------------------------|--|---|---|-------------------------|-----------|---------------------------------|---------------------|-------------|----------------------|-------------------|---------------------|----------------------|---------------------|---|
| Good               | Better location than prior<br>location; close to RR<br>museum; parking a plus;<br>crossroads of 18 &61 a<br>plus.  | Awareness and referral<br>from other chamber<br>members - should do a<br>season opener letter or<br>poster.  | 22 (4<br>at<br>new<br>locati<br>on) | 0                |        | Reg | gional: 26-100<br>miles              | Region: 26-100<br>miles                               | Region: 26-100<br>miles                              | It is Essential   |                       | volunt v |                           | olunt<br>eers     |          |                          |              | •                |                         | lgor - Agriculture<br>Center   | Yes   | Yes   | •                       |           |                                 |                     |             |                      |                   |                     |                      |                     | Type or organization - volunteers to help has been fantastic; approximately 50 to work with. Grant Co. Tourism, In-State Tourism - very helpfull Partnerships w/SWTC for services - brochure, ramp, bldg maint. Trying to work with Casey's & Kwik Trip to get referrels. For joint marketing: Day destination trip, promote in Madison & surrounding area. |
| Okay               | Community Pride -<br>potential for grown, but<br>doing all we can to<br>maintain. Location in<br>Fennimore & in county.  | Vision. Business Incentives.   | 23                                  | 0                | •      | Reg | gional: 26-100<br>miles              | Region: 26-100<br>miles                               | Region: 26-100<br>miles                              | It is Essential   | 6                     | 0        | 6                         | 0                 |          |                          |              | •                |                         | Foster the potential of our location in the region. The heart of the region. Fennimore as a lifestyle choice.  |   | Yes   |                         |           |                                 |                     |             |                      |                   |                     |                      | Customer<br>Service | Cabin - vacation land owners:<br>they like having a local business<br>they can rely on and trust.<br>Recommends more education<br>from supply side for Building<br>Trades students at SWTC - more<br>sales side.  |
| Very Good          | People willing to<br>volunteer/Friendly,<br>upbeat city.   |  | 20                                  | 0                |        | Loc | cal: Within 25<br>miles              | Local: 0-25<br>miles                                  | Local: 0-25 miles                                    | Some  | All<br>volunt<br>eers | 0        | 0                         | 0                 |          |                          |              | •                |                         | Railroad Theme   | No  | No  |                         |           |                                 |                     |             |                      |                   |                     |                      | N/A                 |   |
| Okay               | I enjoy our location on<br>Lincon Avenue. It is great<br>to see many people<br>walking by, visiting our<br>neighboring businesses.<br>Everyone in the Fennimore<br>business community that I<br>have met has been polite<br>and welcoming. |  | 124                                 | 0                |        | Reg | gional: 26-100<br>miles              | Local: 0-25<br>miles                                  | Local: 0-25 miles                                    | It is Essential   | 3                     | 0        | 3                         | 0                 | •        | •                        |              |                  |                         |  |   | Other - Contact<br>John Ingebritson           |                         |           |                                 |                     |             |                      |                   |                     |                      |                     | I am encouraged by the several new businesses that have joined the Fennimore business community in 2013. I am hopeful good things are ahead in the "City on the Move."  |
| No Answer          | Convenience of fishing<br>and choice of motels in<br>the area  | Keep highlighting the fishing in the area  | 20                                  | 0                |        | Reg | gional: 26-100<br>miles              | Region: 26-100<br>miles                               | Local: 0-25 miles                                    | Some  | 1                     | 1        | 1                         | 1                 |          |                          |              |                  |                         | We have a fishing destination here in the Driftless Region.  | Other - Has done<br>some advertising<br>in the past locally<br>More out of area<br>advertising -<br>Chicago,<br>Milwaukee, Dells,<br>Madison. Clubs in<br>Madison, one in<br>Platteville. | Yes   |                         |           |                                 |                     |             |                      |                   |                     |                      |                     | Important of businesses counting on businesses. Fishing brings people to the area - stay in hotels, eat in restaurants, etc. [more comments on hard copy]   |
| Good               | Rental space cost. Centrally located in county.  | comment removed  | 16                                  | 0                |        | Reg | gional: 26-100<br>miles              | Local: 0-25<br>miles                                  | Region: 26-100<br>miles                              | It is Essential   | 4                     | 4        | 4                         | 4                 | •        |                          |              | •                |                         |  | No  | No  |                         |           |                                 |                     |             |                      |                   |                     |                      |                     | Have presented at UWP, would present at SWTC if asked.  |
| Okay               | Everything is convenient. The people are friendly and helpful.   | Billboard at the city<br>entrances with featured<br>rotating businesses. A<br>weekly newspaper<br>promotion featuring<br>businesses by group type,<br>I.E. agriculture.                    | 3                                   | 0                |        | Loc | cal: Within 25<br>miles              | Region: 26-100<br>miles                               | Local: 0-25 miles                                    | It is Essential   | 0                     | 0        | 0                         | 0                 |          |                          |              |                  | Do not have employees.  | I don't have a slogan, but Fennimore has a very capable and willing work force within a 25 mile radius. Our town is attractive, friendlty, and forward | Yes   | No  | •                       |           |                                 |                     |             |                      |                   |                     |                      |                     |   |
| Okay               | It's close to home, less travel and time to travel.  | Keep promoting the city<br>and working with us in<br>providing services for the  | 45                                  | 7                |        | Loc | cal: Within 25<br>miles              | Region: 26-100<br>miles                               | Region: 26-100<br>miles                              | It is Essential   | 39                    | 64       | 39                        | 66                | •        |                          |              | •                |                         | thinking.  Hometown, small town shopping.  | Yes   | Yes   |                         |           |                                 |                     |             | •                    |                   |                     |                      |                     |   |
| Very Good          | Regional Location-<br>Central/Good education<br>system/Trust factor<br>involved rural<br>setting/lower crime/more<br>personal service from law<br>enforcement/ the loyal<br>customer base keeps us<br>here.                                | elderly.  Chamber emphasize tourism more, which could lead to more business & more permanent residence, etc.  Community support for current population - housing & business. More housing. | 55                                  | 0                |        | Loc | cal: Within 25<br>miles              | Region: 26-100<br>miles                               | Region: 26-100<br>miles                              | It is Essential   | 17                    | 1        | 17                        | 1                 |          |                          |              |                  | apprentice<br>board     | Bring in more<br>business - more fair-<br>wages work options.  | Yes   | Yes   | •                       |           |                                 | •                   |             |                      |                   | •                   |                      |                     | Need a more purposeful Main<br>Street Development plan.<br>Business Infrastructure plan -<br>dentist, dr ofc & other businesses.<br>How do we keep customers in<br>Fennimore?   |
| Good               | Favorite part-repeat customers.  | Help businesses to be<br>more involved   | 23                                  | 0                |        | Loc | cal: Within 25<br>miles              | U.S. 100+ miles                                       | U.S. 100+  | Quite a Bit   | 10                    | 10       | 10                        | 10                |          |                          |              |                  | In-store<br>advertising | Does like connection<br>with railroad-good<br>for business   | n<br>No   | Yes   |                         |           |                                 |                     |             | •                    | •                 | •                   |                      |                     | Would like to see more chamber involvement from more chamber members. Can't get away at noon for meetings. For joint marketing: Would have to talk to marketing at corporation  |
| Okay               | Small town/Everybody cares   | They do a good job<br>promoting "stay local".<br>Keep doing what you are<br>doing.   | 9                                   | 0                |        | Loc | cal: Within 25<br>miles              | U.S. 100+ miles                                       | U.S. 100+  | It is Essential   | 2                     | 3        | 2                         | 3                 | •        |                          |              |                  | Job center              | Small town   | No  | Other - Maybe                                 |                         |           |                                 |                     |             |                      |                   |                     |                      | n/a                 | Marketing is done by Dubuque  |
| Good               | Small community and<br>people are friendly/Great<br>support from communities<br>in area  | Keep doing what you<br>have been doing   | 6                                   | 0                |        | Loc | cal: Within 25<br>miles              | U.S. 100+ miles                                       | Local: 0-25 miles                                    | Quite a Bit   | 4                     | 6        | 4                         | 6                 |          |                          |              | •                |                         | Friendly   | Yes   | Other - Possibly                              | •                       | •         | •                               |                     |             |                      |                   |                     |                      |                     |   |

| How's<br>Business? | What do you like about<br>doing business in<br>Fennimore?   | What can the City of<br>Fennimore, Fennimore<br>Chamber, and Fennimore<br>Industrial Economic<br>Development do to help<br>you succeed?   | (years)      | Service | Office | Industrial | Other | Where is your<br>most<br>competition? | Where do you<br>purchase most<br>of your<br>supplies? | Where do you purchase most of your support services? | How much<br>does your<br>business rely<br>on the<br>Internet? | Tod                                    | ime Er    | # Part-time Emp in 1<br>Year<br>Newspaner | Internet | Professional Association | Temp Service | Other  | In your opinion, what is<br>or could be the brand<br>for business (as a<br>whole) in Fennimore?                                      | interested in participating in a cooperative marketing promotion? | interested in<br>mentoring a new<br>business? | Financing | Cash Management | Obtaining Equipment | Real Estate | Hiring | Employment Relations Creating Identity | Business Succession | Inventory Management | Other | Notes:  |
|--------------------|---|---|--------------|---------|--------|------------|-------|---------------------------------------|---|--|---|--|-----------|---|----------|--------------------------|--------------|--|--|---|---|-----------|-----------------|---------------------|-------------|--------|--|---------------------|----------------------|-------|---|
| Bad                | Meeting people from all over for local as well distance customers.  | Wish I knew, change the economy?  | 23 0         |         |        |            | F     | Regional: 26-100<br>miles             | Local: 0-25<br>miles                                  | Local: 0-25 miles                                    | No Answer   | 1                                      | 0 1       | 0   |          |                          |              |  |  | No  | No  |           |                 |                     |             |        |  |                     |                      |       | The economy has changed for those in our industry. Very few still in business. The closest one in Monroe, Wi.   |
| Okay               | Local customers and hometown  | change to city ordinances   | 27 0         | •       |        |            |       | Local: Within 25<br>miles             | Region: 26-100<br>miles                               | Local: 0-25 miles                                    | None  | 1                                      | 0 1       | 0   |          |                          |              |  |  | Other - N/A   | Other - N/A                                   |           |                 |                     |             |        |  |                     |                      | N/A   |   |
| Good               | There is strong community networks, good people, and rural area.  |   | 6 0          | •       | ,      | •          | • 16  | Outside the egion, but in the U.S.    | U.S. 100+ miles                                       | Region: 26-100<br>miles                              | Quite a Bit   | 4                                      | 0 5       | 0   | •        | ,                        |              |  |  | Yes   | No  |           |                 |                     |             |        |  |                     |                      |       |   |
| Good               | Plenty of farmers; large clientile  |   | 25 C         |         |        |            | F     | Regional: 26-100<br>miles             | Local: 0-25<br>miles                                  | Local: 0-25 miles                                    | Quite a Bit   | 1                                      | 0 1       | 0   |          |                          |              |  |  | Other - N/A   | Other - N/A                                   |           |                 |                     |             |        |  |                     |                      |       | We have our own training. Advertises through internet & Shopping News.  |
| Very Good          | Location is ideal.  | Seminars are good, but i<br>know you have tried that<br>and attendance is bad.<br>Legal resources.  | 32 0         |         |        | •          | F     | Regional: 26-100<br>miles             | U.S. 100+ miles                                       | U.S. 100+  | It is Essential   | 17                                     | 0 17      | 0   |          |                          |              | •  |  | Yes   | Yes   |           |                 |                     |             |        |  | •                   |                      |       | Look at zoning for industrial park.<br>Not fair. Internet is essential: if<br>internet is down, we are down.<br>Invoicing, everything.  |
| Good               | Like location/People finding us   |   | 3 0          |         |        |            |       | Local: Within 25<br>miles             | U.S. 100+ miles                                       | U.S. 100+  | Little  | 2                                      | 2 2       | 2   |          |                          |              | •  | Shop Local   | Other - Possibly  | No  | ,         |                 |                     |             |        | •                                      |                     | •                    |       | Keep doing what you're doing.   |
| Okay               | Business Location - foot<br>traffic, easily seen/found,<br>sense of community, new<br>people are welcome<br>compared to other area<br>towns.              | More advertising - not<br>Chamber specific - more<br>information shared with<br>general public regarding<br>Fennimore Businesses (Bus<br>Promo).  | 10 0         | •       | •      |            | F     | Regional: 26-100<br>miles             | Region: 26-100<br>miles                               | Region: 26-100<br>miles                              | Some  | 1                                      | 0 1       | 0   |          |                          |              |  | Fennimore<br>Community "small<br>and strong"   | Yes   | Yes   | ,         |                 |                     |             |        |  |                     |                      |       | Open to job shadows - high<br>school or college level. Business<br>of the month - spotlight as more<br>informational: who, what, where,<br>when.  |
| Good               | Have ideal job-basically<br>work mid Dec-mid April.   | Would like to see website<br>done differently   | 22 C         | •       | )      |            |       | Local: Within 25<br>miles             | Local: 0-25<br>miles                                  | U.S. 100+  | None  | 0                                      | 2 0       | 2   |          |                          |              | •  |  | Yes   | Other - Have thought about it                 | •         | •               |                     |             |        |  | •                   |                      |       | Tries to buy as much as can locally, if price is in the ballpark. WOV great place to buy. For joint marketing: Would look at it-he has found that word of mouth works best for him                          |
| Good               | Similarities of Fennimore to<br>where we are from.<br>Familiar with people of<br>town/Fulliment in career<br>& community                                  | Selective with advertising-<br>mostly word-of-mouth   | 31 C         | •       |        |            |       | Local: Within 25<br>miles             | Local: 0-25<br>miles                                  | Local: 0-25 miles                                    | Little  | 2                                      | 0 2       | 0   |          |                          |              |  | Provide fewer reasons for people to take commerce elsewhere/make sure commerce remains that is essential (ex. Pharmacy, Dr. Grocery) | No  | No  |           |                 |                     |             |        |  |                     |                      |       | Keep on top of the little things - ex: shabby flag by Dinky. Consider overall asthetic of community. Sees a need for organized social support in community & region. Need to fulfill basic community needs. |
| Very Good          | The people/Family Type<br>Community   | More events in Fennimore  | 40 C         |         |        |            |       | Local: Within 25<br>miles             | Region: 26-100<br>miles                               | Region: 26-100<br>miles                              | None  | 7 1                                    | 15 varies | varies                                    | •        |                          |              | Walk-ins   |  | No  | No  |           |                 |                     |             |        |  |                     |                      |       | winter = 1,100 customers daily<br>summer = 1,400 customers daily<br>Morning is the busiest time,<br>Sundays are the slowest day. As<br>for joint marketing: Cooperate<br>does all advertising               |
| Good               | Small town community; it's<br>where I grew up and<br>have family and friends.   | Help the community realize all the small business community.  | 5 9          | •       | ,      |            |       | Local: Within 25<br>miles             | Region: 26-100<br>miles                               | Region: 26-100<br>miles                              | Some  | 0                                      | 1 0       | 0   | •        | ,                        |              | I provide<br>workspace for<br>independent<br>contractors | Small town feel with small town prices.  | Yes   | Yes   | ,         |                 |                     |             |        | • •                                    |                     |                      |       |   |
| Very Good          | Like the small town<br>atmosphere for location.<br>We work within 100 mile<br>radius of Fennimore and is<br>a good hub.                                   | we are ramy sein-sunicient. Have been blessed with good customers who provide a good foundation and we work hard to keep a good business reputation. As a commerical builder, most of our customers are out of town. Something the community could do is learn about what we do, so that if there was someone who needed assistance, we might be able to connect with | 21 8         | •       |        |            | F     | Regional: 26-100<br>miles             | Region: 26-100<br>miles                               | Region: 26-100<br>miles                              | Quite a Bit   | 7                                      | 2 8       | 2   | •        | ,                        | •            | •  | Not sure what you are asking.  | No  | No  |           |                 |                     |             |        | •                                      | •                   |                      |       |   |
| Good               | Rural area - lot of family<br>farms - honest, trusting<br>people.   | thom  | 14 0         | •       | ,      |            |       | Local: Within 25<br>miles             | Region: 26-100<br>miles                               | Region: 26-100<br>miles                              | Little  | 2                                      | 0 2       | 0   |          |                          |              | hire from within   |  | Other - not if it involves meetings                               | Yes   | ,         |                 |                     |             |        |  |                     |                      |       |   |
| Good               | The people. Hard market   | Doesn't really see benefit<br>as his business is different,<br>has no storefront.   |              | •       | •      |            |       | Local: Within 25<br>miles             | Local: 0-25<br>miles                                  | Local: 0-25 miles                                    | Little  | 10 in<br>area/2<br>50<br>resour<br>ces | 0 10      | 0   | • •      | ,                        |              |  | No brand<br>awareness, used to<br>have Fennimore<br>cheese, no longer.   | Yes   | Yes   | •         |                 |                     |             |        |  |                     |                      |       |   |
| Very Good          | Small town-we know all<br>the other businesses. Being<br>in a tight community can<br>play well - encourage<br>patrons to utilize the other<br>businesses. |   | 0 moi<br>s a | ıs      | )      |            | F     | Regional: 26-100<br>miles             | Region: 26-100<br>miles                               | Local: 0-25 miles                                    | It is Essential   | 2                                      | 0 2       | 0   |          |                          |              | Family Business  | City on the move for<br>the last 13 years  | Yes   | Yes   | •         |                 |                     |             |        |  |                     |                      |       | Whole idea is to help each other<br>be successfull [many comments<br>on hard copy]  |

| How's<br>Business?   | What do you like about<br>doing business in<br>Fennimore?  | What can the City of<br>Fennimore, Fennimore<br>Chamber, and Fennimore<br>Industrial Economic<br>Development do to help<br>you succeed?   | (years) | (months)       | Office | Industrial | Other | Where is your most competition?    | Where do you<br>purchase most<br>of your<br>supplies? | Where do you<br>t purchase most<br>of your support<br>services? |                   | # Full-time Emp Today | # Part-time Emp Today | # Full-time Emp in 1 Year | # Part-time Emp in 1<br>Year | Newspaper<br>Internet | Professional Association | Temp Service | Word of Mouth |                    | In your opinion, what is<br>or could be the brand<br>for business (as a<br>whole) in Fennimore? | interested in participating in a cooperative marketing promotion? | interested in<br>mentoring a new<br>business? | Marketing & Advertising | Financing | Cash Management Offering Credit | Obtaining Equipment | Real Estate | Hiring<br>Employment Relations | Creating Identity | Business Succession | Inventory Management | Other                                | Notes:  |
|----------------------|--|---|---------|----------------|--------|------------|-------|------------------------------------|---|---|-------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|---------------------------|------------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------|--------------|---------------|--------------------|---|---|---|-------------------------|-----------|---------------------------------|---------------------|-------------|--------------------------------|-------------------|---------------------|----------------------|--------------------------------------|---|
| Very Good            | The people   | Keep doing what they are<br>already doing.  | 7       | 0              |        |            | • Le  | ocal: Within 25.<br>miles          | Local: 0-25<br>miles                                  | Local: 0-25 miles   | Some              | 0                     | 0                     | 0                         | 0                            |                       |                          |              |               |                    |   | Yes   | Yes   |                         |           |                                 |                     |             |                                |                   |                     |                      |                                      |   |
| Good                 | A lot of interesting people<br>and a lot of repeat<br>customers. We need<br>people to notice us.   | Better assistance with<br>advertising. Travel past is<br>so fast/busy that they are<br>not looking at front<br>window. Flag states open<br>has been effective.<br>Signage flags etc. are<br>essential | 1       | 6              |        |            | Le    | ocal: Within 25<br>miles           | Local: 0-25<br>miles                                  | Local: 0-25 miles   | It is Essential   | 1                     | 0                     | 1                         | 0                            |                       |                          |              |               |                    | Neighbors helping<br>Neighbors  | Yes   | Yes   | •                       | •         |                                 |                     | •           |                                |                   | •                   |                      |                                      | Internet is Essential = almost 100%<br>mwt.net, craigslist, facebook.   |
| Very Bad             | Parts are expensive and<br>shipped from overseas.<br>Believes she may have to<br>shut down.  |   | 33      | 0              | •      |            | Re    | legional: 26-100<br>miles          | Outside the U.S                                       | i. Local: 0-25 miles  | ; None            | 1                     | 0                     | 1                         | 0                            |                       |                          |              |               |                    | City on the move-<br>needs to be<br>changed   | No  | Other - Possibly                              |                         |           |                                 |                     |             |                                |                   |                     |                      | Thinking about going out of business | Need clothing & shoe stores. Less of a demand for services. Pays excessively for hazard waste removal. Signage was prevented by the city making it difficult to find her business. Regulations interfere with profits. For joint marketing: Would recommend for others to do this |
| Very Good            | We have an agricultural<br>based business. We need<br>to serve rural clients.<br>Fennimore serves rural<br>clients.                          | Continue to serve rural clients. Focus on the values of life in a rural community while offering urban services: shopping, health care, social, and entertainment.                                    | 30      | 0              |        |            | Le    | .ocal: Within 25<br>miles          | Local: 0-25<br>miles                                  | Region: 26-100<br>miles   | It is Essential   | 26                    | 2                     | 28                        | 20                           | •                     | •                        |              | •             | State Job Net      |   | Yes   | No  | •                       |           |                                 |                     |             | •                              |                   |                     |                      |                                      |   |
| Good                 |  | Just support us by word of<br>mouth advertising and<br>sending referrals to us.   | 29      | 6              | •      |            | Le    | ocal: Within 25<br>miles           | U.S. 100+ miles                                       | U.S. 100+   | Some              | 3                     | 4                     | 3                         | 4                            | •                     | •                        | •            | •             | Southwest Tech     |   | Other - Maybe   | No  |                         |           |                                 |                     |             |                                |                   | •                   |                      |                                      |   |
| Good                 | Smaller community,<br>Centrally located and<br>close to Hwy 18, Good<br>people/support locally,<br>low crime, easy to work<br>with the city. | Back-up electricity supply  | 30-40   | 0              | •      |            | Le    | ocal: Within 25<br>miles           | Local: 0-25<br>miles                                  | Local: 0-25 miles   | s It is Essential | 12                    | 0                     | 13                        | 0                            | •                     | •                        |              | •             |                    |   | Other - N/A   | Other - N/A                                   |                         |           |                                 |                     |             |                                |                   |                     |                      | n/a                                  |   |
| Good                 | Been here forever, It's<br>home  | Local officials do not<br>attend meetings. More<br>events in town - need<br>something every<br>weekend. Fun Fest back<br>on main street!!   | 26      | 0              | •      |            | Lo    | ocal: Within 25<br>miles           | Region: 26-100<br>miles                               | Region: 26-100<br>miles   | Quite a Bit       | 2                     | 0                     | 2                         | 0                            |                       |                          |              | •             |                    |   | No  | Other - Already<br>do this (Tavern<br>League) |                         |           |                                 |                     |             |                                |                   |                     |                      |                                      | City needs to be more willing to<br>work with business' requests. As<br>for joint marketing: Advertising<br>"Alone" is best for him   |
| No Answer            | Seasonal fluctuations;<br>summer has been slow<br>concern of stigma in<br>Fennimore. 80% of<br>business is out of town.                      | Impression is that prices<br>are high, but the prices<br>are not high. Needs help<br>in changing that.  | 0       | 9 (Dec<br>'12) | •      |            | L     | ocal: Within 25<br>miles           | Region: 26-100<br>miles                               | Local: 0-25 miles   | s Some            | 5                     | 10                    | na                        | na                           |                       | •                        |              |               |                    |   | Yes   | Other - N/A                                   | •                       |           |                                 |                     |             | •                              | •                 |                     |                      |                                      | Use Craigslist & Facebook to recruit new workers.   |
| Good                 | Easy to start business in Fennimore vs. Chicago. Chamber gets/gives him lots of Fennimore.   | Embrace what is here - do<br>even more with<br>Fennimore Bucks re:<br>special promotions. Amish<br>comunity needs to be<br>embraced more.   | 3       | 0              |        |            | L     | ocal: Within 25<br>miles           |   | Region: 26-100<br>miles   | Little            | 1                     | 0                     | 1                         | 0                            |                       |                          |              |               |                    | What are we known<br>for-wine country,<br>cheese factory,<br>agricultural                       | Yes   | Yes   | •                       |           |                                 |                     |             |                                |                   | •                   |                      |                                      | Feels strongly about others being able to advertise on digital signs of others. As far as cooperative marketing: anything that helps bring business to town - advertising is so experience and very hard to justify - big part of business is impulse buying.                     |
| Very Good  Very Good | Centrally located for 5 counties   | Not real pertinent.   | 54      | 0              | •      |            |       | Outside the egion, but in the U.S. | Region: 26-100<br>miles                               | Region: 26-100<br>miles   | It is Essential   | 6                     | 1                     | 6                         | 1                            |                       |                          |              |               | SWTC Job<br>center |   | Other - Wishy<br>washy maybe-<br>service area is so<br>large      | Yes   | •                       |           |                                 |                     |             | •                              | •                 | •                   |                      |                                      | Summers are very busy for us. Competition: Internet Supplies: Try to go as local as can - within 5 countles Employees: Possibly more part-time next year.   |
| Very Good            | The people.  | Need more events in town<br>such as contests for kids,<br>bake off, or cooking<br>contest.  | 6       | 0              |        |            | Le    | ocal: Within 25<br>miles           | Region: 26-100<br>miles                               | Region: 26-100<br>miles   | Little            | 0                     | 6                     | 0                         | 6                            | •                     |                          |              |               | Radio & Signs      |   | No  | No  |                         |           |                                 |                     |             | •                              |                   |                     |                      |                                      | Ref: cooperative marketing - Said<br>no to this because they like to do<br>own advertising. Radio favorite<br>form of advertising.  |
| Good                 | Hometown-know people<br>80% customers/Feel<br>important to community-<br>provide jobs  | Stay positive   | 23      | 0              | •      |            | L     | ocal: Within 25<br>miles           | Region: 26-100<br>miles                               | Local: 0-25 miles   | s Some            | 3                     | 9                     | 3                         | 9                            |                       | •                        |              | •             |                    | Crossroads/SWTC(ve<br>ry important)   | Yes   | Yes   | •                       |           |                                 |                     |             | •                              | •                 |                     |                      |                                      | Concerned over snow removal -<br>City plowing them shut after they<br>have spent time cleaning parking<br>lots. Police excellent to work with<br>us after hours.  |
| Very Good            | Loves working here! Works for our family.  | Advertising-Would like to have touring buses stop   | 14      | 0              |        |            | L     | ocal: Within 25 miles              | U.S. 100+ miles                                       | Local: 0-25 miles   | Little            | 2                     | 1                     | hope<br>to hire<br>more   | o hire                       |                       |                          |              | •             |                    |   | Yes   | No  | •                       |           |                                 |                     |             |                                |                   |                     |                      |                                      |   |
| Okay                 | Nice Community/Easy to get employees   | Probably not much   | 8       | 0              |        |            | Re    | legional: 26-100<br>miles          | Local: 0-25<br>miles                                  | Local: 0-25 miles   | Quite a Bit       | 1                     | 3                     | 1                         | 3                            |                       |                          |              | •             |                    |   | Yes   | No  | •                       |           | •                               |                     |             |                                |                   |                     | •                    |                                      |   |

| How's<br>Business? | What do you like about<br>doing business in<br>Fennimore?  | What can the City of<br>Fennimore, Fennimore<br>Chamber, and Fennimore<br>Industrial Economic<br>Development do to help<br>you succeed?                    | (years) | (months) | Service | Office | Industrial |   | Where is your<br>most<br>competition? | 0           | re do you<br>nase most<br>f your<br>pplies? | Where do you<br>purchase most<br>of your support<br>services? | How muci<br>does you<br>business re<br>on the<br>Internet? | ly log        | # Part-time Emp Today | # Full-time Emp in 1 Year | # Part-time Emp in 1<br>Year | Newspaper | Internet Professional Association | Temp Service | Word of Mouth | Other             |                 | In your opinion, what is<br>or could be the brand<br>for business (as a<br>whole) in Fennimore?             | interested in<br>participating in a<br>cooperative<br>marketing<br>promotion? | interested in<br>mentoring a nev<br>business?           | Marketing & Advertising | Financing | Offering Credit | Obtaining Equipment | Real Estate | Hiring | Employment Relations | Creating Identity | Business Succession | Inventory Management | Other   | Notes:  |
|--------------------|--|--|---------|----------|---------|--------|------------|---|---------------------------------------|-------------|---|---|--|---------------|-----------------------|---------------------------|------------------------------|-----------|-----------------------------------|--------------|---------------|-------------------|-----------------|---|---|---|-------------------------|-----------|-----------------|---------------------|-------------|--------|----------------------|-------------------|---------------------|----------------------|---|---|
| No Answer          | Location/Traffic City<br>traffic<br>(Madison/Milwaukee) -<br>locals are coming around.   | More locals knowing where they are & supporting them.  | 5       | 0        |         |        |            | L | ocal: Within 25<br>miles              |             | cal: 0-25<br>miles                          | Local: 0-25 miles   | Some   | na -<br>famil | o o                   | 0                         | 0                            |           |                                   |              |               |                   |                 |   | Other - Possibly  | Other - Talking to<br>Jerry<br>Wehrle/Grant<br>programs | •                       | •         | •               |                     |             |        |                      |                   |                     | •                    |   | Adding more products. Would like to talk to someone from state government regarding assistance.   |
| Good               | Being close to home.<br>Some of the networks of<br>people and business<br>owners.  | Keep doing networking<br>events. It would be nice to<br>have a Chamber<br>Facebook page.<br>Continue to promote to<br>keep doing business in<br>Fennimore. | 3       | 2        | •       |        |            | R | egional: 26-100<br>miles              | 0<br>U.S. 1 | 00+ miles                                   | U.S. 100+   | It is Essentia   | al O          | 1                     | 0                         | 1                            | •         | •                                 |              | •             |                   |                 | Small town service.   | Yes   | Other - It would depend                                 |                         |           |                 |                     |             |        |                      | •                 |                     |                      |   | I do feel a lack of support some<br>from Fennimore businesses. I am<br>brainstorming ideas to help there<br>be a better understanding of<br>what I do, and to make it clear<br>my business is based on<br>confidentiality and honesty.  |
| Okay               | Local  | Home purchase grants<br>from city.   | 20      | +        | •       | •      |            | L | ocal: Within 25<br>miles              |             | cal: 0-25<br>miles                          | U.S. 100+   | It is Essentia   | nl 0          | 8                     | 0                         | 8                            | •         | •                                 |              | •             | ,                 |                 | Local and honest  | No  | No  |                         |           |                 |                     |             |        |                      |                   |                     |                      |   |   |
| Very Good          | Regular<br>Customers/Neighboring<br>Business Owners/Traffic on<br>Lincoln Ave  | Winter plowing-slush &<br>freeze 900/1000 blocks<br>Better coordinating<br>between City & County<br>Concerned over speeding<br>through Main street         | 3       | 0        | •       |        |            | L | ocal: Within 25<br>miles              |             | on: 26-100<br>miles                         | Local: 0-25 miles   | Some   | 2             | 6                     | 3                         | 8                            |           |                                   |              | •             | Job ce<br>in wind | nter/Sign<br>ow |   | Yes   | No  |                         |           |                 |                     |             |        |                      |                   |                     |                      |   | Business loan to improve our business. Financing & reputable supplier.  |
| Okay               | Small town feel &<br>Location of Fennimore   | Need more community<br>events. Fun Fest more in<br>the city (Main Street).<br>Need fresh ideas.  | 4       | 0        | •       |        |            | L | ocal: Within 25<br>miles              |             | on: 26-100<br>miles                         | Region: 26-100<br>miles                                       | Little   | 1             | 4                     | 1                         | 4                            | •         | •                                 |              |               | Facebo<br>ins     | ook/Walk-       |   | No  | Yes   |                         |           |                 |                     |             |        | •                    |                   |                     |                      |   | Need a reason for young people<br>to stay = jobs. Would be willing<br>to mentor new business: has<br>masters in business and willing to<br>help others with questions. As for<br>joint marketing: Advertising on<br>own has been better |
| No Answer          | Likes living in Fennimore,<br>so that's a huge part of it,<br>can do what he does<br>anywhere. Likes labor<br>pool- hard working/bright<br>people that chose to live<br>here | Unique business from this standpoint. Educating students constantly - ever changing - educating clients.   | 18      | 0        | •       |        |            | R | egional: 26-100<br>miles              |             | on: 26-100<br>miles                         | Region: 26-100<br>miles                                       | It is Essentia   | al 4          | 1                     | 5                         | 1                            |           | •                                 |              | •             |                   |                 | "There's more in<br>Fennimore"  | No  | Yes   |                         |           |                 |                     |             |        |                      |                   |                     |                      | Creating<br>business<br>plan/customer<br>service<br>training/email<br>etiquette/Importance of<br>social<br>networking<br>technology |   |
| Very Good          | Networking-brings in new<br>businesses to advertise<br>good outreach.<br>Fennimore has a strong<br>audience.   | Continue to partner with and keep doing what we're doing. Would like to see the community brand/logo/jingle.   | 35      | 0        | •       |        |            | R | egional: 26-100<br>miles              |             | on: 26-100<br>miles                         | Region: 26-100<br>miles                                       | It is Essentia   | al 25         | 5                     | 25                        | 5                            | •         | •                                 |              | •             | Job fai           | s/Radio         | Crossroads. Work<br>with the "More" in<br>Fennimore.<br>Emphasize:<br>Recreation - Business<br>- Education. | Yes   | Other - Consultin<br>maybe                              | •                       | •         | •               | •                   |             |        |                      |                   | •                   |                      |   | Friendly community, good<br>business climate, positive<br>environment. Would like to see<br>more of a bridge between SWTC<br>& local businesses.  |