ECONOMIC VITALITY

VISION: Corvallis is home to a vibrant, diverse and sustainable economy anchored by a broad spectrum of local, environmentally-friendly businesses.

Goal 1: By 2020, 50% of residents and businesses will support the local economy through buying, investing, and/or producing locally.

Strategy 1: Educate residents, institutions, and businesses to think local first when buying products and services.
   Action 1: Continue to support the “Buy Local First” campaign.
   Action 2: Assist institutional buyers, such as the school district, college and university, government, and healthcare providers in adopting policies that favor purchase of local goods and services first.
   Action 3: Increase awareness and use of locally focused economic transactions such as local currency and business-to-business trades.

Strategy 2: Promote investment in local businesses by residents and businesses.
   Action 1: Promote non-traditional local and regional funding mechanisms that match businesses with non-accredited individual investors.
   Action 2: Facilitate community investment in large, cooperative, off-site renewable energy installations (e.g., cooperative ownership of a large photovoltaic array located outside City limits).
   Action 3: Educate about opportunities for businesses, institutions, and residents to save at local credit unions, banks, and cooperatives that invest locally.

Strategy 3: Foster the production of local products and services.
   Action 1: Support local cultivation and production of agricultural goods and products for which there is a regional market.
   Action 2: Support the local development and production of renewable and reduced-carbon energy sources.
   Action 3: Support green and appropriate technology in Corvallis.

Goal 2: By 2020, 90% of businesses will use sustainable practices.

Strategy 1: Assist businesses in adopting practices and policies that foster sustainability.
   Action 1: Adapt existing sustainability “best practices” guidelines for local businesses.
   Action 2: Promote the adoption and implementation of sustainability guidelines by local businesses.
   Action 3: Recognize and build community support for businesses that implement sustainable practices.
Goal 2: (continued)

Strategy 2: Attract sustainable businesses to locate and thrive in Corvallis.
   Action 1: Support local government in making sustainability a priority when promoting economic development.
   Action 2: Revise and create regulations, codes, and policies that encourage the establishment of sustainable business clusters.
   Action 3: Establish green business clusters in the Corvallis area by supporting existing businesses and attracting new ones.

Strategy 3: Promote just and cooperative relationships between employees and employers.
   Action 1: Encourage businesses to provide living wage employment and provide recognition to those that do.
   Action 2: Research models of cooperative ownership.
   Action 3: Provide resources for businesses seeking to adopt cooperative ownership structures.

Goal 3: By 2020, 50% of residents will engage in community networks that meet their needs while minimizing resource consumption.

Strategy 1: Support a thriving local arts and entertainment economy.
   Action 1: Support opportunities for local artisans, craftspeople, and musicians to promote and/or sell their products and services.
   Action 2: Attract a variety of artists and performers.
   Action 3: Utilize regional media to promote local arts and entertainment.

Strategy 2: Promote resources within the community that do not require the exchange of US dollars to meet people’s needs.
   Action 1: Develop a directory of resources that will enable residents to engage in community networks, including libraries, extension services, and other resources promoting reuse, repair, bartering, and sharing of goods and knowledge.
   Action 2: Increase the awareness and use of local currency and bartering options
   Action 3: Provide opportunities for inter-generational sharing of knowledge and expertise.

Strategy 3: Promote the reuse, repair, and sharing of items.
   Action 1: Assist in publicizing and distributing the Corvallis Area ReUse Directory.
   Action 2: Identify and publicize local repair services.
   Action 3: Facilitate the sharing of tools and skills within neighborhoods and among businesses and organizations in the community.