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Economic Recovery Team

Meeting Date: 8/11/2020 9-10AM

Short Term Economic Recovery: Reports for Sales Tax came in similar to 2015/2016. The decrease was expected, but it’s pleasantly higher than it could’ve been. Deanne when speaking with the public, most are 100% on par so far this year. Some are down 50-60% and they are experiencing higher traffic in the morning and evenings. The biggest struggle right now is the lack of labor force. Bill W would like to come up with a better way to acquire workers as a community. Much concern about parents who cannot work with the lack of childcare. Will continue to address this issue.

Workforce housing is always an issue, 8/12 of the county rentals are currently full. Keeping an eye on weekly rentals is on the radar. County is willing to work with a nonprofit or another group to continue the project down at Anvil.

Kim about fiber. Has been talking about improving access for families. Trying to get it started before attacking the project of getting it out to the whole community.

SWOT: Not a lot of community participation on today, Scott suggests bringing this up later when businesses on Greene aren’t as busy and hard to attend.

1. Weakness: New non-profits are having a hard time finding people to sit on boards. This stems back to all the same people sitting on the same boards and have no more energy to be a part of new ones.
2. Weakness: Childcare (It’s also a strength, but when it isn’t available it impacts a large amount of the community)
3. Opportunity prospectus: Communities aren’t benefiting from this as much as they hoped. They committee is looking at properties with John R. and market to see what kinds of projects would be available for this kind of fund. Difficult without builders available to start this, also these funds are focused on projects already in the works, whereas many of our projects would be from the ground up and not qualify.
4. John is working on identifying vacant lots the town owns and identify the true need for workforce housing. Another idea from Bill W would be having a community building/dorm style for workforce housing, available for those short-term workers where all the businesses have access for their employees, extremely low cost with an onsite manager. Concern about this kind of housing, we won’t have housing for year-round, just the summer jobs. A big issue is our homes/housing available are not pet friendly, which hinders many people moving here. Agreed that both kinds of housing are needed. Deanne says there are developers who are interested in working in our community, some of them work out and some don’t, but there is interest. A big pull for this is people wanting to get out of high-density locations. There’s a fine line between the fear of becoming Telluride and growing our community into a more successful and sustainable one.