# Organizing a Downtown Revitalization Program

In Smithville, Missouri





Comprehensive Planning Process



### Our Agenda Tonight

Introductions

Main Street 101

Brainstorming/ Prioritizing

Report WIGs

**Next Steps** 

Questions





# Who are you?

- Name
- Connection to downtown
- Why you came tonight?



# Who am 1?









# Who am 1?













#### What is Main Street?

- Organization National Main Street Center and Missouri Main Street Connection
- Methodology used to revitalize older, traditional districts
- Network that connects communities, coordinating programs and downtown professionals
- Brand that is a registered trademark and seen as the premier downtown revitalization program
- Advocates a return to community self-reliance, local empowerment and the rebuilding of traditional commercial districts based upon their unique assets.



#### National Main Street Center

#### National Trust for Historic Preservation developed pilot program in 1977

Hot Springs, SD; Madison, IN; Galensburg, IL Response to malls and sprawl

#### National Trust Main Street Center established in 1980, Washington, D.C.

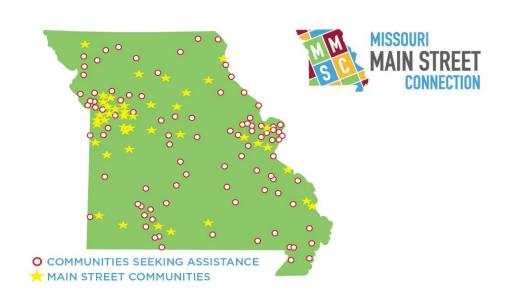
- Started with 6 states & 30 communities
- Network of 40+ statewide, citywide/urban, countywide, and multi-county coordinating programs with more than 2,000 local programs over 30 years



# Missouri Main Street Connection, Inc.

<u>The Mission of MMSC</u> is to provide communities with knowledge and tools to economically and physically revitalize their downtowns.







# Main Street = Economic Impact







MMSC Stats 2006-4th Qtr. 2019



#### **Cumulative Reinvestment Statistics**

Dollars Reinvested*:	\$78.98 billion
Buildings Rehabilitated:	284,936
Net Gain in Jobs:	640,017
Net Gain in Businesses:	143,613





## Why Main Street?



"There is simply no more cost effective economic development program of any type, on any scale, anywhere in the country than Main Street..."

-Donovan Rypkema



# Because ... MAIN STREET WORKS!



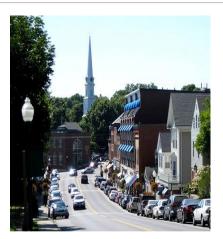






#### The Road Map for Successful Main Street Revitalization Efforts

- Main Street is historic preservation
- Main Street is commercial development
- Main Street is economic development
- Main Street is all inclusive
- Main Street concepts transfer to the entire community
- Main Street drives overall community development





# MAIN STREET'S EIGHT GUIDING PRINCIPLES TO SUCCESSFUL DOWNTOWN REVITALIZATION

- 1. Comprehensive
- 2. Incremental
- 3. Self-help
- 4. Partnerships
- 5. Builds on existing assets
- 6. Quality
- 7. Change
- 8. Implementation-Oriented





#### Main Street's Eight Guiding Principles to Successful Downtown Revitalization

#### 1. Comprehensive

- No single focus such as lavish public improvement project, or large name brand retailer or endless promotional events – can do the job.
- For successful, long-term revitalization, a comprehensive approach must be applied.





#### 1. Comprehensive

#### 2. Incremental

- Baby steps come before walking.
- Basic, simple activities lead to a more sophisticated understanding of the revitalization process and help develop skills and resources to tackle more complex problems and ambitious projects.





# Main Street's Eight Guiding Principles to Successful Downtown Revitalization

- 1. Comprehensive
- 2. Incremental

#### 3. Self-help

- Nobody else will save Main Street
- Local leaders must have the will and desire to mobilize local resources
- That means convincing residents and business owners of the rewards of their investment of time and money in Main Street – the heart of their community.





- 1. Comprehensive
- 2. Incremental
- 3. Self-help

#### 4. Partnerships

- Both the public and private sectors have a vital interest in the district and can work together to achieve shared goals
- Each sector has a role to play and each must understand the other's strengths and limitations to forge an effective partnership







# Main Street's Eight Guiding Principles to Successful Downtown Revitalization

- 1. Comprehensive
- 2. Incremental
- 3. Self-help
- 4. Partnerships

#### 5. Builds on existing assets

- Business districts must capitalize on the assets that make them unique.
- Every district has unique qualities like distinctive buildings and human scale that give people a sense of belonging.
- These local assets must serve as the foundation for all aspects of the revitalization program.





- 1. Comprehensive
- 2. Incremental
- 3. Self-help
- 4. Partnerships
- 5. Builds on existing assets



#### 6. Quality

- Emphasize quality in every aspect of the program.
- This applies to every element of the process from storefront design to promotional campaigns to educational programs – budgeting, planning and executing must be of the highest quality.



# Main Street's Eight Guiding Principles to Successful Downtown Revitalization

- 1. Comprehensive
- 2. Incremental
- 3. Self-help
- 4. Partnerships
- 5. Builds on existing assets
- 6. Quality

#### 7. Change

- Skeptics turn into believers.
- Almost no one believes Main Street can really turn around...at first.
- Changes in attitude and practice are slow.





- 1. Comprehensive
- 2. Incremental
- 3. Community-driven
- 4. Public-Private effort
- 5. Builds on existing assets
- 6. Quality
- 7. Change
- 8. Implementation-Oriented

- Activity creates confidence in the program and ever-greater levels of participation.
- Frequent, visible changes are a reminder that the revitalization effort is underway.
- Small projects at the beginning of the program pave the way for larger activities as the effort matures.



# Why is downtown important?



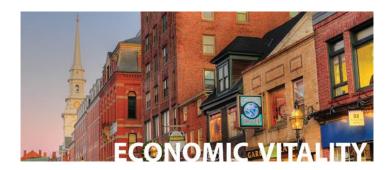


### The Growing Importance of Downtown

- Authentic and dynamic places to live
- Boomers and millennials
- Entrepreneurs
- Main Street helps communities succeed in the new economy



Why is downtown important?



Downtown supports local independent businesses that in turn support:

- Local families
- Community projects
- Keep profits circulating in the community



Downtown can be a tourist destination and events can attract new visitors.

#### Heritage travelers:

- Spend 2.5 times as much money as other visitors
- Visit twice as many places
- Stay longer



Why is downtown important?



## Why is downtown important?



Downtown is where arts and culture thrive...where our churches and community institutions are located (financial and government)









Downtown serves as a good incubator for new small businesses, creating new jobs and investment – the success of tomorrow.



### Why is downtown important?





## Why is downtown important?

Downtown rehabilitation work stimulates the local economy. Materials and labor for new commercial construction often come from out of town.



Downtown
infrastructure is a
major public
investment. Only
healthy businesses in
buildings assessed at
full value generate
taxes that give
taxpayers a return on
this public investment

# Why is downtown important?







# Who benefits from a strong downtown?



# Who should be engaged?

Property owners

Local residents/consumers

Retail business owners

Service business owners

Financial institutions

Utilities and local corporations

Municipal government

County government

Preservationists

Others



Those who benefit from a revitalized downtown should be proactively engaged in the revitalization efforts.



## **EVERYONE!**





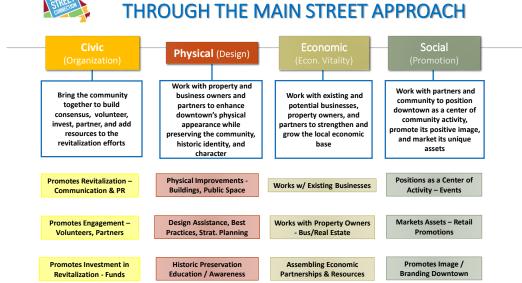


#### **Through the Main Street 4-Point Approach!**



a <u>methodology</u> to revitalize older, traditional business districts

COMPREHENSIVE FOCUS TO REVITALIZATION





## Main Street Four-Point Approach®





All four points take on development responsibilities.

- Organization develops partners and resources
- Design develops spaces and places
- Economic Vitality develops

entrepreneurs and businesses

• Promotion develops customers



**Economic Vitality** 

Design

Promotion

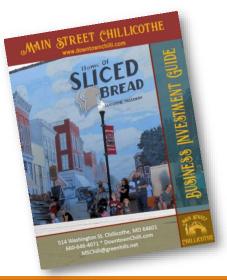
Organization



# **Economic** Vitality



## Recruitment







### Retention









DATE ESTABLISHED

HOURS

**EMPLOYEES** 

TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES





HOW CAN WE HELP?

WOULD YOU CONSIDER PARTICIPATING IN A COLLABORATIVE MARKETING CAMPAIGN?





# What do you have?





## **Marketing Availability**

Picture	Address	Owner	Contact Number	Classification	Sale Amount	Rent Amount	Area (Sq. Feet)	Average Utilities
	613 Webster	Fred Slater	(305) 553-0408	Rent- Commercial		\$500	700	
	415a Washington	Jim Summerville	(660) 707-3387	Rent- Commercial		\$400	625	Included
	720 Washington	Ed Mibank	(660) 646-0813	Rent- Commercial		\$600	900	
	455 Locust	Martha Berry	(660) 707-3067	Sale- Commercial	\$95,000		18,000	
	624 Cherry	Jeff Foli	(660) 247-1700	Sale- Residential	\$16,500			
	621 Locust	Jeff Foli	(660) 247-1700	Sale- Commercial	\$249,999			



## **Marketing Availability**



**Telling Your Story** 







**Economic Vitality** 

Design



## **Historic Preservation**







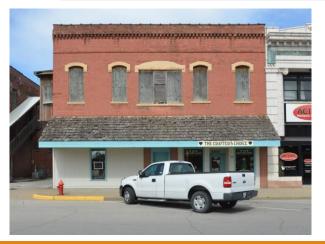
# **Facade Improvements**







# **Design Assistance**







## Beautification







## Streetscape





## **Arts District**







## **Arts District**











# Wayfinding





# Wayfinding





# **Placemaking**









Economic Vitality

Design

# **Promotion**



## **Image-Building Events**





## **Retail/Business Events**





## **Special Events**





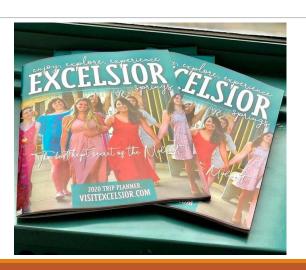
## **Branding**







## **Selling Downtown**





**Economic Vitality** 

Design

Promotion

Organization



## **Creating Partnerships**





## Selling the Organization





## **Selling the Organization**





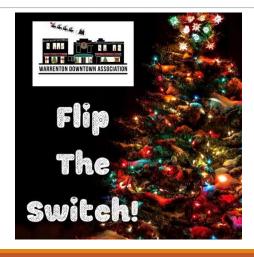
## **Fundraising**







## **Fundraising**







### Volunteer





#### Main Street Leadership Needs & Opportunities

#### Organization

- Public Relations / Communications
- Organizational Skills
- Fundraising
- Volunteer Management

#### Design

- Preservation minded
- Planning / Design / Construction
- Attention to detail

#### Promotion

- Event organizing
- Marketing / Image building
- Advertising / Graphic design
- Visual Merchandising

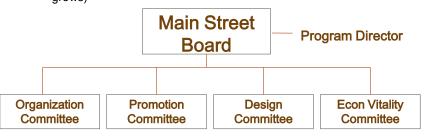


#### Economic Vitality

- Small Business approach
  - · Management / Marketing
  - Planning / Finances / etc.
- Strategic Planning
  - · Retention / Recruitment

#### How do Main Street Programs Operate?

- Volunteer-Driven Leadership Structure:
  - Led by a working, representative board of directors
  - Supported by committees organized around Four-Point Approach
  - Managed by Professional Staff (Executive Director & more as it grows)



# The Revitalization Process Through the Main Street Approach



#### ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

#### Conferences

- MMSC Annual Conference
- National Main Streets Conference
- Preservation Conference

#### **Online Tools**

- www.momainstreet.org
- www.MainStreet.org
- MS list serve
- Webinars
- Solution Center

#### **Publications**

- MMSC Resource Library
- MMSC Newsletter
- Main Street News
- MS Bookstore
  - · Board Members / Committees Handbook
  - · Strategic Planning & More





# On-Site Services by MMSC Field Services Seminars & workshops



Share your ideas!
Break Out and Report Back

**Organization Point** 

**Economic Vitality Point** 

**Promotions Point** 

**Design Point** 



#### QUESTIONS??

"Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed people can change the world. Indeed, it is the only thing that ever has." ~ Margaret Mead



### **THANK YOU!**

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