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PARTNERING FOR COMMUNITY REVITALIZATION
THROUGH STEAM EDUCATION

2015 FRONTIER COMMUNICATIONS
AMERICA'S BEST COMMUNITIES COMPETITION

COMMUNITY REVITALIZATION PLAN
TUALATIN, OREGON



PLAN SYNOPSIS

The Tualatin Community Revitalization Plan seeks to foster increased access to and competency in career and technical education. We believe this focused initiative will: increase economic and employment opportunities for our youth, especially within our economically-disadvantaged and under-represented populations; provide a pipeline of talent for local industries; accelerate the implementation of multiple community priorities identified in our community vision, Tualatin Tomorrow.

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ABOUT TUALATIN

Tualatin is an attractive place to live, work, play, and visit. Downtown Tualatin is anchored by the Tualatin Commons Lake which is a lively center surrounded by restaurants, offices, and residences. Bridgeport Village is a destination retail shopping center drawing people from all over the region. Tualatin is located along Interstate 5 and Interstate 205, 20 minutes from downtown Portland. Tualatin enjoys first rate schools, over 200 acres of community parks and trails, and award winning events like the Crawfish Festival and the West Coast Giant Pumpkin Regatta.

26,716

TUALATIN POPULATION

90%

OF TUALATIN POPULATION 25 YEARS + HAVE HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA OR HIGHER

42%

OF TUALATIN POPULATION 25 YEARS + HAVE BACHELOR'S OR HIGHER

\$324,000

TUALATIN MEDIAN HOME VALUE

Defining the Need

While Tualatin is relatively affluent and has initiatives in place to continually strengthen community livability for all, we recognize additional challenges remain. For instance, while we have a relatively high median household income, 22% of our families earn income at or below \$35,000 (living wage threshold). Less than 40% of economically-disadvantaged Tigard-Tualatin School District (TTSD) middle school students meet academic achievement standards in math. Even fewer English-learner middle schoolers (18%) meet those same standards. Employers in our primary industry cluster, advanced manufacturing (22% of total city employment, average wage = \$85,000), are finding it increasingly difficult to find employees locally. Some additional facts and figures that have driven our revitalization plan focus toward career and technical education and a focus on youth:

Demographics and Educational Attainment

- » Average real income is declining for Tualatin residents, despite the presence of available family-wage jobs in town. From 2000 to 2013, per capita median income in Tualatin has increased 19%, while inflation has increased 31% nationally. Per household median income increased only 10% during this same period. Median income is falling when compared to inflation.
- » 36% of Tigard-Tualatin School District (TTSD) students are classified as economically-challenged. This is a particularly important indicator as fewer than 40% of TTSD middle school students considered economically-challenged meet math testing standards (compared to >80% of total District population).
- » Scores are even lower for English-learners – just 18% of those middle schoolers meet math standards. This is also a key indicator as Tualatin's Latino population continues to grow. Latinos accounted for 12% of the city's population in 2000 and more than 20% today. Direct engagement in the Latino community can help build awareness, provide unique hands-on learning opportunities and help to change the trend.
- » A notable percentage of TTSD students are failing to meet school science assessment standards, including 20% of 3rd graders, 27% of 8th graders, and 38% of 11th graders.

Workforce Development and Key Industry Support

- » Employers are importing labor from outside the region, state and even our national borders. Meanwhile, about 70% of local residents commute outside the city to work. Not only do residents face an opportunity cost in the form of lost wages, they must contend with growing traffic congestion.
- » Manufacturing is a major and growing industry sector in Oregon. Data indicates Oregon ranks second nationally in the proportion of GDP generated by the manufacturing sector (27.8%) compared to 12% nationally.
- » In the Portland-Metro region, advanced manufacturing currently employs 87,000 workers and has a 10-year projected growth rate of 20%, and significant openings due to retirements. Nearly half of the metropolitan area's Advanced Manufacturing workforce is 45 years or older, and workforce agencies estimate the need for at least 30,000 new workers due to retirements alone.
- » Advanced manufacturing is one of the region's largest and fastest growing industry sectors. Nearly half of those jobs are located in Tualatin and immediately-adjacent communities. Direct action is needed to maintain a pipeline of workers, particularly as baby boomers begin to retire.
- » The advanced manufacturing sector houses 425 unique occupations. While certain occupations require higher levels of education; two-thirds of sector jobs require less than an Associate degree.
- » Given the sheer number of jobs to fill and the variety of available occupations, there is literally "something for everyone." Yet, at present, 75 % of advanced manufacturing jobs are held by men (vs. 53% for all sectors). We can move the needle on that figure through education and access.



LAM Research
Tualatin, Oregon

GUIDING COMMUNITY DOCUMENTS

The roots of this Tualatin Community Revitalization Plan lie within two prior community planning efforts: Tualatin Tomorrow – our community vision and action plan, and the Tualatin Economic Development Strategy.

Tualatin Tomorrow was developed through a grass-roots public engagement effort. Using a variety of public involvement methods, including community meetings, focus groups, online forums, surveys and other instruments, project planners directly engaged more than two thousand individuals. The ideas and suggestions received from citizens were then converted into concrete action proposals by teams of volunteers and topical experts. Today, Tualatin Tomorrow maintains a vibrant implementation program, with dozens of partner organizations sharing responsibility for moving nearly 100 specific actions forward. Our community vision is organized into eight major goal areas, including:

Physical and Social Connectivity

- » Sense of Place and Community Identity
- » Activities and Attractions for All Ages
- » Quality Community Services
- » Enhancing Mobility

Community Health and Wealth

- » Environmental Sustainability
- » Community Health and Safety
- » Economic Opportunity
- » Education and Learning Opportunities

Many of the goal area actions are already underway or complete. Others are scheduled to get underway over the next 4-5 years. As noted below, a select group of those proposed actions form the nucleus of our community revitalization plan.

One of the first vision actions to be implemented was development of an Economic Development Strategy. The Strategy helped local leaders identify and better understand the primary target industry clusters that generate local employment and revenue. They include:

1. Advanced Manufacturing
2. Healthcare and Related Businesses
3. Food Processing, Distribution and Wholesale
4. Corporate and Business Services
5. Wood, Paper, Printing and Related Services

Together, these industry clusters account for 57% of all Tualatin jobs, generate \$1.6 billion in annual output and pay an average annual wage of \$85,000. But they also rely on workers with an advanced level of technical and creative capacity, many of whom are currently “imported” into the City while many of our residents out-migrate to their own places of employment. Our Community Revitalization Plan draws on that learning to link our educational aspirations with tangible local business development needs and opportunities.



Tualatin Tomorrow Accomplishments



(Action 2.3) Retail Activity Centers

Many Tualatin citizens asked for expanded retail and entertainment options during visioning outreach – and here it comes! With the opening of Nyberg Rivers shopping center, Tualatin is now home to new Cabela's, Home Goods and New Seasons stores, and three new restaurants are slated to open in 2015. Other projects underway include an LA Fitness Gym and 7,000 sf of new retail space at Hedges Business Park.

(Action 6.4) Expanded Theater Performances

In 2015, Mask & Mirror Community Theatre expanded its summer programming to include musical performances at Tualatin High School. Their first such production was six shows of "Singin' in the Rain", which sold over 1400 tickets and included a cast of over thirty actors/dancers and a live pit orchestra. All cast, crew and musicians were unpaid volunteers. \$500 of the show proceeds were donated to the Foundation for Tigard-Tualatin Schools.



(Action 13.8) Community Gardens

Neighbors Nourishing Community offers free healthy cooking and food preservation classes and is looking to expand those offerings through a partnership with the Juanita Pohl Center. NNC also provides produce for seniors through the Meals on Wheels program and donated 1,100 lbs of organic produce to low-income families while assisting 27 other families produce their own healthy gardens.



(Action 16.1) Economic Development Partnership

The City of Tualatin continues to build economic development partnerships. In 2014, the City worked with Greater Portland, Inc. and Business Oregon to submit ten business recruitment proposals, and coordinated with real estate brokers to provide prospective business investor city tours. The City and Chamber of Commerce also launched a business retention and expansion program and visited over 50 local companies to provide business expansion assistance.

(Action 18.1) Business Education for Youth and Entrepreneurs

The Tualatin Chamber and Tigard-Tualatin School District have teamed up to bring local businesses into classrooms to meet with students. These informational sessions introduce students to the types of employment opportunities that exist locally, as well as the types of skills and abilities required to succeed in the workforce. In 2015, Tualatin and Tigard High School students participated in National Manufacturing Day, and students had the opportunity to tour local manufacturing businesses to learn more about the local career opportunities in STEM related fields.



REVITALIZATION PLAN CONTEXT AND FOCUS

Structure

The Community Revitalization Plan serves as a critical, hyper-focused role within our broader community vision structure. Our prior planning efforts have spurred a variety of partnerships and activity in a variety of areas typically included in a community revitalization plan. Rather than recreate the wheel, we will continue to pursue and monitor some planned activities through the ongoing visioning process. Other intersecting components of the visioning process have been coalesced into the community revitalization plan (CRP), as depicted in the graphic below (purple squares – CRP focus).

Figure 1: Community Revitalization Plan in Relation to Tualatin Tomorrow Vision Plan



The specific vision actions we expect to advance through the community revitalization plan include:

1. Increase access to STEAM learning
2. Facilitate tech access for all income groups
3. Create entrepreneurial training and classes
4. Grow mentorship programs for youth
5. Promote post K-12 education/training
6. Connect residents to employment resources
7. Expand skills training to connect youth/jobs
8. Incubate/facilitate creation of local business
9. City-business economic partnership
10. Create a community meeting facility
11. Add new gathering places
12. Create a teen center
13. Promote business ed. for youth/entrepreneurs
14. Expand personal growth ed. for adults
15. Library as community center
16. Expand cultural connections
17. Enhance volunteer opportunities
18. Diversify after school programs
19. Establish a multi-purpose community center
20. Establish a hub for Ice Age Discovery Trail

While some of these activities will be adopted and managed outside of the America's Best Communities (ABC) competition, and all will be pursued at some level even if Tualatin is not selected as a finalist, we believe the ABC award would offer an opportunity to consolidate and launch them to far greater effect and much earlier than otherwise possible. We explain our thinking and rationale below.

COMMUNITY REVITALIZATION PLAN

CATALYST PROJECTS

The overarching goals of our Community Revitalization Plan are to increase access to Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Math (STEAM) education and foster workforce development. We intend to pursue these goals using a variety of approaches in collaboration with multiple community partners. Some of the core partner activities are outlined below, following an overview of the Tualatin ABC Team's proposed catalyst projects.

Tualatin ABC Initiatives

Through Frontier's America's Best Communities competition, the Tualatin ABC team hopes to accelerate implementation of our Community Revitalization Plan by launching one catalytic project, and setting the stage for a second. Each is described in the sections that follow.

Mobile Makerspace

The Tualatin ABC Mobile Makerspace will enable us to take STEAM learning on the road, into schools, neighborhoods and a variety of events and festivals. At present, we are exploring the feasibility of purchasing and repurposing a used trailer. As depicted in our commissioned renderings on the next page, the Makerspace will house a variety of equipment and tools to allow for an interactive design and creation experience. The Makerspace will be operated by 1-2 core staff members, with support from volunteer mentors secured through our South Metro-Salem STEM Partnership program. At least one staff member will be fluent in Spanish. Programming will be scalable to ensure appropriate activities for grade school through high school. Curricula will be developed in collaboration with the Tualatin Library, TTSD educators and STEAM experts.

Other features we intend to integrate into the mobile Makerspace include:

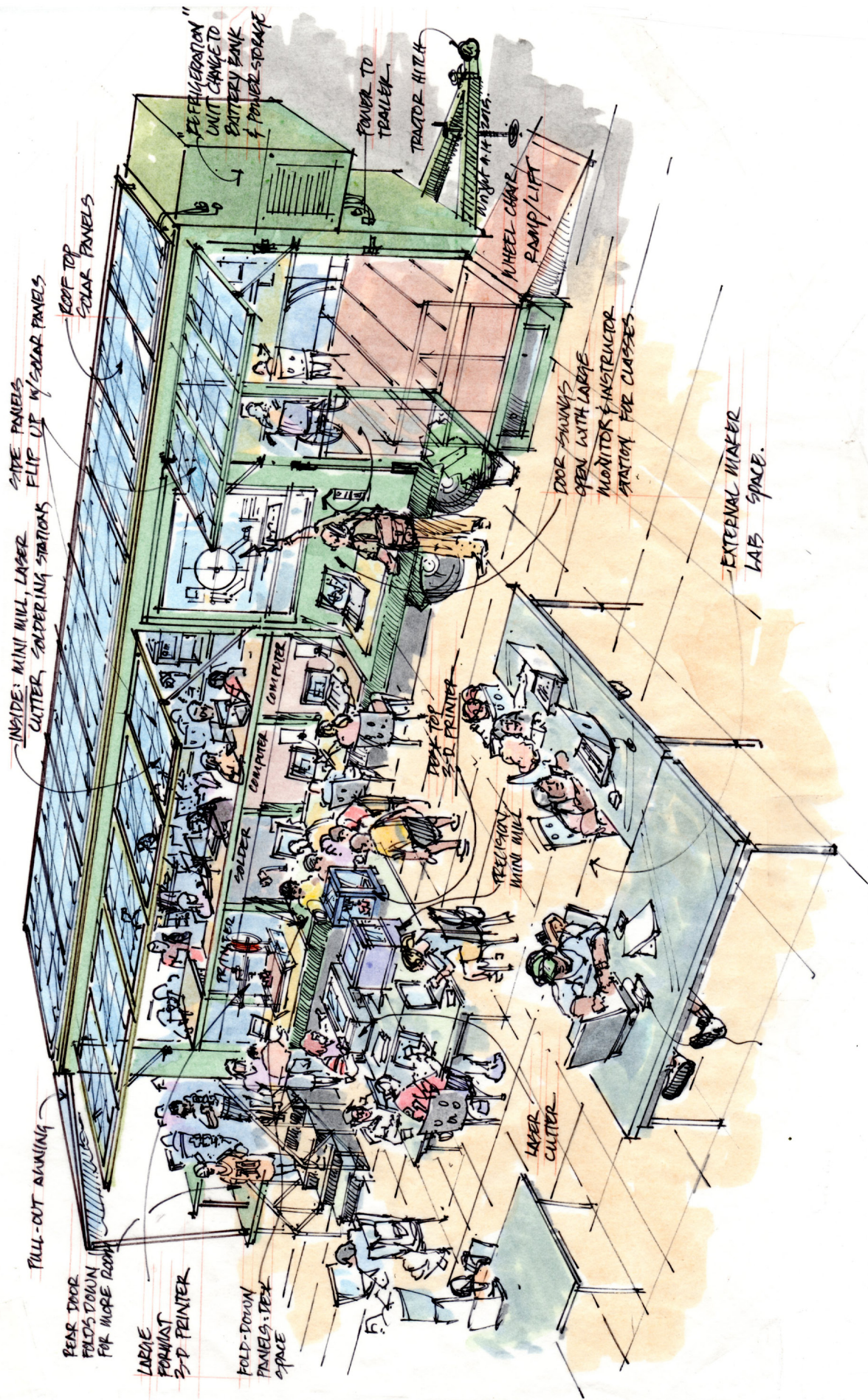
- » Programming for boys AND girls
- » Capacity to offer specialized training for corporate sponsors
 - CAD Software and Computers
 - Simulators
 - Oculus 3D and coding software
 - 3D Printer
 - Video and Audio Production Software
 - Mini-mill
 - Laser cutter
 - Other fabric-cutting machines
 - Associated materials
- » Tools and design software utilized (and potentially donated) by local companies (e.g.):

As shown on the following pages in Figures 2-3, we anticipate the modified trailer will be expandable to allow for a larger classroom setting when necessary. Space will be reserved for corporate sponsorships inside and out, to help cover operating costs, and the layout will facilitate access for people of all physical abilities.

Figure 2: Mobile Makerspace Interior Perspective



Figure 3: Mobile Makerspace Exterior Perspective



Mobile Makerspace Partners

John Niebergall is a high school engineering instructor in Portland region and operator of a mobile fab-lab that has visited schools throughout the Northwest with funding from a Department of Education Career Training and Education Revitalization Grant. John has pioneered methods to make the mobile Makerspace “kid-friendly,” and is advising Tualatin ABC on Makerspace equipment and curriculum considerations.

World of Speed (WOS) is a new, state of the art experiential motorsports museum located just south of Tualatin in Wilsonville, Oregon. The Museum is a not-for-profit organization with a mission to provide education and entertainment through the celebration and preservation of motorsports. The Museum features 80,000 square feet of exhibit space, hands-on activities and an Education Center comprised of two high-tech classrooms, an extensive resource library and a full-service automotive shop. WOS plans to take its educational programming “on the road,” and could potentially occupy space within the Tualatin ABC lab. WOS has assisted in connecting the Team to auto industry partners to secure a donated or moderately priced vehicle to serve as the mobile Makerspace.

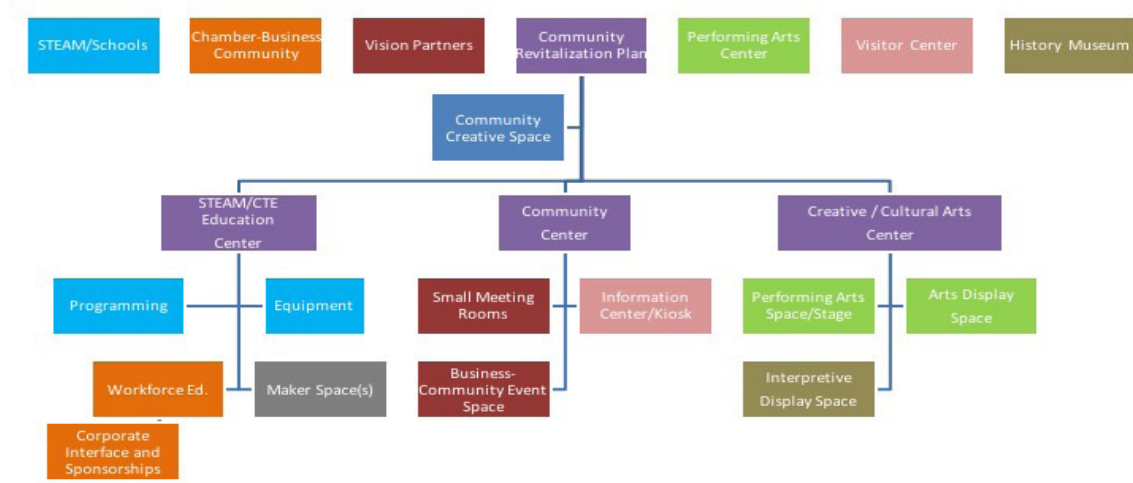
Community and Career Creative Space

Longer-term, Tualatin ABC and the Tualatin Tomorrow Advisory Committee envision developing a permanent space to support STEAM learning and career education as well as hosting larger community events. As currently conceived, this might be achieved through development of a multi-purpose facility. The “Community and Career Creative Space” facility would be comprised of three core components: 1) STEAM and Career Education Center; 2) Community Center; and 3) Creative and Cultural Arts Center.

The STEAM/CTE education center would include expanded career planning services and Makerspace for large-scale projects and storage (including the potential for hosting our high school robotics team). The community center would address the lack of large gathering space in the city, and the creative and cultural arts center could provide dedicated space for hosting live music performances and community theater events. When implemented, the Community Creative Space would benefit: youth, job seekers, local employers, the arts community and a variety of community organizations.

An overview of how our various community goals would be integrated into the Community and Career Creative Space is visually depicted below.

Figure 4: Community and Career Creative Space Construct



Additional Partner Activities

The Tualatin ABC team believes our proposed catalyst projects will accelerate and bring more visibility to our efforts to increase STEAM learning access and strengthen our workforce capacity. However, we also understand this initiative will require a much broader effort on multiple fronts. The following provides a summary of various partner activities now underway or in the planning stages, designed to complement and enhance our catalyst projects:

The South Metro-Salem STEM Partnership is one of Oregon's six Regional STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Math) Hubs, hosted by the Oregon Institute of Technology near Tualatin. The STEM Hub is helping catalyze Oregon students to achieve STEM degrees and certificates, and reach Oregon's education goals by increasing the access, excitement and engagement of students in STEM courses and experiential learning. SMSP is comprised of more than 40 partners from regional K-12 school districts, colleges and universities, STEM industry, and community STEM educators. SMSP partners have been working hard to recruit and organize STEM professionals in the newly launched Oregon Connections matching platform, bringing educators together with STEM experts. The Partnership will provide insight and guidance for development of the mobile and permanent Makerspace, connect partners to the effort, help extend learning opportunities into local schools, and identify potential staff and mentors for the operation stage.



The Tigard-Tualatin School District (TTSD) is pursuing a state education grant to develop in-school career pathways training and has joined a formal partnership to develop broader career and technical education programming in conjunction with the City of Tualatin, Tualatin Chamber of Commerce and Worksystems, Inc. (regional workforce development agency). TTSD will also serve as one of the primary Makerspace promoters once operational.



City of Tualatin Library staff have attended trainings related to Makerspaces, programming and media labs and have recently begun to incorporate STEM-related programs into Library offerings. To date, the Library has purchased a number of maker items (e.g. Snap Circuits, Raspberry Pi, Sphero robot, Arduino and electronics kits). The Library now offers a monthly maker program for teens and a monthly Engineering Adventures program for 3rd to 5th grade youth. The Library's Teen Committee will be involved in shaping our Makerspace offerings, and the Library will identify teens to be mentors during the operations stage. The Library also regularly offers arts programming, including hosting Mask & Mirror Community Theatre readings and performances by Tualatin High School Theatre.



City of Tualatin

Tualatin Chamber of Commerce is working with local businesses and schools to develop career fairs for middle school and high school students. These career fairs will begin to introduce the local businesses to students and share information about available internships. The Chamber will also help to coordinate site visits and tours for students to local businesses.

Local businesses have contributed or have committed to contributing a variety of resources including sponsorships and donations, mentors, internship and employment opportunities and training equipment. The Makerspace initiative has strong support within our local business community, who we have engaged through CEO interviews and various community forums. Interested business partners to date include Sunset Manufacturing, LAM Research, Creganna Medical, Keyscaper Printing, CenterCal, Airefco, Andersen Construction, CH2M Hill, Columbia Bank, Dalton's NW Catering, Express Employment Professionals, Fujimi Corporation, G.H. McCulloch, Inc., Helser Industries, Klein Orthodontics, Republic Services, The Smith Law Office, and Tualatin Auto Body.

MONITORING PROGRESS

Tualatin ABC measurement criteria will evolve and adapt as programming is developed and implemented. However, we have identified a range of potential measures based on community and partner input, including:

- » # Youth/residents accessing STEAM learning opportunities through Makerspace
- » % Change in school math scores by age, race and gender cohorts
- » # Makerspace participants that secure internships or on-the-job training through local employers
- » # Makerspace participants that enroll in additional school or extracurricular STEAM learning activities
- » # Employers engaging in/supporting Makerspace programming
- » # People volunteering as mentors
- » # Schools, events and activities attended
- » # News articles, media pieces that increase awareness of Makerspace and STEAM/CTE education
- » # Teachers participating in “train the trainer” activities for use in classroom teaching
- » % Change in families earning living wage or greater (long-term)

In addition to using empirical measures, we will be tracking the implementation progress of the following Tualatin Tomorrow vision actions that serve as the foundation of our Community Revitalization Plan. They include:

- » Increase STEAM learning
- » Connect colleges and high schools to increase post K-12 awareness
- » Promote business education for youth and entrepreneurs
- » Grow mentorship programs for underserved populations
- » Facilitate access to technology for all income groups
- » Connect residents to training and employment resources
- » Expand skills training to match local jobs
- » Develop gathering locations where people can meet socially
- » Expand arts opportunities

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

The Tualatin ABC Team utilized a mix of tools and activities to broadly engage the community. Through print materials, events, in-person interviews, social media, the Tualatin ABC Team website, partner websites, e-news, video, surveys and other methods, we reached far into the diverse Tualatin community to ensure all interests related to education and workforce development are captured and addressed in this plan.

Getting the Community Involved!

The Tualatin community is very engaged and this could not be more evident than at community events where thousands come together to celebrate. The Tualatin ABC Team attended many events to gather input, create awareness about the project and also to help build community support through their outreach and fundraising efforts. The Team was out at the Tualatin TryAthlon, Farmers Market, the Summer Concerts on the Commons, Movies on the Commons, Stoneridge Neighborhood Clean Up, ArtSplash, the Crawfish Festival, and the West Coast Giant Pumpkin Regatta

Community Celebration

In August, the Tualatin Team had successfully EXCEEDED their \$15,000 fundraising goal, so it was time to celebrate! Raising \$19,000 for the local community match was a huge accomplishment. The biggest event of the year in Tualatin is a weekend-long party called the Tualatin Crawfish Festival. This festival is the oldest crawfish festival west of the Mississippi, and it draws thousands of people from the community and visitors from around the state. The Tualatin ABC Team presented on the stage and shared cake to celebrate with everyone.



Team Meetings

The Tualatin ABC Team is led by John Bartholomew from Mask & Mirror Community Theatre, who is also a member of the Tualatin Tomorrow Visioning Advisory Committee. John assembled partners from the Tualatin Chamber of Commerce, the South Metro-Salem STEM Partnership, Tigard Tualatin School District, the City of Tualatin, the Tualatin Tomorrow Vision Advisory Committee, Local Businesses, MakerSpace experts and others to help refine the vision, engage the community and develop this Community Revitalization Plan. This group meets monthly to help build support and develop partnerships to bring this plan to life.



Partner Event

From the beginning in developing the application for the America's Best Communities Contest, the team knew partnerships would be essential for moving this effort forward. As the contest progressed and the team began sharing their story and their mission, the list of partners began to grow. In September 2015, the team held an event where partners from around the community representing business, the city, the arts, education, the Latino population and others came together to learn more about the proposal and offer their ideas and input for how this project could truly serve the Tualatin community and bring STEAM education to youth, the underserved population and create a workforce pipeline for local employers.

At this meeting the ABC Team also debuted their promotional video featuring members of the community describing the importance of enhancing STEAM education in Tualatin and creating a local pipeline for workforce development. The video was received with much applause, and has since been featured on the the ABC website, City website, on the regional Tualatin Valley Community Television (TVCTV) channels and throughout social media. The video can also be found on YouTube: <https://youtu.be/TLzv63UTtb0>.



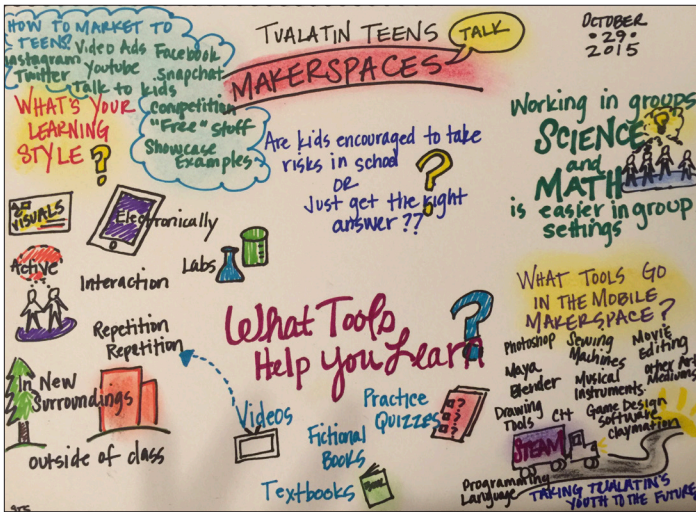
West Coast Giant Pumpkin Regatta

The West Coast Giant Pumpkin Regatta is one of Tualatin's signature events where competitors paddle giant pumpkins around Tualatin's Lake at the Commons. Over the last 11 years the award-winning Regatta has become Oregon's best October event. Spectators come from not only the Pacific Northwest but also from all over the United States and Canada. The Tualatin ABC Team did not want to miss the fun, or the opportunity to share information about our plan for community revitalization and ask for input from the over 18,000 people who were in attendance. Many ideas were shared, and people were in awe of the mobile makerspace renderings.

Tualatin Teens

As we work to develop programs to serve Tualatin's youth, it is important to ask the youth in Tualatin what they think of the plan and how this makerspace can serve as a "cool" place to learn and MAKE! The Teen Library Committee and Youth Advisory Council met after school one evening over pizza and shared some of the best ideas yet. They shared insights about their learning styles which included labs, visual learning, interaction and experiences outside of class. When the renderings of the makerspace were unveiled, it was met with responses of "Cool!" and "That's awesome!" The teens offered ideas for equipment including movie editing software, sewing machines, game design software, musical instruments, and more. Through a series of questions they shared ideas on learning styles, learning tools and how to market to teens. When asked if they are

encouraged to experiment and take risks in the classroom, they responded that they are encouraged to get the right answer. The idea of a creative, hands-on learning experience of a makerspace was well received with excitement and questions regarding how soon it could be implemented.



Engaging the Online Community

While being out in the community engaging people in person is very valuable, it was also really effective to use technology to help share the Tualatin ABC Team's message and create awareness with the online community. Through development of the project website, www.tualatinabc.org, Facebook, Twitter and our partner sites, we were able to reach an even broader cross section of the community. An online survey was also available from September through October to gather input for the Community Revitalization Plan.

Community Stories

Davis Loen is a Tualatin high school student and an aspiring engineer. Davis recently completed a summer internship with Sunset Manufacturing in Tualatin where he had the opportunity to do hands-on work manufacturing a variety of different metal parts which ship to companies across the globe. He had the opportunity to learn more about the design process and put the theories he has been learning in the classroom and with his robotics team into practice in a local manufacturing facility. He believes that considering career opportunities early in life can provide students with more experience in a variety of industries.



His opportunity was enriched by the mentoring relationship with his internship supervisor, Charlie Hopewell. Davis' story is one which could be told by many more students if the vision of this Community Revitalization Plan is realized. This plan will help to build on the existing partnerships to create more opportunities similar to Davis' internship by connecting local employers with the students in Tualatin's schools.

John Niebergall has been a "shop kid" and Lego enthusiast since he was in middle school. This led him down a path where he became shop teacher and high school engineering instructor for the Sherwood School District to inspire a new generation of "shop kids." He first heard of the maker movement around 2007 from MAKE magazine and Neil Gershenfeld's book, *FAB: The Coming Revolution on Your Desktop-- From Personal Computers to Personal Fabrication*. Soon after that, John was contacted by a Concordia Professor who asked him to



teach the class, “Make Almost Anything,” for them. He partnered with Portland Community College’s Machine Manufacturing Department, and he began down this new path. Thanks to a Career Technical Education (CTE) revitalization grant through the Oregon Department of Education, the Bowmen FabLab was born. The purpose of this mobile fab lab is to bring the technology and course ideas directly to students and teachers. The Bowmen Mobile FabLab has a 3D printer, laser cutters, microcontroller boards, vinyl cutters plus laptops with CAD software.

John believes by exposing kids to this hands-on learning style, training and exploration of technical careers can impact their future career decisions. Without these opportunities, the chances of them exploring these opportunities would be very limited. He says STEAM education is an economic driver that will give our communities strong financial footing for the future. “We have to MAKE stuff,” says John, “we have to teach innovation and problem solving, and STEAM projects give ownership to kids for this application of Math and Science.”

Pureza Villegas works for Creganna Medical which is a global medical device company with a manufacturing location in Tualatin. The company spans four continents and specializes in minimally invasive delivery and access devices. Pureza moved to the United States from a small town just south of Mexico City, Mexico when she was only 17. She is one of seven children, with two sisters and four brothers. Pureza did not speak any English, and she was scared to move as she would be moving with one of her sisters and joining two of her brothers who were already living in the U.S. She said it was terrifying to leave her mother and the rest of her siblings behind. However, upon arriving, she quickly learned English through work, American television and music, and listening to people speak. She started with Creganna (then Precision Wire Components) in 2001 in an entry-level position as an operator. She worked hard and had a desire to continue learning and growing. Through her hard work and with the support and encouragement from her supervisors, she was promoted to a lead, and then promoted again and now oversees 17 other employees on three different shifts. Part of her job requires her to travel abroad to the company’s location in Costa Rica. She said she never imagined when she moved to the U.S. that she would be where she is today.

When asked what advice she would give to other young Latino girls, she said “Pay attention in school, learn English and math, develop good relationships with people you can learn from, and don’t ever think that you can’t do something...if they can do it, so can you!” Pureza said she has learned so much from others and from their success, and has tried to model her own success after those examples. She also attributed some of her accomplishments to working for good managers who would push her to try new things. She is looking forward to going back to school so she can continue to grow and advance. Pureza believes education is one of the most important things to pursue when you are young.

In the Media

Over the course of this competition the Tualatin ABC Team built a comprehensive website to keep the community apprised of their activities, they were active in sharing their updates through social media and participated in many community events and meetings to spread the word and build community support for their efforts. This work resulted in a lot of great press from Tualatin’s local and regional news outlets. Check out some of the great press received below:

Tigard - Tualatin Times

April 29, 2015

“Professionally, I work as a software engineer. I design things and solve problems,” said Tualatin resident John Bartholomew, who led the city’s ABC application process. “This was an interesting opportunity to talk to some people in town who I’d not worked with before, and find out what their take was on this. What would we do if we were to win this? What are the problems we’d want to address in town?”

September 1, 2015

Deputy City Manager Sara Singer said the plan, which will lay out a vision for Tualatin's continued growth and the improved quality of life of its citizens, won't be submitted to contest judges until November. But the Sept. 17 event will allow the ABC Team to gather public input.

September 19, 2015

Tualatin Mayor Lou Ogden said the goal is to get Tualatin's kids into skilled jobs — whether that's done with a mobile Makerspace to help cultivate an interest and teach skills related to STEAM or technical disciplines, or whether the prize money of up to \$3 million for the nationwide contest is put toward building a "community career and creative center," which is the plan's long-term goal.

Tualatin Life

June 10, 2015

On April 27, John Bartholomew got the call he'd been waiting for anxiously for weeks – the local Frontier Communications office phoned to say his Tualatin team's entry had been named as one of fifty quarter-finalists in the America's Best Communities competition. And that they'd won \$50,000. John let loose a big, hearty laugh. And with that, Tualatin became one of fifty small towns across the US competing for a \$3 million top prize. Yes, \$3 million.

Tualatin Today

July 2015

An application was submitted in March 2015 outlining a proposal to add shared community gathering space to bring the elements of STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Math) together in one place. Tualatin's businesses have a demand for a highly technically skilled workforce to meet the increasing number of jobs. There is a great need to develop students' skills and cultivate interest at all grade levels in careers in science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM).

August 2015

The City of Tualatin has been selected as one of 50 quarter-finalists for Frontier Communications' "America's Best Communities" competition, and has been awarded a total of \$50,000 from Frontier and Tualatin's local sponsor, Intel.

September 2015

The community's Tualatin Tomorrow Vision defines many community needs and priorities, but the ABC proposal is hyper-focused on one specific target: connecting our youth and underserved populations to STEAM (Science, Technology, Education, Arts & Math) education and Career Technical Education (CTE) training that aligns with our advanced manufacturing industry base. In addition to providing jobs and personal growth opportunities for the community, we can begin to develop a workforce pipeline for many of our employers.

October 2015

When Mask & Mirror Community Theatre asked The Chamber to co-sponsor the America's Best Communities grant, it was an automatic YES. The Chamber's motto of "Business and Community Working Together" is closely aligned. This opportunity has brought multiple partners together for positive changes with a significant impact.

League of Oregon Cities "Local Focus"

June 2015

"The City of Tualatin is thrilled to be competing in this nationwide competition! We are fortunate to have many community partners who care deeply about the vision and work hard to make these dreams a reality," said City Councilor Frank Bubenik. "This is an opportunity to further refine some of the goals in our vision to drive economic development and community revitalization through a gathering space for STEAM education, arts and business development."

OregonLive (Online edition of the Oregonian Newspaper)

June 3, 2015

"The most exciting thing for me is to meet and work with people in a diverse set of groups across the city who I otherwise wouldn't get to work with," said Bartholomew. "Maybe there will be a big prize at the end, but these are just steps to new and interesting things for Tualatin."

BUDGET

The budgets below show how the Tualatin ABC Team plans to implement this Community Revitalization Plan using their existing remaining funds, future committed community contributions, and the next round of competition funding.

Mobile Makerspace Equipment & Services	Proposed 11 month cost	Total	Purpose
John Niebergall	\$5,000	\$5,000	Mobile MakerSpace Curriculum Development
J Robertson and Company	\$10,000	\$10,000	Project Oversight and Development
Part-time Library Staff	\$25,000	\$25,000	Part-time library staff support to administer programs
MakerSpace Trailer	\$15,000	\$15,000	The Team would purchase a used trailer and work with local autobody partners to retrofit the trailer for use as a mobile classroom MakerSpace.
MakerSpace Equipment Phase I	\$35,000	\$35,000	The initial equipment for the makerspace would include computers, design software, scanners, vinyl cutter, other maker equipment and supplies. It is expected the full cost of this equipment will be \$70,000, but through partnerships with local companies, many have already offered to donate equipment for the space.
Truck	\$15,000	\$15,000	Truck to be purchased with additional potential donations to pull mobile MakerSpace trailer
Mobile Makerspace Maintenance and Storage	\$0	\$0	In-kind donation of services through the City of Tualatin.
Curriculum marketing through print media	\$2,000	\$2,000	
Program marketing video	\$3,000	\$3,000	
Social media marketing advertising costs	\$1,000	\$1,000	
Website Development & Maintenance	\$5,000	\$5,000	
Insurance for Mobile Makerspace	\$0	\$0	Insurance will be required for vehicle and will be provided through the City of Tualatin's policy.
Staff Training	\$5,000	\$5,000	Training Library Staff to administer programs
Total		\$121,000	

The ABC Team plans to leverage the \$100,000 of funding in the next round of the competition, the \$19,000 in remaining funds from the quarter-finalist round of the competition, and \$9,000 in promised donations from local corporations to fully implement this plan over the next 11 months.

TUALATIN ABC PARTNERS

The Tualatin ABC Team is grateful to the following community partners and individuals for their leadership, financial support and support of enhancing education, employment opportunities and overall community livability in Tualatin!

Mask & Mirror Community Theatre
Tualatin Chamber of Commerce
City of Tualatin
Tualatin Tomorrow Vision Advisory
Committee
South Metro-Salem STEM Partnership
Tigard Tualatin School District
World of Speed
LAM Research
Sunset Manufacturing
Creganna Medical
Intel
Westside Economic Alliance
Sherwood - Bowmen FabLab
Keyscaper
Portland General Electric
Republic Services
Tualatin United Methodist Church
Columbia Bank
CH2M Hill

Klein Orthodontics
Zian, Andersen Construction
Tualatin Auto Body
Tualatin Rotary Club
Fujimi Corp
Toni Carrasco
Mark and Julie Parrish
Mayor Lou Ogden
Candice Kelly
Deliah and James Judy
Robert and Lindy Hughes
Frank Bubenik and Donna Capodacqua
Tualatin Winona Grange #271
Tualatin Historical Society
G.H. McCulloch, Inc.
CenterCal
Express Employment Professionals
The Smith Law Office
Dalton's NW Catering

A special thank you to Frontier Communications, CoBank, Dish, and The Weather Channel for organizing this competition and bringing this opportunity to communities around the country!