

"Growth is never by mere chance; it is the result of forces working together."

- James Cash Penney



## **County in Transition:**

- Move away from underground economy
- Rise of healthy food production & distribution
- Creative business solutions
- Workers leaving cannabis industry
- Housing crisis
- Disaster preparedness
- People want to live where they work

## County Business Development Trends

5 years ago

Focus on the physical (bricks and mortar)

Long-term relationship with one consultant

Simpler Business process

Average age of client: 46

Standardization

Decline in fishing, timber, manufacturing

Today

Focus on the virtual (online platforms, software, IT)

Work with multiple specialists

Business significantly is more complex/ Shrinking resources

Average age of client: 32

Customization

Rise in food products/services, hospitality, healthcare

## Growing the *Local* Economy in the *New* Economy

