



Appendix A

Desirable Community Amenities

A wide range of literature was examined from professional journals and organizational publications and reports to lay magazines and internet articles looking for amenities that might attract knowledge workers and retiring boomers. These reports suggested that communities having these items might have an advantage over communities that did not for attracting workers and businesses. We grouped the long list into 12 main categories.

Education

- Quality opportunities for education from pre-school, primary and secondary levels through all levels of university education
- Technical and apprentice training
- Continuing professional education
- Life-long learning

Greenspace/Recreation

- Natural amenities with public access
- Places for recreation - urban sports
- Places for recreation - outdoor, non-team sports
- Golf courses
- Trails – walking/hiking, biking (road/dirt), cross-country skiing, motorized sports (summer/winter)

Third Places

- Coffee shops/restaurants by type, micro-breweries/venues for nightlife
- Outdoor places where people can gather (fairgrounds, city square, plazas, parks, small green spaces, outdoor dining, etc.)
- A town center/recognizable downtown/unique sense of place
- A sense of vibrancy/energy in the city especially in the downtown – often described as a diversity of people visible on the street
- Senior centers/other meeting places for the elderly

Transportation

- Walkable/bikable streets: bike lanes/trails/sidewalks/quality intersections
- Mass transit/ cab service
- Low traffic and short commute time
- Community designed for people not cars

Housing

- Quality housing from entry level to luxury in cost
- Range of housing types and sizes
- Identifiable neighborhoods



Health/Health Care

- Healthclubs, Y's, etc.
- Hospitals, healthcare facilities
- Senior care facilities (assisted living, nursing)

Culture

- Museums, places of culture, civic places
- Historic districts
- Churches
- Places that attract tourists
- Venues for art, music, theater

Services

- High speed internet/quality cell phone services
- IT support
- Postal services/printing and copy shops
- Dry cleaners/ Laundromats/other cleaning services
- Repair shops/services

Retail

- Big box retail/national brand chains
- Local retail
- Specialty and boutique shops

Food Supply

- Ready access to quality food that does not require a car
- Farmers' markets
- Community Supported Agriculture
- Ability to purchase locally-grown food.