

## WORKSHEET 1 – Forces Submitted by Participants

### Population forces

- Continuing population growth
- Increasing population diversity
- Geographic differences in population
- Increases in young families, small children in south and east
- Aging and life span increases of population
- Many job transfers in and out

### Communication forces

- Role of Internet and new technologies in communication, especially among younger residents
- No centralized traditional media
- Traditional media misses younger residents

### Economic forces

- Decreasing state and federal funding
- Increasing state and federal regulations
- Lack of large industries – bedroom communities
- Difficulty passing county levies
- Disparities among school districts
- Economy affects the poor disproportionately
- Unstable economic indicators – foreclosures, bankruptcies, high taxes, high gas prices & interest rates, lower CD rates, etc.

### Youth issues

- Increasing concerns re: substance abuse, violence & gangs among youth
- Lack of healthy, positive activities/outlets for youth
- Lack of parental supervision & responsibility for their children

### Social service issues

- High cost of living leaves many in need of more health care and social services from agencies
- Lower allocations to social service agencies
- Lack of social services & facilities for those with disabilities, the homeless, those needing residential treatment & behavioral health care

### Development forces: Environmental issues

- Air/water pollution
- Global warming
- Possible toxic spills on I-71

### Development forces: Transportation issues

- Lack of public transportation
- Roads
- Increasing traffic congestion
- Aging population will need public transportation

### Development forces: Land use issues

- Problems re: transition from rural to developed: loss of farmland, trees, animal habitat
- “Build out” along Route 23

### Development forces: Recreational issues

- Poor planning decisions affect health and well being
- Increased desire and expectations for public recreation and athletic facilities
- Need for music and art
- Major recreational opportunities exist now (parks, trails)

### Political forces: Leadership issues

- Change in governor and state department heads
- One-party rule – 80% Republican
- Potential for better cooperation betw. City, county

### Political forces: Jurisdictional issues

- Many townships, school districts, annexation possibilities

### Political forces: Citizen attitudes

- Lack of trust in government
- Lack of respect for law & enforcement
- Lack of a county identity, esp. among newer residents

### Health forces: Dietary issues

- Need healthier food & snacks in schools
- Need healthier menus at local restaurants
- Eating disorders

### Health forces: Other health issues

- Increasing disapproval of smoking (ban, Scotts)
- Fewer families with health insurance due to cost
- Lack of private psychiatrists in county
- Lack of interest in good health
- Increasing heart disease & cancer
- Use of “fear factor” re: health issues (Avian flu, TB, tainted foods)

### Miscellaneous forces

- More evidence/research-based approaches are available
- Major university and branch campus (OWU, OSU)
- The war
- Bioterrorism
- Moving of hospital
- Moving of Council for Older Adults
- Need for continuing education for adults