

# **Board Presentation**

June 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2020

**Strategic Plan Update** 

Bethanie DeRose, JLL

**Branding Project Update** 

Ranee Ruble-Dotts, Paper Moon Creative

## PRESENTATION AGENDA

June 22, 2020

#### STRATEGIC PLAN

- Review the plan contents, process, and progress
- Introduce the recommended destination positions
- Provide next steps and Board participation opportunity

#### **BRAND PROJECT**

- Present survey and stakeholder interview outcomes
- Provide high-level brand direction findings
- Provide next steps and Board participation opportunity

#### STRATEGIC PLAN PROGRESS & CONTENTS

#### **COMPLETED** >

#### **Introduction/Destination Research**

**Background & Situation Analysis** 

**Destination Marketing Trends** 

**Baseline Tourism Stats** 

Comparative Destination Review (TBC)

#### **Market Study**

Stakeholder Engagement Findings

**Destination Assets Review** 

- -Inventory
- -Attractor Analysis
- -Product Gap Identification

#### FINALIZING DRAFTS >

Strategic Positioning
Strategic Priorities

#### DRAFTED >

# Market Definitions & Tier Assignments Tactical Strategic Plan

Operations/Administrative

Partnership

**Marketing Communications** 

**Business Development** 

#### STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT

#### **Focus Groups**

•Wineries, Restaurants & Agriculture, Hotels, Sports & Outdoor Recreation, Business Organizations & Events

#### **Stakeholder Survey**

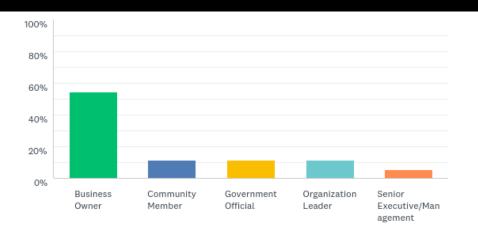
- •180+ stakeholders invited to participate
- •20% response rate
  - •Hotels, wineries and restaurants make up top respondents (42%)

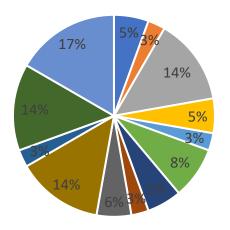
#### **Stakeholder Meetings**

•Individual meetings - 20

#### **Tourism Symposium**

Initial feedback across stakeholder community





- Event or Sports Planner
- Local, Regional or State Government
- Professional Services
- Restaurants
- Other (please specify)

- Event Producer
- Museum or Cultural Institution
- Real Estate
- Retail

- Hotels & Lodging
- Non Profit or Community Organization
- Recreation
- Winery/Brewery/Distillery

#### STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT

#### **Key Feedback**

- Themes consistent across stakeholder conversations.
- Inform and share with branding effort
- Supported in the Asset analysis
- Helps inform positions and opportunity markets

#### Strengths

- Quality & quantity of outdoor experience - proximity and access
- Dining & culinary scene
- •Wineries and wine trail
- Downtown
- Strong community events
- Competitive sports facilities

#### Opportunities

- •Increased awareness new brand platform
- Local and regional travel markets
- Outdoor experiences
- Competitive sports tournaments
- Scaling strategic existing events into visitor facing events

#### Weaknesses / Threats

- Lack of awareness
- •Lack of signature i.e. event, attraction, niche etc.
- Perception of bedroom community, sleepiness or old fashioned
- •Traffic and infrastructure concerns

#### **DESTINATION ASSET STUDY**

#### **Asset Inventory Categories**

- Parks, Open Space, Lakes, Trails
- Wineries, Breweries, and Farms
- Sport & Recreation Facilities
- Special Event Facilities
- Restaurants & Dining
- Downtown, Entertainment, & Retail
- Events & Festivals
- Arts, Culture, History & Unique Attributes

| Attractor Criteria                          | Definition  |
|---|---|
| One of a Kind                               | Captivating content or collections that drives interest and appeal.  Proximity of alternative similar offerings can be a factor in overall uniqueness |
| Iconic Scale                                | Dramatic visual prompting a curiosity powerful enough to inspire a visit (Instagram worthy- trying to capture a moment)                               |
| Engaging Visitor Experience                 | Interaction between the guest and the attraction  |
| Current Visitor Demand  Event Opportunities | Level of visitor traffic, reviews, etc. to the asset currently  Programming temporal, catalytic events  |
| Venue Capabilities                          | Easily transformed and adapted to host various functions  Multiple target audience and visitor types can be targeted based                            |
| Identified Target Audience(s)               | on overall connectivity   |
| Future Unique Development                   | Upcoming additions or plan initiatives that elevate potential   |

Attractor Criteria

#### **Incorporated Stakeholder Feedback and Applied Attractor Analysis in order to:**

- 1. Identify propensity to drive overnight stays
- 2. Inform current/proposed positioning
- 3. Set the stage for priority focus areas
- 4. Leverage for branding and content development

#### **DRAFT DESTINATION POSITIONS**

Based on research & stakeholder feedback these positions and opportunity markets have been identified.

| Position                             | Opportunity Markets  |  |
|--------------------------------------|--|--|
| UNDISCOVERED LEISURE DESTINATION     | Leisure drive market with themes of road trip, wine, culinary,   |  |
| EASILY ACCESSIBLE DESTINATION        | family/VFR, friend's getaways, history, agriculture, downtown, and value driven alternative destination. Leverage all assets |  |
| APPEALING SOCIAL EVENT DESTINATION   | Social events, weddings, special occasions, local/regional event producers, festivals, and concerts                          |  |
| UNTAPPED SPORTING EVENT DESTINATION  | Organized/competitive turf and aquatic sport tournaments, trainings  |  |
| APPEALING OUTDOORS DESTINATION       | Expansive settings for cycling, hiking, and other outdoor activities like hiking, horseback riding, golf, etc.               |  |
| BUSINESS TRAVEL FRIENDLY DESTINATION | Corporate individual, small meeting planners, teambuilding (excluding conference/exhibition), "bleisure"                     |  |

# **Conclusions drawn from process...**

**Key themes for consideration** 

**Establish Operations** 

Establish Organizational Identity & Partnership Roles

**Develop Awareness with Target Markets** 

**Strategic Markets** 

**Product Development Support** 

# **STRATEGIC PLANNING NEXT STEPS**

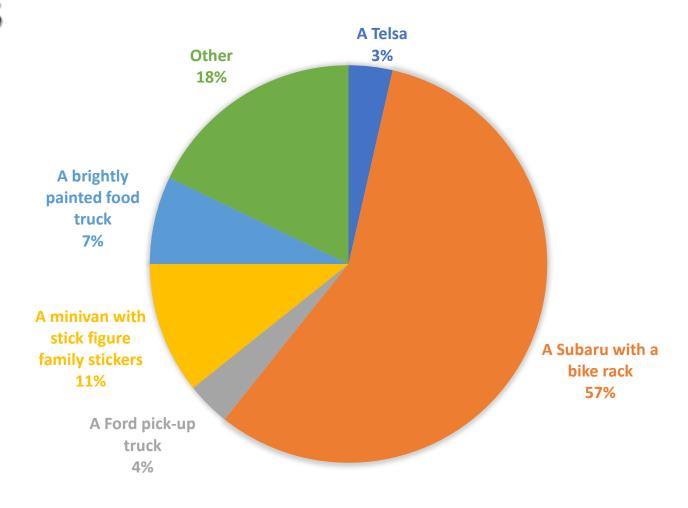
| BOARD PARTICIPATION                   | DATE      | Notes  |
|---------------------------------------|-----------|--|
| Board Forms Subcommittee              | 6/22/20   | Request for 2-3 Board members to participate in DSP review   |
| Subcommittee Reviews Draft            | 7/13/2020 | Week to review   |
| Subcommittee Feedback<br>Incorporated | 7/20/2020 | JLL & ED to finalize draft   |
| July Board Meeting Presentation       | 7/27/2020 | Presentation for final Board feedback before JLL & ED conduct final tactic drafting, formatting, and edits |
| August Board Meeting - Final Plan     | 8/24/2020 | Plan formally adopted by Board   |

#### **BRAND DEVELOPMENT**

- Review of brand survey and stakeholder interviews
- High-level brand findings and direction
- Next steps for the brand development and board participation in logo design process

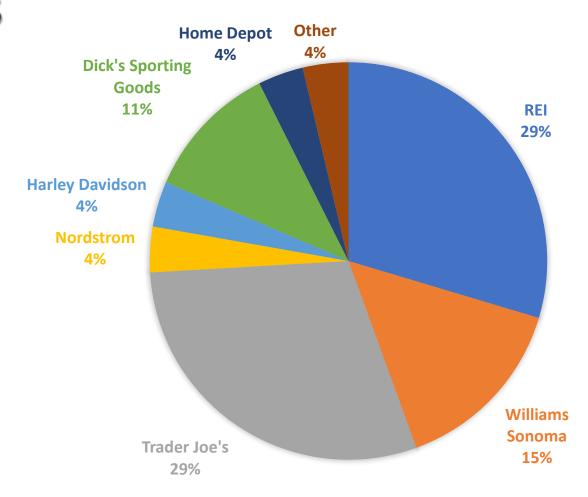
#### **BRAND SURVEY RESPONSES**

"If Visit Morgan Hill was a vehicle, what kind of vehicle would it be?"



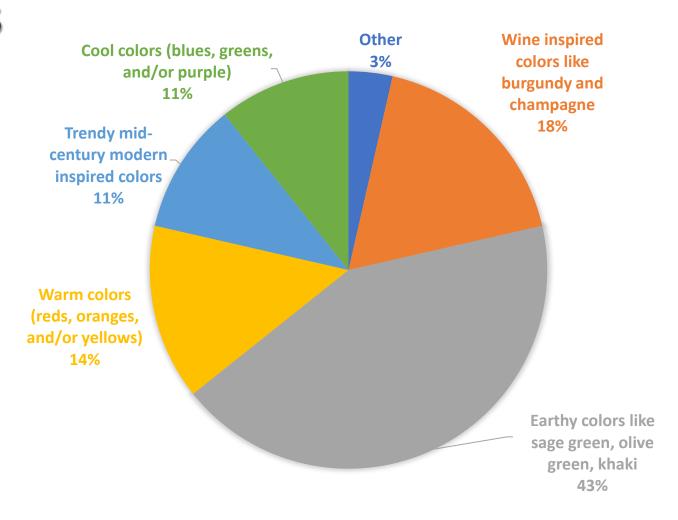
#### **BRAND SURVEY RESPONSES**

"If Visit Morgan Hill was a retail box store what would it be?"



#### **BRAND SURVEY RESPONSES**

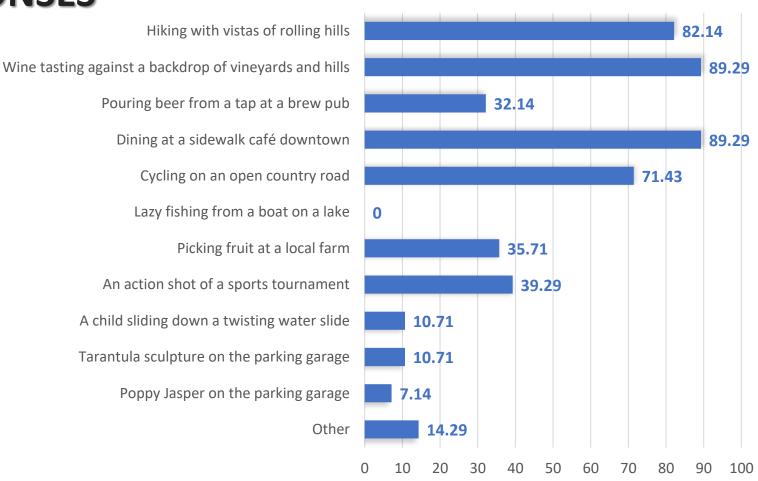
"What colors do you feel would best communicate the Visit Morgan Hill brand?"



#### **BRAND SURVEY RESPONSES**

"What imagery do you think best communicates what is most compelling about Morgan Hill as a visitor destination?"

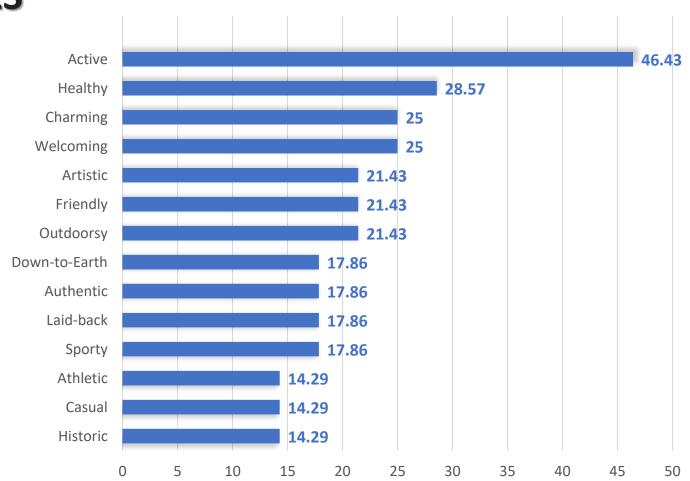
Respondents could choose up to five (5). Numbers represent percentages of respondents choosing an image description.



#### **BRAND SURVEY RESPONSES**

"What characteristics or personality traits do you think the Visit Morgan Hill brand should convey?"

Respondents could choose up to five (5) from 120 adjectives. Numbers represent percentages of respondents choosing an adjective. Only words with four (4) or more votes are shown in the graph at the right.



#### **BRAND DEVELOPMENT: INITIAL SURVEY FINDINGS**

# Active + Outdoorsy

Active (13)

Outdoorsy (6)

Sporty (5)

Athletic (4)

Adventurous (2)

Fit (2)

Energetic (1)

# Charming + Welcoming

Charming (7)

Welcoming (7)

Artistic (6)

Friendly (6)

Historic (4)

Homey (3)

Inviting (3)

Endearing (2)

Family-Friendly (2)

and more...

# Laid-Back + Down-to-Earth

Authentic (5)

Down-to-Earth (5)

Laid-back (5)

Casual (4)

Informal (2)

Rural (2)

Trustworthy (2)

No-nonsense (1)

Sincere (1)

# Healthy + Refreshing

Healthy (8)

Refreshing (3)

Natural (2)

Organic (2)

Serene (2)

Wholesome (2)

Expansive (1)

Fresh (1)

#### Fun + Vibrant

Fun (5)

Vibrant (3)

Festive (2)

Hip (2)

Playful (2)

Youthful (2)

Cheerful (1)

Exuberant (1)

Lively (1)

Upbeat (1)

#### **BRAND DEVELOPMENT: INDIVIDUAL STAKEHOLDER INTERVIEWS**

#### Other Destination Strengths/Points of Differentiation Commonly Identified in Stakeholder Interviews:

- Undiscovered
- Great value (compared with other wine country destinations)
- Uncrowded (trails, wine tasting rooms, and other attractions)
- Unpretentious, accessible, welcoming community
- Close proximity to the Bay Area, but a world away
- Easy accessibility from the Bay Area without the hassle (less congestion/no toll bridges)

#### **Outliers for Discussion:**

- Well-Heeled, Classy, + Sophisticated
- Hip + Trendy
- Bold + Edgy

Building brand for what Morgan Hill is now vs. what it could become?

# BRAND DEVELOPMENT: CROSS-REFERENCING WITH THE STRATEGIC PLAN'S DESTINATION ASSET PILLARS

| CHARMING & UNDISCOVERED                                       | Hidden gem, community approachability, small town, undiscovered, loved by locals, local history  |
|---|--|
| FRESH AIR, ROLLING HILLS                                      | Great weather, active lifestyle, health and wellness, parks, sport culture, trails, cycling, golf, lakes, open space, and activities that go with outdoor settings |
| ELEVATED WINE, CULINARY, & AGRICULTURE                        | Agriculture history, award winning wine, unpretentious tasting and prices, Michelin starred chef, u-pick farms, downtown culinary hub, events, and outdoor dining  |
| CONNECTING HISTORY & MODERN INDUSTRY                          | Where Silicon Valley meets agricultural countryside; embracing both new and traditional industry, juxtaposing high tech with history                               |
| SUPERB EVENT LOCATION (recreation, sport, special, corporate) | Facilities for events of all kinds – organized sports, social events/weddings, festivals, small group teambuilding, winery events, and advantageous lodging        |
| EASILY ACCESSIBLE & NAVIGABLE                                 | Hotels and visitor assets in close proximity, easy access via road, air, and rail and near other destinations and attractions                                      |

# **BRAND DEVELOPMENT: COMPETITION ANALYSIS**

















































#### **BRAND DEVELOPMENT: THE ROAD AHEAD**

# **Logo Design Considerations for the Board:**

- Full name, Nickname, Both
- Does consumer logo use "Visit" and "California"?
- Other direction for the logo design



# **BRAND DEVELOPMENT: NEXT STEPS**

| BOARD PARTICIPATION   | DATE    | Notes  |
|---|---------|--|
| Board Forms Subcommittee & Sets<br>Special Board Meeting Date | 6/22    | Request for 2-3 Board members to participate in logo review                      |
| First Round Logos Delivered                                   | 7/03    | Subcommittee to review and provide feedback                                      |
| Special Board Meeting   | 7/15-17 | Board reviews second draft logo revisions, for one final round of revisions      |
| Final Logos   | 7/22    | Final logos delivered  |
| July Board Meeting  | 7/27    | Working draft of destination profile and notes for branding and style guidelines |
| Brand Guidelines  | 8/4     | First full draft of branding and style guidelines                                |
| August Board Meeting  | 8/24    | Final brand – logo, guidelines, destination profile                              |