

LATHROP 2005 BUSINESS SURVEY

1. How long has your business been in operation in Lathrop?

_____ Less than one yr.	_____ 7-10 yrs.
_____ 1-3 yrs.	_____ 10+ yrs.
_____ 4-6 yrs.	_____

2. How would you classify your business?

_____ Manufacturing	_____ Retail
_____ Wholesale	_____ Service
_____ Other (please list)	_____

3. How many people do you employ? _____ Full-time _____ Part-time

4. Please indicate what skill/educational levels are required of your workforce. Please write in the approximate percentage of your workforce in each of the following categories:

	Full-time	Part-time
Less than high school degree	_____	_____
High school degree	_____	_____
Technical/Trade school degree	_____	_____
Some college	_____	_____
College degree	_____	_____
Graduate degree	_____	_____

5. Do you have difficulty in hiring workers with the appropriate skills/background for your business? Yes _____ No _____

6. If yes, what positions/skills do you have the most difficulty hiring?

7. Do you have plans to expand your business or hire additional employees in the next year? Yes _____ No _____

8. What is your primary market?

_____ Lathrop	_____ Kansas City and surrounding area
_____ Missouri	_____ Throughout the United States
_____ Other (please list)	_____

9. How important were the following factors in influencing your decision to locate your business in Lathrop?

	Very Important	Somewhat Important	Slightly Important	Not Important
Labor skills and supply	_____	_____	_____	_____
Lower utility rates	_____	_____	_____	_____
Lower sales tax	_____	_____	_____	_____
Lower property tax	_____	_____	_____	_____
Lower land costs	_____	_____	_____	_____
Lower rents	_____	_____	_____	_____
Availability of land/building	_____	_____	_____	_____
Proximity to market	_____	_____	_____	_____
Proximity to highway transport	_____	_____	_____	_____
Proximity to air services	_____	_____	_____	_____
Other (list) _____	_____	_____	_____	_____

10. Please rate your business' level of satisfaction with the following services in Lathrop.

	Very satisfied	Satisfied	No opinion	Dissatisfied	Very dissatisfied
Public water	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
Public sewer	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
Street maintenance	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
Street lights	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
Law enforcement	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
Fire protection	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
Trash services	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
Internet	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
Parking	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
Other (list) _____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____

11. If dissatisfied, why?

12. Do you agree or disagree with the following statements?

	Strongly agree	Agree	No opinion	Disagree	Strongly disagree
Lathrop should remain a bedroom community.	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
Lathrop should encourage the development of luxury homes.	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
Lathrop should have a restaurant that offers fine dining and alcoholic beverages.	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
Lathrop should develop a light industrial park.	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
Lathrop should seek light industry.	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____

13. Should the City of Lathrop offer any of the following incentives to attract new business or industry?

	Yes	No	No opinion
Reduced property taxes for a limited period.	_____	_____	_____
Reduced utility rates for a limited period.	_____	_____	_____
A city-owned business park.	_____	_____	_____
Provide business incubator start-up services, such as shared accounting, secretarial, etc.	_____	_____	_____
Lathrop should work with other nearby communities to attract business/industry.	_____	_____	_____
No incentives should be provided.	_____	_____	_____

14. What types of businesses do you feel are most needed in Lathrop? Please list the top three needs.
