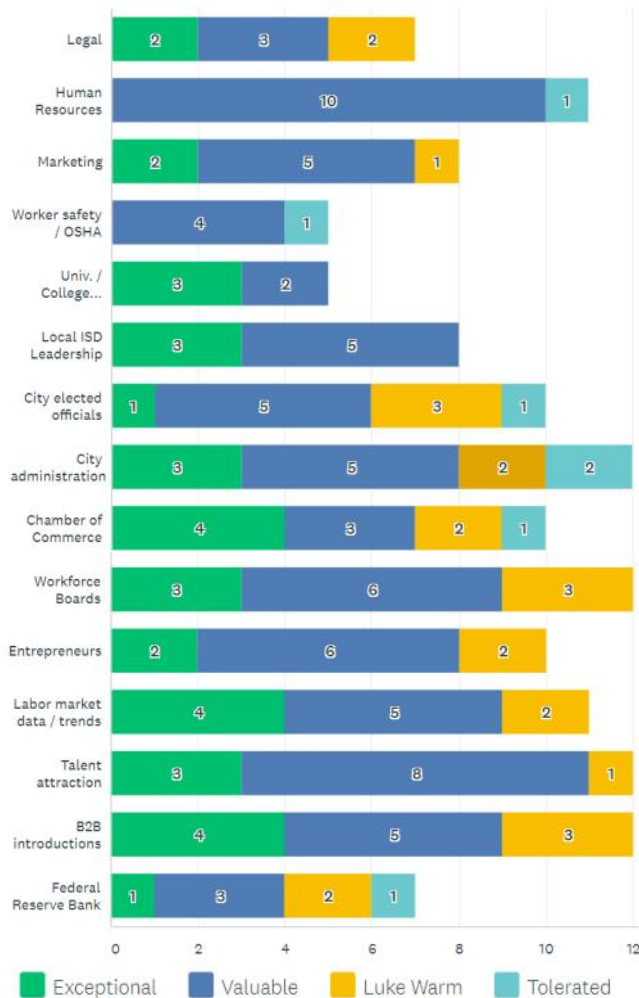


BPAP Distribution & Response: There were 15 BPAB members who provided responses for this question.

Following are results of questions asked, and additional comments, if any.

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1. How well have the following BRE "roundtable" discussions / presentations been received by your business community. (Only rate those that you have held.)



- Local business climate, workforce issues and available financial support from various E. D. programs were our key points.
- The majority of our roundtables are "non-specified topic" so that the peer group has the opportunity to ask questions, share best practices, etc. Our resource network (university, college, workforce, chamber, etc.) are always engaged to address issues as they arise. In addition, we invite a local employment attorney to attend and chime in as needed.

- Mid-year 2019 we began a county-wide ISD leadership round-table along with the leaders of our community college - very valuable to get everyone working on the same goals. We hold these bi-monthly (now on zoom). Workforce Board meetings need some help with conversation - very defensive on all sides. Round-table discussions include community events / new business recruitment & retention and lately the issues with COVID & Tornado.
- Conversations have been well received as long as we don't do too many at one time or too close together.
- Currently, we are doing zoom calls at 7 am every week with our companies to discuss supply chain, and to provide resources for any issues that they are having. We have helped them with governmental contracting to support their PPE development and continue to assist with sourcing vendors and supplies amid the supply chain disruptions. These "roundtables" are to hear from them on updates regarding their progress. Business has been steady for them, but with challenges that we have helped to deter or overcome.

2. Describe any NOT LISTED ABOVE along with positives / negatives.

- Handling Negativity on Social media - City / COC / EDC staff & leadership - was very good
- Workforce Training - Extremely Valuable
- Economic Resilience -- As a result of Hurricane Harvey, I invited a Volunteer Team from the IEDC to visit and host 10-12 focus groups in my community to identify ways for my community to enhance its "economic resilience" (i.e. ability to withstand and / or bounce back after a natural disaster and / or economic downturn). The IEDC Volunteer Team's findings and recommendations are proving to be instrumental in (1) building broad-based support for attracting and recruiting local, quality, primary jobs as opposed to only retail and service-based jobs (i.e. "economic development 101") (2) challenge the community's traditionally-held assumptions about how it will achieve long-term financial sustainability after buildout and the relationship of those assumptions to economic development, and (3) revise / update the community's economic development strategic plan.