

## A Business and Service Availability Inventory Worksheet

Knowing which goods and services are available locally and which ones are purchased outside of the community is helpful for discovering potential growth areas. The following worksheet offers a partial list of business types, and can serve as a model for an inventory of your downtown's businesses. Develop a similar worksheet for your community, thinking about all the goods and services that people need, and where they purchase them (i.e., locally, nearby or outside the region). When a service is not available locally, think about why not (for example, the community may be too small to support such a business). Once this inventory is complete, you might have some ideas about potential new businesses for the community.

| <i>Type of good or service</i> | <i>Available Locally</i> | <i>Available in a neighboring community</i> | <i>Recently closed in local or neighboring community</i> | <i>Why?</i> | <i>Not readily available</i> |
|--------------------------------|--------------------------|---|--|-------------|------------------------------|
| Accounting services            | _____                    | _____                                       | _____  | _____       | _____                        |
| Antique store                  | _____                    | _____                                       | _____  | _____       | _____                        |
| Apparel (children)             | _____                    | _____                                       | _____  | _____       | _____                        |
| Apparel (general)              | _____                    | _____                                       | _____  | _____       | _____                        |
| Apparel (men)                  | _____                    | _____                                       | _____  | _____       | _____                        |
| Apparel (women)                | _____                    | _____                                       | _____  | _____       | _____                        |
| Auto dealer                    | _____                    | _____                                       | _____  | _____       | _____                        |
| Auto & Home Store              | _____                    | _____                                       | _____  | _____       | _____                        |
| Auto repair/service            | _____                    | _____                                       | _____  | _____       | _____                        |
| Bakery                         | _____                    | _____                                       | _____  | _____       | _____                        |
| Bicycle shop                   | _____                    | _____                                       | _____  | _____       | _____                        |
| Book store                     | _____                    | _____                                       | _____  | _____       | _____                        |
| Dental services                | _____                    | _____                                       | _____  | _____       | _____                        |
| Dry cleaners                   | _____                    | _____                                       | _____  | _____       | _____                        |
| Electricians                   | _____                    | _____                                       | _____  | _____       | _____                        |
| Farm implements                | _____                    | _____                                       | _____  | _____       | _____                        |
| Feed store                     | _____                    | _____                                       | _____  | _____       | _____                        |
| Floor covering                 | _____                    | _____                                       | _____  | _____       | _____                        |