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## Can Your Community Handle the Truth?

*A Special Request from Charlie Grantham and Jim Ware*

We're paraphrasing Jack Nicholson in "A Few Good Men." The real deal is that everyone wants to think they live in "**The** Community" — or why else would they live there? But the truth is that not every community is going to be a place where innovation happens, or that attracts highly talented and motivated people, and that builds a healthy local/regional economy.

We clearly believe there are a distinctive set of characteristics that are valid predictors of a community's health and sustainability. Ron Willett's "first-person" [Note from the Field](#), above, suggests some of those characteristics. Now we'd like to encourage you to ask yourself a few questions about your own community.

So here they are (when we say "Community," we mean the geographic area within 25 miles of your home). We're interested in:

- ◆ Is traffic congestion an issue in your community?
- ◆ Do a lot of professional people live around you?
- ◆ Can you get high speed Internet connections in your community?
- ◆ Do your local public officials support changing/growing the local economy?
- ◆ Is there more than one college (community colleges included) in your community?
- ◆ Does your community have a "brand" you are proud of?

Just click the link below to go to the electronic version of this survey and provide your own answers. No hassle and less than two minutes of your time. If you complete the survey, we'll share our findings with you. And we'll summarize what we learn when the newsletter reappears in September.

[Online Survey on Community Characteristics](#)

And if you answered "Yes" to four or more of these questions, then maybe you *can* handle the truth. Give us a call and tell us more about your community.

### **About the Work Design Collaborative and *Future of Work Agenda***

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