

**Notes**

1. The templates address a range of the big tough complex issues that we face – that call for and give us a chance to model American Greatness. Racism is included, but there are a bunch more.
2. There are three action templates here – one for actions to take on big issues, one to address the critical success factors (CSFs) for such issues, and one for the natural pitfalls to deal with. Use any or all.
3. The templates are word documents, so you can edit them as you wish or cut-and-paste – and they will expand to accommodate anything you add.
4. As with all the other action templates on the site, these are intended to catch your thoughts about what you might do – they are not prescriptive.
5. Starting small is fine – the key is to develop a vision of what might be and to begin acting. Standing on the sidelines is not OK.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Tough Issues that Call for & Model American Greatness** | | |
| **Issue**  **(Add More)** | **Actions I Can Take**  **(Small is Fine)** | **Supporters/Colleagues**  **(Always Better with Others)** |
| **#1 Climate Change** |  |  |
| **#2 The revitalization of rural America** |  |  |
| **#3 Equitable income distribution and wealth** |  |  |
| **#4 Socio-political polarization & the health of democracy** |  |  |
| **#5 Racism** |  |  |
| **#6. Migration, Immigration, “Citizenship”** |  |  |
| **#7 Protecting biodiversity** |  |  |
| **#8 Technology, particularly AI** |  |  |
| **#9 Dealing with authoritarian regimes interested in ending the American experiment** |  |  |
| **#10 Sustainable economic health** |  |  |
| **#11** |  |  |
| **#12** |  |  |

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Five Critical Success Factors (CSFs)**  **(For Dealing With Any of the Big Issues)** | | |
| **CSFs** | **Readiness/Posture** | **Supporters/Colleagues** |
| **#1** Act from courage, hope, confidence, and a vision of what might be vs. fear, doubt, and insecurity |  |  |
| **#2** Focus on current responsibility and future possibility vs. guilt or shame from the past or present |  |  |
| **#3** Act from our larger selves (our best), build on strength, and discover new bests |  |  |
| **#4** Persevere, be resilient and “learn the way” as we go – must leave our comfort zones and stay out of them for a long time (we’re talking about “greatness”, not “comfort”) |  |  |
| **#5** Change and grow through being tested on multiple levels – individual, group, organizational, and community |  |  |
| **Scale**  **1** = Not ready – wrong posture  **2** = Sort of ready  **3** = Pretty much ready – not a bad  posture  **4** = Totally ready – right posture |  |  |

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Five Natural Pitfalls to Avoid**  **(In Dealing with Any of the Issues)** | | |
| **Pitfall** | **Readiness/Posture** | **Supporters/Colleagues** |
| **#1** Failing to act from courage and confidence and falling prey to fear and insecurity |  |  |
| **#2** Defending and hiding in the past vs. going forth and creating the future |  |  |
| **#3** Standing on the sideline wondering, “But, what can I do?” |  |  |
| **#4** Retreating to the sidelines when faced with disappointments, rejections, setbacks, or a lack of short-term progress |  |  |
| **#5** Failing to persevere and stay out of our comfort zone vs. creating new larger comfort zones |  |  |
| **Scale**  **1** = Not ready – wrong posture  **2** = Sort of ready  **3** = Pretty much ready – not a bad  posture  **4** = Totally ready – right posture |  |  |