

# The SAFe Proxy

### **Using Relative Estimation:**

Cost
Of
Timing Value +
Risk Reduction|Opportunity Enablement Value

**Duration** Size (in story points)

# Cost of Delay Components

- User | Business Value
  - Revenue Impact
  - Potential penalty or other negative impact?
  - They prefer this over that
- Time Criticality
  - Is there a fixed deadline?
  - Will they wait for us or move to another solution?
  - What is the current effect on customer satisfaction?
- Risk Reduction & Opportunity Enablement
  - Reduce the risk of this or future delivery?
  - Is there value in the information we will receive?
  - Enable new business opportunities?

# A Sample Model for COD

#### **Business Value**

- Growth in revenue through more effective sales activities
  - Supporting customers in their 'grow' lifecycle
  - Upsell/cross sell
- Cross business strategy
- Process simplification
  - Ease of onboarding new customers
- Profitable revenue growth
  - Volume/ARPU
- Cost savings
  - Unit cost
  - Cost to serve
  - Cost to support
- Customer Satisfaction
  - NPS

### **Timing Criticality**

- Political
  - Exec priorities
- System driven
  - Legacy system retirement
- Investment priorities
  - Financial targets
  - Funding availability
  - Early benefits
  - Customer segment growth
- Competitive positioning
  - Barrier to entry of competitors
  - First to market
  - Being well behind market
- Acquisition integration
- Customer Satisfaction
  - Conspicuous pain points
- Peak period sales

## Opportunity Enablement | Risk Reduction

- Brand enhancement
- Learning about our customers
- Simple integration
  - Future flexibility
  - Speed to market
- Customer retention
  - Retention through tighter integration
  - Reduced churn risk
- Ease of use
  - Scalability
  - Single platform for customers
- Safety
- Market
  - Market share
  - Entry to new markets
  - Ability to change market
  - Compelling offer to new subsegment



## Practice. Round 1

- You are a property development company, and have bought up some farms a couple of hours commute away from the nearest major city, bulldozed them and are planning to build a satellite city
- You will make money by building houses and shops and selling them
- You have reasonable but not excessive cash reserves, so generating cashflow will be a primary consideration
- Your market research people have identified the first 9 major development opportunities for the city and you have done enough research to have a view on potential returns and effort involved
- These opportunities are "Epics" and your goal is to apply Weighted Shortest Job First (WSJF) to prioritise them

## Instructions

- 1. Begin by reviewing all Epics as a group.
- 2. Determine the relative Risk Reduction and Opportunity Enablement value of each Epic using relative estimation ("1" is has the lowest indirect value proposition)
- 3. Determine the relative Timing Criticality of each Epic using relative estimation ("1" is the least time critical)
- 4. Determine the relative Business Value of each Epic using relative estimation. ("1" is the lowest Business Value)
- 5. Finish your maths and line the cards up from highest to lowest WSJF score.

Timebox: 35 minutes

# **Prioritising Features**

- Features are our primary vehicle of value delivery. We apply the same economic prioritisation model.
- Once features are prioritised, we can lay the priorities over our capacity forecasts to produce rolling wave roadmaps.

# Roadmap Setup

Traditionally, we maintain a rolling 3 releases



## Practice. Round 2

- Utilise a capacity of 400 points per PI
- For the first PI, ensure a roughly 50/50 capacity allocation to residential and commercial features.
- For the second and third Pl's, capacity allocation should follow common sense
- Use "best efforts" prioritization, referring to your Epics for context but applying COD and WSJF thinking to separate features at a finer grain

Timebox: 25 minutes