

ISSUES AND OPPORTUNITIES ELEMENT

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QUALITY OF LIFE

1. What are the three most important reasons for you and your family to live in Iowa County? (Because of three selections per person the totals will be greater than 100%.)

a. Agriculture	8%
b. Appearance of homes	4%
c. Community services	3%
d. Cost of home	12%
e. Historical significance	17%
f. Low crime rate	21%
g. Natural beauty	29%
h. Near family and friends	57%
i. Near job or employment opportunities	40%
j. Property taxes	2%
k. Quality neighborhoods	9%
l. Quality schools	16%
m. Recreational opportunities	2%
n. Small town atmosphere	63%

COMMUNITY FACILITIES AND SERVICES

3. Please rate each of the following services excellent (E), good (G), fair (F), or poor (P). Choose "not applicable" (NA) if the item does not pertain to you or you are not sure about an item. "NR" means No Response

	E	G	F	P	NA	NR
a. Ambulance service	67%	27%	2%	0%	2%	2%
b. Fire protection	68%	28%	1%	0%	2%	1%
c. Garbage collection	46%	46%	5%	1%	1%	1%
d. Municipal water supply	29%	47%	17%	4%	2%	1%
e. Park and recreation facilities	40%	45%	11%	1%	0%	2%
f. Police protection	24%	47%	20%	5%	1%	2%
g. Public library	39%	46%	10%	1%	1%	4%
h. Public schools system	27%	51%	12%	2%	6%	3%
i. Recycling program	30%	54%	13%	2%	1%	1%
j. Sanitary sewer service	22%	53%	16%	4%	3%	2%
k. Snow removal	25%	40%	25%	8%	0%	2%
l. Storm water management	12%	43%	24%	7%	7%	6%
m. Street and road maintenance	7%	29%	36%	27%	1%	1%

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NATURAL AND CULTURAL RESOURCES

4. The following questions ask your opinion about the importance of natural and cultural resources in your community. How important is it to protect the following?

(Your responses are Essential (E), Very Important (VI), Important (I), Not Important (NI), Not Applicable (NA) and No Response (NR).)

	E	VI	I	NI	NA	NR
a. Air quality	56%	32%	10%	1%	0%	1%
b. Farmland	36%	40%	19%	3%	0%	1%
c. Forested lands	35%	38%	22%	2%	1%	2%
d. Groundwater	63%	26%	10%	0%	0%	1%
e. Historic and cultural sites	32%	27%	31%	9%	0%	1%
f. Open space	25%	32%	34%	6%	0%	2%
g. Rivers and streams	50%	33%	15%	0%	0%	1%
h. Rural character	28%	30%	33%	6%	0%	2%
i. Scenic views and undeveloped hills/bluffs	32%	31%	28%	7%	0%	1%
j. Wetlands	33%	28%	29%	7%	1%	1%
k. Wildlife habitat	34%	30%	30%	5%	0%	1%

HOUSING

Housing is an important part of how a community grows. We would like your opinion about the development of housing in your community.

Your choices are: Strongly Agree (SA), Agree (A), Disagree (D), Strongly Disagree (SD), No Opinion (NO), and No Response (NR).

5. Your local jurisdiction should focus on improving existing housing quality.

SA	A	D	SD	NO	NR
21%	46%	13%	1%	10%	8%

6. The following types of housing are needed:

a. Single family housing

SA	A	D	SD	NO	NR
18%	41%	9%	2%	20%	9%

b. Duplexes (2 units)

SA	A	D	SD	NO	NR
10%	40%	16%	5%	22%	6%

c. Apartments (3 or more)

SA	A	D	SD	NO	NR
11%	32%	20%	8%	22%	7%

7. Affordable housing is needed in your local jurisdiction.

SA	A	D	SD	NO	NR
28%	46%	10%	2%	12%	3%

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8. Elderly housing is needed in your local jurisdiction.

SA	A	D	SD	NO	NR
17%	55%	10%	2%	13%	3%

9. Starter (first time buyer) homes are needed in your local jurisdiction.

SA	A	D	SD	NO	NR
20%	43%	16%	3%	14%	4%

10. Would you prefer housing built in a traditional design (option a) or a cluster design (option b)?

Option A (traditional design)	29%
Option B (cluster design)	57%
No response	14%

AGRICULTURE AND LAND USE

The following questions are asking for your opinion about agriculture and land use in Iowa County.

Your choices are: Strongly Agree (SA), Agree (A), Disagree (D), Strongly Disagree (SD), No Opinion (NO), and No Response (NR).

11. Productive agricultural land should be allowed to be used for:

a. Agricultural use

SA	A	D	SD	NO	NR
65%	26%	1%	0%	2%	6%

b. Residential use

SA	A	D	SD	NO	NR
4%	34%	34%	15%	3%	11%

c. Commercial use

SA	A	D	SD	NO	NR
2%	20%	38%	22%	5%	12%

d. Any use

SA	A	D	SD	NO	NR
6%	10%	31%	35%	8%	11%

12. Large scale farms (500 or more animal units) should be allowed to expand:

a. Anywhere in Iowa County

SA	A	D	SD	NO	NR
6%	16%	33%	26%	5%	14%

b. Nowhere in Iowa County

SA	A	D	SD	NO	NR
18%	10%	36%	11%	9%	16%

c. Outside a 2 mile radius of incorporated areas

SA	A	D	SD	NO	NR
15%	43%	12%	11%	9%	10%

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13. Landowners should be allowed to develop land any way they want.

SA	A	D	SD	NO	NR
11%	18%	43%	21%	4%	2%

14. The visual impacts (view of the landscape) of development are an important consideration when evaluating proposed development.

SA	A	D	SD	NO	NR
32%	53%	6%	2%	2%	4%

15. It is important to require driveways that will meet standards for providing emergency services.

SA	A	D	SD	NO	NR
29%	58%	5%	2%	4%	2%

16. There should be a minimum lot size on residential development in rural areas.

SA	A	D	SD	NO	NR
24%	43%	18%	5%	7%	2%

17. In your opinion what should be the minimum lot size for rural residential development?

Less than 1 acre	11%
One to 5 acres	45%
5 to 10 acres	11%
11 to 40 acres	10%
40 or more acres	6%
No limitation	10%
No response	6%

TRANSPORTATION

Your choices are: Strongly Agree (SA), Agree (A), Disagree (D), Strongly Disagree (SD), No Opinion (NO), and No Response (NR).

18. The overall road network (roads, streets, and highways) in Iowa County meets the needs of its citizens.

SA	A	D	SD	NO	NR
16%	71%	6%	2%	1%	3%

19. The condition of local roads and streets in your community is adequate for intended uses.

SA	A	D	SD	NO	NR
9%	52%	27%	9%	1%	3%

20. Biking and walking are important modes of transportation in your community.

SA	A	D	SD	NO	NR
13%	45%	24%	8%	6%	3%

21. There should be more biking and walking lanes along public roadways.

SA	A	D	SD	NO	NR
17%	28%	30%	14%	8%	3%

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22. Rate the following in your local jurisdiction.

Your choices are Excellent (E), Good (G), Fair (F), Poor (P), Not Applicable (NA), and No Response (NR).

	E	G	F	P	NA	NR
a. Roads	5%	50%	23%	18%	0%	3%
b. Sidewalks	1%	37%	41%	15%	3%	3%
c. Bike trails	5%	35%	24%	12%	18%	6%
d. Airports	13%	44%	13%	4%	20%	6%
e. Bus service	0%	3%	4%	26%	62%	4%
f. Shared ride van services	1%	11%	18%	15%	47%	8%
g. Railroads	0%	1%	2%	15%	77%	6%

COMMUNICATION

23. Check the two most effective ways your local jurisdiction could provide smart growth information to its landowners and residents. (Because more than one response was asked for the totals will be more than 100%.)

a. Direct mailings	59%
b. Newspaper articles	44%
c. Radio	16%
d. Newsletters	27%
e. Public meetings	34%
f. Internet	11%

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

The following questions are asking about how you view economic development in your local community.

Your choices are: Strongly Agree (SA), Agree (A), Disagree (D), Strongly Disagree (SD), No Opinion (NO), and No Response (NR).

24. Commercial or industrial buildings and activities involving truck traffic and manufacturing should be located:

a. In an existing city or village

SA	A	D	SD	NO	NR
13%	33%	24%	7%	7%	16%

b. Near a city or village

SA	A	D	SD	NO	NR
19%	55%	6%	1%	6%	12%

c. Anywhere in Iowa County

SA	A	D	SD	NO	NR
9%	15%	30%	24%	6%	17%

25. Iowa County should work to coordinate efforts to actively recruit new businesses and industry.

SA	A	D	SD	NO	NR
60%	30%	3%	0%	1%	5%

26. All Iowa County communities should provide at least some land with infrastructure (water, sewer, access, etc.) for industrial and commercial uses either owned publicly or privately.

SA	A	D	SD	NO	NR
30%	45%	11%	2%	6%	6%

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27. Development at the edge of cities and villages should be required to have municipal water and sewer services.

SA	A	D	SD	NO	NR
30%	49%	7%	1%	8%	5%

28. Iowa County jurisdictions should pursue the following energy alternatives as a form of economic development.

	SA	A	D	SD	NO	NR
a. Ethanol plants	14%	33%	18%	6%	16%	13%
b. Solar energy	22%	46%	7%	2%	11%	12%
c. Wind energy	38%	42%	4%	1%	7%	7%

29. Rate the importance of the following.

Your choices are Essential (E), Very Important (VI), Important (I), Not Important (NI), No Opinion (NO), and No Response (NR).

	E	VI	I	NI	NO	NR
a. Agricultural related businesses	38%	35%	18%	1%	2%	5%
b. Commercial and retail development	32%	43%	18%	1%	1%	5%
c. Downtown development – main street	30%	32%	28%	5%	1%	4%
d. Home based businesses	12%	24%	35%	17%	7%	5%
e. Industrial and manufacturing development	33%	37%	20%	4%	2%	5%
f. Tourism and recreation	38%	30%	23%	4%	1%	4%

DEMOGRAPHICS

Please tell us some things about you:

1. Gender	
Male	53%
Female	39%
No response	8%
2. Age	
18 to 24	0%
25 to 34	9%
35 to 44	19%
45 to 54	25%
55 to 64	22%
65 and older	25%
No response	0%

3. Employment status	
a. Employed full time	49%
b. Employed part time	6%
c. Unemployed	0%
d. Self-employed	17%
e. Retired	23%
f. Other	4%
g. No response	0%

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4. Place of residence	
a. Own	95%
b. Rent	3%
c. Other	0%
d. No response	1%

5. Number of adults (over 18) in household	
a. None	4%
b. One	19%
c. Two	70%
d. Three	4%
e. Four	1%
f. Five or more	0%
g. No response	1%

6. Number of children (under 18) in household	
a. None	61%
b. One	13%
c. Two	11%
d. Three	5%
e. Four	2%
f. Five or more	1%
g. No response	8%

7. Income range	
a. Less than \$15,000	5%
b. \$15,000 to \$24,999	14%
c. \$25,000 to \$49,999	31%
d. \$50,000 to \$74,999	31%
e. \$75,000 to \$99,999	8%
f. \$100,000 or more	7%
g. No response	5%

8. How long have you lived in Iowa County?	
a. Less than 1 year	2%
b. 1 to 4 years	12%
c. 5 to 9 years	8%
d. 10 to 24 years	16%
e. 25 years or more	61%
f. No response	1%

9. How many acres of land do you own in Iowa County?	
a. Less than 1 acre	67%
b. 1 to 10 acres	19%
c. 11 to 100 acres	4%
d. 100 acres or more	7%
e. No response	2%

END OF SUMMARY