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IOWA COUNTY SMART GROWTH PUBLIC OPINION SURVEY

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	17%
b. Appearance of homes	2%
c. Community services	7%
d. Cost of services	26%
e. Historical significance	4%
f. Low crime rate	24%
g. Natural beauty	20%
h. Near family and friends	48%
i. Near job or employment opportunities	17%
j. Property taxes	11%
k. Quality neighborhood	17%
l. Quality schools	13%
m. Recreational opportunities	2%
n. Small town atmosphere	65%

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	61%	35%	2%	0%	0%	2%
b. Fire Protection	67%	28%	2%	0%	0%	3%
c. Garbage collection	57%	30%	11%	0%	2%	0%
d. Municipal water supply	50%	35%	15%	0%	0%	0%
e. Park and recreation facilities	35%	54%	9%	0%	0%	2%
f. Police protection	22%	37%	26%	13%	0%	2%
g. Public library	59%	32%	7%	0%	0%	2%
h. Public school system	35%	50%	11%	2%	0%	2%
i. Recycling program	35%	41%	15%	4%	2%	3%
j. Sanitary sewer service	41%	48%	9%	2%	0%	0%
k. Snow removal	28%	52%	13%	4%	2%	1%
l. Storm water management	11%	58%	22%	4%	2%	3%
m. Street and road maintenance	13%	41%	30%	15%	0%	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	54%	26%	17%	0%	0%	3%
b. Farmland	37%	30%	26%	4%	0%	3%
c. Forested lands	30%	37%	28%	0%	0%	5%
d. Groundwater	52%	26%	20%	0%	0%	2%
e. Historic and cultural sites	22%	30%	35%	9%	0%	4%
f. Open space	26%	39%	24%	7%	0%	4%
g. Rivers and streams	48%	37%	13%	0%	0%	2%
h. Rural character	28%	41%	20%	7%	0%	4%
i. Scenic views and undeveloped hills/bluffs	38%	40%	18%	2%	0%	2%
j. Wetlands	33%	30%	26%	4%	2%	2%
k. Wildlife habitat	33%	39%	20%	7%	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
17%	48%	13%	4%	4%	14%

6. The following types of housing are needed:

a. Single family housing

SA	A	D	SD	NO	NR
24%	48%	11%	2%	6%	9%

b. Duplexes (2 units)

SA	A	D	SD	NO	NR
11%	43%	22%	7%	13%	4%

c. Apartments (3 or more)

SA	A	D	SD	NO	NR
11%	32%	26%	9%	15%	7%

7. Affordable housing is needed in your local jurisdiction.

SA	A	D	SD	NO	NR
24%	30%	28%	0%	7%	11%

8. Elderly housing is needed in your local jurisdiction.

SA	A	D	SD	NO	NR
26%	54%	9%	2%	4%	5%

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

SA	A	D	SD	NO	NR
24%	41%	22%	4%	4%	5%

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

Option A (traditional design)	17%
Option B (cluster design)	63%
No response	20%

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
72%	22%	0%	0%	2%	4%

b. Residential use

SA	A	D	SD	NO	NR
4%	20%	37%	15%	4%	20%

c. Commercial use

SA	A	D	SD	NO	NR
4%	20%	46%	13%	2%	15%

d. Any use

SA	A	D	SD	NO	NR
7%	15%	33%	26%	2%	17%

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

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

a. Anywhere in Iowa County

SA	A	D	SD	NO	NR
13%	7%	39%	26%	7%	8%

b. Nowhere in Iowa County

SA	A	D	SD	NO	NR
9%	13%	41%	13%	7%	17%

c. Outside a 2 mile radius of incorporated areas

SA	A	D	SD	NO	NR
17%	33%	22%	11%	9%	8%

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

SA	A	D	SD	NO	NR
4%	9%	50%	26%	7%	4%

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

SA	A	D	SD	NO	NR
35%	50%	2%	7%	2%	4%

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

SA	A	D	SD	NO	NR
50%	48%	0%	0%	0%	2%

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

SA	A	D	SD	NO	NR
37%	33%	20%	2%	7%	1%

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

Less than 1 acre	17%
One to 5 acres	41%
5 to 10 acres	13%
11 to 40 acres	4%
40 or more acres	15%
No limitation	4%
No response	4%

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
7%	72%	11%	7%	2%	1%

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

SA	A	D	SD	NO	NR
7%	65%	20%	7%	0%	1%

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

SA	A	D	SD	NO	NR
9%	52%	22%	4%	11%	2%

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

SA	A	D	SD	NO	NR
13%	44%	30%	11%	0%	2%

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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	4%	61%	24%	11%	0%	0%
b. Sidewalks	0%	65%	26%	7%	0%	2%
c. Bike trails	0%	13%	15%	24%	41%	7%
d. Airports	0%	9%	2%	11%	70%	8%
e. Bus service	0%	2%	2%	20%	67%	9%
f. Shared ride van services	0%	0%	4%	31%	59%	6%
g. Railroads	0%	0%	2%	20%	72%	8%

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	52%
c. Radio	13%
d. Newsletters	22%
e. Public Meetings	43%
f. Internet	13%

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
7%	41%	13%	7%	13%	19%

b. Near a city or village

SA	A	D	SD	NO	NR
11%	49%	9%	0%	11%	20%

c. Anywhere in Iowa County

SA	A	D	SD	NO	NR
11%	49%	9%	0%	11%	20%

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

SA	A	D	SD	NO	NR
39%	37%	11%	0%	4%	9%

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
24%	37%	20%	0%	11%	8%

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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
24%	39%	11%	0%	15%	11%

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	20%	39%	9%	2%	15%	15%
b. Solar energy	35%	35%	7%	0%	11%	12%
c. Wind energy	35%	43%	2%	0%	7%	13%

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	43%	35%	11%	2%	4%	5%
b. Commercial and retail development	20%	34%	35%	2%	2%	7%
c. Downtown development – Main Street	24%	35%	30%	2%	2%	7%
d. Home based businesses	9%	30%	28%	22%	4%	7%
e. Industrial manufacturing / development	13%	30%	43%	4%	2%	8%
f. Tourism and recreation	24%	28%	26%	11%	4%	7%

DEMOGRAPHICS

Please tell us some things about you:

1. Gender	
Male	43%
Female	43%
No response	14%
2. Age	
18 to 24	2%
25 to 34	2%
35 to 44	20%
45 to 54	30%
54 to 64	20%
65 and older	24%
No response	2%

3. Employment status	
a. Employed full time	41%
b. Employed part time	11%
c. Unemployed	2%
d. Self-employed	20%
e. Retired	20%
f. Other	4%
	2%
g. No response	41%

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4. Place of residence	
a. Own	91%
b. Rent	5%
c. Other	0%
d. No response	4%

5. Number of adults (over 18) in household	
a. None	0%
b. One	26%
c. Two	65%
d. Three	7%
e. Four	0%
f. Five or more	0%
g. No response	12%

6. Number of children (under 18) in household	
a. None	72%
b. One	9%
c. Two	11%
d. Three	2%
e. Four	0%
f. Five or more	0%
g. No response	6%

7. Income range	
a. Less than \$15,000	15%
b. \$15,000 to \$24,999	11%
c. \$25,000 to \$49,999	28%
d. \$50,000 to \$74,999	26%
e. \$75,000 to \$99,999	9%
f. \$100,000 or more	7%
g. No response	4%

8. How long have you lived in Iowa County?	
a. Less than 1 year	2%
b. 1 to 4 years	13%
c. 5 to 9 years	9%
d. 10 to 24 years	22%
e. 25 years or more	43%
f. No response	11%

9. How many acres of land do you own in Iowa County?	
a. Less than 1 acre	65%
b. 1 to 10 acres	15%
c. 11 to 100 acres	4%
d. 100 acres or more	2%
e. No response	14%

END OF SUMMARY