

IOWA COUNTY SMART GROWTH PUBLIC OPINION SURVEY
Town of Eden

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	46%
b. Appearance of homes	0%
c. Community service	0%
d. Cost of home	8%
e. Historical significance	3%
f. Low crime rate	11%
g. Natural beauty	54%
h. Near family and friends	57%
i. Near job or employment opportunities	17%
j. Property taxes	10%
k. Quality neighborhood	11%
l. Quality of schools	13%
m. Recreational opportunities	19%
n. Small town atmosphere	41%

COMMUNITY FACILITIES AND SERVICES

3. Please rate each of the following services excellent, good, fair, or poor. 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	40%	41%	2%	0%	6%	10%
b. Fire protection	51%	33%	3%	0%	3%	9%
c. Garbage collection	5%	25%	13%	8%	41%	8%
d. Municipal water supply	2%	11%	7%	2%	65%	9%
e. Park and recreation facilities	33%	51%	6%	0%	5%	5%
f. Police protection	10%	59%	16%	5%	3%	6%
g. Public library	10%	49%	17%	2%	14%	8%
h. Public school system	16%	52%	5%	0%	16%	11%
i. Recycling program	6%	52%	13%	13%	11%	5%
j. Sanitary sewer service	3%	19%	5%	0%	62%	11%
k. Snow removal	14%	60%	10%	2%	10%	5%
l. Storm water management	3%	19%	14%	2%	51%	11%
m. Street and road maintenance	11%	47%	21%	3%	3%	5%

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%	22%	22%	2%	0%	0%
b. Farmland	46%	29%	21%	5%	0%	0%
c. Forested lands	40%	33%	24%	3%	0%	0%
d. Groundwater	68%	19%	13%	0%	0%	0%
e. Historic and cultural sites	19%	27%	51%	2%	0%	2%
f. Open space	33%	35%	19%	10%	0%	3%
g. Rivers and streams	51%	37%	11%	2%	0%	0%
h. Rural character	35%	40%	19%	6%	0%	0%
i. Scenic views and undeveloped hills/bluffs	33%	37%	24%	6%	0%	0%
j. Wetlands	43%	21%	29%	8%	0%	0%
k. Wildlife habitat	40%	38%	21%	2%	0%	0%

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
14%	41%	11%	5%	21%	8%

6. The following types of housing are needed:

a. Single family housing

SA	A	D	SD	NO	NR
3%	37%	8%	6%	33%	13%

b. Duplexes (2 units)

SA	A	D	SD	NO	NR
11%	11%	16%	6%	37%	19%

c. Apartments (3 or more)

SA	A	D	SD	NO	NR
6%	14%	21%	6%	35%	17%

7. Affordable housing is needed in your local jurisdiction.

SA	A	D	SD	NO	NR
16%	37%	16%	6%	14%	9%

8. Elderly housing is needed in your local jurisdiction.

SA	A	D	SD	NO	NR
13%	22%	17%	5%	30%	12%

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

SA	A	D	SD	NO	NR
5%	29%	21%	3%	30%	13%

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

Option A (traditional design)	16%
Option B (cluster design)	67%
No response	17%

AGRICULTURE AND LAND USE

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

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

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

a. Agricultural use

SA	A	D	SD	NO	NR
73%	22%	0%	2%	0%	3%

b. Residential use

SA	A	D	SD	NO	NR
10%	19%	29%	25%	6%	11%

c. Commercial use

SA	A	D	SD	NO	NR
3%	17%	25%	38%	5%	11%

d. Any use

SA	A	D	SD	NO	NR
5%	3%	19%	46%	11%	16%

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%	27%	21%	33%	3%	9%

b. Nowhere in Iowa County

SA	A	D	SD	NO	NR
19%	6%	22%	37%	5%	11%

c. Outside a 2 mile radius of incorporated areas

SA	A	D	SD	NO	NR
13%	30%	8%	24%	14%	11%

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

SA	A	D	SD	NO	NR
8%	21%	38%	27%	2%	5%

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%	48%	10%	3%	2%	3%

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

SA	A	D	SD	NO	NR
32%	57%	6%	0%	3%	2%

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

SA	A	D	SD	NO	NR
27%	49%	17%	2%	3%	2%

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

Less than 1 acre	5%
One to 5 acres	29%
6 to 10 acres	10%
11 to 40 acres	11%
40 or more acres	27%
No limitation	11%
No response	8%

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
14%	75%	3%	0%	3%	5%

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

SA	A	D	SD	NO	NR
13%	73%	8%	0%	2%	5%

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

SA	A	D	SD	NO	NR
3%	37%	22%	14%	16%	8%

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

SA	A	D	SD	NO	NR
11%	32%	22%	14%	14%	6%

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	27%	59%	8%	0%	0%	6%
b. Sidewalks	2%	19%	8%	2%	62%	7%
c. Bike trails	2%	14%	13%	6%	57%	8%
d. Airports	3%	21%	16%	2%	51%	8%
e. Bus service	0%	3%	2%	14%	71%	9%
f. Shared ride van services	0%	5%	5%	13%	67%	11%
g. Railroads	0%	3%	0%	6%	81%	9%

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%.)

Direct mailings	60%
Newspaper articles	37%
Radio	17%
Newsletters	41%
Public meetings	32%
Internet	8%

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

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

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

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

a. In an existing city or village

SA	A	D	SD	NO	NR
32%	30%	14%	2%	6%	16%

b. Near a city or village

SA	A	D	SD	NO	NR
17%	56%	6%	0%	6%	14%

c. Anywhere in Iowa County

SA	A	D	SD	NO	NR
8%	6%	29%	30%	8%	19%

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

SA	A	D	SD	NO	NR
38%	43%	6%	3%	2%	8%

26. All Iowa 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
11%	48%	18%	8%	8%	8%

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
22%	38%	14%	2%	14%	10%

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	16%	27%	11%	8%	24%	14%
b. Solar energy	25%	38%	10%	3%	13%	11%
c. Wind energy	33%	41%	6%	2%	8%	10%

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	49%	32%	13%	0%	2%	5%
b. Commercial and retail development	21%	37%	32%	3%	2%	5%
c. Downtown development -- main street	17%	37%	32%	5%	5%	5%
d. Home based businesses	2%	25%	33%	21%	11%	8%
e. Industrial and manufacturing development	11%	35%	33%	6%	3%	11%
f. Tourism and recreation	24%	32%	35%	5%	0%	5%

DEMOGRAPHICS

Please tell us some things about you:

1. Gender	
Male	56%
Female	33%
No response	8%

2. Age	
18 to 24	0%
25 to 34	0%
35 to 44	8%
45 to 54	35%
55 to 64	25%
65 and older	25%
No response	6%

3. Employment status	
Employed Full Time	37%
Employed Part Time	11%
Unemployed	2%
Self Employed	22%
Retired	21%
Other response	2%
No response	6%

4. Place of residence	
Own	97%
Rent	0%
Other	3%
No response	0%

5. Number of adults (over 18) in household	
None	2%
One	14%
Two	60%
Three	14%
Four	6%
Five or more	0%
No response	3%

6. Number of children (under 18) in household	
None	65%
One	10%
Two	10%
Three	2%
Four	2%
Five or more	0%
No response	13%

7. Income range	
Less than \$15,000	0%
\$15,000 to \$24,999	10%
\$25,000 to \$49,999	37%
\$50,000 to \$74,999	24%
\$75,000 to \$99,999	14%
\$100,000 or more	11%
\$100,000 or more	5%

8. How long have you lived in Iowa County?	
Less than 1 year	2%
1 to 4 years	3%
5 to 9 years	16%
10 to 24 years	14%
25 years or more	57%
No response	8%

9. How many acres of land do you own in Iowa County?	
Less than 1 acre	5%
1 to 10 acres	17%
11 to 100 acres	29%
100 acres or more	48%
No response	2%

END OF SUMMARY