

IOWA COUNTY SMART GROWTH PUBLIC OPINION SURVEY
Village of Cobb

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	8%
c. Community services	8%
d. Cost of home	18%
e. Historical significance	0%
f. Low crime rate	18%
g. Natural beauty	12%
h. Near family and friends	63%
i. Near job or employment opportunities	47%
j. Property taxes	6%
k. Quality neighborhoods	10%
l. Quality schools	41%
m. Recreational opportunities	2%
n. Small town atmosphere	51%

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	37%	47%	10%	0%	2%	4%
b. Fire protection	53%	41%	2%	0%	0%	4%
c. Garbage collection	35%	61%	4%	0%	0%	0%
d. Municipal water supply	16%	63%	16%	4%	0%	0%
e. Park and recreation facilities	29%	61%	6%	0%	0%	4%
f. Police protection	10%	35%	35%	6%	10%	4%
g. Public library	27%	47%	20%	4%	2%	0%
h. Public schools system	31%	65%	2%	0%	0%	2%
i. Recycling program	20%	69%	8%	0%	2%	0%
j. Sanitary sewer service	20%	76%	4%	0%	0%	0%
k. Snow removal	22%	65%	6%	2%	0%	4%
l. Storm water management	12%	57%	14%	4%	4%	8%
m. Street and road maintenance	16%	69%	8%	4%	0%	2%

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	43%	41%	14%	0%	0%	2%
b. Farmland	27%	51%	16%	4%	0%	2%
c. Forested lands	20%	41%	29%	2%	4%	4%
d. Groundwater	59%	27%	10%	2%	0%	2%
e. Historic and cultural sites	10%	20%	57%	8%	2%	2%
f. Open space	14%	41%	37%	4%	2%	2%
g. Rivers and streams	35%	39%	20%	2%	2%	2%
h. Rural character	18%	45%	27%	4%	0%	6%
i. Scenic views and undeveloped hills/bluffs	18%	41%	31%	8%	0%	2%
j. Wetlands	18%	22%	41%	14%	2%	2%
k. Wildlife habitat	20%	45%	27%	6%	0%	2%

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
10%	35%	22%	0%	18%	14%

6. The following types of housing are needed:

a. Single family housing

SA	A	D	SD	NO	NR
16%	53%	10%	0%	16%	4%

b. Duplexes (2 units)

SA	A	D	SD	NO	NR
10%	37%	29%	2%	16%	6%

c. Apartments (3 or more)

SA	A	D	SD	NO	NR
8%	24%	39%	4%	14%	10%

7. Affordable housing is needed in your local jurisdiction.

SA	A	D	SD	NO	NR
24%	41%	24%	0%	10%	0%

8. Elderly housing is needed in your local jurisdiction.

SA	A	D	SD	NO	NR
24%	27%	37%	0%	12%	0%

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

SA	A	D	SD	NO	NR
12%	35%	35%	0%	14%	4%

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

Option A (traditional design)	31%
Option B (cluster design)	53%
No response	16%

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
61%	31%	2%	0%	0%	6%

b. Residential use

SA	A	D	SD	NO	NR
4%	39%	31%	10%	6%	10%

c. Commercial use

SA	A	D	SD	NO	NR
0%	37%	31%	18%	4%	10%

d. Any use

SA	A	D	SD	NO	NR
6%	8%	27%	35%	14%	10%

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
10%	8%	45%	22%	6%	8%

b. Nowhere in Iowa County

SA	A	D	SD	NO	NR
8%	16%	37%	20%	8%	10%

c. Outside a 2 mile radius of incorporated areas

SA	A	D	SD	NO	NR
33%	39%	12%	6%	2%	8%

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

SA	A	D	SD	NO	NR
10%	20%	49%	14%	0%	6%

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

SA	A	D	SD	NO	NR
24%	61%	8%	0%	4%	2%

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

SA	A	D	SD	NO	NR
33%	57%	4%	0%	4%	2%

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

SA	A	D	SD	NO	NR
24%	45%	12%	6%	10%	2%

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

Less than 1 acre	16%
One to 5 acres	31%
5 to 10 acres	6%
11 to 40 acres	8%
40 or more acres	14%
No limitation	16%
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
8%	73%	14%	0%	2%	2%

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

SA	A	D	SD	NO	NR
12%	76%	10%	0%	0%	2%

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

SA	A	D	SD	NO	NR
10%	41%	29%	6%	12%	2%

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

SA	A	D	SD	NO	NR
6%	39%	37%	8%	8%	2%

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	14%	73%	8%	2%	0%	2%
b. Sidewalks	6%	55%	20%	6%	10%	2%
c. Bike trails	0%	16%	12%	16%	51%	4%
d. Airports	0%	14%	10%	4%	67%	4%
e. Bus service	2%	10%	2%	12%	69%	4%
f. Shared ride van services	0%	4%	12%	18%	59%	6%
g. Railroads	0%	2%	2%	6%	88%	2%

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, the totals will be more than 100%.)

a. Direct mailings	47%
b. Newspaper articles	49%
c. Radio	30%
d. Newsletters	38%
e. Public meetings	32%
f. Internet	6%

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
8%	41%	33%	0%	12%	6%

b. Near a city or village

SA	A	D	SD	NO	NR
8%	59%	6%	2%	12%	10%

c. Anywhere in Iowa County

SA	A	D	SD	NO	NR
8%	20%	39%	4%	18%	10%

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

SA	A	D	SD	NO	NR
47%	47%	0%	0%	2%	2%

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
22%	45%	14%	2%	12%	4%

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%	51%	16%	0%	6%	2%

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	10%	33%	20%	6%	22%	8%
b. Solar energy	18%	41%	12%	2%	18%	8%
c. Wind energy	39%	51%	4%	0%	4%	2%

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	41%	33%	24%	0%	0%	2%
b. Commercial and retail development	18%	39%	29%	6%	4%	4%
c. Downtown development – main street	16%	31%	41%	8%	2%	2%
d. Home based businesses						
e. Industrial and manufacturing development	8%	22%	37%	18%	8%	6%
f. Tourism and recreation	14%	45%	24%	4%	10%	2%
	22%	37%	27%	6%	6%	2%

DEMOGRAPHICS

Please tell us some things about you:

1. Gender	
Male	45%
Female	53%
No response	2%
2. Age	
18 to 24	0%
25 to 34	14%
35 to 44	14%
45 to 54	14%
55 to 64	24%
65 and older	29%
No response	4%

3. Employment status	
a. Employed full time	47%
b. Employed part time	12%
c. Unemployed	0%
d. Self-employed	10%
e. Retired	24%
f. Other	6%
g. No response	0%

4. Place of residence	
a. Own	100%
b. Rent	0%
c. Other	0%
d. No response	0%

5. Number of adults (over 18) in household	
a. None	4%
b. One	35%
c. Two	55%
d. Three	6%
e. Four	0%
f. Five or more	0%
g. No response	0%

6. Number of children (under 18) in household	
a. None	67%
b. One	14%
c. Two	8%
d. Three	8%
e. Four	0%
f. Five or more	0%
g. No response	2%

7. Income range	
a. Less than \$15,000	10%
b. \$15,000 to \$24,999	20%
c. \$25,000 to \$49,999	39%
d. \$50,000 to \$74,999	18%
e. \$75,000 to \$99,999	8%
f. \$100,000 or more	0%
g. No response	4%

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	4%
d. 10 to 24 years	14%
e. 25 years or more	67%
f. No response	0%

9. How many acres of land do you own in Iowa County?	
a. Less than 1 acre	84%
b. 1 to 10 acres	8%
c. 11 to 100 acres	2%
d. 100 acres or more	2%
e. No response	4%

END OF SUMMARY