

POLK COUNTY COMMUNITY SURVEY RESULTS COUNTY BOARD/DEPT HEADS – QUESTION 3

May 15, 2007

WHERE DO WE WANT TO GO? Preferred future. What does Polk County's preferred future look like?

Polk County 2022

- Light rail to MSP
- Strong business climate
- Well planned development
- Lots of green space
- Great roads
- Excellent healthcare
- Farmland preservation and strong ag
- Safe environment
- Very healthy Polk County family including college kids
- Schools – Elementary, High school, Vocational School, U of Polk County, Research Center
- Clean air, clean water, woodlands preserved

GOLD GROUP (Gail)

- Public infrastructure
- Rail/airport
- Light rail – connected to Twin Cities – Duluth line.
- Transportation
- Well maintained roads
- Expressways
- Highway & recycle campus
- Zoning
- Zones of industry, retail, housing, farming
- Housing developments 1 acre, green space, central well, sewer, heat, electric
- Housing communities
- Larger subdivisions
- Green space
- Preserved “rural” character
- Environmental thinking
- Restored Agriculture
- Web access in all homes
- Larger OR additional schools – tech schools?
- UW and WITC facility and campus
- Small business centers
- Shopping centers
- Retail/commercial
- Quality recreation and hospitality
- Entertainment
- Stables/wine
- Center of culture events
- Resort area
- Park land useable by public
- Lakes and streams useable by public
- Lakes & rivers with public parcels dotting shoreline, purchased from landowners by city and towns

- Retirement paradise
- Retired population
- Self-employed tele-commuting
- More industry?
- Good economy

RED GROUP (Pat Schmidt)

- Increased recreational opportunities
- Maintain recreational nature
- Multi-use trail system. Bike/run/ATV/hike/snowmobile
- Green spaces
- Clean & healthy water
- Rivers
- Lakes
- Developed lakes and rivers
- Clean and healthy lakes
- Clean water
- Clean/clear lakes and rivers
- Healthy woodland – look at the large tracts of woodland – trophy bucks everywhere
- Large tracts of woodland
- Forrest
- Trophy bucks everywhere
- Lots of woods
- Farmers/Farming – large tracts of farm land, farms, reduced farm #, green things – not brown things
- Attractive communities
- Communities = homes, small retail
- Concentrated Development – not scattered
- Well-kept houses
- Many people
- Good roads
- Roads in great shape
- Hwy 8 4-lane
- Hwy 35 3-lanes N & S
- Clean energy – after Pat announces flying over Polk Co – wind & solar powered homes and businesses, factories are not polluting – put smokestacks, vehicles are hydrogen powered or using some other pollution free energy source
- No smoke coming out of factories
- Wind & solar powering homes and businesses
- Vehicles powered by pollution free energy
- Vital Economy – stewardess – were flying over Polk County tell us what you see
- Opportunities for individual initiative not barriers
- Economic Vitality
- Shopping centers with big box stores
- No crime

(Keith)

- Planned transportation
- All roads paved/good condition
- Roads – layout
- Good roads – no freeways
- Quality lifestyle
- Recreation oriented
- Scenic paths for biking, walking

- Green space, parks, state, fed., city and county
- Larger parks
- Healthy tourism
- Tourism promoted
- Arts theatre
- Teen centers
- Quality environment
- Cleaner lakes and rivers
- Clean lakes, rivers
- Affordable health care
- Protecting farm land
- Agriculture and farms
- Farm fields
- Good planning
- Planned housing areas – green spaces around these
- Limit housing developments
- Subdivisions – well layout
- Effective zoning
- Rural lifestyle
- Cleanliness/tidy
- City to rural tran. areas
- Good: utilities
- Effective and efficient govt.
- Proactive county govt.
- Good: emergency services
- Reasonable taxes
- Good: schools
- Vibrant economy
- Good employment opportunity
- Better paying jobs
- Vibrant economy
- Healthy downtowns

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- Hospitals
- Up to date schools – no fences
- Good highways and rail to Twin Cities
- Contained commercial areas – good asst., easy access
- Infrastructure is limited to centralized towns (i.e. St. Croix Falls)
- Clean streets (no slums/crime)
- Planned community projects
- Well planned housing projects
- Open area housing (no Woodbury)
- Recreational areas with minimal human influence
- Continued care for elderly
- Green – trees/parks
- Rolling fields & farmlands remain abundant
- Environmental preservation
- Clean environment
- Clean lakes, rivers, and streams
- Expanded education
- Extended education facility
- Total educational opportunities
- Good jobs
- Opportunity for our young people

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- Strong business climate
- Have good jobs
- Thriving businesses
- More attorneys
- Viable agriculture
- Multifaceted transportation system
- Mass transit hub
- Roads well planned
- Improved highway maintenance to accommodate commuters
- Diverse methods transportation
- Preserve natural resources
- Preserve farmland
- Forest and lakes protected
- Clean environment
- Water good for all to drink
- Preserve our lakes
- Well planned development
- "Green" space corridors
- "Cluster" housing
- Planned growth
- Green space
- Strong educational system
- University
- Strong schools
- Healthy citizens
- Good health care for all
- Research health facility
- Keep quality of life as is
- Progressive policies
- Safe environment
- High tech industry – high wages