

Charlevoix County

Future Land Use Plan Survey

Results

Online Survey posted on County website from June 11, 2015 – July 31, 2015

1. Prime farmland and forests have economic value because these lands are used to grow crops, raise livestock, and harvest timber. However, there are times when a farmer or forester doesn't earn enough money to continue farming or forestry activities, and they may consider using their property for a different purpose or selling it. Thinking about the economic value of farmland and forests, which statement below best describes your views? (Please select only one (1) option below.)

A. 36.5%	31
B. 12.9%	11
C. 38.8%	33
D. 11.8%	10

Total	85

- A. Prime farmland and forestland should be protected from conversion to other land uses (i.e., homes or businesses) through tax incentives and other government programs.
- B. Let the market determine how much land is used for farming and forestry activities.
- C. My views are in between A. and B., but I lean more toward A.
- D. My views are in between A. and B., but I lean more toward B.

2. In what overall direction do you think Charlevoix County should move in the future? (Please select only one (1) option below.)

A. 14.1%	12
B. 17.6%	15
C. 61.2%	52
D. 7.1%	6

Total	85

- A. Expand business and industry
- B. Increase marketing, tourism and recreation
- C. Both A. and B.
- D. No change - keep things the way they are now

3. Would you like to see Charlevoix County's towns expand to become larger cities, with a greater variety of businesses and housing styles, or keep their current small town character? (Please select only one (1) option below.)

A. 27.1%	23
B. 72.9%	62

Total	85

- A. Expand to become larger cities
- B. Keep their small town character

4. **Should businesses and residences be able to locate next to (or above and below) each other (such as shops and restaurants on the first floor, office space on the second floor, and residences on the third floor) or should they be kept separate (i.e., only have businesses downtown with a residential neighborhood nearby, but separate)?** *(Please select only one (1) option below.)*

A. 60.0%	51
B. 8.2%	7
C. 31.8%	27

Total	85

- A. Allow businesses and residences to be mixed together, if compatible
- B. Primarily keep businesses and residential areas separated
- C. A little of both – mixed uses in some areas and separate in other areas

5. **New residential development should be allowed to locate** *(Please select only one (1) option below.)*

A. 38.1%	32
B. 2.4%	2
C. 59.5%	50

Total	84

- A. Primarily in existing towns (cities, villages, more urban areas)
- B. Primarily in undeveloped rural areas
- C. In existing towns and rural areas

6. **Do you think there is a need for more and/or different types of housing (residences) in the county (i.e., apartments/condos, single family homes, etc.)?**

A. 82.1%	69
B. 17.9%	15

Total	84

- A. Yes
- B. No

*If you answered “yes” to Question #6, please continue to Question #7.
If you answered “no” to Question #6, please skip to Question #8.*

A. 49.3%	34
B. 53.6%	37
C. 24.6%	17
D. 56.5%	39
E. 27.5%	19
F. 56.5%	39
G. 47.8%	33

Total*	69

* Percentages will not total 100% because more than one (1) option could be selected

7. **What types of housing do we need more of? Please check all that apply.**

- A. ___ Apartment buildings or complexes (efficiency or 1, 2 or 3-bedroom rental units)
- B. ___ Individual apartments (i.e., above a business or within a house)
- C. ___ Condominiums (owned)
- D. ___ Single-family homes
- E. ___ Duplexes
- F. ___ “Granny flats” (additional living space separate from and often located behind a single-family home, usually for a senior family member who can no longer live alone, or a son or daughter in college, or a guest house)
- G. ___ Senior living centers or communities (independent and assisted living)

8. For residences and businesses, would you prefer to see new construction or remodeling and reuse of existing structures? (Please select only one (1) option below.)

A.	2.4%	2
B.	38.8%	33
C.	58.8%	50

Total		85

- A. Primarily new construction
- B. Primarily remodeling and reuse of existing structures
- C. Both A. and B.

9. If lot sizes were smaller in some areas, placing homes, businesses and other services closer together, would you use non-motorized transportation (i.e., walk or bike) more frequently as opposed to driving?

A.	72.3%	60
B.	27.7%	23

Total		83

- A. Yes
- B. No

10. What forms of transportation are important to you? Please check all that apply.

A.	95.3%	81
B.	68.2%	58
C.	84.7%	72
D.	37.6%	32
E.	15.3%	13
F.	30.6%	26
G.	31.8%	27

Total*		85

* Percentages will not total 100% because more than one (1) option could be selected

- A. ___ Automobile
- B. ___ Bicycling
- C. ___ Walking
- D. ___ Public bus
- E. ___ Taxi service
- F. ___ Ferry service
- G. ___ Air service

<i>Ranked from most important to least important:</i>	
1.	Automobile
2.	Walking
3.	Bicycling
4.	Public bus
5.	Air service
6.	Ferry service
7.	Taxi service

11. When government leaders make planning and development decisions in the community, they should involve citizens (Please select only one (1) option below.)

A.	27.4%	23
B.	70.2%	59
C.	2.4%	2

Total		84

- A. About the same as they do now
- B. More
- C. Less

- A. 73.8% **62**
- B. 40.5% **34**
- C. 35.7% **30**
- D. 44.0% **37**
- E. 59.5% **50**
- F. 31.0% **26**
- G. 39.3% **33**
- H. 15.5% **13**

 Total* 84

* Percentages will not total 100% because more than one (1) option could be selected

12. What is your preferred way of getting information about what's happening in the community? *(Please check all that apply.)*

- A. _____ Newspaper
- B. _____ TV / Radio
- C. _____ Printed newsletter
- D. _____ Social media (i.e., Facebook, Twitter, etc.)
- E. _____ Via email
- F. _____ Government websites
- G. _____ Attending public meetings
- H. _____ Posted notices at a township, city or village hall or county building

Ranked in order of most preferred to least preferred:

1. Newspaper
2. Email
3. Social media
4. TV/Radio
5. Attending public meetings
6. Printed newsletter
7. Government websites
8. Posted notices

- A. 66.7% **56**
- B. 25.0% **21**
- C. 29.8% **25**
- D. 59.5% **50**
- E. 25.0% **21**
- F. 50.0% **42**

 Total* 84

* Percentages will not total 100% because more than one (1) option could be selected

13. What is your preferred way of giving your input to government leaders regarding what's happening in the community? *(Please check all that apply.)*

- A. _____ Attending public meetings
- B. _____ Writing a letter
- C. _____ By phone
- D. _____ Via email
- E. _____ Social media (i.e., Facebook, Twitter, etc.)
- F. _____ Meeting in person with a government official

Ranked in order of most preferred to least preferred:

1. Attending public meetings
2. Email
3. Meeting in person with a government official
4. Phone
5. Writing a letter* and Social media*

* Tied for least preferred

A little about you...

A.	0.0%	0
B.	0.0%	0
C.	3.5%	3
D.	8.2%	7
E.	15.3%	13
F.	24.7%	21
G.	34.1%	29
H.	12.9%	11
I.	1.2%	1

Total		85

14. Which category below includes your age?

- A. ___ 17 or younger B. ___ 18 – 20
 C. ___ 21 – 29 D. ___ 30 – 39
 E. ___ 40 – 49 F. ___ 50 – 59
 G. ___ 60 – 69 H. ___ 70 - 79
 I. ___ 80 or older

- No respondents age 20 or younger
- 73% of respondents were age 50 or older
- The majority of respondents (59%) were 50 to 70 years of age

15. Gender: Male **50** 60.2% Female **33** 39.8%

Total responses = 83

16. Do you own property in Charlevoix County?

Yes **77** 91.7% No **7** 8.3%

Total responses = 84

17. Is your primary residence in Charlevoix County?

Yes **76** 89.4% No **9** 10.6%

Total responses = 85

If you answered “yes” to Question #17, please continue to Question #18.
 If you answered “no” to Question #17, please skip to Question #19.

18. In what township, city or village do you live?

Boyne City	11	Hayes Twp	4
City of Charlevoix	18	Marion Twp	3
East Jordan	3	Melrose Twp	2
Bay Twp	5	Norwood Twp	4
Boyne Valley Twp	1	South Arm Twp	5
Chandler Twp	4	Wilson Twp	3
Charlevoix Twp	4		
Evangeline Twp	2	Total = 72 responses	
Eveline Twp	3		

55.6% responses from Township residents
 44.4% responses from City residents

Please skip to Question #20.

19. Please specify the county in which you live.

(If outside of Michigan, please include the State.)

Antrim County	4
Emmet County	1
Wayne County	1
Oakland County	1
Sacramento, CA	1
Delaware County, IN	1

Total	9

Please skip to Question #21.

20. Do you own or rent your residence?

Own 70 93.3% Rent 5 6.7%

Total responses = 75

21. Do you work in Charlevoix County?

Yes 70 84.3% No 13 15.7%

Total responses = 83

22. Do you own a business in Charlevoix County?

Yes 18 21.7% No 65 78.3%

23. Any additional thoughts you'd like to share?

Need to stop installation of out door wood boilers in residential areas. Can't breathe, and soot discolors homes in the area. Barking dog / noise regulation's are not being enforced. As a result Bay township is not a nice place to live, as compared to when we first moved here.
Public hearings are a joke. Decisions have already been made and the officials are only meeting the letter of the law. Newspapers are not how people gather information. Let townships publish on-line.
1) Smaller homes should be allowed everywhere - no size requirements! 2) Collaboration between governmental units should be required, not suggested. 3) Providing good paying jobs for families should have the highest priority.

<p>Thanks for reading out to us. Help downtown Charlevoix with more retail (and housing above)</p>
<p>Some of these questions have a bias embedded in them, something which should be avoided to the extent possible.</p>
<p>If the City of Charlevoix wants to improve, it needs to bring in growth and development experts from outside the area to give non-biased opinions and recommendations. Always having the same people contribute the same ideas will not work. Doing the same thing over and over and expecting a different result is insanity.</p>
<p>It would be nice to have affordable housing for people who make less than 30,000 a year.</p>
<p>I live just over the border in Ellsworth, but work in Charlevoix and Boyne City. As a manager of two seasonal businesses, affordable housing is a big issue as is transportation.</p>
<p>I think each town in our County is unique and should keep its own identity. I would like to see EJ improve some, and encourage some businesses in town. Something to draw people to our area too. It would be great to have some form of public transportation between EJ, Chx and BC other than the county bus. People come to our area for vacationing and having a friendly bike trail, hiking trails and the lake are huge benefits. Let's work better together for the good of everyone...not just leave things the way they are because "that is the way it has always been".</p>
<p>Retired----Live in the town of Charlevoix</p>
<p>Less regulations on what people want to do with there property.</p>
<p>We need other tools to protect farmland, such as preserves, conservation easements, and conservation planning to protect resource areas while still allowing development to occur.</p>
<p>I find it interesting that the county eliminated the planning department, and also that the county does not employ a qualified County Administrator. Both should be priorities in Charlevoix County. The County should also have a comprehensive vision (Master or Strategic Plan) that engages stakeholders in the visioning/planning proces.</p>
<p>The economy has to improve before much of anything is going to happen. Making a bunch of zoning recommendations is not going to help much right now.</p>
<p>We need trails to connect every town together. It will eliminate bike & auto traffic conflicts and will generate revenue in our towns.</p>
<p>Just speaking for Boyne City, we have a number of empty buildings that could be converted into a business/residence. They are just starting to decay and it would be nice to get some work done on them before they get to the point where they need to be torn down.</p>
<p>Need to have decent, affordable (not talking subsidized) housing. Middle class working singles/families need affordable housing and rentals. There's a need for nice homes/apartments/condos/flats in the \$600-900/mo range. Young adults starting their careers need to have affordable places to live. Without this, your younger people will continue to migrate to more urban areas where they can find jobs that pay more, affordable housing in walkable communities.</p>