

Master Plan Update Community Survey Report

Bainbridge Township

August 2023

Introduction

From July 28, 2023, to August 28, 2023, the Bainbridge Township Master Plan Update Steering Committee opened an opinion survey to gather public input on land use planning and related topics in the Township. The survey responses provided a considerable amount of quantifiable data to help set policy related to growth and development in the Master Plan. The results are listed below, followed by a summary of trends and planning implications.

Methodology and General Information

The survey questions were developed by the Bainbridge Township Master Plan Steering Committee with the assistance of the consultant team from Williams & Works. The survey was organized to gather meaningful responses from the residents of the Township. The Steering Committee opted for a mail-in survey instrument, which they felt would garner the best results, given the demographics of the community, that contained 11 questions. The survey was mailed out to all the taxpayer addresses associated with property ownership in the Township. 1,274 total taxpayers were mailed a survey and additional surveys were available at the Township offices for additional household members to complete if they desired. We received a total of 295 responses by September 1, 2023, with a 23.2% completion rate.

The results of the survey provide valuable feedback from the community and provide a perspective of the community's opinion regarding relevant land use and planning issues. The survey was successful as it resulted in objective quantifiable information from a large number of people compared to typical participation in other forms of public input like community open houses, or visioning meetings. The survey enabled respondents to provide anonymous replies using a "check-the-box" format to expedite the completion of the form and maximize the rate of response. Some questions allowed the respondents to leave other comments that may not have been covered in the multiple-choice options. Spelling and grammar mistakes were corrected in the open-ended responses otherwise, all responses were kept as written by the respondent.

Data Entry and Measurement

The mail-in survey responses were entered into the online survey tool, Survey Monkey. Once entered, the data could then be analyzed using a standardized method.

Three scoring scales were used to report the data received: Nominal, Ordinal, and Ratio scales. A nominal scale merely counts responses by particular classification (e.g., type of residence, yes, no, etc.). This scale is useful to separate responses into working groups or to evaluate the overall sample to determine whether it represents the larger population. Questions 1, 3, 4, and 8 were designed on a nominal scale.

An ordinal scale is more useful in gaining insight into respondent beliefs because it includes the characteristics of rank order. One item is greater or lesser than another item or it has more or less of a particular quality, based on a commonly understood standard. An ordinal scale enables some greater judgment about the relative strength or weakness of a particular

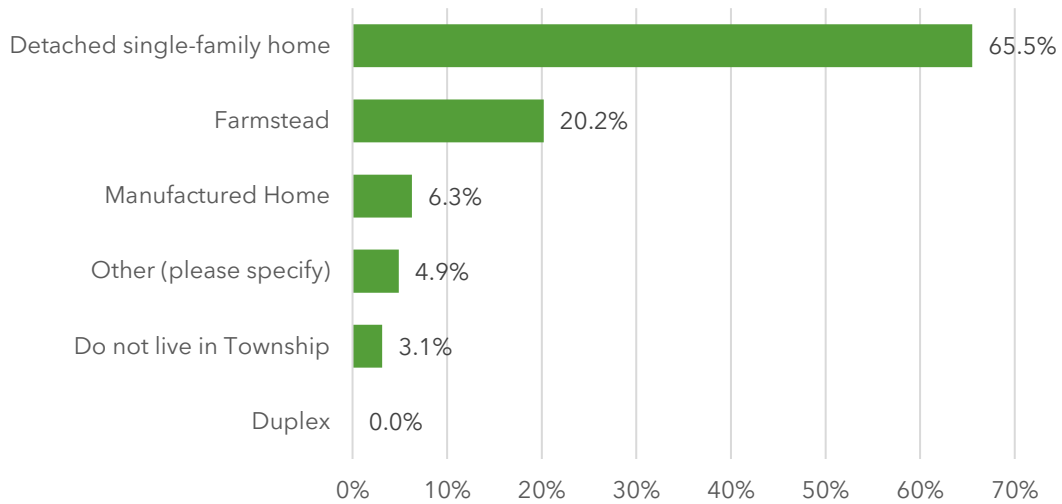
response (e.g., “very satisfied”, “too slowly”, etc). However, it does not include a quantifiable or consistent interval between the various points in the scale. Questions 5-6, 7, and 9 were designed with an ordinal scale.

A ratio scale was used for question 2, as respondents were asked to indicate a range of items that applied to them such as age. Question 10 featured an open-ended, write-in response for participants to list their answers and add any additional thoughts about planning and development not covered in the survey.

To report the results of the survey, the ordinal scales used were converted to interval scales. A numeric value was assigned to each response with an interval of “1” between each point on the scale. For example, in Question 6, “Very Dissatisfied” responses were assigned a value of 5, “Neutral” responses were assigned a value of 3, and so forth. This was done to enable the measurement of the central tendency of all responses, which is accomplished by determining the arithmetic mean or average response for the item. However, it must be recognized that the assignment of value to the intervals of the scale does not automatically result in a true interval scale because each respondent will have his or her own interpretation of the interval. Nevertheless, in aggregate, this procedure does enable a comparison of the items from one to the next via a weighted average.

Survey Results

Question 1: Which of the following best describes your Bainbridge Township residence?

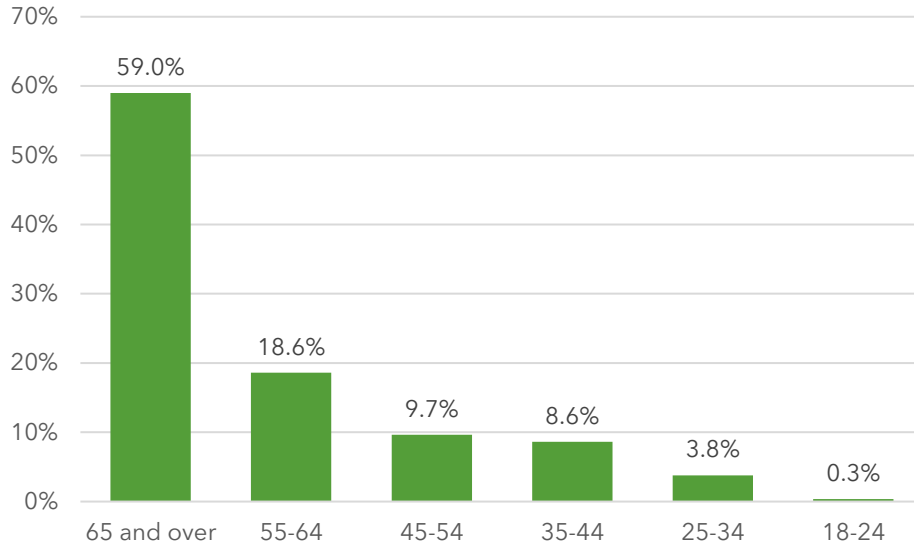


Answer Choices	Responses	
Detached single-family home	65.51%	188
Duplex	0.00%	0
Farmstead	20.21%	58
Manufactured Home	6.27%	18
Do not live in Township	3.14%	9
Other (please specify)	4.88%	14
	Answered	287
	Skipped	8

Other:

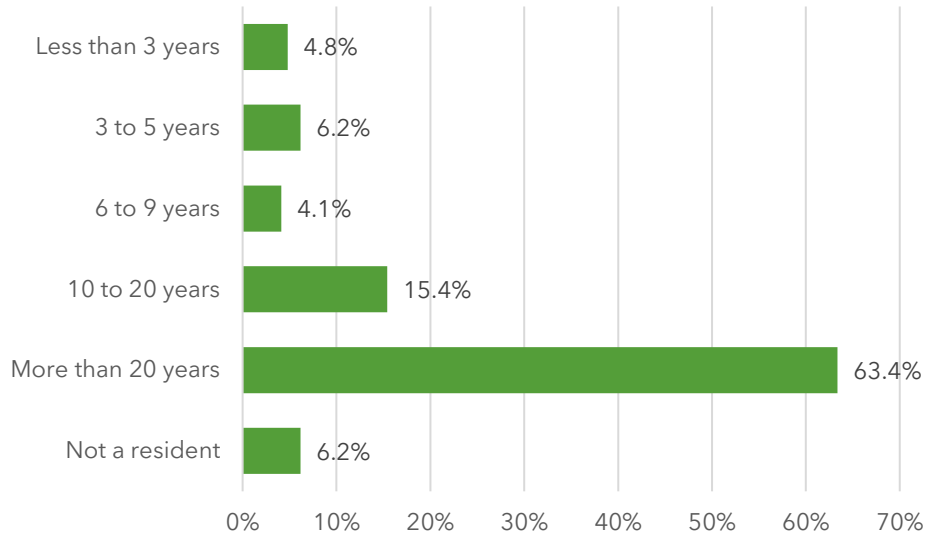
1. Single family home
2. Ranch
3. Paradise
4. (marked detached single-family home and manufactured home)
5. Home is on a permanent foundation.
6. (marked detached single-family home and other for prebuilt us steel home)
7. (marked detached single-family home and farmstead)
8. Vacant land
9. Do not live in township. Farmland + barn.
10. Brick
11. Have business
12. Mixed use. Commercial/residential
13. Business

Question 2: What is your age?



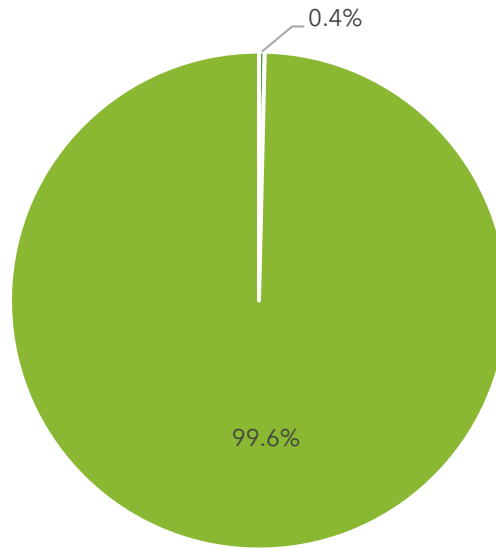
Answer Choices	Responses	
18-24	0.34%	1
25-34	3.79%	11
35-44	8.62%	25
45-54	9.66%	28
55-64	18.62%	54
65 and over	58.97%	171
	Answered	290
	Skipped	5

Question 3: How long have you lived in Bainbridge Township?



Answer Choices	Responses	
Less than 3 years	4.79%	14
3 to 5 years	6.16%	18
6 to 9 years	4.11%	12
10 to 20 years	15.41%	45
More than 20 years	63.36%	185
Not a resident	6.16%	18
	Answered	292
	Skipped	3

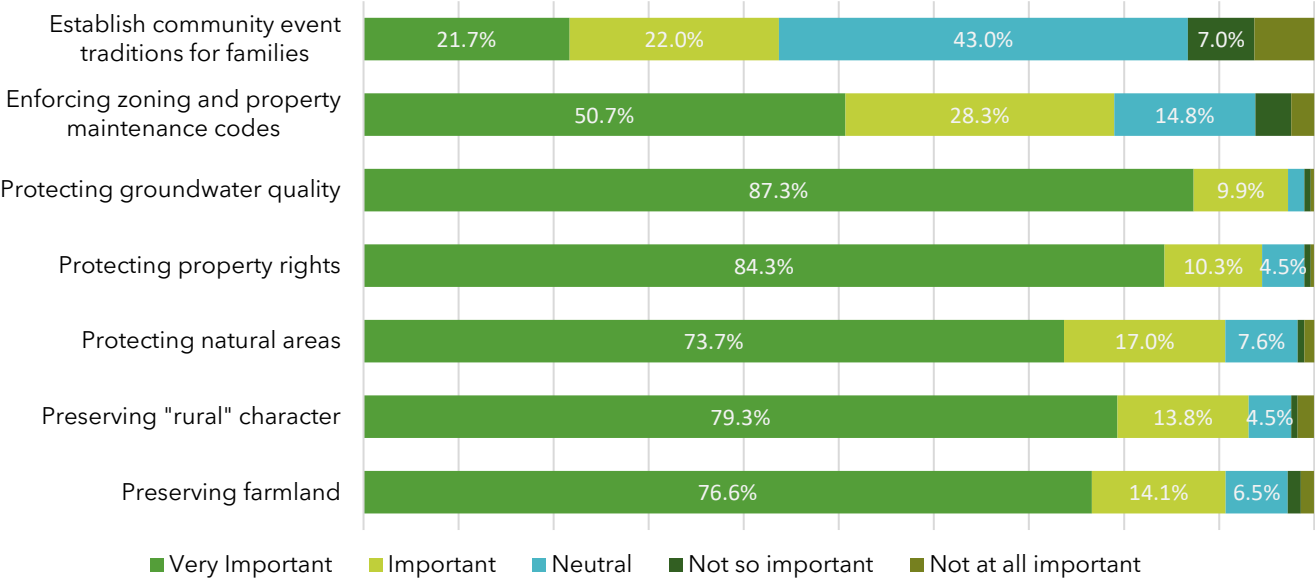
Question 4: Do you rent or own your Bainbridge Township residence?



■ Rent ■ Own

Answer Choices	Responses	
Rent	0.37%	1
Own	99.63%	272
	Answered	273
	Skipped	22

Question 5: In terms of Township priorities, how important are the following?



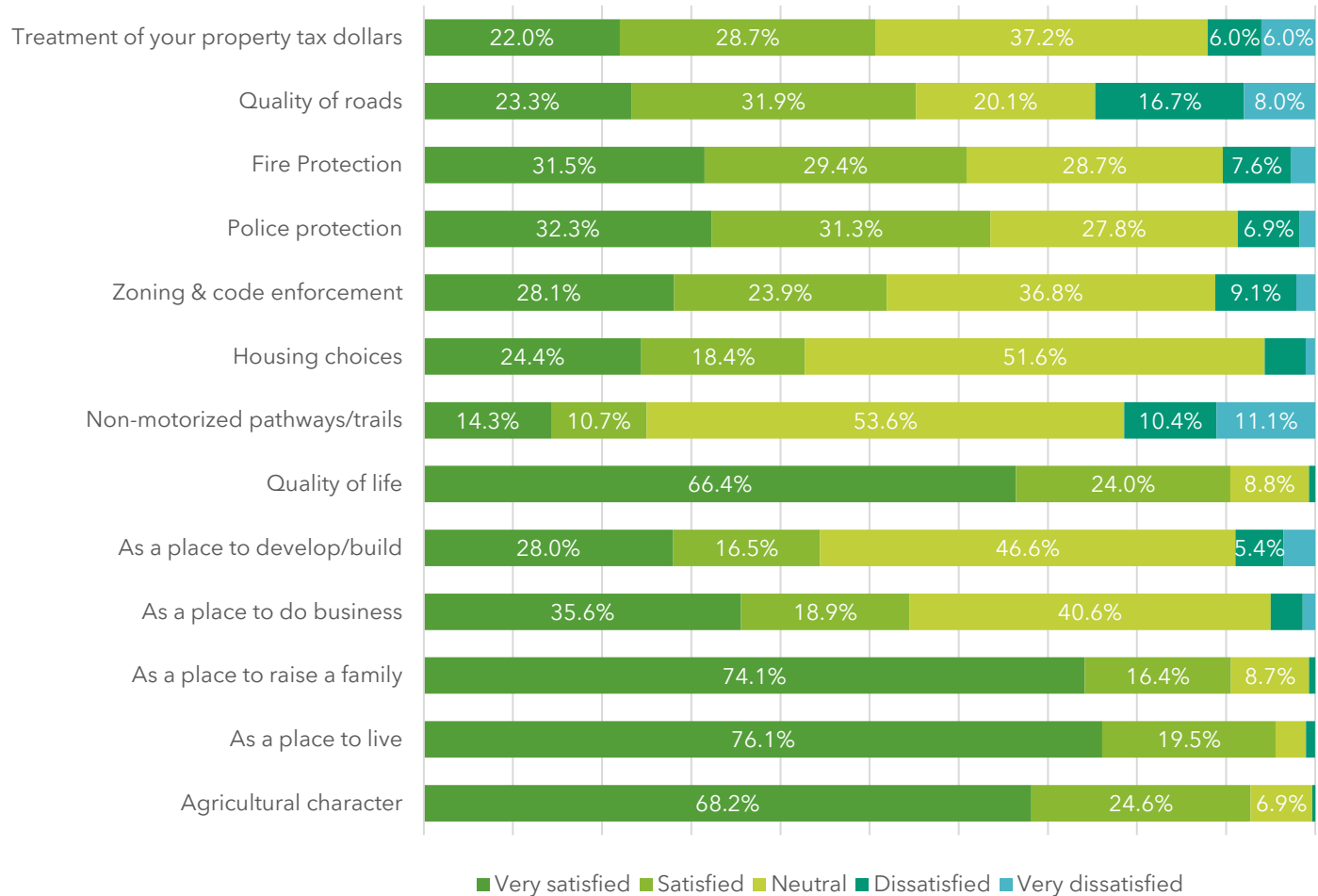
DRAFT

	Very Important		Important		Neutral		Not so important		Not at all important		Total	Weighted Average
	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count		
Preserving farmland	76.63%	223	14.09%	41	6.53%	19	1.37%	4	1.37%	4	291	4.63
Preserving "rural" character	79.31%	230	13.79%	40	4.48%	13	0.69%	2	1.72%	5	290	4.68
Protecting natural areas	73.70%	213	16.96%	49	7.61%	22	0.69%	2	1.04%	3	289	4.62
Protecting property rights	84.25%	246	10.27%	30	4.45%	13	0.68%	2	0.34%	1	292	4.77
Protecting groundwater quality	87.33%	255	9.93%	29	1.71%	5	0.68%	2	0.34%	1	292	4.83
Enforcing zoning and property maintenance codes	50.69%	147	28.28%	82	14.83%	43	3.79%	11	2.41%	7	290	4.21
Establish community event traditions for families	21.68%	62	22.03%	63	43.01%	123	6.99%	20	6.29%	18	286	3.46
Other (please specify)	See below										23	N/A
											Answered	293
											Skipped	2

Other Responses:

1. Repair roads - very important
2. Lower property taxes - very important
3. Limited R-2 zoning - very important
4. No changes to the current agricultural setting/view - very important
5. No housing developments
6. Good old (stop) boy system
7. WIFI - very important
8. Green energy planning - very important
9. No equality BS in our community!
10. Internet - very important
11. Whatever it takes to care - very important
12. No new development - very important
13. Allow for smaller than 1,000 sq ft homes w/ correct building codes used "costs" are too high for + 1,000 sq ft.
14. Restoring native habitats - very important
15. Internet service - very important
16. Freedom - very important
17. Restricting new homes + businesses in our residential area. Drugs are a problem 2 houses down. - very important
18. Street light Millburg Drive corner
19. Forest - very important
20. Internet access - very important
21. Maintain minimum lot size/property split requirements.
22. Extend water, sewer & natural gas availability - very important.
23. Property assessments and neighbors that won't get land surveys but insist on encroaching on mine.

Question 6: How satisfied are you with the following aspects of Bainbridge Township?

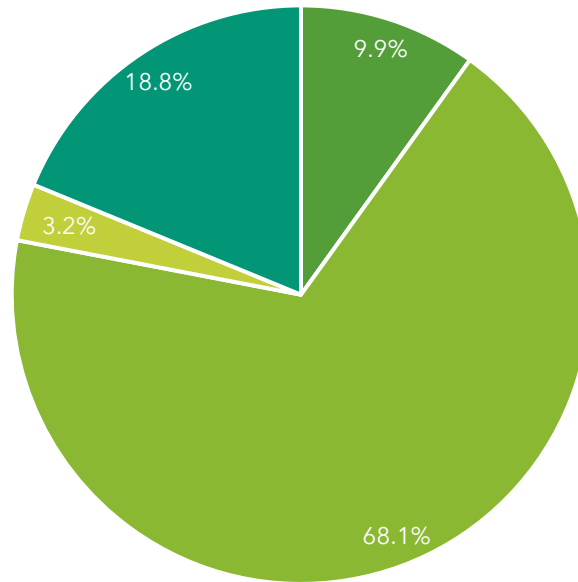


	Very satisfied		Satisfied		Neutral		Dissatisfied		Very dissatisfied		Total	Weighted Average
Agricultural character	68.17%	197	24.57%	71	6.92%	20	0.35%	1	0.00%	0	289	4.61
As a place to live	76.11%	223	19.45%	57	3.41%	10	1.02%	3	0.00%	0	293	4.71
As a place to raise a family	74.13%	212	16.43%	47	8.74%	25	0.70%	2	0.00%	0	286	4.64
As a place to do business	35.59%	100	18.86%	53	40.57%	114	3.56%	10	1.42%	4	281	3.84
As a place to develop/build	27.96%	78	16.49%	46	46.59%	130	5.38%	15	3.58%	10	279	3.6
Quality of life	66.43%	188	24.03%	68	8.83%	25	0.71%	2	0.00%	0	283	4.56
Non-motorized pathways/trails	14.29%	40	10.71%	30	53.57%	150	10.36%	29	11.07%	31	280	3.07
Housing choices	24.38%	69	18.37%	52	51.59%	146	4.59%	13	1.06%	3	283	3.6
Zoning & code enforcement	28.07%	80	23.86%	68	36.84%	105	9.12%	26	2.11%	6	285	3.67
Police protection	32.29%	93	31.25%	90	27.78%	80	6.94%	20	1.74%	5	288	3.85
Fire Protection	31.49%	91	29.41%	85	28.72%	83	7.61%	22	2.77%	8	289	3.79
Quality of roads	23.26%	67	31.94%	92	20.14%	58	16.67%	48	7.99%	23	288	3.46
Treatment of your property tax dollars	21.99%	62	28.72%	81	37.23%	105	6.03%	17	6.03%	17	282	3.55
Other (please specify)	See below										27	
											Answered	295
											Skipped	0

Other Responses:

1. Ambulance - very dissatisfied
2. Voting integrity (as long as you keep the voter logs current and require ID) - satisfied
3. Where are the nonmotorized trails?
4. WTF - very dissatisfied
5. Opting out Medic 1 services - very dissatisfied
6. Neighbors know neighbors (each other)
7. Roadside mowing + winter plowing - very dissatisfied
8. Reduce lot sales to 1 acre - satisfied
9. Internet access - dissatisfied
10. Don't live in Township
11. Leaning toward commercialization - very dissatisfied
12. Education system - dissatisfied
13. Roads are s***. My house was taxed same as neighbor and would not listen!
14. Keep on helping - very satisfied
15. No paths
16. Landfill is growing - very dissatisfied
17. Not in favor of development
18. Allowing business in rural areas we don't want - very dissatisfied.
19. ATV/ORV - road right of way - dissatisfied
20. Internet access - very dissatisfied
21. Ambulances - very dissatisfied
22. Broadband - very dissatisfied
23. More residential needed - satisfied
24. Roads + grass bad need improvements
25. lease make ORV laws
26. We need Township board members that are not closed minded. Very dissatisfied.
27. Building inspector - very dissatisfied

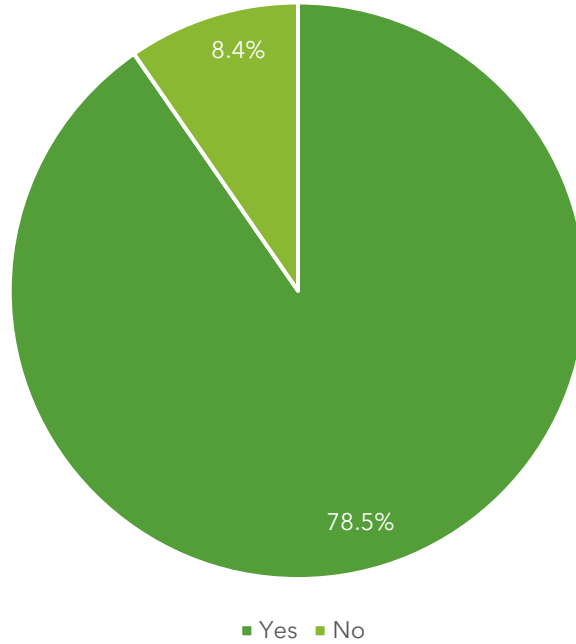
Question 7: Regarding the growth of the Township, do you think Bainbridge Township is growing:



■ Too quickly ■ About right ■ Too slowly ■ No Opinion

Too quickly		About right		Too slowly		No Opinion		Total	Weighted Average
9.93%	28	68.09%	192	3.19%	9	18.79%	53	282	2.08
								Answered	282
								Skipped	13

Question 8: Is Bainbridge Township heading in the right direction?



Answer Choices	Responses	
Yes	78.49%	197
No	8.37%	21
Please explain		93
	Answered	218
	Skipped	77

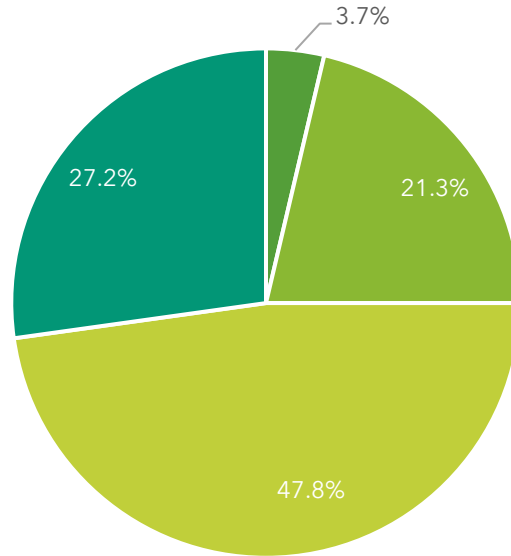
Responses:

1. Neutral
2. Not forward thinking
3. Not sure
4. By keeping the current standards
5. Compared to what! Depends on age of population.
6. Maintaining rural atmosphere
7. Focus should remain on keeping farms successful.
8. As long as we avoid subdividing
9. Don't know
10. Not sure
11. Not sure

12. The survey is a great start!
13. Neutral - happy with Township now do not want new development
14. Agricultural community
15. Development - stop! We don't need a dollar general. Roads are horrible.
16. Not a lot of change noticed other than Dollar General
17. Growing too quickly
18. Think so
19. Keep it farm land - rural - country
20. No comment
21. Maintain agricultural heritage
22. Too new to know
23. As long as it remains agricultural
24. I don't want to see any changes.
25. 10 min drive in any direction takes you to a larger town - keep our area peaceful.
26. We like living here as a place to raise a young family.
27. Don't live in Township
28. As it is now
29. The small-town feel
30. Unknown
31. I believe so....
32. Maintain road character
33. Need high speed broadband
34. No need for any more stores here.
35. We are losing our rural characteristic.
36. I don't know
37. Not sure - has changed a lot - rural character being lost.
38. It's just ok
39. No equality BS. What direction is needed?
40. Growing too quick
41. Agriculture
42. Keep it agricultural
43. Keep agriculture
44. Hope so
45. Someone needs to inspect for blight. Neighbor no permits for electrical-deck etc.
46. Landfill is growing
47. No need for commercial development
48. Don't know
49. No opinion
50. Keeping it a farming community
51. No need to change
52. No opinion
53. Loss of farmland
54. No opinion

55. Still maintaining rural character
56. Cost prohibits expansion for farmers - smaller residences needed.
57. Needs more walkable spaces
58. Keep agricultural if possible
59. Neutral
60. Please don't add more dollar generals. We love our farms!
61. I am satisfied living here.
62. Haven't heard anything ??????.
63. I think so
64. Boat ramp on Pipestone Lake is dangerous + disgraceful.
65. I enjoy the way it is now.
66. Good leadership
67. Conservative farmers
68. "Go Blue"
69. Allowing Dollar General on Territorial Road
70. Maybe. I don't like people working car repair business in their area. Home area - back yards.
71. Fiber internet
72. But people have junk yards behind houses + no one does anything.
73. What is the direction? Any more Dollar General type stores?
74. Do not know
75. Needs to be consistent enforcement of codes - many properties are eye sores + unsafe.
76. No opinion
77. Preserving farm land
78. Slow & steady
79. Seems traditional but proactive.
80. Family farms
81. Continue the path
82. Generally OK - More residential needed
83. Andy is great
84. Don't know
85. Tases are steadily increasing for those who have not made any improvements & no one ever comes out to look @ inside or out.
86. keeping rural
87. Not sure what direction it is heading
88. Property taxes too high!
89. We seem to be keeping the "rural" ????
90. Agriculture friendly
91. Doesn't seem to be heading anywhere at all. Very stagnant.
92. Don't see all of township!
93. Satisfied with leadership

Question 9: Bainbridge Township needs more commercial zoning.



■ Strongly Agree
 ■ Agree
 ■ Disagree
 ■ Strongly disagree

Strongly Agree		Agree		Disagree		Strongly disagree		Total	Weighted Average
3.68%	10	21.32%	58	47.79%	130	27.21%	74	272	2.01
								Answered	272
								Skipped	23

Question 10: Please use the space below to write any additional thoughts about planning and development in Bainbridge Township:

1. We should invest more in our roads.
2. No factory farming in Bainbridge Township.
Please repair roads.
3. Farming is changing/The smaller ones are going broke/it's going to end up all big corporate-owned farms
4. #9. not sure
My wife and I downsized from 11 acres with house 2700 sq ft, 30x50 pole barn, 3 car garage to 7121 E Napier Ave with 1.5 acres, 1800 sq ft, 2 car attached garage, 25x30 pole barn and we are paying close to the same property taxes - within about 100.00 dollars. We thought we would retire here but are strongly planning on moving back to Cass Co. or possibly out of Michigan altogether. We feel the taxes are too high in this Township and that Michigan is not using our taxes wisely. (Thank you for your time & work) (269-***-****) Sincerely Jeff & Beverly Lawson.
5. How about cleaning up the junk yards.
1) on Meadowbrook Road
2) on Napier Ave
If you need to know more 269-***-****
6. This is a beautiful area with the farms, farmer markets and mom-and-pop shops. I feel chain stores are unnecessary because it is not too far in any direction to reach one.
7. If we have non-motorized trails, where are they? Who has a list?
8. Country is the county for a reason and those that choose to live in it should respect it not add bike paths, businesses, etc.
9. Additional commercial development. Small growth - to maintain rural character!
10. Township does not currently maintain a 5 year park plan or have any parks or community outreach opportunity, by choice of township board = unacceptable!!
11. I would love to see more leisure activities available, like a bike trail.
12. I would like to see the ORV ordinance passed.
13. What is the status of Bainbridge Township ambulance service contract?

14. It is a nice Agricultural community. Don't care to see developments or commercial/industrial.
15. Thank you for funding the Coloma Library. We love it. Thank you also, for the emphasis on agriculture here. It's beautiful to live and farm here.
16. Better fire protection for the north part of the Township! Don't waste farm land!
17. We would love more safe walking paths. I would love to see more local events in our Township! Also, maybe a newsletter w/ happenings in the Township? (Could be emailed) We have children and would love events to attend!
18. We do not want new development. Do not want less than 10-acre parcel.
19. We are grateful for the hard work of our township officials. The quality of life & care of the area are amazing. Thank you.
20. No subdivisions.
21. Would love to see Bainbridge continue to invest in our agricultural practices, as well as continuing to preserve + maintain agriculture within the Township.
22. Zoning and code enforcement is inconsistent. Road safety should be a priority. "Good old boys" run Bainbridge Township!
23. My family chose to live in Bainbridge Township for its open, rural landscape.
24. Curious where property taxes go in Township with very limited amenities.
25. Really need ambulance service through Medic 1 in the Township. Other townships are served first because of Bainbridge opting out.
26. No subdivisions/trailer parks. People live in Bainbridge Township because it is a quiet rural place with except tractors which is very nice. Need to keep it county with not much growth! Keep Bainbridge Township w/ not much growth. Everyone likes the elbow room of not having crowded houses.
27. Quality of life neutral cross off
28. Very frustrated that fire protection switched to Sister Lakes rather than N. Berrien - Coloma which is so much closer + well-worth extra \$!
29. Need better internet options.
30. Would like zoning + land use issues decided on case-by-case basis. I live on land that has been owned by my family for over 100 years.
31. Never really hear about what's going on in Township can't really answer 7,8,9

32. Drain that was supposed to be fix Not! Weeds + cattails growing in steam. Pea stones for drainage not good. What waste of money.
33. Property taxes are getting out of hand. Won't be long and all residents won't be able to afford to keep houses.
34. Although a lot of neighboring townships are building bike paths and parks, I don't want to see Bainbridge Township doing this. People who own acreage don't need these things and we can't compete with these parks on the lakes + rivers nearby. Don't reduce minimum lot size needed to build a house.
35. D-e-f-g-i - we are not happy that a 4-acre parcel was split to add a dollar store. We do not want farm land turned into commercial. That takes away our quality of life.
36. I only spend a few weeks a year in Bainbridge Township, not enough knowledge on most issues. I do think planning and land use questions are important.
37. We were disappointed when MEC dropped plans to provide internet service to our address. Hopefully another ISP offers service in the future.
38. Rural character must be retained. Selling road frontage for commercial or house is NOT desired. This is Bainbridge - NOT Benton! Thank you.
39. Hope there are not going to change the 10-acre/10-year plan. Really want to make sure no harmful pesticides for large farming.
40. Internet connectivity will be a necessary enhancement to the rural areas to ensure the community remains viable.
41. Keep status quo
42. We are not Benton Township. If you want more commercial businesses around you move to Benton Township.
43. No apartment complexes! Keep as is "Rural".
44. Preserving farmland is crucial! Also - implement solar/wind options to land owners so that it isn't intrusive to the rural feel!
45. Very dissatisfied w/ water commissioner installing unnecessary drains and assessing property owners on Pipestone Lake. Thus, increasing muck and algae growth. He is also very unresponsive. The job should be given to the secretary.
46. I feel we have very high property tax and no services! Also, why can't the Township make the property owners take care of their property.

47. This is county life and needs to stay country! Do not bring Equity Equality BS to this community! Your Scott Anderson does not do the taxes fairly and no checks or balances to stop him!
48. Our property is on Pipestone Lake. For years we have tried to get out boat launch repaired. Help has been non-existent.
49. We don't need any non-motor pathways on our roads.
50. Thanks for all you do for us always!
51. *We don't need bike lanes or walking trails
*Any job over \$500.00 should have 3 bids
52. I love the agricultural part of living here. Don't build so much. (Housing or businesses that are commercial)
53. We don't need bike paths
Too much traffic already
54. If I want to dig a pond on my property, I want the right to do so.
55. Need to address run off standing water by Mellburg Drive. Bugs and animal issue due to standing water.
56. Blight in yards not being addressed. Easements for shared driveways should not happen as new owners move in.
57. Carmody Road has turned into a highway due to Daisy Farm on corner of Carmody + Hartford/Keller Roads.
58. The rural undisturbed nature of the Township is what is so desirable to so many people who live here and visit our area.
59.
 1. Taxes are getting out of hand. Should be decreased if no kids in school/retirement age.
 2. Roads need to be resurfaced
 3. Certain property owners should not have to pay when new drain tubes placed.
60. It would be nice to know what goes on at a Township board meeting.
61. Roads could be better, dirt roads could be paved or at least better maintained.
62. Agri-tourism should be a priority: farmstands, event venues, wineries/breweries.
63. Making it legal to ride side by side on secondary roads.
64. People move to the country for a reason! They want it to stay country!

65. Zoning and enforcement are not handled evenly. Preferential treatment for some. Health Dept rules are insane.
66. Keep subdivisions out.
67. Believe Township well run - amazed all the different crops raised. Love rural character.
68. Allow for sound building practices for variance requests. Not everyone wants a McMansion. Ease the variance request for empty nesters.
69. We need more sidewalks. Road with sidewalks so we can walk and bike easier and safer.
70. Please keep our quiet life out of the hands of another franchise retail store. More local businesses.
71. Was not happy with the addition of the Dollar General. Want to preserve rural feel in our community Family Business.
72. I think zoning should be at least 10 acres not 5.
73. No where to walk or bike
74. Someone is going to get hurt at the boat ramp on Pipestone Lake. You only have a few lakes in the Township + you can't maintain them.
75. We would very much like to see an ordinance put in allowing ORV's on Township roads not the state highways.
76. Depends where commercial zoning is done.
77. Need an ordinance to enforce BARKING DOGS - animals tied up outside which bark for hours. No county or state laws to take action. Loud music- police can take immediate action. Dogs barking all night, no action can be taken by police.
78. Nicest place to be/live in Berrian County. Orchards, Vineyards, Farm land, Conservative People.
79. N/A
80. Allowing Dollar General on Territorial was wrong. All Township positions should be voter decided instead of insider selections by a very few people.
81. There are a few homes, who need paint cleanup, trashy. For instance, Spiaks Corners, the house next to the store. East.
82. More parks
83. We feel it is good the way it is. Love it here!

84. When applying for a home business people need to be upfront and honest about all the rules + regulations. I was told a lot of false information.
85. We don't want businesses to come into our peaceful communities. We also don't want new home building bringing in a lot of people. We like our quiet peaceful area.
86. I like it there leave it alone, we like county living don't change that.
87. I like things just the way they are. Thank you
88. We like it just how it is currently. Appreciate the tax amount per year - it's fair.
89. Appreciate the move to bring high speed internet to the Township.
90. Internet access!!
We've invested a significant amount of time, money + effort to homestead our property only to have a dilapidated, unhealthy, rental property right across the street! Box spring propped on tree, Renters moved a camper on site + multiple families "living" there. I'm concerned about drug activity too.
91. Hate subdivisions, control them to very limited areas.
No solar or wind farms.
MEC is too costly.
92. Keep government and development at a minimum. All relevant questions for people living in the Township.
93. ARPA funds used to increase broadband, but not at our address yet - when? Would love natural gas option.
94. It has been a farming community of generations. It needs to stay that way. That is what makes it special, what makes it great!
95. Taxes are outrageous.
96. We seem to see more residents who don't mow at all or infrequently.
97. More bike paths/sidewalks and safe ways for families to travel and enjoy the outdoors without using a motorized vehicle.
98. Last I knew - five acres was minimum to build on - when I built it was 10 acres - hope the 5-acre ordinance does not change.
99. Please make ORV laws that aren't the same as golf carts. Huge difference!
100. In general zoning boards are overly restrictive and push their own agendas.
Property owners should be given more rights of how they use their property.

101. I have been to the Township's meeting in regard to taxes and they act like nothing can be done. Also, the fire department takes anyone's word for reporting fires/and then they come out to a well-maintained brush fire that is controlled and charge \$1500 not to even pull in my drive.
102. We don't need more Dollar Stores
103. Farmland + rural county drain's need improvement.
104. The Dollar Store is an abomination!!!!
I cannot answer question 7 (question 8 for the online survey). I do not know what "growth" is being asked. Growth of more farm land, that is good. Growth of government - funded housing is bad. Growth of non-family run business like the Dollar Store is bad. Maybe the Township shouldn't grow? Maintain and stay steady. Growth does not always lead to good outcomes.
105. I would like to see more code enforcement for some properties that are ran down and have a lot of junk and cans on the property.
106. A lot of residents own side-by-sides. Would like to officially allow on all side roads in BT.
107. I feel if someone needs to have a small business to help with quality of life for their family they should be allowed to.
108. Preserving farmland critical but difficult when # of farmers seems to be declining. How can we encourage more farmers to Township?
109. Good Job!
110. Dedicated bicycle path
Development for families
111. We love our Township & how it represents "rural" America. Keep up the street work! Thank you.

Planning Implications and Trends

The following section contains a summary of trends and other findings that emerged from the community survey results.

About the Respondents

- The majority of the survey participants reported living in an owner-occupied, single-family home within the Township for more than 20 years.
- The majority of the respondents were over the age of 65, with the second largest age group being between the ages of 55 and 64.
- These results give us a view of the population as a whole in Bainbridge Township. From these results, we would infer that over 75% of the Township's long-time resident population is of retirement or soon-to-be retirement age. These numbers may provide some insight into the Township's potential need for future land uses related to aging in place and care for a large aging population.

Community Priorities

- 87.3% of respondents reported that the highest of important priorities was protecting groundwater quality, followed by 84.3% that felt that protecting property rights was very important in prioritizing. And third, 79.3% of the respondents report the importance of prioritizing the "rural character" of the Township.
- This question also allowed respondents to write in a response that wasn't listed. From the list of write-in responses, there is a wide variety of priorities deemed very important to the respondents. The top three areas were reported among the respondents as "very important":
 - Internet service
 - Restrictions on new housing developments and minimum lot size requirements
 - Utilities (natural gas, municipal water, and sanitary sewer)

Satisfaction with Life in Bainbridge Township

- The majority of respondents report being very satisfied with the Township as a place to live (76.1%) followed by very satisfied with the Township as a place to raise a family (74.1%) and the agricultural character (68.2%).
- Conversely, areas that the respondents report as being dissatisfied or very dissatisfied, include non-motorized pathways/trails (21.5%), quality of roads (24.7%), and zoning and code enforcement (11.23%).
- This question also included a write-in response. The following were reported as the top three write-in comments related to being "dissatisfied":
 - Non-motorized trails and pathways
 - Ambulance services
 - Internet access
 - Quality of Township roads;

Community Growth

- 68.1% of respondents reported that the Township is growing too quickly.

While the survey question was not specific to the type of growth (i.e., residential or non-residential/commercial), the results seem to support the respondents' overwhelming desire to keep the community rural and limit the growth of commercial land uses. This inference is further supported by the response from Question 9, which would indicate that the majority of respondents would disagree that more commercial zoning is needed in the Township.

Direction of Bainbridge Township

Since this question is relatively vague, it is difficult to discern from the yes or no results if respondents have the same view of "the right direction" (78.5% reported "yes", and 8.37% reported "no"). Because the interpretation of this question may differ greatly among respondents, we have been able to gather slightly more insight from the write-in response associated with this question. We received 93 write-in responses from the 218 respondents to this question (77 people skipped this question).

A majority of the write-in responses reference the rural character of the Township and the desire to keep the agricultural aspect of the Township. However, some comments appear to imply that the rural feel is being lost and that the Township has changed a lot.

While we cannot infer much information from these results, the words of the many respondents are valuable nonetheless and appear to give the perception that the respondents care deeply about the direction of their community.

Commercial Zoning

- 75% of respondents report that they disagree that the Township needs more commercial zoning.

This number further supports the respondents' desire to preserve the Township's rural and agricultural character and land uses.