

# OUR TOWN

## Government – Planning Education

YOUR OPINIONS ON THE PRESENT NEEDS  
AND BEST FUTURE DEVELOPMENT OF MARION

PLEASE BRING TO TOWN MEETING

# RESULTS of 1986 MARION SURVEY

League of Women Voters  
P.O. Box 812  
Marion, MA 02738

BULK RATE  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
MARION, MASS  
PERMIT NO. 21

P.O. or RFD Box Holder  
Marion, MA 02738

League of Women Voters, Marion-Mattapoissett Area

I SERVICES, FACILITIES, GOVERNMENT

Yes No

1. In which of the following does the level of service need to be increased or reduced? Check I for increased, R for reduced, leave blank if satisfactory.

	I	R
a. Ambulance.....	51	1
b. Fire.....	34	3
c. Police.....	65	8
d. Schools.....	55	10
e. Elderly Services.....	85	12
f. Harbor Protection.....	147	15
g. Library.....	67	7
h. Museum.....	52	10
i. Parking Areas.....	31	7
j. Rubbish Collection.....	60	7
k. Shellfish Program.....	82	6
l. Sidewalks.....	99	10
m. Snow Removal.....	40	10
n. Storm Drainage.....	73	4
o. Street Maintenance.....	117	9
p. Veterans' Services.....	24	16

Excluding ambulance, fire, police, & schools, which of the above are most important?

1. Harbor-71 2. Streets-41 3. Rubbish-31  
4. Shellfish-25 & Streets-25 5. Streets-24

Which of ALL of the above are most important?

1. Fire-80 2. Schools-72 3. Police-55  
4. Ambulance-44 5. Elderly-38

Which of ALL of the above are least important?

1. Veterans'-66 2. Museum-39 3. Museum-22  
4. Sidewalks-14 & Veterans'-14 5. Veterans'-16

2. Do any of the following Marion recreational programs or facilities need upgrading?

	Yes	No
a. Athletic Fields.....	48	104
b. Basketball.....	43	99
c. Beaches.....	130	73
d. Boat Launching Ramps.....	106	156
e. Harbor Facilities.....	121	85
f. Neighborhood Playgrounds.....	56	94
g. Parks.....	69	80
h. Skating Area in Washburn Park.....	67	84
i. Swimming instruction.....	62	89
j. Tennis Courts.....	117	68

Which of the above are most important?

1. Beaches-82 2. Harbor-34 3. Parks-14

Which of the above are least important?

1. Skating-59 2. Basketball-26  
3. Basketball-26

3. Should the following services and facilities be located in Marion?

	Yes	No
a. Bicycle Paths.....	264	61
b. Horse-riding Trails.....	89	152
c. In-town Bus Service.....	130	152
d. Nature & Hiking Trails.....	202	196
e. Roller-skating Rink.....	38	212
f. Teen-age Center.....	220	72
g. Year-round Swimming Pool.....	150	132

Which of the above are most important?

1. Bicycle paths-74 2. Teen-age Center-46  
3. Nature & Hiking Trails-30

As Marion grows, should fire substations be established?..... 150 102

5. Should Marion have a separate Board of Health? (Currently the selectmen act as the Board of Health.)..... 233 115

6. Should there be a limit to the number of consecutive terms served by town officials?  
Appointed..... 214 130  
Elected..... 206 139

7. Should the town develop an informed, trained volunteer corps to aid building and health inspectors?..... 199 120

8. In Marion should there be:

a. More launching ramps?..... 81 190  
b. More moorings for residents..... 233 74  
c. More parking for trailers and cars of non-residential boaters?..... 52 239

d. More tie-up space for small boats?..... 183 96  
e. Restrooms (possibly with showers) for visiting boaters?..... 154 163  
f. More swimming beaches?..... 98 179

For which of the above should a fee be charged?

1. c-more parking non-res. boaters-182  
2. e. restrooms for boaters-133 3. res. moorings-120  
4. d. tie-up space small boats-104  
5. a. launching ramps-88 6. swimming-32

Which three of the above are most important?

1. More res. mooring-93 2. More tie-up space-55  
3. More tie-up space-23

9. Would you support a Marine Sewage Pumping Facility for boats in Marion?..... 204 113

10. Should houseboats be allowed in Marion?..... 80 269  
If allowed, should they be regulated?..... 184 24

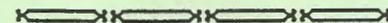
11. Should permanent moorings available to non-residents, not paying real estate taxes in Marion, be limited?..... 353 26

12. To offset the cost of improving and maintaining harbor facilities:  
a. Should mooring fees be charged?..... 305 48  
b. Should fees be graduated according to boat size?..... 290 57  
c. Should mooring fees be higher for non-residents, not paying real estate taxes in Marion?..... 339 25

13. The three biggest problems facing the future of Marion's marine resources and harbor

To be addressed later

14. Would you like to receive more information regarding town issues and decisions?..... 227 30



II EDUCATION

1. Do you have children in the following:
- |                     |           |           |                       |           |           |
|---------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------------------|-----------|-----------|
|                     | public    | private   |                       | public    | private   |
| a. Pre-school.....  | <u>2</u>  | <u>22</u> | d. High School.....   | <u>19</u> | <u>19</u> |
| b. Elementary.....  | <u>53</u> | <u>7</u>  | e. Vocational.....    | <u>1</u>  | <u>0</u>  |
| c. Junior High..... | <u>28</u> | <u>4</u>  | f. Special Education. | <u>3</u>  | <u>0</u>  |

2. Does Marion need additional Day Care facilities, either public or private? Please check the one(s) needed.

- a. Pre-school 64      b. After school hours 73      c. Adult 41

3. Do any of the following areas need future improvement in these schools?  
 (1-6) Sippican Elementary, (7-8) Old Rochester Regional Junior High School,  
 (9-12) Old Rochester Regional Senior High School, (Voc.) Upper Cape Cod Regional  
 Vocational & Technical School. Mark Y for YES and N for NO.

ACADEMIC	Y	N	Y	N	Y	N	Y	N	NON-ACADEMIC	Y	N	Y	N	Y	N	Y	N
	1-6	1-6	7-8	7-8	9-12	9-12	Voc.	Voc.		1-6	7-8	7-8	9-12	9-12	Voc.	Voc.	1-6
a. Reading/English..	52	9	39	5	42	3	16	3	a. Art.....	36	14	11	15	12	11	5	7
b. Writing.....	55	9	50	4	46	3	16	2	b. Photography....	9	22	11	16	10	14	5	6
c. 2nd Language....	31	16	29	14	29	11	6	9	c. Drama.....	19	16	12	12	14	11	5	7
d. Mathematics.....	43	11	35	8	43	6	14	4	d. Music - Vocal..	37	16	15	17	18	14	5	7
e. Science.....	24	18	21	13	29	8	9	7	e. Instrumental.	32	14	19	12	19	11	6	7
f. History.....	29	12	29	10	29	9	13	4	f. Enrichment.....	27	20	23	13	26	11	11	6
g. Geography.....	34	13	38	9	39	6	13	5	(i.e. field trips, after school special s,								
h. Social Studies..	19	19	21	14	26	10	6	9	performances from outside, etc.)								
i. Computer.....	32	17	28	15	28	12	10	7	g. Sports/Phys. Ed.	16	20	14	15	17	13	9	7
j. Vocational.....	12	22	10	18	19	15	8	6	Counseling								
k. Extra Help.....	19	16	17	13	22	9	5	8	h. Adjustment...	18	16	18	12	22	9	7	4
l. Special Education (Chapt. 766 - communication & resource room skills, adjustment counseling)	23	19	12	17	15	15	7	9	i. Employment...	7	18	14	10	22	8	10	2
									j. College.....	6	18	10	14	25	5	6	4
									k. Other Future Education....	3	13	9	8	18	3	9	2

Which of the academic are most important?

1. A 2. B 3. D 4. E 5. G  
 114      81      64      44      20

Which of the non-academic are most important?

1. A-G 2. I 3. G 4. F 5. H  
 26-26      22      17      13      11



Over 2,800 Marion Survey Questionnaires were distributed. They were mailed to all Marion postal addresses and to all non-resident taxpayers on record. In addition, they were made available for pick-up around the town.

439 were returned and tabulated by local League of Women Voters volunteers. This flyer, also mailed by the League to all postal patrons, presents the results. The League is continuing its study and will make another report covering the Survey's written commentaries.

Thanks are due to all who took the time and trouble to fill out the Survey Their work is already being used.

League of Women Voters of Marion Mattapoissett Area  
 March, 1987

### III DEVELOPMENT, PLANNING, ZONING

- |   | Yes        | No         |
|---|------------|------------|
| 1. Should the following be in Marion?   |            |            |
| a. More businesses & offices.....   | <u>92</u>  | <u>234</u> |
| b. More housing for the elderly.....  | <u>231</u> | <u>110</u> |
| c. More "affordable" housing.....   | <u>201</u> | <u>131</u> |
| d. Some low-income housing.....   | <u>135</u> | <u>194</u> |
| e. More light manufacturing.....  | <u>140</u> | <u>172</u> |
| f. More neighborhood stores.....  | <u>57</u>  | <u>245</u> |
| g. A nursing home.....  | <u>147</u> | <u>181</u> |
| h. More public open space.....  | <u>213</u> | <u>109</u> |
| i. Public transportation.....   | <u>156</u> | <u>170</u> |
| j. Tourist facilities such as: fast food places, hotels, motels, etc.....   | <u>33</u>  | <u>329</u> |
| 2. Should the following be allowed in Marion by special permit?   |            |            |
| a. Apartments in commercial or industrial buildings?.....   | <u>140</u> | <u>192</u> |
| b. The building of single family residences with subsidiary apartment.....  | <u>217</u> | <u>145</u> |
| c. Conversion of existing houses into apartments.....   | <u>143</u> | <u>212</u> |
| d. New apartment houses.....  | <u>68</u>  | <u>270</u> |
| e. Condominiums.....  | <u>91</u>  | <u>260</u> |
| f. Two family houses.....   | <u>144</u> | <u>209</u> |
| 3. On Route 6 should commercial businesses be:  |            |            |
| a. Set back from Rte. 6 with a planted buffer zone?.....  | <u>298</u> | <u>42</u>  |
| b. Clustered in "mini-mall" setting(s)?.....  | <u>191</u> | <u>124</u> |
| 4. Should an Historic District be designated in Marion? (in such a district, new building & building modification are subject to regulation by a local commission.).....        | <u>258</u> | <u>97</u>  |
| 5. Should appropriately planned open space be required in all future developments?.....   | <u>333</u> | <u>29</u>  |
| 6. How should Bandstand Field at Island Wharf be used?  |            |            |
| a. Open Space.....  | <u>305</u> | <u>10</u>  |
| b. Parking.....   | <u>153</u> | <u>79</u>  |
| 7. Should Marion allow "cluster zoning" by special permit? (same number of houses in a given area as regular zoning, but placed closer together leaving permanent open land...) | <u>189</u> | <u>151</u> |
| 8. Should impact fees be charged for commercial/residential development? (Fees to cover estimated costs of increased services, such as roads, fire, police.).....               | <u>249</u> | <u>88</u>  |
| 9. Land Bank Concept:<br>Should real estate transactions over a stated minimum be taxed to provide funds for the town purchase of land for public use?.....                     | <u>176</u> | <u>54</u>  |
| 10. Should local conservation regulations be strengthened to include the following?   |            |            |
| a. Expanded protection for wetlands.....  | <u>262</u> | <u>90</u>  |
| b. Prohibition of future building in the flood plain zone.....  | <u>253</u> | <u>93</u>  |
| 11. Should Marion require all septic systems/cesspools be pumped on a regular schedule based on amount of use?.....   | <u>183</u> | <u>155</u> |

- |  | Yes        | No         |
|--|------------|------------|
| 12. Should percolation tests be limited to the wettest time of year? (approximately March 15 - May 15).....  | <u>226</u> | <u>101</u> |
| 13. Should Marion require a Board of Health inspector be present when a contractor makes a percolation test prior to the design of a home sewage disposal system?..... | <u>284</u> | <u>67</u>  |
| 14. Should Marion develop a plan for the orderly expansion of sewer services?.....   | <u>317</u> | <u>42</u>  |
| 15. What areas should receive service?<br><u>To be addressed later.</u>  |            |            |
| 16. To encourage water conservation, should Marion charge:   |            |            |
| a. A flat rate for water?.....   | <u>51</u>  | <u>84</u>  |
| b. A graduated rate increasing with greater use?.....  | <u>182</u> | <u>38</u>  |
| c. A combination of the above?.....  | <u>158</u> | <u>33</u>  |
| 17. Should Marion water be fluoridated.....  | <u>210</u> | <u>145</u> |
| 18. Should Marion provide a marked public restroom in the town center?.....  | <u>217</u> | <u>157</u> |



### IV CHARACTERISTICS OF RESPONDENT

1. Number of years lived in Marion.
 

	Year Round	Seasonal Resident
a. 1 - 5	<u>60</u>	<u>5</u>
b. 5 - 15	<u>114</u>	<u>13</u>
c. 15 +	<u>180</u>	<u>30</u>
  
2. Present location in Marion.
 

a. Marion Village	<u>131</u>	d. Route 6 area	<u>30</u>
b. North Marion	<u>54</u>	e. Converse Rd. & West	<u>80</u>
c. East Marion	<u>109</u>		
  
3. Age
 

a. 18 - 34	<u>41</u>	c. 50 - 64	<u>142</u>	e. 75 - 84	<u>22</u>
b. 35 - 49	<u>112</u>	d. 65 - 74	<u>80</u>	f. 85 +	<u>2</u>
  
4. Education
 

a. k - 8	<u>5</u>	c. 2 - 4 yrs. college/technical	<u>163</u>
b. 9 - 12	<u>49</u>	f. Further education	<u>176</u>
  
5. Yearly Household Income Bracket
 

a. Under \$10,000	<u>22</u>	d. \$30,000-\$40,000	<u>71</u>
b. \$10,000-\$20,000	<u>30</u>	e. \$40,000-\$50,000	<u>46</u>
c. \$20,000-\$30,000	<u>57</u>	f. Over \$50,000	<u>134</u>

