

Town of Marion Community Planning Survey 2005



Prepared for the
Marion 2015 Task Force

by the



Center for
Policy Analysis

UNIVERSITY OF MASSACHUSETTS DARTMOUTH

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UNIVERSITY OF MASSACHUSETTS DARTMOUTH**

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Survey Research Series No. 38

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Marion 2015 Task Force has been charged by the Marion Board of Selectmen with developing a 10-Year Plan for the Town of Marion. The Plan will identify a consensus vision for how Marion residents want the town to look in ten years and to provide the Selectmen with a set of recommendations for how to realize that vision over the next decade.

In order for *Marion 2015: A Plan* to be effective, it must reflect the views of Marion residents. Thus, a mail survey was conducted in April 2005 to solicit the opinions and views of Marion residents and non-resident property owners. The survey was mailed to all registered voters in the town and to non-resident households. A total of 4,088 surveys were mailed to Marion residents. The Center received 1,085 completed surveys for a response rate of 26.5 percent. The survey results include:

Survey Respondent Background

- The majority of respondents (84.7%) are year-round Marion residents, while 14.0% are seasonal residents. Only 14 respondents are not residents of Marion. Of those who are seasonal residents, 14.8 percent are registered voters.
- Nearly half of respondents (47.1%) have lived in Marion for more than twenty years, while more than a third (34.6%) have moved to Marion in the past ten years. Only 19.9 percent of respondents grew up or were born in Marion.
- More than nine in ten respondents (93.1%) own their home and 6.9 percent rent their home.
- More than thirty percent (30.7%) of respondents have children living in their household. The average number of children per household is 1.9.
- The highest percentage of respondents indicate that they were attracted to Marion because of access to water/beaches (64.1%), and the character of the town (58.7%). The lowest percentage of respondents indicate that they were attracted to Marion because of the real estate tax rate (10.3%) and good public services (15.6%).
- More than a quarter of respondents (27.9%) indicate that they do not work or are retired. Of those who are employed, 33.9 percent work in a surrounding town or city. Nineteen percent (19.1%) work in Marion (outside of their home), while 14.9 percent work at home in Marion.

Town Character

- Respondents are most likely to agree that Marion is a “rural town” (62.3%), “a town in transition” (59.2%), a “resort town” (51.8%) and a “commuter town” (51.9%). Respondents are least likely to agree that Marion is a “retirement community” (33.9%) or a “suburban town” (45.7%).



Quality of Services and Open Space

- Overall, respondents are satisfied with most of the services provided in Marion. Respondents are most satisfied with police protection (90.8% excellent/good), beaches (83.9% excellent/good), and fire protection (81.6% excellent/good). Respondents are least satisfied with zoning enforcement (43.2% excellent/good) and the public sewer system (47.0% excellent/good).
- Respondents were asked which services the town should place more emphasis on funding, improving, or expanding in the future. Respondents strongly agree or agree that more emphasis should be placed on road maintenance (78.9% strongly agree/agree), drinking water quality (77.9% strongly agree/agree), and drinking water quantity (72.6% strongly agree/agree). Respondents least agree on placing more emphasis on boat access/waterways (51.0% strongly agree/agree), town hall services (51.8% strongly agree/agree), and snow removal (54.6% strongly agree/agree), although a majority of respondents support these actions.
- More than three-quarters of respondents (77.5%) are satisfied or very satisfied with the places available in town for recreation. Only 14.2 percent are dissatisfied or very dissatisfied.
- When asked what actions they would support to preserve open space in Marion, the highest percentages of respondents indicate support for “limited development” (75.9%) and “zoning for open space conservation” (66.7%).

Critical Issues

- Respondents indicate that the most critical issues facing the town are loss of open land to development (45.1% critical), high cost of housing (43.4% critical), and population growth (42.8% critical). Conversely, small percentages of respondents indicate that day care opportunities (3.7% critical), cost of trash removal (6.8% critical), and community centers (7.3% critical) are critical issues.

Land Use and Growth

- Respondents were asked their opinions on the level of particular land uses in the Town. In most cases, a majority of respondents feel that there is “enough” development. This is especially true of residential development (83.0%), industrial development (73.2%), and commercial development (72.6%). Conversely, a majority of respondents indicate that there is too little affordable housing (54.9%) and passive open space (51.1%).
- Respondents were asked how future growth should be managed in Marion. Respondents are most likely to agree that future growth should be evenly dispersed around the town (63.3% strongly agree/agree), while 55.0 percent strongly agree/agree that future growth should combine residential and retail development and 45.1 percent strongly agree/agree that development should occur in limited planned areas of high density. Nearly nine in ten respondents (85.6%) disagree or strongly disagree that growth should be unrestricted.



- Respondents were asked how future industrial/commercial development in Marion should proceed. Respondents most strongly agree/agree that industrial and commercial development should encourage small business development (84.5%), should encourage professional offices (83.1%), and that small retail development should be encouraged (79.5%). Respondents least strongly agree/agree that future industrial and commercial development should encourage big box chain retailers (6.0%), be unrestricted (5.8%), and be evenly dispersed around town (19.5%).
- In terms of residential development, respondents are most likely to support the development of an independent living facility for the elderly (77.4% strongly agree/agree), while 74.2 percent strongly agree/agree that residential development should be restrained. Respondents are least likely to support residential development concentrated on small lots (24.7% strongly agree/agree).
- More than half of respondents agree that residential development is too fast (51.1%), while smaller percentages of respondents agree that commercial and industrial development is too fast (16.9% and 18.8% respectively). However, low percentages of respondents also indicate that the rate of commercial development (23.2%) and industrial development (20.8%) is too slow.

Goals/Vision of Marion

- In terms of the goals and vision for Marion, the highest percentages of respondents strongly agree/agree that taxes should be kept stable (94.1%), access to natural areas should be improved (80.1%), the town should be beautified (77.1%), and that growth should be restricted (75.9%). Respondents are least likely to strongly agree/agree that the town should promote larger industries (10.9%).
- More than half of respondents (54.6%) strongly agree or agree that taxes should be kept stable even if it means reducing services and programs. Nearly a third (32.7%) disagree that taxes should be kept stable, while only 9.2 percent strongly disagree.

Volunteerism

- Only 15.1 percent of respondents volunteer once or more per week, while more than half (55.9%) volunteer less than once a month or never volunteer. Many respondents indicated that they no longer volunteer because of their age.



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1.00 INTRODUCTION

The Center for Policy Analysis at UMass Dartmouth is working with the Marion 2015 Task Force to assist the Town in developing *Marion 2015: A Town Plan*. The Marion 2015 Task Force has been charged by the Marion Board of Selectmen with developing a 10-Year Plan for the Town of Marion. The Plan will identify a consensus vision for how Marion residents want the town to look in ten years and to provide the Selectmen with a set of recommendations for how to realize that vision over the next decade. The 2015 Task Force has sought the assistance of town departments, town committees, civic groups, social clubs, private businesses, and other organizations to insure that this vision is consistent with existing planning efforts and to insure that it incorporates the initiatives and goals of those groups.

In order for *Marion 2015: A Plan* to be effective, it must reflect the views of Marion residents. Thus, a mail survey was conducted in April 2005 to solicit the opinions and views of Marion residents and non-resident property owners. The survey was mailed to all registered voters in the town and to non-resident households.

2.00 SURVEY TABULATION

The University of Massachusetts Dartmouth Center for Policy Analysis compiled the results of the Community Planning Survey. The Center's responsibilities included mailing the surveys, entering the survey data, and analyzing the results using the Statistical Package for Social Sciences (SPSS). Results are presented using descriptive statistics (e.g., frequencies) and measures of central tendency (e.g., averages or medians). Cross-tabulations for some questions were also conducted to determine if significant differences of perception exist when controlling for age, length of residency, and seasonal and year-round residents.

3.00 SURVEY RESULTS

A total of 4,088 surveys were mailed to Marion residents. The Center received 1,085 completed surveys for a response rate of 26.5 percent. Nationally, the average response rate for a mail survey is approximately 10.0 percent.

The following pages present the survey results. Each survey question is followed by a short narrative with results presented in either tabular or chart form. Cross-tabulations are included where there are statistically significant differences of perception when controlling for age, length of residency, and seasonal and year-round residents.



3.10 SURVEY RESPONDENT BACKGROUND

3.11 Are You a Marion Resident?

The majority of respondents (84.7%) are Marion residents, while 14.0% are seasonal residents. Only 14 respondents are not residents of Marion. Of those who are a seasonal residents, 14.8 percent are registered voters (see Table 1).

Table 1

	Frequency	Percent
Yes, year round	897	84.7%
Yes, seasonal resident	148	14.0%
No, not a resident	14	1.3%

3.12 How Long Have you Been a Resident of Marion?

Respondents were asked how long they have lived in Marion. Nearly half (47.1%) have lived in Marion for more than twenty years, while more than a third (34.6%) have moved to Marion in the past ten years (see Table 2).

Table 2

	Frequency	Percent
< 5 years	146	13.8%
6 to 10 years	220	20.8%
11 to 20 years	194	18.3%
Over 20 years	498	47.1%

3.13 Do You Rent or Own Your Home?

More than nine in ten respondents (93.1%) own their home, with 6.9% renting (Table 3).

Table 3

	Frequency	Percent
Rent	72	6.9%
Own	973	93.1%



3.14 School Aged Children in Household

More than thirty percent (30.7%) of respondents have children living in their household. The average number of children per household is 1.9 (see Table 4).

Table 4

# children	Frequency	Percent
1	92	32.2%
2	138	48.3%
3	48	16.8%
4	6	2.1%
5	2	0.7%

3.15 Age

Some age groups are overrepresented in the sample when compared to actual Census Bureau age data. For example, more than half of the survey respondents (56.2%) are age 55 years of age and older (see Table 5), while the U.S. Census reports that the actual percentage in this age group is 37.5 percent (residents 18 years of age and older). Conversely, the Census reports that 18.8 percent of Marion residents are 18 to 34 years of age, while the percentage in this age group in the survey sample is 5.9 percent. The most over-represented group in the sample is the 55 to 64 age group. The median age in Marion is 42.5 years.

The survey database was weighted by Census Bureau age statistics to account for the difference in the age of survey respondents and actual Census data. However, the frequency results of the weighted sample data were similar to the original, unweighted sample, and in most all cases were within the survey's margin of error. Thus, it was decided that the original sample data would be used.

Table 5

Age	Frequency	Percent	*Actual
18 to 24	16	1.5%	5.5%
25 to 34	46	4.4%	13.3%
35 to 44	172	16.3%	21.0%
45 to 54	227	21.6%	22.7%
55 to 64	276	26.2%	14.7%
65 to 74	166	15.8%	11.5%
75 and older	149	14.2%	11.3%

* Actual percentage of Marion residents in each age group (Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000). Percentage based on residents 18 years of age and older.



3.16 What Attracted You to Marion?

Respondents were asked to indicate the qualities that originally attracted them to Marion. The survey provided twelve choices and respondents were asked to choose all that apply. The highest percentage of respondents indicate that they were attracted to Marion because of “access to water/beaches” (64.2%), and the “character of the town” (58.6%). The lowest percentage of respondents indicate that they were attracted to Marion because of the “real estate tax rate” (10.3%) and “good public services” (15.4%) (see Table 6). Only 19.6 percent of respondents grew up or were born in Marion. “Other” reasons include marriage, attractiveness of town, location, and Tabor Academy. A full list of “other” responses is included in Appendix A.

Table 6

	Frequency	Percent
Access to water/beaches	695	64.1%
Character of the town	637	58.7%
Low crime rate	415	38.2%
Good place to raise children	409	37.7%
Good public schools	341	31.4%
Community Spirit	286	26.4%
Job opportunities/employment	259	23.9%
Proximity to family	255	23.5%
Access to open space	225	20.7%
I was born/grew up here	216	19.9%
Other	178	16.4%
Good public services	169	15.6%
Real estate tax rate	112	10.3%



3.17 Which Best Describes Where You Work?

Respondents were asked to indicate the location where they work. Nearly thirty percent (27.9%) of respondents indicate that they do not work or are retired. Of these, 94.8% are age 55 or over, thus it is probable that the majority of respondents who are not working are retired rather than unemployed (see Table 7).

Of those who are employed, 33.9 percent work in a surrounding town or city. Nineteen percent (19.1%) work in Marion while 14.9 percent work at home (this percentage does not include respondents who indicate that they work in Marion). “Other” responses varies and are included in Appendix A.

Table 7

	Frequency	Percent All	Percent of Employed
Do not work/retired	304	27.9%	NA
Surrounding town/city	266	24.4%	33.9%
In Marion	150	13.8%	19.1%
In home	117	10.8%	14.9%
Boston	108	9.9%	13.8%
Other	77	7.1%	9.8%
Rhode Island	36	3.3%	4.6%
Cape Cod	30	2.8%	3.8%

(Note: Some respondents chose more than one category)



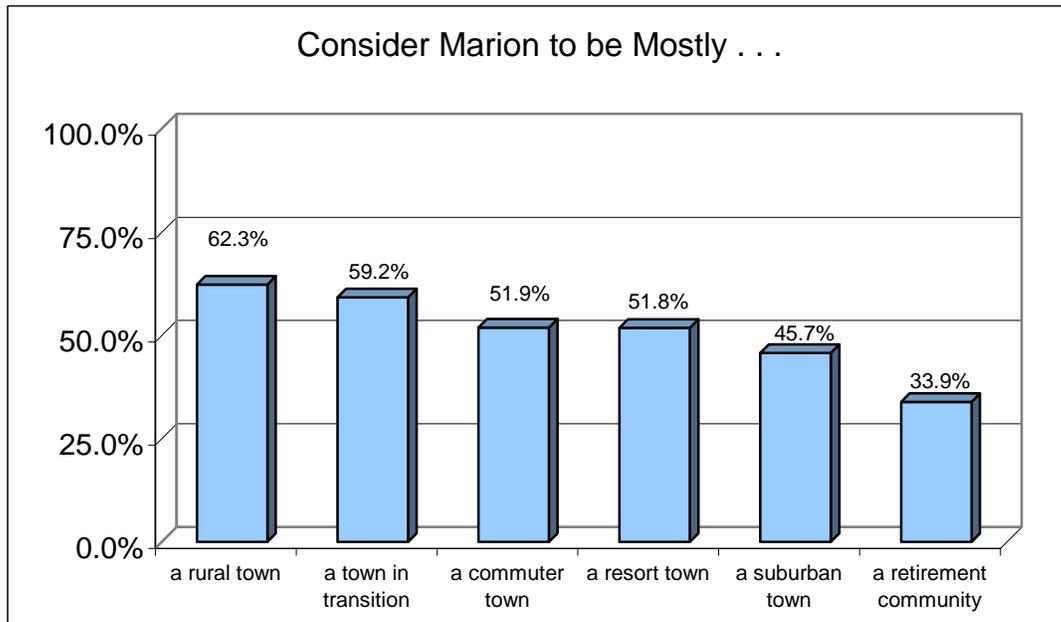
3.18 Do You Consider Marion to be Mostly . . .

The survey listed six categories that might describe the character of Marion and respondents were asked to indicate whether each category properly describes the town. Respondents are most likely to agree that Marion is a “rural town” (62.3%), a town in transition” (59.2%), a “resort town” (51.8%) and a “commuter town” (see Table 8 and Figure 1). Respondents are least likely to agree that Marion is a “retirement community” (33.9%) or a “suburban town” (45.7%).

Table 8

	Frequency	% “Yes” Responses
a rural town	607	62.3%
a town in transition	544	59.2%
a commuter town	468	51.9%
a resort town	479	51.8%
a suburban town	418	45.7%
a retirement community	306	33.9%

Figure 1



3.20 QUALITY OF SERVICES

3.21 How Do You Feel About the Quality of Services Currently Provided by the Town in Each of the Following Areas?

Respondents were asked to rate various Town services from poor to excellent. The survey provided eighteen choices. The table below is sorted by the percentage of “excellent” responses.

Overall, respondents are satisfied with most of the services provided in Marion. Respondents are most satisfied with police protection (90.8% excellent/good), the beaches (83.9% excellent/good), and fire protection (81.6% excellent/good). Respondents are least satisfied with zoning enforcement (43.2% excellent/good) and the public sewer (47.0% excellent/good). Many are unsatisfied with the town’s sewer service because the system does not extend to their residence. Other, write-in responses are included in Appendix A.

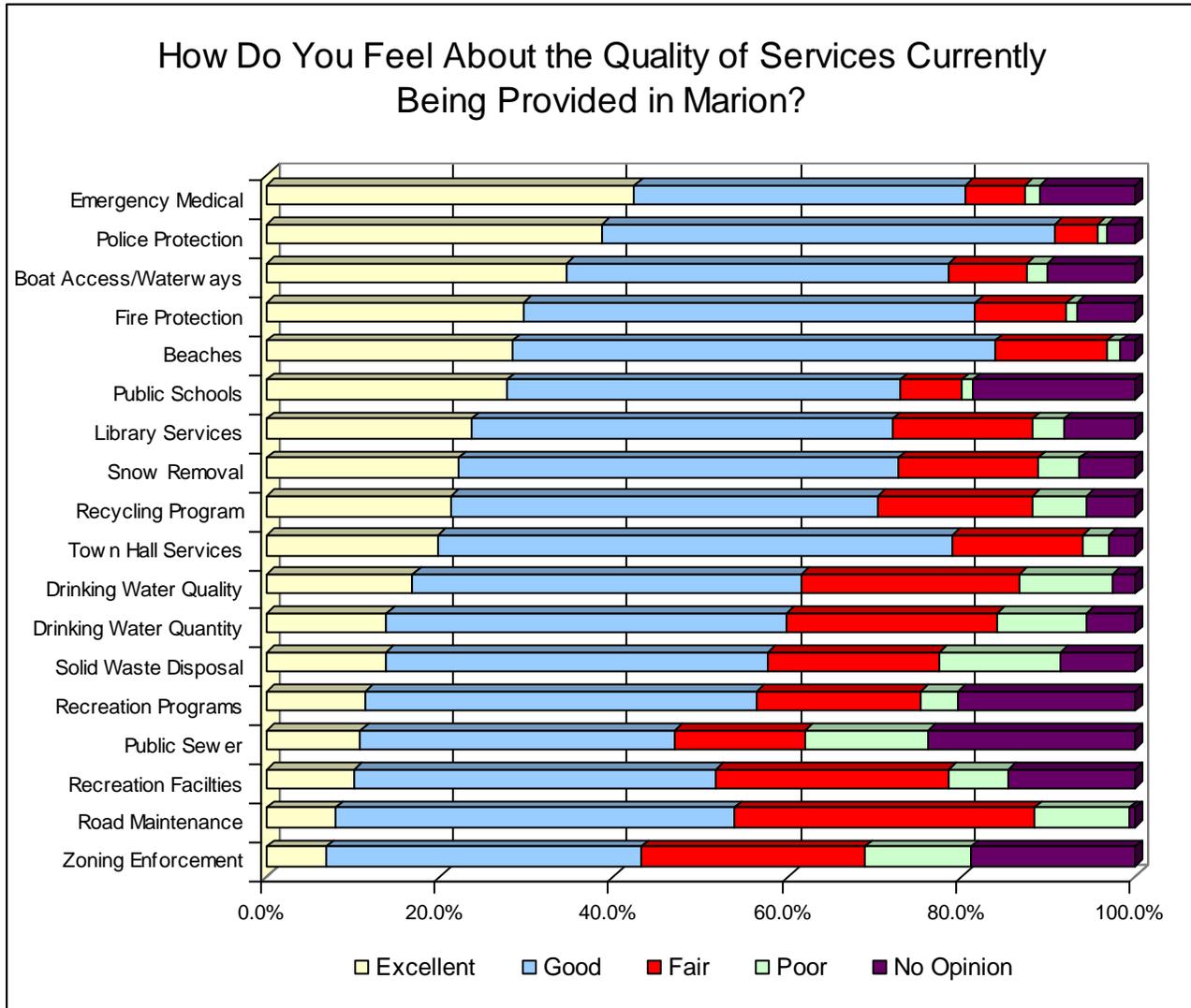
Table 9

Quality of Services					
Service	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	No Opinion
Emergency Medical	42.4%	38.1%	6.7%	1.8%	11.0%
Police Protection	38.6%	52.2%	4.9%	1.0%	3.3%
Boat Access/Waterways	34.6%	43.9%	9.0%	2.3%	10.2%
Fire Protection	29.7%	51.9%	10.5%	1.1%	6.8%
Beaches	28.4%	55.5%	12.7%	1.7%	1.6%
Public Schools	27.8%	45.2%	6.9%	1.4%	18.6%
Library Services	23.7%	48.3%	16.2%	3.5%	8.3%
Snow Removal	22.2%	50.5%	16.0%	4.9%	6.4%
Recycling Program	21.2%	49.1%	17.9%	6.1%	5.7%
Town Hall Services	19.8%	59.2%	14.9%	3.0%	3.1%
Drinking Water Quality	16.9%	44.7%	25.1%	10.7%	2.6%
Drinking Water Quantity	13.9%	45.9%	24.3%	10.3%	5.5%
Solid Waste Disposal	13.8%	43.9%	19.7%	13.9%	8.7%
Recreation Programs	11.5%	45.0%	18.7%	4.4%	20.4%
Public Sewer	10.9%	36.1%	14.9%	14.2%	23.9%
Recreation Facilities	10.2%	41.6%	26.7%	6.8%	14.7%
Road Maintenance	8.1%	45.8%	34.4%	11.0%	0.7%
Zoning Enforcement	6.9%	36.3%	25.6%	12.3%	18.9%



Figure 2 shows respondents' opinions about the quality of services offered in Marion sorted by the percentage of "excellent" responses.

Figure 2



3.21a Crosstabulations

Age

Respondents age 65 years and older are more likely than respondents in other age groups to have no opinion about the quality of the public schools and the quality of recreation programs and facilities. Also, the higher a respondents age, the more likely they are to rate the library services as excellent or good. Conversely, high percentages of younger respondents rate the quality of the library as fair in comparison to older respondents.

Year-Round Residents and Seasonal Residents

Seasonal respondents are more likely than year-round respondents to have no opinion in terms of the town's quality of services; otherwise both groups rate most of the services highly. A higher percentage of year-round residents rate the quality of road maintenance and recycling program as fair or poor in comparison to seasonal residents.

Length of Residency

Residents who have lived in the town for less than five years are more likely to have no opinion about the quality of services in comparison to respondents who have lived in Marion for a longer period.



3.22 How Strongly Do You Agree or Disagree That in the Future the Town Should Place More Emphasis on Funding, Improving, or Expanding these Municipal Services?

Respondents were asked how strongly they agree or disagree that the town should place more emphasis on funding, improving, or expanding various municipal services in the future. Table 10 is sorted by the percentage of “strongly agree” responses. Overall, respondents most strongly agree or agree with funding, improving, or expanding road maintenance (78.9% strongly agree/agree), drinking water quality (77.9% strongly agree/agree), and drinking water quantity (72.6% strongly agree/agree). Respondents least agree with funding, improving, or expanding boat access/waterways (51.0% strongly agree/agree), town hall services (51.8% strongly agree/agree), and snow removal (54.6% strongly agree/agree), though a majority of these respondents support these actions.

In many cases, respondents’ answers reflect that fact that they are already satisfied with the service so that future funding, expansion, or improvement is not as necessary as in other areas. This table is should be compared with Table 9 to determine where this is the case. Other, write-in responses are included in Appendix A.

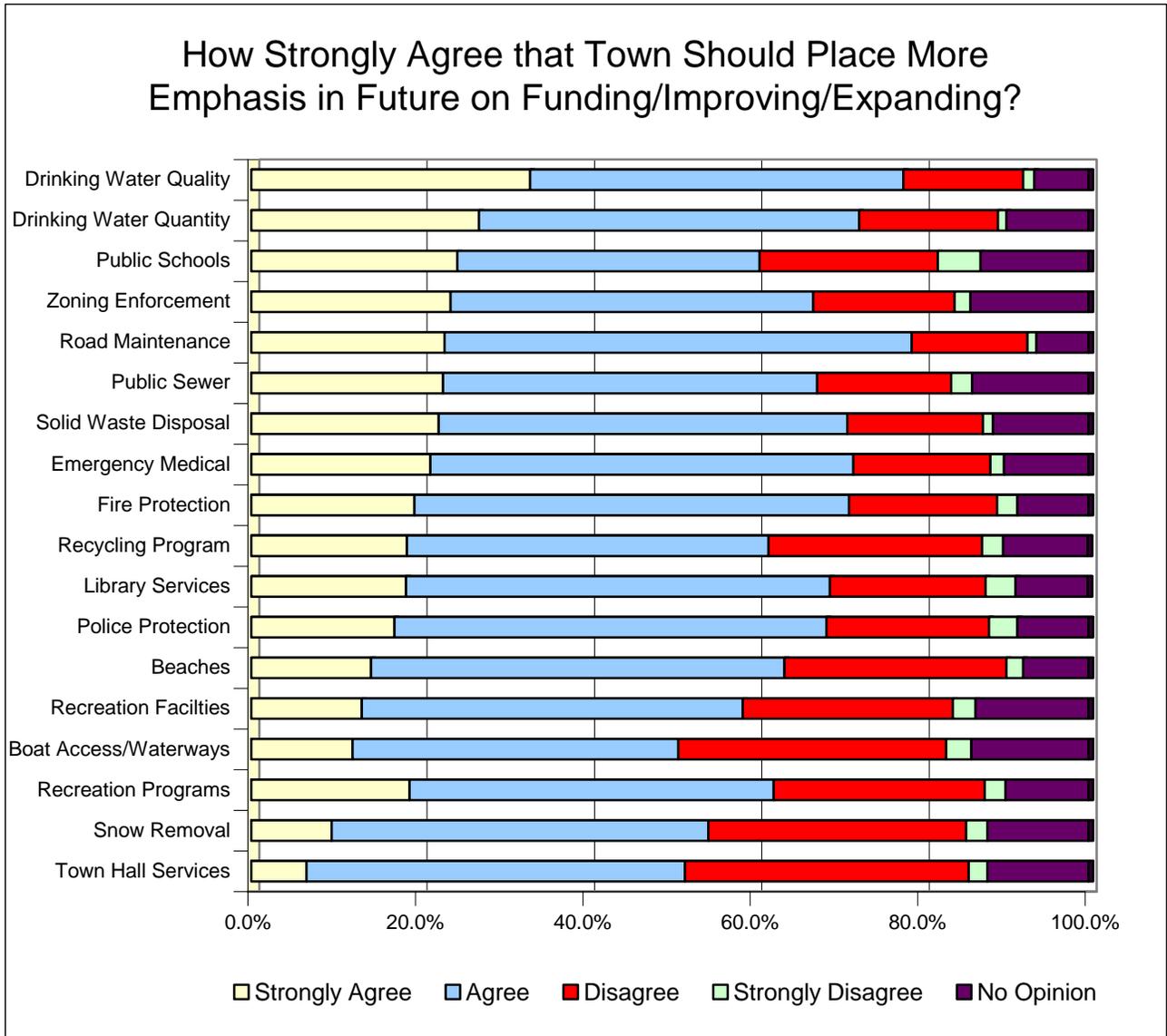
Table 10

More Emphasis on Funding/Improving/Expanding					
Service	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	No Opinion
Drinking Water Quality	33.3%	44.6%	14.3%	1.3%	6.6%
Drinking Water Quantity	27.2%	45.4%	16.6%	1.0%	9.9%
Public Schools	24.6%	36.1%	21.3%	5.1%	12.9%
Zoning Enforcement	23.8%	43.3%	16.9%	1.9%	14.1%
Road Maintenance	23.1%	55.8%	13.8%	1.1%	6.3%
Public Sewer	22.9%	44.7%	16.0%	2.5%	13.9%
Solid Waste Disposal	22.4%	48.8%	16.2%	1.2%	11.4%
Emergency Medical	21.4%	50.5%	16.4%	1.6%	10.1%
Fire Protection	19.5%	51.9%	17.7%	2.4%	8.5%
Recycling Program	18.6%	43.2%	25.5%	2.5%	10.1%
Library Services	18.5%	50.6%	18.6%	3.6%	8.6%
Police Protection	17.1%	51.6%	19.4%	3.4%	8.5%
Beaches	14.3%	49.4%	26.5%	2.0%	7.8%
Recreation Facilities	13.2%	45.5%	25.1%	2.7%	13.5%
Boat Access/Waterways	12.1%	38.9%	32.0%	3.0%	14.1%
Recreation Programs	18.9%	43.5%	25.2%	2.5%	10.0%
Snow Removal	9.6%	45.0%	30.8%	2.5%	12.2%
Town Hall Services	6.6%	45.2%	33.9%	2.2%	12.1%



Figure 3 shows the degree in which respondents agree or disagree with funding, improving, or expanding services sorted by the percentage of "strongly agree" responses.

Figure 3



3.22a Crosstabulations

Age

Respondents age 65 years and older are more likely than other respondents to have no opinion about the issue of school quality and the quality of recreation programs and facilities. Similarly, a higher percentage of younger respondents support an emphasis on funding, improving, and expanding the schools, recreation programs, and recreation facilities in comparison to older respondents.

Year-Round Residents and Seasonal Residents

Seasonal respondents are more likely than year-round respondents to have no opinion in terms of the quality of services; otherwise a majority of both groups rate most of the services highly. There is also a higher percentage of year-round respondents who “strongly agree” that the town should place more emphasis on funding, improving, or expanding schools, library, fire protection, and road maintenance. Conversely, a higher percentage of seasonal respondents “strongly agree” that more emphasis should be placed on funding, improving, or expanding beaches and zoning enforcement. Again, however, a majority of both residents and seasonal residents support enhanced services in most cases.

Length of Residency

A higher percentage of respondents who have lived in the town for less time strongly agree/agree that more emphasis should be placed on the library, schools, recreation facilities, and recreation programs in comparison to respondents who have lived in town for longer periods.

3.23 How satisfied are you with the places available in town for recreation?

More than three-quarters of respondents (77.5%) are satisfied or very satisfied with the places available in town for recreation. Only 14.2% are dissatisfied or very dissatisfied (see Table 11).

Table 11

	Frequency	Percent
Very Satisfied	207	19.7%
Satisfied	607	57.8%
Dissatisfied	127	12.1%
Very Dissatisfied	22	2.1%
Unsure	88	8.4%



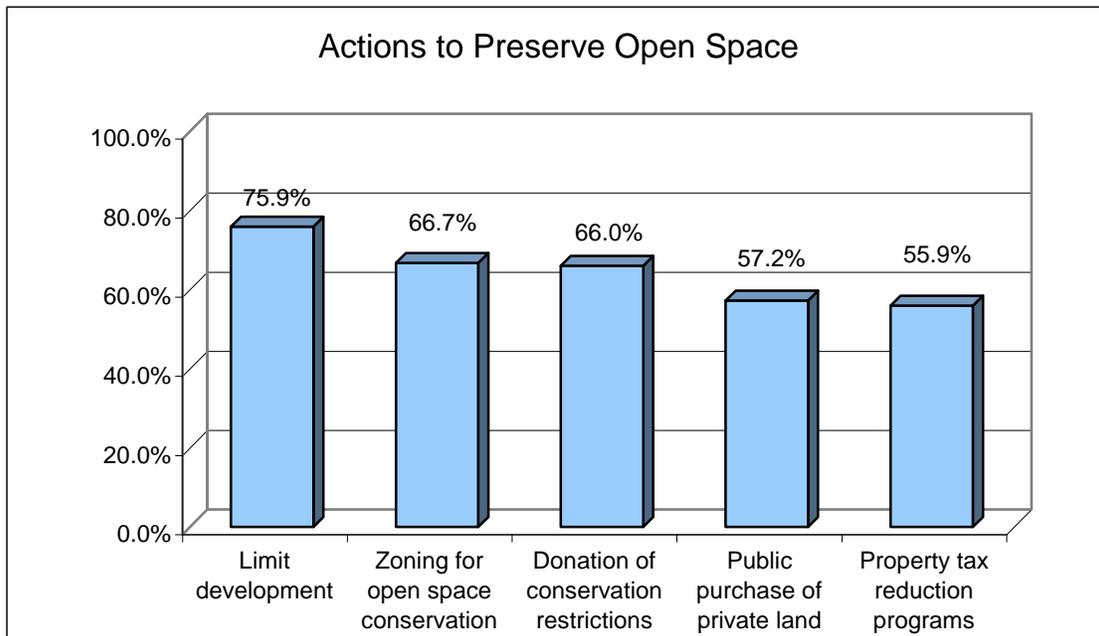
3.24 What Actions Would You Support to Preserve Open Space in the Town?

The survey asked respondents to indicate what actions they would support to preserve open space in Marion. The survey provided five choices and asked respondents to check all that applied (see Table 12 and Figure 4).

Table 12

	Frequency	Percent
Limit development	823	75.9%
Zoning for open space conservation	724	66.7%
Donation of conservation restrictions by private landowners	716	66.0%
Public purchase of private land	621	57.2%
Property tax reduction programs for farm, forest, and recreation land	607	55.9%

Figure 4



3.25 Please Indicate to what Extent you think each of the Issues Below are a Problem in the Town.

The survey provided a list of twenty issues and asked respondents to indicate if each issue was a critical, important, or minor/non issue in Marion. The most critical issues indicated by respondents are loss of open land to development (45.1% critical), high cost of housing (43.4% critical), and population growth (42.8% critical) (see Table 13 and Figure 5). There are also several issues where only a small percentage of respondents indicate that the issue is critical. These include day care opportunities (3.7% critical), cost of trash removal (6.8% critical), and community centers (7.3% critical).

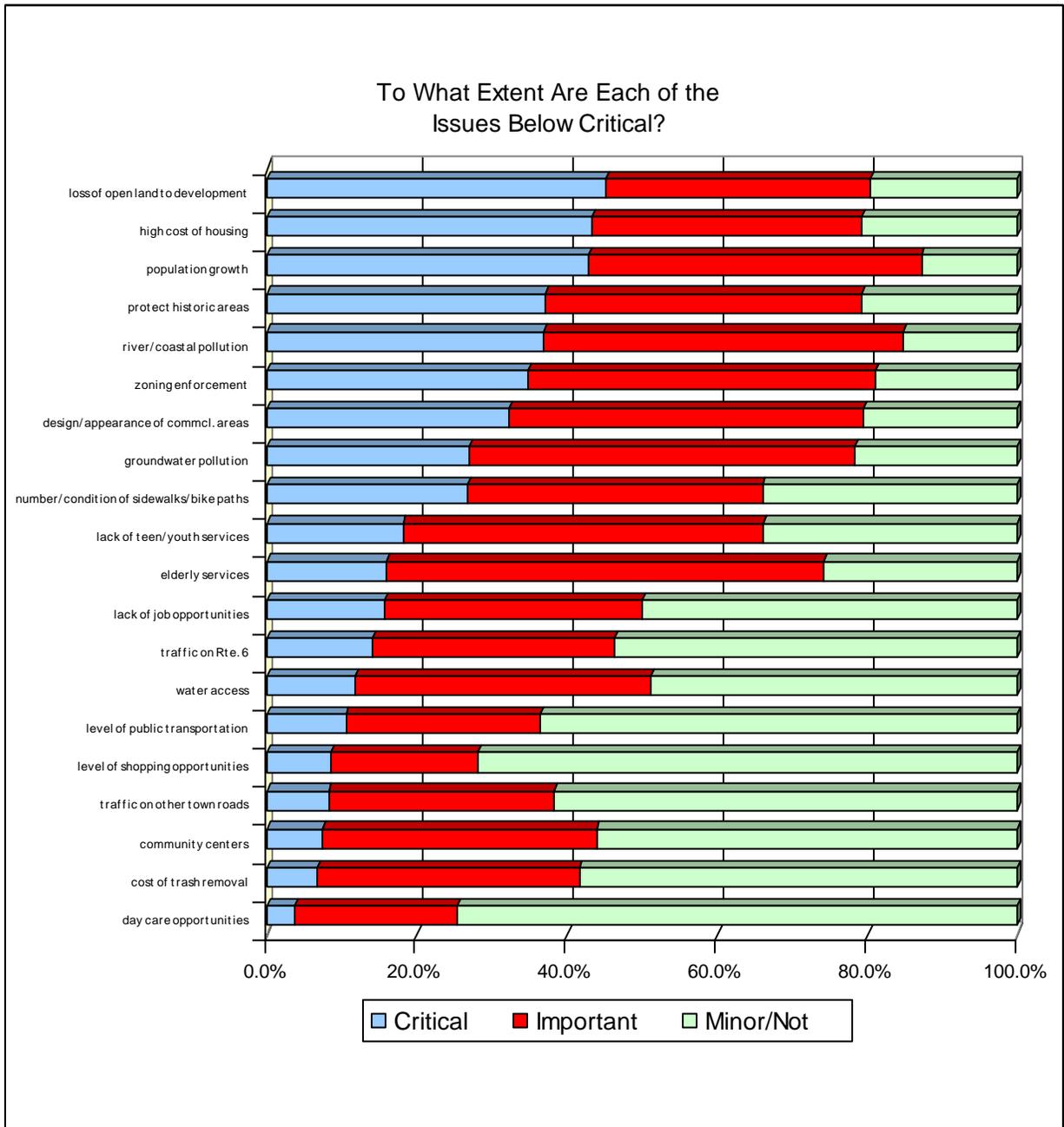
There were also a large percentage of “other” responses indicating various critical issues. Many of these issues are similar to the issues listed below in that they relate to concerns about the rate of development in Marion such as the affordable housing and over-development. A complete list of these responses is included in Appendix A.

Table 13

	Critical	Important	Minor/Not
loss of open land to development	45.1%	35.2%	19.6%
high cost of housing	43.4%	35.8%	20.8%
population growth	42.8%	44.4%	12.8%
protect historic areas	37.1%	42.1%	20.8%
river/coastal pollution	36.9%	47.9%	15.2%
zoning enforcement	34.7%	46.3%	19.0%
design/appearance of commcl. areas	32.3%	47.1%	20.6%
groundwater pollution	27.0%	51.3%	21.7%
number/condition of sidewalks/bike paths	26.7%	39.3%	34.0%
lack of teen/youth services	18.1%	48.0%	33.9%
elderly services	15.9%	58.2%	25.9%
lack of job opportunities	15.6%	34.5%	49.9%
traffic on Rte. 6	14.0%	32.4%	53.5%
water access	11.7%	39.5%	48.8%
level of public transportation	10.5%	26.0%	63.4%
level of shopping opportunities	8.5%	19.7%	71.9%
traffic on other town roads	8.2%	30.1%	61.7%
community centers	7.3%	36.6%	56.2%
cost of trash removal	6.8%	34.8%	58.4%
day care opportunities	3.7%	21.6%	74.7%



Figure 5



3.25a Crosstabulations

Age

Lack of youth services is a more critical issue among younger respondents in comparison to older respondents. Conversely, the older a respondent, the more likely they are to identify zoning enforcement and public transportation as critical issues.

Year-Round Residents and Seasonal Residents

Overall, year-round respondents are more likely than seasonal respondents to identify job opportunities, elderly services, and the number and conditions of sidewalks/bike paths as critical issues. However, the biggest difference exists for the high cost of housing, with 46.5 percent of year-round respondents indicating that the issue is critical in comparison to 27.3 percent of seasonal residents.

Conversely, seasonal respondents are more likely to find the issues of loss of land to development, protection of historic areas, and zoning enforcement more critical issues than do year-round respondents, although nearly equal percentages identify these as minor issues.

Length of Residency

Respondents who have lived in the town for a longer period of time identify elder issues, the high cost of housing, and public transportation as more critical in comparison to respondents who have lived in town for shorter periods of time.



3.26 Three Most Critical Issues in Order of Importance

Respondents were asked to rank the three most critical problems in order of importance from the issues list. Table 14 is sorted by total percentage, which is an aggregate of the number of responses for all three choices for each issue. The levels of importance placed on the issues fairly mirror those in Table 13. Again, the most critical issues relate to concerns about development pressures in Marion. Population growth, loss of open land to development, and high cost of housing are respondents' top choices. There are also several issues that small numbers of respondents chose as critical, such as day care opportunities, community centers, and cost of trash removal.

Population growth was cited as the most critical issue by nearly thirty percent (29.3%) of respondents, more than 2 ½ times that of the next issue. There were other issues that were written in by respondents. These can be found in Appendix A.

Table 14

	First Choice		Second Choice		Third Choice		Total	
	#	Percent	#	Percent	#	Percent	#	Percent
population growth	294	29.3%	94	9.5%	85	9.0%	473	16.1%
loss of open land to development	116	11.6%	168	17.0%	112	11.8%	396	13.5%
high cost of housing	185	18.4%	124	12.5%	70	7.5%	379	13.0%
river/coastal pollution	63	6.3%	90	9.1%	89	9.4%	242	8.2%
zoning enforcement	33	3.3%	68	6.9%	78	8.2%	179	6.1%
groundwater pollution	50	5.0%	67	6.8%	43	4.5%	160	5.4%
#/condition of sidewalks/bike paths	38	3.8%	68	6.8%	58	6.1%	160	5.5%
design/appearance of commcl. areas	25	2.5%	41	4.1%	86	9.1%	152	5.2%
protect historic areas	19	1.9%	28	2.8%	64	6.7%	111	3.8%
lack of teen/youth services	19	1.9%	39	3.9%	47	5.0%	105	3.6%
other	48	4.8%	25	2.5%	21	2.2%	94	3.2%
elderly services	32	3.2%	42	4.2%	18	1.9%	92	3.1%
lack of job opportunities	25	2.5%	29	2.9%	29	3.1%	83	2.8%
traffic on Rte. 6	11	1.1%	24	2.4%	34	3.6%	69	2.3%
level of shopping opportunities	8	0.8%	26	2.6%	23	2.4%	57	1.9%
water access	14	1.4%	20	2.0%	21	2.2%	55	1.9%
level of public transportation	9	0.9%	7	0.7%	24	2.5%	40	1.4%
traffic on other Town roads	5	0.5%	12	1.2%	15	1.6%	32	1.1%
cost of trash removal	4	0.4%	8	0.8%	14	1.5%	26	0.9%
community centers	2	0.2%	7	0.7%	16	1.7%	25	0.9%
day care opportunities	3	0.3%	4	0.4%	2	0.2%	9	0.3%



3.27 How Do You Feel About the Percentage of Land Used for the Following Purposes in Marion?

Respondents were asked their opinions on the level of various land uses in Marion. A majority of respondents indicate that there is “enough” of residential land use (83.0%), industrial land use (73.2%), and commercial land use (72.6%). In terms of too little development, a majority of respondents indicate that there is too little affordable housing (54.9%) and passive open space (51.1%) (see Table 15).

Table 15

Land Use	Too Little	Enough	Too Much
Active Recreation	37.1%	62.3%	0.6%
Affordable Housing	54.9%	39.7%	5.4%
Agriculture	34.4%	64.7%	0.9%
Commercial	19.5%	72.6%	7.9%
Industrial	15.4%	73.2%	11.4%
Passive Open Space	51.1%	46.2%	2.7%
Residential	6.2%	83.0%	10.8%

3.27a Crosstabulations

Age

Younger respondents are more likely to agree that the amount of land for active recreation is “too little” in comparison to older respondents.

Year-Round Residents and Seasonal Residents

A higher percentage of year-round respondents indicate that there is “too little” industrial development, lands for active recreation, and affordable housing in comparison to seasonal respondents.

Length of Residency

A higher percentage of respondents who have lived in town for less time agree that there is “too little” land for active recreation in comparison to residents who have lived in town longer. Conversely, respondents who have lived in Marion for longer periods indicate that there is “too little” affordable housing in comparison to respondents who have lived in town for shorter periods of time.



3.30 GROWTH

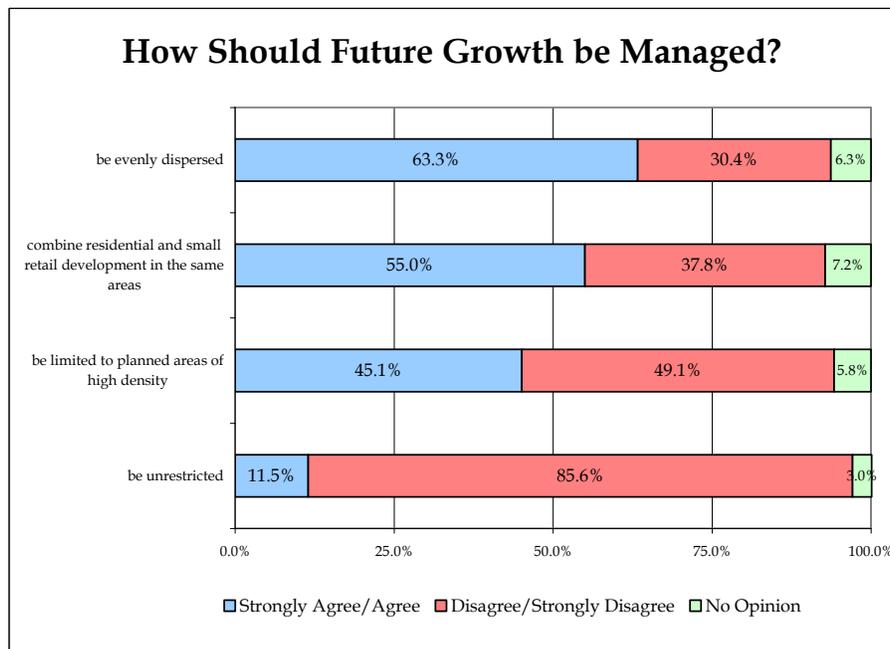
3.31 Assuming that More People will Move to Marion, How Strongly do you Agree that Growth in the Town Should:

Respondents were asked how Marion should manage future growth. Respondents are most likely to agree that growth should be evenly dispersed around the town (63.3% strongly agree/agree). A majority of respondents also strongly agree/agree that that growth should combine residential and retail development (55.0%). Conversely, 85.6 percent of respondents disagree or strongly disagree that growth should be unrestricted (see Table 16 and Figure 6).

Table 16

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	No Opinion
be evenly dispersed around the Town	25.8%	37.5%	20.9%	9.5%	6.3%
be limited to planned areas of high density development	14.9%	30.2%	33.7%	15.4%	5.8%
combine residential and small retail development in the same areas	15.9%	39.1%	25.6%	12.2%	7.2%
be unrestricted	6.1%	5.4%	18.8%	66.8%	3.0%

Figure 6



3.32 Future Industrial/Commercial Development in Marion

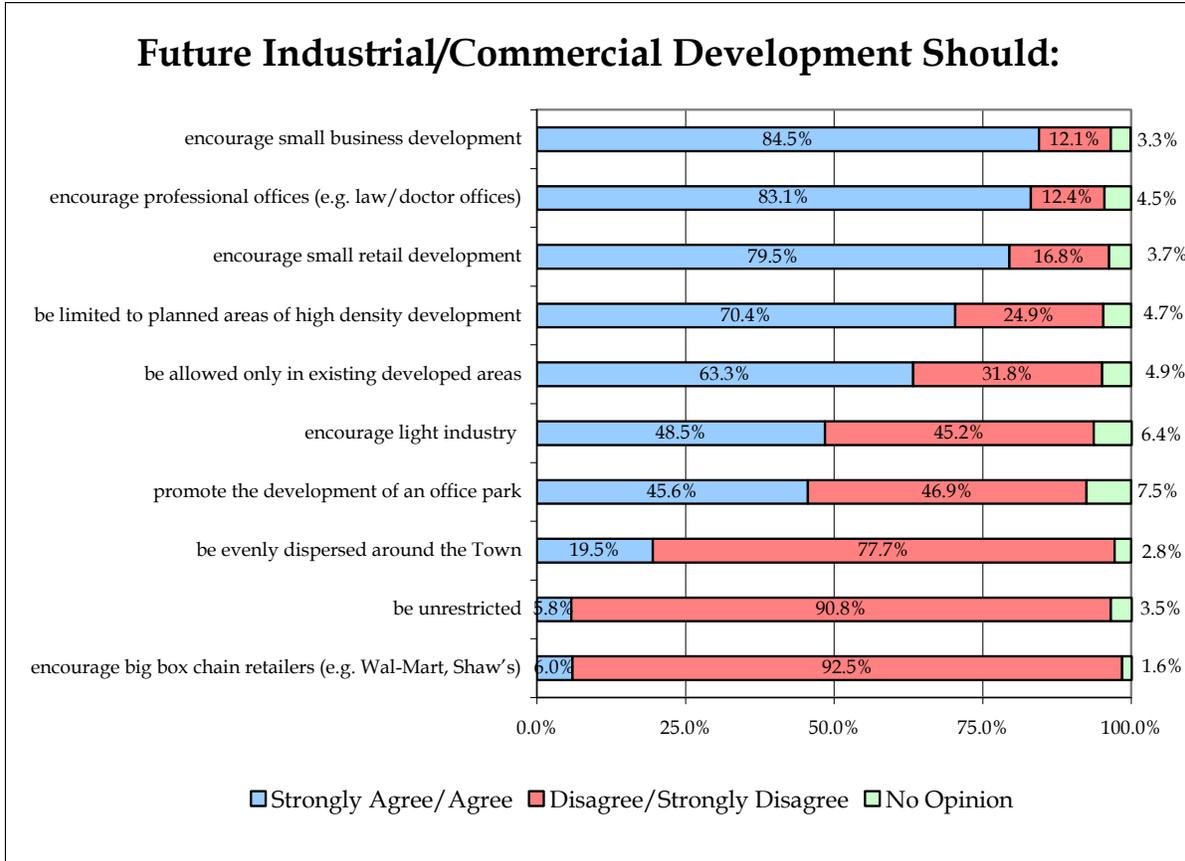
Respondents were asked how future industrial and commercial development in Marion should proceed. Respondents most strongly agree/agree that such development should encourage small business development (84.5%), be limited to planned areas of high density development (70.4%), and encourage small retail development (79.5%). Conversely, respondents least strongly agree/agree that future industrial and commercial development should encourage big box chain retailers (6.0%), be unrestricted (5.8%), and be evenly dispersed around town (19.5%) (see Table 17 and Figure 7).

Table 17

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	No Opinion
be evenly dispersed around the Town	6.3%	13.2%	40.4%	37.3%	2.8%
be limited to planned areas of high density development	24.2%	46.2%	17.7%	7.2%	4.7%
be allowed only in existing developed areas	22.1%	41.2%	27.9%	3.9%	4.9%
encourage small business development	27.7%	56.8%	9.2%	2.9%	3.3%
encourage small retail development	23.2%	56.3%	12.9%	3.9%	3.7%
encourage big box chain retailers (e.g. Wal-Mart, Shaw's)	3.3%	2.7%	14.9%	77.6%	1.6%
promote the development of an office park	8.1%	37.5%	20.4%	26.5%	7.5%
encourage light industry	7.8%	40.7%	23.1%	22.1%	6.4%
encourage professional offices (e.g. lawyer/doctor offices)	18.2%	64.9%	8.7%	3.7%	4.5%
be unrestricted	2.7%	3.1%	16.1%	74.7%	3.5%



Figure 8



3.33 Assuming that there will be More Residential Development in Marion, the Town Should:

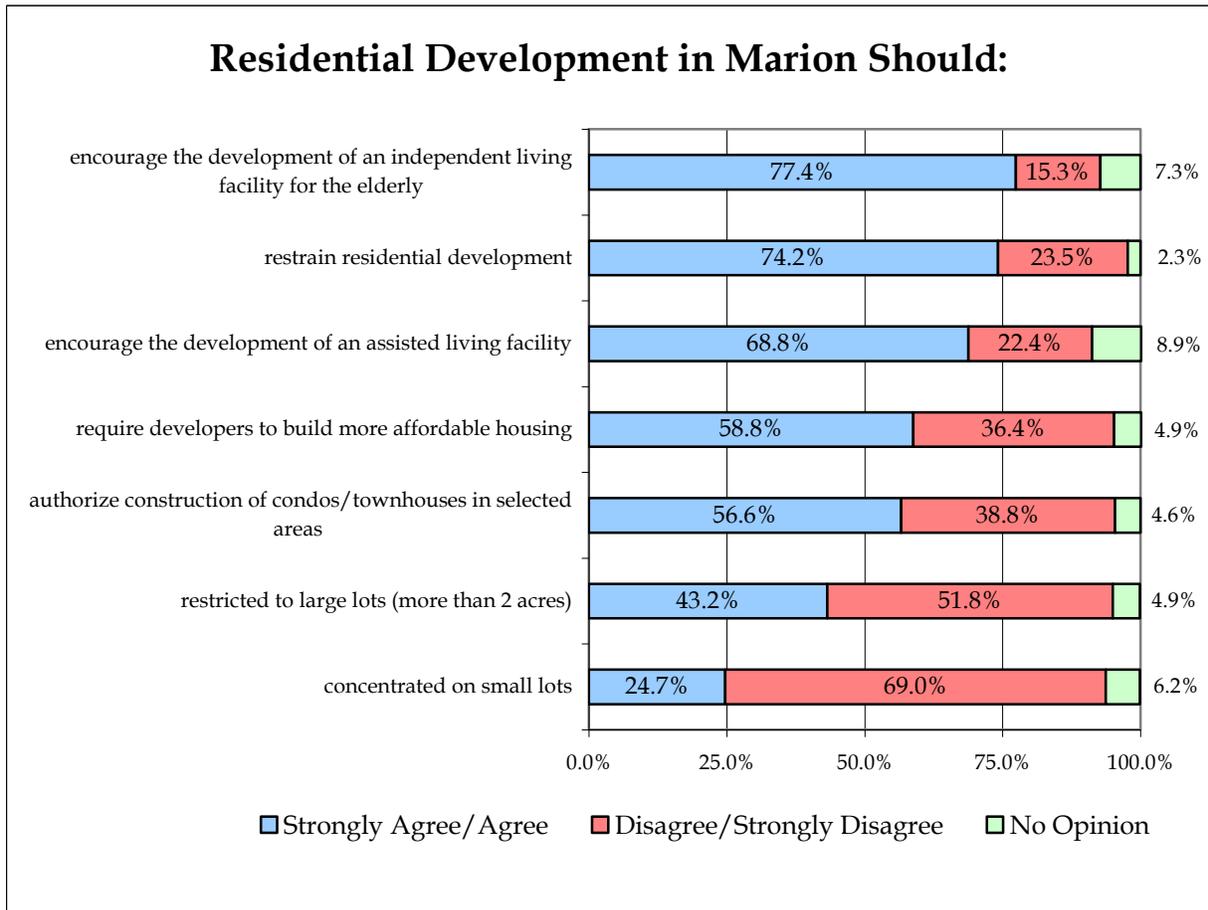
In terms of residential development, respondents are most likely to support the development of an independent living facility for the elderly (77.4% strongly agree/agree) and restraining residential development (74.2% strongly agree/agree). Respondents are least likely to support residential development concentrated on small lots (24.7% strongly agree/agree) and restricting development to large lots (43.2% strongly agree/agree) (see Table 18 and Figure 9).

Table 18

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	No Opinion
restrain residential development	30.8%	43.4%	20.5%	3.0%	2.3%
require developers to build more affordable housing	21.3%	37.5%	24.5%	11.9%	4.9%
encourage the development of an assisted living facility	20.2%	48.6%	17.5%	4.9%	8.9%
encourage the development of an independent living facility for the elderly	22.6%	54.8%	11.3%	4.0%	7.3%
encourage concentrated residential development on small lots	5.5%	19.2%	42.2%	26.8%	6.2%
restrict residential development to large lots (more than 2 acres)	16.7%	26.5%	37.6%	14.2%	4.9%
authorize the construction of condos/townhouses in selected areas of Town	14.2%	42.4%	20.9%	17.9%	4.6%



Figure 9



3.27a Crosstabulations

Age

Older respondents are more likely to strongly agree that the town should encourage the development of an assisted living facility and encourage the development of an independent living facility in comparison to younger respondents, although there is strong support for such development among all age groups.

Year-Round Residents and Seasonal Residents

A higher percentage of year-round respondents strongly agree that the town should require developers to build more affordable housing, encourage the development of an assisted living facility, and encourage the development of an independent living facility in comparison to seasonal respondents.



Length of Residency

Respondents who have lived in Marion for a longer period of time more strongly agree that the town should require developers to build more affordable housing, encourage the development of an assisted living facility, and encourage the development of an independent living facility in comparison to newer residents.

3.34 How Do You Feel About the Rate of Development in Town for Each of the Following Types of Development?

Respondents are more likely to agree that the rate of development of commercial and industrial uses is too slow, though support for all type of development is low. For example, a higher percentage of respondents agree that residential development is too fast (51.1%) in comparison to commercial (16.9%) and industrial development (18.8%), though low levels of respondents feel that the rate of commercial development (23.2%) and industrial development (20.8%) is too slow (see Table 19).

Table 19

	Too Fast	Just Right	Too Slow
Residential	51.1%	45.4%	3.5%
Commercial	16.9%	59.9%	23.2%
Industrial	18.8%	60.4%	20.8%

3.34a Crosstabulations

Year-Round Residents and Seasonal Residents

A higher percentage of seasonal respondents agree that the rate of commercial and industrial development is too fast, while a higher percentage of year-round respondents indicate that this type of development is too slow. However, similar percentages from each group agree that the rate of commercial and industrial development is just about right.

Length of Residency

A higher percentage of respondents who have lived in Marion for more than five years agree that residential and industrial development is too slow in comparison to respondents who have lived in town for five years or less, though majorities of both groups indicate that the rate of both types of development is just about right.



3.40 GOALS/VISION OF MARION

3.41 What Should Be the Goals of Marion?

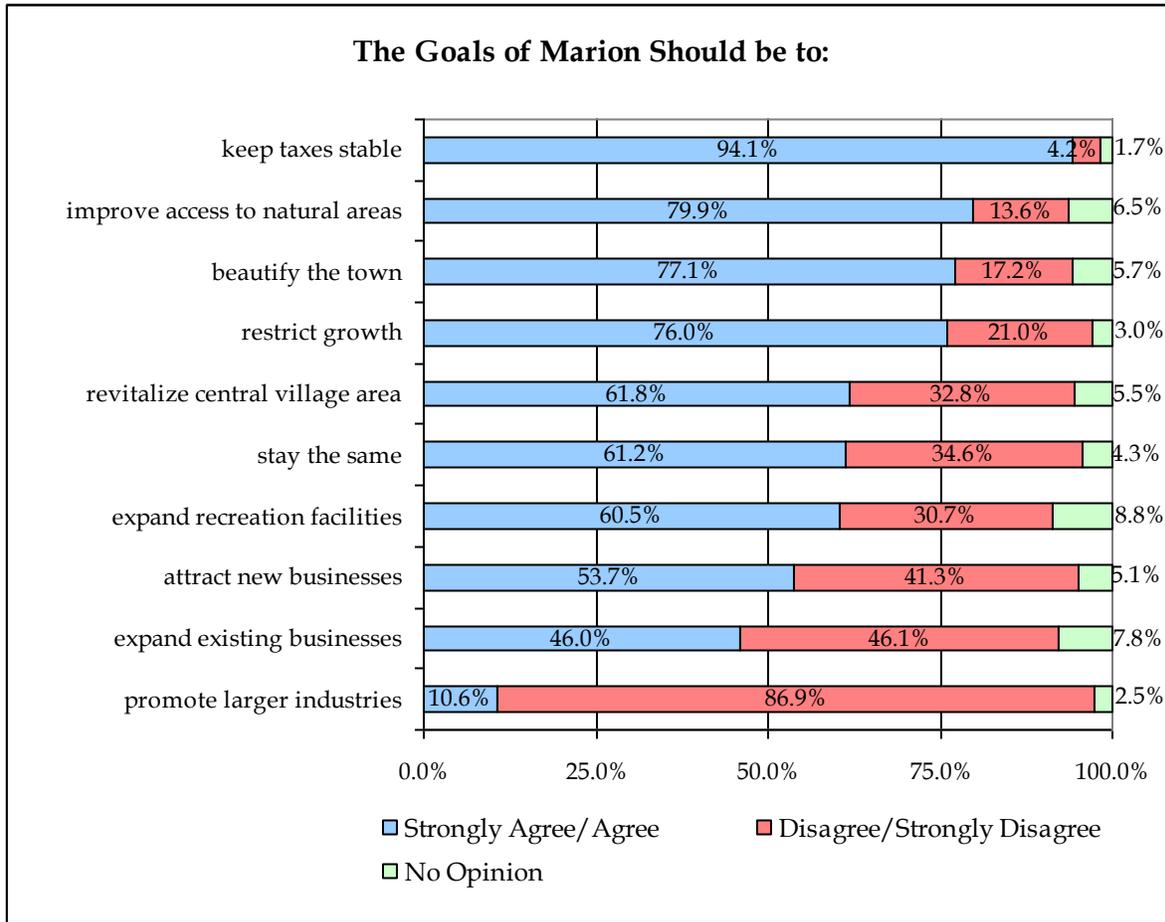
Respondents were asked how strongly they agreed or disagreed with a list of ten goals for the future of Marion. The highest percentages of respondents strongly agree/agree that taxes should be kept stable (94.1%), access to natural areas should be improved (79.9%), the town should be beautified (77.1%), and that growth should be restricted (76.0%). Respondents are least likely to strongly agree/agree that the town should promote larger industries (10.6%) (see Table 20 and Figure 10).

Table 20

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	No Opinion
stay the same	28.8%	32.4%	30.1%	4.5%	4.3%
expand existing businesses	4.0%	42.0%	36.6%	9.5%	7.8%
attract new businesses	8.1%	45.6%	30.5%	10.8%	5.1%
expand recreation facilities	13.9%	46.6%	26.7%	4.0%	8.8%
promote larger industries	2.0%	8.6%	41.4%	45.5%	2.5%
revitalize central village area	19.4%	42.4%	25.7%	7.1%	5.5%
beautify the town	26.8%	50.3%	14.9%	2.3%	5.7%
improve access to natural areas	28.2%	51.7%	12.2%	1.4%	6.5%
restrict growth	36.0%	40.0%	17.2%	3.8%	3.0%
keep taxes stable	55.8%	38.3%	3.7%	0.5%	1.7%



Figure 10



3.27a Crosstabulations

Age

A higher percentage of respondents age 65 years of age and older strongly agree that the goal of Marion should be to stay the same in comparison to other age groups, while younger respondents more strongly agree that recreation facilities should be expanded in comparison to older respondents.

Year-Round Residents and Seasonal Residents

A higher percentage of seasonal respondents strongly agree that the goals of Marion should be to stay the same and that growth should be restricted in comparison to year-round respondents.



Length of Residency

The longer a respondent has lived in Marion, the more strongly they agree that the goal of Marion should be to stay the same. Additionally, respondents who have lived in Marion for shorter periods of time strongly agree that the goal of the town should be to expand recreation facilities and more strongly agree/agree that the central village area should be revitalized.

3.42 How strongly do you Agree with the Following Statement: The Town Should Keep Taxes Stable, Even if it Means Reducing Services and Programs.

More than half of respondents (54.6%) strongly agree or agree that taxes should be kept stable even if it means reducing services and programs. Nearly a third (32.7%) disagree with that statement, while only 9.2 percent strongly disagree (see Table 21).

Table 21

	Frequency	Percent
Strongly Agree	246	23.8%
Agree	318	30.8%
Disagree	338	32.7%
Strongly Disagree	95	9.2%
No Opinion	36	3.5%

3.42a Crosstabulations

Length of Residency

The longer a respondent has lived in Marion, the more strongly they that the town should keep taxes stable, even if it means reducing services.



3.43 What, in your opinion, are the three most valued resources in the Town of Marion?

Respondents were asked to list the top three resources in Marion. The majority of the resources cited by respondents relate to the town’s beaches, waterways, and harbors and the character of the town. The top fifteen specific resources identified by respondents and the number of responses for each item are listed in Table 22. All responses can be found in Appendix A.

Table 22

Resource	# Responses
harbor/beaches/ocean/waterways	716
town character	300
people/community	210
undeveloped areas/open space	186
school system	98
schools/education (not specified)	84
small town quality/uncongested	79
location	76
natural and historic beauty	59
the village/town center	54
Tabor Academy	52
town services	49
safety/low crime rate	32
Water (unspecified)	31
historical character/historical buildings/sense of history	24
Elizabeth Taber Library	21
police protection	20
quiet/peace/privacy	20
organizations/volunteers	19
drinking water	18
marine life/shellfishing	18



3.44 How often do you Volunteer in Community Organizations?

Only 15.1 percent of respondents volunteer once or more per week, while more than half (55.9%) volunteer less than once a month or never volunteer (see Table 23). Many respondents indicate that they no longer volunteer because of their age.

Table 23

	Frequency	Percent
once or more per week	146	15.1%
2-4 times per month	153	15.8%
once a month	128	13.2%
less than once a month	245	25.3%
never	296	30.6%

3.44a Crosstabulations

Year-Round Residents and Seasonal Residents

Respondents who live in Marion year-round have higher levels of volunteerism in comparison to seasonal respondents.

3.45. Additional Comments

A total of 499 open-ended comments were included by respondents. In general, comments in this section reflect many of the same concerns and issues that were expressed throughout the survey. These responses are included in Appendix A and are grouped by their major themes.



4.00 APPENDIX A - OPEN ENDED RESPONSES

4.10 What Attracted You to Marion? (Section 3.16)

spouse grew up here (25 responses)
an attractive place to live/beauty/town
character (12 responses)
location - access to Boston, Providence, Cape
Cod (11 responses)
Tabor Academy/went to school at Tabor
Academy (10 responses)
inheritance (6 responses)
sailing (6 responses)
found a home I could afford (3 responses)
real estate appreciation, investment (3
responses)
small town living (4 responses)
boating and sailing (3 responses)
felt instantly at home - everything seemed
familiar (2 responses)
friends (2 responses)
good reputation - good values (2 responses)
quality of life (2 responses)
quality of people (2 responses)
retirement (2 responses)
vacation area (2 responses)

One response:

affordability of home at the time
affordable housing
available housing and its proximity to water
best friends live here
bought family home from grandparent
child-friendly attitudes
clean air
conservation plans
desirable retirement area
down-sizing
dump
easy access to Logan and Green airports
educated population
everything all walking/biking accessible
excellent retirement community
family first
family moved here
forest
found perfect home
golf course
good home investment
good place to retire

grandparents lived in Marion
great for children during summer vacation
great atmosphere; well educated population;
good sporting clubs
great harbor
grew up in Mattapoisett
grew up in Padanaram
harbor for boat
husband wanted to move here
husband's job
it was a real village then
job transfer
just a place to live
lack of commerce
library
like house lot
lived in Mattapoisett and wanted to stay in the
area
long time visitor prior to purchasing property
love to sail
low congestion
low growth rate
marsh view
moved as a young child
my husband wanted to live here
near work
neighbors care and watch out for each other
on the water
our house
parents moved here
parents' summer house
property being developed by close friend of my
father-in-law
property met needs
public tennis courts available
quiet
realtor
relative privacy
required for husband's employment
safe place to live
sense of community and making less fortunate
feel part of community
sidewalks for ease of walking
similar to a town in New Jersey I lived in as a
child
son was living here
special small town



What attracted you to Marion? (cont.)

spouse sailed here for years
stable housing values
summer house
summered here
summer vacations here 40 years ago
summered in Wareham
supportive programs
tennis
the [previous] management of the town
the house I was searching for
the preservation of historic houses

the village
to get away from the city
town politics concerned about cost of residency
for all classes of citizens
unspoiled rural character
Very quiet/quaint
visited and lived here in summer since I was
born
walkable
you get to know each other
1976 house prices and taxes were reasonable

4.20 Which Best Describes where You Work? Write-in Responses (Section 3.17)

New York/New York City (9 responses)
student (6 responses)
Taunton (3 responses)
Brockton (2 responses)
Fall River (2 responses)
New England states (2 responses)
out of state (2 responses)
Plymouth (3 responses)
Washington, DC (2 responses)

One Response:

Acton
all over U.S.
Bridgewater
Chicago
coastal Massachusetts
Colorado
commercial fisherman
Connecticut
consultant out of Marion
Easton
Florida
graduate student

Groton, CT
Illinois
Maryland
Michigan
Middleboro
nationally and internationally
New Jersey
Northeast
Norton
Ohio
part time
Raynham
Rockland
seafarer
Seattle
Southeastern MA
Travel throughout Rhode Island and
Massachusetts
Virginia
Western Massachusetts
Worcester County
worldwide



4.30 Quality of Services - Write-in Responses (Section 3.21)

How do you feel about the quality of services currently provided by the Town in each of the following areas?

Service	Ranking
church	excellent
elderly affairs	excellent
elderly council	excellent
harbor services and protection	excellent
health nurse	excellent
mail	excellent
personnel	excellent
preservation of green	excellent
public spirit (2 responses)	excellent
town landscaping	excellent
town special events planning	excellent
trash pick up	excellent
trash pick up (3 responses)	excellent
tree removal	excellent
volunteerism (2 responses)	excellent
fireworks	excellent
animal control	good
Animal Control (2 responses)	good
culture/arts	good
harbor services	good
town dump	good
transfer station (2 responses)	good
affordable housing	fair
harbormaster	fair
land conservation	fair
open space preservation	fair
restaurants	fair
senior housing (3 responses)	fair
summer programs (2 responses)	fair
town management	fair
accepting new streets	poor
access to gas from street	poor
affordable housing (4 responses)	poor
animal control (2 responses)	poor
bad smell from sewer	poor
beach parking	poor
bike paths/walkways (5 responses)	poor
boat trailer parking (2 responses)	poor
conservation enforcement	poor
disposal of household equipment	poor
dog leash law (2 responses)	poor
dump facilities (2 responses)	poor
funding special education disbursements	poor
grocery stores (2 responses)	poor
Harbor Master	poor
harbor operation	poor
lack of land fill (4 responses)	poor



Service (continued)	Ranking
no noise ordinance (2 responses)	poor
non vehicle circulation	poor
openness	poor
parking space	poor
Planning Board	poor
renting/apartments in Marion (2 responses)	poor
retail	poor
senior tax relief (2 responses)	poor
sewer	poor
sewer (2 responses)	poor
sewer rates (2 responses)	poor
sidewalks (15 responses)	poor
sidewalks/bike paths	poor
speeding cars (2 responses)	poor
street lamps (2 responses)	poor
street lighting	poor
too many boats	poor
transfer station (2 responses)	poor
tree care	poor
value of services for price paid	poor
water charges for irrigation systems	poor
water cost	poor
water for outside use	poor
water rates	poor
would like access to natural gas sewer	poor
burying wires (2 responses)	no ranking
closing of transfer station	no ranking
communication with voters (2 responses)	no ranking
follow through with planning (2 responses)	no ranking
grading Silvershell and Washburn Road and parking lot	no ranking
historic preservation	no ranking
land/open space	no ranking
need more public sewers	no ranking
need more public sewers	no ranking
no concern for building on established wetlands	no ranking
no vision to keep the tax rate manageable	no ranking
over taxation	no ranking
road litter (2 responses)	no ranking
runaway spending	no ranking
self serving	no ranking
senior citizen housing	no ranking
town office appearance	no ranking
veterans help	no ranking



4.40 Funding, Improving, or Expanding Services - Write-in Responses (Section 3.22)

How Strongly Do You Agree or Disagree That in the Future the Town Should Place More Emphasis on Funding, Improving, or expanding these Municipal Services?

Service	Ranking
acquire green space, open land	strongly agree
bike/walk paths (18 responses)	strongly agree
dump/transfer station	strongly agree
enforcement of speed law (2 responses)	strongly agree
fireworks (2 responses)	strongly agree
growth	strongly agree
growth management (2 responses)	strongly agree
harbor operation	strongly agree
housing	strongly agree
land conservation (3 responses)	strongly agree
land fill area (2 responses)	strongly agree
leaf removal	strongly agree
library (2 responses)	strongly agree
low income/affordable housing (2 responses)	strongly agree
Marion Natural History Museum	strongly agree
more senior housing	strongly agree
municipal wireless network	strongly agree
natural gas access	strongly agree
no fast food (2 responses)	strongly agree
open space village protection (2 responses)	strongly agree
openness	strongly agree
regional services	strongly agree
senior citizen housing	strongly agree
senior housing	strongly agree
sewer	strongly agree
sidewalks/sidewalk maintenance (15 responses)	strongly agree
snow shoveling (2 responses)	strongly agree
special needs funding	strongly agree
Tabor funding	strongly agree
village court maintenance	strongly agree
alternative power	agree
circulation	agree
harbor services	agree
bike access	strongly disagree
Harbor Master	strongly disagree
sidewalks	strongly disagree
adequate funding (2 responses)	no ranking
affordable housing	no ranking
burying overhead wires	no ranking
DPW and water tower land	no ranking
management	no ranking
senior housing (2 responses)	no ranking
stop lawn fertilizer from seeping into water (2 responses)	no ranking



4.50 Issues/Problems - Write-in Responses (Section 3.25)

Please Indicate to what Extent You Think Each of the Issues Below are a Problem in the Town.

Issue	Ranking
access to fire, police, EMT	critical
activities for single parents	critical
affordable/low income housing (3 responses)	critical
affordable housing without large apartment buildings	critical
affordable senior housing (2 responses)	critical
clean water and trees	critical
commercial strip development	critical
completing sewer extension	critical
condition of streets	critical
control of 40B developments	critical
cost of electricity	critical
design of Rt. 6 (2 responses)	critical
diversity of town	critical
drinking water	critical
drinking water quality	critical
dump/transfer station (2 responses)	critical
effort to plan/zone/coordinate growth	critical
elder housing (2 responses)	critical
elderly property taxes (2 responses)	critical
encourage commercial development on Rt.6 (2 responses)	critical
escalating taxes (2 responses)	critical
fireworks (2 responses)	critical
full time firemen (2 responses)	critical
growth of harbormaster office (2 responses)	critical
high cost of water (2 responses)	critical
high taxes (2 responses)	critical
high taxes for seniors (2 responses)	critical
lack of planning for resident growth (2 responses)	critical
lack of serious recycling	critical
lack of sewer access	critical
lack of town-wide sewer	critical
limit/prohibit franchises	critical
low cost housing a disaster	critical
maintenance and repair of town streets (2 responses)	critical
maintenance of high quality life (2 responses)	critical
maintenance of laid-back, semi-rural atmosphere of town (2 responses)	critical
make up of Planning Board (2 responses)	critical
mediocre school system	critical
more dining in town (2 responses)	critical
more retail in town (2 responses)	critical
multi-family housing for elderly	critical
new police station (2 responses)	critical
new properties too large for neighborhood	critical
no franchises (2 responses)	critical
no handicap access on sidewalks	critical
no historic district (2 responses)	critical



Issue (continued)	Ranking
noise from Rt. 6	critical
overdevelopment	critical
parking/access to village	critical
post office services (2 responses)	critical
preservation of quality of community life by limiting growth (2 responses)	critical
preserve character of town	critical
property taxes (3 responses)	critical
public sewer issues (2 responses)	critical
recreation paths	critical
recycling program	critical
reduce the number of boats	critical
redundant fire horn	critical
revising current EMS service	critical
safety on Point Rd	critical
school cutbacks	critical
school quality (2 responses)	critical
schools (2 responses)	critical
senior center (2 responses)	critical
senior citizen housing (2 responses)	critical
septic/natural gas for all (2 responses)	critical
sewer (4 responses)	critical
sewer extensions/expansion (8 responses)	critical
sidewalks	critical
snow removal (4 responses)	critical
speeding on Point Rd	critical
speeding on Point and Converse Rds.	critical
Tabor Academy should pay taxes (4 responses)	critical
Tabor use of town services	critical
taxes	critical
taxes (land valuations)	critical
telephone poles placed in middle of sidewalks	critical
town library size (2 responses)	critical
trucks traveling at high speeds (2 responses)	critical
unit low income housing	critical
upgrade sewer	critical
upkeep by owners of abandoned property (2 responses)	critical
village viability (2 responses)	critical
water availability (2 responses)	critical
water quality (2 responses)	critical
water quality/quantity	critical
width of Rt. 6 critical (2 responses)	critical
wildlife protection (2 responses)	critical
care of our roads (2 responses)	important
curb cuts for handicapped	important
lack of restaurants (4 responses)	important
let Dunkin Donuts in town with drive thru (4 responses)	important
limited recycling	important
property tax rate	important
road paving conditions	important
safety issues for pedestrians (2 responses)	important
senior housing	important
too much regulation from town hall	important
VA help	important



Issue (continued)	Ranking
water/ sewer cost	important
bike paths (2 responses)	minor/no issue
Tabor Academy (4 responses)	minor/no issue
affordable housing	no ranking
burying wires (2 responses)	no ranking
creative housing w emphasis for needy families (2 responses)	no ranking
lack of a drug store	no ranking
library too small	no ranking
more speed control on local roads	no ranking
no dogs on beach year round	no ranking
no fast food or large conglomerate	no ranking
no need for a historical commission	no ranking
over development by developers	no ranking
overbuilt town	no ranking
over-involvement and spending by Harbormaster	no ranking
overriding prop important and a half	no ranking
parking in village (2 responses)	no ranking
real estate taxes	no ranking
school parking	no ranking
sewer - grinder pumps	no ranking
sewer and water rates	no ranking
sidewalk condition (2 responses)	no ranking
speeding cars down Delano and Point Rds	no ranking
street repair	no ranking
tax rate	no ranking
water access to non-taxpayers	no ranking
zoning plan	no ranking

4.60 Most Critical Issue - Write-in Responses (Section 3.26)

Please indicate the letters of the 3 most serious problems in order of importance to you:

- | | |
|---|------------------------------|
| drinking water | mediocre school system |
| drinking water quality | new police station |
| elder housing | no franchises |
| elderly property taxes | overriding prop 2 ½ |
| encourage commercial development on Rt.6 | parking in village |
| escalating taxes (2 responses) | preserve character of town |
| fireworks | property taxes |
| lack of decent restaurants | recycling program |
| lack of planning for resident growth | road paving conditions |
| lack of serious recycling | safety on Point Rd |
| let Dunkin Donuts in town with drive thru | school cutbacks |
| low income housing | school parking |
| maintenance and repair of town streets | schools |
| maintenance of high quality life | senior housing (3 responses) |
| maintenance of laid-back, semi-rural | septic/natural gas for all |
| atmosphere of town | sewage |



sewer - grinder pumps
sewer extensions
speeding on Point Rd
street repair
Tabor taxing our school system

town library size
trucks traveling at high speeds on 105
water availability
wildlife protection



4.70 What, in your opinion, are the three most valued resources in the Town of Marion? (Section 3.43)

Resource	# Responses
harbor/beaches/ocean/waterways	716
town character	300
people/community	210
undeveloped areas/open space	186
school system	98
schools/education (not specified)	84
small town quality/uncongested	79
location	76
natural and historic beauty	59
the village/town center	54
Tabor Academy	52
town services	49
safety/low crime rate	32
Water (unspecified)	31
historical character/historical buildings/sense of history	24
Elizabeth Taber Library	21
police protection	20
quiet/peace/privacy	20
organizations/volunteers	19
drinking water	18
marine life/shellfishing	18
no franchises/shopping malls	17
fire protection	13
recreation facilities	12
clean harbor/water/environment	12
citizen involvement in Town affairs	11
quality of life	10
town employees	10
Sippican Land Trust	9
commitment to planned/controlled/managed development	9
recreation and recreation facilities	9
town government	9
Washburn Park	9
business base/local businesses	8
children/young families	8
community events/spirit	8
Diversity	8
EMS	8
golf club/country club	7
stable taxes	7
public schools	6
town dump/transfer station	6
water and sewer service	6
low and stable tax rate	5
parks/playgrounds/recreation facilities	5



Resource (continued)	# Responses
wetlands	5
churches	4
property values	4
zoning restrictions	4
affordable housing/diverse housing stock	3
central post office	3
honest, non-ideological politics/leadership	3
senior citizens	3
sewer service	3
affluent neighbors/exclusive	2
banks	2
DPW	2
Front St. boat landing	2
good investment	2
real estate/quality homes	2
summer residents/community	2
waterfront real estate	2
2015 Task Force	1
the future	1
resort town	1
bike path	1



4.80 Open-Ended Comments

4.81 AFFORDABILITY/AFFORDABLE HOUSING

I recommend that there be a discussion of senior citizen homeowners being given a tax ceiling for their home on the total school taxes i.e. school taxes on their home cannot increase. There are over 6 states in the Union which have this tax freeze.

[How can a new development be considered a "friendly 40B" when they do not have to follow the same density rules as everyone else? The law is badly written if 28 units can be crammed onto 8 acres with 2-3 qualifying as affordable...]

Affordable housing is critical. I have lived here my entire life and I love Marion. But now I have 2 children of my own, I can't afford the prices in town to live. I just don't think it's feasible and I think it's unfair to many young couples.

Marion is in danger of losing the older population who can no longer afford the property taxes on homes they have lived in for decades. Some form of property tax relief (volunteers for x hours to get reduced taxes) is needed.

Both the school committee, regional school committee, and town itself voted in too many large expenditures at the same time - too many people have been negatively affected by the resulting real estate tax rise.

My family has been here well over a hundred years. It hurts that so many can no longer afford to live in the great town. We are quickly becoming the ones that will have to leave and resort to living in a mobile home.

The town should be proactive regarding mandate for affordable housing - town should buy land, build suitable, well designed attractive homes. Then sell at cost to appropriate families.

Middle class will be non-existent in a few years in Marion. What made this town quaint has been compromised by all the huge additions to houses in the village. With all the intelligent residents, how did this happen, and they worry about Dunkin Donuts

Although housing costs have risen in Marion they have also slowly risen in New Bedford and other urban areas. So on a relative basis they haven't changed much in comparison to nearby urban areas.

Although taxes may not increase, assessments are, which ultimately forces people on limited income to move. Elderly cost town little but families replacing elderly cost town more and need more services.

Ultra-liberal policy works in Boston created 40B, which with other unfunded mandates, reduce people's ability to govern themselves and maintain their community's uniqueness and quality of life...

[Unless we do something about real estate taxes, we as senior citizens will be forced out of this lovely town... HELP!!]

As a retired citizen living on a fixed income, I am sorry to have to leave this town and sell to a younger, wealthier family with children who require more amenities.

Better real estate tax break for seniors.



Following through on affordable housing plan to ward off future 40B development is critical

[I agree with recent article re: Taxes - increased forcing seniors to sell. Need to plan ahead. Thank Mrs. Reis for sharing her story! She is not alone and lucky to have been able to buy another home in this town!

Great place to live! Needs to remain affordable!

Housing prices are too high. Marion is starting to look like a lot of Boston suburbs.

I am 70 years old. If R.E. taxes keep climbing, I will be forced to sell my home.

I am concerned about keeping taxes low so that all can live here in beauty and peace.

I hope that my children will be able to afford to live in town.

It greatly concerns me that families trying to re-locate in the village area can't afford to do so. Families need housing.

It is absolute stupidity to expect every town in the Commonwealth to develop on the same set of development rules without first examining the resources the town has to offer.

Marion is a wonderful town and it would be nice to keep it that way. The economics of supply and demand will continue to drive real estate values higher and higher, so the affordable housing battle will be a tough one.

Marion is badly in need of renewable and affordable housing especially for seniors.

Marion seems to encourage the wealthy to live here and is pushing the young who were born here. Working youth have no chance to live where they grew up. Zoning should not allow for small homes to become expensive homes for the wealthy. Can't retire here.

More apartments and condo zoning would provide more affordable housing opportunities.

My husband and I couldn't afford to buy in Marion unless they do some type of affordable housing.

Recent housing reevaluation has eliminated my right to receive circuit breaker exemption on state income tax, even though my property tax only rose 2%... a difference of about \$600 on my state income tax burden...

[Respondent included newspaper article "Home's vaulting value became a burden" from Standard Times 3/21/2005 stating "this should not happen"]

Rising taxes making the town unaffordable for middle class

Section 18 probably should have mentioned cluster zoning as an option.

The cost of living in Marion could force the town's children to live elsewhere. Marion could become a town of the very rich.

The rich and famous are taking over the town. People can't afford to live here anymore.

There should be priority status put on expanding Little Neck Village (28 units) as promised and Marion senior residents on waiting list should have priority over out-of-town applicants. Local seniors cannot afford to be without this housing for much longer.

Town needs 100-150 units of medium to high quality market rate multi-family townhouse style condominiums to give downsizing/empty nesters choices in town and those out of town who don't want single family living.



Town needs to protect residents from getting priced out of their homes.

Town should strictly reinforce condo and development of the low income housing. Large lot development (2+ acres) should only take place!!!

Two family and/or elderly housing to allow seniors who have lived here to stay in town.

We need affordable housing for elderly and young adults who want to settle and raise families.

[How does the town propose to agree to affordable housing built, when we have poor water, little sewage disposal, less water available to us, and no municipal dump. What the town offers us now is acceptable at a minimum, what will we offer with increase population

We need low income housing for the people who can't pay big rent.?

We really need affordable housing for elderly to stay in town and for the young to start off here and for those providing town services and for minorities to provide variety, joy, and fairness.

Would like to see more affordable housing for seniors.

[I have lived in Marion my whole life. I realize how lucky I am as others my age who grew up here could not afford it. I don't see anything wrong with affordable housing, but I don't want our town services to be overwhelmed by overpopulation]

[I have noticed over the years people move here from larger towns because of our quaint town - they change things and then leave! Help! I do not want to leave my home]

It's a tragedy that some older residents have been forced to sell their homes for not being able to manage higher taxes. There should be something done for senior citizens and property taxes.

Some local retirees on a fixed income had to move out of town (due to tax increase). The rise means little to higher income families, but to lower income or retired families, can be devastating.

[We are new to the area and went to pick up forms for senior housing knowing that there is a long wait and twice we were refused before anyone knew our financial circumstances! Upsetting!]

[Working class people can't afford to live in Marion].

Concerned that Marion will go the way of Nantucket, where only the rich can afford to live here. Need to be more proactive in developing affordable housing and attracting some commercial/large industry on Rt. 6.

Cost of living "breaks" - i.e. taxes, etc. should be given to those who serve/protect this town so the response time to incidents will improve. If you work less out of town you will be more available to the town.

Desirable to build condos with green surroundings for older populations with reasonable prices.

Does the town have the slightest clue how bad it is for senior citizens to live here?

Give tax incentives like Wareham for keeping rentals at affordable rates. Tax breaks for clean light industries and commercial businesses.

If Marion continues to loose seniors to high taxes there should be an alternative for them offered by affordable, functional housing units.

Marion should not become another expensive suburb of Boston.

See Feb. 2005 Organic Life magazine for examples of effective housing, clusters, etc.



Soon the only people who can afford to live in Marion will be the very rich.

The Town should have protected itself so that Point Rd. development and the pending 100-200 unit 40B development couldn't have happened.

The travesty along Point Rd. area with Joanna Drive is horrific. Developers should be held accountable as well as the planners.

We need to provide for the future with more services for the elderly and affordable housing for children who will not be able to afford to live here when older.

[Affordable housing... I can't afford to live on Martha's Vineyard or Nantucket. I live where I can afford, others should too...don't ask me to subsidize a life others can't afford and ruin my town in the process. Dartmouth and New Bedford are affordable.

[In some towns taxes are stabilized for the elderly by keeping school taxes constant - lower income seniors can remain in their homes]

[Marion has changed from middle income level community to a community of high income families. The middle income families have suffered and are pretty helpless. No one should have to leave their home for these reasons (tax increase).]

[The population is aging and there are no graceful options for them to transition and remain in town. Cluster housing of townhouses and small capes with open spaces & trails would be a welcome addition to town]

The town and the state should not be subsidizing or requiring subsidies for affordable housing. Let the free market drive where people live; the town should concentrate on low/no cost ways to improve, especially with more aggressive zoning/growth controls

[We should zone a certain percentage of owner-occupied two family homes throughout the town; we should allow planned unit developments to get more open space, but still limit the density of the developed area.]

Housing for elderly and services required for the elderly to make their lives more enjoyable and less stressful.

I fear Marion is becoming a town only for the rich.

My husband and I will be leaving Marion in 2-3 years and moving to a nearby town. We will not be able to remain here. How sad.

Small, multi-family residential could be OK in some areas, especially if designated for low income or elderly.

It is important to have young families here – able to afford living here i.e. housing prices. Taxes are too high. Also able to keep elderly in their homes (not have to sell because of high taxes).



4.82 GROWTH/DEVELOPMENT/TAXES

Allowing large scale development will wreck the unique character of the town and cause taxes to go up with disproportionately increased demands on schools, water, etc.

[Cape Cod in the late 1950's was beautiful! The Cape has been raped by out-of-control development. Nantucket has become a playground for the wealthy. Both great wealth and uncontrolled development kill the character of small towns like Marion.]

[Future development should be limited in the sense that we should cease encroaching upon open space, and concentrate on finding ways to decrease our impact on ecosystem....]

Growth in town should be balanced. The tax base needs to grow hand in hand with the need for more services. If restricted/planned residential growth is allowed it needs to be off set with attracting commercial business that maintains character of the town.

I'd love Marion to stay just as it is, but I also know that taxes can't keep going up. So - I would support growth, at moderate speed and careful planning. An office park, or some light industry, carefully located, will not be the end of the world.

[Important to guide growth and change].

Managed growth is key to low taxes, services, maintaining the look and feel of the town. Having business thrive and committed to helping the town with grants, donations, etc.

[Marion needs to develop a long range plan to manage growth. We need to develop pockets of affordable housing, and encourage 55+ community development. A 55+ development is ideal for a town like Marion since it expands the tax base, no burden on schools.]

[My concern is that Marion is growing too fast. While new homes generate more tax revenue, these new homes come with children who need education and that is a costly situation. Therefore, the tax income generated is more than used up.]

[Controlled growth of taxes is a necessity; zoning laws should be followed more closely; better schools, please! Let's make the Brookline schools a model for what we in Marion want; thank you for the opportunity to express my opinions]

[Whatever can be done to guide Marion's growth, ensure that plans involve a profit incentive to ensure the desired outcome. Stonewalling & legal expenses incurred to fight development because the town zoning is ill conceived. Don't fight losing battles.]

Change is inevitable, so being prepared is an important ingredient toward managed growth. It will be difficult to balance competing interests but keeping the essential character of the town. Zoning is an important tool in this effort.

Growth is not necessarily bad if it fits into the town's personality.

How are we planning for baby boomers? Increases in aging population are staggering.

I am very concerned about the tax rate in Marion. Efforts to expand growth are misplaced. The town should be concentrating on reducing the number of tax dollars spent. My husband and I aren't interested in more services.

Challenge is to respond to change without losing uniqueness of town character and without making it too expensive to live here.



I think keeping taxes stable is totally unrealistic given the needs of our schools and the demands of state and federal government.

Enforce existing zoning laws

Democracy/Capitalism/free utopia will ensure the ruin of Marion. The challenge is to have that happen as slowly as possible. Biggest problem with harbor is totally inadequate provision of dinghy space.

Keep Marion small

Lot-size based zoning does not work. It only creates sprawl. Dense housing areas/condos should be encouraged along with increasing permanent open space.

Maintain the character of the community, improve basic service slowly, encourage small, local businesses in existing commercial areas, i.e. village, Rt. 6 & industrial park; do not allow condos.

Marion is a great town; limit growth to cut down on the largest expense - school

Marion is one of the best kept secrets in New England... let's not destroy its best assets by overdevelopment.

Marion needs to fight for the status quo. We do not need to build high density housing. We do not need to further expand town services or school.

Apartments over businesses like Europe. Fill present buildings that are empty. Keep Rt.6 trees/woods around Mill St./Marconi to reduce traffic danger. Wareham has many empty industrial park buildings.

Marion should manage growth, not fight it.

Marion will not remain "the same," nor should it.

Moderation.

Not sure what you are looking for. Growth is inevitable. We can not pretend we can stop it or hope it goes away. Need to control and manage growth. Everyone wants more services - but no tax increase. Our schools are sinking in their quality of education.

Older people do not like change. I am one of them.

Our current tax burden is too high. Leaving space open reduces taxes. Tax reduction should be your goal.

Our taxes are too high for middle income people. We do need to curb our own spending. Let's pay off debt before spending more.

Please control the population

Please keep the town small!

Poor planning

Questions about growing the town are concerning since town has not been able to keep up with growth it's already had. Needs to build infrastructure/services up for existing residents.

Retract the town meeting vote to proliferate lot sizes.

Rules, restrictions, and regulations enforced by small groups of frustrated "legislatures" will continue to hurt private development and end up costing consumers more. Look at rent control in Boston - trying to micromanage development.



Some parts of town are being scarred by overbuilding of residences, including Planting Island.

Stable taxes a valuable resource.

The first question to be resolved is can we afford it.

The town's long range plan should be coordinated with Tabor Academy's long range plan.

The town seems trapped in their "history". It is an ingrown community that resists change, has negative attitudes and narcissistic viewpoints, with too many cliques. The town should think in a more contemporary manner.

Town of Marion government can no longer operate with "old school" mentality. "Out of the box" approach to growth would help town be more proactive than reactive. Growth is inevitable - plan for it and manage it. Do not run away from it.

Water resource would be a big problem if more people were to move here.

We like the progress of the town to keep on as it has been

Would like to see taxes remain stable while limited growth continues.

[...Development should be unlimited in the sense that locally owned businesses should be free to operate in residential areas, and new or replacement housing should include multi-family dwellings. Zoning laws relaxed somewhat]

[I am worried about developers buying up property and deceiving neighbors]

[Marion and surrounding towns should work together to manage resources as a region. For example, is there a regional water plan? wetland management? affordable housing?]

Fix up what we have presently that will be a good start. We are big enough. Settle it down.

Hold back large scale development at any cost.

I love the village - how can we prevent major traffic jams in 10 years if population grows.

I reject the notion that the citizens of Marion do not have the right to see their town develop in a slow and thoughtful process [and instead our growth is in the hands of real estate developers].

I would rather pay higher taxes than become overcrowded. No more building.

More needs to be done to limit development and protect wetlands.

Planning the expansion of Rt. 6 with a residential zoning priority is top issue facing the town.

Change is inevitable, but keep it slow and measured.

We need to embrace growth and change but limit building so we can grow slowly.

The tax rate this past quarter was outrageous and I feel it needs to level off. The Proposition 2 1/2 override needs to really be looked at or stopped.

Taxes are extremely high for seasonal residents. We get very little for our taxes.

Development should be more concentrated to preserve open space and reduce pollution.



Taxes are high.

Taxes are too high.

The town will lose if they don't put in some tough zoning laws - i.e. 2 acre lots for only single family.

We live in a wonderful town – please don't turn it into suburbia with bike paths and over-development!

[...One of the most attractive things about Marion is the people...who promote education, culture, and beauty. However I have also seen some of that attachment to beauty lead to inflexibility with regard to change. We do need to change; we do need to accommodate growth, to acknowledge the needs of young people who can't afford 350k houses... I believe we can find a middle ground.]



4.83 SCHOOLS/EDUCATION/TABOR ACADEMY

[Tabor Academy should pay taxes equal to their holdings and income, or provide residents' children with free schooling]

[The town revolves around Tabor and how things affect Tabor and not its tax-paying residents]

I am becoming alarmed at the loss of tax revenue from land Tabor Academy is consuming.

I feel Tabor Academy should pay more taxes, provide residents free schooling, and I also feel boat space be more available to year round residents.

Make Tabor pay something for all their tax free property. Force them to contribute financially to the town to lower the tax rate.

More pressure must be put on Tabor academy to recover lost taxes; be more helpful to the elderly with taxes

Stop Tabor from buying all the real estate and eliminate Tabor from no-tax status.

Stop the Tabor land grab

Tabor Academy's lack of involvement in the town. Why were scholarships for local kids suspended?

Tabor should be required to help fund town endeavors.

Tabor should help support the town financially - either by an annual substantial donation (of money) or by paying taxes on all their real estate.

Tax Taber land

The funds devoted to Sippican School were far out of proportion with the needs of the town. The town's resources are finite.

The problem facing a huge amount of our special needs students are the parents have to go head to head with school admin to get any services entitled to our children. 9 year old at K-1reading level just getting 1 on 1 after 3 yrs of asking.

The schools are a disgrace. Mattapoissett wields too much influence on the junior and senior high schools by virtue of location. Marion police should have some jurisdiction over the ORR facilities.

The schools have to come to the conclusion that they are not the only ones the town has to fund. We are a small town but are trying to service a city.

The town would benefit if Tabor Academy paid its fair share of taxes. [There would be no need to raise our taxes if Tabor paid their share].

Too much money spent on schools.

A study should be conducted to determine the number of ORR graduates who graduate from colleges they attend immediately post ORR. Acceptances are one thing, success another.

If Tabor Academy were not so tax exempt possibly the poorest families and retirees could stay put. We need help with taxes - not so many freebies to the privileged.

If Tabor honored their agreement and allowed town children to attend for free or paid the town services they use. They own some of the most valuable property in town and are continuing to take property off the tax rolls and our taxes are going up.

Keep Tabor from buying up land and have it tax exempt.



Seventy percent of real estate taxes go to schools but Tabor pays 0% tax yet has 20+ students in our schools.

Tabor Academy should do more for Marion and pay taxes.

Tabor should pay property taxes.

Tabor should pay taxes.

Why can't Tabor contribute an amount like other schools - they use a tremendous amount of services and give very little back. Their purchase of land around them decreases the town's tax revenue - they should be accountable.

[My wife and I have observed at least one violation of the zoning laws regarding second dwellings on one lot. Tabor Academy has been using a studio as a residence, in flagrant violation of the law. There seems to be an attitude that laws are for others]

Education needs improvement, but other level of services satisfactory.

Think of all the money you could get from Tabor's property tax.

We need to do something about Tabor, expansion and loss of tax revenue.



4.84 TOWN SERVICES/GOVERNMENT

[I would like to see the town embrace a workable sewage system]

[For those of us who don't receive trash pick-up, dealing with the shut down of the transfer station has been a real pain. The town has failed to provide any decent replacement, and its promise that a station would reopen in 6 months was false.]

Lack of a transfer station is inexcusable; spread affordable housing throughout town, mixed with more expensive housing, not just one area; encourage owner occupied two family dwelling; should control growth, not restrict it

Marion town officials need to focus on the problem of getting sewers in place and improving the quantity and quality of the town water supply. If not addressed, one has to question increasing the town's population

[Too much snow plowing]

All town services should be provided to unaccepted roads. People need to be confident that emergency services can reach those in need of them.

[Town does an adequate job of maintaining infrastructure. Street and sidewalk repair is slow in being done, recycling pickup is not often enough... sewer and transfer station not up to par. Until these things can be addressed, the town should not expand.

Decrease the size of the police force. I feel like I live in a police state.

DPW needs to communicate with residents and utility companies representatives before paving/asphalting a town road.

love the present library, it should be moved to natural history museum if it needs to be expanded.

There exists a bias towards summer residents. A significant portion of taxes are paid by summer residents yet town services aren't directed toward areas in town where summer homes are most dense.

The Finance Committee has no idea of the need for projects i.e. the water tower just wasted a couple million; a new police station is not needed, if more space is required put an addition on existing building. Too much is done in secretive sessions.

The town needs to work harder with less resources and become more efficient than it currently is. This applies to all levels of town government [and services]. The cost to support the ORR district needs more accountability.

I am strongly opposed to more government, particularly the move to make certain areas of town historical districts with the attendant restrictions proposed to be administered by a committee of people who know little about true historical preservation]

Activists and community boards exercising too much unregulated control are a significant danger to the independent voice of the town.

Do not fund moving library to new space. It is adequate now.

Every time we fill out surveys we get more regulations. We don't need any more regulations. Trust people, not government.

Expand library services to 7 days a week year round.

I feel Marion should have a full time EMT/Paramedic force.

I would like to see speed limits and dog leash laws more strictly enforced.



I would like to see the sewer system expanded, especially for those of us who live on the water.

If the town were run fairly by town officials and not by a small select group it would be a nicer town for everyone.

Improve the road surfaces on many streets [Delano Rd and Front St., etc.]

It is a wonderful area. However, there should be sewers for all areas.

Keep basic services affordable and expand these services (water, sewer, etc.) to all areas of town.

Limit the amount of curbside rubbish; road maintenance is critical along with water and sewer; affordable housing is a must.

Marion's snow removal is too good - it's ripping up the pavement on my street.

Marion needs to develop access to services outside of the village location. Although quaint, there are not enough parking areas to sustain increased activity. More services in the village are only advantageous to residents in the immediate village area.

Marion youth should be able to use their own public facilities [and not have to pay to use them].

Must get rid of snob attitude of elected officials. Summer residents are taxpayers like the rest of town. Must treat them as such.

Need the transfer station.

No new Police Station! No new Fire Station!

Please take care of our elderly people.

Recycle program is silly. You should pick up recycle every week and trash every other week.

Repair our streets before spending any more money on bike paths.

The government of Marion is unresponsive - spending money like drunken sailors; very poor town hall service; no sewer on Point Rd; the government should not be in the business of creating/encouraging business

The lack of dump facilities is very taxing. You should increase trash pickup while dump is not open, preferably on Fridays and Mondays.

The major excess in Marion is the army of Harbor Master's assistants. The Harbor Master is grossly overstepping his authority.

The Planning Board needs to apply restrictions/approvals consistently.

The Planning Board should become an appointed body - not elected; zoning should discourage large individual properties (cutting land into 2 acre lots just destroys open space)

The school teachers, police, and fire unions too strong and dictate to town.

The snow removal in this town is the only thing this town needs

The town government is trying to accommodate too many interests. The citizens should determine which programs/services are most important and the town should deliver those services at reasonable rates of expense.

The town has grown to the point where the fire & police dept are too small. If it continues to grow at this rate our schools will also need to be expanded again & taxes will rise again.

The town is far too zealous about plowing snow.



The town should sharply increase the cost for initial services rendered.

Town groups should be able to use Sippican School rooms.

Town needs to establish a clearer policy on private roads. They are very public when anyone wants access to the beach but private when it comes to services like snow removal.

Water and sewer rates are way too high.

We must stop the rapid expansion of personnel in town government. Taxes are off the charts. Ask them to do more with less.

When will the town dump open up again? The original date was Nov 2004. Now I have no idea when it will reopen.

Wish the sewer situation would move forward instead of nowhere. Lets get it done! Please!

[An expanded public library would greatly benefit the town.]

[I like the town's sensible approach to things like trash pick-up; we should provide sewers to all of the town; we should build a new light industry area out of sight and away from residential areas]

[In the past 6 years it seems every major town structure has been rehabbed or renovated as "necessary changes." While each of these projects are valuable, whatever happened to long range planning?]

[Library should not charge for videos or DVDs and should have more passes to Providence & Boston attractions. Library should be able to have bulletin boards outside to advertise local businesses]

[Money spent on bike paths could be better spent on road repair and sidewalk repair on Cottage St. and in the village. Why did you lump together "bike paths" and "sidewalks"? Two different issues.]

[Police protection probably excellent, but had a slow response time 5 years ago when a man was drowning - I hope this has improved.]

[Were it not for Sippican Corp and a volunteer Fire Dept, Marion would be in worse shape]

[Why did the whole town pay for sewerage in downtown areas yet the cost of sewerage the summer residents' neighborhoods will be born by the homeowners in those neighborhoods? The unfairness should be addressed over the next 10 years.]

Build and use a modern website.

Decent but traditional library service.

Improvement of medical and emergency services.

Improve information to residents on recycling & encourage programs. Where do the materials go & to what use?

It would be great if Tabor paid for a new police station. They donated the land - put something on it.

Keep all oil tanker

Should require new development of housing to be supported with adequate infrastructure, e.g. sewer.

Snow removal this year was great, but done to excess. Trucks roamed about killing time replowing and resanding areas of the roads that were well cleared.

Term limits for Selectpersons.



The biggest question, not even addressed, would you be willing to pay for an improved sewer system or have it paid for by private development - sewer is the biggest issue we have & it is not addressed as to the alternatives to fixing the problem.

The Harbor Master's department has expanded beyond reason

The in-town dumpster at Island Wharf is often overflowing and is a town embarrassment.

The trash collectors are picky. We often have to take trash home to Arlington to get it collected.

Town affairs/business need to be more transparent, there needs to be more public education and outreach so that everyone is aware of and understands the issues facing the town.

Town sewage lines should be accessible to more people in landmark areas. The power lines and telephone lines should be underground on more streets. They are a hazard during bad storms.

Town should recycle more to cut cost of waste disposal.

Town should separate meters for irrigation.

We need to look at new sources of energy - wind, solar, more recycling, creative waste, water and sewer facilities.

Move COA to VFW facilities.

Open our dump

Spend town money on the necessities: police, fire, schools, water, roads, etc. Raise local charity money for luxuries, beaches, ball fields, etc.

Stop spending money on Marine resources committee expansion projects; reduce the overpopulation of deer that are eating everybody's shrubs and plants.

The transfer station needs to be reopened.

Town officials need to introduce an ounce of common sense as relates to enforcement of fire code.

Town should take and maintain all private roads to insure safe access. There is no reason to keep outsiders from accessing boat ramps.

Very good town office service.

We do not need a new Police Station. The notion is the tax and spend philosophy. We do not need a new library. We do need to have a parking lot at Silvershell beach resurfaced with stone not muddy sand.

We need to extend sewer and protect watershed.

Town should make repairs to Front St. from Route 6 to the beach, the road is in a deplorable condition.

[There is a need for parking areas in the village - the streets are narrow and yacht club activities in the summer is a problem. A shuttle bus parking area should be available.]

Senior Center is dark and unattractive, cold.



4.85 QUALITY OF LIFE

[I am so lucky and very happy to be living here.. The Task Force members are doing a wonderful job for this community and I thank you very much for the job you are doing]

[Low crime rate and the perfect place to raise kids]

[Marion cannot look the same as it did 50 years ago. Marion can feel the same. Marion can care for all of her residents the same as in the past - or better! If we can care for our neighbors and not shut out changes in the world we can continue to nurture]

If you are new in town it would be nice if there was something like "The Welcome Wagon"

[We moved from Dartmouth 6 years ago because we were tired of congestion and endless number of frivolous stores. Scouts, church, tennis, swimming, parades, music hall events, fireworks.. are things we value about the town. Shopping doesn't make the list.]

Marion is a great place to live.

I'm concerned that the Marion we love and know will be forever lost due to rapid growth and the increased push for affordable housing (resulting in increase in crime, decrease in quality of education, etc.)]

[This town is quite wealthy compared to other area towns. The taxes are high and the job opportunities are low. People in town have to work 2+ jobs out of town to enjoy the quality of life here]

[Would like community group activities for single parents to help us feel supported and less isolated... Places for small private businesses to advertise with business cards and flyers; community directory of local businesses @ low cost to small businesses]

Feel strongly Marion should try to avoid being a commuter town.

Have worked full time now semi-retired and will look to be more involved in community organizations.

I live in Marion its my home. What can I say.

I love this town and its people.

I moved my family here because (1)Sippican, and (2)the town we had lived in ruined its character in just 10 years because of unbridled development. Marion is a dream come true.

Need public transportation to Providence and Boston.

Our greatest asset is our lunch crowd. If you want to see what makes Marion a great community, take a look at who eats in town.

Resident of Sippican Health Care

Should make people clean up their junkyards!

Speed limit too high on Rt. 105

The fireworks have always been a great event. I hope we can continue them in the future.

Bring back July 4th fireworks!!

The speeding problem on Point Rd is a dangerous situation! We need sidewalks and law enforcement to address the problem! Thank You

This is a lovely own and hope it stays that way.



To enhance community spirit, plan more events to bring families in Marion together, the Christmas Stroll, fireworks, etc. All help stimulate community identity and spirit. We need to do more of these events even if it requires a fee.

Too much chlorine in water; town should develop wind power source; more kinds of recycling; connect a bike path to other towns

We live on Point Rd and walk outdoors 2X a day. The police need to crack down! Address the speeding problem. It is very dangerous and we had some close calls, despite our wearing reflective gear & blinking arm light! Sidewalks are necessary.

Accepting present roads and maintaining sidewalks and public ways should be a high priority.

Boat ramps, docks, beaches should be well maintained. Public sewers should be expanded for the sake of keeping Buzzards Bay & harbor areas clean.

Build a Marion pool at SilverShell Beach.

Clean up yards of junk. It is not inviting when driving through.

Creek Rd. is great - keep it going!

I don't want to live in Dartmouth or Fairhaven because of all the development they have brought in. I worked for a decade to be able to buy a house in Marion, and that is the way some towns should be.

I love living in Marion. I have many friends. The doctors, firemen, police, etc. all are very friendly. I have lived here since 1966. I want to die here.

I would like to see more events, like the Christmas stroll, throughout the year.

More enforcement of speed limits on residential/school areas of Spring St. and Front St.

More focus on youth and teenagers.

More parking spaces are needed near post office.

Need transportation to New Bedford, Middleborough, Wareham where trains or busses are available.

New wide roads to destroy the old rock walls and hedge rows.

People working in the community is a good thing. We need to embrace, nurture, and promote the elements that support work. Yet sometimes it seems that town offices do just the opposite, most notably with site plan review. The time line on that is simply absurd

Traffic on Rt. 6 should be only 35 mph - drivers drive too fast.

We need sidewalks.

[Bike trails/public shuttles would revitalize village - accessibility to village is limited for those who don't live there. There would be less auto traffic and more opportunities for teens/youth and the elderly.]

A "pub" like place for local residents to gather.

Dogs should be on leashes.

It would be nice to have a pharmacy in town.

Keep the fireworks!

As a commuter, it is unfortunate that I do not spend much time in town, although I would love to. I suspect that there are many other residents in the same boat. We would love to have a mooring. We were discouraged 14yrs ago from having one.



We live on Hammetts Cove Rd. The noise generated by traffic on Rt. 6 is much louder than when we first moved to town. There are certainly more people living and working in the area than in the 1980's, but I also wonder if part of the problem is due to clearing land for more houses.

Point Rd. is downright dangerous to pedestrians, cyclists, and any of us going to the mailbox.



4.86 RECREATION/VOLUNTEERING

A personal phone call would be more successful in recruiting volunteers, not just word or mouth or a newspaper article.

I would like publications for volunteers for town recreation.

Addition of a dog park would be wonderful

Bike and recreational paths must be an important agenda for future (immediate) plans.

Bike path has been approved some time ago - just do it!

[More recreation facilities]

I would like to see more bike paths.

I would volunteer for community service if I knew where it was needed

My volunteer activities are in New Bedford.

Need more places for teenagers to go. More recreational facilities.

Please continue the bike/walking paths along the roads. Creel Rd. is great but too short.

Stop spending money on bike paths.

The town is a safe place, but can be boring for teenagers. They turn to drugs and alcohol because there are not enough recreation programs available.

Volunteerism could help to keep taxes down without cutting programs and services.

We desperately need a bike (walking) path to keep our children off the streets and safe.

We need a multi-use bike path.

We need bike paths and sidewalks.

We need to increase recreation (i.e. bike paths).

Would like to see the bike path proceed all the way through town.

[I spend much of my free time at the beach, exercise walking in the village or at the new playground. These are of value to me. I would love to see the bike path in Marion]

I do wish there were more bike paths/sidewalks along the roads. It would be more pleasant to walk and safer!

Marion needs more designated park/walk areas such a Sippican Land Trust area on Point Rd.

Marion should encourage bike paths and walking areas with more access to the harbor.

The town needs to provide community youth services - kids (teenagers) are bored and have nothing to do.

[I think Marion has plenty of recreation facilities, but could certainly benefit from addition of bike paths which provide recreation and a non-polluting mode of transportation]

[Wharf dances for teens with more police supervision, more controlled than Mattapoisett.. Need public transportation from preschools to local family daycare providers]

More bike paths.

The beach and Point Rd. basketball courts need work.



Bike paths belong on the old railroad bed from Mattapoisett to West Wareham. Sidewalks belong in other people's front yards, not bike paths.



4.87 TASK FORCE/SURVEY

Thank you for doing this. Are you willing or do you support local retail businesses?

As a teacher of statistics I hope you are aware that results obtained from mail in surveys do not necessarily constitute a random sample of the opinions of those surveyed

By not explaining the consequences of each alternative, your survey will show to keep taxes stable, limit development & maintain services at status quo. But to keep taxes stable, you must increase the tax base to offset the increase in services spending

Interpretation of the survey results needs careful consideration.

Give the people what they want, not what the elite think they should want.

Good go!

Good survey

Great idea to take this survey

Don't mess up Marion!

Nice job, pretty extensive. Marion is what it is because of the people who live and have lived in town.

Thank you for your work to preserve the character of our town

Thanks for doing survey - fact that Marion thinks about a Town Plan reflects history of good small town government & volunteer spirit that distinguishes the town.

The survey was very well done. I look forward to seeing the results.

This survey is long overdue.

This survey was well done.

Very good survey questions

Continue to survey citizens [present results to the public... have debate and then based on best set analysis adopt those most requested.]

Thank you!

The survey should have done a better job of asking about willingness to pay for services (question 21)

This survey is a great idea.

Good survey

Thank you for asking my opinion.

The results of this survey should be presented to the citizens for comment, as well as any other future surveys.

I feel that this survey was unduly slanted toward a certain agenda - that being increases in open space. There were no questions about reducing taxes or the affect of unlimited growth in open space upon town taxes.

Thank you!



4.88 HARBOR

[Need more water access for residents]

[Take the moorings from Barden's and Burr's and have the town rent them out like in Marblehead & Edgartown - we are missing out on a great source of income!]

[I continue to be disturbed by the prior selectmen who promised to set aside mooring fees to go toward a new boat for the harbormaster. The fees went into the general fund and the town had to pay extra for the new boat not out of the budget]

Marion could benefit from a better usage of the Harbor, more moorings and facilities

Marion does not use its most valuable resource - the harbor.

Mooring access in harbor is too restricted and unfair. Barden's Boat Yard & Burr Brother's control far too many moorings. They use that leverage against their customers. All moorings should be controlled by town.

need more public access to shore

Regarding beaches and waterways - hard for the public to enjoy with growing population - crowded, hard to gain entry, often dirty with trash and after hours dogs - a tiny space for average families to enjoy an important place.

Waterway management too restrictive - re: mooring ownership - tyrannical and oppressive.

[Dock space/mooring space should be provided for commercial fishermen... it's a shame that a resident of Marion who makes a living on the Bay can't afford to keep his boat in his home town!]

Public access to the water needs to increase; the lack of communication between town departments is very obvious



4.89 PRESERVATION/TOWN CHARACTER

[Over the years I have seen the village area atrophy. We need housing diversity and more retailers. We need more year round residents. We should not allow their monster houses to be built to overshadow their neighbors.]

[Since I am a resident of Florida and live in Marion only from June-October, my opinions are of limited value, however I do strongly reflect both year round and seasonal residents' desires to keep Marion from changing.]

[It is hard and undesirable to resist change. The pressure for growth and development, especially from those with wealth, will be felt ever more strongly. Whatever can be done to preserve a diverse, gracious, and convivial community should be attempted..]

Everything is a balance - keeping Marion's character but allowing for new initiatives, business growth, historic character, access to the harbor, affordable housing, open space.

I am hoping the character and beauty of Marion remains as it is today.

I came to Marion 30 years ago. I want Marion to retain its character for my children and grandchildren. I want Tabor Academy to remain an anchor for the town.

Increase diversity among residents and tolerance.

Increase in land assessment 300% in 6 years is very difficult. Limits on assessment increases would be important to keep character of town and stability of neighborhoods.

It would be a travesty to destroy Marion with over population that would drain it of its natural resources/beauty. Keep it a small and safe community.

Keep the town the way it is.

Marion has changed immensely. The beauty of the town is slowly deteriorating.

Marion is a gem. Every effort should be made to preserve its quiet, friendly personality and protect it from the pressures of development and suburbanization.

Marion is a unique and lovely village, which has grown extremely well by having it happen slowly. With careful planning and foresight, let's continue to keep it that way.

Marion needs to keep its central village strong. The town could use a waterfront restaurant, a pharmacy, a snack bar, marine-related stores, etc. in its center. The library must not move out to Rt. 6 but must stay near the center.

Please leave the town the same. Please lower taxes. Do more for our elderly [transportation]. We need our dump open.

Protect the character of the village for new businesses/industry, establish large set-back requirements

Take advantage of good long history and stay moderate in change.

The future depends on how well we preserve the past, e.g. historic areas. Set a course true to the spirit of this community and we will see that its people is a most valuable resource in Marion, especially in preservation.

The town's character should be maintained. The management of the town has declined in recent years. [They seem to know what's best for everybody]. The town needs to guard against that approach.

The town center is charming as it is - it does not need "beautification."



The town should do everything possible to keep Marion's character and to ensure that it is available to a cross section of our society. Today's property prices excludes a large part of society. Our people who work for the town cannot afford to live here.

Try to keep the small town character by limiting development.

We have a wonderful town we can all be proud of. Unfortunately, change is inevitable. I trust your committee will do everything possible to protect the charm.

We love Marion just as it is... would like it to stay the same as much as possible

Would hope this lovely town will never change.

[...control the cost of living in town, it will be necessary to preserve diverse community]

[This town is not rural, it is unrealistic to attempt to preserve a rural character that was abandoned decades ago.]

I grew up on Cape Cod, I lived on the Cape for 44 years and saw a lot of decisions made that took away from the small town feel. I hope Marion doesn't make the same mistakes.

Losing that beautiful white house to a Cumberland Farms is the perfect example of Marion turning into "just anywhere."

Maintain the wonderful character of Marion, i.e. intimate, friendly, simple, safe.

Our town has managed to preserve itself through community commitment. When we reach a certain population we will lose that when we grow.

Preserve sense of community.

The difficulty lies in loving our town for its quaintness, and wanting to be open to all economic levels of residents.

The new bank and Uncle John's development on Rt. 6 is ugly and does not look like Marion.

We should not allow Marion shores to look like Mattapoisett with houses on stilts.

Fix and update existing signs.

signage should meet specific guidelines to keep attractiveness of town (i.e. carved wood better than neon).

The 4th of July parade should be limited to small floats. We must continue the tradition of fireworks that has been a constant tradition my entire life.

Important to keep the "village" feel in Marion. It is what has drawn us all here - peaceful, safe, unclustered.

Establish protection of historic buildings.



4.90 BUSINESS AND INDUSTRY

I like other towns like Mattapoisett and Wareham because they have convenience stores and drive thru coffee shops. This town has nothing for the working people on the go. I do all my business in Matt. and Wareham. I just live in this town, not by choice

The town will grow - whether fast or slowly is in your hands. Residential home taxes do not adequately support school tax needs. The ability to increase the light industrial/commercial tax base is critical to maintaining orderly tax rate growth[[I would be horrified to see a "Wal-Mart" type store in Marion... I prefer the general store, Aubuchon Hardware or Mahoney's, etc... Prices may be slightly higher, but the experience is much better, knowledgeable staff, parking, etc.]

[Rt. 6 should be rezoned properly so it does not look like Dartmouth or Fairhaven].

[This town is not for everyone. You may have to live somewhere else for awhile. Keep it SIMPLE, then we all enjoy it. Stop all development - no donuts, fast food, etc. Simple costs less]

Don't allow development of hotels or motels. The character of the town has changed in last 20 yrs away from quiet summer community to more typical high income suburban area.

Don't make a city out of a town.

Great town - keep out Dunkin Donuts

Growth is inevitable. We could use some mix-use residential/commercial spaces along Rt. 6.

I didn't notice any questions regarding restaurants/fast food chains. I strongly oppose their introduction to Marion.

I worry that Marion will begin to look like Fairhaven - full of junky car lots, strip malls, and loss of personality. Don't give up on encouraging new businesses on Rt. 6 and elsewhere to consider the town's unique character.

Lack of public transport and local shopping would require me to leave Marion once I can no longer drive.

Let a Dunkin Donuts with a drive thru in town! Also wouldn't mind a CVS in town.

Marion does not have to compete with other towns. We do not need to have Rt. 6 a commercial strip from Wareham to Mattapoisett.

Marion needs a small hotel.

Marion needs an upscale restaurant.

Marion should encourage more industry in town, but find a location that would not be visible, i.e.: Lockheed, formerly Sippican Corp is a very attractive structure.

Need compact village development. Cluster commercial uses to create new commercial center on Rt. 6. No strip development, e.g. Mashpee Commons.

Not enough restaurant or shopping choices.

One suggestion - possible restaurant with water view

Oppose Dunkin' Donuts and other national chain retailers.

Small retail development could be dispersed along RT. 6. Industrial development should be north of Rt. 6.

The town is underserved in the area of small businesses/services. Rt. 6 is a good area for targeted development.



There needs to be much more support of small businesses on Rt. 6.

Town needs to be more supportive of small businesses - current & new - along Rt. 6

Town should be more supportive of small businesses in established commercial areas. We make it look too hard for them to locate here (Rt. 6). As a result, residents must travel to other towns for services.

Town should encourage businesses to come to Marion.

We need more retail stores and a family friendly restaurant in center of town.

We should be careful to maintain the General Store, antiques, and gift stores and have a few restaurants so we can "shop locally" and have thriving business area.

Welcome industry to cut taxes. The town is becoming a place where people cannot afford to live, especially the elderly who have been here their whole lives, it is shameful what is happening to them.

When I have indicated increased growth of business & industrial, I foresee the growth in keeping the character of the town.

[More attention should be given to positive growth, in both the business aspect and residential. Too much emphasis on open space.. there should be more commercial development, but not like Fairhaven. More attention should be devoted to elderly population

Additional light industrial and commercial development in planned area could help tax structure.

An increase in small businesses within town would provide residents a place to shop in Town.

Ask Cumberland Farms on Rt. 6 to remodel their building.

Bring in additional tax revenue from industry in a park type setting.

Business signage should meet specific guidelines to keep attractiveness of town (i.e. carved wood better than neon).

Clean up Rt. 6/105 area with Mashpee Commons style retail with housing above.

Keeping fast food and strip mall development out of town is critical

"Dress codes" for commercial businesses to beautify visible commercial areas.

[I would love to see a private name grocery store. Larger than the General Store, but not a Shaw's or S&S... In my experience small is better/less is more]

[Rt. 6 needs to develop a corridor of well planned and attractive commercial sites and municipal services. We need a much larger, modernized library.]

[Vacant property on Rt. 6 is suitable for small commercial development, which would augment the tax base and provide residents access to goods & services.]

My daughter's pediatrician practiced here in town. Then she was chased away, and in the end it was zoning regulations that forced her to leave Marion.

Some business/industry isn't necessarily a bad thing.

The charm of Marion is the absence of big box retailers and businesses but restaurants and maybe a hotel should open the area up more.

Careful zoning of new small businesses or retail shops.



4.91 ENVIRONMENT/OPEN SPACE

[Marion should strive to protect its natural assets]

[It appears the town is cramming the "Historic Preservation District" down tax payers throats. Most of the people who are in the so-called district do not feel the need. The town voters were to decide the fate of the 130 properties last I heard.]

[I feel there is an element in town with a private agenda, which is pursuing more open space and conservation space. While I feel this is an important issue, now is not the time to "lock-up" all of Marion's land.]

[I strongly support open space preservation and zoning enforcement. I am strongly against a new location for the library & police station. We need to be more creative with using/modifying the structures we have.]

More work with environmental issues such a litter pick-up, recycling, and keeping waterways clean.

No Dunkin Donuts. Preserve the character of the town. Preserve our natural resources. Save our wetlands from development. Save our bay from pollution.

We need to keep this earth clean, protect wildlife, we want to look out our windows and see trees for a long time to come!

[Once space is gone - it's gone. No longer will forests and small animals and space in general be adding to the charm of Marion. Suburban sprawl is not pretty no matter how much planning is done.]

We are starting to lose our beautiful trees to new developments & the animals are losing their homes. I'd like to see Marion keep its country setting. If you want the convenience of city life then move to the city.

The current open space is large enough. Perhaps some of that money should be directed toward funding insurance so the townspeople could use the existing open space.



4.92 MISCELLANEOUS

Summer residents are looked down on - almost a "I'm better than you" attitude by yearly residents.

The tax rate has gone up much too fast because of uncontrolled building of school, library, police, etc.

Marion is not a town of rich people, it's a town of average people ruled by the extremely wealthy few! Screw the rich!

Lot sizes should be 1 acre minimum.

Planting Island Beach needs care! 1) trash cans 2) sea weed/ grass removal after storms

Poor management

It seems as though the middle class is being forgotten.

Land bank fund is taking land off of the tax rolls.

Lock taxes (not rates) on properties. It is unbalanced.

Marion stop polluting our own natural resources! Stop outrageous tax increases - way out of line.

If there are changes a homeowner wants to make the town makes it very difficult.

Higher permit fees

Enforce bylaws.

[The Selectmen and Planning Board did a disservice to the town by allowing old undersized lots to be built on. These property owners are sitting on a windfall and should have been required to give financially to the town to help buy other open spaces]

[The summer home tax revenue makes it easy to support its high expensive lifestyle, but at some point the quiet summer residents will be taxed into high density When and if that happens the town will be a tax and growth treadmill]

Too many police; no Dunkin Donuts or chains; need bike path through to Mattapoisett & Fairhaven; need low cost housing - too many upper income residents. Bad for the children.

The needs and services of the year-round population are essentially paid for by the large seasonal population; essentially they get a "free ride." The year round population should carry a heavier burden of the taxes paid.

Marion has a responsibility to all of its residents; not just to seasonal residents. Seasonals should be encouraged, not taxed extra as they do not send their children to school here. Seasonals do not overuse services or require long-term care.

Neighbors should not be allowed to chop down large trees on the edge of their property that provide privacy to their abutting neighbor's property without discussion and mediation between all parties.



APPENDIX B - COVER LETTER AND SURVEY FORMM



Dear Marion Resident:

The Center for Policy Analysis at UMass Dartmouth is working with the Marion 2015 Task Force to assist the Town in developing *Marion 2015: A Town Plan*. The Marion 2015 Task Force has been charged by the Board of Selectmen with developing a 10-Year Plan for the Town of Marion that identifies a consensus vision for how we want our town to look in ten years and to provide the Selectmen with a set of recommendations for how to realize that vision over the next decade. The 2015 Task Force is seeking the assistance of town departments, town committees, civic groups, social clubs, private businesses, and other organizations to insure that this vision is consistent with existing planning efforts and to insure that it incorporates the initiatives and goals of those groups.

In order for *Marion 2015: A Plan* to be effective, it must reflect the views of Marion residents. **We need to hear from you.** How should the Town manage future growth? How does the Town balance growth while maintaining its character? How can housing be made affordable, not just for elderly or low income, but for all residents? What new services will be needed and at what level? How can Marion remain affordable for current residents/families?

Please take the time to fill out the attached survey so that we can include your views in this important plan. **The survey should be returned by April 1, 2005.** You can return the survey in the enclosed business reply envelope. For non-resident households, please have each adult in the household complete a survey. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call the Center for Policy Analysis at (508) 999-8943.

Sincerely,

Carl Ribeiro, Chair, Marion 2015 Task Force

Task Force Members: Chris Bryant, Jack Dolan, Tom Magauran, Ruth Olson, David K. Pierce, Carl Ribeiro, John Rockwell, Andrew J. Santos, Missy Sittler



Marion 2015 Community Survey March 2005

I. About Yourself

1. Are you a Marion resident (please check one)

- yes, year round resident
- yes, seasonal resident

If a seasonal resident, are you a registered voter? (please circle) yes no

- no, not a resident

2. How long have you been a resident of Marion?

- less than five years
- 6 - 10 years
- 11-20 years
- more than 20 years
- not applicable

3. Do you rent or own your home?

- rent
- own

4. Do you have school aged children in the household?

- Yes (please indicate how many children) ____
- No

5. What is your age? (please check one)

- 18-24
- 25-34
- 35-44
- 45-54
- 55-64
- 65-74
- 75 and older



6. What attracted you to Marion? (check all that apply)

- I was born/grew up here
- Good place to raise children
- Proximity to family
- Access to open space
- Good public schools
- Job opportunities/Near employment
- Character of the Town
- Access to water/beaches
- Real estate tax rate
- Good public services
- Community spirit
- Low crime rate
- Other (please list) _____

7. Which best describes where you work?

- In home
- In Marion
- Surrounding town/city
- Rhode Island Area
- Cape Cod
- Boston Area
- Do not work/retired
- Other (please describe) _____

8. Do you consider Marion to be mostly: (circle yes or no for each question)

- | | | |
|---------------------------|-----|----|
| - a rural town? | yes | no |
| - a suburban town? | yes | no |
| - a commuter town? | yes | no |
| - a town in transition? | yes | no |
| - a resort town? | yes | no |
| - a retirement community? | yes | no |



II. Quality of Services

9. How do you feel about the quality of services currently provided by the Town in each of the following areas? (Check one selection for each service)

Issue	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	No Opinion
a. Public schools	<input type="checkbox"/>				
b. Library services	<input type="checkbox"/>				
c. Fire protection	<input type="checkbox"/>				
d. Police protection	<input type="checkbox"/>				
e. Emergency Medical	<input type="checkbox"/>				
f. Road maintenance	<input type="checkbox"/>				
g. Recreation programs	<input type="checkbox"/>				
h. Recreation facilities	<input type="checkbox"/>				
j. Beaches	<input type="checkbox"/>				
k. Boat access/Waterways	<input type="checkbox"/>				
l. Solid Waste disposal	<input type="checkbox"/>				
m. Recycling program	<input type="checkbox"/>				
n. Drinking water quality	<input type="checkbox"/>				
o. Drinking water quantity	<input type="checkbox"/>				
p. Town hall services	<input type="checkbox"/>				
q. Zoning enforcement	<input type="checkbox"/>				
r. Snow removal	<input type="checkbox"/>				
s. Public Sewer	<input type="checkbox"/>				
t. Other _____	<input type="checkbox"/>				
u. Other _____	<input type="checkbox"/>				



10. How strongly do you agree or disagree that in the future the Town should place more emphasis on funding/improving/expanding the municipal services listed below: (Check one selection for each service)

Issue	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	No Opinion
a. Public schools	<input type="checkbox"/>				
b. Library services	<input type="checkbox"/>				
c. Fire protection	<input type="checkbox"/>				
d. Police protection	<input type="checkbox"/>				
e. Emergency Medical	<input type="checkbox"/>				
f. Road maintenance	<input type="checkbox"/>				
g. Recreation programs	<input type="checkbox"/>				
h. Recreation facilities	<input type="checkbox"/>				
j. Beaches	<input type="checkbox"/>				
k. Boat access/Waterways	<input type="checkbox"/>				
l. Solid Waste disposal	<input type="checkbox"/>				
m. Recycling program	<input type="checkbox"/>				
n. Drinking water quality	<input type="checkbox"/>				
o. Drinking water quantity	<input type="checkbox"/>				
p. Town hall services	<input type="checkbox"/>				
q. Zoning enforcement	<input type="checkbox"/>				
r. Snow removal	<input type="checkbox"/>				
s. Public Sewer	<input type="checkbox"/>				
t. Other _____	<input type="checkbox"/>				
u. Other _____	<input type="checkbox"/>				

11. How satisfied are you with the places available in town for recreation?

- very satisfied
- satisfied
- dissatisfied
- very dissatisfied
- unsure



12. What actions would you support to preserve open space in town? (Check all that apply)

- public purchase of private land
- limit development
- donation of conservation restrictions by private landowners
- property tax reduction programs for farm, forest, and recreation land
- zoning for open space conservation

II. Critical Issues

13. Please indicate to what extent you think each of the issues below are a problem in the town:
(Check one selection for each issue)

Issue	Critical Issue	Important Issue	Minor/No Issue
a. Population growth	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. Lack of job opportunities	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c. Groundwater pollution	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d. Pollution of rivers/coastal waterways	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e. Elderly services	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
f. Lack of teen/youth services	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
g. High cost of housing	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
h. Number/Condition of sidewalks/bike paths	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
i. Community centers	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
j. Level of shopping opportunities	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
k. Water access	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
l. Traffic on Route 6	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
m. Traffic on other Town road	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
n. Level of public transportation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
o. Cost of trash removal	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
p. Day care opportunities	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
q. Loss of open land to development	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
r. Zoning enforcement	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
s. Design and appearance of commercial areas	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
t. Protect historic areas	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
u. Other _____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
v. Other _____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>



14. From the list above, please indicate the letters of the 3 most serious problems in order of importance to you:

1. _____ 2. _____ 3. _____

15. How do you feel about the percentage of land used for the following purposes in Marion? (Circle on selection for each land use)

	Too Little	Enough	Too Much
Residential	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Commercial	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Industrial	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Passive Open Space	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Active Recreation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Affordable Housing	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

IV. Growth

16. Assuming that more people will move to Marion, how strongly do you agree that growth in the Town should: (please check one for each category)

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	No Opinion
a. be evenly dispersed around the Town	<input type="checkbox"/>				
b. be limited to planned areas of high density development	<input type="checkbox"/>				
c. combine residential and small retail development in the same areas	<input type="checkbox"/>				
d. be unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/>				



17. Future industrial/commercial development in Marion should: (please check one for each category)

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	No Opinion
a. be evenly dispersed around the Town	<input type="checkbox"/>				
b. be limited to planned areas of high density development	<input type="checkbox"/>				
c. be allowed only in existing developed areas	<input type="checkbox"/>				
d. encourage small business development	<input type="checkbox"/>				
e. encourage small retail development	<input type="checkbox"/>				
f. encourage big box chain retailers (e.g. Wal-Mart, Shaw's)	<input type="checkbox"/>				
g. promote the development of an office park	<input type="checkbox"/>				
h. encourage light industry	<input type="checkbox"/>				
i. encourage professional offices (e.g. lawyer/doctor offices)	<input type="checkbox"/>				
j. be unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/>				



18. Assuming that there will be more residential development in Marion, the Town should:

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	No Opinion
a. restrain residential development	<input type="checkbox"/>				
b. require developers to build more affordable housing	<input type="checkbox"/>				
c. encourage the development of an assisted living facility	<input type="checkbox"/>				
d. encourage the development of an independent living facility for the elderly	<input type="checkbox"/>				
d. encourage concentrated residential development on small lots	<input type="checkbox"/>				
e. restrict residential development to large lots (more than 2 acres)	<input type="checkbox"/>				
f. authorize the construction of condos/townhouses in selected areas of Town	<input type="checkbox"/>				

19. How do you feel about the rate of development in town for each of the following types of development? (Check one selection for each development type)

	Too Fast	Just Right	Too Slow
a. Residential	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. Commercial	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c. Industrial	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>



V. Goals/Vision of Marion

20. The goals of Marion should be to: (Please check a box for each category)

	strongly agree	agree	disagree	strongly disagree	no opinion
stay the same	<input type="checkbox"/>				
expand existing businesses	<input type="checkbox"/>				
attract new businesses	<input type="checkbox"/>				
expand recreation facilities	<input type="checkbox"/>				
promote larger industries	<input type="checkbox"/>				
revitalize central village area	<input type="checkbox"/>				
beautify the town	<input type="checkbox"/>				
improve access to natural areas	<input type="checkbox"/>				
restrict growth	<input type="checkbox"/>				
keep taxes stable	<input type="checkbox"/>				

21. How strongly do you agree with the following statement: The Town should keep taxes stable, even if it means reducing services and programs. (Please check one)

- strongly agree
- agree
- disagree
- strongly disagree
- no opinion



22. What do you feel are the three most valuable resources in Marion?

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

23. How often do you volunteer in community organizations?

- once or more per week
- 2-4 time per month
- once a month
- less than once a month
- never

24. Please feel to write any additional comments below.

Thank You. Please return your survey in the enclosed business reply envelope.



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APPENDIX C – FREQUENCIES

Are you a Marion resident?

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	yes, year round	897	82.7	84.7	84.7
	yes, seasonal	148	13.6	14.0	98.7
	no	14	1.3	1.3	100.0
	Total	1059	97.6	100.0	
Missing	System	26	2.4		
Total		1085	100.0		

If seasonal, are you registered voter?

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	yes	16	1.5	14.8	14.8
	no	92	8.5	85.2	100.0
	Total	108	10.0	100.0	
Missing	System	977	90.0		
Total		1085	100.0		

how long a resident

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	<5 yrs.	146	13.5	13.8	13.8
	6 - 10 yrs.	220	20.3	20.8	34.6
	11 - 20 yrs.	194	17.9	18.3	52.9
	> 20 yrs.	498	45.9	47.1	100.0
	Total	1058	97.5	100.0	
Missing	System	27	2.5		
Total		1085	100.0		

Do you rent or own?

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	rent	72	6.6	6.9	6.9
	own	973	89.7	93.1	100.0
	Total	1045	96.3	100.0	
Missing	System	40	3.7		
Total		1085	100.0		



child in household

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	yes	324	29.9	30.7	30.7
	no	731	67.4	69.3	100.0
	Total	1055	97.2	100.0	
Missing	System	30	2.8		
Total		1085	100.0		

How many children

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	1.00	92	8.5	32.2	32.2
	2.00	138	12.7	48.3	80.4
	3.00	48	4.4	16.8	97.2
	4.00	6	.6	2.1	99.3
	5.00	2	.2	.7	100.0
	Total	286	26.4	100.0	
Missing	System	799	73.6		
Total		1085	100.0		

age of respondent

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	18-24	16	1.5	1.5	1.5
	25-34	46	4.2	4.4	5.9
	35-44	172	15.9	16.3	22.2
	45-54	227	20.9	21.6	43.8
	55-64	276	25.4	26.2	70.1
	65-74	166	15.3	15.8	85.8
	75 and older	149	13.7	14.2	100.0
	Total	1052	97.0	100.0	
Missing	System	33	3.0		
Total		1085	100.0		

born/grew up here

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	yes	216	19.9	100.0	100.0
Missing	System	869	80.1		
Total		1085	100.0		



good place to raise children

	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid yes	409	37.7	100.0	100.0
Missing System	676	62.3		
Total	1085	100.0		

proximity to family

	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid yes	255	23.5	100.0	100.0
Missing System	830	76.5		
Total	1085	100.0		

access to open space

	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid yes	225	20.7	100.0	100.0
Missing System	860	79.3		
Total	1085	100.0		

good public schools

	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid yes	341	31.4	100.0	100.0
Missing System	744	68.6		
Total	1085	100.0		

job opps./near employment

	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid yes	259	23.9	100.0	100.0
Missing System	826	76.1		
Total	1085	100.0		



character of town

	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid yes	637	58.7	100.0	100.0
Missing System	448	41.3		
Total	1085	100.0		

access to water/beach

	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid yes	695	64.1	100.0	100.0
Missing System	390	35.9		
Total	1085	100.0		

tax rate

	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid yes	112	10.3	100.0	100.0
Missing System	973	89.7		
Total	1085	100.0		

good public services

	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid yes	169	15.6	100.0	100.0
Missing System	916	84.4		
Total	1085	100.0		

Community spirit

	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid yes	286	26.4	100.0	100.0
Missing System	799	73.6		
Total	1085	100.0		



low crime rate

	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid yes	415	38.2	100.0	100.0
Missing System	670	61.8		
Total	1085	100.0		

Where do you work?

	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid in home	115	10.6	11.0	11.0
in Marion	150	13.8	14.4	25.4
surrounding town/city	247	22.8	23.7	49.0
Rhode Island	34	3.1	3.3	52.3
Cape Cod	25	2.3	2.4	54.7
Boston	102	9.4	9.8	64.5
do not work/retired	299	27.6	28.6	93.1
other	72	6.6	6.9	100.0
Total	1044	96.2	100.0	
Missing System	41	3.8		
Total	1085	100.0		

Where do you work? 2

	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid in home	2	.2	4.5	4.5
surrounding town/city	19	1.8	43.2	47.7
Rhode Island	2	.2	4.5	52.3
Cape Cod	5	.5	11.4	63.6
Boston	6	.6	13.6	77.3
do not work/retired	5	.5	11.4	88.6
other	5	.5	11.4	100.0
Total	44	4.1	100.0	
Missing System	1041	95.9		
Total	1085	100.0		



rural town

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	yes	607	55.9	62.3	62.3
	no	367	33.8	37.7	100.0
	Total	974	89.8	100.0	
Missing	System	111	10.2		
Total		1085	100.0		

suburban town

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	yes	418	38.5	45.7	45.7
	no	496	45.7	54.3	100.0
	Total	914	84.2	100.0	
Missing	System	171	15.8		
Total		1085	100.0		

commuter town

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	yes	468	43.1	51.9	51.9
	no	433	39.9	48.1	100.0
	Total	901	83.0	100.0	
Missing	System	184	17.0		
Total		1085	100.0		

town in transition

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	yes	544	50.1	59.2	59.2
	no	375	34.6	40.8	100.0
	Total	919	84.7	100.0	
Missing	System	166	15.3		
Total		1085	100.0		



resort town

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	yes	479	44.1	51.8	51.8
	no	445	41.0	48.2	100.0
	Total	924	85.2	100.0	
Missing	System	161	14.8		
Total		1085	100.0		

retirement community

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	yes	306	28.2	33.9	33.9
	no	596	54.9	66.1	100.0
	Total	902	83.1	100.0	
Missing	System	183	16.9		
Total		1085	100.0		

quality of schools

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	excellent	289	26.6	27.8	27.8
	good	469	43.2	45.2	73.0
	fair	72	6.6	6.9	80.0
	poor	15	1.4	1.4	81.4
	no opinion	193	17.8	18.6	100.0
	Total	1038	95.7	100.0	
Missing	System	47	4.3		
Total		1085	100.0		

quality of library

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	excellent	249	22.9	23.7	23.7
	good	508	46.8	48.3	72.0
	fair	170	15.7	16.2	88.2
	poor	37	3.4	3.5	91.7
	no opinion	87	8.0	8.3	100.0
	Total	1051	96.9	100.0	
Missing	System	34	3.1		
Total		1085	100.0		



quality of fire

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	excellent	315	29.0	29.7	29.7
	good	550	50.7	51.9	81.6
	fair	111	10.2	10.5	92.1
	poor	12	1.1	1.1	93.2
	no opinion	72	6.6	6.8	100.0
	Total	1060	97.7	100.0	
Missing	System	25	2.3		
Total		1085	100.0		

quality of police

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	excellent	409	37.7	38.6	38.6
	good	553	51.0	52.2	90.8
	fair	52	4.8	4.9	95.7
	poor	11	1.0	1.0	96.7
	no opinion	35	3.2	3.3	100.0
	Total	1060	97.7	100.0	
Missing	System	25	2.3		
Total		1085	100.0		

quality of ems

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	excellent	447	41.2	42.4	42.4
	good	402	37.1	38.1	80.5
	fair	71	6.5	6.7	87.2
	poor	19	1.8	1.8	89.0
	no opinion	116	10.7	11.0	100.0
	Total	1055	97.2	100.0	
Missing	System	30	2.8		
Total		1085	100.0		



quality of road maint.

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	excellent	85	7.8	8.1	8.1
	good	481	44.3	45.8	53.9
	fair	362	33.4	34.4	88.3
	poor	116	10.7	11.0	99.3
	no opinion	7	.6	.7	100.0
	Total	1051	96.9	100.0	
Missing	System	34	3.1		
Total		1085	100.0		

quality of recreation prog.

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	excellent	119	11.0	11.5	11.5
	good	467	43.0	45.0	56.5
	fair	194	17.9	18.7	75.1
	poor	46	4.2	4.4	79.6
	no opinion	212	19.5	20.4	100.0
	Total	1038	95.7	100.0	
Missing	System	47	4.3		
Total		1085	100.0		

quality of recreation facilities

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	excellent	105	9.7	10.2	10.2
	good	430	39.6	41.6	51.8
	fair	276	25.4	26.7	78.5
	poor	70	6.5	6.8	85.3
	no opinion	152	14.0	14.7	100.0
	Total	1033	95.2	100.0	
Missing	System	52	4.8		
Total		1085	100.0		



quality of beaches

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	excellent	301	27.7	28.4	28.4
	good	588	54.2	55.5	83.9
	fair	135	12.4	12.7	96.7
	poor	18	1.7	1.7	98.4
	no opinion	17	1.6	1.6	100.0
	Total	1059	97.6	100.0	
Missing	System	26	2.4		
Total		1085	100.0		

quality of boat access/waterways

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	excellent	364	33.5	34.6	34.6
	good	462	42.6	43.9	78.5
	fair	95	8.8	9.0	87.5
	poor	24	2.2	2.3	89.8
	no opinion	107	9.9	10.2	100.0
	Total	1052	97.0	100.0	
Missing	System	33	3.0		
Total		1085	100.0		

quality of waste disposal

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	excellent	143	13.2	13.8	13.8
	good	455	41.9	43.9	57.7
	fair	204	18.8	19.7	77.4
	poor	144	13.3	13.9	91.3
	no opinion	90	8.3	8.7	100.0
	Total	1036	95.5	100.0	
Missing	System	49	4.5		
Total		1085	100.0		



quality of recycling prog.

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	excellent	224	20.6	21.2	21.2
	good	518	47.7	49.1	70.3
	fair	189	17.4	17.9	88.2
	poor	64	5.9	6.1	94.3
	no opinion	60	5.5	5.7	100.0
	Total	1055	97.2	100.0	
Missing	System	30	2.8		
Total		1085	100.0		

drinking water quality

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	excellent	179	16.5	16.9	16.9
	good	473	43.6	44.7	61.6
	fair	266	24.5	25.1	86.8
	poor	113	10.4	10.7	97.4
	no opinion	27	2.5	2.6	100.0
	Total	1058	97.5	100.0	
Missing	System	27	2.5		
Total		1085	100.0		

drinking water quantity

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	excellent	146	13.5	13.9	13.9
	good	481	44.3	45.9	59.8
	fair	255	23.5	24.3	84.2
	poor	108	10.0	10.3	94.5
	no opinion	58	5.3	5.5	100.0
	Total	1048	96.6	100.0	
Missing	System	37	3.4		
Total		1085	100.0		



quality of town hall services

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	excellent	209	19.3	19.8	19.8
	good	626	57.7	59.2	79.0
	fair	157	14.5	14.9	93.9
	poor	32	2.9	3.0	96.9
	no opinion	33	3.0	3.1	100.0
	Total	1057	97.4	100.0	
Missing	System	28	2.6		
Total		1085	100.0		

quality of zoning enforcement

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	excellent	71	6.5	6.9	6.9
	good	375	34.6	36.3	43.2
	fair	264	24.3	25.6	68.8
	poor	127	11.7	12.3	81.1
	no opinion	195	18.0	18.9	100.0
	Total	1032	95.1	100.0	
Missing	System	53	4.9		
Total		1085	100.0		

quality of snow removal

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	excellent	233	21.5	22.2	22.2
	good	531	48.9	50.5	72.7
	fair	168	15.5	16.0	88.7
	poor	52	4.8	4.9	93.6
	no opinion	67	6.2	6.4	100.0
	Total	1051	96.9	100.0	
Missing	System	34	3.1		
Total		1085	100.0		



quality of public sewer

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	excellent	111	10.2	10.9	10.9
	good	366	33.7	36.1	47.0
	fair	151	13.9	14.9	61.9
	poor	144	13.3	14.2	76.1
	no opinion	242	22.3	23.9	100.0
	Total	1014	93.5	100.0	
Missing	System	71	6.5		
Total		1085	100.0		

improving schools

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	strongly agree	252	23.2	24.6	24.6
	agree	369	34.0	36.1	60.7
	disagree	218	20.1	21.3	82.0
	strongly disagree	52	4.8	5.1	87.1
	no opinion	132	12.2	12.9	100.0
	Total	1023	94.3	100.0	
Missing	System	62	5.7		
Total		1085	100.0		

improving library

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	strongly agree	191	17.6	18.5	18.5
	agree	522	48.1	50.6	69.2
	disagree	192	17.7	18.6	87.8
	strongly disagree	37	3.4	3.6	91.4
	no opinion	89	8.2	8.6	100.0
	Total	1031	95.0	100.0	
Missing	System	54	5.0		
Total		1085	100.0		



improving fire

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	strongly agree	199	18.3	19.5	19.5
	agree	530	48.8	51.9	71.4
	disagree	181	16.7	17.7	89.1
	strongly disagree	24	2.2	2.4	91.5
	no opinion	87	8.0	8.5	100.0
	Total	1021	94.1	100.0	
Missing	System	64	5.9		
Total		1085	100.0		

improving police

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	strongly agree	174	16.0	17.1	17.1
	agree	525	48.4	51.6	68.7
	disagree	197	18.2	19.4	88.0
	strongly disagree	35	3.2	3.4	91.5
	no opinion	87	8.0	8.5	100.0
	Total	1018	93.8	100.0	
Missing	System	67	6.2		
Total		1085	100.0		

improving ems

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	strongly agree	217	20.0	21.4	21.4
	agree	513	47.3	50.5	71.9
	disagree	166	15.3	16.4	88.3
	strongly disagree	16	1.5	1.6	89.9
	no opinion	103	9.5	10.1	100.0
	Total	1015	93.5	100.0	
Missing	System	70	6.5		
Total		1085	100.0		



improving road maint.

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	strongly agree	236	21.8	23.1	23.1
	agree	570	52.5	55.8	78.9
	disagree	141	13.0	13.8	92.7
	strongly disagree	11	1.0	1.1	93.7
	no opinion	64	5.9	6.3	100.0
	Total	1022	94.2	100.0	
Missing	System	63	5.8		
Total		1085	100.0		

improving recreation prog.

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	strongly agree	104	9.6	10.3	10.3
	agree	471	43.4	46.5	56.8
	disagree	259	23.9	25.6	82.4
	strongly disagree	28	2.6	2.8	85.2
	no opinion	150	13.8	14.8	100.0
	Total	1012	93.3	100.0	
Missing	System	73	6.7		
Total		1085	100.0		

improving recreation facilities

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	strongly agree	133	12.3	13.2	13.2
	agree	460	42.4	45.5	58.7
	disagree	254	23.4	25.1	83.9
	strongly disagree	27	2.5	2.7	86.5
	no opinion	136	12.5	13.5	100.0
	Total	1010	93.1	100.0	
Missing	System	75	6.9		
Total		1085	100.0		



improving beaches

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	strongly agree	145	13.4	14.3	14.3
	agree	500	46.1	49.4	63.7
	disagree	268	24.7	26.5	90.2
	strongly disagree	20	1.8	2.0	92.2
	no opinion	79	7.3	7.8	100.0
	Total	1012	93.3	100.0	
Missing	System	73	6.7		
Total		1085	100.0		

improving boat access/waterways

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	strongly agree	122	11.2	12.1	12.1
	agree	393	36.2	38.9	51.0
	disagree	323	29.8	32.0	83.0
	strongly disagree	30	2.8	3.0	85.9
	no opinion	142	13.1	14.1	100.0
	Total	1010	93.1	100.0	
Missing	System	75	6.9		
Total		1085	100.0		

improving waste disposal

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	strongly agree	228	21.0	22.4	22.4
	agree	497	45.8	48.8	71.2
	disagree	165	15.2	16.2	87.4
	strongly disagree	12	1.1	1.2	88.6
	no opinion	116	10.7	11.4	100.0
	Total	1018	93.8	100.0	
Missing	System	67	6.2		
Total		1085	100.0		



improving recycling prog.

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	strongly agree	191	17.6	18.9	18.9
	agree	440	40.6	43.5	62.4
	disagree	255	23.5	25.2	87.5
	strongly disagree	25	2.3	2.5	90.0
	no opinion	101	9.3	10.0	100.0
	Total	1012	93.3	100.0	
Missing	System	73	6.7		
Total		1085	100.0		

improving drinking water quality

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	strongly agree	343	31.6	33.3	33.3
	agree	459	42.3	44.6	77.9
	disagree	147	13.5	14.3	92.1
	strongly disagree	13	1.2	1.3	93.4
	no opinion	68	6.3	6.6	100.0
	Total	1030	94.9	100.0	
Missing	System	55	5.1		
Total		1085	100.0		

improving drinking water quantity

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	strongly agree	276	25.4	27.2	27.2
	agree	460	42.4	45.4	72.6
	disagree	168	15.5	16.6	89.2
	strongly disagree	10	.9	1.0	90.1
	no opinion	100	9.2	9.9	100.0
	Total	1014	93.5	100.0	
Missing	System	71	6.5		
Total		1085	100.0		



improving town hall services

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	strongly agree	67	6.2	6.6	6.6
	agree	456	42.0	45.2	51.8
	disagree	342	31.5	33.9	85.7
	strongly disagree	22	2.0	2.2	87.9
	no opinion	122	11.2	12.1	100.0
	Total	1009	93.0	100.0	
Missing	System	76	7.0		
Total		1085	100.0		

improving zoning enforcement

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	strongly agree	240	22.1	23.8	23.8
	agree	437	40.3	43.3	67.1
	disagree	171	15.8	16.9	84.0
	strongly disagree	19	1.8	1.9	85.9
	no opinion	142	13.1	14.1	100.0
	Total	1009	93.0	100.0	
Missing	System	76	7.0		
Total		1085	100.0		

improving snow removal

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	strongly agree	97	8.9	9.6	9.6
	agree	455	41.9	45.0	54.5
	disagree	312	28.8	30.8	85.4
	strongly disagree	25	2.3	2.5	87.8
	no opinion	123	11.3	12.2	100.0
	Total	1012	93.3	100.0	
Missing	System	73	6.7		
Total		1085	100.0		



improving public sewer

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	strongly agree	230	21.2	22.9	22.9
	agree	449	41.4	44.7	67.6
	disagree	161	14.8	16.0	83.6
	strongly disagree	25	2.3	2.5	86.1
	no opinion	140	12.9	13.9	100.0
	Total	1005	92.6	100.0	
Missing	System	80	7.4		
Total		1085	100.0		

How satisfied are you with town's recreational places

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	very satisfied	207	19.1	19.7	19.7
	satisfied	607	55.9	57.8	77.5
	dissatisfied	127	11.7	12.1	89.5
	very dissatisfied	22	2.0	2.1	91.6
	unsure	88	8.1	8.4	100.0
	Total	1051	96.9	100.0	
Missing	System	34	3.1		
Total		1085	100.0		

Public purchase of private land

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	yes	621	57.2	100.0	100.0
Missing	System	464	42.8		
Total		1085	100.0		

Limit development

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	yes	823	75.9	100.0	100.0
Missing	System	262	24.1		
Total		1085	100.0		



Donation of conservation restrictions by landowners

	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid yes	716	66.0	100.0	100.0
Missing System	369	34.0		
Total	1085	100.0		

Property tax reduction programs

	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid yes	607	55.9	100.0	100.0
Missing System	478	44.1		
Total	1085	100.0		

Zoning open space conservation

	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid yes	724	66.7	100.0	100.0
Missing System	361	33.3		
Total	1085	100.0		

Population growth

	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid critical issue	445	41.0	42.8	42.8
important issue	461	42.5	44.4	87.2
minor/no issue	133	12.3	12.8	100.0
Total	1039	95.8	100.0	
Missing System	46	4.2		
Total	1085	100.0		

Lack of job opportunities

	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid critical issue	159	14.7	15.6	15.6
important issue	352	32.4	34.5	50.1
minor/no issue	508	46.8	49.9	100.0
Total	1019	93.9	100.0	
Missing System	66	6.1		
Total	1085	100.0		



Groundwater pollution

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	critical issue	275	25.3	27.0	27.0
	important issue	522	48.1	51.3	78.3
	minor/no issue	221	20.4	21.7	100.0
	Total	1018	93.8	100.0	
Missing	System	67	6.2		
Total		1085	100.0		

Pollution of rivers/coastal waterways

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	critical issue	375	34.6	36.9	36.9
	important issue	487	44.9	47.9	84.8
	minor/no issue	155	14.3	15.2	100.0
	Total	1017	93.7	100.0	
Missing	System	68	6.3		
Total		1085	100.0		

Elderly services

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	critical issue	162	14.9	15.9	15.9
	important issue	592	54.6	58.2	74.1
	minor/no issue	263	24.2	25.9	100.0
	Total	1017	93.7	100.0	
Missing	System	68	6.3		
Total		1085	100.0		

Lack of teen/youth services

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	critical issue	181	16.7	18.1	18.1
	important issue	479	44.1	48.0	66.1
	minor/no issue	338	31.2	33.9	100.0
	Total	998	92.0	100.0	
Missing	System	87	8.0		
Total		1085	100.0		



High cost of housing

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	critical issue	441	40.6	43.4	43.4
	important issue	364	33.5	35.8	79.2
	minor/no issue	211	19.4	20.8	100.0
	Total	1016	93.6	100.0	
Missing	System	69	6.4		
Total		1085	100.0		

Number/condition of sidewalks/bikepaths

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	critical issue	274	25.3	26.7	26.7
	important issue	404	37.2	39.3	66.0
	minor/no issue	349	32.2	34.0	100.0
	Total	1027	94.7	100.0	
Missing	System	58	5.3		
Total		1085	100.0		

Community centers

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	critical issue	73	6.7	7.3	7.3
	important issue	368	33.9	36.6	43.8
	minor/no issue	565	52.1	56.2	100.0
	Total	1006	92.7	100.0	
Missing	System	79	7.3		
Total		1085	100.0		

Level of shopping opportunities

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	critical issue	87	8.0	8.5	8.5
	important issue	202	18.6	19.7	28.1
	minor/no issue	738	68.0	71.9	100.0
	Total	1027	94.7	100.0	
Missing	System	58	5.3		
Total		1085	100.0		



Water access

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	critical issue	119	11.0	11.7	11.7
	important issue	402	37.1	39.5	51.2
	minor/no issue	497	45.8	48.8	100.0
	Total	1018	93.8	100.0	
Missing	System	67	6.2		
Total		1085	100.0		

Traffic on route 6

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	critical issue	145	13.4	14.0	14.0
	important issue	335	30.9	32.4	46.5
	minor/no issue	553	51.0	53.5	100.0
	Total	1033	95.2	100.0	
Missing	System	52	4.8		
Total		1085	100.0		

Traffic on other town roads

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	critical issue	84	7.7	8.2	8.2
	important issue	309	28.5	30.1	38.3
	minor/no issue	632	58.2	61.7	100.0
	Total	1025	94.5	100.0	
Missing	System	60	5.5		
Total		1085	100.0		

Level of public transportation

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	critical issue	107	9.9	10.5	10.5
	important issue	264	24.3	26.0	36.6
	minor/no issue	644	59.4	63.4	100.0
	Total	1015	93.5	100.0	
Missing	System	70	6.5		
Total		1085	100.0		



Cost of trash removal

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	critical issue	68	6.3	6.8	6.8
	important issue	347	32.0	34.8	41.6
	minor/no issue	583	53.7	58.4	100.0
	Total	998	92.0	100.0	
Missing	System	87	8.0		
Total		1085	100.0		

Day care opportunities

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	critical issue	37	3.4	3.7	3.7
	important issue	215	19.8	21.6	25.3
	minor/no issue	744	68.6	74.7	100.0
	Total	996	91.8	100.0	
Missing	System	89	8.2		
Total		1085	100.0		

Loss of open land to development

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	critical issue	464	42.8	45.1	45.1
	important issue	362	33.4	35.2	80.4
	minor/no issue	202	18.6	19.6	100.0
	Total	1028	94.7	100.0	
Missing	System	57	5.3		
Total		1085	100.0		

Zoning enforcement

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	critical issue	350	32.3	34.7	34.7
	important issue	467	43.0	46.3	81.0
	minor/no issue	192	17.7	19.0	100.0
	Total	1009	93.0	100.0	
Missing	System	76	7.0		
Total		1085	100.0		



Design/appearance of commercial areas

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	critical issue	330	30.4	32.3	32.3
	important issue	481	44.3	47.1	79.4
	minor/no issue	210	19.4	20.6	100.0
	Total	1021	94.1	100.0	
Missing	System	64	5.9		
Total		1085	100.0		

Protect historic areas

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	critical issue	381	35.1	37.1	37.1
	important issue	432	39.8	42.1	79.2
	minor/no issue	213	19.6	20.8	100.0
	Total	1026	94.6	100.0	
Missing	System	59	5.4		
Total		1085	100.0		

residential %

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	too little	63	5.8	6.2	6.2
	enough	839	77.3	83.0	89.2
	need more	109	10.0	10.8	100.0
	Total	1011	93.2	100.0	
Missing	System	74	6.8		
Total		1085	100.0		

commercial %

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	too little	198	18.2	19.5	19.5
	enough	738	68.0	72.6	92.1
	need more	80	7.4	7.9	100.0
	Total	1016	93.6	100.0	
Missing	System	69	6.4		
Total		1085	100.0		



industrial %

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	too little	154	14.2	15.4	15.4
	enough	733	67.6	73.2	88.6
	need more	114	10.5	11.4	100.0
	Total	1001	92.3	100.0	
Missing	Sy stem	84	7.7		
Total		1085	100.0		

passive %

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	too little	507	46.7	51.1	51.1
	enough	459	42.3	46.2	97.3
	need more	27	2.5	2.7	100.0
	Total	993	91.5	100.0	
Missing	Sy stem	92	8.5		
Total		1085	100.0		

active %

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	too little	368	33.9	37.1	37.1
	enough	618	57.0	62.3	99.4
	need more	6	.6	.6	100.0
	Total	992	91.4	100.0	
Missing	Sy stem	93	8.6		
Total		1085	100.0		

agriculture %

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	too little	339	31.2	34.4	34.4
	enough	637	58.7	64.7	99.1
	need more	9	.8	.9	100.0
	Total	985	90.8	100.0	
Missing	Sy stem	100	9.2		
Total		1085	100.0		



afford. Housing %

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	too little	564	52.0	54.9	54.9
	enough	408	37.6	39.7	94.6
	need more	55	5.1	5.4	100.0
	Total	1027	94.7	100.0	
Missing	Sy stem	58	5.3		
Total		1085	100.0		

be evenly dispersed

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	strongly agree	263	24.2	25.8	25.8
	agree	383	35.3	37.5	63.3
	disagree	213	19.6	20.9	84.2
	strongly disagree	97	8.9	9.5	93.7
	no opinion	64	5.9	6.3	100.0
	Total	1020	94.0	100.0	
Missing	Sy stem	65	6.0		
Total		1085	100.0		

be limited to planned areas of high density development

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	strongly agree	149	13.7	14.9	14.9
	agree	302	27.8	30.2	45.1
	disagree	337	31.1	33.7	78.8
	strongly disagree	154	14.2	15.4	94.2
	no opinion	58	5.3	5.8	100.0
	Total	1000	92.2	100.0	
Missing	Sy stem	85	7.8		
Total		1085	100.0		



combine residential & small retail development

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	strongly agree	161	14.8	15.9	15.9
	agree	396	36.5	39.1	55.0
	disagree	259	23.9	25.6	80.6
	strongly disagree	123	11.3	12.2	92.8
	no opinion	73	6.7	7.2	100.0
	Total	1012	93.3	100.0	
Missing	System	73	6.7		
Total		1085	100.0		

be unrestricted

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	strongly agree	61	5.6	6.1	6.1
	agree	54	5.0	5.4	11.5
	disagree	188	17.3	18.8	30.2
	strongly disagree	669	61.7	66.8	97.0
	no opinion	30	2.8	3.0	100.0
	Total	1002	92.4	100.0	
Missing	System	83	7.6		
Total		1085	100.0		

be evenly dispersed

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	strongly agree	62	5.7	6.3	6.3
	agree	130	12.0	13.2	19.5
	disagree	398	36.7	40.4	59.9
	strongly disagree	367	33.8	37.3	97.2
	no opinion	28	2.6	2.8	100.0
	Total	985	90.8	100.0	
Missing	System	100	9.2		
Total		1085	100.0		



be limited to planned areas of high density development

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	strongly agree	242	22.3	24.2	24.2
	agree	462	42.6	46.2	70.4
	disagree	177	16.3	17.7	88.1
	strongly disagree	72	6.6	7.2	95.3
	no opinion	47	4.3	4.7	100.0
	Total	1000	92.2	100.0	
Missing	System	85	7.8		
Total		1085	100.0		

be allowed only in existing developed areas

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	strongly agree	221	20.4	22.1	22.1
	agree	411	37.9	41.2	63.3
	disagree	278	25.6	27.9	91.2
	strongly disagree	39	3.6	3.9	95.1
	no opinion	49	4.5	4.9	100.0
	Total	998	92.0	100.0	
Missing	System	87	8.0		
Total		1085	100.0		

encourage small business development

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	strongly agree	282	26.0	27.7	27.7
	agree	578	53.3	56.8	84.5
	disagree	94	8.7	9.2	93.7
	strongly disagree	30	2.8	2.9	96.7
	no opinion	34	3.1	3.3	100.0
	Total	1018	93.8	100.0	
Missing	System	67	6.2		
Total		1085	100.0		



encourage small retail development

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	strongly agree	235	21.7	23.2	23.2
	agree	570	52.5	56.3	79.5
	disagree	131	12.1	12.9	92.5
	strongly disagree	39	3.6	3.9	96.3
	no opinion	37	3.4	3.7	100.0
	Total	1012	93.3	100.0	
Missing	System	73	6.7		
Total		1085	100.0		

encourage big box chain retailers

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	strongly agree	34	3.1	3.3	3.3
	agree	28	2.6	2.7	6.0
	disagree	153	14.1	14.9	20.9
	strongly disagree	798	73.5	77.6	98.4
	no opinion	16	1.5	1.6	100.0
	Total	1029	94.8	100.0	
Missing	System	56	5.2		
Total		1085	100.0		

promote development of an office park

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	strongly agree	83	7.6	8.1	8.1
	agree	385	35.5	37.5	45.6
	disagree	210	19.4	20.4	66.0
	strongly disagree	272	25.1	26.5	92.5
	no opinion	77	7.1	7.5	100.0
	Total	1027	94.7	100.0	
Missing	System	58	5.3		
Total		1085	100.0		



encourage light industry

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	strongly agree	79	7.3	7.8	7.8
	agree	415	38.2	40.7	48.5
	disagree	235	21.7	23.1	71.5
	strongly disagree	225	20.7	22.1	93.6
	no opinion	65	6.0	6.4	100.0
	Total	1019	93.9	100.0	
Missing	System	66	6.1		
Total		1085	100.0		

encourage professional offices

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	strongly agree	187	17.2	18.2	18.2
	agree	665	61.3	64.9	83.1
	disagree	89	8.2	8.7	91.8
	strongly disagree	38	3.5	3.7	95.5
	no opinion	46	4.2	4.5	100.0
	Total	1025	94.5	100.0	
Missing	System	60	5.5		
Total		1085	100.0		

be unrestricted

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	strongly agree	27	2.5	2.7	2.7
	agree	31	2.9	3.1	5.8
	disagree	161	14.8	16.1	21.9
	strongly disagree	748	68.9	74.7	96.5
	no opinion	35	3.2	3.5	100.0
	Total	1002	92.4	100.0	
Missing	System	83	7.6		
Total		1085	100.0		



restrain residential development

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	strongly agree	310	28.6	30.8	30.8
	agree	436	40.2	43.4	74.2
	disagree	206	19.0	20.5	94.7
	strongly disagree	30	2.8	3.0	97.7
	no opinion	23	2.1	2.3	100.0
	Total	1005	92.6	100.0	
Missing	System	80	7.4		
Total		1085	100.0		

require developers to build more affordable housing

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	strongly agree	217	20.0	21.3	21.3
	agree	382	35.2	37.5	58.7
	disagree	250	23.0	24.5	83.2
	strongly disagree	121	11.2	11.9	95.1
	no opinion	50	4.6	4.9	100.0
	Total	1020	94.0	100.0	
Missing	System	65	6.0		
Total		1085	100.0		

encourage development of assisted living facility

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	strongly agree	207	19.1	20.2	20.2
	agree	498	45.9	48.6	68.8
	disagree	179	16.5	17.5	86.2
	strongly disagree	50	4.6	4.9	91.1
	no opinion	91	8.4	8.9	100.0
	Total	1025	94.5	100.0	
Missing	System	60	5.5		
Total		1085	100.0		



encourage develop. of independent living facility for elderly

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	strongly agree	233	21.5	22.6	22.6
	agree	565	52.1	54.8	77.4
	disagree	117	10.8	11.3	88.7
	strongly disagree	41	3.8	4.0	92.7
	no opinion	75	6.9	7.3	100.0
	Total	1031	95.0	100.0	
Missing	System	54	5.0		
Total		1085	100.0		

encourage concentrated res. development on sm. lots

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	strongly agree	56	5.2	5.5	5.5
	agree	194	17.9	19.2	24.7
	disagree	427	39.4	42.2	67.0
	strongly disagree	271	25.0	26.8	93.8
	no opinion	63	5.8	6.2	100.0
	Total	1011	93.2	100.0	
Missing	System	74	6.8		
Total		1085	100.0		

restrict res. development to large lots

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	strongly agree	171	15.8	16.7	16.7
	agree	271	25.0	26.5	43.3
	disagree	384	35.4	37.6	80.9
	strongly disagree	145	13.4	14.2	95.1
	no opinion	50	4.6	4.9	100.0
	Total	1021	94.1	100.0	
Missing	System	64	5.9		
Total		1085	100.0		



authorize construction of condos/townhouses

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	strongly agree	146	13.5	14.2	14.2
	agree	435	40.1	42.4	56.7
	disagree	214	19.7	20.9	77.6
	strongly disagree	183	16.9	17.9	95.4
	no opinion	47	4.3	4.6	100.0
	Total	1025	94.5	100.0	
Missing	System	60	5.5		
Total		1085	100.0		

residential

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	too fast	509	46.9	51.1	51.1
	just right	452	41.7	45.4	96.5
	too slow	35	3.2	3.5	100.0
	Total	996	91.8	100.0	
Missing	System	89	8.2		
Total		1085	100.0		

commercial

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	too fast	165	15.2	16.9	16.9
	just right	586	54.0	59.9	76.8
	too slow	227	20.9	23.2	100.0
	Total	978	90.1	100.0	
Missing	System	107	9.9		
Total		1085	100.0		

industrial

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	too fast	182	16.8	18.8	18.8
	just right	585	53.9	60.4	79.2
	too slow	202	18.6	20.8	100.0
	Total	969	89.3	100.0	
Missing	System	116	10.7		
Total		1085	100.0		



stay the same

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	strongly agree	284	26.2	28.8	28.8
	agree	319	29.4	32.4	61.2
	disagree	297	27.4	30.1	91.3
	strongly disagree	44	4.1	4.5	95.7
	no opinion	42	3.9	4.3	100.0
	Total	986	90.9	100.0	
Missing	System	99	9.1		
Total		1085	100.0		

expand existing businesses

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	strongly agree	40	3.7	4.0	4.0
	agree	418	38.5	42.0	46.0
	disagree	365	33.6	36.6	82.6
	strongly disagree	95	8.8	9.5	92.2
	no opinion	78	7.2	7.8	100.0
	Total	996	91.8	100.0	
Missing	System	89	8.2		
Total		1085	100.0		

attract new businesses

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	strongly agree	81	7.5	8.1	8.1
	agree	456	42.0	45.6	53.6
	disagree	305	28.1	30.5	84.1
	strongly disagree	108	10.0	10.8	94.9
	no opinion	51	4.7	5.1	100.0
	Total	1001	92.3	100.0	
Missing	System	84	7.7		
Total		1085	100.0		



expand recreation facilities

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	strongly agree	138	12.7	13.9	13.9
	agree	461	42.5	46.6	60.5
	disagree	264	24.3	26.7	87.2
	strongly disagree	40	3.7	4.0	91.2
	no opinion	87	8.0	8.8	100.0
	Total	990	91.2	100.0	
Missing	Sy stem	95	8.8		
Total		1085	100.0		

promote larger industries

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	strongly agree	20	1.8	2.0	2.0
	agree	85	7.8	8.6	10.6
	disagree	412	38.0	41.4	52.0
	strongly disagree	452	41.7	45.5	97.5
	no opinion	25	2.3	2.5	100.0
	Total	994	91.6	100.0	
Missing	Sy stem	91	8.4		
Total		1085	100.0		

revitalize central village area

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	strongly agree	195	18.0	19.4	19.4
	agree	427	39.4	42.4	61.8
	disagree	259	23.9	25.7	87.5
	strongly disagree	71	6.5	7.1	94.5
	no opinion	55	5.1	5.5	100.0
	Total	1007	92.8	100.0	
Missing	Sy stem	78	7.2		
Total		1085	100.0		



beautify the town

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	strongly agree	271	25.0	26.8	26.8
	agree	508	46.8	50.3	77.1
	disagree	150	13.8	14.9	92.0
	strongly disagree	23	2.1	2.3	94.3
	no opinion	58	5.3	5.7	100.0
	Total	1010	93.1	100.0	
Missing	Sy stem	75	6.9		
Total		1085	100.0		

improve access to natural areas

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	strongly agree	285	26.3	28.2	28.2
	agree	522	48.1	51.7	79.9
	disagree	123	11.3	12.2	92.1
	strongly disagree	14	1.3	1.4	93.5
	no opinion	66	6.1	6.5	100.0
	Total	1010	93.1	100.0	
Missing	Sy stem	75	6.9		
Total		1085	100.0		

restrict growth

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	strongly agree	365	33.6	36.0	36.0
	agree	405	37.3	40.0	76.0
	disagree	174	16.0	17.2	93.2
	strongly disagree	39	3.6	3.8	97.0
	no opinion	30	2.8	3.0	100.0
	Total	1013	93.4	100.0	
Missing	Sy stem	72	6.6		
Total		1085	100.0		



keep taxes stable

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	strongly agree	577	53.2	55.8	55.8
	agree	396	36.5	38.3	94.1
	disagree	38	3.5	3.7	97.8
	strongly disagree	5	.5	.5	98.3
	no opinion	18	1.7	1.7	100.0
	Total	1034	95.3	100.0	
Missing	System	51	4.7		
Total		1085	100.0		

town should keep taxes stable, even if it means reducing services

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	strongly agree	246	22.7	23.8	23.8
	agree	318	29.3	30.8	54.6
	disagree	338	31.2	32.7	87.3
	strongly disagree	95	8.8	9.2	96.5
	no opinion	36	3.3	3.5	100.0
	Total	1033	95.2	100.0	
Missing	System	52	4.8		
Total		1085	100.0		

how often do you volunteer in community organizations

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	once or more/week	146	13.5	15.1	15.1
	2-4/month	153	14.1	15.8	30.9
	1X/month	128	11.8	13.2	44.1
	<1/month	245	22.6	25.3	69.4
	never	296	27.3	30.6	100.0
	Total	968	89.2	100.0	
Missing	System	117	10.8		
Total		1085	100.0		

