

2018 | By: LUC Regional Planning Commission



Champaign County, OH

Analysis of 2018 Survey Results

Comprehensive Plan

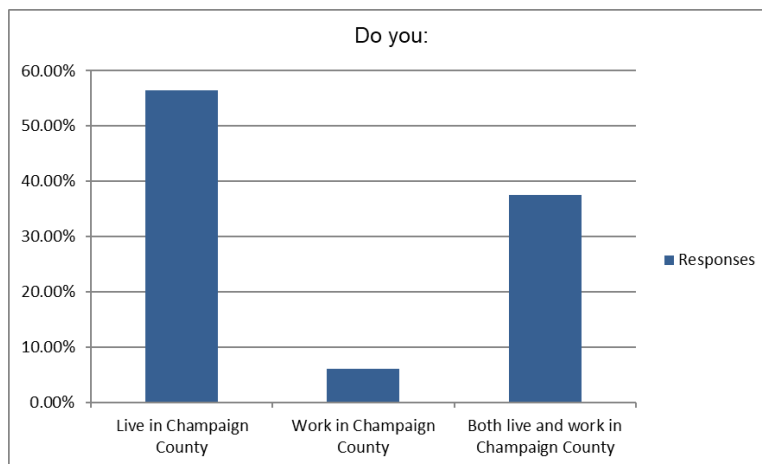
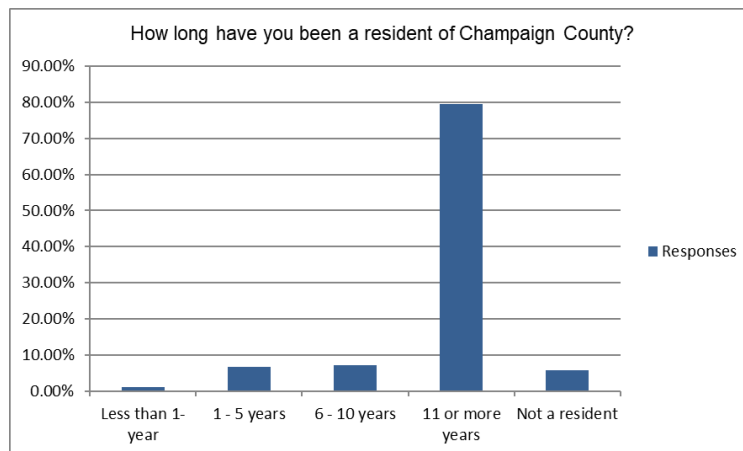
2018 Survey Analysis

Introduction

In 2018 a list of survey questions was created by the Steering Committee for the Champaign County Comprehensive Plan Update. The survey was initially opened in May 2018 and closed in June 2018. At the time of closure, 157 surveys had been submitted. In July it was decided to reopen the Survey, with a marketing plan decided upon to increase respondents to the survey. The survey was closed on October 1 with 711 respondents, a significant increase in participation.

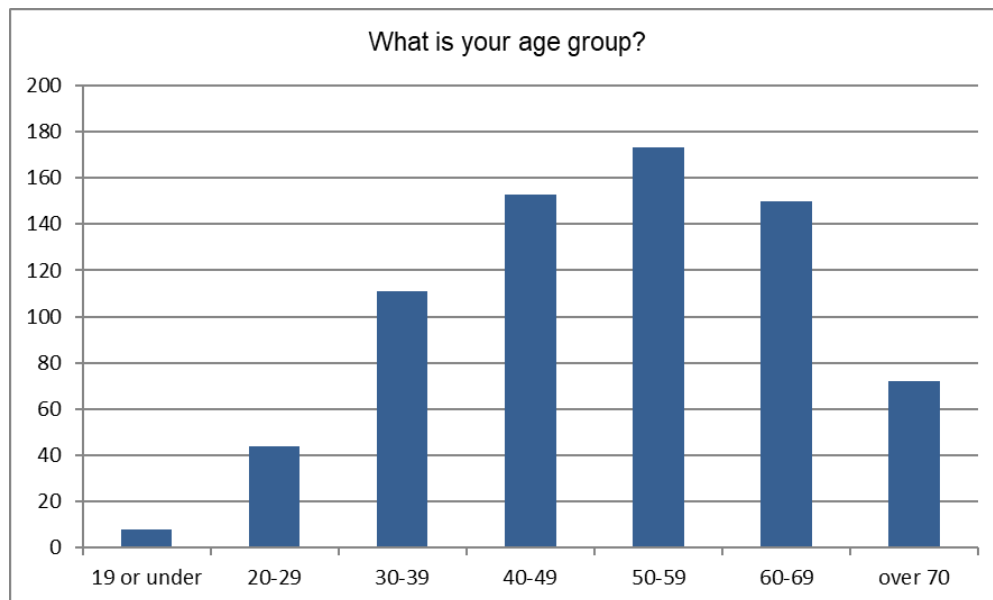
Demographics

Of the 711 respondents, 56.40% reported living in Champaign County; 6.05% reported working in Champaign County and 37.55% reported both living and working in Champaign County. Of those 670 residents who reported living in Champaign County, 79.47% of them have lived in the county for more than 11 years. Once asked to specify the City, Village or Township there were respondents from every jurisdiction in the county. As to be expected, the most responses received were from respondents in the City of Urbana. If a particular jurisdiction is interested in further analysis of responses in their area, that is a potential option.



Number of Respondents	Location
4	Adams Township
300	City of Urbana
20	Concord Township
24	Goshen Township
6	Harrison Township
14	Jackson Township
11	Johnson Township
1	Liberty Township
31	Mad River Township
1	North Lewisburg & Rush Township
9	Other (Location couldn't be determined)
114	Rush Township
40	Salem Township
46	Union Township
34	Urbana Township
12	Village of Cable
2	Village of Christiansburg
34	Village of Mechanicsburg
2	Village of Mutual
20	Village of North Lewisburg
22	Village of Saint Paris
3	Village of Woodstock
17	Wayne Township

This survey was completed by a broad range of age groups. In the initial survey results the majority of responses came from 50-59-year old. With the increase in respondents, the results are now more spread out among ages.



Respondents were asked to rate their top three reasons for why they live in Champaign County. The top three reasons chosen were: Small/Rural Town atmosphere (392), Family & Friends nearby (342) and Lived here all my life (249).

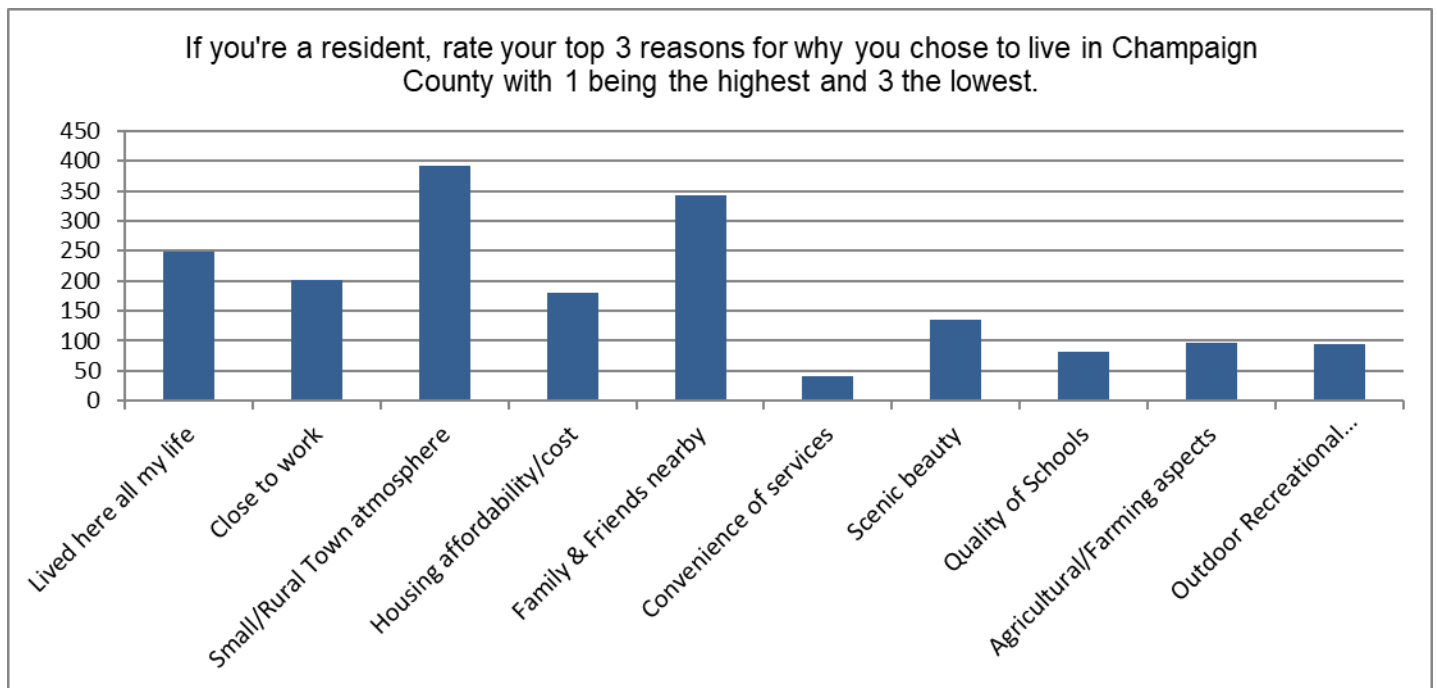


Figure 1- Total Responses

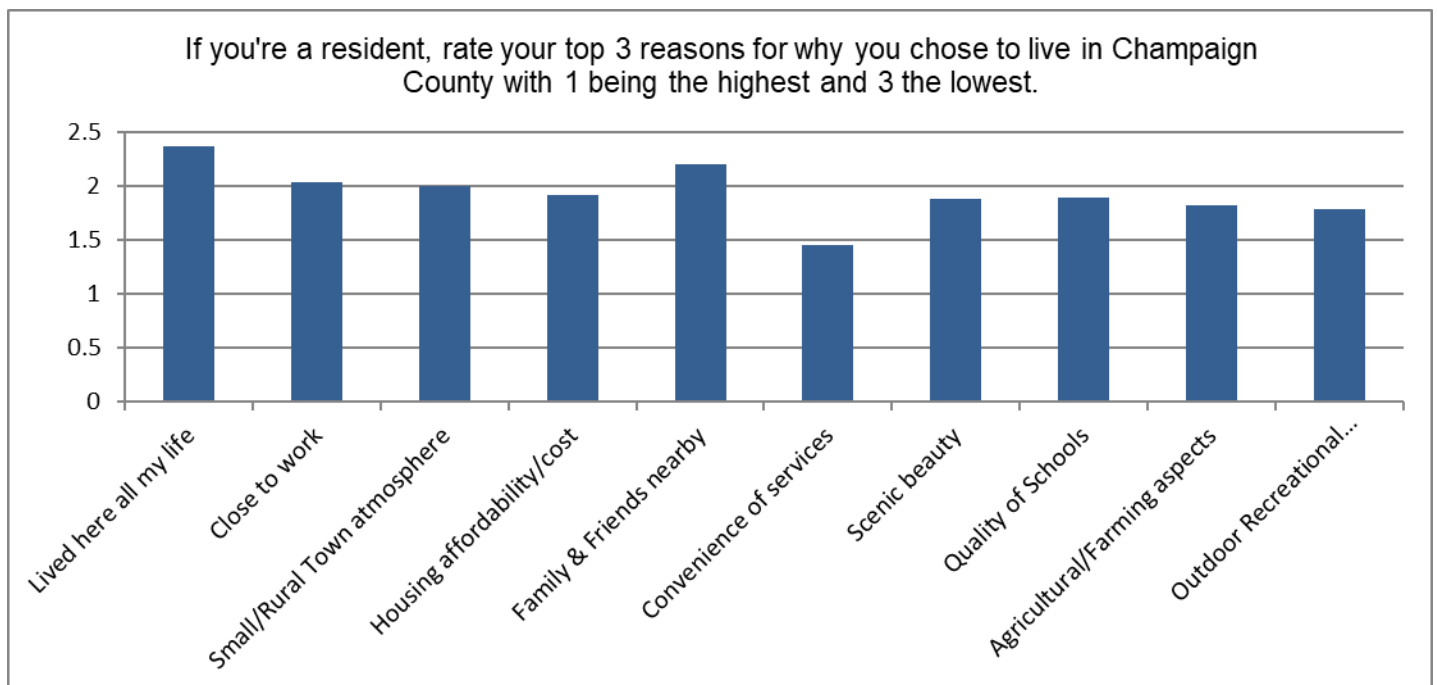
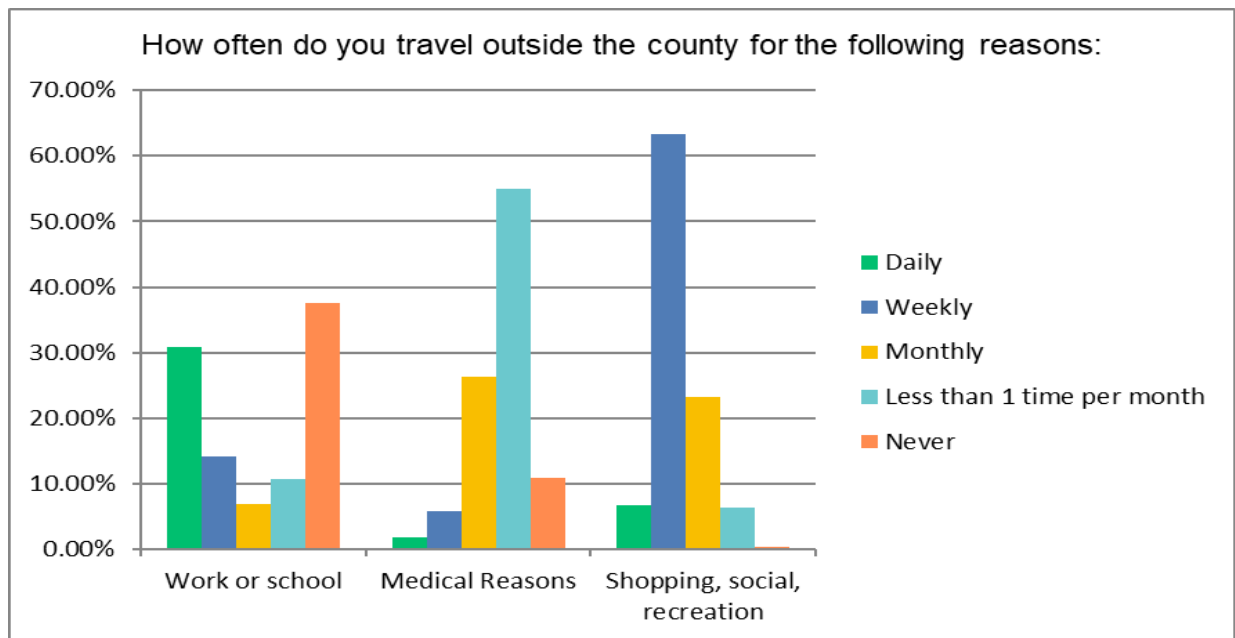
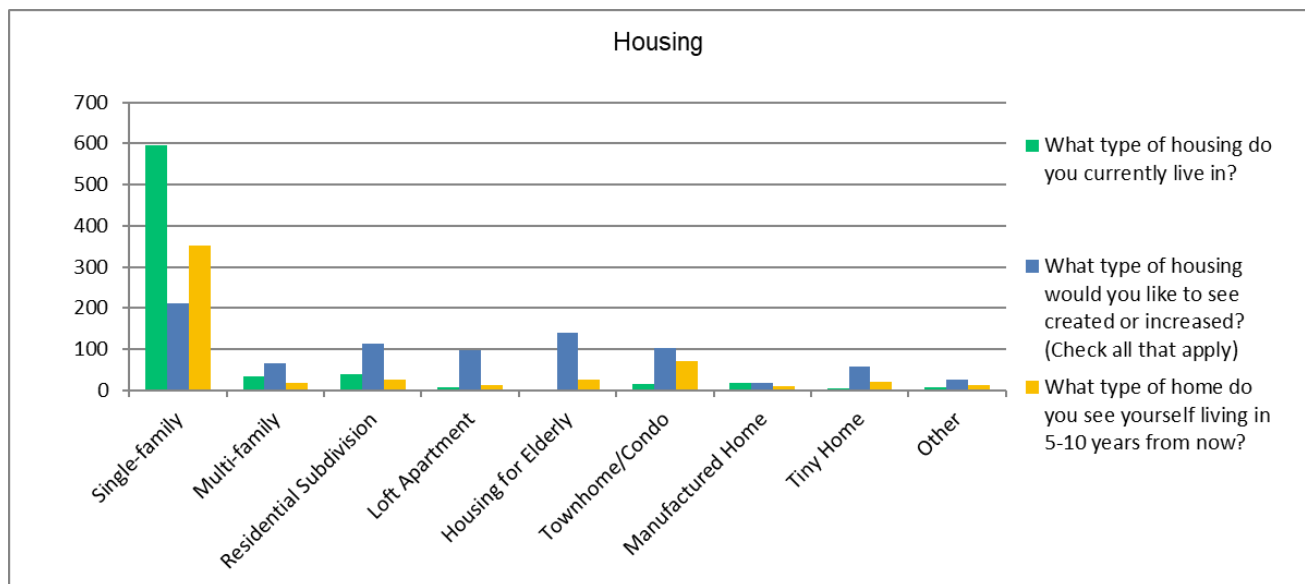


Figure 2 - Weighted Average

Respondents were asked about the reasons they travel outside of Champaign County. Of the significant numbers 63% report traveling weekly outside the county for shopping, social and recreation; 55% report traveling less than one time a month for medical reasons.



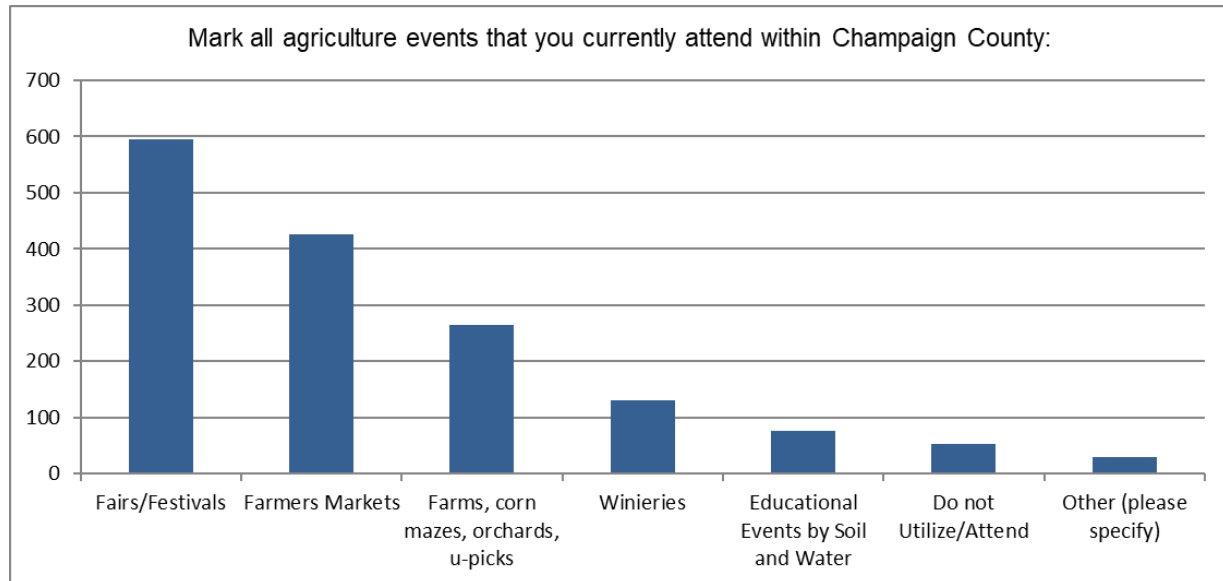
When it comes to the current housing of respondents, 595 reported they live in single-family homes; and in the future 352 see themselves in living in a single-family home.



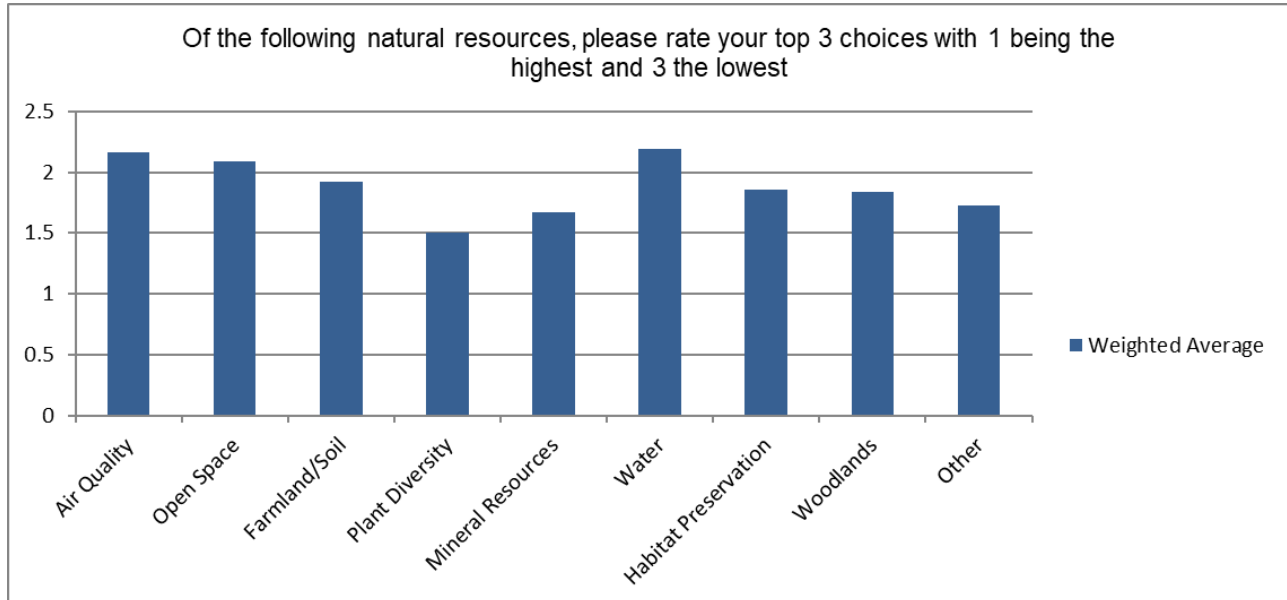
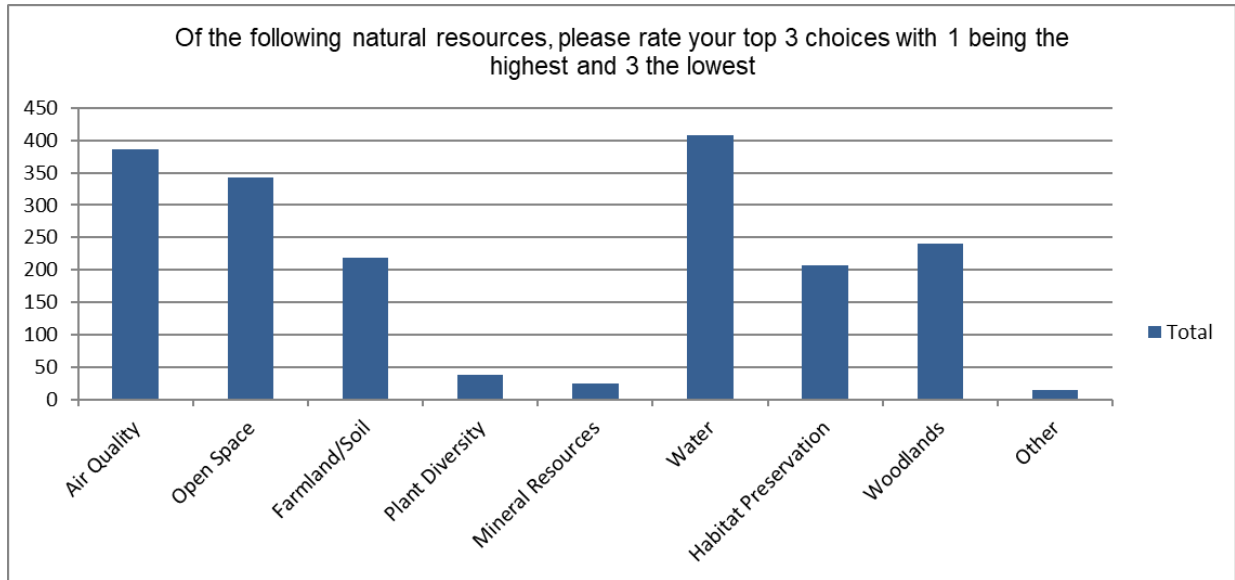
Respondents were given an opportunity to provide further comments regarding this issue. Comments were varied, but a few common themes were comments regarding low-income and/or affordable housing and housing options for elderly. The entire list of comments for this question, Question 7, is available in the Appendix at the end of this report.

Community Involvement

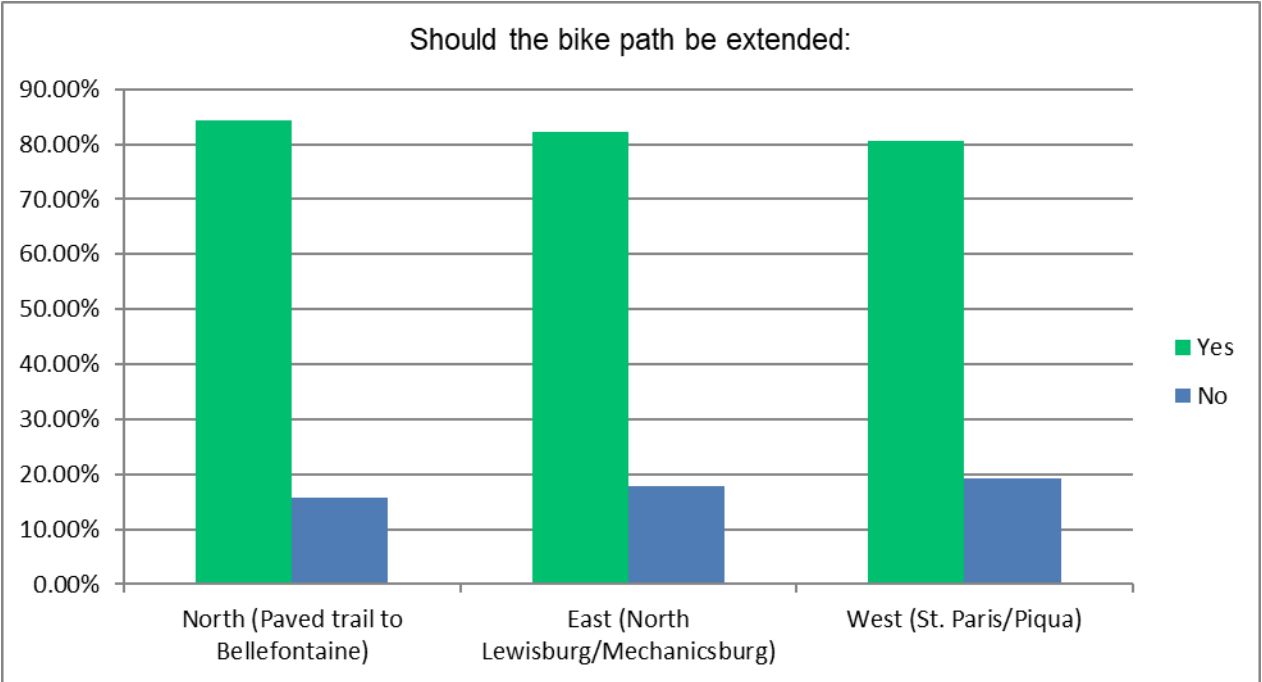
The survey had several questions regarding Community Involvement to get an idea of activities that are supported in the community, as well as, what residents would like to see available. A majority of respondent's reported attending Fairs/Festivals (595) and Farmers Markets (426). Several suggestions were made about other events available in the community, not necessarily agriculture, and those can be further explored in the Appendix, under Question 8. One item I noted in the suggestions is that many of these events are not accessible for handicapped people.



Regarding natural resources, the top three items chosen were Water (406), Air Quality (386) and Open Space (342). The below chart shows the resources with the total respondents for each item; the following chart shows the weighted average (as indicated by the legend) of each item. This question also allowed comments which can be viewed in the Appendix, Question 9.

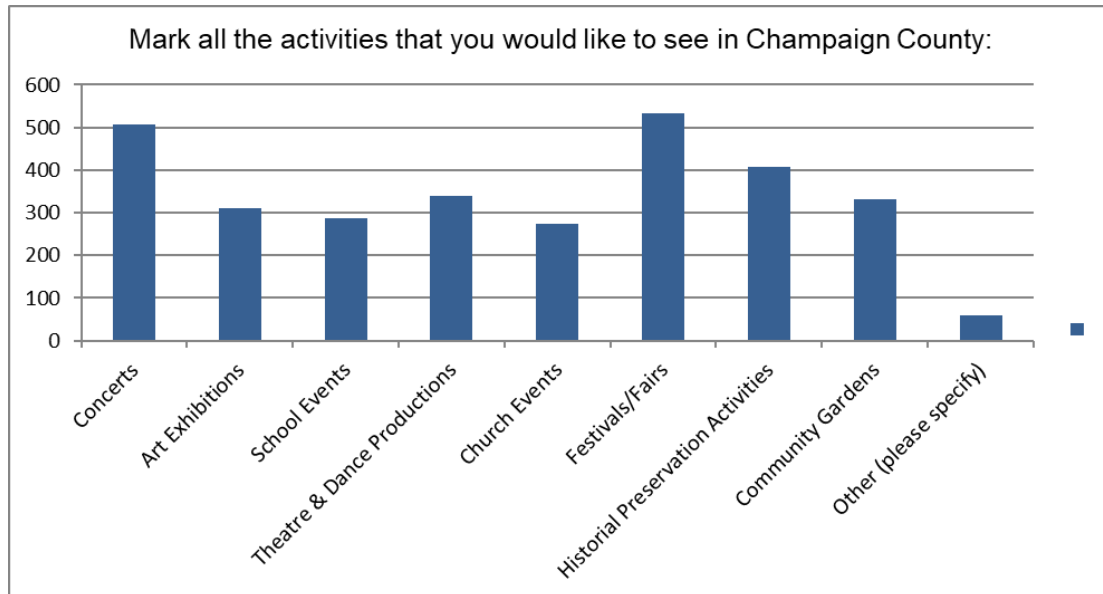


Regarding parks and bike paths in Champaign County, 72.26% of respondents reported utilizing these. Most respondents support the extension of the bike path in all three directions listed.

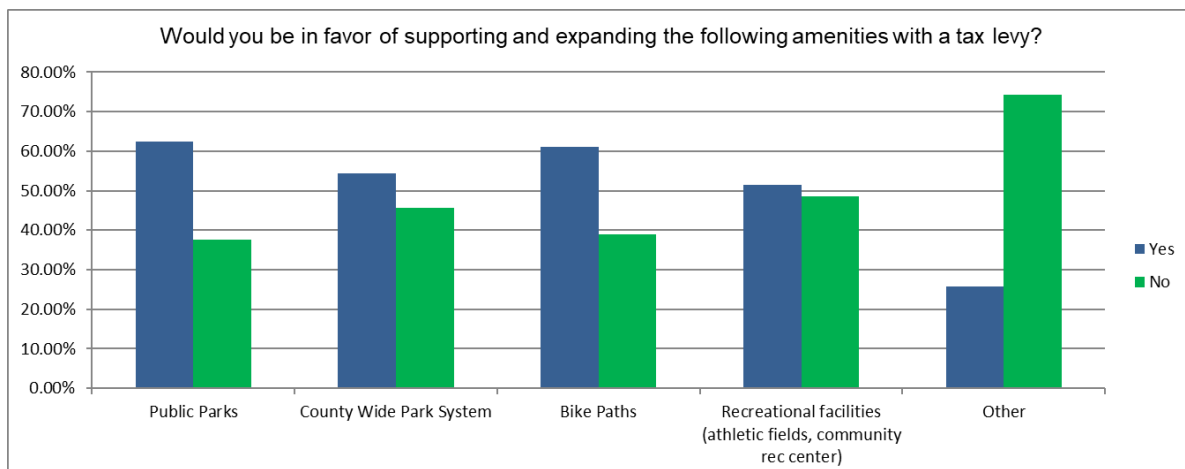


Entertainment/Social/Recreational

When asked about activities they would like to see in Champaign County, respondents were interested in all of them with Festivals/Fairs; Concerts; and Historical Preservation Activities getting the highest votes. Respondents were given the option of adding other suggestions and two suggestions were mentioned repeatedly, Athletic events and Craft Brew/Wine events. All suggestions can be viewed in the Appendix, Question 12.

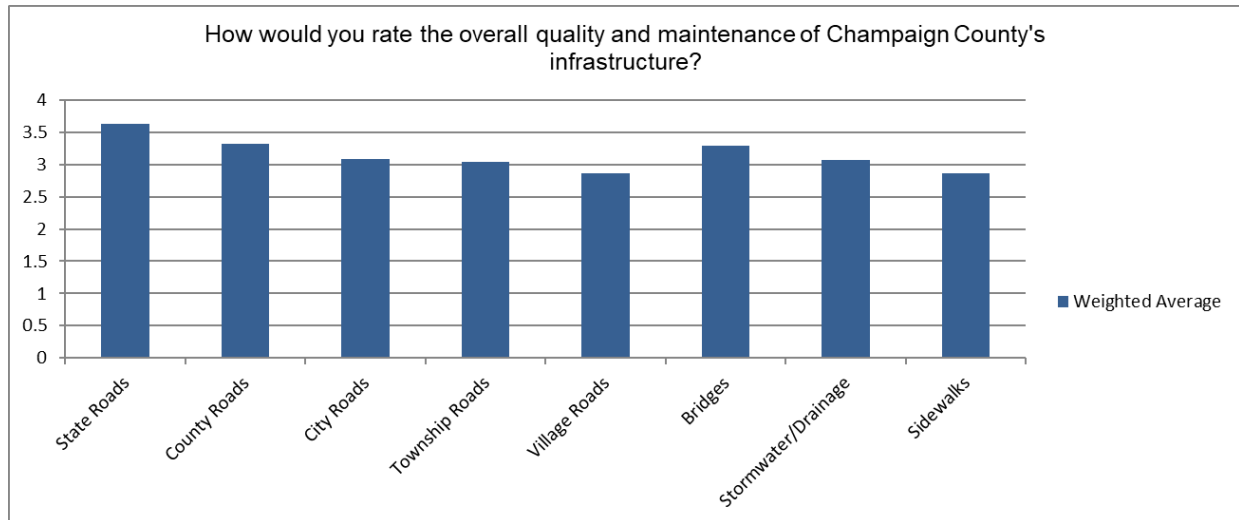


Respondents were split when it came to tax levies to support expanding amenities. The majority of respondents voted yes for each item. The item that received the most support for a tax levy to support it is the Public Parks with 62.44% people in favor. Additionally, support for Bike Path's received 61.07% voting in support. Respondents were given the option of adding other suggestions and they can be viewed in the Appendix, Question 13.

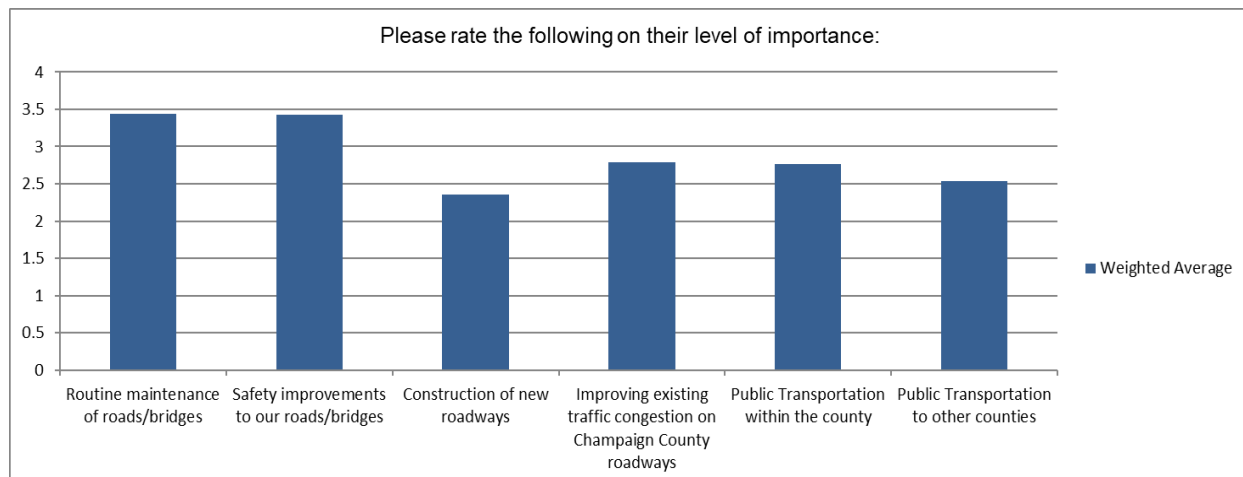


Infrastructure

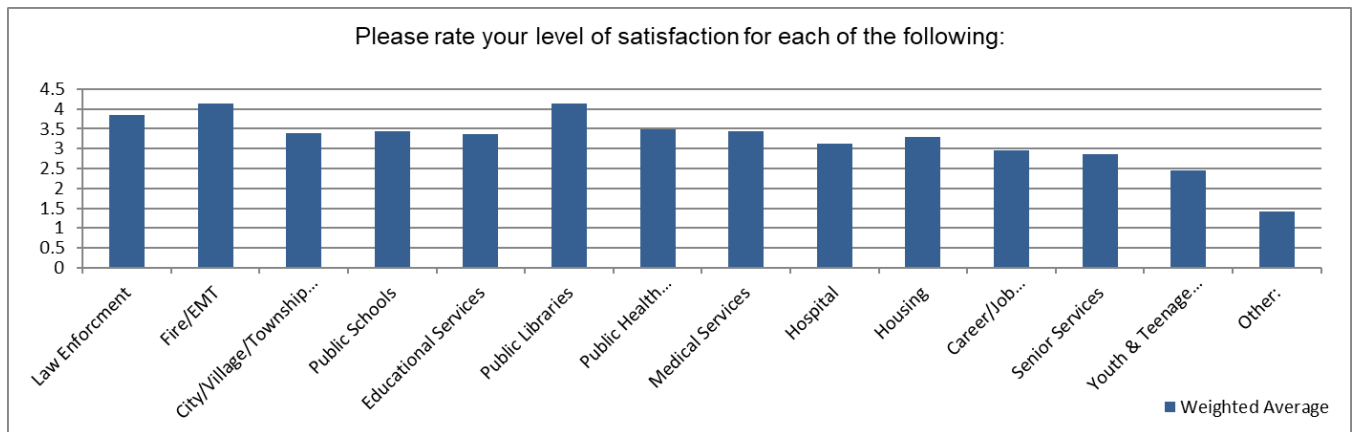
Respondents were asked to rate on a scale of 1-5 the quality and maintenance of Champaign County's infrastructures. The lowest rated was Village Roads with a weighted average of 2.86 and the highest rated item was State Roads at 3.64. Respondents were also offered the option offering comments which can be viewed in the Appendix, Question 14. Some of these comments provide suggestions for specific locations and could be useful to the jurisdiction.



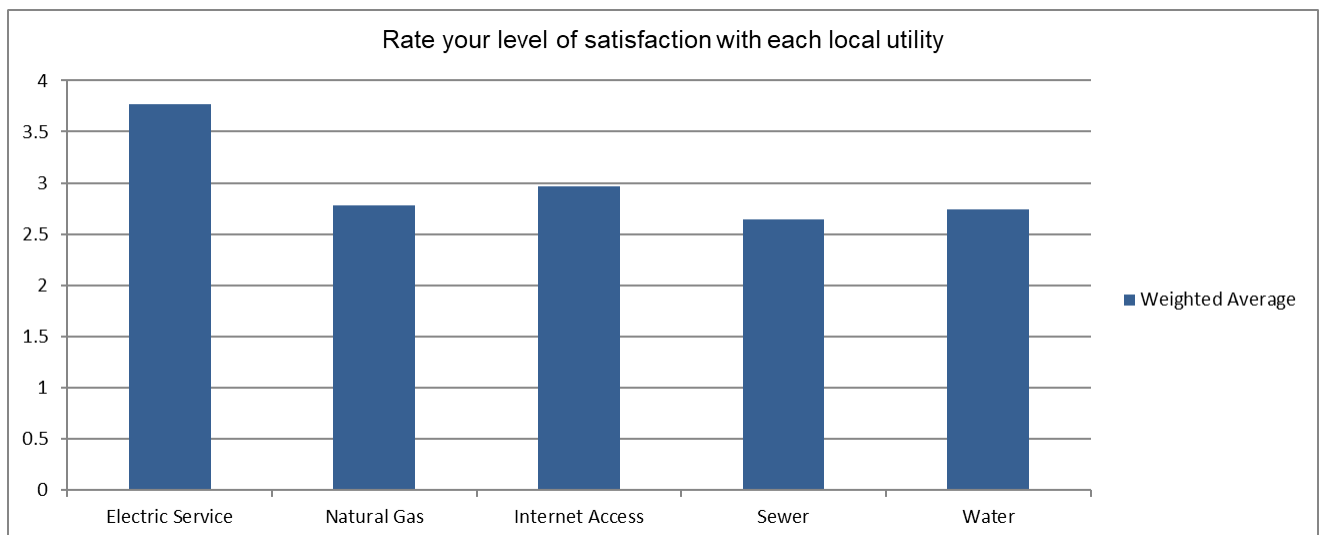
Respondents feel routine maintenance of roads/bridges and safety improvements to our roads/bridges are the highest priorities.



Respondents were given a chance to rate their level of satisfaction on a scale of 1-5 for a variety of items in the county. Respondents rated the Fire/EMT services with a weighted average of 4.14 and public libraries 4.13, the two highest rated items. Respondents weighted youth and teenage services with a 2.45 and services for seniors a 2.85, the two lowest rated items.

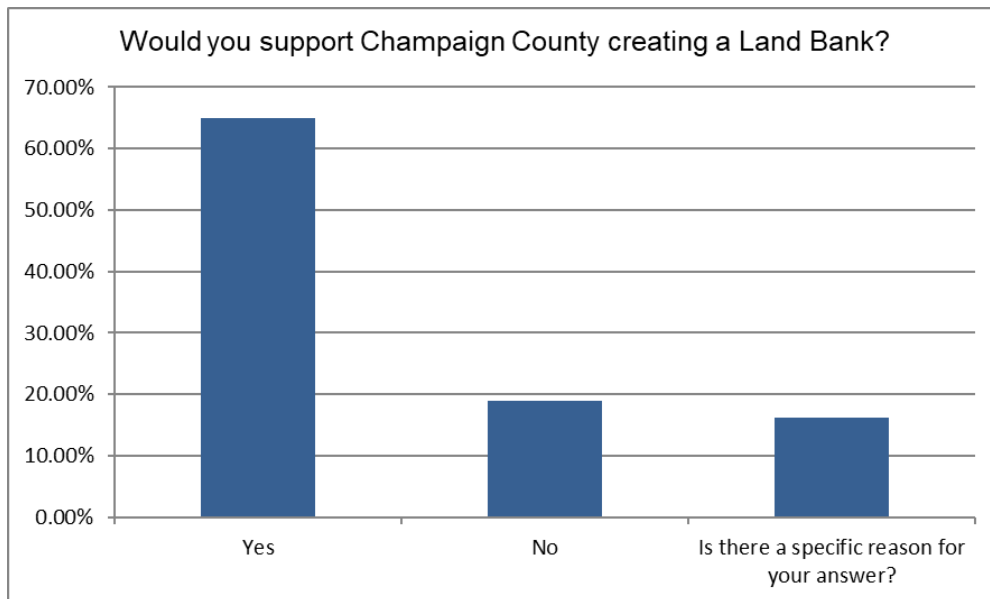
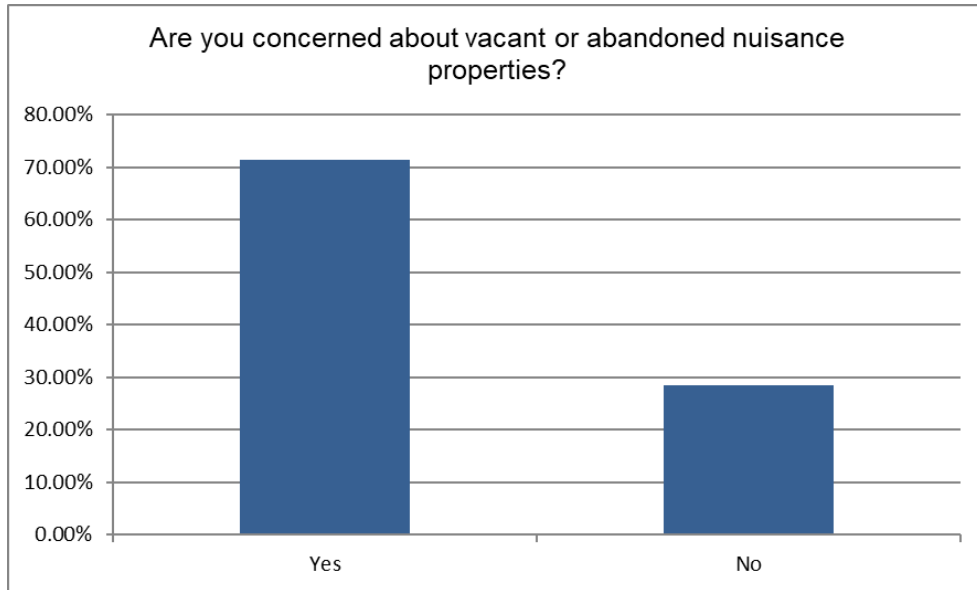


Respondents were asked to rate their level of satisfaction with each of their utilities. Each utility generally scored similar to the others, with electric service receive the highest satisfaction at 3.77.



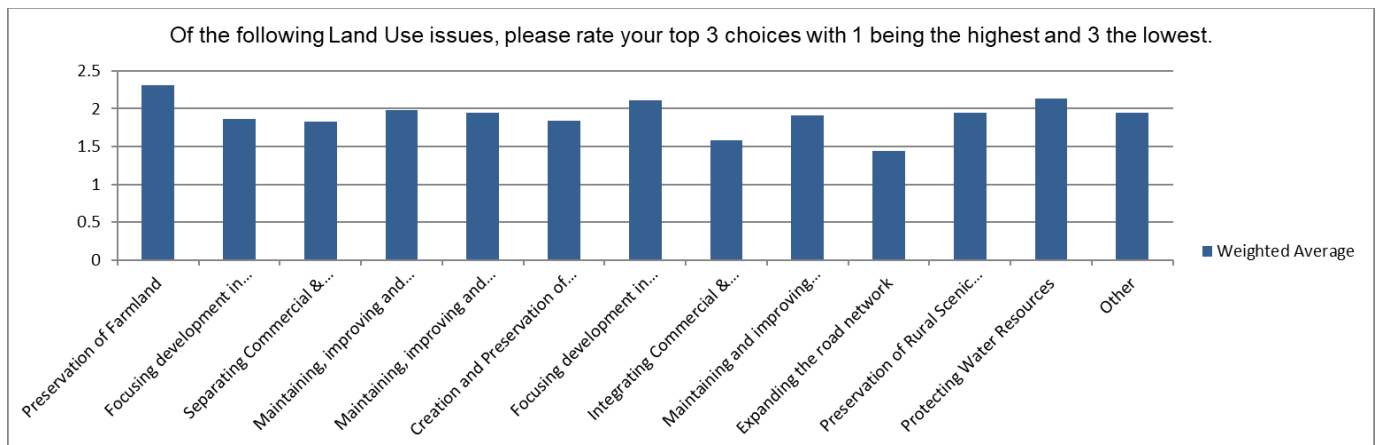
Respondents were asked to rate their level of satisfaction with each of their utilities. Each utility generally scored similar to the others, with electric service receive the highest satisfaction at 3.77.

There were several questions regarding vacant or abandoned nuisance properties. Of the 652 respondents that answered the question, 71.47% report that they are concerned regarding these properties. When asked if they have heard about a County Landbank 49.23% reported they have heard of one and 50.77 reported they have not. This question provided a brief description of what a land bank is to provide clarification to respondents. Most respondents were in support of Champaign County creating a Land Bank, with 64.9% voting yes and 19% voting no. Respondents were given an option of providing further feedback explaining why they chose their answer. Those responses can be found in the Appendix, Question 20.

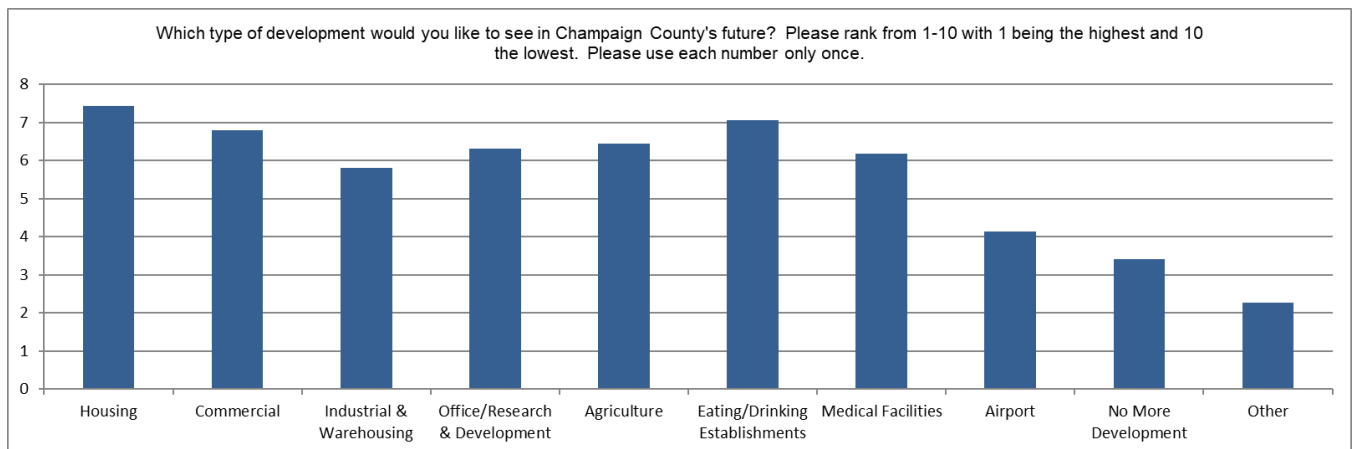


Development

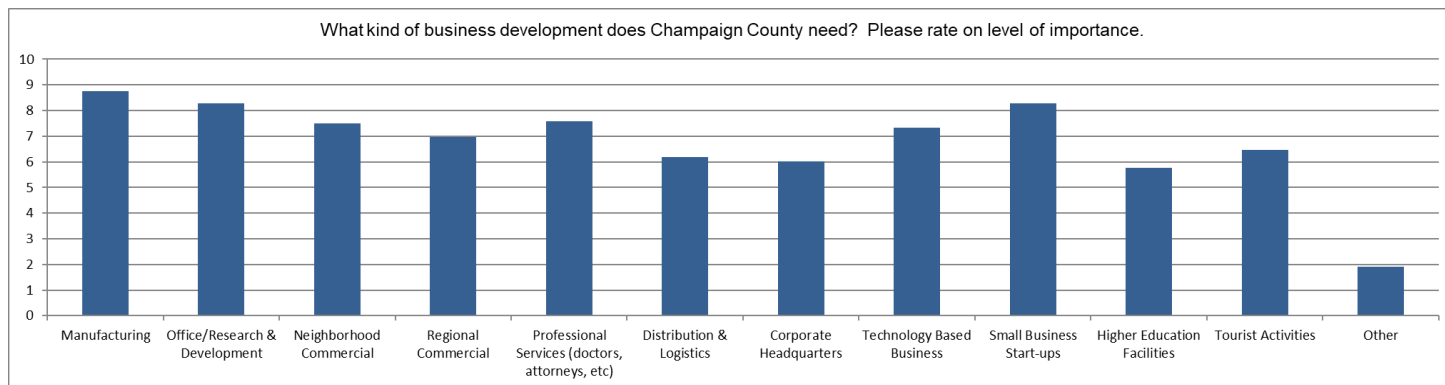
Respondents were asked to rank their top three land issues and protecting water resources received the most total votes of 297, with a weighted average of 2.14. Preservation of farmland received a weighted average of 2.31 and focusing development in existing communities weighted average is 2.11. All other items received a weighted average less than 2. Respondents were given the opportunity to provide further information on this question. Those responses are available in the Appendix, Question 21.



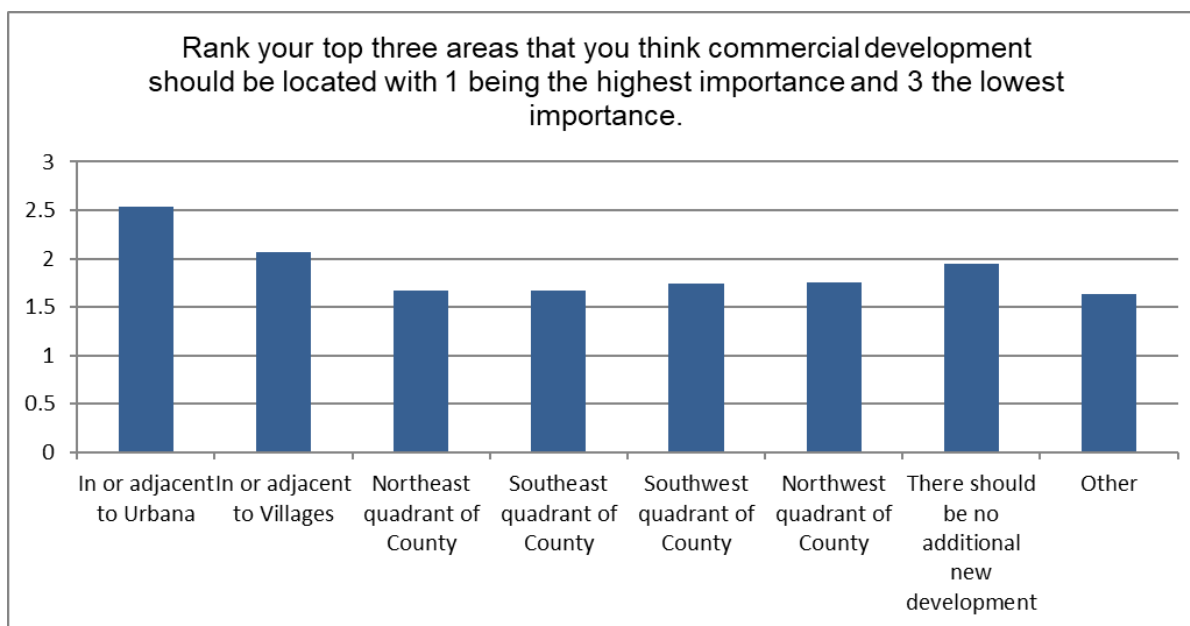
Respondents were given an opportunity to rank the development they would like to see in the county on a scale of 1-10. As can be viewed in the graph below, no one area stood out as being more important than any others. Housing and eating/drinking establishments did score higher on the weighted averages, but not by a large percentage.



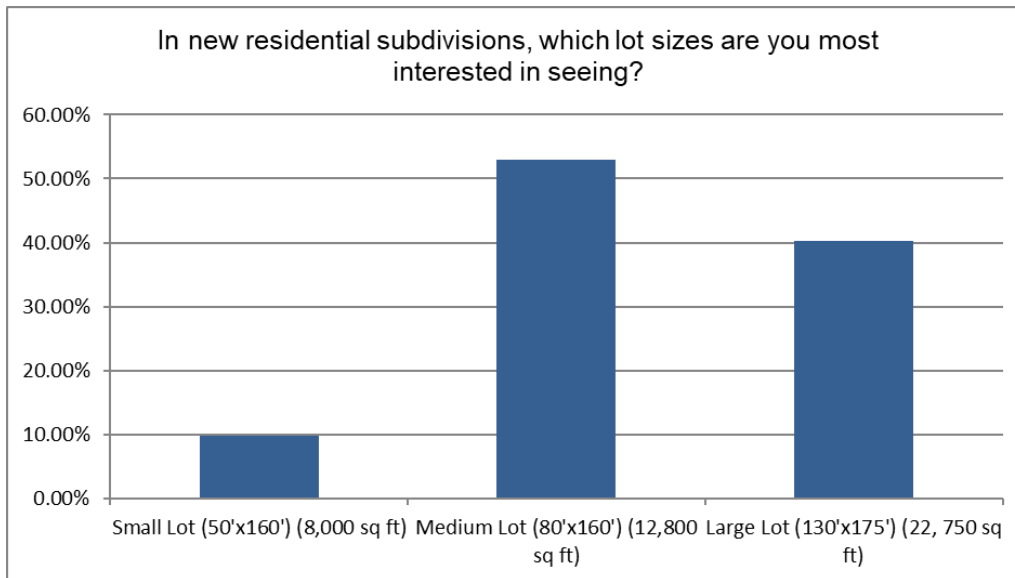
As with the development question above, when asked to rate on level of importance business development, respondents did not have any one area they were in favor of more than others. The areas that received a score higher than 8 were: Manufacturing, Office/Research & Development and Small Business Start-ups. The item ranked lowest was Higher Education Facilities with a score of 5.76.



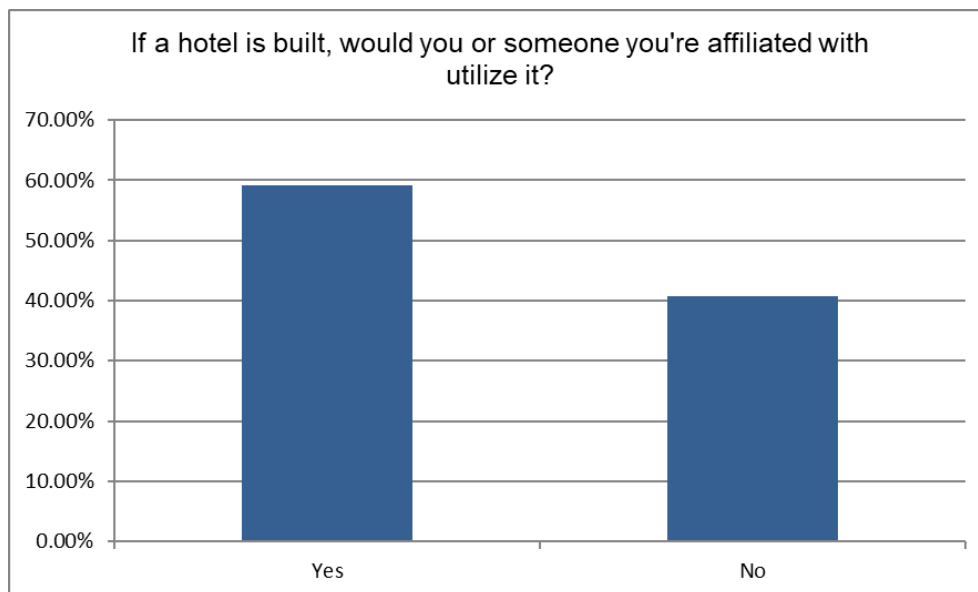
Of the 558 respondents who chose where they believe commercial development should be located, 423 chose in or adjacent to Urbana.



The majority of respondents would prefer that new residential subdivisions have medium lot sizes (52.89%). Small lot sizes were only preferred by 9.75% of respondents.



The majority of respondents felt that if a hotel was built, someone they knew would utilize it.



Closing

The last three questions of the survey were open ended to allow respondents a chance to provide more feedback, with less restrictions. For the question regarding what is Champaign County's biggest opportunity, 442 people chose to provide feedback. Reading through all the feedback shows the potential of Champaign County and how its' residents see the opportunities available. All comments can be read in the Appendix, Question 27. Some items that were repeated multiple times are:

- Create an environment that keeps graduates in the area, instead of losing them to other places
- Increase in housing stock, but don't take away the rural atmosphere
- Increase in well-paying jobs and businesses, not minimum wage jobs
- Use the proximity to larger cities to create a bedroom community, attracting those that work in those places but may be looking for a slower pace for living.
- Become a destination and tourism
- Support for and against wind turbines
- Utilize the bike path to its' full potential
- Improving options for shopping and dining
- Capitalize on having a university in the county

For the question regarding what is Champaign County's biggest challenge, 465 people chose to provide feedback. All comments can be read in the Appendix, Question 28. Some items that were repeated multiple times are:

- Getting people to be open to or accept change; lack of vision; unwillingness to change; lack of forward thinking
- Lack of quality employment with competitive wages
- Lack of housing, in all ranges of affordability
- Lack of shopping options and entertainment options
- Lack of opportunities for the younger generation to get them to stay
- Lack of rural network connectivity and high-speed internet
- Issue with drugs and poverty
- Lack of transportation
- Maintaining the rural environment and beauty while trying to grow
- Maintaining infrastructure
- Revitalizing the downtown
- Wind turbines, mega farms, pig farms, industrial farms

Respondents were given the opportunity to provide an e-mail for more information regarding public meetings regarding to the Comprehensive Plan and more than a hundred submitted that information. A list can be provided, if it's wanted. The final question on the survey allowed for respondents to submit any further comments for the plan. All comments can be read in the Appendix, Question 30. Some items that were repeated are:

-

Appendix

Question 7 – Housing comments expanded (no changes were made to comments)

- off grid
- Mini farm
- I think this question needs to be revised, how are people supposed to answer?
- Government should not dictate how we live
- Low income where is choice for low income
- Rental
- This question makes zero sense..
- I would like to see more affordable housing and options for low income people, including sober living housing. Specifically targeting people leaving prison that need to get back on their feet and have no place to go!
- There is no question do not understand this question or what you want to know
- Housing for elderly that doesnt matter what your income is. Affordable condos with recreational area.
- I think this page is messed up.
- apartment
- Single home older house
- Small farm under 5 Acres with a large barn
- Single family home
- nursing home
- HOTEL
- Hobby farm
- Decent affordable housing for low to median income households.
- Farm
- More assisted living that accepts Medicaid (for my parent)
- For Urbana we need development of the many downtown lofts and upper floors of buildings
- Cabin
- not sure we need more housing here, don't like sprawl.
- Housing in the range of 150000
- no increase in housing
- Downsize for retirement
- RANCH CONDO'S
- Rural
- One floor plan with 10-12 ft ceilings.
- Better support services for aging in place
- More downtown housing
- More lower income
- Improve older homes that are vacant
- more secluded
- This question is poorly worded and makes no sense with having the same three instructions for each type.

- This question isn't correct.
- Allowance for "cottage" for elderly parents on an existing residence
- Housing with no wind turbines in view. Housing where property values are protected. Clustered subdivisions and not road front housing.
- We would like to build a smaller home on acres owned latter if turbines are not built here. If they are erected, we have no choice but file bankruptcy and leave county for good.
- reasonably priced single family housing
- Own home in the country.
- A home with a view in the country; no wind turbines or pig farms.
- Maintain views. No pig farms or wind turbines.
- I would like to see more housing that is handicap accessible.
- Low Income/HUD
- Country house developmr
- Country living 8acres
- Farm home 100 years old plus
- This is my retirement home.
- SMALLER HOME, DECREASE IN EXPENSES
- Nicer apartment complexes with amenities would be nice
- senior living
- SIngle level homes.
- Provide incentives or programs to assist current owners in existing neighborhoods that need attention. This would increase the desire to buy in existing communities and reduce urban sprawl. The appeal of living here is because it is a rural area.

Question 8 – Agriculture event comments expanded (no changes were made to comments)

- New creamery on S Dugan
- farm bureau
- I would attend more but they are not accessible for handicapped people to a worthwhile degree if at all.
- 4H
- farm bureau events
- I would like to attend more events.
- 4-H, FFA, Farm Bureau
- Livestock sales and shows
- I try to attend festivals and business events when traveling back for work.
- Films and events at the Gloria.
- State of the plate
- Gardening club/classes
- sporting events/music concerts
- There is nothing else.
- Auctions
- Concerts, non-profit group meetings, speakers, library programs, exhibits (Urbana Univ)

- Ccpa, CACC & arts council events
- Flea market
- farm organization events
- Master Gardener
- Farm Auctions
- Family is involved in farming
- Bat conservation
- No pig farms or wind turbines.
- We attend any meetings that might indicate farming would impose undue hardship or unfair zoning to rural residents who have moved to the country for the peace and beauty of the area.
- shopping
- 4H events
- need affordable sit down restaurants
- Rural church dinners

Question 9 – Natural resources comments expanded (no changes were made to comments)

- Wind turbine
- I am not educated enough to make certain choices.
- Our water is terrible...
- Preserving wetlands and natural prairie
- Family roots
- Bike trail
- Parks/Trails
- Natural Rural Landscape
- These support outdoor recreation and tourism.
- Areas still with trees are also important
- Quiet night sky. No wind turbines
- With no regulation of pig or chicken farms or the use of their feces, I have strong concerns of water safety since wells are the main source of water in this area. Also, the constant smell ruins the quality of life and home values. The idea of 6 windmills which are almost 2 times taller (550 ft.) than the Statue of Liberty surrounding my house with all their dangers scares the heck out of me.
- Property value preservation
- Not industrial wind turbine
- Open space and Water
- mad river
- Scenic beauty
- bike trail
- No more tree planting in the City of Urbana
- Melvin Miller Park, Urbana

Question 12 – Activities you'd like to see comments expanded (no changes were made to comments)

- Sport tournaments for travel teams

- Beer festival
- Motorsports
- Community Service Projects
- What ever people want to bring
- Anything but government sponsored activities
- Nothing can improve this place
- Better restaurant
- More playgrounds since the elementary schools will be gone
- Resort type activities such as would be found in Hocking Hills. Also more modern activities and craft beer brewing
- Friday night gatherings with vendors, music activities for families to socialize.
- Seems like all these events are currently here, but would like more...
- Soap box Derby
- Better downtown shopping/restaurant hours
- Athletic tournaments
- Parades-Memorial Day, used to be all over county
- Craft beer wine feativial
- Mural painting
- Fishing and wildlife classes
- More buildings being filled
- Little miss pageant
- Any outdoor fitness/recreational activities/events
- Creative collectives. Where you invite creative types to share in each other's craft.
- Utilization/ repurposing of existing structures
- Shopping and restaurants
- Host sporting events (travel tournaments, etc)
- Kid events
- Adult athletics
- Airport events
- Aviation events
- Shooting Range
- movie festival
- More outdoor activities for children
- None of the above
- Basketball tournaments
- Art classes
- Craft Beer Festival/St.Pateicks Day Fest - and - First Fridays
- Wellness and craft/art programs
- Community Tastings
- new stores and food
- More Restaurants on Square in Urbana
- horse trails
- more retail options
- 5k races
- Urbana HS host sport tournaments

- Things that draw more people into the County for tourism like the Circleville Pumpkin show. We lost Steam Threshers. MERFI is great.
- Breweries more local shopping
- Youth programs
- More of a variety of restaurants and family dining
- Not wind turbine
- car shows
- I think we already do an awesome job. Would love to see more eating opportunities.
- Athletic
- Balloon Fest
- fewer dog groups
- hot ballon at the air port
- Micro-brewery and Winery tastings
- education/communication programs for the community to events

Question 13 - Amenities related to tax levy comments expanded (no changes were made to comments)

- Rec facilities should include swimming pools
- Would like to see a new family restaurant come into urbana
- Roads
- Depends on details.
- too many taxes now.
- Preserving historical downtown Urbana
- Retired on a limited income
- Not willing because of the handicap issue.
- More Library expansion
- City ponds north of airport
- I am new to the cable area. I would absolutely give anything to enjoy the downtown area of Urbana.... it has so many wonderful things to offer families , young adults etc.. with shopping, food etc... however!! Just one day of downtown was awful due to all of the huge semi trucks that travel through. I did not feel it was appealing to be out in the sidewalks with my children while huge semi trucks blew through the area honking horns... slamming in breaks... it was noisy, loud and unsafe for my children I felt. I also felt that the town has so much to offer with charm and families but doesn't appear that it is kept very nice with weeds growing up and sidewalks filled with trash, debris from trucks traffic etc. it's an unfortunate thing because we would frequent a great downtown area if this was not the case. Would love to see alternate routes for trucks that aren't just passing through that add no value to that town.
- American Indian museum church history lmuseum
- Depends on how much the tax is
- Parks seem to have pretty solid budgets the way it is and are not being over utilized now.
- fishing lake
- Depends on what is proposed
- The arts. Would like to see outdoor art along the bike path
- Community auditorium gathering space.
- Yes to bike paths and recreational facilities IF in St. Paris area
- Theater and arts

- Wind and solar energy
- Library and museums
- Open firing range
- I am not an outdoorsy person, so more activities like classes.
- No taxes
- Local Winery or Brewery
- Community Arts Center (both visual and performing)
- Amphitheater for outdoor free music or movies in a park.
- Equine trails
- The private sector addresses my needs
- updated outdoor performance venue
- Facilities/activity for children
- I think taxes should only be used to support essential services
- Historical society improvements
- DON'T WANT ANY MORE TAXES
- Not Real Estate levies - income tax or sales levies
- Roads, Curbs, Main Street Beautification
- Handicap accessible Parks for special needs children and adult
- depends on specifics of levy and location of above mentioned
- Better roads
- Need to utilize YMCA
- Urbana needs more public parking!
- Can the recreational fields be tied into the parks or YMCA?
- more fishing, stocking
- Green space. Concert and festival area similar to Marysville
- Improve Urbana City pool- add a lazy river!
- Mountain Bike Trails
- amenities to accommodate those with physical disabilities
- More local pools
- No add'l taxes and no give-away for turbines.
- Don't live in county.
- Better schools
- Citizens already pay too much on taxes. Local government should use better the people money
- Public hunting
- I think the funding system for these is adequate. If people want these, they need to organize and get provision. I think if this type of things were on the ballot, they would go down.
- Top Golf Facility
- Historical Society
- NO
- Historical Society
- Champaign County Historical Society
- curbs
- Historical Society Museum

Question 14 – Quality of infrastructure comments expanded (no changes were made to comments)

- Professionals would have to judge the bridges.
- Need more sidewalks
- Schools need better education leaders teachers and be more organized and aware of mental health issues on handling situations
- I would like to see sidewalks and street lights on Mosgrove street near the Moose Lodge. The 400-500 block of East Ward could also use more street lights.
- Would like to see the 68 north by-pass to extend 4 lane road to route 33 and 75
- salem township roads have a lot of potholes don't know about others
- Mechanicsburg streets are horrible
- need severe weather sirens/tornado, etc
- Electrical system failing under heavy summer loads
- Sidewalks on the south and west end are horrible!
- Alleys are not kept up. City needs to require residents to clean up their part of the alleys.
- It's a shame that funds were spent years ago for street scape and it now looks awful with our county removing pavers and pouring concrete in front of builings they own. Also terrible trees have been removed from downtown and not re-planted.
- Curbs
- Chip and seal is NOT a long-term solution on roadways.
- Trim trees and brush from intersections.
- Commuter bike lanes in town
- Street Lighting and decorations and plants
- Dead and poison filled needing repairs
- Tornado warning system
- AIRPORT
- Creek floods, needs better waterflow
- Mechanicsburg Streets are terrible
- Urbana streets need attention as does the water delivery system
- Of the 11 counties I work in, Champaign has the worst roads, hands down. If it isn't in Urbana, or a state route you can't even think of going over 35-40 mph.
- Curb & Gutter poor
- City trees on tree lawn
- South Ludlow Road side ditch needs to be repaired. Too much erosion
- Lack of sidewalks on the south side of Urbana
- City sidewalk weeds
- signage
- Place guard rail by new Clark Road ditch - Dugan run
- Rural internet
- I think we need to get on our legislators to give us back our money to get these types of things done better.
- No Wind Turbines
- Always an ongoing conituous repair
- Urbana curbs, gutters, water pipes - poor

- Needs for the city to be walkable
- curbs are poor
- Water & Sanitary

Question 20 – Creation of land bank comments expanded (no changes were made to comments)

- no. too many OLD people in government. could not make it work
- A lot of old buildings/properties not being kept up.
- I would need to do some research
- Maybe
- Not sure we need yet another government office to try and control things.
- Because because the house could beat how soon could be used for homeless people
- I would have to hear more about their responsibilities and authority.
- ??
- No more Government in any form!
- I feel that if Champaign county wants to attract businesses and homeowners to the area, dilapidated and run down properties need to be maintained or demolished.
- No, there's not that many abandoned homes
- Maybe-need to research more
- Not familiar with land banks. Need more information
- Not sure
- I need to do more research. I hate the idea of a family losing their property because an entity deems them unable to maintain their property.
- i don't know
- mechanicsburg takes over buildings just to condemn them and tear them down. poor use of tax dollars. utilize tax dollars to create business opportunities.
- I would like to know more about this. I would support it. Our non-profit is looking for opportunities to support recovery/sober housing for people leaving prison. I feel like these houses could be an opportunity for that.
- seems subjective--- county gets land they want... may leave other
- yes, clean up abandoned properties
- Yes if it will effectively remove blighted properties and improve the look of the community
- more information before I would decide
- The private sector always knows better than the government
- Would be good to have an entity that would focus on this problem specifically.
- I do not know enough about this.
- I need more information
- I would like more information before deciding
- Don't need more govt involvement
- Yes, but guidelines would need put in place to insure our County Auditor did not then turn around and rape the people who step forward to improve properties. Owners would also need to be held accountable for properly maintaining structures long term.

- Specifically to have funding to tear down vacant housing before it becomes a major problem. We don't want Urbana to turn into a place like Springfield.
- Government involvement
- Don't know enough about it
- Uncertain, would need more specifics
- There are a number of abandoned or poorly maintained building. Many are owned by slum lords. Create low cost loans for low income families and put pressure on slum lords to maintain properties.
- Depends on how it will be funded.
- Clean up unused spaces, make them attractive to our residents.
- Depends if tax money is required.
- Too much unused property around.
- Yes, as an option for land owners
- Government has no business managing properties. A few politicians managing tax payers money to invest and manage real estate sounds like ocerreach
- Need more info
- Not sure if it is a good idea to allow local governments to determine whose property to take.
- Don't know enough about this to give an honest answer.
- Make our town the best it can be
- Land owners should decide on how to manage the property or properties they own!
- Helping our community.
- Yes, need to utilize what is already here and make it more functional and aesthetic to develop a more modern, clean, growing town.
- I would like to see vacant properties cleaned up and made useful.
- Big Ag has enough supports without more government force being used on the rest of us
- sounds like a good way to take care of abandoned properties
- It seems like more government control
- thought this was already being addressed in city'towns
- Need more info
- As long as there is oversite
- Need more information
- Improved management makes sense
- Not sure because would not want multi-family units, homeless shelters, etc. considered for a land bank property.
- Needs more consultation and data
- No opinion
- i still don't fully understand what a Land Bank is, to answer the question properly
- Public officials cannot be trusted anymore.
- Champaign county officials aren't trustworthy
- Not sure would like to hear more
- County/city govt do not think outside the box
- NOT SURE OF HOW MUCH POWER THEY WOULD HAVE.
- I would need more information
- Need more information to answer

- There are not that many abandoned houses
- unsure
- Financially unable
- As long as no politicians or banker/developers are on the board
- Land Banks are bad idea for small rural community. Will oppose. Already have existing tools to allow us to address the issue.
- no
- do not totally understand
- Need more information.
- No. Urbana doesn't seem to know how to use the money they have. Things are done that seem very suspicious. There isn't a need for this.
- cost and becomes political
- I would support a Land Bank to acquire and repurpose derelict properties. The number of abandoned and underused properties is increasing in St Paris and environs, and the quality of the community is suffering
- Old junkie hotel on square in Urbana needs demolition
- No - I'm for individuals owning property.
- Would need more info to answer
- Free market can deal with properties. Don't need gov't to do it.
- Need more information
- But concerns that other such entities have failed and used the monies for other activities
- If Landbank is a tool to develop in rural residential areas I am against it.
- Sounds like another layer of bureaucracy, looking for a govt solution
- Concerns of them being used for industrial development in rural residential areas.
- there are properties that are a hazard as they are now
- If there are problem areas (I see very few, but there probably are more) they can be fixed.
- Will need more information about it
- gov't intrusion
- opposed to more government but would consider case by case
- MAKE THE PEOPLE THAT OWU THEM FIX THEM UP
- Depends on where and what property
- I need more information on the powers of a Land Bank.
- abandoned house next door, eyesore, a hazard
- No, too much power to government agencies. These properties should be available to citizens without government interference.
- needs to be self supporting
- too many empty business buildings in county
- Restoring unproductive properties back to productive use.

Question 21 – Land uses comments expanded (no changes were made to comments)

- Encouraging business, renewable energy
- Bring in new businesses
- Bringing new business and jobs to the community

- Promoting of the Wind Farm(s) and Solar Farms(s)
- I also want sidewalks and curbs repaired
- More affordable rental properties for families
- Increasing the manufacturing base
- How about stop employing government force and coercion to achieve goals the free market is better equipped to address.
- Inviting more desirable work opportunities at entry level. I.e. call center, sales, tech support.
- Creating more affordable housing with more 3 and 4 bedrooms
- Urbana needs "better" housing/planned neighborhoods. We could draw more high earners if there were adequate housing available.
- We don't maintain the good things we already have. It's a shame.
- we need to overcome the anti progress and anti development influence of a handful of activists and do nothing politicians in this county.
- Air quality and minimizing agricultural nuisances (especially associated with poultry, hog, and other livestock operations)
- Development should not threaten property values - like putting commercial and industrial in rural residential areas. No industrial wind either.
- Preserve property value
- Maintain / preserve property values
- I am opposed to industrial development in rural residential areas. Put in in designated industrial zone.
- No wind turbines in rural areas
- Keeping industrial wind out of our county
- Protecting homeowners rights to decide what happens in their own townships.
- Maintain / preserve property values
- no wind turbines! No cafo's!
- Protection of property values
- NO WIND TURBINS
- No Wind Turbines
- Keeping wind turbines out and preserving out historic our historic beauty.
- wind energy & all renewable energys
- We do not need more development in this area. We need for this area to maintain the small town atmosphere with development only in existing communities. We do not need to develop more farmland and open land into businesses.

Question 27 - Champaign County's biggest opportunity comments expanded (no changes were made to comments)

- Tourism
- The availability of locations for small start up businesses and an active business advisory council.
- Tourism
- "Nothing
- This town would and has chased businesses and good commerce away
- Way to much zoning for residential and not enough for commercial enforcement"
- Maintain rural, healthy environment & avoid exurban sprawl.

- History in & around Champaign County.
- The children
- Stay small we like it
- Capitalizing on Topre and Silfex moving into Springfield.
- To draw manufacturing to the county which would stimulate economic development.
- Manufacturing jobs
- Schools/youth
- Businesses availability
- Capitalization of natural resources.
- Need to get more restaurants and places for people to have a good time
- Community Support
- Potential to be better though attractions and small business growth
- Wind
- New housing
- Manufacturing
- "Manufacturing
- "
- Small town but not far from big cities
- Lots of open spaces. Hard working people.
- Ag
- Internet for the Rural areas
- Leadership! We need leaders who are not tied to the good old boy system. Leaders who will lead & not just be satisfied with the same old same old doing business in Urbana/Champaign County is and has been a real pain. Local Government is usually an obstacle. there is little to no flexibility and are focused on little silly regulations. seems like they are trying to be a mini Dublin.
- Wind
- Small businesses like antique stores, consignment shops, gift shops, and restaurants drawing visitors to Urbana.
- small home town.
- "Education reform
- The schools here suck"
- Improving community health for healthy youth and workforce.
- To live in rural, small-town areas, while close to bigger cities within easy driving distance.
- ?
- Resources are here they just need utilized
- Development
- Unique small business that attract the millennial generation. Aka- breweries, sports bars, etc
- Live,work,raise a family
- Its hardworking people.
- Location
- Commercial expansion
- Government is small and needs to be smaller and get out of way of development
- Don't no

- Agriculture
- nothing specific. Kinda the point of the survey
- Room to grow with small businesses. Small towns
- The great people willing to support local
- Agricultural tourism
- Nothing is here. This place is for senior citizens to die. In ten years, it will be a ghost town
- Farming
- Lower and Middle class job base
- Business
- Development of new activities to go to, restaurants, outside music, etc.
- Manufacturing
- "We have a ready work force
- "
- Land
- Hotel shopping food
- Nothing
- We have a small town feel—each town/village has their own unique “flavor”.
- Na
- Places for teens and young adults to hang out
- Music Venue to draw more people & give young teens a safe place to have fun
- Promoting our great agriculture society
- Diversity
- Growth
- Small rural
- Agriculture
- It's beautiful here, it's time to let the city grow and expand, more good housing, condominiums, brand name restaurants, not fast food...
- Education
- I feel opportunities are with the airport in Urbana and Urbana University. A hotel at the airport or on Urbana university campus for families to have a place to stay when attending athletics at the college. Hotel at the airport for out of town visits, with the airport cafe on bottom floor, conference rooms, July 4th would be a hit! Champaign Co has a lot to offer, “if u build it, they will come”
- To grow with small business and adding a nice hotel
- Shopping mall type stores
- Not sure
- Preserving open spaces/farmland in order to protect our air and water quality
- Champaign county has a vast array of gainful employment and housing, but our biggest opportunity is in higher education. With one of the oldest, and best preserved campuses in the state, U.U. offers Champaign County our best opportunity for economic growth.
- Shopping, dining and family activities.
- Proximity to Columbus and Dayton
- Small rural county
- Education

- Right now its just Agricultural
- Rural beauty, increase in young people wanting land and houses with property. Proximateky located to Columbus (its an easier/quicker drive from some parts of Champaign county than Delaware or Dublin).
- Fixing up areas that are run down and eye sores, such as the uptown area of mechanicsburg. Implementing sober living facilities and housing for people, helping to reduce recidivism. Transportation and bus lines could also be utilized for people to get to and from work.
- Tourism
- Housing--- you build it people will come. They want out of the city and want smaller schools-- but cannot afford homes. I know 2 families in middle of divorce right now and no where for one parent to live in the community with kids during this time. Makes for great stress on the kids--- not to be near school/friends- parents have no housing options.
- Tourism
- Keep wind turbine out. Don't ruin our landscape.
- To connect all of our villages and keep alive a small town vibe that has a great county seat with more opportunities, more amenities.
- Working to attract new business and keeping existing business.
- Its people
- Networking with those who love Urbana nit trying make a fortune off of Urbana. The theater
- To be a destination town
- Highway bypass
- Develop job opportunities to keep the next generation from leaving the area.
- Its youth.
- Fix roadways other than main highways
- Unsure
- Farming
- Agriculture industry
- Land
- Bring in business that values employees and the local economy will benefit
- Keep and create more Manufacturing jobs in the area. Decent pay places to work to bring people and keep them here. Myself I would LOVE to see the bike trail at North Lewisburg connected to the bike trail in Urbana!
- Location and workforce. We should be able to create needed products and services in a cost effective way and get them to the population centers of central and sw Ohio better than most with out the burden of high taxes and unions.
- Downtown, manufacturing.
- Embracing change and stepping into the future with technology and manufacturing.
- New job opportunities
- Capitalizing on the destination day trip tourism . Getting tourists to come as they would for say Yellow Spings to shop downtown and eat. Developing a microbrewery/restaurant
- The new schools
- Airport
- Beats me!
- Historic downtown to attract tourists

- Expanding into the future with technological developments and becoming a county that isn't necessarily huge, but is a place that people want to live AND work in without being only blue collar jobs.
- Letting businesses come in
- Helping residents with life's essentials, for example educational needs, accessing fruits and vegetables and basic needs.
- Utilizing 18-21 year olds in jobs
- Family and teen fun inside places
- Affordable
- Eco tourism, hiking, camping, small local business, shopping/dining, local culture arts/theater
- New school buildings
- agricultural
- Promote the great quality of life...cost of living, good schools, medical/fire/safety, "caring" attitude of people, addressing current issues
- Rural, scenic, bike path, kiser lake, lower housing costs
- Prime manufacturing location
- A lot of open land
- We need a Lowes in Urbana. I think growth in agriculture technologies could be a huge success for this area.
- Being a bedroom community. We are not utilizing our assets. We have a tremendous opportunity to become a bedroom community for Dayton and Columbus. We are right in the middle of these major cities and our community could benefit by having new businesses, eating establishments. The fact that we have new schools is the beginning. We desperately need a new hotel to help out with the influx of people visiting Urbana University and other events surrounding the Urbana area. I think if we could just get a new hotel the other entities I listed above would follow
- Tourism
- Getting rid of the "good old boy" system that has pledged this community off a long long time.
- industrial growth
- farming
- Not sure. I know we have passed on Honda and KTH and government dollars in the past. Seems no one in office wants growth. We are considered a bedroom community. Little opportunity
- Diversification of agriculture. We are overly reliant (as is the rest of the US midwest) on 'mono-ag', currently
- Urbana - bring more business to west side of town for those coming from st Paris. Offer more fast food places such as Long John Silver, Fazoli, others that we don't have. Too much focus on west side of town.
- I feel Champaign County is missing out on the promotion of sustainable utilities in the acceptance of wind energy.
- Lots of agricultural things to teach up and coming families.
- workforce. People willing to work, but not willing to travel. Rural lifestyle seems to be the preference

- We are well located for industries but we need to be open to developing new jobs and improving our schools. Unless we make Urbana more attractive to companies we will have low income jobs and housing that is declining.
- R&D
- To grow, but not overwhelmingly.
- Be more amenable to business. It's sad the way small business people are jacked around.
- I have no idea.
- Its workforce
- Empty bldgs that could be utilized; empty acreage zoned for commercial and industrial (outside St. Paris) that remains un-utilized
- Developing downtown business es to meet shopping needs.
- Th development of the multi-use bike trail to attract more tourism, in turn which will help with the development of new small businesses.
- Airport
- Growing well paying job opportunities
- Job creation and renewable energy sources
- Leveraging Urbana downtown for specific development of tech STEAM and visual art space.
- Quality of Life to attract and retain talents in all fields...technological, artistic, entrepreneurial, agricultural and all fields of prosumers.
- To maintain a small town atmosphere.
- Developing current business but always looking for ways to entice new industries with good wages to come to our county. The one thing you need to add new business, service, manufacturing, medical or technology is consumers and workers. Consumers must be able to afford the products or services and we need a labor force that is trained, educated or skilled enough to do the jobs. The last thing we need is to add more jobs that pay below the poverty line. We need to raise wages so the county can collect enough tax revenue to improve,schools, roads and general infrastructure while putting together a comprehensive plan to encourage new high paying manufacturing, new medical services or new technology industry.
- Wind nd solar energy!
- Rural setting
- Location. A rural area with a good workforce with quick access to interstate highways.
- Tourism. We have canoeing, fishing, biking and a quant but beautiful city. Small unique business downtown with low rents so they can grow. Antique mall in the old biglots building. People come from all over to go to Springfield antique malls and to the caverns at west liberty. Make a package deal. We have great restaurants and great people. We have a horrible website that is never updated.
- Housing. Champaign County could attract people who work in the Columbus area but we don't have houses to sell them.
- While the county is still young and not very developed it can be planned and be very organized and it would be easier to control and guide the way desired.
- Development
- Utilizing downtown business spaces for office and technology-based companies
- Location
- Bigger business and retail stores

- We need more public transportation available. CTS only covers certain hours and areas. We need reliable transportation for medical and occupational reasons for those in our county that don't have access to car/driving.
- "4h for youth development
- Church organization
- Down town shopping, bike path "
- A chance to develop more of the county!
- Empty houses and trees fall apart clean it up and they will come
- Manufacturing
- Manufacturing related or farming
- To be free of a lot of the stress and crime that plagues a lot of the rest of the country. I feel safe here.
- Fix all streets and clean up what is here , freshen up look of city
- Always our youth! Give them better programs to occupy their time, better yet fully support the programs that already exists.
- Job opportunities.
- Listen to the people who take the time to complete survey
- Utilization of existing natural resources.
- Champaign County must appeal to a younger generation.
- Restoring downtown Urbana, and becoming a hub for creativity. With streamline design, alder woodworking, and the many print shops, we have an opportunity to bring a lot of creative people to downtown Urbana. Especially following the creation of great loft apartments targeted toward a younger generation.
- Farm land and beautiful scenery
- To harness the energy of the new schools and new medical building. Make connections with young families to become involved members of the community; so, they will stay here in Urbana.
- Local businesses really need to be open longer. Because I chose to move here, an hour from work, I find I cannot utilize 80% of local businesses because they close at 5. Need more eateries.
- Lots of space and growth potential
- Treatment centers and halfway houses for. Recovery from addiction.
- Capitalize on water resources
- Revitalize the charm of the town to draw visitors to a clean, quaint and unique area that sets itself apart from the bigger cities and give it it's own identity. The culture right now is of a more eco-friendly, independent business, recreational experience that should be tied into our natural, growing recreational opportunities to follow Dayton's lead and work together.
- Housing and family supporting jobs
- Manufacturing
- Innovative small businesses
- Our children.
- Manufacturing....
- Banking
- "Water and good quality water. Good soil. Quaint, historic towns/villages. New school buildings and all school districts.
- Fairly small government though it could butt out more in economic development."

- Hotels/motels/ Manufacturing/transportation/higher education thru University.
- Champaign county has the biggest to potential to sell to companies looking to use/ repurpose existing commercial structures.
- economic development of the Mechanicsburg area
- Small town atmosphere with access to city opportunities
- Entice young, professional families with the new schools.
- Investing in youth
- Wind
- Utilizing and renovating existing historical properties
- Urbana University
- Labor force
- Build the Bypass
- Shopping and restaurants. Becoming the new Bechtle.
- Working with small business owners to build the economy.
- Hopefully education will improve with the new schools. I believe that will really help the entire city.
- "Land to develop.
- "
- It's people. This community has some amazing leaders and even more amazing residents.
- Agriculture
- Low cost of living, great highway access
- We need to focus on technology, and perhaps, attract tech firms to this area. We need to improve our educational systems to support an economy less dependent on agriculture and low paying retail and other service industries.
- Ease of access to Columbus, Springfield, Dayton.
- Hiking trails / Metro parks. I love that about Dayton and Columbus
- Farms
- Farming
- Bringing more business - both small and intermediate to our area
- It is a college town. We need to add more attractions that will cater to the university students and their families. More businesses, restaurants, hotels etc
- Rural Identity
- Need to work on youth activities
- Desirable work.
- job creation
- uninhibited growth
- Wind Turbines
- Housing development. Increase residents and increase tax base, but try not to sacrifice farmland, scenic beauty and small town feel...I possible
- Keeping and expanding agriculture.
- cheap real estate, lots of space to work with
- "Major tourism by leveraging our aviation heritage activities at the airport and the Champaign Aviation Museum. Events that would showcase local businesses and expose our local retail stores to tourism.

- Second is the link to/partnership with higher education through Urbana University. Great opportunity for tourism, B&B and retail related to events and activities at the University."
- new hotel
- We have individuals in need of jobs
- Overall sidewalk and curb maintenance. Especially on south high street in Urbana near the University. There is a lot of foot traffic there, and with the improvements by the University, I believe we owe this to them.
- New businesses
- A safe area to raise a family
- Jobs
- Capitalizing on the underutilized assets already here
- proximity to Columbus, Dayton and Springfield and a small community atmosphere
- More Agricultural Events!
- Attract diverse occupational opportunities. Less focus on service industries
- A lot of available manufacturing sites
- Keep young people from leaving. Tax money is bleeding from the county because of a lack of organized commercial development
- small town feel
- Bring more high end homes into Urbana and technology businesses
- HOUSING
- Capitalize on growth of Columbus, making us a good "bedroom community"
- We have a great location, we are within 40 minutes of Marysville, Columbus or Dayton. Our location provides a tremendous opportunity but it seems like we are falling behind surrounding counties when it comes to development.
- Exploiting natural beauty/ rural lifestyle without spoiling it.
- Capitalizing on agriculture and manufacturing
- Farmland kept as farmland and open spaces.
- Adding more land on the south end of City across from The School
- Business/Economic growth
- We have lots of open space for manufacturing plants
- Agriculture-based tech business
- Natural water recreation availability--boating, fishing, etc
- ALLOWING NEW BUSINESSES
- Manufacturing
- To not allow the wind turbines, they will not be helping our community . They will cause havoc on our rural areas and it's only benefited others not the land owner . California has the turbines and I have seen them up close. It works because they are in the open areas away from residents homes . This is just another ploy to line the pockets of county/city officials and does not benefit the people of the community !
- Manufacturing jobs
- maintaining and utilizing the assets we have before creating new.
- Letting me and my brothers open our sports and rec center. We would need support financially and positive reaction.
- There is a wonderful lifestyle here and attracting telecommuting and industry that support telecommuting could be big. Additionally tourism is under valued.
- Downtown revitalization

- Mid-level jobs
- RANCH COND'S FOR OLDER COUPLES OR SINGLES WITH GOOD CREDIT
- Proximity to Dayton and west Columbus
- Tourism and small town charm
- Manufacturing
- Location
- Downtown revitalization with the Douglas and othe vacant buildings. Renovation of Loft apartments either the addition of more food and drink places. The old Johnson building would be a prime spot for a Brewery/ Restaurant. You would get bike path traffic, UU traffic, and would start to create a little "railroad district" feel to that area with the Depot. There is also plenty of space to do outdoor entertainment, parking, etc...
- Development of tourism. We have natural attractions such as Cedar Bog, Ohio Caverns, a great aviation museum, fish farm, and unique shopping opportunities. Our recent train excursion arriving from Washington Court House brought many visitors who were planning trips to return - they loved Urbana!
- Optimize commercial and cultural resources for improved quality of life
- Downtown Urbana
- Support from local community members
- To expand and maintain the bike path and public parks.
- Small Agricultural communities that create an atmosphere needed to raise community future leaders.
- agriculture
- New Housing
- Tourism
- Schools
- New residential community. My husband and I have been looking for another house for quite a long time and there is not much available
- More retail/restaurants in Urbana city square for families and visitors to gather and eat
- Better hospital
- Thinking beyond its past
- Development of the workforce. Training young people so they have job opportunities in the county rather than leaving the county to work and live.
- preservation of small town USA, agriculture,
- Small town charm within fairly close proximity to larger metro areas. Not a lot of blight. Downtown revitalization with room for improvement.
- Create jobs to keep graduates around the area
- space
- Development on the south side of town near new school
- proximity to Columbus
- New Schools
- industry
- Preserving and developing natural beauty of area.
- no comment
- Cheaper real estate, but with easy access to bigger cities (Columbus/Dayton)
- School-Community relationship
- Ability to capitalize on our drive-ability to larger areas

- Rural living
- growth
- teens and recreation
- "Cannery/Fast freeze
- Microbrewery
- Vineyards
- "
- land availability
- Close to larger cities but easier to live in.
- Available land, proximity to Columbus
- Small town living
- Residential Development. Make it a great place to live and raise a family. Improve recreational and quality of life opportunities. Preserve the open spaces and existing rural landscape. Improve schools.
- unknown
- Beautiful landscape and vibrant community activities in our villages and cities.
- SMALL TOWN ATMOSPHERE
- Businesses downtown and working with local factories/ warehouses to expand
- Hard working honest people
- Keeping our small-town feel while maintaining enough opportunities for our county to thrive.
- Housing - we need more housing to attract more employees. There are more jobs than workers right now.
- New development & growth.
- To Grow for the future generations
- Small-town people who care about each other
- More shopping/tourist spots for people to visit
- Educating our children
- Currently: manufacturing jobs
- "small town
- "
- Low income housing. Keeping good families. Providing youth with places to thrive. Supporting elderly. Internships. Strong community activities.
- technology jobs and outdoor activities/recreation
- Major state routes run through the county AND the bike path could allow potential customers for many downtown businesses if there was adequate signage and bike racks
- Industry
- To stop listening to uneducated workers who want to maintain a vanishing standard of life. Embrace diversity, offer attractive tax packages for companies to build technology businesses
- Tourism
- Shopping and dining facilities
- Furthered development of downtown Urbana, restore those beautiful buildings, create loft style apartments. We also need more tourist attractions and better restaurant options.
- Thriving through supporting locally owned businesses.

- Continue on a progressive path
- Changing the minds of typical citizens about development
- Bring new dollars into the county
- We need to have a little more retail business selections. We are currently losing sales tax dollars to neighboring counties such as Clark County with the eateries located on Bechtel Ave. We could have a few more selections such as those around here.
- Historical structures and great location.
- lodging options
- The need for business in the small villages
- The bike path
- Agriculture
- Expansion of integrated livestock facilities and production
- Building community (neighbor connections, community spirit, awareness of shared interests), which will increase the degree to which neighbors work together to improve their communities.
- To capitalize on development that is coming this way from Columbus in a way that supports our natural amenities of scenic beauty and water quality.
- What it always has been = Rural FARMING community! Preserve this and it's ecosystems.
- ban turbines and fracking
- Preservation of land / open spaces / Urban setting
- Continue to grow
- Economic collaboration.
- Maximize the rural nature of the county.
- The river
- abundance of water supply, undeveloped commercial land, new & up to date public schools and University.
- Manufacturing
- ag
- marketing of our lifestyle /people..as well as our natural resources
- Unique restaurants. Bike repair shop. Tourism
- To be our own kind of special...we are unique. We need to cash in on strengths and develop businesses especially restaurants and shops. We are not Dublin, but can be a Great Urbana!
- Low cost of living
- Strive for 0% unemployment
- Higher paying jobs for young people
- People
- grow in business
- To try and grow the city in a positive way
- Agricultural related, lots of space
- To bring a safe ,loving and generous community.
- To create a job base to retain our young people without destroying the natural beauty of the county.
- Aviation / Tourism / Manufacturing
- New jobs

- Small independent businesses.
- Room for expansion
- Agricultural growth and wildlife preservation
- To stay small town America
- Growth from Franklin Country migration. Focus on the scenic rural setting which is commutable to Columbus and Dayton areas.
- There is plenty of space to start more organic farming for produce as well as raising grass-fed, free-range livestock.
- Maintain rural nature and property values.
- Tourism via the bike path. They can't seem to open their eyes to how much use it gets from out of town people.
- Tourism
- Development that considers the area's history and natural resources
- "Hopefully the new schools
- Bike path
- Local churches"
- Lots of room for expansion.
- Utilizing the balance of rural and small town atmosphere to improve the local opportunities for economic growth.
- Location to existing manufacturers.
- Bike path. Affordability
- Utilizing the Simon Kenton Bike Trail and Mad River for tourist opportunities. Build the infrastructure to draw people in for those 2 areas and they will bring lots of outside dollars to our community.
- jobs
- Our greatest opportunity is to protect our water shed and protect the landscape and recreational tourist activities.
- Keeping the scenic beauty of the county and increase outdoor recreation
- Maintaining the rural beauty of the area.
- To preserve clean water and land for the next generation. Industrial farming of any kind including windmills should be prevented.
- To find a c way to beat the opioid crisis.
- Improving options for shopping and dinning (other than fast food) Allowing expansion of more industries.
- Bringing in more businesses both retail and restaurants to Urbana
- growth
- rural small town
- Jobs
- The beauty of the land.
- Upgrade and support small business in small villages. Promote and encourage filling and refurbishing old buildings in small villages. Senior housing complexes.
- THE OPPORTUNITY TO REJECT WIND POWER PROMOTERS UNSAFE PROJECTS.
- High Tech Jobs
- Preserving It's small town appeal.
- To educate our children.
- Preserving its beauty for quiet, peaceful recreation and living

- REAL ESTATE TAXES BY RESIDENTIAL GROWTH
- Gloria Theater for cultural and spiritual outreach
- Tourism
- ???
- Small business development
- small businesses
- Attracting people who would like to live there
- Economic Development
- Small business development
- Agriculture
- Job creating development such as manufacturing and logistics.
- Small town atmosphere with a big impact in agriculture
- Scenic and historic routes. The beauty of open farm land and the beauty of the different species of wild life in this area.
- To keep big wind out of Champaign County and not supporting Buckeye Wind Farm. This is not good for our county. We have a big opportunity to keep them out.
- The youth are our future.
- Keep wind turbines out
- Small business
- agriculture
- "Urbana needs jobs, we're a factory town.
- Urbana could be bustling again!"
- Urbana University
- Champaign County's biggest opportunity is its close proximity to I70
- Industrial park areas, we need to be more inviting for business to want locate in our area.
- Urbana needs more shopping choices. I don't do Walmart! You have to go out of town to buy anything.. Hard to shop local when there are NO stores.
- wind & renewable energy. No 4 lane highway is the problem for any major mfr. or company coming to the county !
- Our Schools
- to find ways to utilize vacant commercial buildings
- "Your survey does not work, the next question deletes the answer to the previously asked question?"
- Charles Virts dandsvirt@gmail.com "
- "Plentiful raw Ag products to process,
- good access to transportation networks"
- poor maintenance of roads discourages trucking and other driving (other than farming equipment) negating traffic concerns
- Bringing in bigger department stores
- Its proximity to Honda and its rural/small town atmosphere.
- tourist attractions, need more restaurants and shopping
- It is a great place to live. Affordable homes, good communities and within driving distance to other major cities.
- Our location and natural resources
- "1. Growing / Opportunistic Industrial Businesses

- 2. Small Start-Up Businesses"
- Our biggest opportunity is to maintain our rural/small town and agricultural presence. We do not need to grow, grow, grow like other places. We do not need to be Columbus. We can be a place that maintains our agricultural roots and keeps our town small. We do not need more expansion of Urbana. We need to maintain our small town.
- Good location, close to Dayton and Columbus, new schools, medical facilities available
Good place for business to locate.
- New schools will draw new businesses - finally
- To retain the rural atmosphere while creating entrepreneurial people to create small businesses.
- We still have plenty of resources for ongoing growth
- maintain current rural agricultural small town atmosphere
- Champaign County needs to identify its strategic advantage or what it wants to be known for and then leverage this.
- To continue to grow
- expanding agriculture
- increase employment opportunities
- New schools hope to bring new business and residents.
- infrastructure maintained and improve existing, development of housing and maintaining the neighborhoods of foreclosures, adding more residential
- Location and proximity to major metro areas, including Dayton and Columbus. Long term, Urbana, North Lewisburg, and Mechanicsburg are potential exurbs for the rapidly expanding, growing Columbus region.
- Urbana University, we have students living here for most of the year and we as a community are not building anything for them to do while they are here. Instead they leave and go to bigger cities to do things.

Question 28 – Champaign County’s biggest challenge comments expanded (no changes were made to comments)

- Financing growth
- Infrastructure - the transportation clog getting through Urbana. we need a bypass.
- Attracting a qualified work force
- "Old people controlling the laws and regulations
- No incomes
- forward thinking
- Adding good jobs to the surrounding area"
- Accomplishing the above.
- Money?
- Lack of facilities for youth
- Congestion on 68, 36, 29
- Sustainable local small businesses and public transportation
- Lack of professional jobs for our college graduates.
- Health care
- Getting people to accept change
- local support
- We need to build the middle class.

- Road work, lots of road work in Urbana
- Unemployment rate increase
- Getting to it protental
- Fighting against it's biggest opportunity
- The judicial system higher up not munincopal court
- Housing
- Transportation/ bussing
- Shopping. Retail
- Need higher paying jobs to bring in young families
- "Being far from good jobs.
- Some schools aren't as good as they could be"
- Lack of vision
- Little jobs. Poor town.
- Internet for Rural Areas
- See above when leadership builds obstacles instead of pathways people will leave the County/City historically has a reputation. a reputation of not wanting change or progress & now they think they can make up lost time by throwing up road blocks of regulation with no flexibility
- Wind
- Large rural area with insufficient affordable high-speed internet available.
- no idea.
- Keeping my business and entertainment \$ here. I hate habing to go to Springfield, Piqua or Huber Hts
- Continuing to do things the way they have always been done - the good ole boy system.
- I can't speak for the whole county, but downtown Urbana seems to have significant poverty, and it's accompanying societal issues, including drugs and alcohol addiction, run down properties, people without jobs, etc.
- Needing more
- Job training/skills - for all ages
- Getting people to see the need to bring in money to the county. Need to change with the times. Change is good. Not all needs to be they way it was when they went they we're going up
- Drug problem
- Accurately managing the current income and expenses from taxes. This is largely mismanaged and should be watched closer.
- Attracting more people
- Attracting industry
- Lack of population to support business
- Keeping our water supply safe
- Current road network
- Lack of decent highway infrastructure
- Bigger mufacturing
- Employment
- Competing with other counties
- Increase education and a trained work force, attract more career options and keep taxes low

- Road way improvements. Transporting goods
- Stay small community feel, where everyone knows everyone and takes care of each other.
- Helping the villages to thrive
- Attracting young people to the community and keeping them here.
- Republicans
- Manufacturing
- Bringing in new people and new ideas
- Money leaving the county for retail opportunities
- Unwillingness to change established ways
- Location/workforce
- Law enforcement
- Job opportunities with competitive wages.
- Lack of quality medical care
- Change
- You need more low income house and need to need to get a housing authority office . To apply for HUD we have to go out of the county which means we have to move out of the county you have to live in Springfield or Logan County which both offices help this person and you're on a waiting list for years
- Food service and better stores
- There are very few places to eat or shop in Champaign County. To go shopping for clothing, to go to the movies, or to have a nicer dinner out, you have to leave the county.
- Na
- Places for teens and young adults to hangout
- Can't keep small business open. Not enough recreational activities
- People stuck in their ways!
- "The people
- "
- Getting people to pass levies!
- Change
- Immigration
- People afraid of change, not wanting growth where it is needed!
- Employment
- Opposition from old money in the town. The mentality of this is a small community, doesn't need to grow or change, if that happens we only fall behind
- Small minded people who don't want to see change
- Education
- People opposed to change
- Lack of jobs, traffic congestion in Urbana and people stifled by how "how things used to be".
- To plan for a mix of uses i.e. housing, commercial, retail, manufacturing and farmland to serve a diverse population with a decent tax base to help alleviate individual taxation
- Champaign County's biggest challenge is to create and maintain new businesses that can adapt and grow with the culture of our youthful economy.
- The truck traffic coming through Urbana - it's a complete turn off to shop or dine downtown - and this is the only reason.

- The people who are open to or see the need for change
- Overcome the drugs
- Young people moving away due to lack of employment opportunities
- Not allowing outside commercial businesses and food chains...other than Urbana
- Mis-using tax monies. Urbana chose to turn public schools into senior living. Better idea would be to turn tax funded buildings into business opportunities that would create additional tax base through employment taxes. Like the Marysville Entreprenurial Center.
- "Old thinking. Slow Development of New businesses which would attract families that want services (restaurants, recreation/ programs for Young families).
- "
- Building new and expanding but not taking care of the current, existing properties.
- Empty buildings
- lack of professional jobs--- paying \$45K or more. Jobs in the \$45K-\$100K range....
- Poor schools - Graham
- Support of those that live in the county to shop and eat in the county.
- Overcomming long time anti-business sediment and the resulting workforce or lack thereof.
- Its people
- The good ole boys club
- To convince those who can't see the good that we have an enviable community
- Highway bypass
- Same answer as answer to question #27
- Lack of vision to plan for the future.
- Money
- Rural
- Income
- Rural network connectivity
- Willingness to be open to change and evolve from a bedroom community while maintaining the agricultural foundation of the county
- Employers are not paying enough...it is tanking our local economy
- Same answers as above
- People who want something for nothing and want government to solve problems.
- Money
- Poverty rate. Supporting initiatives with taxes.
- Maintaining work environment
- Drugs.
- Poverty
- Low income people
- Residents resistant to change! Not being very supportive. Took decades to get the new schools needed in Urbana.
- Separating itself from the stigma of a rural farm county and showing outsiders that the towns and villages are more than drive-thrus
- Not many places to stay for the weekend downtown.
- The older generations want to not change
- The population's ability to get a higher paying job worth sticking around.
- Utilizing all residents in jobs

- Keep up on updates dates and maintenance.
- Quality jobs
- Fear of change in a new millenium
- Drugs and poverty
- highways
- Too many people
- Leadership is aging, need for new leadership with focus on need to grow the county..in all areas, attracting younger families with jobs, schools, and willingness to let them "lead"
- lack of high paying jobs and entertainment
- Good paying jobs
- Bringing in bigger business due to "close" proximity to larger cities in neighboring counties.
- Keep our taxes low. I moved from Clark County because my taxes were so high. I feel like Champaign county offers much more for significantly less. I love the small town feel of Urbana and all the surrounds villages, friendly neighbors. Keep the villages operating like they are and not turn into trashy, cheap residential areas.
- Our community leaders do not seem to want Urbana to grow. I feel they are holding Urbana from it's full potential.
- Lodging and monies to fund a larger Chamber and CVB
- See above answer
- getting away from no-growth or no-industrial mindset.
- Letting go of old influence and growing
- No growth. Most people work out of county. No economic growth and many road blocks for anyone wanting to bring business in.
- Housing and population growth
- Finding the work force to sustain and steadily grow our communities.
- Not enough places to entertain kids. And we need some real restaurants!
- bringing jobs to the county.
- An unwillingness to change with the times and realize we need to develop our economy if we want the quality of housing and education to improve.
- bi-pass in Urbana
- Need to attract more people from city and bring more money into town
- To keep graduates local.
- Overcoming the "good ole boy" establishment.
- The old, dilapidated infrastructure, including water mains and sewage systems.
- Lack of reasons for recent grads to stay, or settle here.
- No apparent vision or plan to bring businesses back to county villages. If those do exist, where are the actions to make it happen? St. Paris needs a LOT of help but Urbana is the only town that is given attention.
- Keeping out windmills which will hurt wildlife and residences in the area.
- The closed door development of the city. Our city needs to focus on the wellness of the community, and work towards supporting small business owners.
- Unemployment/low wages
- Protecting resources
- Those who do not want/like change hold back progress

- County government negativity, J&FS, drug, coordination between governing entities and ignorance of populace.
- Farmland and open space preservation as it is slowly disappearing with scattered housing and industrial development.
- To keep crime rate low.
- We live in a country with old white conservatives. This county votes against their own self interest every election and we will always struggle to get support for tax levy's. We need to raise wages, increase tax revenue and people need to see what their money is going to. I would suggest publishing proposals and discussing current tax shortcomings and propose specific plans for increased revenue. I would also suggest getting local law enforcement to engage the community more. We need to become the destination for something, right now, I couldn't say Champaign county has an advantage over any surrounding county for any 1 niche market. If we can become a destination for a market, we can work on expanding what we become the destination for and eventually, we'll be the destination for workers, consumers and that's good for everyone.
- Lack of jobs to keep young people and families
- Retain rural setting with technology
- Lack of a forward thinking vision. Too many roadblocks to innovation.
- Growing our commercial presence without destroying our agricultural businesses and transportation.
- The design and review board who stunts growth in the market district.
- Probably limited funds is a great challenge. There are so many properties that need help and so many that have had some work on them but haven't been finished. That is not appealing to people considering moving here and most of all it drastically affects the value of the properties.
- Attracting middleclass residents.
- Maintaining infrastructure
- Resistance to change
- Drawing outsiders to the town
- Getting the communities to work together as a collaboration WITHOUT Urbana has a focus. Way too many resources in the central town and not enough in the satellite communities.
- Poverty, drug addiction, uneducated parents
- People being willing to change.
- Finding work here in town
- Low income housing
- "Healthcare, specialty dr's
- Transportation for those without"
- Jobs, a good working wage, affordable housing.
- Getting more good paying jobs here.
- getting Urbana school up to par with West Liberty. More focus on activities or programs that really engage the youth. Keep them involved and away from drugs.
- Provide better services for seniors.
- Bringing new ideas to those who have lived there the longest.
- Cleaning up our water
- Funding
- Resistance to change

- Creating an atmosphere that brings in a younger generation to care for and revitalize downtown Urbana.
- Education and leadership
- Reaching the families that don't have resources to become involved.
- lack of tornado/emergency system. Never lived in a county that didn't have a tornado warning horn system... and the current phone message text system is a failure.
- Stuck in its ways; seems local government puts all sorts of challenges in front of newer businesses;
- Lack of interest, understanding, and funding.
- Losing industries
- Improve the economy and make a more stable family unit with opportunities to allow the city to grow naturally and in a positive manner.
- Combating drug issue to make more attractive to developers and possible employers locating to the area and
- Keeping residents local for dining, shopping and recreational activities
- Cost of rent for the buildings downtown and not integrating college life downtown
- Providing quality education for our children and not simply provide training to work in a factory.
- resources
- Need more manufacturing
- Encourage educational achievement over sports. Stop believing government central planning will solve problems and actively work together to create an environment with the most economic and individual liberty.
- hotels/motels/ Manufacturing transportation/infrastructure lack of forward thinking/
- Champaign county's biggest challenge is thinking outside the box where land usage and preservation come together.
- Providing high quality public safety services at a minimal cost. This can be accomplished by outsourcing to neighboring villages.
- POVERTY
- Housing
- Empty buildings.
- "Reluctance to change (citizens)
- ""Fast food, discount store"" mentality"
- Drug treatment/ education
- Resistance to change and support from community
- Improving education
- Jobs
- No four lane highway. Limits the ability for companies to get product in and out of the area
- Cedar Bog
- Accessibility.
- Making sure that industrial wind turbines are not put in our county.
- Drugs are rampant in this area.
- Lack of adequate highway access to promote commercial growth.
- for planners to realize that there is more to Champaign County than Urbana City

- Infrastructure. We lack a comprehensive plan for future expansion and growth. We lack a 4 lane highway too!
- Transportation
- "Too many people stuck in the ""way we've always done it"" mentality. They also dont listen to anyone from ""out of town.""
- Unless you're a ""lifer"" your opinion and ideas get ignored. "
- I'm afraid our communities will simply become "bedroom" communities for people who commute to Columbus or Dayton in order to make a decent living.
- Unemployment
- Unsightly and run down properties
- The pressure to be a bigger city with more and losing site of supporting the agricultural background we have
- Maintaining jobs
- Enlarging our population base without losing the small town aspect of our lovely area and to do that we could really use more job opportunities closer to home.
- Lacking jobs that draw in new families to the community
- Lack of diversity
- Finding things for kids to do
- Modern use
- welfare burden
- uninhibited growth..private investment...vision
- Getting visitors to come support our downtown businesses due to the business hours not being late or open on weekends.
- Attracting people with means to settle here
- Keeping and expanding agriculture.
- Making an area with poor roads and average schools, in a rural area seem attractive.
- Lack of vision and willingness to invest in areas where we can increase public awareness
- getting a new hotel approved
- Maintaining a balance of agriculture and commercialization
- Getting businesses to work together everywhere to better their communities and the county as a whole. Especially the businesses in downtown Urbana. There is too much controversy there.
- Not having local industry
- Advertising
- Getting more shopping for people so they don't have to go out of Urbana. WalMart is not enough
- Finding workers for jobs!!
- Investing in excellence in all areas
- lack of capital investment and a lower standard of living, aging population
- Agriculture - Protecting it!
- Providing the skilled work force to attract employers.
- No highway system
- Old leadership stuck in old ways.
- small town feel
- To many people not paying their share in property or other taxes
- GOVERNMENT

- The people in communities around the county seem unmotivated to grow. There is a lack of vision and focus to keep us up to par with other counties.
- Overcoming stifling regulation at the city (of Urbana) level.
- "Resources: there's little to no help for mental health, the low income housing is limited, there's little to no transportation services, and that's just to name a few.
- Also Champaign County doesn't have a popular tourist attraction to bring in outside revenue."
- Keeping wind farms OUT of our county.
- Not zoning business in residential
- Providing quality workers due to drug use.
- The cost to develop infrastructure to attract any kind of businesses development
- Over taxing those that live here
- Small industrial base
- K-12 public education is poor and few if any private school opportunities--more money is not the answer for public schools--classical education is
- GETTING NEW BUSINESSES IN
- Getting elected officials to actually do their jobs. Weed out the swamp.
- Hiring /electing competent the public officials to do the jobs they were hired/elected to do.
- Opioid / drug abuse
- maintaining its beauty and simplicity with trying to grow and not over grow with modern times
- Helping our youth who are the now and the future
- Providing good paying meaningful jobs to keep our young people here
- City government not flexible
- Brain drain - young people leaving after college and not returning
- GETTING EVERYONE ON BOARD WITH BUILDING COND'S.
- Struggle between keeping things as is and the potential for growth, as suburban-rural residents of Franklin County get priced out of housing and seek more affordable areas.
- heavy truck traffic
- Revenue and leadership
- attracting new technology employment
- Roads
- Parking for downtown Urbana. I think we should look into a locations (possibly the southwest corner of Walnut St& Miami) tonpossible build a two story parking garage to help with downtown businesses and events.
- Attracting young people to make Champaign Co. their home.
- The overwhelming control of government by Republican/Trumpists
- Use existing downtown structures. Get rid of strip malls and big box stores.
- Bringing up to code and making the areas over the downtown structures livable
- Drugs
- The ability to provide good paying jobs.
- staying out of debt
- New Housing developments
- Support from community
- New businesses

- Funding, getting community and government officials on the same page
- Bringing new residents into the city
- Growing as a city via GDP/economy
- Getting rid of the "good old boy" system of governance!!!!
- Getting past the old way of doing things - becoming more progressive and creating opportunities for our citizens. Finding funding to develop old buildings into vital, vibrant entities.
- poverty
- Tax base and some ability for trucks to bypass downtown Urbana
- Growth areas.
- small business
- Not enough good workers to support new business
- too much concern for the past not the future
- Semi Truck Traffic through town. And the unorganized Roundabout.
- creating jobs
- Jobs and quality housing.
- not sure
- Jobs
- Not welcoming new ideas, things, or people
- City government not being open to development.
- Not having stores, dining establishments, etc.
- Maintaining infrastructure
- funding
- money
- poverty
- "Having idiots as econ dev specialists and county city elected officials who have no understanding of new business concepts.
- Also banks that will not make loans to anyone but their buddies or people who really do not need a loan
- Infrastructure
- Attracting new possibilities for income.
- No housing or jobs
- Jobs
- "Resistance to change.
- "unknown
- Not well known outside of Miami Valley area
- public transportation
- Workers/ Transportation
- LACK OF SKILLED WORKERS
- "RESTAURANTS THAT ARE NOT SERVING BURGERS OR PIZZA.
- WE LEAVE TOWN AT LEAST ONCE A WEEK TO EAT AT BOB EVANS, CRAKER BARRELL, TEXAS ROADHOUSE, TUMBLEWEEDS.
- CHAMPAIGN COUNTY HAS AN ABUNDANCE OF CAR PART STORES, DOLLAR STORES, TITLE LOANS.

- ALL THE LOW INCOME HOUSING DOES NOT ATTRACT UP AND COMING YOUNG PROFESSIONALS LOOKING FOR A BEDROOM COMMUNITY. NOTHING TO ATTRACT THEM TO AREA."
- Drug use
- For Mechanicsburg, the ROADS & Sidewalks ARE AWFUL! Too many empty buildings being left to sit & it makes the area look ugly.
- Housing and perception of what Champaign County is
- When growing lets keep the work being done, done by local companies
- lazy people you dont want to work and use drugs and use the system
- More industry to create more jobs and keep our youth from moving away for better opportunities
- Not a lot of people have money to spend
- LOW INCOME
- Working with our workforce so that they can pass a drug test to fill the open positions. All local manufacturing is dealing with this major problem.
- Drug-free employees.
- Same
- Distance from major interstate highways
- economic development takes money
- growing
- Making every one happy.
- See above.
- Not wanting to progress
- Socioeconomics
- Restoring the old buildings and revitalizing downtown.
- Growing the job market consistently.
- No Interstate
- Finding money to support development
- US 68 traffic nightmare, rural internet
- The biggest challenge facing Champaign County is balancing the fiscal need for development with the desire to maintain the small community perspective.
- Getting new fresh ideas to go anywhere.
- uneducated masses opposing growth/change
- Maintaining the small communitites
- Citizens not willing to increase taxes for improvements to schools, parks, ect
- Selfish county officials
- All the anti-progress people and the do nothing politicians with no ideas or vision for the county.
- Deterioration of housing stock and community/neighbor connections.
- To get people off drugs and maintain an educated and productive workforce. Manufacturers cannot find or keep a decent workforce. Deal with unregulated hog farms that manipulate size in order to avoid regulation. Protect our water from irresponsible manure spreading.
- Drugs, crime and lying politicians, representatives.
- save farm land
- Introduction of Wind Turbines - Should not be located near residential areas.

- Retaining youth residents
- Economic collaboration
- How to effectively manage the development of the county without giving up the rural nature of the county. Government entities and people outside the county will increasingly look at the county as a place to do things they would never do in their communities. The scattered site industrial development of wind turbines is a prime illustration. Cities like Springfield, Columbus, Dayton and Marysville will look to the rural nature of the county for landfills, large scale manufacturing, solar panel "farms", etc.
- Drugs
- Need a local educated work force, \$\$ to develop, improve the attitude of the public residents to make needed changes.
- Public transportation
- Not having any Honda Parts plants in Urbana
- competing with the larger counties w/more services
- Lack of enthusiasm.
- Too many people in office in Urbana and the county that want things to remain the same whether or not the same is good or that's how we have always done it. Schools could have been combined for a large county school district but then somebody's kid may not get to make the team. Decisions are often made by people who only have their personal interests in mind (i.e. Urbana City Council; Urbana School Board). Mayor Bill Bean appears to be a progressive thinker which is a start!
- career employment
- opioid addiction
- Getting more retail and eating stores
- Making the community nicer
- new residents-housing too expensive, incentives to move here nonexistent.
- To try and grow the city in a positive way. We need to bring in jobs that will encourage our bright young talent to stay here
- "congested, dangerous, state routes - concerned about south 68 after the school opens up, the unusual set up of the intersection of 68 and 296.
- To protect the environment, water, and to stop the windmills from ruining the landscape for homeowners and to protect our birds and wildlife.
- Keeping young people
- Quality Overnight Accommodations
- Bike path ext
- Providing better access and services for senior citizens
- Wind turbines
- Avoiding Wind turbines
- Drug abuse issue. Educating the workforce for productive jobs. Regulation of pig farms (manure control).
- Proximity to main interstates.
- Avoiding changing our entire community with pig farms and wind turbines. Citizens should have a vote on both.
- Good paying jobs that keep people here.
- Funding
- Zoning that considers all the residents not just large landowners with an agenda
- "Jobs

- To much low income housing
- Old school mentality "
- Water and sewer
- Lack of highway transportation to large urban centers.
- Lack of it's own manufacturing.
- Too conservative
- Wind - no wind turbines please
- Overcoming close minded, narrow or backward thinking people, especially some elected officials!
- officials preventing improvements
- Greatest challenge is protecting the beauty of our county by discouraging wind turbine development and industrial farming.
- Keeping wind turbines out of the county.
- Education. Our schools are not good, and just giving them more money is not the answer.
- Protecting our land and our natural resources by discouraging industrial wind and industrial farming.
- To find a way to keep Everpower and big wind and their turbines out of our county. Nobody wants thme except the lease holders who will make money for themselves. Turbines will ruin our county.
- public transportation system
- transportation
- Town Council
- housing
- housing
- Housing
- Being able to afford improvements while maintaining a rural atmosphere.
- Keeping higher educated individuals to continue living and wotking in hete.
- DEFEATING WIND POWER DEVELOPERS AND THEIR LOBBIES.
- No industrial wind turbines
- Staying senic
- Keeping the countryside beautiful. No wind turbines!
- Keeping wind facilities out so they don't destroy our beautiful countyand hinder our airport. No one will want to move here or stay here.
- WIND TURBINES AND CIVIL DISCORD
- Stop the wind turbines
- Keep industrial wind turbines out of Champaign county
- Drugs
- Keeping the rural atmosphere but yet adding more things to do.
- Marketing
- EDUCATION OF THE KIDS GET RID OF OUR SUPERINTENDENT OUR SCHOOL ARE REALLY BAD KIDS GOING TO COLLAGE UNPREPARED.
- community division on contentious issue - wind turbines
- Preserve high quality of life at all cost, even if someone landowners don't get more money
- No vision

- Marketing
- Agriculture verses industry
- Keeping industrial wind turbines out of Champaign County.
- Good paying jobs.
- Wind turbines
- Keeping out 28% wind turbines that will change the landscape of this area along change the wildlife's habitat in this area. For what reason except money talks.
- maintaining rural life and open spaces
- Fighting against Everpower and their awful wind turbines. We all do not want them in Champaign County!!!!!!!
- Opiate use destroying families.
- Promoting small business
- Wind turbines
- more money for county services
- Urbanas' beautiful landscapes are under seige. NO WIND TURBINES!
- Small businesses have a hard time
- Champaign County's biggest challenge is to think outside of the box. There are several opportunities for the local government entities to work together on projects, but county officials are not willing to move forward. The county form of government has no boss, all departments are run by elected officials that are not held accountable until election day.
- Getting the young people to understand they need to be responsible for their actions!
- funding schools fairly . Farmers pay too much in taxes and will vote down most levies .
- Need for housing in the 150,000 to 250,000 range.
- to attract more tourists
- Maintaining the small community atmosphere
- non-farming revenue production
- New taxes
- Developing a workforce for today's workplaces.
- need more shopping and restaurants
- Lack of local employment that pays a living wage.
- lack of public land
- "1. ""Not in my backyard"" attitudes
- 2. Citizens who oppose growth and development."
- Our biggest challenge is to maintain our farmland. Farms are being lotted up in parcels all over the country and put into housing delelopments. We need to preserve our existing farmland and fight development.
- Need more jobs to attract people to the county, especially white collar jobs.
- Difficulty new businesses who want to move here have dealing with Urbana City administration.
- Unstructured growth that ends up destroying quality of life.
- Maintaining population of working adults especially the younger generations
- same as above
- It has not claimed an identity. Slow to change in a rapidly changing world.
- People against future growth

- keeping younger population interested in living here
- Drug addictions
- same as 27
- The exodus of young people upon graduation from local high schools and universities to areas outside of Champaign County. The "grass is greener" everywhere else. If young people stay or return after college, the overall social, educational, and economic stability of the county will be stronger.
- Champaign County, we already have a lot of opportunities here. Our citizens just need to realize we can capitalize on things we already have, rather than reinventing the experience.

Question 30 – Additional comments expanded (no changes were made to comments)

- IMO other counties in west central Ohio have increased their tourism significantly in the last 5 years and Champaign County needs to catch up.
- Compared to Logan County, Champaign has a very poor recycling program. This should be a priority for county government.
- Your zoning information in the county is very poor. Most counties of your size have this information readily available.
- Nothing else
- Another Plan!
- Improving the small towns and villages of Champaign County is very important to me! We just moved here from Columbus, and there were many things I missed including a vast metro park system, well organized community events, a nice movie theater, fun shopping, places to eat, etc. I do love this area's small-town, country feel, with many good, hard-working people! There is a lot of natural beauty and great opportunities for a family to have a good life here.
- Wind turbines.
- Find ways to improve without adding more taxes. The funds are there already, it can be managed better.
- There are many places within city limits that are under utilized, be it for business or residential. It would be better received if those places were repurposed rather than spreading out and destroying more natural areas.
- The baby boomer generation is growing, yet Urbana and Champaign county seem to want to do nothing to accommodate those people and their needs.
- education for a work force is key. Not everyone is college oriented. Lack of pride in people and to care about our future is a challenge.
- Need to get everyone involved. All parts of champaign county.
- Just FYI, the survey itself was a bit difficult to navigate, especially the housing questions and the long 1 -10 development questions. I appreciate the opportunity to do it though.
- Drug addiction and homeless issues need to be addressed.
- We need more opportunities to live, work AND play in our own community. I've considered moving because my doctor and most of the business I frequent (national chains like Meijer and Chipotle and Bob Evans) can't be found here.
- We need less low income housing! We need more subdivisions with better homes and private condominium living

- Would love to be part of this group or plan! I have many ideas
- Education is poor compared to other districts
- I have plenty of ideas.
- the vast countryside of the county needs weather alert system, sirens, horns, etc.... We also must get better internet options (cannot live not connected these days and most service is horrible/inconsistent). Most folks also do not want to deal with well water/systems/salt--- need to look into upgrading county water systems/plants, etc to include some of the immediately adjacent communities- along 68, 36, 161, 29, 559....
- You need more diversity and a equal representation in all areas
- Try to involve younger individuals in your process as they are the ones who will be living here and make it a diverse selection by economics, gender, race, education level, and financial status.
- Help expand the North Lewisburg bike trail and support the village. We are north east of Urbana and I feel like we are left out and forgotten. Please include us!
- Good luck.
- I believe it's important for Champaign county to realize that it can be more than a sleeper county, in particular Urbana because that's where I'm from. There will always be downsides and problems in small towns but there is also so much charm to places like this. If people realize that their money and investments will help their community, maybe it will help build a stronger one in the process.
- Champaign county has a lot of untapped potential.
- Focus on "what will 'make' the entire county a better place to live, work and play..growth is necessary for survival.
- Chamber and other entities must regain a dedicated volunteer base in Champaign County to achieve many of its goals - any way to get residents passionate about change and keep them INVOLVED!
- If you want growth, you need to provide opportunity for youth to want to return and live here after they obtain an education
- We have a lot to offer. We keep our light under a bushel to keep new comers and development out. Communities either grow or die but they can't stay the same.
- Bring back the Memorial Day parade to Urbana.
- Assess biggest challenges first to focus on quality of life.
- We need to encourage more renewable energy efforts and stop aiding the NIMBYs that are getting support from local govt. without referendum input from all local citizens.
- I'm available for meetings.
- There is nothing mentioned about renewable resources. Champaign County must look to the future!
- Look to who is leaving and why, and then formulate a vision that will move the county forward. A vision that will entice people and business to want to come here.
- I would like to be a part of the board that works in this
- Thanks for the updates!
- So many vacant buildings. We are the center hub between Columbus and Dayton so we need to get companies not in Springfield or Huber Heights to draw attention so that people don't drive all the way to Columbus or Dayton. (ie. Dave and Busters, AMC or Rave) Amazon warehousing
- Use current empty buildings vs bldg new
- We need a Bob Evan's!

- Please find ways to support or create activities for the kids to do. They are more likely to use drugs, steal, and vandalism when they are bored.
- Need storm drainage and street improvements for North Lewisburg.
- We love living and working in Champaign County. It is a great place to live!
- I have a lot of hope for it, and for the future of Champaign County.
- We live in a beautiful area that could work to set itself apart and make it a destination for people to retreat from the hustle and bustle and have a pleasant/rewarding experience with eating, bike trails, unique shopping. Use what's in place with history and architecture instead of making new buildings.
- Look at communities like Marysville that have a lot of activities for the public , and have created an area that is attracting business and housing development. Also the schools need to improve their ratings.
- The best thing government can do is get out of the way of development efforts. Just provide enforcement of the rule of law and otherwise, don't get involved. It is just a waste of taxpayer dollars. Government killed the 68 bypass and the Chamber of Commerce only wants certain new businesses to relocate/locate here so long as no new competitors are included.
- Champaign county has a unique advantage in that we are literally at a large(r) crossroads (where SR 29 and US 36 meet). We need to take advantage of this and sell it to developers. We are very fortunate to live and work in this community and it deserves to thrive!
- One have more modern desireable work. Two have desireable shopping and food. Three bike paths, community events.
- Natives of our county see the value in preserving our farmers establishments with the understanding of looking towards the future needs of generations to come. Hold onto balance.
- I appreciate the effort to provide this survey in order to get opinions for improving the county.
- Stop talking and talking and do something
- I believe that a group of innovative thinkers with proven commitment and track records might be invited to take on the assignment of brainstorming about a comprehensive plan for Champaign County. One such person is Rich Colvin who had made significant improvements in Urbana including the Sciotio Inn.
- Do not jeopardize the rural setting and/or small village communities.
- More Liberty, Less Government.
- Let make Urbana like Powell or new Albany. Let's grow.
- Not interested in more development especially spreading into the rural spaces. Also do not believe that wind energy is the right thing for our county.
- Whatever they do they need to have buyin from residents
- "concentrate energies on what Champaign County already has--improving and maintaining the same
- We need to utilize what is already there. Building out is not the answer. There are many areas where business are not being used. Keep Champaign county a rural county. Don't develop this area in away that it becomes urbanized. No wind turbine development.
- I'm pleased that as a community we recognize we need an ever evolving plan and I would be very happy to help.
- Thanks for asking for data

- Would like to see local villages attract larger employers
- I think we should take Advantage of the new KH building and build housing developments near that area. I think there are other areas around the banner that we could add additional housing. There are not a lot of \$150-\$200,000 houses for sale in Urbana. We need to give people a reason to travel to Urbana for entertainment/food/activities,etc... Also, the more housing we add, the bigger tax base we have to complete additional plans.
- Pleased to see we are updating the plan.
- Senior Services need to be dramatically improved. Current Senior Center does not have professionally trained or educated staff. Current Senior Center board stagnant. A new center would only make more space for failed and outdated programs.
- Community gathering that will allow people to come and be heard.
- Thank you for the opportunity to share my thoughts.
- Urbana is a great community with a lot of good things happening. Need to continue in that direction.
- Available downtown parking is a big issue. If I cant find a close place to park...I don't shop. I'll go somewhere else.
- "I worked with Carmen Scott at LUC for 10 years
- I wrote the Indian Lake and Darby watershed management plans
- I was the RC&D coordinator for 9 years
- You need very young people to be involved in the plan.
- A good partnership would be with Wittenberg
- My son has his master in urban development and green design.
- From the 7th best planning university on the planet
- school.
- Plans are worthless unless implemented
- What is your implementation strategy?
- STOP TRYING TO ATTRACT YOUNG PEOPLE THAT HAVE NO INTEREST IN WORKING AND ARE LOOKING FOR A COMMUNITIY THAT CAN'T DO ENOUGH TO HELP THEM BE LAZY AND LOOK AT HOW TO ATTRACT MORE PEOPLE THAT WANT TO WORK AND CONTRIBUTE TO OUR COMMUNITY IN WAYS OTHER THAN SELLING DRUGS & FOOD STAMPS
- Seriously, the roads & sidewalks in Mechanicsburg NEED addressed. I do NOT want to see a lot of business/housing developments being constructed in Champaign County, because that diminishes our farmland.
- "The drug-addiction crisis needs addressed, or the manufacturing companiies can't produce as needed.
- We will not attract many high income earners with the current available housing.
- There is such a lack of convenient parking. I have chosen not to visit many businesses downtown simply due to nowhere to park. "
- I am willing to help!
- Need to look at roads outside of Urbana and look at more tourism and marketing towards the whole county, not just inside Urbana
- Champaign County is a lot of different things to a lot of different folks. I hope the comprehensive plan will be drafted to honor and protect our rural farming characteristics while promoting the development needed to pay for the services our citizene desire.

- Move in New people so champaign county can become something. The same thing every year is failing. It's those running these ideas that need changed.
- This county lacks leaders with energy and vision who are willing to stand up to the anti-progress group in this county
- I do not support land use initiatives to attract/encourage wind farms or large poultry/livestock facilities.
- No wind turbines. It is an industrial boondoggle that will devastate the county as a whole and is not wanted nor needed in this county. Preserve the rural farming communities that drive this county and surrounding ecosystems.
- Plan must focus on maintaining the urban setting. Families move to this area to embrace the outdoors away from the industrial pressures of Columbus etc. Families choose to live in this area and commute to the larger cities for employment.
- "Thank you for allowing me to give this input. You have a very important task which will affect the present residents and generations to come.
- I highly encourage you to resist allowing the government in Washington and Columbus especially to drive your decision making. This is so much of what is wrong with the industrial wind turbine project that is trying to be built.
- We need to have the Rt. 68 project completed through the county. We also need to have commercial, industrial and manufacturing development focused in and around the existing cities and villages. "
- I hope enough residents make their feelings known so changes can be made.
- Wd like to see Friday night rally in the park. More concerts with drinks
- Need to work on downtown district, looks BAD.
- Think safety first.
- One survey recommendation. Never offer a "middle of the road" opportunity to answer. Always use an even number of options and force people to put some thought into which way they leaning.
- The downtown area needs to better accommodate people who want to make use of what it offers. Parking is terrible, and it's not user friendly to most people.
- Wind turbines disrupt our community. They pose many dangers to not only the wildlife but people in Champaign county as well.
- Wind power should not be permitted in this county. It will ruin property values.
- Why allow wind farms when the local public gets no benefit? Why allow pig farms which pollutes both the water (due to runoff) and the air with the smelly stench? Both ruin the biggest thing we have going for us. The beauty of our lands.
- Industry, industrial farming, wind turbines, etc. are not compatible with Union Township and will destroy the property values of those living here.
- We must remember that it is Champaign County not just Urbana.
- I strongly dislike how the bike path invades on individuals private property. It is an invasion of privacy and security.
- Wind - no wind turbines please
- Protecting the manufacturing that has supported this community for years should be number one. Training workers and dealing with addiction should be top priority. All our businesses have need workers signs out. We do not need more competition for our jobs by bringing in more industrial commerce of any kind. Please take care of what you have.
- Keep wind turbines out of our beautiful county.

- Champaign County is known for its history of family farming through generations. Radical changes from this focus will alienate many residents, and while they may not have options to move, it will change the feel of the county and engagement of its residents. Our county is strong because of the widespread commitment of its residents to engage. Change should come from natural evolution rather than forced edicts. Transparency in this process will be essential to acceptance of any goals which are subsequently articulated.
- I have many concerns of the quality of life that I love this area for. Between the possible windmills and the pig/chicken farms popping up all over the place, what about me being able to simply sit on my back porch and enjoy the sunset with my wife. Soon I might have 2 windmills (550 ft) in back yard and 3 in my front. No more nice peaceful sunrises (front) or sunsets(back) for us in the near future. Oh, did I forget not being able to be outside without the sickening smell of chicken and pig feces.
- I realize my desires and goals sometimes seem at odds. The struggle is getting the money for improvements without having to add huge numbers of people, businesses, etc. in order to have the necessary tax base. The only other solution I see is convincing the existing residents to support a higher tax level, which is not very likely.
- MEGA PIG FARMS HAVE CONTAMINATED WATERWAYS IN ADJOINING COUNTIES. WE DO NOT NEED PIG FARMS IN CHAMPAIGN CTY.
- ZONING THAT PROTECTS RURAL CITIZENS PROPERTY RIGHTS FROM TRESPASS BY FARMERS WITH GET-RICH-QUICK FADS AND SCHEMES THAT DISRUPT WHOLE COMMUNITIES
- Wind development is detrimental to property values, health, safety, scenic beauty, wildlife habitat, roads, and general quality of life.
- Let's keep Champaign County's beauty and country charm as well as Urbana's small town atmosphere.
- DO NOT NEED WIND TURBINES,THERE IS A LOT OF HISTORY ON LUDLOW LEAVE IT ALONE,THEY WILL RUIN THE BEATUY OF OUR COUNTY.
- I would love to be involved in anyway that you may need.
- Not at this time
- No Industrial Wind Turbines in Champaign County!
- Renewable energy is not the answer folks.
- Please keep wind turbines out of the County.
- Wind turbines will hurt all of champiagn county...people will move away if they can
- very nice
- Promote the University
- pass PILOT plan and keep all the needed money local and keep it from going to Columbus and only get an unfair amount back to the county !
- available affordable home-building real estate should be pursued to allow Champaign County to become an alternative to higher-priced living for commuting to Columbus, Dayton, and other job-producing districts
- Thank you for the opportunity to comment.
- I go out of town for shopping and restaurants, would rather stay here in Urbana but just not many choices here
- Important for our heritage to be preserved. Support the Champaign County Historical Society - Museum!
- allowing other voices

- bring in more retail too many vacant buildings
- Review existing utility infrastructure and how development should occur in relation to this infrastructure. Countywide, the trend has been to develop areas where infrastructure (public water, public sewer, etc.) is not in place.