

2022 Master Plan Survey

The survey was done in the summer of 2022. It was mailed with each tax bill and promoted on the Township website and Facebook page. An online survey was available. Not everyone answered every question.

Total responses: 85. Total paper surveys: 39. Total online surveys: 46.

From the following list, please select the two most important reasons you have chosen to live in Portland Township:

1. Rural setting	61	5. Suburban lifestyle	10
2. Safe area	33	6. Affordable housing	9
3. Good neighborhood	21	6. Farming activity	9
4. Proximity to work	12	7. Quality of housing	5
4. Good schools	12		

In terms of the Township priorities, which of the following do you consider very important? Please choose no more than four:

1. Maintaining rural character	45	7. Improving parks/recreation areas	18
2. Improving roads	43	7. Increasing housing for seniors	18
3. Conserving open/natural areas	39	8. Increasing housing for young families	15
4. Preserving farmlands	29	9. Improving emergency services	11
5. Constructing sidewalks/paths	23	10. Expanding commercial	3
6. Enforcing zoning rules	20	11. Expanding industrial	2
		12. Expanding the mobile home park	0

In terms of the Township concerns, please indicate if you are very concerned about any of the following:

1. Development in open lands/natural areas	21	5. Cost of new housing	13
2. Preservation of rural character	20	6. Too much commercial development	9
3. Enforcement of zoning ordinance	15	6. Lack of recreation facilities	9
4. Crime	14	7. Crowded neighborhoods	7

Thinking about the growth of the township, do you think that Portland Township is growing:

1. About right	53
2. Too quickly	11
3. No opinion	10
4. Too slowly	4

Please answer the following questions with Y (Yes) , N (No) or O (No opinion):

Do you feel the junk ordinance is working to clean up the township?	Yes 22	No 19	N/A 45
Do you want the township to continue paying for improvements to the township roads?	Yes 73	No 1	N/A 12
Should the Township continue the monthly recycling program?	Yes 64	No 9	N/A 9
Do you use the township website?	Yes 32	No 35	N/A 6
Do you feel that the Township Board members are easy to contact?	Yes 40	No 7	N/A 26
How long have you lived in the Township?			
1-10 years	25		
11-20 years	14		
21-30 years	11		
31-40 years	11		
41+	17		

Do you own or rent your home? Own 64 Rent 1 Own home/rent lot 2

Would you consider serving on any of the Township boards or committees? 12 residents provided names and contact info.

Residents were given space to list other responses to the following questions:

From the following list, please select the two most important reasons you have chosen to live in Portland Township:

Riverwalk
Local shops
Small town
Born here
Near family/grandchildren
Between Lansing and GR
No city taxes, grandchildren

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

Do not expand Sunset Ridge (5)	Township needs to communicate better
Want curbside recycling (3)	Improve senior programs
Want fiber optic (2)	Need a pathway to Sunset Ridge
Fire barn needs to be replaced (2)	Why do subdivisions need to pay to maintain their roads?
Better enforcement of the junk ordinance (2)	
Too much speeding on Friend Road and Grand River Avenue;	

In terms of the Township concerns, please indicate if you are very concerned about any of the following:

Gravel road maintenance (2)
Lack of high speed internet
Do not expand the trailer park
Junky properties
Transportation
Need more senior housing
Need sidewalks along Grand River and Divine.

Do you feel that the Township Board members are easy to contact?

Need to update webpage and Facebook page more frequently
Great communication from the Board
Contacting the Board is easy enough.

Other comments:

Township is paying too much for recycling (2)
Pave Cutler Road
Houses across from Abbey Lane are always junky
Keep the new Township Hall and other buildings close together
If extra land is sold for housing, make small lots---not sprawling like Cottonwood Creek
Need more housing opportunities and new subdivisions
Monthly recycling is not often enough
Please provide transparency with the costs of the new hall.

NOTE: The last time we did a Master Plan survey was 2013. That year we received 144 responses, all of them were paper surveys even though we provided the opportunity to do it online.