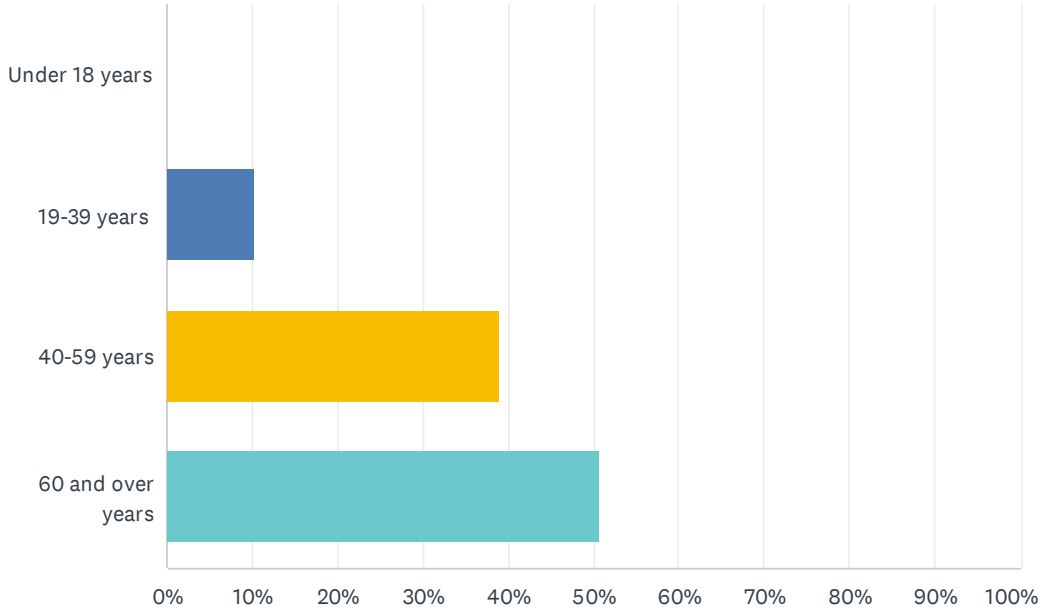
Q1 What is your age?

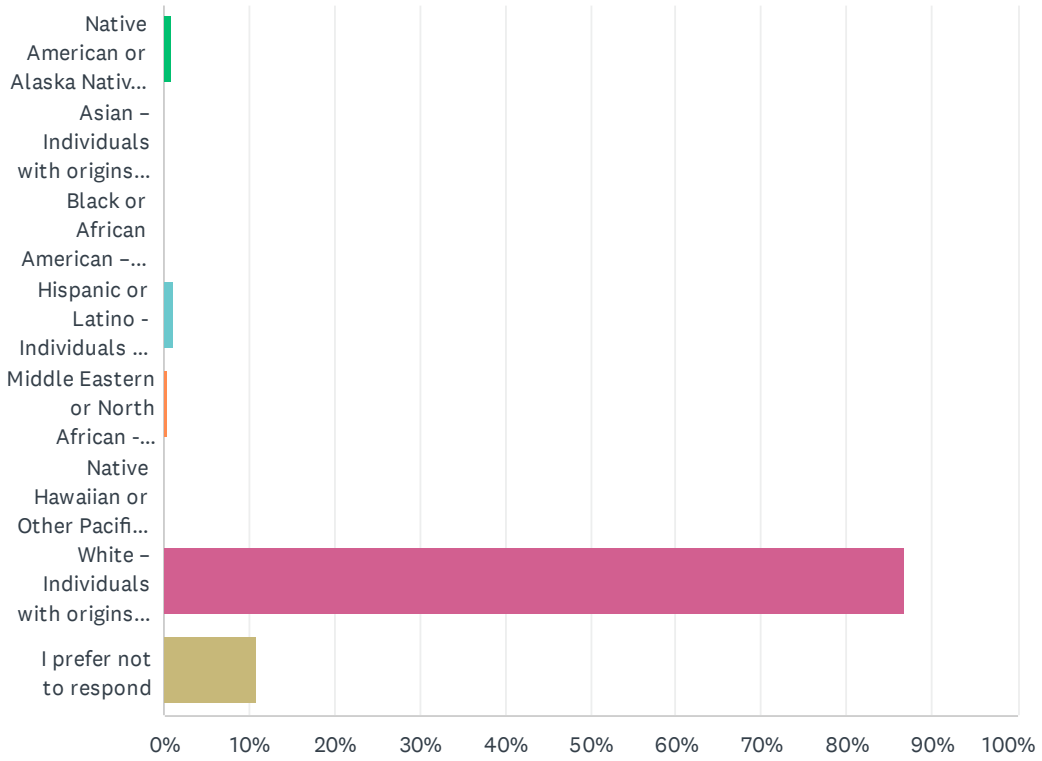
Answered: 381 Skipped: 5



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Under 18 years	0.00%	0
19-39 years	10.24%	39
40-59 years	39.11%	149
60 and over years	50.66%	193
TOTAL		381

Q2 What is your race/ethnicity? Note: Providing this information is optional. Your individual responses are strictly confidential and will only be reported in aggregate. Data will not be used for any discriminatory purpose. Categories are based on U.S. Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Statistical Policy Directive No. 15 (March 28, 2024).

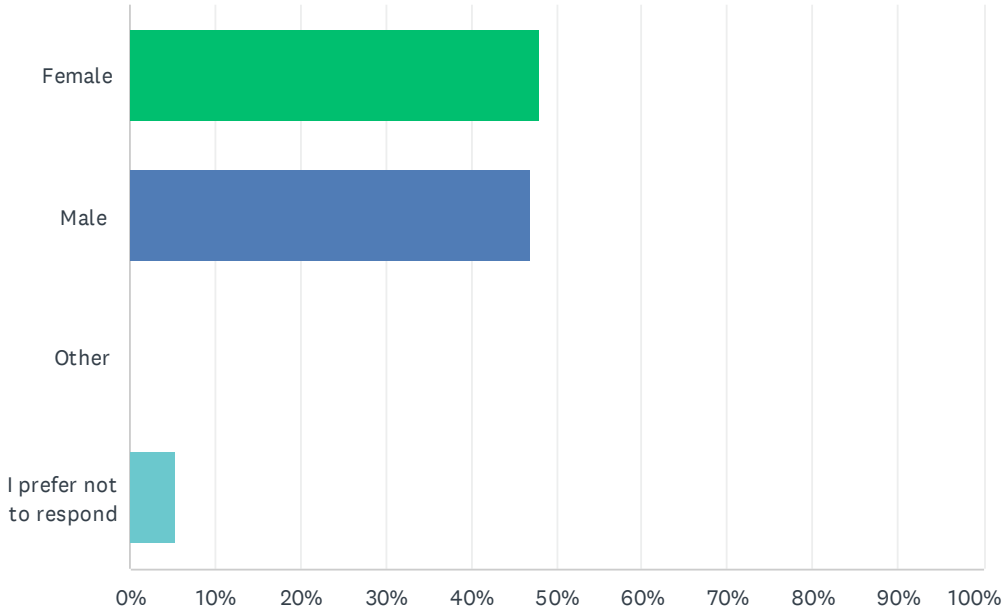
Answered: 376 Skipped: 10



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Native American or Alaska Native – Individuals with origins in any of the original peoples of North, Central, and South America.	0.80%	3
Asian – Individuals with origins in any of the original peoples of Central or East Asia, Southeast Asia, or South Asia.	0.00%	0
Black or African American – Individuals with origins in any of the Black racial groups of Africa.	0.00%	0
Hispanic or Latino - Individuals of Mexican, Puerto Rican, Salvadoran, Cuban, Dominican, Guatemalan, and other Central or South American or Spanish culture or origin.	1.06%	4
Middle Eastern or North African - Individuals with origins in any of the original peoples of the Middle East or North Africa.	0.53%	2
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander – Individuals with origins in any of the original peoples of Hawaii, Guam, Samoa, or other Pacific Islands.	0.00%	0
White – Individuals with origins in any of the original peoples of Europe.	86.70%	326
I prefer not to respond	10.90%	41
TOTAL		376

Q3 What is your gender? Note: Providing this information is optional. Your individual responses are strictly confidential and will only be reported in aggregate. Data will not be used for any discriminatory purpose.

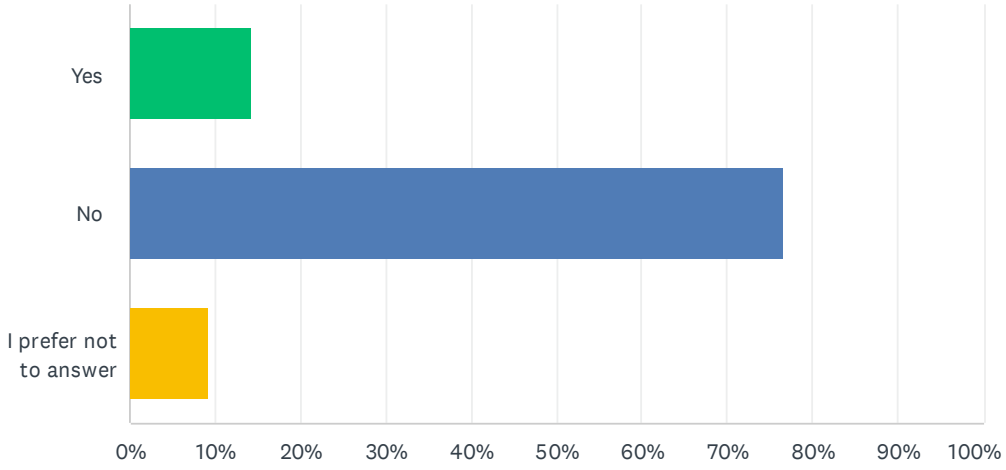
Answered: 380 Skipped: 6



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Female	47.89%	182
Male	46.84%	178
Other	0.00%	0
I prefer not to respond	5.26%	20
TOTAL		380

Q4 Do you identify as a member of the LGBTQ+ community? LGBTQ+ is an acronym for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer. The Q generally stands for queer when LGBTQ organizations, leaders, and media use the acronym. In settings offering support for youth, it can also stand for questioning. LGBT and LGBTQ+ are also used, with the + added in recognition of all non-straight, non-cisgender identities. Note: Providing this information is optional. Your individual responses are strictly confidential and will only be reported in aggregate. Data will not be used for any discriminatory purpose.

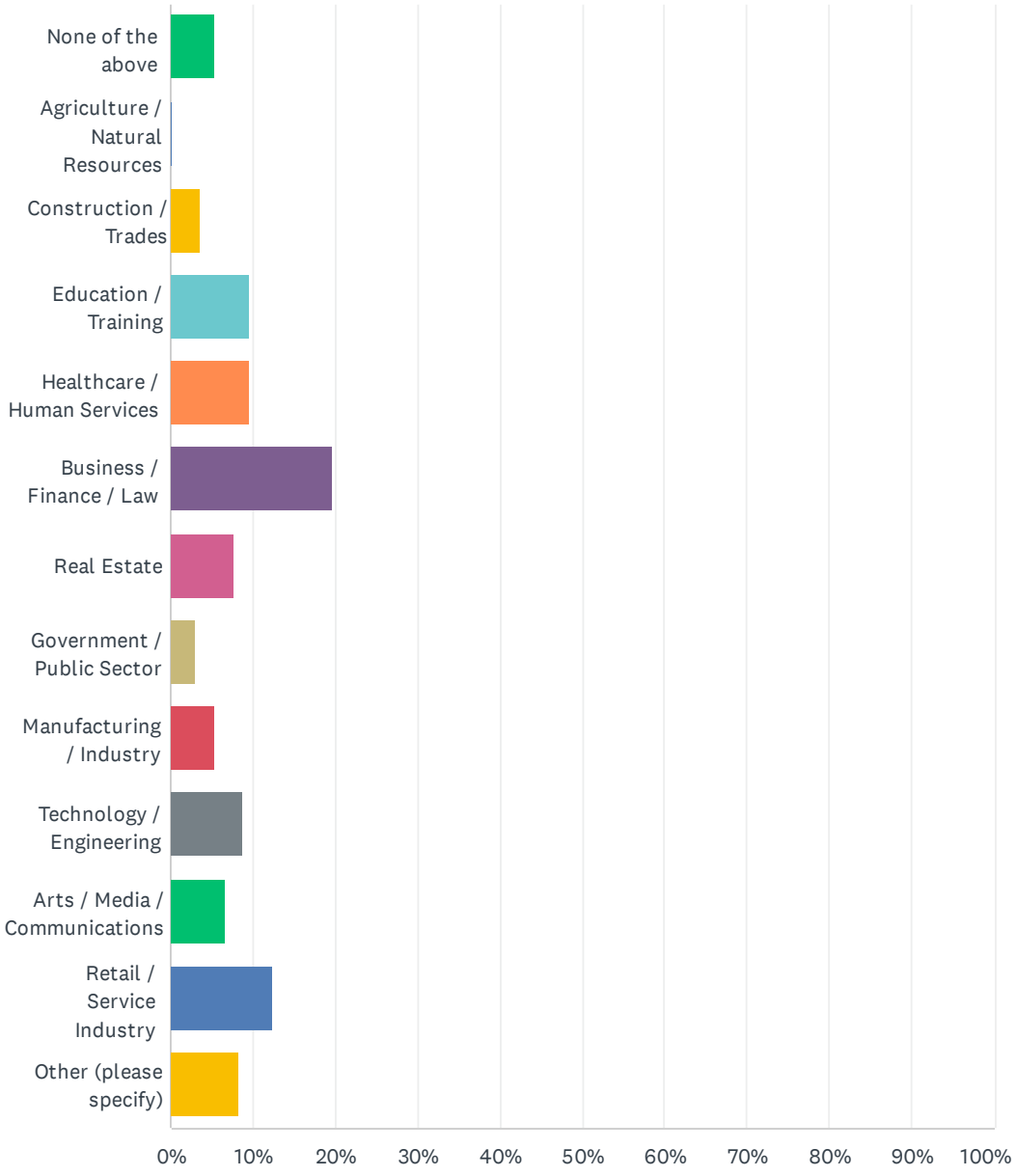
Answered: 380 Skipped: 6



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	14.21%	54
No	76.58%	291
I prefer not to answer	9.21%	35
TOTAL		380

Q5 In what category is your profession, or what was your professional background if retired?

Answered: 377 Skipped: 9



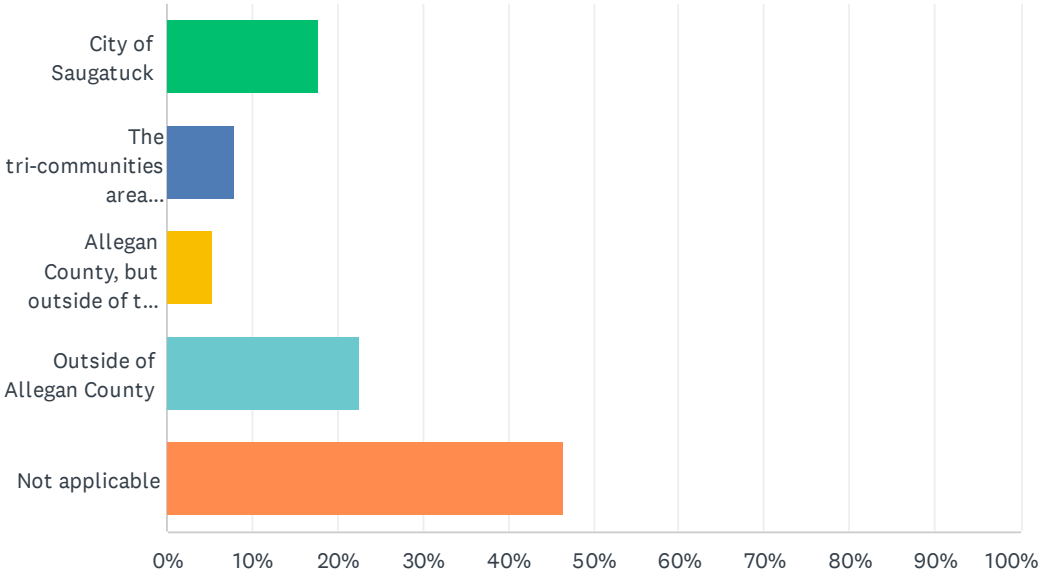
ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
None of the above	5.31%	20
Agriculture / Natural Resources	0.27%	1
Construction / Trades	3.71%	14
Education / Training	9.55%	36
Healthcare / Human Services	9.55%	36
Business / Finance / Law	19.63%	74
Real Estate	7.69%	29
Government / Public Sector	2.92%	11
Manufacturing / Industry	5.31%	20
Technology / Engineering	8.75%	33
Arts / Media / Communications	6.63%	25
Retail / Service Industry	12.47%	47
Other (please specify)	8.22%	31
TOTAL		377

#	OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	DATE
1	Housewife	10/10/2025 1:26 PM
2	Home Maker since 1981	10/3/2025 4:19 PM
3	Hospitality/Hotel	10/2/2025 12:35 PM
4	Travel - Hotel	10/1/2025 2:22 PM
5	Transportation	10/1/2025 8:02 AM
6	Transportation (airline)	10/1/2025 7:54 AM
7	Vacation rentals	9/30/2025 7:28 PM
8	Interior Design /Build	9/30/2025 4:19 PM
9	Fire and EMS	9/29/2025 9:59 AM
10	Retired	9/29/2025 8:22 AM
11	Film	9/28/2025 8:41 AM
12	tourism	9/26/2025 12:41 PM
13	Banking and Distribution	9/24/2025 5:46 PM
14	Prop mgt	9/22/2025 3:48 PM
15	Education and Property Management	9/22/2025 10:32 AM
16	Accounting	9/21/2025 3:35 PM
17	Interior Design	9/19/2025 11:00 AM
18	Retired	9/11/2025 11:49 AM
19	Entertainment	9/10/2025 5:18 PM
20	one of the many marinas that always are left off your surveys	9/9/2025 2:08 PM

21	law	9/9/2025 10:09 AM
22	Hospitality industry 44yrs +	9/6/2025 11:50 PM
23	Armed Security	9/6/2025 2:33 PM
24	hospitality	9/5/2025 9:28 PM
25	Retired	9/5/2025 7:52 PM
26	not for profit	9/5/2025 2:00 PM
27	Retired	9/5/2025 10:09 AM
28	Business	9/5/2025 8:16 AM
29	Social worker	9/3/2025 10:24 AM
30	business owner	9/2/2025 10:11 AM
31	Interior Design	8/30/2025 7:31 AM

Q6 Where do you currently travel for work?

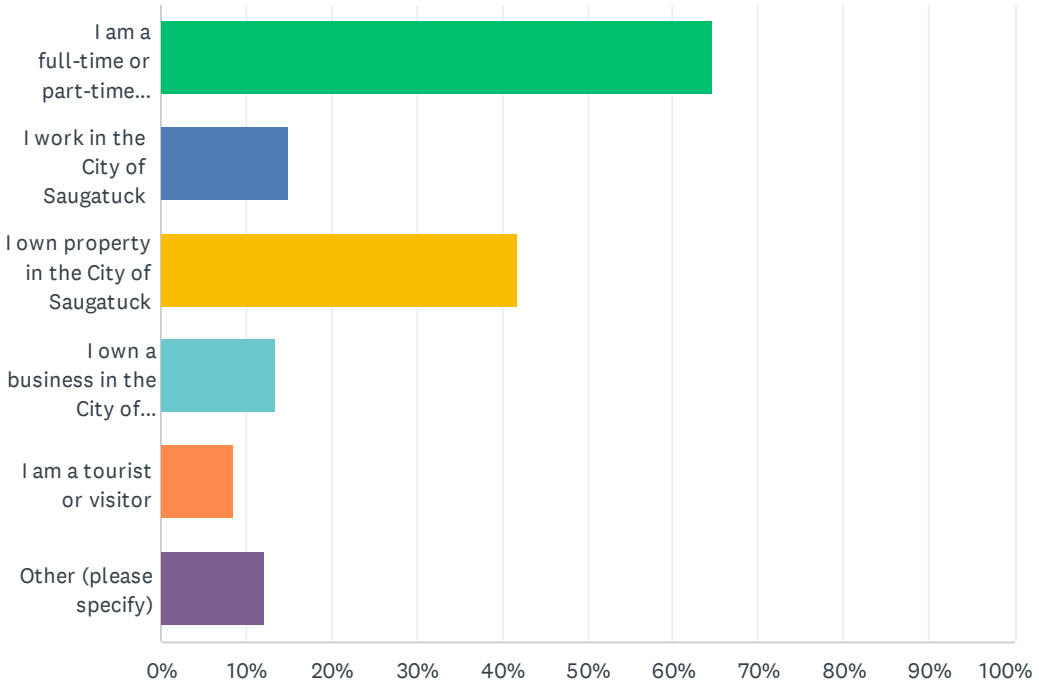
Answered: 380 Skipped: 6



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
City of Saugatuck	17.63%	67
The tri-communities area (Saugatuck, Douglas, or Saugatuck Township)	7.89%	30
Allegan County, but outside of the tri-communities area (Saugatuck, Douglas, or Saugatuck Township)	5.26%	20
Outside of Allegan County	22.63%	86
Not applicable	46.58%	177
TOTAL		380

Q7 What is your interest in the City of Saugatuck? Choose as many as applicable.

Answered: 344 Skipped: 42



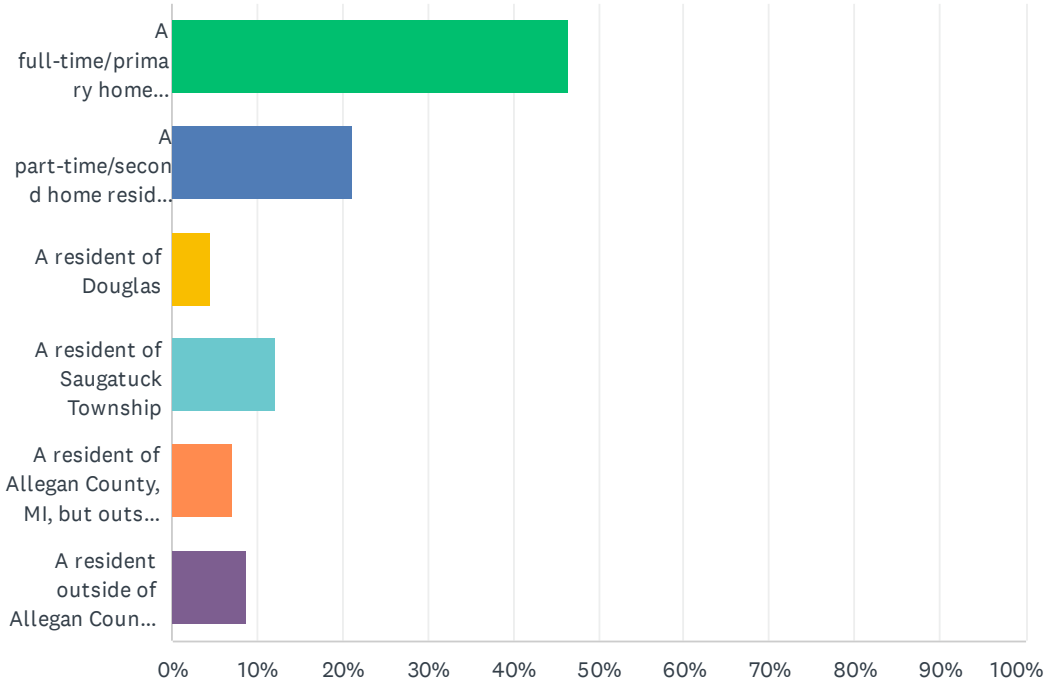
ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
I am a full-time or part-time resident of the City of Saugatuck	64.53%	222
I work in the City of Saugatuck	14.83%	51
I own property in the City of Saugatuck	41.86%	144
I own a business in the City of Saugatuck	13.37%	46
I am a tourist or visitor	8.43%	29
Other (please specify)	12.21%	42
Total Respondents: 344		

#	OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	DATE
1	i owrk in and own a business in saugatuck and live in the township for 37 years	10/4/2025 3:35 PM
2	full time, not part time	10/3/2025 9:52 PM
3	township	9/30/2025 4:21 PM
4	Live nearby	9/29/2025 5:58 PM
5	Family of residents	9/29/2025 7:33 AM
6	I live in Saugatuck Township	9/25/2025 5:01 PM
7	Live nearby and regularly come to Saugatuck	9/24/2025 5:48 PM

8	Saugatuck Twp. Resident	9/22/2025 12:16 PM
9	Former resident/business owner for 40 years	9/10/2025 5:20 PM
10	I live in Saugatuck Township, but conduct business throughout the area	9/10/2025 10:22 AM
11	I live in Fennville	9/9/2025 9:40 AM
12	38 year full time resident of Saugatuck Township	9/8/2025 1:42 PM
13	My children attend Saugatuck Public Schools	9/8/2025 11:02 AM
14	I'm a full-time resident of Fennville (Glenn), MI.	9/8/2025 9:23 AM
15	Full time resident of Saugatuck Township	9/7/2025 9:36 PM
16	I used to be a full time resident of the City of Saugatuck. I now live a few miles outside of town. I still shop in the City of Saugatuck regularly. I work full time in Douglas.	9/7/2025 5:07 PM
17	I work now in Douglas but have worked in Saug. I live in Douglas	9/6/2025 11:53 PM
18	Grew up in Laketown. Went to SHS. Still visit frequently.	9/6/2025 2:34 PM
19	Business Owner and Live in Saugatuck Township	9/6/2025 1:04 PM
20	We are full time in Saugatuck Township	9/6/2025 11:46 AM
21	recently moved from the city to the township	9/6/2025 7:27 AM
22	live close by...when become wealthy will be looking for property.	9/6/2025 12:32 AM
23	Live in Saugatuck Township and work in Saugatuck Public Schools	9/6/2025 12:16 AM
24	Resident of Saugatuck township	9/5/2025 10:40 PM
25	Past business owners	9/5/2025 9:53 PM
26	Born and raised in Saugatuck, multi generation family business, now residing in Ganges.	9/5/2025 7:55 PM
27	Douglas resident	9/5/2025 6:07 PM
28	I am a resident of Douglas	9/5/2025 2:01 PM
29	Full time resident of Saugatuck township	9/5/2025 11:56 AM
30	My family has been in Saugatuck since 1834	9/5/2025 10:12 AM
31	My family were the founders of Saugatuck Stephan a Morrison	9/5/2025 10:06 AM
32	Township	9/5/2025 9:29 AM
33	Douglas	9/5/2025 9:22 AM
34	Saugatuck Township resident	9/5/2025 8:53 AM
35	looking to purchase a home and retire in Saugatuck	9/5/2025 8:10 AM
36	Business owner in Saugatuck twp.	9/5/2025 8:00 AM
37	My parents live in Douglas	9/5/2025 7:33 AM
38	owner in Saugatuck Township	9/5/2025 7:25 AM
39	Work in Saugatuck Township	9/4/2025 11:08 AM
40	Own property in the city of Douglas	8/31/2025 9:16 AM
41	Resident of Saugatuck Twp adjacent to Blue Star Highway	8/29/2025 5:06 PM
42	local small business owner (motel)	8/29/2025 4:55 PM

Q8 Describe your residency.

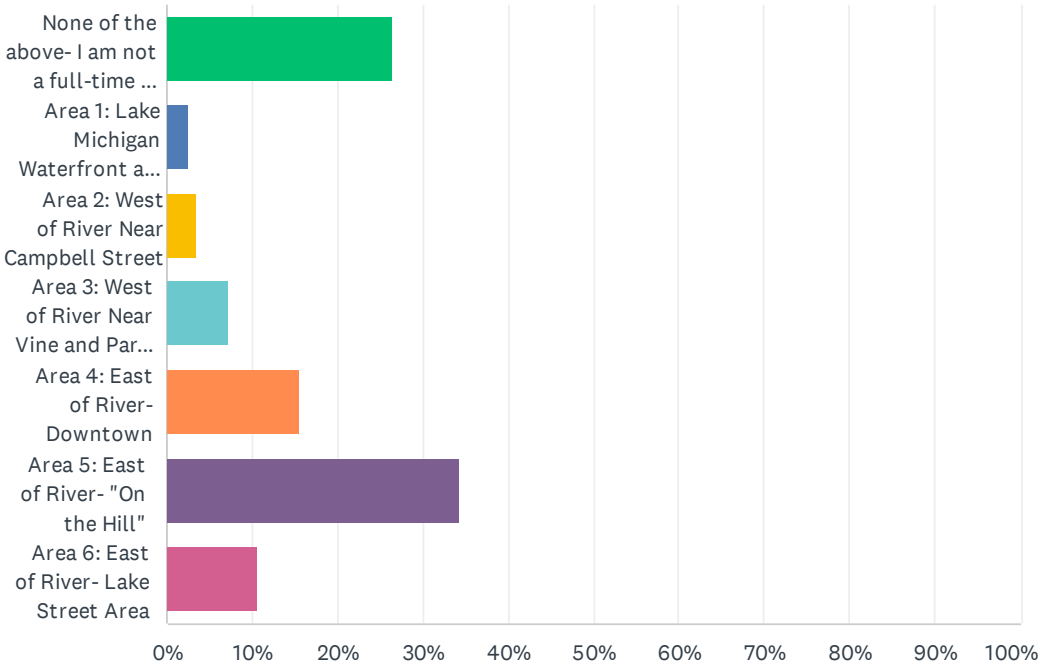
Answered: 340 Skipped: 46



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
A full-time/primary home resident of the City of Saugatuck (principal residence)	46.47%	158
A part-time/second home resident of the City of Saugatuck	21.18%	72
A resident of Douglas	4.41%	15
A resident of Saugatuck Township	12.06%	41
A resident of Allegan County, MI, but outside of the tri-communities area (Saugatuck, Douglas, or Saugatuck Township)	7.06%	24
A resident outside of Allegan County, MI	8.82%	30
TOTAL		340

Q9 If a full-time or part-time resident of the City of Saugatuck, where do you live?

Answered: 321 Skipped: 65



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
None of the above- I am not a full-time or part-time resident of the City of Saugatuck.	26.48%	85
Area 1: Lake Michigan Waterfront and Dunes Area	2.49%	8
Area 2: West of River Near Campbell Street	3.43%	11
Area 3: West of River Near Vine and Park Streets	7.17%	23
Area 4: East of River- Downtown	15.58%	50
Area 5: East of River- "On the Hill"	34.27%	110
Area 6: East of River- Lake Street Area	10.59%	34
TOTAL		321

Q10 If a full-time or part-time resident of the City of Saugatuck, on what street is your residence? Please do not indicate your address number.

Answered: 214 Skipped: 172

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	North	10/10/2025 1:27 PM
2	Lake	10/6/2025 8:53 PM
3	Lake Street	10/5/2025 5:51 PM
4	Spear	10/5/2025 12:12 PM
5	Grand street	10/4/2025 5:56 PM
6	rather not say	10/4/2025 5:45 PM
7	blue star highway	10/4/2025 3:35 PM
8	Culver	10/4/2025 7:36 AM
9	Holland Street	10/3/2025 9:52 PM
10	Holland	10/3/2025 9:41 PM
11	Culver	10/3/2025 4:24 PM
12	Grand	10/3/2025 2:50 PM
13	Spear	10/3/2025 2:31 PM
14	Water	10/3/2025 1:04 PM
15	Spear	10/3/2025 11:50 AM
16	Ridgeview Lane	10/2/2025 7:23 PM
17	Ridgeview Lane	10/2/2025 11:10 AM
18	Butler	10/2/2025 11:08 AM
19	Campbell	10/2/2025 8:31 AM
20	Maple	10/2/2025 8:22 AM
21	Main Street	10/1/2025 10:49 PM
22	Spear Street	10/1/2025 8:10 PM
23	Spear	10/1/2025 8:09 PM
24	Park	10/1/2025 3:39 PM
25	Simonson	10/1/2025 3:38 PM
26	Weirich Dr.	10/1/2025 2:52 PM
27	Perryman	10/1/2025 2:24 PM
28	Mason	10/1/2025 12:01 PM
29	Holland Street	10/1/2025 8:43 AM
30	Sugar Hill Ct	10/1/2025 8:06 AM
31	Holland st	9/30/2025 7:38 PM

32	Holland St	9/30/2025 7:34 PM
33	Spear st	9/30/2025 6:08 PM
34	Spear	9/30/2025 2:20 PM
35	Lake st	9/30/2025 1:28 PM
36	Butler Street	9/30/2025 7:24 AM
37	Water Street	9/30/2025 5:41 AM
38	Spear	9/29/2025 11:42 PM
39	spear	9/29/2025 8:11 PM
40	Mary Street	9/29/2025 7:43 PM
41	Mason	9/29/2025 5:28 PM
42	Park st	9/29/2025 4:51 PM
43	Holland St	9/29/2025 4:09 PM
44	Mason St	9/29/2025 2:58 PM
45	Park st	9/29/2025 2:47 PM
46	Griffith	9/29/2025 2:47 PM
47	Park	9/29/2025 2:43 PM
48	Weirich Dr.	9/29/2025 2:42 PM
49	Holland street	9/29/2025 11:30 AM
50	Griffith	9/29/2025 9:50 AM
51	culver	9/29/2025 8:25 AM
52	West Street	9/29/2025 8:24 AM
53	Lake Street	9/28/2025 11:24 PM
54	Bridge street	9/28/2025 9:38 PM
55	Park	9/28/2025 8:59 PM
56	Mason	9/28/2025 8:13 PM
57	St Joseph	9/28/2025 3:28 PM
58	Holland	9/28/2025 2:32 PM
59	Grand	9/28/2025 1:52 PM
60	Grand st	9/28/2025 12:38 PM
61	Grand	9/28/2025 11:54 AM
62	Water	9/28/2025 8:46 AM
63	Spear	9/27/2025 10:28 PM
64	Lake Street	9/27/2025 2:00 PM
65	Main Street	9/27/2025 1:01 PM
66	n/a	9/27/2025 12:27 PM
67	Lake	9/27/2025 10:03 AM
68	Elizabeth	9/27/2025 9:11 AM
69	Lake Street	9/26/2025 4:37 PM

70	Park	9/26/2025 4:32 PM
71	Lake Street	9/26/2025 2:55 PM
72	Singapore Drive	9/26/2025 1:47 PM
73	Spear Street	9/26/2025 1:08 PM
74	hoffman	9/26/2025 12:46 PM
75	Hoffman	9/26/2025 12:05 PM
76	Elizabeth	9/26/2025 12:04 PM
77	Park	9/26/2025 12:03 PM
78	Elizabeth	9/26/2025 12:01 PM
79	Hoffman	9/26/2025 4:15 AM
80	Lake	9/25/2025 11:06 PM
81	Lake Street	9/25/2025 8:14 PM
82	North Street	9/25/2025 7:14 PM
83	Butler	9/25/2025 4:26 PM
84	Holland street	9/25/2025 3:54 PM
85	Why?	9/25/2025 3:46 PM
86	Sugar Hill	9/24/2025 11:09 AM
87	Lake Street	9/24/2025 8:31 AM
88	Lucy	9/24/2025 7:17 AM
89	Main Street	9/23/2025 8:19 PM
90	Main	9/23/2025 8:13 PM
91	griffith	9/23/2025 3:47 PM
92	N Maple st	9/23/2025 2:04 PM
93	Water	9/23/2025 1:19 PM
94	64 Griffith	9/23/2025 12:27 PM
95	Lake Street	9/23/2025 12:08 PM
96	Allegan	9/23/2025 9:04 AM
97	Takken St	9/22/2025 9:34 PM
98	Park St.	9/22/2025 9:08 PM
99	Taylor	9/22/2025 8:07 PM
100	Van Dalson	9/22/2025 7:13 PM
101	Lake Street	9/22/2025 6:46 PM
102	Manchester Dr	9/22/2025 2:36 PM
103	Lake	9/22/2025 12:39 PM
104	Elizabeth	9/21/2025 4:41 PM
105	Spear Street	9/21/2025 2:55 PM
106	Ridgeview Lane	9/21/2025 2:55 PM
107	Lake	9/21/2025 11:52 AM

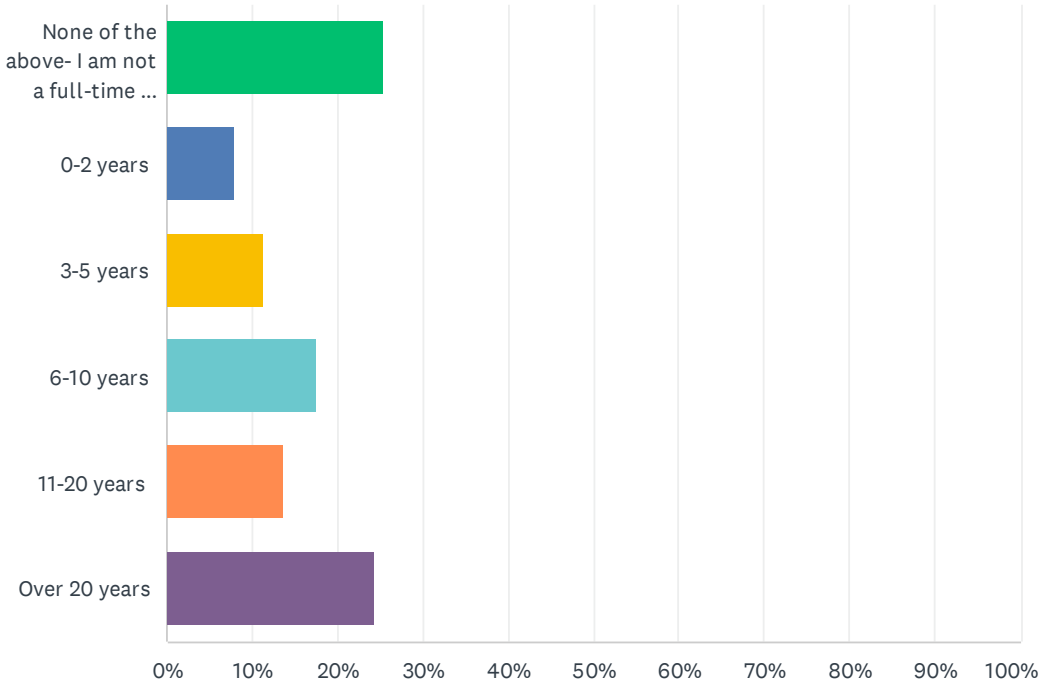
108	Lake street	9/21/2025 9:46 AM
109	Allegan	9/20/2025 8:38 PM
110	Griffith	9/20/2025 6:56 PM
111	Griffith	9/20/2025 11:45 AM
112	Griffith	9/20/2025 11:18 AM
113	Elizabeth	9/20/2025 8:03 AM
114	Elizabeth	9/19/2025 7:13 PM
115	Weirich	9/19/2025 3:06 PM
116	Lake St	9/19/2025 11:02 AM
117	Manchester Dr	9/18/2025 5:32 PM
118	Manchester Drive	9/17/2025 3:14 PM
119	Mason	9/17/2025 1:20 PM
120	Mason	9/16/2025 4:51 PM
121	Mason	9/15/2025 9:31 PM
122	MapleWoods	9/15/2025 10:45 AM
123	Elizabeth	9/14/2025 5:14 PM
124	Mason	9/14/2025 5:08 PM
125	N/A	9/13/2025 4:53 PM
126	Mason	9/13/2025 3:59 PM
127	Holland St	9/11/2025 12:41 PM
128	Spear	9/11/2025 12:21 PM
129	Holland Street	9/11/2025 11:51 AM
130	Park Street	9/11/2025 10:45 AM
131	Mason Street	9/10/2025 3:28 PM
132	St Joseph	9/10/2025 3:01 PM
133	Grand St.	9/10/2025 12:33 PM
134	140th Avenue	9/10/2025 11:37 AM
135	Butler Street	9/9/2025 9:37 PM
136	Butler	9/9/2025 6:03 PM
137	Grand street	9/9/2025 11:13 AM
138	Singapore	9/9/2025 10:12 AM
139	Ridgeview Ln	9/8/2025 9:03 PM
140	BSH	9/8/2025 8:22 PM
141	Spear	9/8/2025 3:09 PM
142	Griffith st	9/8/2025 2:55 PM
143	Dunegrass Circle Drive	9/8/2025 12:58 PM
144	Spear	9/8/2025 11:01 AM
145	Lake	9/8/2025 10:21 AM

146	Butler	9/8/2025 9:39 AM
147	Manchester	9/8/2025 8:36 AM
148	Grand Street	9/8/2025 8:26 AM
149	Nothing like trying to figure out who is taking the survey! Shady!	9/7/2025 8:54 PM
150	Not required	9/7/2025 8:40 PM
151	Mary	9/7/2025 8:21 PM
152	Griffith	9/7/2025 5:30 PM
153	Park St.	9/7/2025 2:03 PM
154	Lake street	9/7/2025 11:31 AM
155	Mary St	9/7/2025 8:27 AM
156	Heron bay	9/6/2025 8:05 PM
157	Lucy	9/6/2025 6:21 PM
158	Mary Street	9/6/2025 4:45 PM
159	Perryman St	9/6/2025 3:27 PM
160	Park	9/6/2025 2:40 PM
161	Elizabeth	9/6/2025 2:24 PM
162	Grand	9/6/2025 12:20 PM
163	Grand St	9/6/2025 12:19 PM
164	Grand st	9/6/2025 12:06 PM
165	Lake St	9/6/2025 8:08 AM
166	Lucy street	9/5/2025 11:25 PM
167	Lucy st	9/5/2025 10:12 PM
168	Park Street	9/5/2025 9:52 PM
169	Sugar Hill Ct.	9/5/2025 9:44 PM
170	Grand	9/5/2025 9:39 PM
171	Mason	9/5/2025 9:32 PM
172	Water	9/5/2025 9:03 PM
173	Singapore Dr.	9/5/2025 8:23 PM
174	Lake Street	9/5/2025 8:17 PM
175	Griffith	9/5/2025 7:55 PM
176	Lucy Street	9/5/2025 5:53 PM
177	Lucy	9/5/2025 4:50 PM
178	Elizabeth	9/5/2025 4:43 PM
179	Lucy	9/5/2025 4:41 PM
180	lake Street	9/5/2025 2:39 PM
181	Grand	9/5/2025 1:21 PM
182	Elizabeth	9/5/2025 11:42 AM
183	Griffith	9/5/2025 10:12 AM

184	Griffith street	9/5/2025 10:06 AM
185	66th and 128th	9/5/2025 8:53 AM
186	64th	9/5/2025 8:20 AM
187	Otis Road	9/5/2025 8:06 AM
188	Allegan St	9/5/2025 8:01 AM
189	Perryman	9/3/2025 6:27 PM
190	Weirich Dr	9/3/2025 1:07 PM
191	Allegan Street	9/3/2025 10:31 AM
192	Allegan st	9/3/2025 10:28 AM
193	mason	9/2/2025 10:15 AM
194	Lake	8/31/2025 5:34 PM
195	N/A	8/30/2025 7:04 PM
196	Allegan St	8/30/2025 4:25 PM
197	Wierich	8/30/2025 4:03 PM
198	Mason	8/30/2025 3:37 PM
199	Allegan St	8/30/2025 12:41 PM
200	Park	8/30/2025 10:32 AM
201	Griffith street	8/30/2025 8:22 AM
202	Butler	8/30/2025 8:03 AM
203	Dunegrass Circle Drive	8/30/2025 7:34 AM
204	Griffith	8/30/2025 7:28 AM
205	Ridgeview Lane	8/30/2025 6:42 AM
206	Pleasant Street	8/30/2025 6:01 AM
207	Mason	8/29/2025 7:52 PM
208	Lake Street	8/29/2025 6:50 PM
209	Holland	8/29/2025 6:10 PM
210	Griffith	8/29/2025 5:46 PM
211	Lake Street	8/29/2025 5:34 PM
212	Shashaguay	8/29/2025 5:19 PM
213	Lake Street	8/29/2025 5:00 PM
214	Grant	8/29/2025 4:45 PM

Q11 If a full-time or part-time resident of the City of Saugatuck, how long have you lived here?

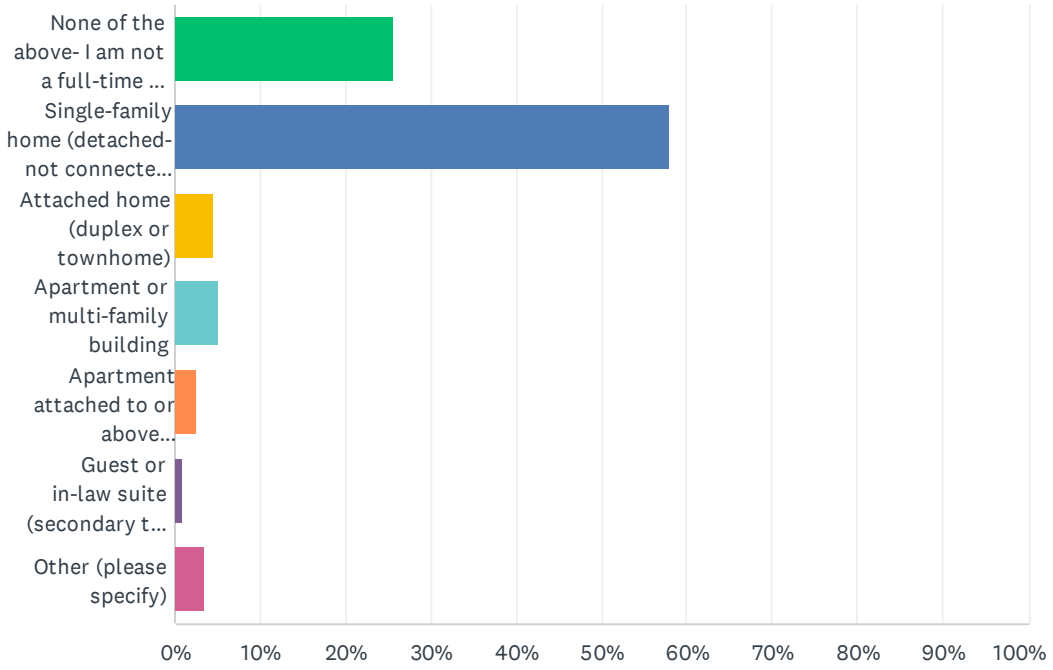
Answered: 320 Skipped: 66



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
None of the above- I am not a full-time or part-time resident of the City of Saugatuck.	25.31%	81
0-2 years	7.81%	25
3-5 years	11.25%	36
6-10 years	17.50%	56
11-20 years	13.75%	44
Over 20 years	24.38%	78
TOTAL		320

Q12 If a full-time or part-time resident of the City of Saugatuck, describe your home.

Answered: 317 Skipped: 69



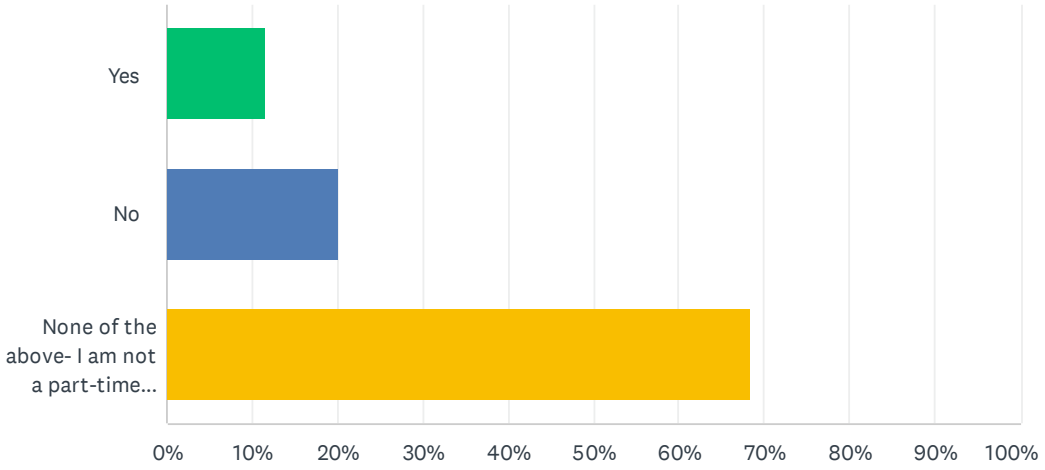
ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
None of the above- I am not a full-time or part-time resident of the City of Saugatuck.	25.55%	81
Single-family home (detached- not connected to any other unit)	58.04%	184
Attached home (duplex or townhome)	4.42%	14
Apartment or multi-family building	5.05%	16
Apartment attached to or above commercial space	2.52%	8
Guest or in-law suite (secondary to a main home on the lot)	0.95%	3
Other (please specify)	3.47%	11
TOTAL		317

#	OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	DATE
1	Condo above businessez	9/30/2025 5:41 AM
2	Condo	9/29/2025 2:47 PM
3	Condo	9/29/2025 9:50 AM
4	Again, why?	9/25/2025 3:46 PM
5	Condo	9/19/2025 11:02 AM
6	Boat and Rental home	9/13/2025 3:59 PM

7	Single family home in Ottawa County for 25 years.	9/6/2025 12:32 AM
8	Condo	8/30/2025 8:22 AM
9	bed and breakfast	8/30/2025 8:03 AM
10	Condo above commercial space	8/30/2025 7:28 AM
11	condo attached to commercial	8/30/2025 7:20 AM

Q13 If part-time resident, do you plan to become a full-time resident of the City of Saugatuck?

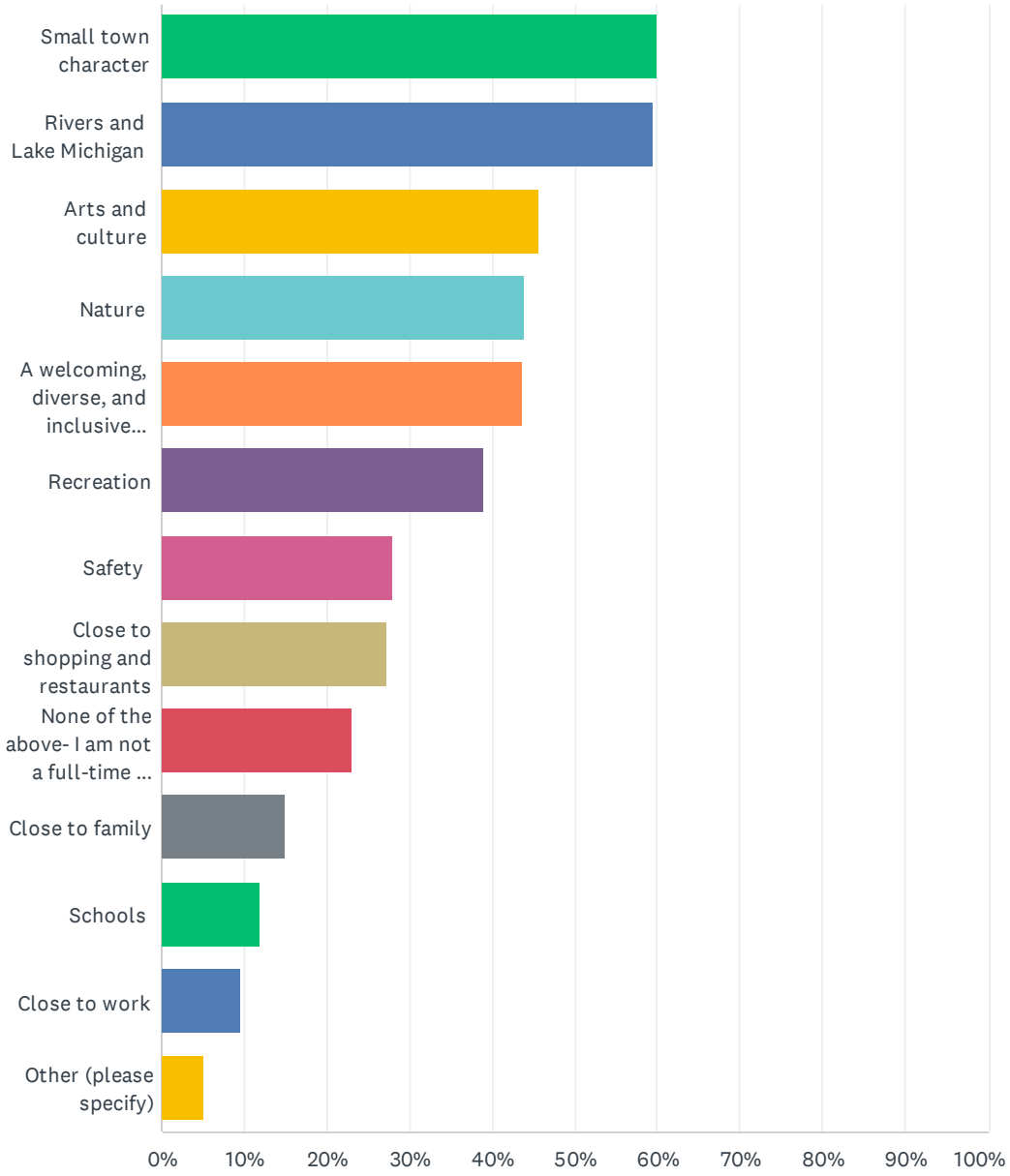
Answered: 279 Skipped: 107



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	11.47%	32
No	20.07%	56
None of the above- I am not a part-time resident of the City of Saugatuck.	68.46%	191
TOTAL		279

Q14 If a full-time or part-time resident of the City of Saugatuck, what are your primary reasons for living here? Choose as many reasons as you wish.

Answered: 316 Skipped: 70

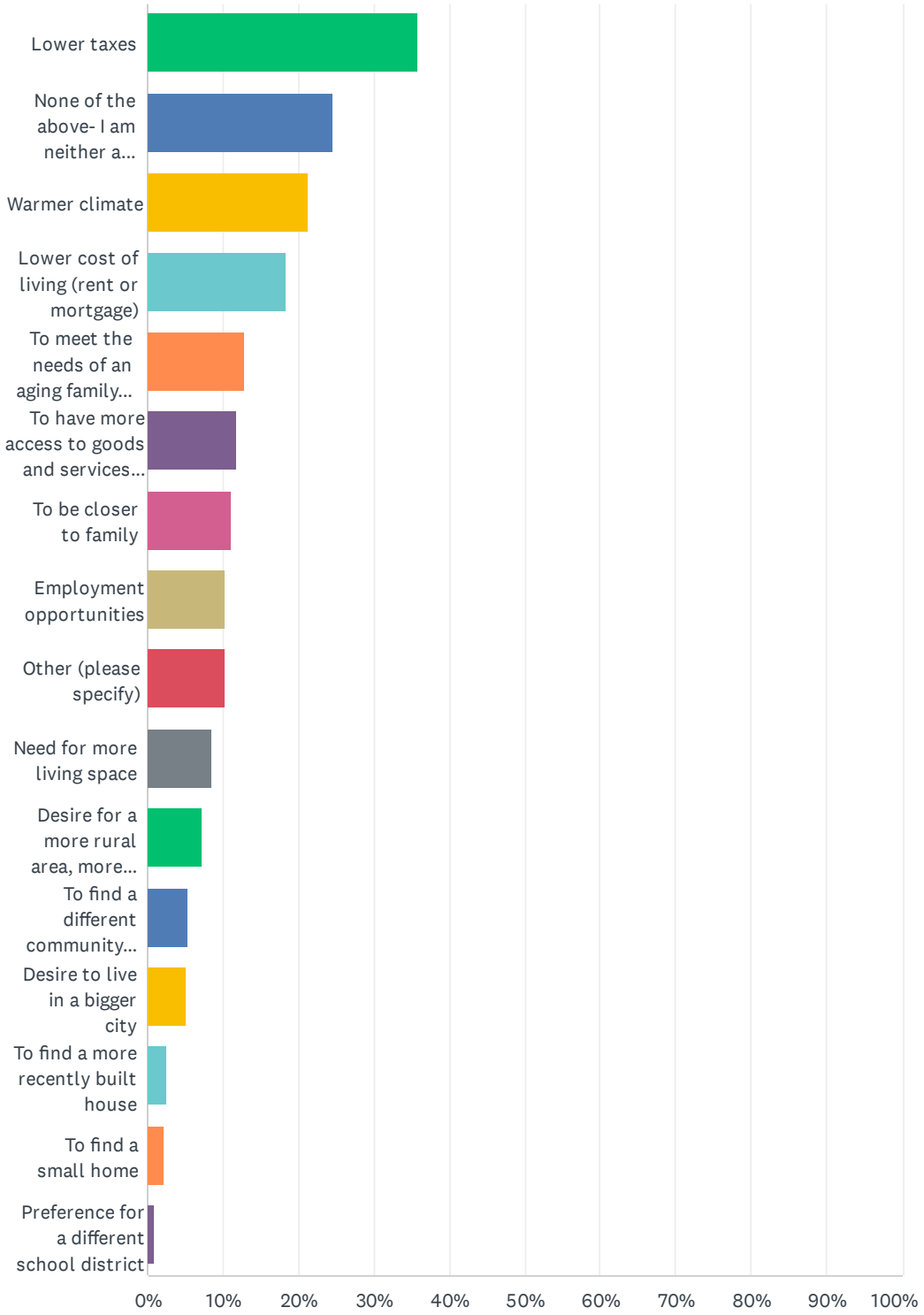


ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Small town character	59.81%	189
Rivers and Lake Michigan	59.49%	188
Arts and culture	45.57%	144
Nature	43.99%	139
A welcoming, diverse, and inclusive community	43.67%	138
Recreation	38.92%	123
Safety	27.85%	88
Close to shopping and restaurants	27.22%	86
None of the above- I am not a full-time or part-time resident of the City of Saugatuck.	23.10%	73
Close to family	14.87%	47
Schools	12.03%	38
Close to work	9.49%	30
Other (please specify)	5.06%	16
Total Respondents: 316		

#	OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	DATE
1	Married owner of home	10/6/2025 2:27 PM
2	boating	9/29/2025 2:47 PM
3	Grandparents settled here early 1900’s	9/28/2025 8:46 AM
4	grew up here, no reason to move	9/23/2025 3:47 PM
5	The vibrant summers that vacationers bring to the city	9/23/2025 9:04 AM
6	The excitement that the summer visitors add to the vibrancy to the business/restaurantses	9/15/2025 9:31 PM
7	Thriving lively town due to the opportunity our tourism industry provides.	9/8/2025 9:03 PM
8	Loved the simplicity of a small town. Everyone want s to change it to where they came from	9/8/2025 8:22 PM
9	I’d like to say it was a welcoming community, but not if you live in Dunegrass	9/8/2025 12:58 PM
10	Weather- climate	9/6/2025 4:45 PM
11	Family tradition	9/5/2025 11:42 AM
12	Family history	9/5/2025 10:12 AM
13	Family history	9/5/2025 10:06 AM
14	It’s not Illinois	9/5/2025 8:20 AM
15	it used to be all those things now they don't exist!!!	8/30/2025 8:03 AM
16	Lgbt+ acceptance	8/29/2025 5:19 PM

Q15 If you are a full-time or part-time resident of the City of Saugatuck, and you were to move elsewhere, what would be the main reasons? Choose as many reasons as you wish.

Answered: 315 Skipped: 71



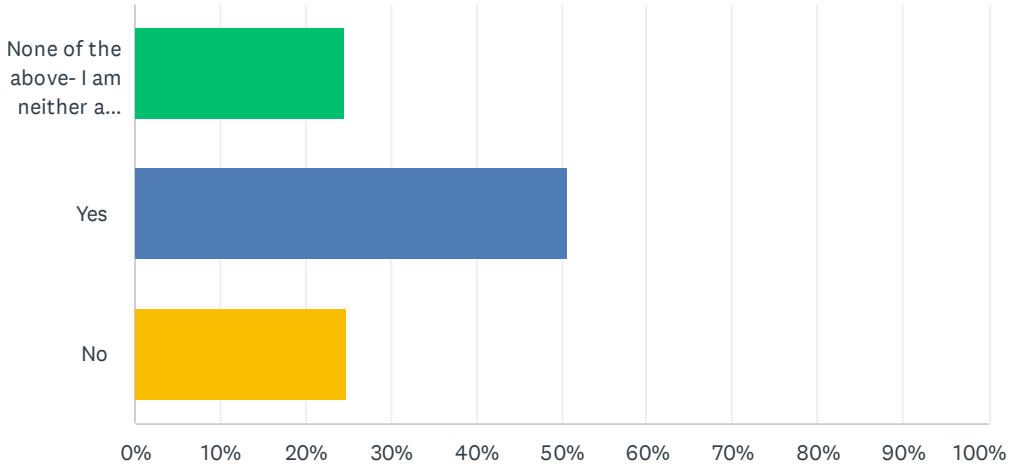
ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Lower taxes	35.87%	113
None of the above- I am neither a full-time nor a part-time resident of the City of Saugatuck.	24.44%	77
Warmer climate	21.27%	67
Lower cost of living (rent or mortgage)	18.41%	58
To meet the needs of an aging family (single-story, senior living, or condominium development)	12.70%	40
To have more access to goods and services (retail, services, healthcare, etc.)	11.75%	37
To be closer to family	11.11%	35
Employment opportunities	10.16%	32
Other (please specify)	10.16%	32
Need for more living space	8.57%	27
Desire for a more rural area, more property	7.30%	23
To find a different community character	5.40%	17
Desire to live in a bigger city	5.08%	16
To find a more recently built house	2.54%	8
To find a small home	2.22%	7
Preference for a different school district	0.95%	3
Total Respondents: 315		

#	OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	DATE
1	Better representation of the people by the local government.	10/3/2025 9:52 PM
2	Death	10/3/2025 1:04 PM
3	If the ban on short-term rentals is rescinded, I would move	10/1/2025 8:10 PM
4	too may short-term rentals, which have eroded sense of community	10/1/2025 2:52 PM
5	Only want to live in Saugatuck	9/30/2025 7:38 PM
6	I have no intent of moving at this time, and it wouldn't be for any of the reasons indicated above.	9/30/2025 2:20 PM
7	Find another place since Saugatuck now wants to be a suburb of the Bigger cities	9/30/2025 1:28 PM
8	Buy some land	9/28/2025 8:46 AM
9	I do not want to move from Saugatuck	9/27/2025 2:00 PM
10	Smaller home and where it is possible to be anonymous	9/27/2025 1:01 PM
11	More to do in the off season	9/26/2025 4:37 PM
12	To find a City management that was more responsive to RESIDENTS needs.	9/26/2025 1:14 PM
13	Access to major airport	9/26/2025 1:08 PM
14	Better food, younger population, more open minded population re: change	9/26/2025 12:05 PM
15	Sell home	9/26/2025 12:03 PM
16	Quieter location with less traffic and tourists	9/25/2025 7:14 PM

17	Desire to live in a more diverse culture	9/25/2025 3:54 PM
18	I have no plans to move - Saugatuck is awesome and we need to keep it a diverse and welcoming community	9/24/2025 8:31 AM
19	To live in community with more permanent residents	9/23/2025 8:13 PM
20	The fading of the small town community feel and dissolving if the neighborhoods with too many rentals.	9/22/2025 10:37 AM
21	Taxes are way to high	9/20/2025 11:45 AM
22	My family was one of the original founders of Saugatuck in 1835 — in fact I am the longest residing citizen of Saugatuck- sadly I probably have to sell because of the sky. High taxes and you make it almost impossible for me to rent my house out just to pay the taxes	9/20/2025 11:18 AM
23	Too many tourists and too many aspects of nature disappearing due to mansion being built	9/17/2025 3:14 PM
24	I don’t plan on moving, but I would like to lower my taxes and or a fenced yard for our dog	9/15/2025 10:45 AM
25	To escape over-saturation of short-term rentals in the residential districts	9/10/2025 3:01 PM
26	Small quaint community	9/8/2025 8:22 PM
27	None of the above, even have plots here.	9/8/2025 8:14 PM
28	Because I can not skip this question	9/7/2025 8:40 PM
29	If tourism ruins the town	9/6/2025 4:45 PM
30	Not have to deal with the City Council, over stepping boundaries enforcing STR caps	8/30/2025 12:41 PM
31	want a can do city not a city that is negative toward its citizens	8/30/2025 8:03 AM
32	Not planning to move💁‍♀️	8/29/2025 5:46 PM

Q16 If you are a full-time or part-time resident of the City of Saugatuck, and if you were to move, would you desire to remain a resident of the tri-communities area (Saugatuck, Douglas, or Saugatuck Township)?

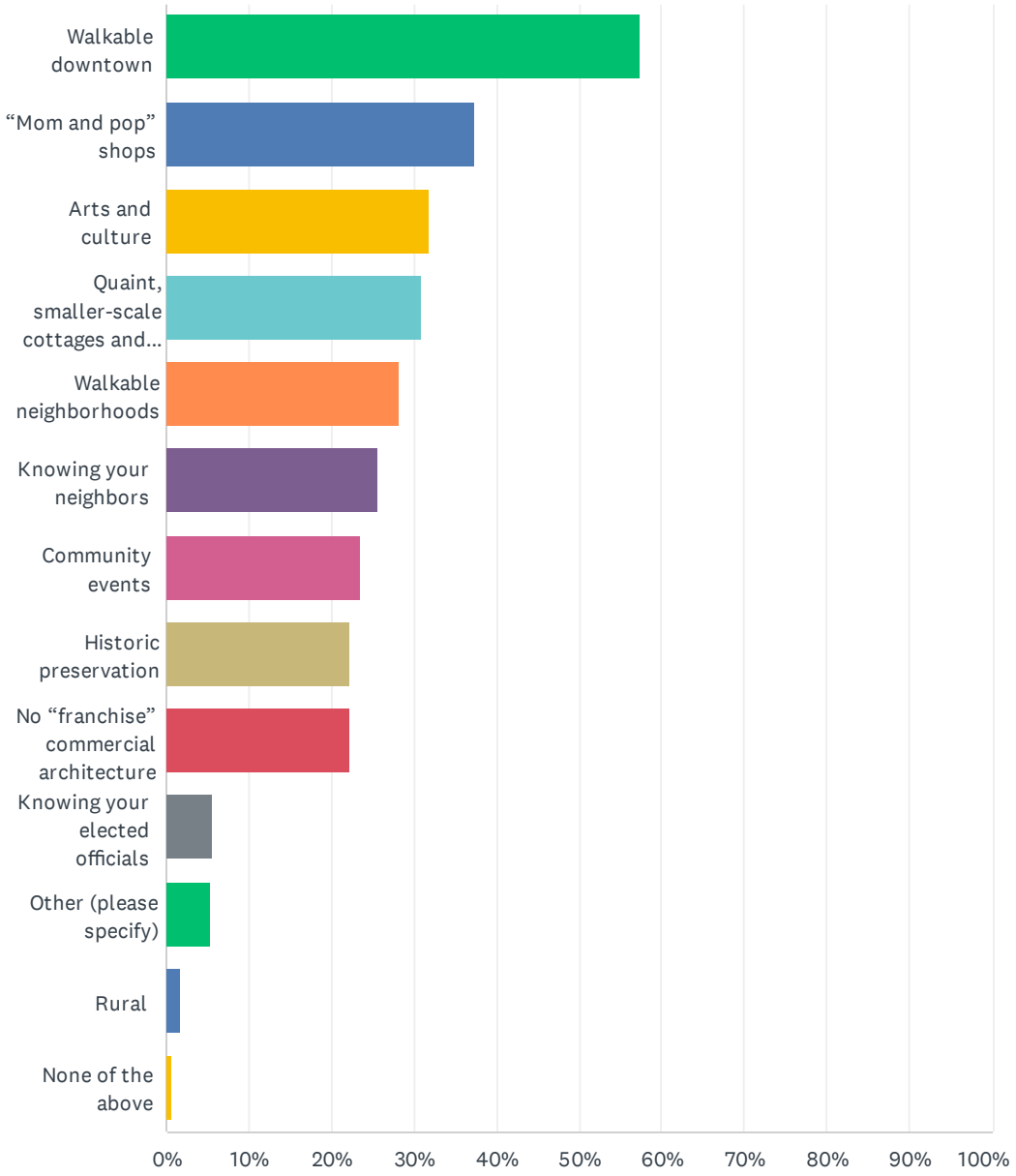
Answered: 315 Skipped: 71



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
None of the above- I am neither a full-time nor a part-time resident of the City of Saugatuck.	24.44%	77
Yes	50.79%	160
No	24.76%	78
TOTAL		315

Q17 How would you best define small-town community character? (choose no more than 3- the survey will not move forward if more than 3 are selected)

Answered: 337 Skipped: 49



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Walkable downtown	57.27%	193
“Mom and pop” shops	37.39%	126
Arts and culture	31.75%	107
Quaint, smaller-scale cottages and homes	30.86%	104
Walkable neighborhoods	28.19%	95
Knowing your neighbors	25.52%	86
Community events	23.44%	79
Historic preservation	22.26%	75
No “franchise” commercial architecture	22.26%	75
Knowing your elected officials	5.64%	19
Other (please specify)	5.34%	18
Rural	1.78%	6
None of the above	0.59%	2
Total Respondents: 337		

#	OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	DATE
1	at one time	10/6/2025 2:29 PM
2	Friendlier prople	9/30/2025 1:29 PM
3	This questionaire should allow more than three here: Quaint/smaller scale; Arts and Culture/walkable neighborhoods/walkable downtown/walkable riverfront and boardwalk/mom and pop shops/historic preservation/	9/29/2025 8:19 PM
4	No franchise, mass housing areas	9/29/2025 6:06 PM
5	Great restaurants	9/29/2025 9:53 AM
6	Touristy	9/26/2025 4:38 PM
7	Government focused on the residents.	9/26/2025 1:16 PM
8	in-town festivals, music, etc.	9/23/2025 9:05 AM
9	Protect green spaces	9/22/2025 11:22 AM
10	Being able to know community members and to be able to support one another and make an impact on the community	9/22/2025 10:39 AM
11	My wife and I aren’t part of the lgbtq community but we so appreciate the inclusion of everyone!! I think that makes us a happy and sharing community . I would say getting to know your neighbors, but with the many STRs , the neighbors change weekly or the house is mty most of the year.	9/15/2025 10:52 AM
12	a sense of community	9/10/2025 3:04 PM
13	the ability to run and make your business thrive without interference	9/9/2025 2:12 PM
14	Year round citizens	9/9/2025 10:53 AM
15	ALL THE ABOVE!!!. STRs have changed our neighboring character	9/8/2025 8:27 PM
16	surprisingly sophisticated	9/6/2025 7:30 AM

17	NO TRIBALISM	9/5/2025 8:34 AM
18	city government is negative towards citizens atmosphere has changed	8/30/2025 8:06 AM

Q18 How else would you define small-town community character as it relates to the City of Saugatuck?

Answered: 192 Skipped: 194

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	Small size of the residential area.	10/6/2025 8:55 PM
2	Small town is no longer its dog eats dog. (The City Hall)	10/6/2025 2:29 PM
3	The People	10/5/2025 12:14 PM
4	Knowing your neighbors, no franchise	10/4/2025 6:43 PM
5	Small town community is where people live year-round and work in and spend time in their communities. They raise families and send their kids to the local schools. Neighbors know each other and support each other instead of tear each other down	10/4/2025 3:37 PM
6	In transition	10/4/2025 7:38 AM
7	Our town looks like it does because of our Wonderful public city workers (DPW) We visited Glen Arbor town this year and it made us realize how clean, pretty, we'll keep…Saugatuck is 🤩Thank You all	10/3/2025 4:35 PM
8	Diverse welcoming environments	10/3/2025 2:52 PM
9	Effective government that does not waste taxpayer funds.	10/3/2025 2:32 PM
10	The downtown water view and the tourism that generates the dollars that pay for our cities budget	10/3/2025 1:10 PM
11	Having neighbors that can be considered family.	10/3/2025 11:56 AM
12	Governing the whole by a minority electorate.	10/3/2025 10:10 AM
13	Charm	10/2/2025 7:24 PM
14	I love the small cottages in the downtown area. I'm quite disappointed in the demolition the small cottages for large modern homes that have been built in there place. One they don't fit the properties around it and two they lack charm. One would think if the cities wants to regulate short term rentals, one would not allow massive holms to be built. I love the mom and pop shops, locally owned restaurants. I wish we would of spent our time and money fixing up the Mt. bold head area instead of the old airport property. We have so many needs in the downtown area, that I feel the air port property ended up being a drain on resource and man power needed downtown. The side walks are a hazard, as in my daughter tripped fell, skinned up her knee, hands and broke the screen on her iPhone. So many people fall on the side walks, its crazy. The gazebo needs to be painted in wicks park. The landscaping in the village green, rose garden and other parks is lacking. Could we not have lights to and from the high school parking lots, for the folks that park up there for work. I grew up by Clearbrook and know Saugatuck's a safe town, but lets face it the summer months brings all types of people and as a female it feels unsafe walking in the dark. I would also recommend making the side streets between Butler and Water (IE Mason, Hoffman, Mary, and Main) one way to allow slanted parking (like 8th street in Holland). I think you could double the parking on those streets.	10/2/2025 12:53 PM
15	Limited short term rentals, more family friendly, affordable housing & restaurants	10/2/2025 11:13 AM
16	Where the government is cooperative with citizens. Friendly and helpful.	10/2/2025 11:11 AM
17	Friendly. All inclusive	10/2/2025 8:23 AM
18	Knowing your neighbors, arts and culture, community events	10/1/2025 10:52 PM
19	Elected officials that represent the residents and listen to their concerns. Businesses are important but second to residents.	10/1/2025 8:13 PM

20	Friendly	10/1/2025 8:10 PM
21	Neighbors and neighborhoods.	10/1/2025 3:39 PM
22	The over-abundance of STRs has eroded our character and sense of neighborhood. I hope we can get it back.	10/1/2025 2:52 PM
23	Safe, Inclusive and unique	10/1/2025 2:25 PM
24	Quiet and relaxed.	10/1/2025 8:47 AM
25	Architectural style is the functional art that defines a community by its visual impact. Multistory, modern architecture contradicts the historic styles that define Saugatuck, and detract from the historic ambiance. Other communities have successfully enforced new construction to closely resemble historical architecture. This maintains the character of the community.	10/1/2025 8:09 AM
26	Diverse with community events and good commerce.	10/1/2025 8:08 AM
27	Great place to raise a family	9/30/2025 7:41 PM
28	Knowing your neighbors.	9/30/2025 7:36 PM
29	Wonderful small businesses.	9/30/2025 6:10 PM
30	Riverfront ambience	9/30/2025 5:13 PM
31	Safe. Friendly. Quirky. Beautiful.	9/30/2025 4:23 PM
32	Welcoming, friendly people and neighbors. Clean streets and decorated store fronts. One of a kind restaurants locally owned. Parks and play areas for kids. Slow living, farmers markets, strangers into neighbors.	9/30/2025 12:02 PM
33	Helpful city employees, non-chain restaurants, opportunities to be involved	9/30/2025 11:15 AM
34	Friendly people and a place where diversity of character is accepted.	9/30/2025 7:30 AM
35	Waterfront boardwalk walkable thru town, no franchises, waterfront views without waterways built up with tall buildings. Walkable town	9/30/2025 5:43 AM
36	Neighbors I enjoy	9/29/2025 11:43 PM
37	Friendly	9/29/2025 8:19 PM
38	all of the above, especially knowing so many neighbors in residential areas and knowing our officials,older homes on lots of land with open spaces not mega mansions, historic preservation,where residents and their needs are prioritized over business and development and tax base	9/29/2025 8:17 PM
39	Beautiful, friendly, safe and not large. People come to Saugatuck for the special place it is.	9/29/2025 6:06 PM
40	Quiet place. Locally owned and operated.	9/29/2025 4:21 PM
41	Quaint, walkable downtown; knowing your neighbors; caring for your neighbors; homes that reflect small-town character and not just mansions. Preserving history is so important.	9/29/2025 3:00 PM
42	Small-town communities are not overrun by entitled visitors.	9/29/2025 2:50 PM
43	open-mindedness, respect for neighbors	9/29/2025 2:45 PM
44	Walkable bikable safe connection points between Saugatuck and Douglas	9/29/2025 2:45 PM
45	Natural surroundings	9/29/2025 11:31 AM
46	Great boating community. Nice stores and restaurants. Fabulous Oval Beach	9/29/2025 9:53 AM
47	Friendly	9/29/2025 8:25 AM
48	Friendly safe neighborhoods, family parks, safe areas to walk	9/29/2025 7:35 AM
49	The water/beach convenience is everything.	9/28/2025 8:14 PM
50	Quaint, fun, unique, community programs,	9/28/2025 3:30 PM

51	Used to be community now it’s community devided	9/28/2025 12:41 PM
52	Quaint, beautiful walkable town. Great shops, bars and restaurants. Beautiful area.	9/28/2025 8:48 AM
53	Small town scale, friendly, charming, inclusive and open to diversity on all levels, historic, community events and shopping and dining and arts and culture that draw tourists, nature with the dunes, the lakes, the trails, philanthropic opportunities to help those in need in our community, easy to get to know your neighbors and connect with visitors.	9/27/2025 2:08 PM
54	a shared sense of respect for historic and environmental preservation, engagement in community life for the common good	9/27/2025 1:07 PM
55	charm of the people yet the majority of city council seems to be divisive in working against the people in policy and administration.	9/27/2025 12:37 PM
56	Good small town Saturday Radio show, Morning Grind	9/27/2025 10:12 AM
57	Welcoming to visitors from near and far! People who take pride in their City High quality experiences (bars, restaurants shops etc)	9/27/2025 9:14 AM
58	Seasonal touristy. Shut down and empty in the winter.	9/26/2025 4:38 PM
59	Being welcomed and treated well by city employees ad elected officials	9/26/2025 2:57 PM
60	Lacking in it's attention to residents, too focused on tourists and tourist related business.	9/26/2025 1:16 PM
61	devicive politics that is unchecked	9/26/2025 12:50 PM
62	I believe the City of Saugatuck has lost its "small town" character based on the lack of residents. The tri-community areas provides access to a small town life, but the lack of amenities for locals off season, the aging population and negativity that the community shows against any change has all but killed the small-town community feel.	9/26/2025 12:08 PM
63	Well maintained, year round options for eating out, welcoming, caring, recreation focused	9/26/2025 12:02 PM
64	Love tourists and visitors!	9/26/2025 4:17 AM
65	Friendly and welcoming community.	9/25/2025 11:07 PM
66	Nice shops. Good restaurants. Unfortunately, unfriendly to outsiders.	9/25/2025 8:17 PM
67	Quirky events	9/25/2025 7:16 PM
68	Friendly and know the people..	9/25/2025 5:03 PM
69	Friendly and Welcoming	9/25/2025 4:30 PM
70	The wonderful public school community	9/25/2025 3:56 PM
71	Local politics are an embarrassment, especially the mayor. So small town!	9/25/2025 3:48 PM
72	Helping our neighbors and businesses in times of need.	9/24/2025 11:11 AM
73	Welcoming community that seeks to support our local businesses and community. Having the SCA is a key part of our community hub.	9/24/2025 8:33 AM
74	Charming cityscapes	9/24/2025 7:21 AM
75	Friendly atmosphere	9/23/2025 8:15 PM
76	Friendly city council which is currently lacking	9/23/2025 1:20 PM
77	having a quality school that the community supports and is involved with	9/23/2025 12:10 PM
78	Quaint, Artsy, good restaurants. Citizen's desire to preserve Saugatuck the way it is. Sense of strong community.	9/22/2025 9:16 PM
79	Great independent shops and restaurants.	9/22/2025 8:08 PM
80	Quaint, friendly, clean and well kept, locally/regionally owned businesses.	9/22/2025 6:48 PM
81	Waterfront / shopping / friendly	9/22/2025 3:50 PM
82	A safe, quaint, and entertaining destination	9/22/2025 3:48 PM

83	Lots of community involvement and volunteerism	9/22/2025 2:39 PM
84	Knowing your neighbors	9/21/2025 4:42 PM
85	A quaint and friendly Hallmark town	9/21/2025 2:57 PM
86	NA	9/21/2025 9:48 AM
87	No strip malls , quaint buildings , small population ,safe , quiet	9/20/2025 6:59 PM
88	The rich are taking over Saugatuck and long time residents are being forced out by high taxes	9/20/2025 11:19 AM
89	Fire department is on a power trip and way over reaching	9/20/2025 8:04 AM
90	Rude fire department	9/19/2025 7:13 PM
91	Charming beautiful needs infrastructure investment	9/19/2025 4:33 PM
92	Keeping the focus on nature, healthy living (walkable community, social focus) not turning it into just a town where tourists look for ice cream and cheap tshirts	9/18/2025 5:34 PM
93	Less traffic, fewer AirBnBs	9/17/2025 3:16 PM
94	Friendly except for Fire Chief	9/17/2025 1:21 PM
95	Vibrant community of independent businesses where you get to know the shop owners. But a city with a toxic underbelly of personal agendas by certain council members and only serving one aspect of this community, and that group's agenda vs the goals of the population majority of the town	9/15/2025 9:36 PM
96	no franchise or large buildings blocking the waterfront, environment and oreserving greenspace is a priority- otherwise we become like everywhere else with concrete aesthetics	9/15/2025 9:10 AM
97	a culture of being welcoming to all, kind + respectful	9/14/2025 10:57 PM
98	Fewer tourists	9/14/2025 5:15 PM
99	Friendly Leaders setting an example of warm and inviting community	9/14/2025 5:11 PM
100	A beautiful, well kept lake-side community with a vibrant local business community built on a tourism based economy.	9/13/2025 4:55 PM
101	Vibrant town that relies on tourism to provide the cultural and business opportunities which the city is know for.	9/13/2025 4:03 PM
102	Pride in the community thru its public spaces, art events, and support of local business.	9/11/2025 12:43 PM
103	Saugatuck's small-town character is defined by its deep sense of community, an enduring value of tradition, the beauty and accessibility of the natural and built environment, and the spirit of self-reliance and participation that binds its residents together. Our character is marked by familiarity, mutual support, and a shared history, where safety, inclusion, and adaptability are prized.	9/11/2025 12:23 PM
104	-Lack of fast food restaurants, big box retailers, and other chain businesses that look the same in every community across America. -Concern for retaining the architectural integrity and character of historic buildings. -Support for community institutions that underpin civic life such as the many churches in town, Saugatuck Women's Club, Saugatuck Arts Center, etc. -Facilitation of community parades, art fairs, block parties, etc. using public spaces.	9/11/2025 11:02 AM
105	Sense of community pride - inclusiveness - knowing and caring about one's neighbors - small town community feel	9/10/2025 5:21 PM
106	Arts and Culture LGBTQ+ Friendly	9/10/2025 4:37 PM
107	A community of full-time residents who work together for the betterment of area.	9/10/2025 3:04 PM
108	A place trying to grow with a modern and younger generation but struggling to let go of the old boys network that still has its hooks in.	9/10/2025 12:40 PM
109	knowing my neighbors and others in the community	9/10/2025 11:38 AM
110	Interesting history; a good variety of restaurants; safe to walk around any time of day or night; parades!	9/9/2025 9:41 PM

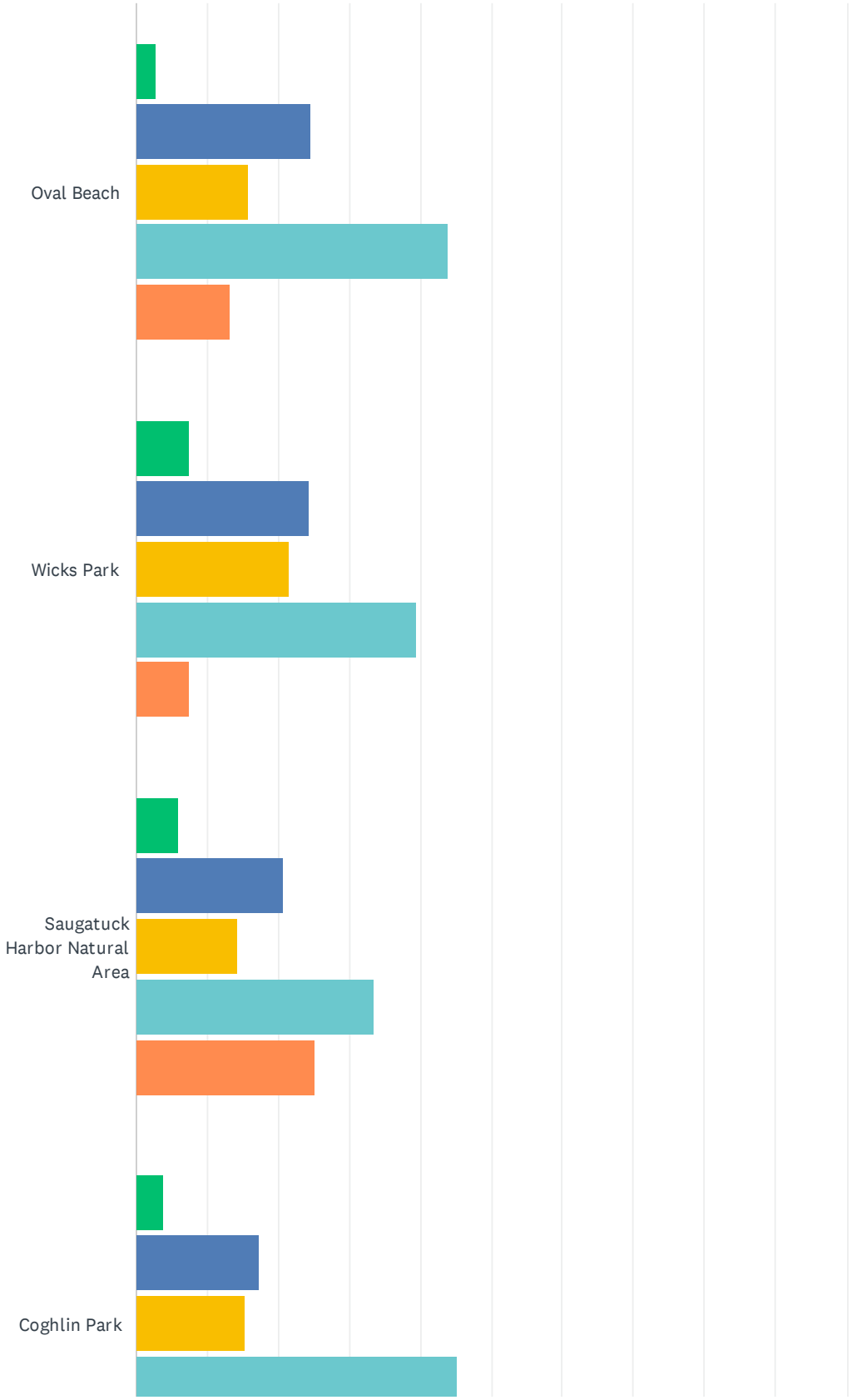
111	Comfortable	9/9/2025 6:05 PM
112	Cleanliness	9/9/2025 2:01 PM
113	Small full time population	9/9/2025 12:36 PM
114	Friendly	9/9/2025 10:13 AM
115	Responsive government.	9/9/2025 10:04 AM
116	A wonderful community filled with thriving businesses and restaurants that can afford to stay open year round due to our thriving tourist economy	9/8/2025 9:05 PM
117	In the 60-70-80s. We've always had a parking issue And people still come by the boat loads.	9/8/2025 8:27 PM
118	Michiganders at there best.	9/8/2025 8:16 PM
119	I could only pick 3. But many of the others would be on my list	9/8/2025 3:12 PM
120	Knowing neighbors. Quaintness	9/8/2025 2:56 PM
121	Support and resources for our children, elderly and at-risk communities.	9/8/2025 1:44 PM
122	IDK	9/8/2025 12:58 PM
123	It is losing its small town character.	9/8/2025 11:04 AM
124	A sense of community-	9/8/2025 10:22 AM
125	When I think about Saugatuck's small-town character, it's more than just our size—it's the way this place feels. You see it in the walkable streets and the scale of our buildings, but also in the way people stop to talk, look out for each other, and come together for events like the Venetian Festival, art fairs, and parades. That sense of connection is what gives Saugatuck its heart, and it's something worth protecting. What also makes us unique is the balance we've built. We honor our history as an artists' colony while still welcoming the tourism that helps sustain us, and we do so without losing the businesses, schools, and organizations that matter most to year-round residents. Just as importantly, our identity is tied to being a welcoming community—one that openly supports and celebrates the LGBTQ community. That spirit of inclusion is a big part of what makes Saugatuck feel like home for so many people, whether they've been here for generations or are just arriving. And, of course, our natural surroundings—the lake, the river, the dunes—aren't just scenery, they're part of who we are. To me, preserving Saugatuck's small-town character means holding onto all of that: our traditions, our inclusiveness, our environment, and our sense of belonging.	9/8/2025 9:27 AM
126	Neighborhoods that have not been taken over by short term rentals	9/8/2025 8:36 AM
127	Historic preservation and friendly people	9/8/2025 1:25 AM
128	Small non-chain shops, quaint older homes,	9/7/2025 9:40 PM
129	History is important	9/7/2025 8:42 PM
130	Cliques	9/7/2025 5:31 PM
131	knowing fellow residents	9/7/2025 2:05 PM
132	Engaged, well-educated residents volunteering to support local and national social issues.	9/7/2025 8:32 AM
133	creative, accepting, uniquely hospitality/retail driven port town	9/6/2025 11:55 PM
134	Small, friendly neighbors, exceptional arts and culture	9/6/2025 6:23 PM
135	Safe, quiet, polite, friendly	9/6/2025 4:46 PM
136	It's lost its small town character.	9/6/2025 2:41 PM
137	Welcoming. Varied opportunities. Eclectic shopping.	9/6/2025 2:35 PM
138	Quaint and clean; walkable neighborhoods in which people know their neighbors.	9/6/2025 2:25 PM
139	Charming with charater and its people are awesome	9/6/2025 12:21 PM
140	Great neighbors, good restaurants and stores. Lots of things to do in the community and	9/6/2025 12:20 PM

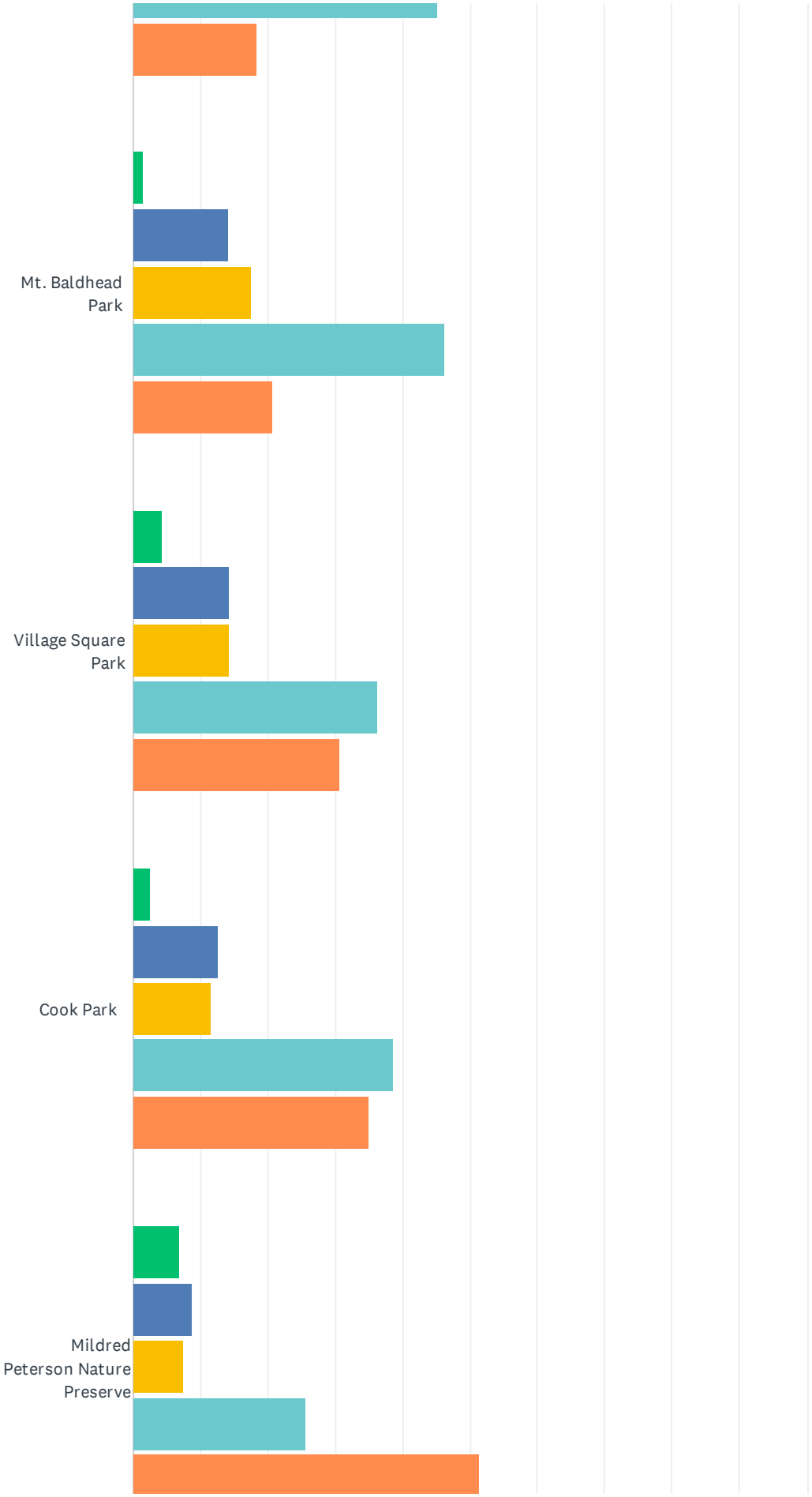
	amazing natural surroundings	
141	Close knit historic neighborhood with great community involvement, small business shops and inclusive cultural opportunities. Beautifully set in nature	9/6/2025 12:08 PM
142	Saugatuck in the winter is the reason we moved here. Not sure why you are categorizing the township people and not living here, but Saugatuck is our town. It was simple and happy, lots of green space and friendly people!! Everyone knows one another. Now... you much development. We are losing our charm. Sure it charming for the city people, but it's losing it for the rest of us. Had we wanted to live in an overdeveloped community like Holland or Grand Haven, we would have chosen that. Saugatuck was special.	9/6/2025 11:57 AM
143	Safe, charming, family oriented	9/6/2025 8:10 AM
144	It's charming but horribly expensive.	9/6/2025 7:30 AM
145	Beautiful waterfront, charming downtown, lots of fun art events and restaurants.	9/6/2025 12:34 AM
146	Greenspace/nature/wildlife	9/5/2025 10:41 PM
147	Charm	9/5/2025 9:54 PM
148	Tourism that welcomes guests. Remove the STR	9/5/2025 9:42 PM
149	Beachtown, riverwalk, harbor	9/5/2025 9:35 PM
150	Good sidewalks	9/5/2025 9:04 PM
151	The City of Saugatuck is the true Hamptons of the Midwest. Quaint, cool, fun, beautiful & a hidden (or not so hidden) gem! It thrives on tourist coming to the town	9/5/2025 8:58 PM
152	Community residents work together to achieve common goals . Small businesses supported by the local population. Some tourism, but more real life in town.	9/5/2025 8:39 PM
153	No big brands or businesses	9/5/2025 8:18 PM
154	Talented, intelligent, friendly residents	9/5/2025 5:57 PM
155	Community centered but visitor friendly and welcoming.	9/5/2025 5:54 PM
156	Charming and surrounded by natural beauty in every season	9/5/2025 4:44 PM
157	compact in area so it's easy to walk neighborhoods as well as downtown.	9/5/2025 2:01 PM
158	Stuffy and uptight in recent years . The younger generations are trying to take s village with old world charm and seasonal rentals galore, and make it a town of families. Move into the township and leave the hill and town areas for tourists which has been the focus for decades.	9/5/2025 11:46 AM
159	Warm with many art interest, shops and such	9/5/2025 10:58 AM
160	History	9/5/2025 10:07 AM
161	Everyone knows everyone	9/5/2025 9:30 AM
162	Traditions upheld	9/5/2025 9:23 AM
163	No large “party” venues, small intimate alcohol venues Family oriented Pet friendly Environmentally conscious	9/5/2025 8:56 AM
164	We’re all human beings, we’re all Americans. We rebuke tribalism. Everyone has the same rights, as specified in the Constitution/Bill of Rights. The local government ignores international bureaucratic demands that come at local expense.	9/5/2025 8:34 AM
165	LGBTQ inclusion	9/5/2025 8:27 AM
166	no large chain businesses, restricting vrbo's in residential areas, restricting knocking down older homes in residential areas; doing what is needed to allow local people who live & work in the area to still be able to afford to reside in the area	9/5/2025 8:13 AM
167	Acceptance	9/5/2025 8:07 AM
168	Charming neighborhoods, beautiful boardwalks, tree lined streets, historical buildings, waterfront dining	9/5/2025 8:03 AM

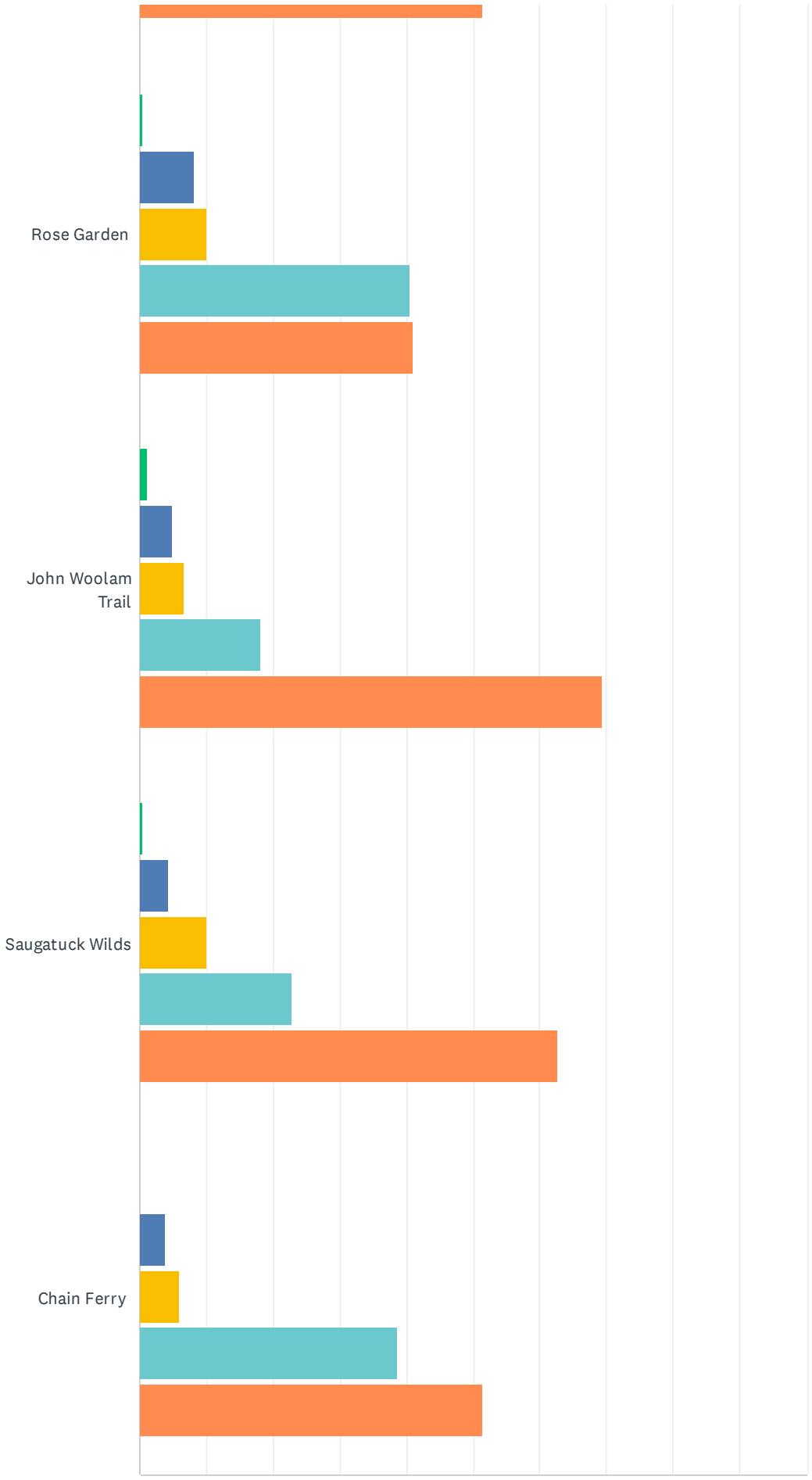
169	It is becoming a resort instead of a resort town	9/5/2025 7:39 AM
170	historic preservation in as much as possible; locally owned shops and restaurants, trees, water view, walkable	9/5/2025 7:27 AM
171	Safe	9/5/2025 7:19 AM
172	Community events	9/3/2025 6:28 PM
173	Charming historical town with a preserved beach. The chain ferry, the historical buildings (including Coral Gables and the Butler) the boardwalk, the gazebo at Wicks Park give it a small town unique feeling.	9/3/2025 10:34 AM
174	Arts and culture.	9/3/2025 10:32 AM
175	Accepting and inclusive	8/31/2025 5:36 PM
176	Solid art culture with a cute walkable downtown where you can eat, relax, shop, and enjoy the waterfront	8/31/2025 9:22 AM
177	Too expensive	8/30/2025 9:40 PM
178	Know the elected officials and see them participating in all events in town	8/30/2025 7:06 PM
179	Small town character plus the Lake Michigan benefit.	8/30/2025 3:38 PM
180	Getting rid of the bull shit city council currently in place.	8/30/2025 12:41 PM
181	city is not taking care of infrastructure and is not run by a council only four people!!!! manager refers decision making to other not really engaged.	8/30/2025 8:06 AM
182	unique, lake town, storybook, higher end,	8/30/2025 7:22 AM
183	Community engagement with local schools	8/30/2025 6:43 AM
184	Walkability	8/30/2025 6:03 AM
185	Losing its appeal, it has overgrown it's footprint and charm. No one lives here anymore and it is too busy	8/30/2025 4:53 AM
186	Friendly and small	8/29/2025 8:32 PM
187	kind, but with all the challenges of every other community in the country	8/29/2025 7:53 PM
188	Charming	8/29/2025 6:11 PM
189	Not “cookie cutter” architecture	8/29/2025 5:36 PM
190	Acceptance of everyone	8/29/2025 5:23 PM
191	Maintain the small, inviting, vibrant community nestled next to the Kalamazoo River and Lake Michigan. Invite visitors to the community, but support the full time residents and businesses. Advance the efforts to support the arts and a walkable, bicycle safety efforts of the communities (Douglas and the Township). Work with Douglas and the Township to create attainable housing to support businesses and others that desire to live here full-time.	8/29/2025 5:15 PM
192	Willingness to participate and make life better and more enjoyable.	8/29/2025 5:01 PM

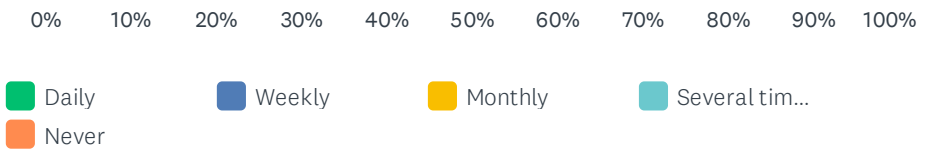
Q19 How frequently do you use the following parks?

Answered: 323 Skipped: 63




Mt. Baldhead Park
Village Square Park
Cook Park
Mildred Peterson Nature Preserve


Rose Garden
John Woolam Trail
Saugatuck Wilds
Chain Ferry



	DAILY	WEEKLY	MONTHLY	SEVERAL TIMES A YEAR	NEVER	TOTAL
Oval Beach	2.82% 9	24.45% 78	15.67% 50	43.89% 140	13.17% 42	319
Wicks Park	7.37% 23	24.36% 76	21.47% 67	39.42% 123	7.37% 23	312
Saugatuck Harbor Natural Area	6.07% 19	20.77% 65	14.38% 45	33.55% 105	25.24% 79	313
Coghlin Park	3.85% 12	17.31% 54	15.38% 48	45.19% 141	18.27% 57	312
Mt. Baldhead Park	1.59% 5	13.97% 44	17.46% 55	46.35% 146	20.63% 65	315
Village Square Park	4.25% 13	14.38% 44	14.38% 44	36.27% 111	30.72% 94	306
Cook Park	2.63% 8	12.50% 38	11.51% 35	38.49% 117	34.87% 106	304
Mildred Peterson Nature Preserve	6.80% 21	8.74% 27	7.44% 23	25.57% 79	51.46% 159	309
Rose Garden	0.32% 1	8.12% 25	10.06% 31	40.58% 125	40.91% 126	308
John Woolam Trail	0.99% 3	4.97% 15	6.62% 20	18.21% 55	69.21% 209	302
Saugatuck Wilds	0.33% 1	4.30% 13	9.93% 30	22.85% 69	62.58% 189	302
Chain Ferry	0.00% 0	3.83% 12	6.07% 19	38.66% 121	51.44% 161	313

#	OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	DATE
1	Interurban path	10/4/2025 7:43 AM
2	Can’t wait to go	10/3/2025 5:14 PM
3	You cannot depend on the chain ferry.	10/2/2025 12:57 PM
4	Saugatuck Dunes State Park	10/1/2025 10:58 PM
5	I walk along the docks from Willow Park to Coughlin Park on a nearly daily	9/30/2025 5:22 PM
6	I visit the County parks daily, saugatuck hastoo many tourists to enjoy the parks	9/30/2025 1:32 PM
7	Plan to go but it’s new	9/30/2025 11:17 AM
8	you left out the board walk, used weekly in summer season	9/29/2025 8:23 PM
9	The downtown boardwalk, from Coughlin Park all the way to Willow park at the north end of town; almost daily	9/29/2025 8:22 PM
10	Saugatuck Dunes State Park when oval is full or bringing my dog	9/29/2025 9:56 AM
11	Boardwalk downtown	9/28/2025 8:16 PM
12	I am not sure what you mean by "use" the areas. I live right on Lake Kalamazoo so I see	9/27/2025 2:31 PM

	many of the areas daily or weekly so I'm not sure what is meant by "use" the areas. Some I have not heard of like the John Woolam Trail, and what is considered the Saugatuck Harbor Natural Area and the Saugatuck Wilds? I don't go to Mt. Baldhead park often but I look at Mt. Baldhead every day from my home. I enjoy looking at the Rose Garden every time I am downtown. So if 'looking at" or enjoying their presence is "use" then I use a lot of them very often.	
13	waterways	9/27/2025 12:42 PM
14	I prefer shops and restaurants	9/25/2025 3:50 PM
15	Wick's park.	9/24/2025 8:35 AM
16	Love the parks	9/23/2025 8:16 PM
17	Not sure where the John Woolam Trail is located	9/11/2025 11:59 AM
18	Once. Hard to find.	9/9/2025 10:05 AM
19	Blue Star Highway Bike Lanes Blue Star Trail (existing completed segments) Mount Baldhead Staircase/Trail Riverfront Walkways/Boardwalk Pearl Street Park Regional Trail Connections (linking to Douglas, Holland, etc.)	9/8/2025 9:32 AM
20	Veterans Memorial Park 2x	9/6/2025 11:58 PM
21	Saugatuck State Park monthly	9/6/2025 4:48 PM
22	Saugatuck State Park	9/6/2025 2:36 PM
23	Use places, but not sure of names.	9/6/2025 12:37 AM
24	InterUrban Trail through the gulley.	9/5/2025 8:45 PM
25	Saugatuck Dunes State Park monthly	9/5/2025 2:06 PM
26	The river board walk daily	9/3/2025 10:37 AM
27	Docks/Boardwalk through the city.	8/30/2025 3:39 PM
28	Unfortunately not familiar with most of these areas	8/29/2025 5:17 PM

Q20 Considering the previous list of City parks, what improvements do you feel are necessary and where?

Answered: 167 Skipped: 219

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	Biger parking lot Oval Beach	10/6/2025 2:30 PM
2	Bathroom facilities at wicks park	10/4/2025 6:45 PM
3	Coughlin - maintain open space, maintain dinghy dock	10/4/2025 7:43 AM
4	More picnic tables in Wicks Park and Willow Park.	10/3/2025 9:56 PM
5	A lack of picnic tables exist at Willow Park.	10/3/2025 9:48 PM
6	Coughlin Park~Shopping Dock either change the sign or control the over night docking. Boats docked Almost every night. And not just 1. Last year a man docked for 2 1/2 months. Yes we called a lot 7years ago.	10/3/2025 5:14 PM
7	At least one additional public restroom	10/3/2025 2:54 PM
8	Stop wasting DPW time and money on parks located outside city limits.	10/3/2025 2:34 PM
9	Cook Park needs more activities	10/3/2025 1:14 PM
10	Upgrade of restroom facilities to make them ADA compatible.	10/3/2025 11:58 AM
11	Focus only on property within City limits.	10/3/2025 10:11 AM
12	Peterson nature preserve needs to have pond kept cleaner.	10/2/2025 7:27 PM
13	Staff the chain ferry on weekends in the fall. Plant trees on Mt. Baldhead. Paint the Gazebo in wicks park. Playground and bathroom in Coghlin park, add flowers to the Village Square park and fix all of the cracked uneven side walks.	10/2/2025 12:57 PM
14	Downtown sidewalks and infrastructure.	10/2/2025 11:17 AM
15	Wooden boardwalks seem old and questionably safe. The area behind Coral Gables is an eyesore	10/2/2025 11:16 AM
16	In the city Limits	10/2/2025 8:33 AM
17	Maintaining clean and safe facilities	10/2/2025 8:25 AM
18	bathrooms upgrades, Butler Street Bathroom is heavily used and needs to be upgraded and cleaned more often, it is kind of grose.. Wicks park bathroom upgrades and install bathrooms at Coghlin park area	10/1/2025 10:58 PM
19	Wicks Park restroom should be renovated - it reflects poorly on the quality of our city. The Village Square restroom has a broken hand dryer. Peterson Preserve is overlooked by city officials. It is a jewel within city limits. The infrastructure needs improvements. Invasive plants need to be removed.	10/1/2025 8:19 PM
20	More native plants and landscaping	10/1/2025 8:13 PM
21	Mt. Baldhead Park could use more attention. Happy to see the new restroom. Support the Radar Tower	10/1/2025 3:43 PM
22	Keep them as beautiful and well maintained as they are today	10/1/2025 2:52 PM
23	Shuffle board on the town square	10/1/2025 12:02 PM
24	None	10/1/2025 8:48 AM
25	Several flower gardens with blooms April through November.	10/1/2025 8:12 AM

26	Keep up the good work	10/1/2025 8:09 AM
27	More bike racks and restrooms on each section of our town	9/30/2025 7:44 PM
28	Bike racks and more public restrooms	9/30/2025 7:39 PM
29	I think Willow Park has changed with the addition of the fire boats and a garden so that it’s difficult to have a few of the water unless you go up on the deck.	9/30/2025 5:22 PM
30	Mt Baldhead bathroom, steps and pavilion area need improvement Chain Ferry should operate post 'summer end'/Labor day. Ideal to run weekends for Mt B Challenge and for the visitors that come in fall	9/30/2025 2:20 PM
31	I am from Indiana and moved to Michigan last summer 2024. I have only worked in Saugatuck just over a year and live in Kalamazoo. I don’t have the opportunity to come to town very often since I come to work. The days I have come, it has always been great experiences. Just have not had the time to explore everything the town has to offer yet.	9/30/2025 12:05 PM
32	Bathrooms at Coghlin Park needed. Updated existing bathrooms in Wicks Park and Village Square. Better parking at Mt Baldhead.	9/30/2025 7:34 AM
33	More picnic tables at coghlin and wicks parks. No overnight camping in parks.	9/30/2025 5:45 AM
34	Bathrooms	9/29/2025 11:45 PM
35	Restrooms in Coughlin Park	9/29/2025 10:53 PM
36	disc golf	9/29/2025 10:50 PM
37	Bathrooms in Coughlin Patk	9/29/2025 10:41 PM
38	maintain the parks, decent bathrooms at Wicks Park and bathroom on the south end of town. Clean up and maintain park street, DPW will not maintain that street, it is the only way to get to the beach and Mt Baldhead, get rid of the floating home eyesores, Heule's covered boat house and the wall and the electrical panels that present a hazard to pedestrians and traffic	9/29/2025 8:23 PM
39	No suggestions. They seem very nice.	9/29/2025 8:22 PM
40	Safety on Park street	9/29/2025 4:53 PM
41	Clean public restrooms or porta-pots.	9/29/2025 4:23 PM
42	Creating more. Green space that is publicly available to use is so important.	9/29/2025 3:01 PM
43	Control the traffic	9/29/2025 2:52 PM
44	Bike a bowl and walkable pathways that are safe for the residence and the tourist	9/29/2025 2:47 PM
45	Bathroom needed by the Butler area. Oval Beach should be free to tax payers. Dogs should be allowed	9/29/2025 9:56 AM
46	improve that old tennis court	9/29/2025 8:27 AM
47	More seating if possible near the the new playground	9/29/2025 7:36 AM
48	Mt Baldhead Park - improve bathrooms, improve stairs, improve/more parking Oval Beach - more parking, bring back lifeguards	9/28/2025 9:41 PM
49	Bathrooms (additional location and/or improve Wicks Park bathrooms).	9/28/2025 8:16 PM
50	More restrooms and parking	9/28/2025 3:31 PM
51	Keep what we have. No more major waterfront developments, you will loose the quaint small town feeling. We meet people who have come here for years with great memories.	9/28/2025 9:14 AM
52	I think the most important improvement would be bathrooms by Coghlin Park and the shopper dock. I know that people get off their boats and need a place to "go". I hear from residents in that area that people just "go" in the bushes for lack of an appropriate choice! And permanent use of Porta Potties is NOT a good look for our town. I also think transient boat slips would be high on my list ensuring that boating tourism remains strong in our town. If there were a municipal marina in Lake Kalamazoo, we could get state money for dredging protecting an important tourism draw for the area in lake Kalamazoo. I see the lake all day almost every day	9/27/2025 2:31 PM

	and I cannot count the number of boats that get stuck in the shallow waters in the middle of Lake Kalamazoo. What would happen if Mother Nature decided to completely fill in that Lake? I think there are other infrastructure areas of improvement that are also important. I know there are roads that are narrow, dangerous and hard to maneuver without injuring a pedestrian or biker, though I realize the issues and cost with that project. Then there are the pipes downtown that will need to be replace. It is important to balance the importance of a project with the costs.	
53	A commitment to upkeep and preservation ... addition of restrooms	9/27/2025 1:10 PM
54	bathrooms	9/27/2025 12:42 PM
55	Allowing alcohol on the beach	9/27/2025 9:17 AM
56	A dog park would be a plus. Parking of course. More public seating.	9/26/2025 4:40 PM
57	landscaping and flowers at Peterson Preserve	9/26/2025 1:51 PM
58	Parking at Mt. Baldhead.	9/26/2025 1:18 PM
59	Bathrooms	9/26/2025 12:52 PM
60	The parks are a core reason we continue to live in Saugatuck. Continue to invest in the parks, expand their footprints, focus on the water ways and make sure they are here for the future generations.	9/26/2025 12:09 PM
61	Cleaner public bathrooms	9/26/2025 12:04 PM
62	I dont use them enough to provide valuable input.	9/25/2025 11:08 PM
63	Cook park needs to be upgraded. Interactive sculptures that you can climb on.	9/25/2025 9:35 PM
64	More dog poop bag stations Recyclying containers	9/25/2025 7:17 PM
65	Restroom at wicked park	9/25/2025 4:33 PM
66	Nothing. Fewer parks, more community services	9/25/2025 3:50 PM
67	A few more benches	9/24/2025 11:13 AM
68	The new bandshell with an appropriate sound system and opportunity to have more entertainment options should have happened years ago. This was a huge mistake by that City Council.	9/24/2025 8:35 AM
69	None	9/24/2025 7:22 AM
70	Would love a small park on the hill	9/23/2025 8:16 PM
71	Stop overspending on park maintenance	9/23/2025 1:21 PM
72	Bike path to Oval beach and Mt Baldhead, Improved bathrooms at Wicks Park, fix up pickleball/tennis court in town, fix up basketball court in town, kayak launch maybe by shopper's dock with designated drop off loading spot, bathrooms at Coughlin Park, splash pad at Village Square that turns into an ice rink or ice trail for winter activities.	9/23/2025 12:36 PM
73	none	9/23/2025 12:28 PM
74	more picnic tables at beach, Coghlin, Village square; Cook general check of all structures in parks for wear and tear. Oval: provide area to sit with some protection from sun.	9/22/2025 9:44 PM
75	more benches in the downtown area and on Perryman St.	9/22/2025 9:22 PM
76	None	9/22/2025 8:09 PM
77	play structures for Mt Baldhead park	9/22/2025 7:26 PM
78	Bike/walking trail down Ferry Rd/Park Street from Center to Mt Baldhead.	9/22/2025 6:53 PM
79	They're kept in good shape	9/22/2025 3:50 PM
80	Would be great if the docks at Coughlin park could be cleared of goose poop. There are many ways to divert the geese from hanging out on the docks	9/22/2025 2:42 PM

81	Protect them all.	9/22/2025 11:23 AM
82	Cleaner bathrooms	9/21/2025 9:49 AM
83	Preserving the waterfront for public enjoyment ,already have too many things built that privatize the waterfront	9/20/2025 7:01 PM
84	Shuffle board courts	9/20/2025 11:21 AM
85	More parking	9/20/2025 8:05 AM
86	More parking	9/19/2025 7:14 PM
87	Our parks are beautiful but updated restrooms and possibly one at Coghlin would be nice. Better if it weren't solely on residents to pay for - we need to capture tourism dollars for infrastructure	9/18/2025 5:36 PM
88	Improvements or reconstruction of Oval Beach restaurant, restrooms, and beach patrol buildings are needed. Make it a destination rather than a concession stand. The building was underwhelming and a missed opportunity since its inception. Mount Baldhead Park observation platform is also in dire need of reconstruction and removal of ugly chain link and barbed wire fencing around radar tower.	9/17/2025 5:34 PM
89	Nicer less controlling fire department	9/17/2025 1:22 PM
90	Stop wasting money on parks that only serve one of the smallest populations of Saugatuck's residents	9/15/2025 9:37 PM
91	Oval needs an overhaul of the infrastructure. I've seen beautifully done multi-purpose spaces with bathrooms, concession and restaurants facilities as I travel and we should look at this when Oval is redone. Kudos to Council and PPW for working on Baldy restrooms and decking!	9/15/2025 9:13 AM
92	Times are changing, with more local business owners invested downtown, now is the time to start building year-round attractions for Saugatuck. Even beginning with small steps — like a seasonal rink at Wicks Park or a simple tubing lane at Mt. Baldhead — could help extend the visitor season, support businesses, and keep our town vibrant beyond summer. We don’t need to do everything at once, but starting somewhere will set the foundation for Saugatuck’s future as a true four-season destination.	9/14/2025 11:22 PM
93	Clean and ADA compliant bathrooms	9/14/2025 5:13 PM
94	Our city parks foremost need to be PROTECTED by our elected city leadership. It is not the city of Saugatuck’s responsibility to take care of the homeless. We need ordinances so our parks/pavilions/gazebo don’t become future campgrounds. Look to near-by communities on Lake Michigan for guidance on how to develop language and enforcement. Let the non-profits take care of housing options & the citizens of Saugatuck can donate individually as desired to help these individuals.	9/11/2025 12:51 PM
95	The city needs to do a better job maintaining our current parks and should not focus on creating more parks to maintain, but to better take care of the parks we have for resident and visitor use.	9/11/2025 12:26 PM
96	We need to have ordinances to prevent our picturesque parks, especially Wicks Park with its iconic gazebo, from becoming an overnight stay location.	9/11/2025 11:59 AM
97	-Formalization of John Woolam walking trail from west side chain ferry landing to Oval Beach, Mt. Baldhead Park and Saugatuck Harbor Natural Area. Trail improvements, better signage, etc. are needed to allow families with young children to use these assets. -More consistent chain ferry service, which should run reliably every day during posted hours from Memorial Day to Labor Day weather permitting. As it stands now, the chain ferry is advertised as an amenity of the city yet often closes early or simply does not run on days it should. I have personally witnessed tourists waiting for the chain ferry that never comes leaving them “stranded” on the west side of the river.	9/11/2025 11:14 AM
98	Wicks - remodel/refurbish gazebo	9/10/2025 5:22 PM
99	steps and viewing area on Mt. Baldhead	9/10/2025 3:06 PM
100	Signage for the new Saugatuck Wilds.	9/10/2025 12:42 PM
101	better restroom facilities....everywhere	9/10/2025 11:40 AM

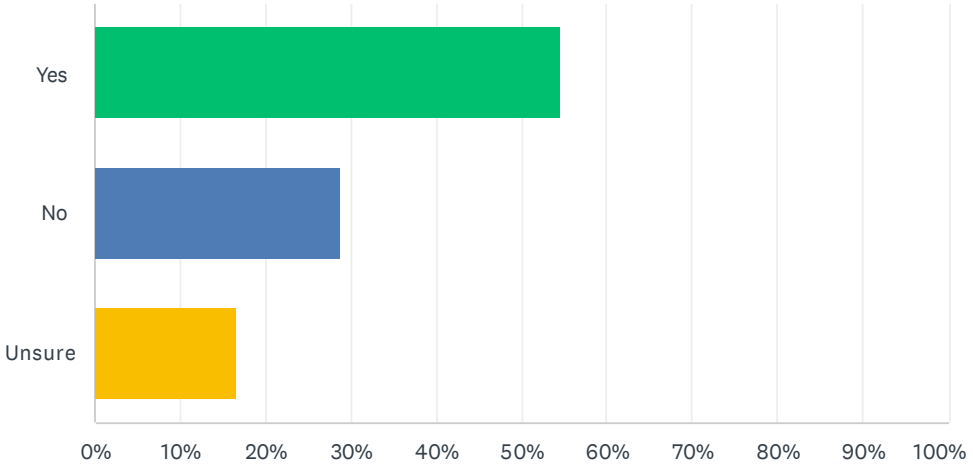
102	Picnic tables and benches with adequate waste disposal at all parks.	9/9/2025 9:43 PM
103	Restrooms are needed in Coughlin Park. The "Shoppers Dock" was expanded and there was no further thought to where the excess people coming in on vessels were to find bathrooms. They have to walk to the other end of town or come in private establishments.	9/9/2025 2:15 PM
104	Public restrooms near the Coghlin Park	9/9/2025 10:55 AM
105	Rest rooms near Coghlin Park end of town.	9/9/2025 10:15 AM
106	The gazebo at Wick's park is in need of updates.	9/8/2025 9:06 PM
107	Mildred Peterson could use a few more benches.	9/8/2025 8:25 PM
108	Ice skating in one of the parks	9/8/2025 3:14 PM
109	Restrooms needed at coughlin park	9/8/2025 2:57 PM
110	Public restrooms downtown (by Village Square playground) are in desperate need of attention and upgrades. These are gross and embarrassing.	9/8/2025 1:46 PM
111	Oval beach pedestrian traffic is dangerous	9/8/2025 1:00 PM
112	More trash cans, pet waste stations, fish cleaning station	9/8/2025 10:24 AM
113	Oval Beach Improved accessibility (ADA-compliant pathways, ramps, beach mats) Expanded restroom and shower facilities to handle peak summer crowds Better parking flow and signage to reduce congestion Shaded picnic areas for families Mt. Baldhead Park & Staircase Staircase maintenance and structural upgrades Trail erosion control and safety railings Wayfinding signs connecting to surrounding trails and riverfront Chain Ferry Improved accessibility at docking points Updated signage for visitors (hours, fees, connections to trails/parks) Better integration with bike and pedestrian routes Saugatuck Harbor Natural Area Habitat restoration and invasive species removal Boardwalk or trail improvements for durability and accessibility Interpretive signage on ecology and history Coghlin Park Upgraded docks and fishing access Enhanced lighting for evening use and safety Public restrooms or improved facilities Cook Park & Rose Garden Landscape maintenance and seasonal plantings Seating and shade structures Event infrastructure (electric hookups, trash/recycling stations) John Woolam Trail Trail surface maintenance and widening for shared use (walkers + cyclists) Mile markers and wayfinding signs Lighting in key areas for safety Village Square Park Playground updates (accessible play structures, surfacing) Picnic shelters and restrooms Community gathering space enhancements (gazebo, performance space upgrades) Mildred Peterson Nature Preserve Trail maintenance and signage for low-impact use Habitat protection improvements Benches or quiet reflection areas Wicks Park Riverfront seating upgrades Performance area improvements for concerts/events Shade structures and landscaping Saugatuck Wilds & Regional Trails (incl. Blue Star Highway Bike Lanes) Improved trail connectivity between Saugatuck, Douglas, and surrounding areas Safety features along Blue Star Highway bike lanes (buffered lanes, signage) Maintenance and clear wayfinding for multi-use trail system	9/8/2025 9:32 AM
114	Public restrooms at Coghlin Park; Walkable path to Oval Beach along Perryman/Park	9/8/2025 8:36 AM
115	Restroom on south end of town.	9/7/2025 9:42 PM
116	Coughlin park bathrooms Wicks park bathroom upgrade	9/7/2025 8:44 PM
117	More trash cans	9/7/2025 5:32 PM
118	I would like to use the chain ferry more often and would appreciate a lower fare for city residents. I remember when I could buy a season's worth of tokens for a modest fee.	9/7/2025 2:08 PM
119	I think they all look great!	9/7/2025 8:36 AM
120	Keep natural areas natural!!	9/6/2025 6:25 PM
121	Allow dogs at Oval Beach in non peak months- September through May	9/6/2025 4:48 PM
122	Our parks are excellent	9/6/2025 2:42 PM
123	More activities at the gazebo. Fire pits or places. More things to do in winter	9/6/2025 12:21 PM
124	Fireplaces or pits. More winter activities. More things to do at the gazebo	9/6/2025 12:09 PM

125	The Rose Park used to be beautiful and worth a visit. Remember when brick wall was covered in plants and lots and lots of HAPPY Birds...now nothing. Remember when park had many beautiful roses, and other flowers...now nothing. Whoever destroyed the rose garden needs to be replaced. Please restore the bird wall and lovely rose garden.	9/6/2025 12:37 AM
126	Put it a fire pit. Ice skating rink, more winter activities	9/5/2025 9:43 PM
127	Extend the boardwalk as far as possible	9/5/2025 9:40 PM
128	Maintain what is there	9/5/2025 9:07 PM
129	A sign to explain about the InterUrban Trail history and the Mildred Peterson Preserve and at North Street. Events for Locals held at the newer park areas.	9/5/2025 8:45 PM
130	A permanent outdoor performance structure in Coughlin Park. Something with viewing and acoustics thought of as part of the design.	9/5/2025 8:00 PM
131	Shuffle board at village square	9/5/2025 7:57 PM
132	Engage those who are frequent users especially young families … locals and tourists	9/5/2025 5:59 PM
133	None I can think of	9/5/2025 4:46 PM
134	None	9/5/2025 4:43 PM
135	I was with a friend who is in a wheelchair this past weekend and there are spots along the waterfront that are inaccessible. There are "ramps" in a few spots, but they have such a huge lip on them you can't get a wheelchair up them.	9/5/2025 2:06 PM
136	Restrooms at Saugatuck Wilds	9/5/2025 2:03 PM
137	Add tables and benches for playing dominoes, chess, checkers, cards.	9/5/2025 1:23 PM
138	I need to visit these parks and trails. SAFETY first	9/5/2025 10:59 AM
139	Shuffle board in village square	9/5/2025 10:08 AM
140	More seats	9/5/2025 9:24 AM
141	More ATM machines, businesses incentivizing the use of cash over plastic.	9/5/2025 8:37 AM
142	More Bike racks at all areas	9/5/2025 8:28 AM
143	None	9/5/2025 8:07 AM
144	I think it would be nice to have even more seating in Wick's Park. I love when I visit and there's a bunch of people sat enjoying the serenity of the park	9/5/2025 7:37 AM
145	More Bathrooms	9/5/2025 7:20 AM
146	Better bathrooms downtown.	9/3/2025 6:29 PM
147	The restroom at Wicks Parj could use new bathroom toilets. I would hate to see the building torn down but remodeled.	9/3/2025 10:37 AM
148	Public restroom additions.	9/3/2025 10:34 AM
149	Bathrooms at coglin park and charter fishing dock/ fish cleaning station	8/31/2025 5:39 PM
150	Picnic table in wicks park, public pickleball courts downtown would be really cute, and more flowers and landscaping in Coghlin park	8/31/2025 9:26 AM
151	#1 Dune steps for the elderly, or anyone, at Oval Beach. #2 Lower the cost at Oval Beach	8/30/2025 9:42 PM
152	I think they are fine as of now	8/30/2025 7:09 PM
153	Water refill stations at all parks. Saugatuck Wilds: Picnic tables and restroom with running water	8/30/2025 5:49 PM
154	Improved restrooms	8/30/2025 4:28 PM
155	Mt Baldhead needs more than just bathrooms. The city walks all need major improvement.	8/30/2025 3:39 PM

156	Stop people from smoking weed in/near the children's park	8/30/2025 12:42 PM
157	Baldhead is run down	8/30/2025 10:34 AM
158	We don't need more parks we can't afford to take care of the ones we have.	8/30/2025 8:08 AM
159	Reduce deer to improve the native species of plants and animals. Very little exists under 6'. Not only does this visually affect the terrain there is little habitat for animals and birds. The ecosystem is crumbling.	8/30/2025 7:39 AM
160	Mt Baldhead could use a little tidying up at the parking area	8/30/2025 7:24 AM
161	Ordinance to allow law enforcement to prevent use of city parks as an encampment.	8/30/2025 6:07 AM
162	Restrooms	8/30/2025 4:54 AM
163	more flower beds	8/29/2025 7:54 PM
164	Bathroom	8/29/2025 6:11 PM
165	Bathroom at Coghlin Park	8/29/2025 5:48 PM
166	Parking is needed at all of these places and trails	8/29/2025 5:25 PM
167	Unable to comment	8/29/2025 5:17 PM

Q21 Is there a need for an additional public restroom downtown?

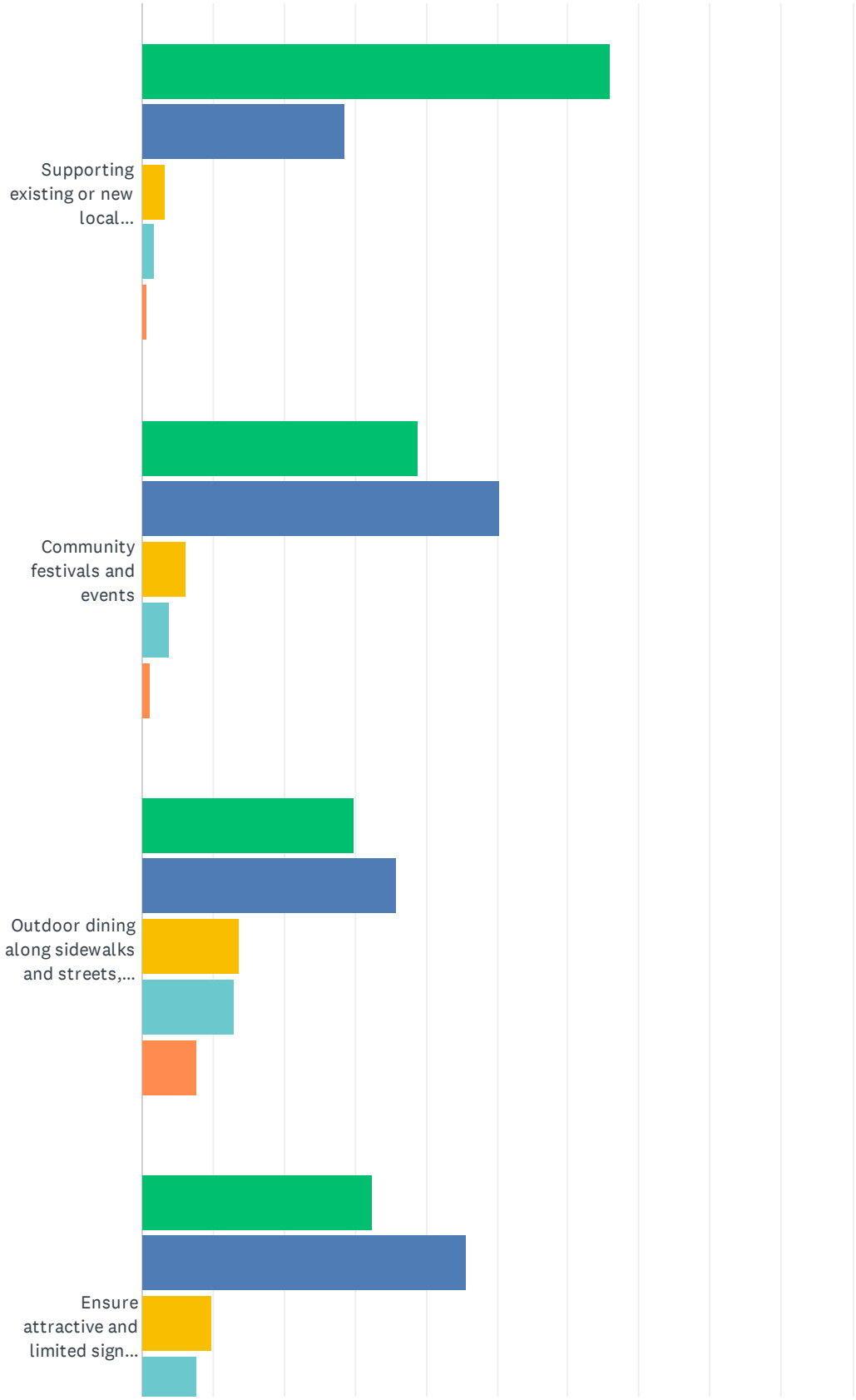
Answered: 320 Skipped: 66

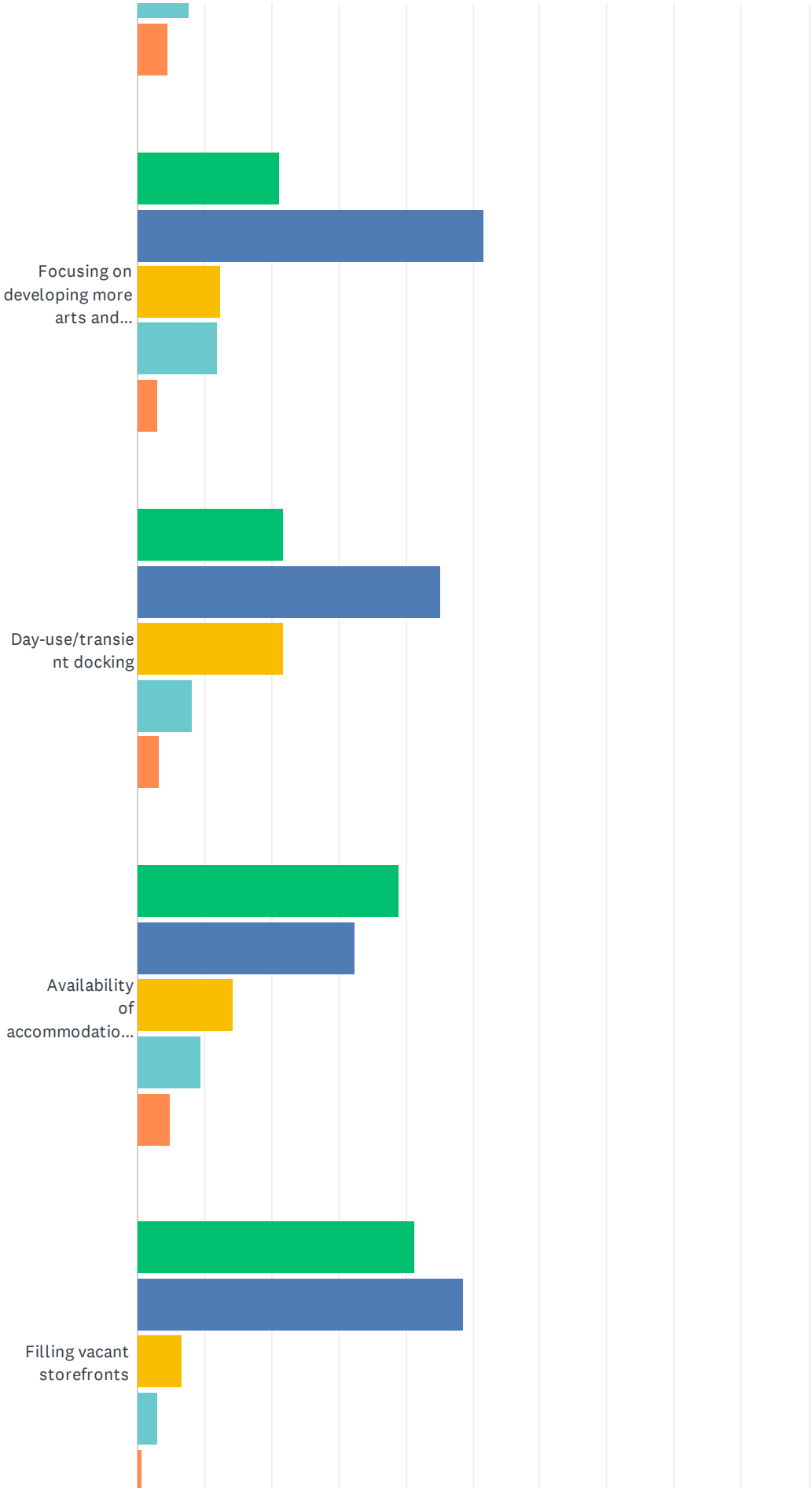


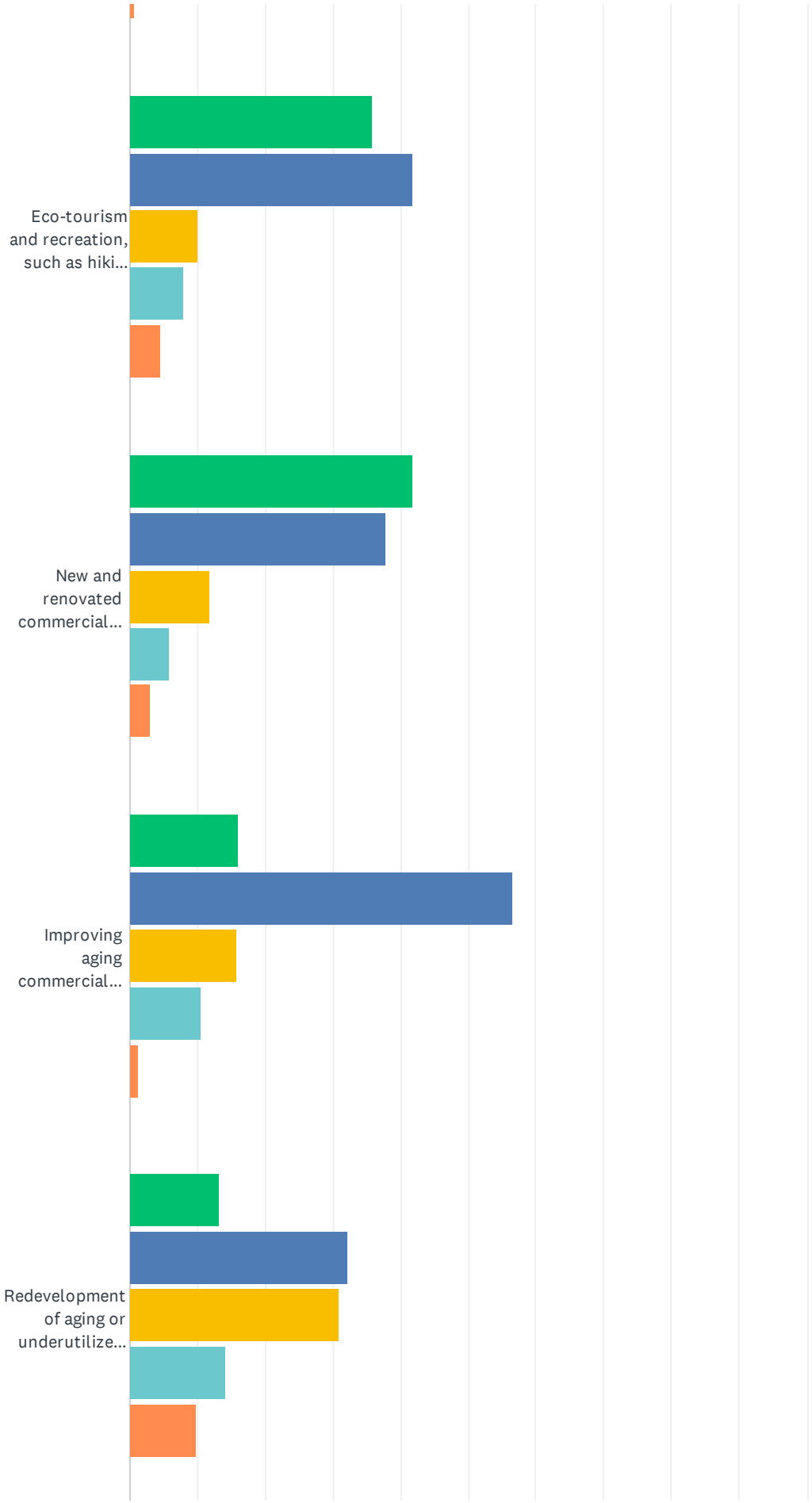
ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	54.69%	175
No	28.75%	92
Unsure	16.56%	53
TOTAL		320

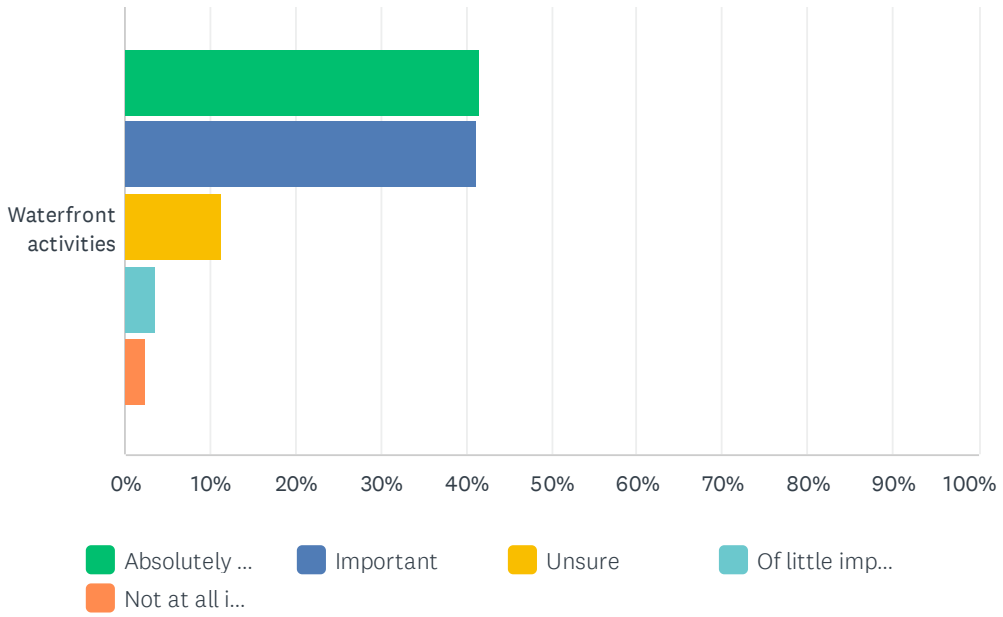
Q22 How important are the following?

Answered: 311 Skipped: 75




Focusing on developing more arts and...
Day-use/transient docking
Availability of accommodatio...
Filling vacant storefronts

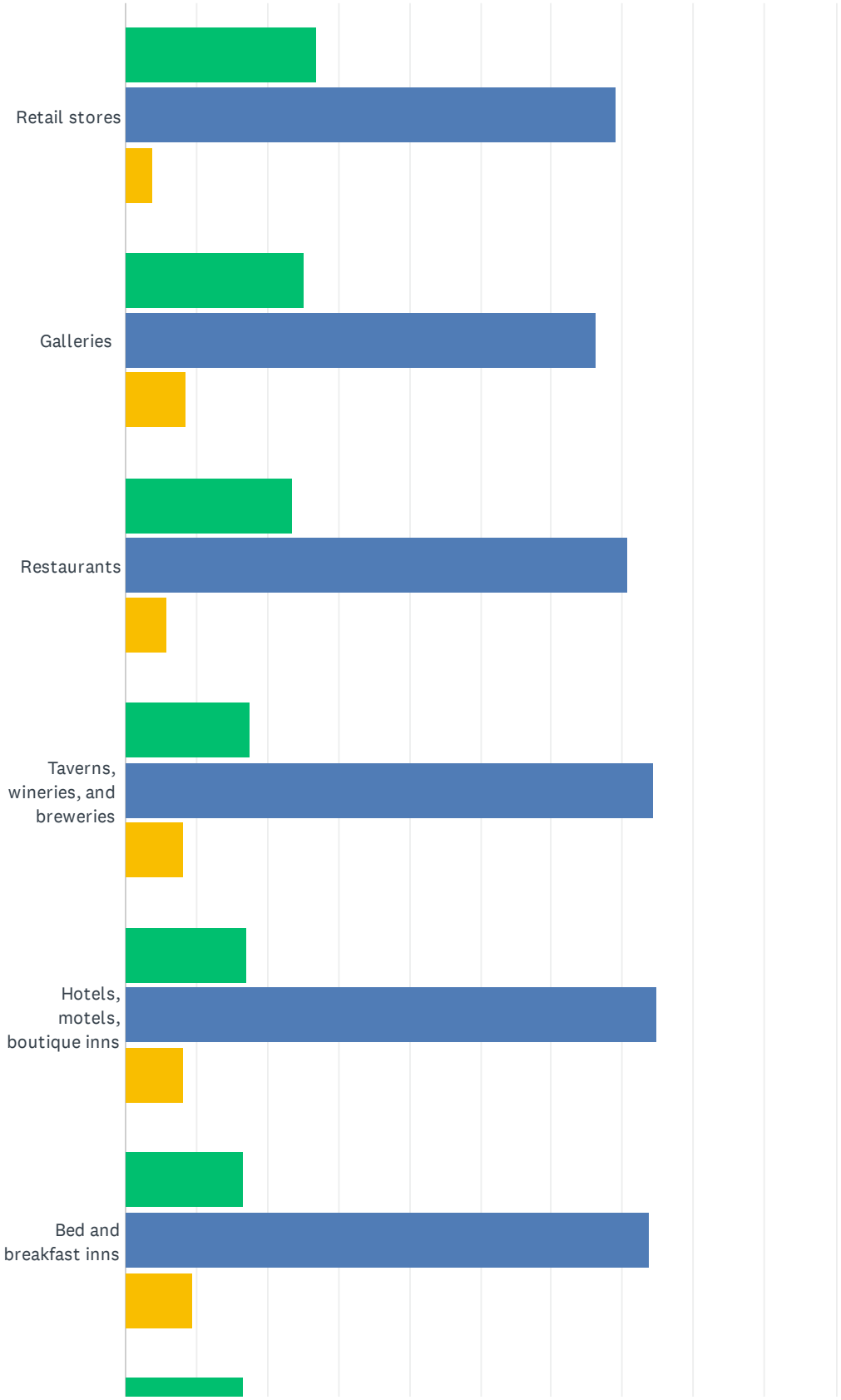

Eco-tourism and recreation, such as hiki...
New and renovated commercial...
Improving aging commercial...
Redevelopment of aging or underutilize...

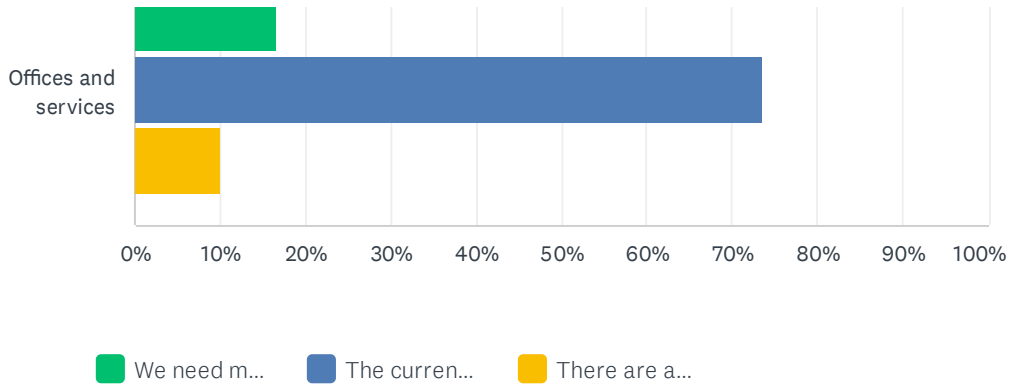


	ABSOLUTELY ESSENTIAL	IMPORTANT	UNSURE	OF LITTLE IMPORTANCE	NOT AT ALL IMPORTANT	TOTAL
Supporting existing or new local businesses	65.92% 205	28.62% 89	3.22% 10	1.61% 5	0.64% 2	311
Community festivals and events	38.71% 120	50.32% 156	6.13% 19	3.87% 12	0.97% 3	310
Outdoor dining along sidewalks and streets, such as café seating	29.77% 92	35.92% 111	13.59% 42	12.94% 40	7.77% 24	309
Ensure attractive and limited signage to preserve character	32.36% 100	45.63% 141	9.71% 30	7.77% 24	4.53% 14	309
Focusing on developing more arts and cultural attractions	21.10% 65	51.62% 159	12.34% 38	12.01% 37	2.92% 9	308
Day-use/transient docking	21.75% 67	45.13% 139	21.75% 67	8.12% 25	3.25% 10	308
Availability of accommodations (hotels, inns, bed & breakfast, short-term rentals)	38.96% 120	32.47% 100	14.29% 44	9.42% 29	4.87% 15	308
Filling vacant storefronts	41.37% 127	48.53% 149	6.51% 20	2.93% 9	0.65% 2	307
Eco-tourism and recreation, such as hiking, beaches, birding, etc.	35.83% 110	41.69% 128	10.10% 31	7.82% 24	4.56% 14	307
New and renovated commercial buildings are designed to be consistent with the existing character of the downtown area and commercial district	41.69% 128	37.79% 116	11.73% 36	5.86% 18	2.93% 9	307
Improving aging commercial building façades and storefronts	16.01% 49	56.54% 173	15.69% 48	10.46% 32	1.31% 4	306
Redevelopment of aging or underutilized buildings (tear down and rebuild new)	13.11% 40	32.13% 98	30.82% 94	14.10% 43	9.84% 30	305
Waterfront activities	41.58% 126	41.25% 125	11.22% 34	3.63% 11	2.31% 7	303

Q23 Does the City need any more of the following types of businesses?

Answered: 311 Skipped: 75

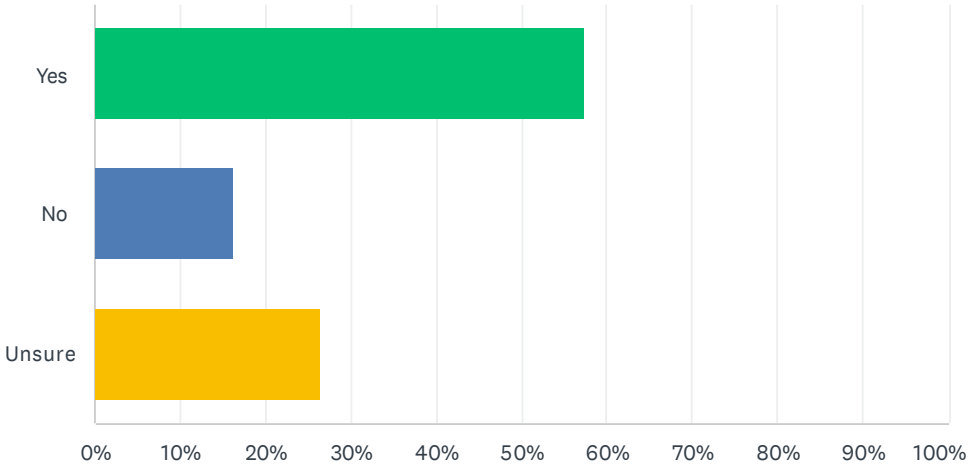




	WE NEED MORE	THE CURRENT AMOUNT IS OKAY	THERE ARE ALREADY TOO MANY	TOTAL
Retail stores	26.95% 83	69.16% 213	3.90% 12	308
Galleries	25.08% 76	66.34% 201	8.58% 26	303
Restaurants	23.45% 72	70.68% 217	5.86% 18	307
Taverns, wineries, and breweries	17.53% 54	74.35% 229	8.12% 25	308
Hotels, motels, boutique inns	16.99% 52	74.84% 229	8.17% 25	306
Bed and breakfast inns	16.67% 51	73.86% 226	9.48% 29	306
Offices and services	16.56% 50	73.51% 222	9.93% 30	302

Q24 Would you support the development of a Downtown Development Authority? This would allow innovative methods to fund public infrastructure improvements.

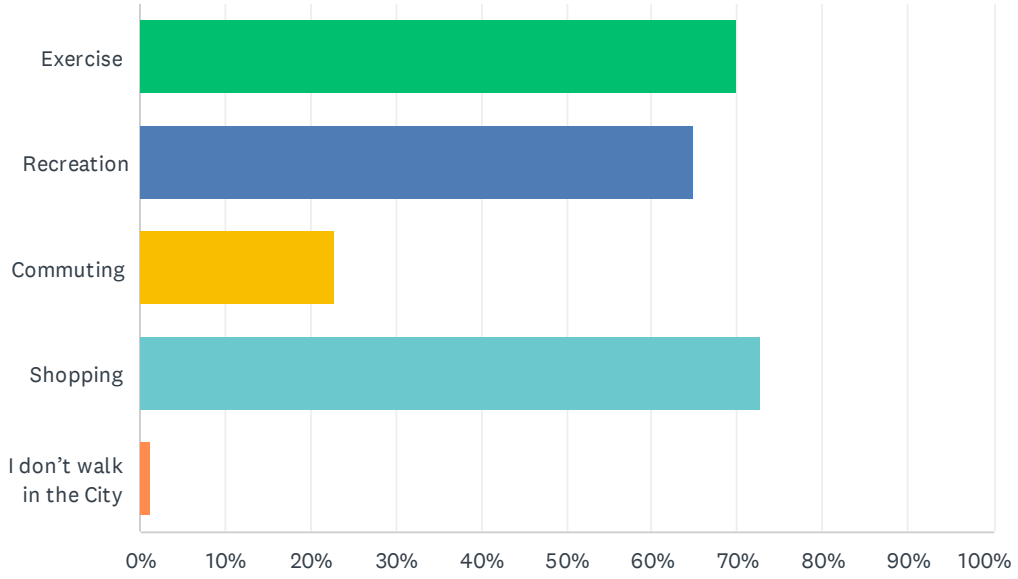
Answered: 310 Skipped: 76



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	57.42%	178
No	16.13%	50
Unsure	26.45%	82
TOTAL		310

Q25 Why do you walk in the City?

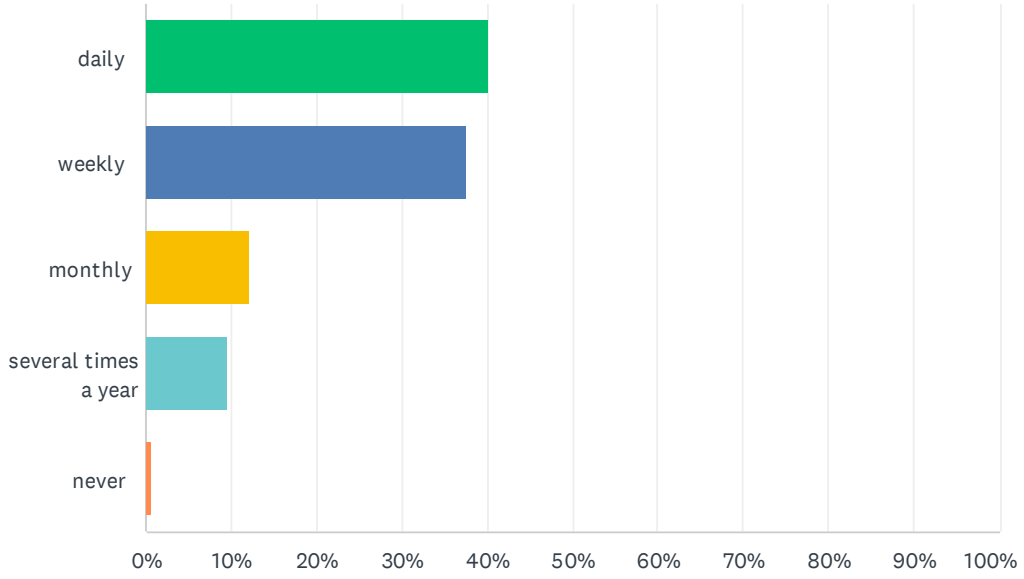
Answered: 293 Skipped: 93



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Exercise	69.97%	205
Recreation	64.85%	190
Commuting	22.87%	67
Shopping	72.70%	213
I don't walk in the City	1.37%	4
Total Respondents: 293		

Q26 How often do you walk in the downtown area?

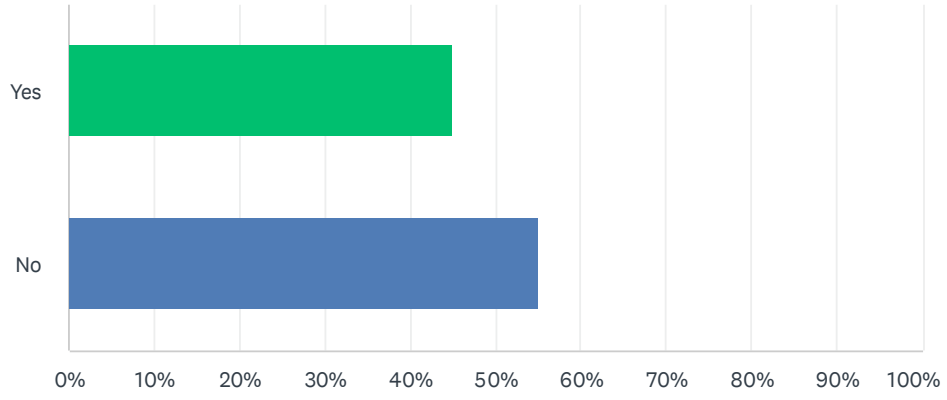
Answered: 295 Skipped: 91



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
daily	40.00%	118
weekly	37.63%	111
monthly	12.20%	36
several times a year	9.49%	28
never	0.68%	2
TOTAL		295

Q27 Would you walk downtown more frequently in the downtown area if there were improved sidewalks and crosswalks?

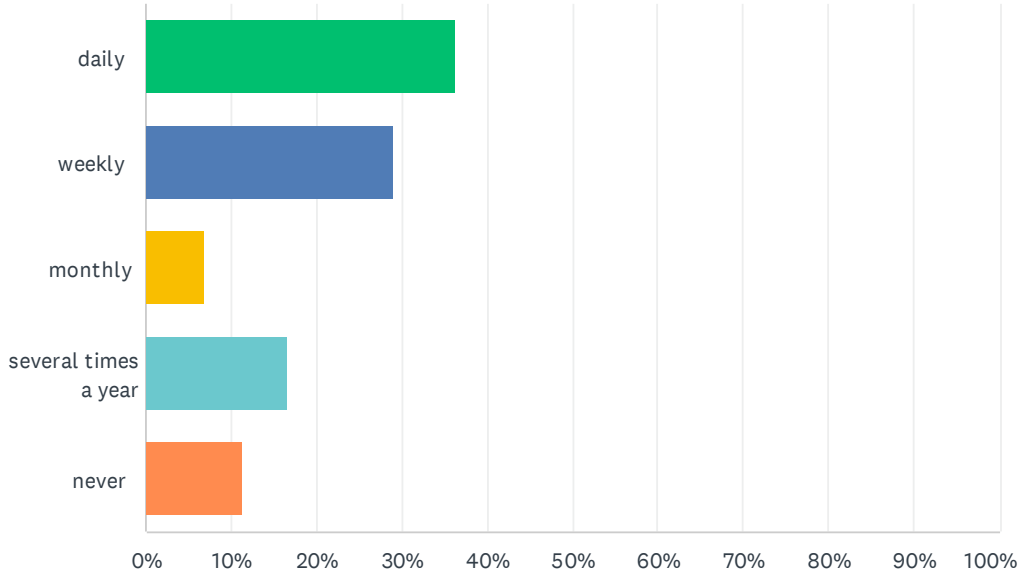
Answered: 291 Skipped: 95



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	45.02%	131
No	54.98%	160
TOTAL		291

Q28 How often do you walk in the residential neighborhoods?

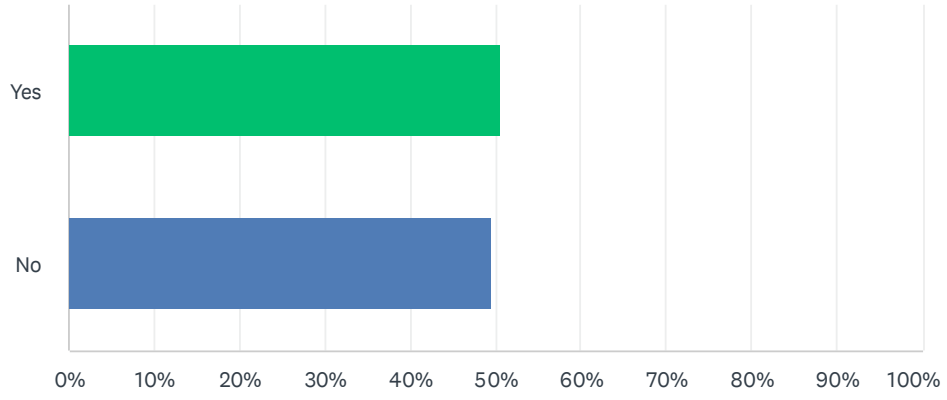
Answered: 293 Skipped: 93



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
daily	36.18%	106
weekly	29.01%	85
monthly	6.83%	20
several times a year	16.72%	49
never	11.26%	33
TOTAL		293

Q29 Would you walk in the residential neighborhoods more frequently with improved sidewalks and crosswalks?

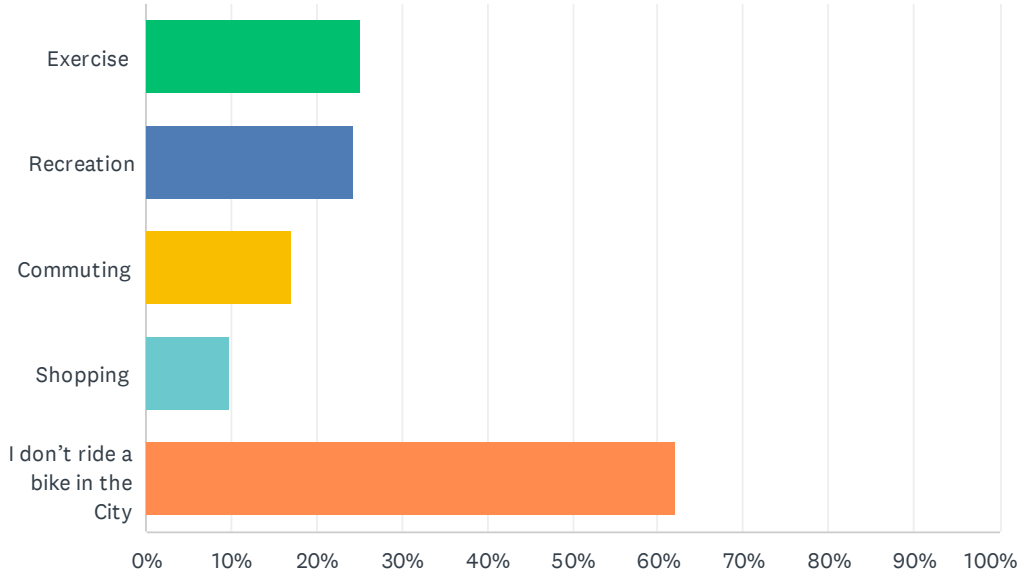
Answered: 291 Skipped: 95



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	50.52%	147
No	49.48%	144
TOTAL		291

Q30 Why do you ride a bike in the City?

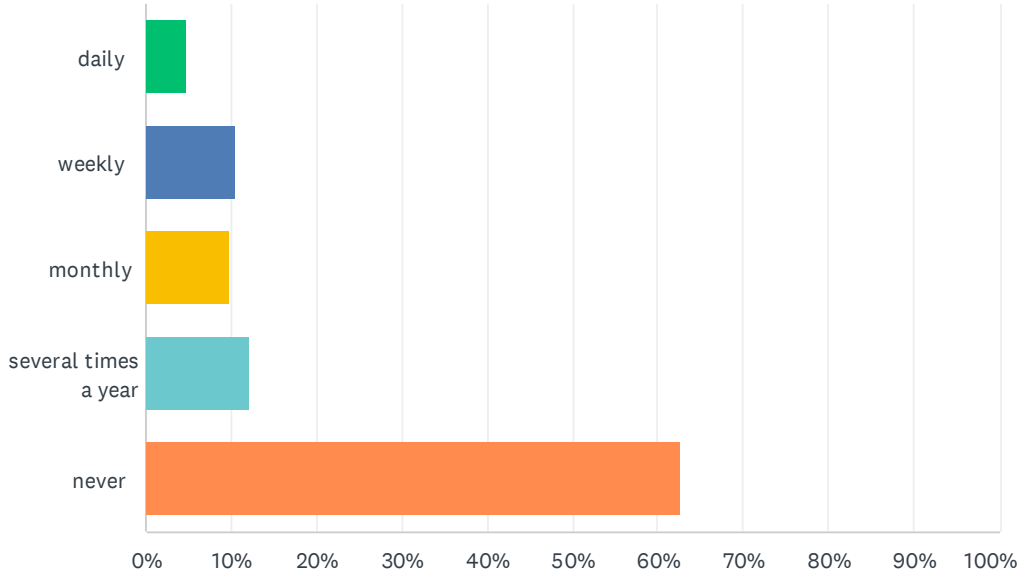
Answered: 293 Skipped: 93



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Exercise	25.26%	74
Recreation	24.23%	71
Commuting	17.06%	50
Shopping	9.90%	29
I don't ride a bike in the City	62.12%	182
Total Respondents: 293		

Q31 How often do you ride a bike in the downtown area?

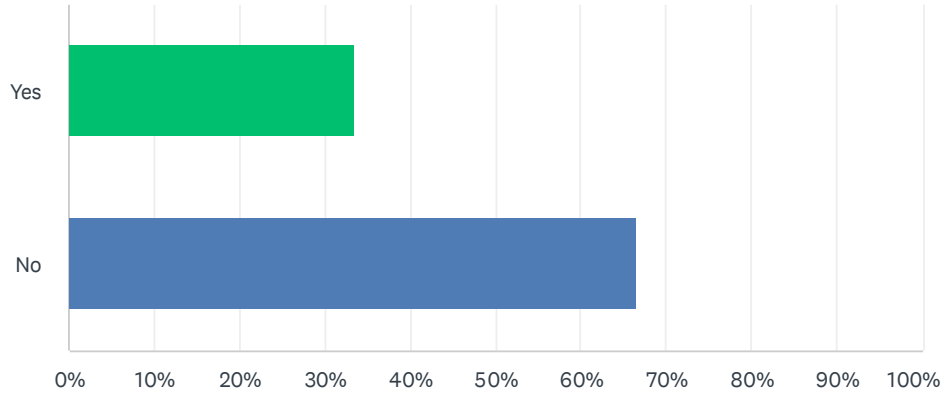
Answered: 294 Skipped: 92



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
daily	4.76%	14
weekly	10.54%	31
monthly	9.86%	29
several times a year	12.24%	36
never	62.59%	184
TOTAL		294

Q32 Would you ride a bike in the downtown area more frequently with improved street markings, safety signage, or pathways?

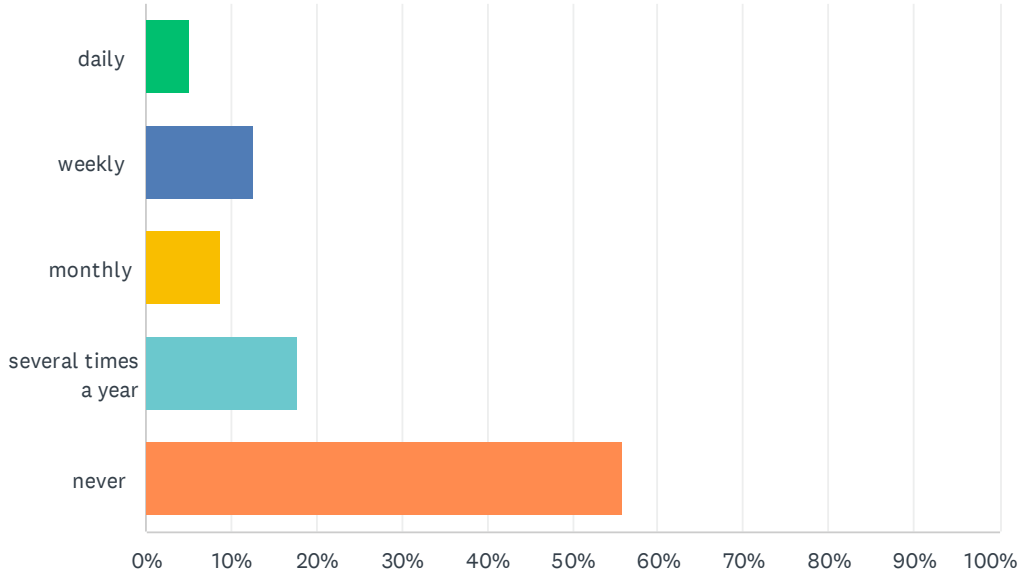
Answered: 293 Skipped: 93



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	33.45%	98
No	66.55%	195
TOTAL		293

Q33 How often do you ride a bike in the residential neighborhoods?

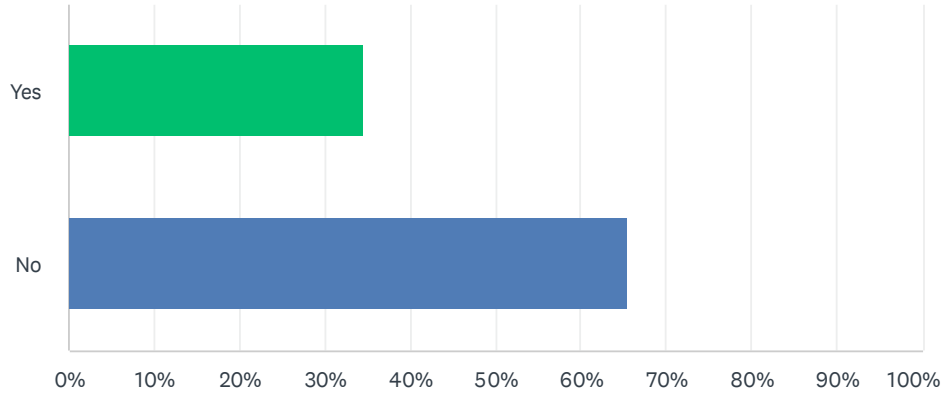
Answered: 294 Skipped: 92



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
daily	5.10%	15
weekly	12.59%	37
monthly	8.84%	26
several times a year	17.69%	52
never	55.78%	164
TOTAL		294

Q34 Would you ride a bike in the residential neighborhoods more frequently with improved street markings, safety signage, or pathways?

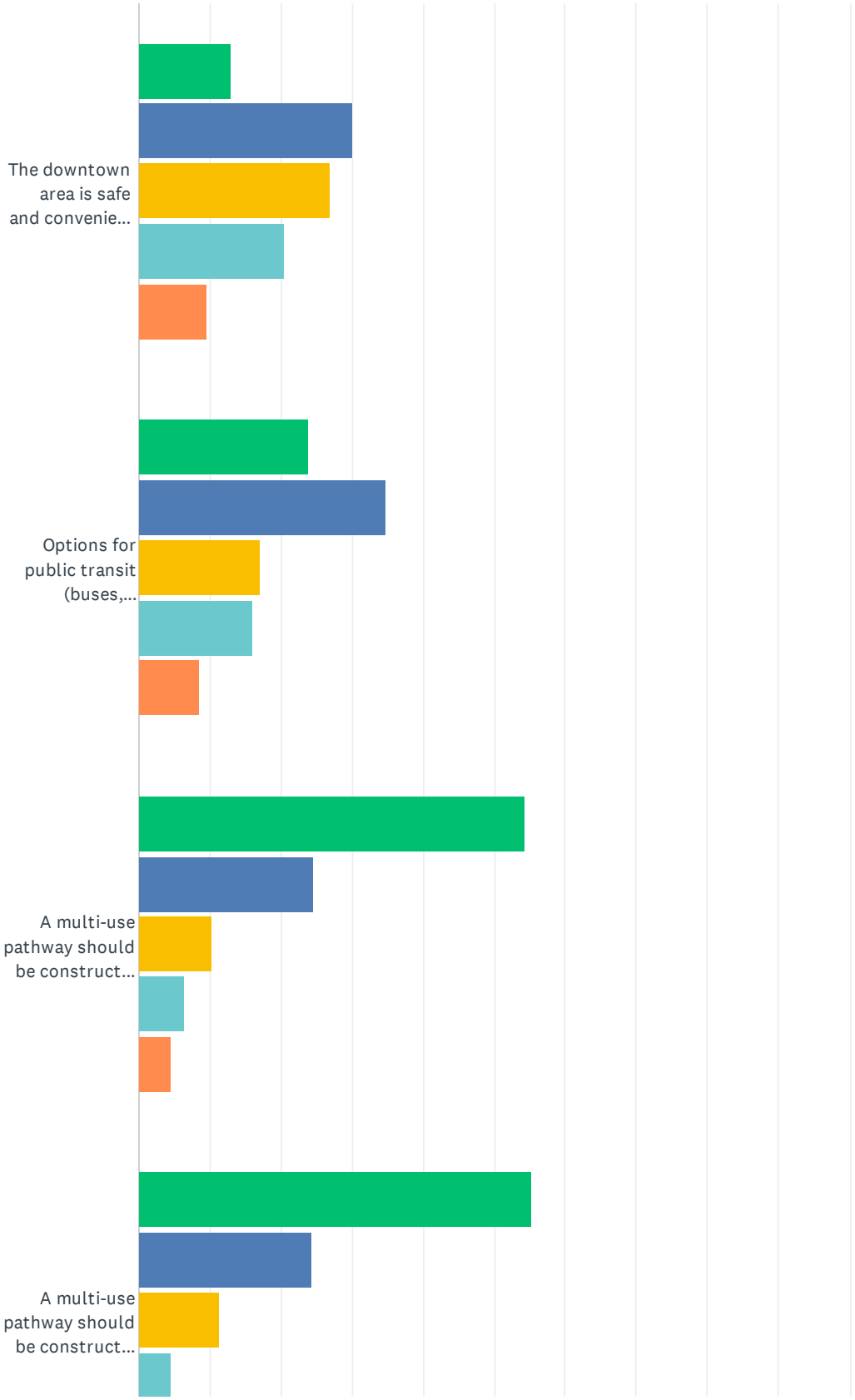
Answered: 290 Skipped: 96

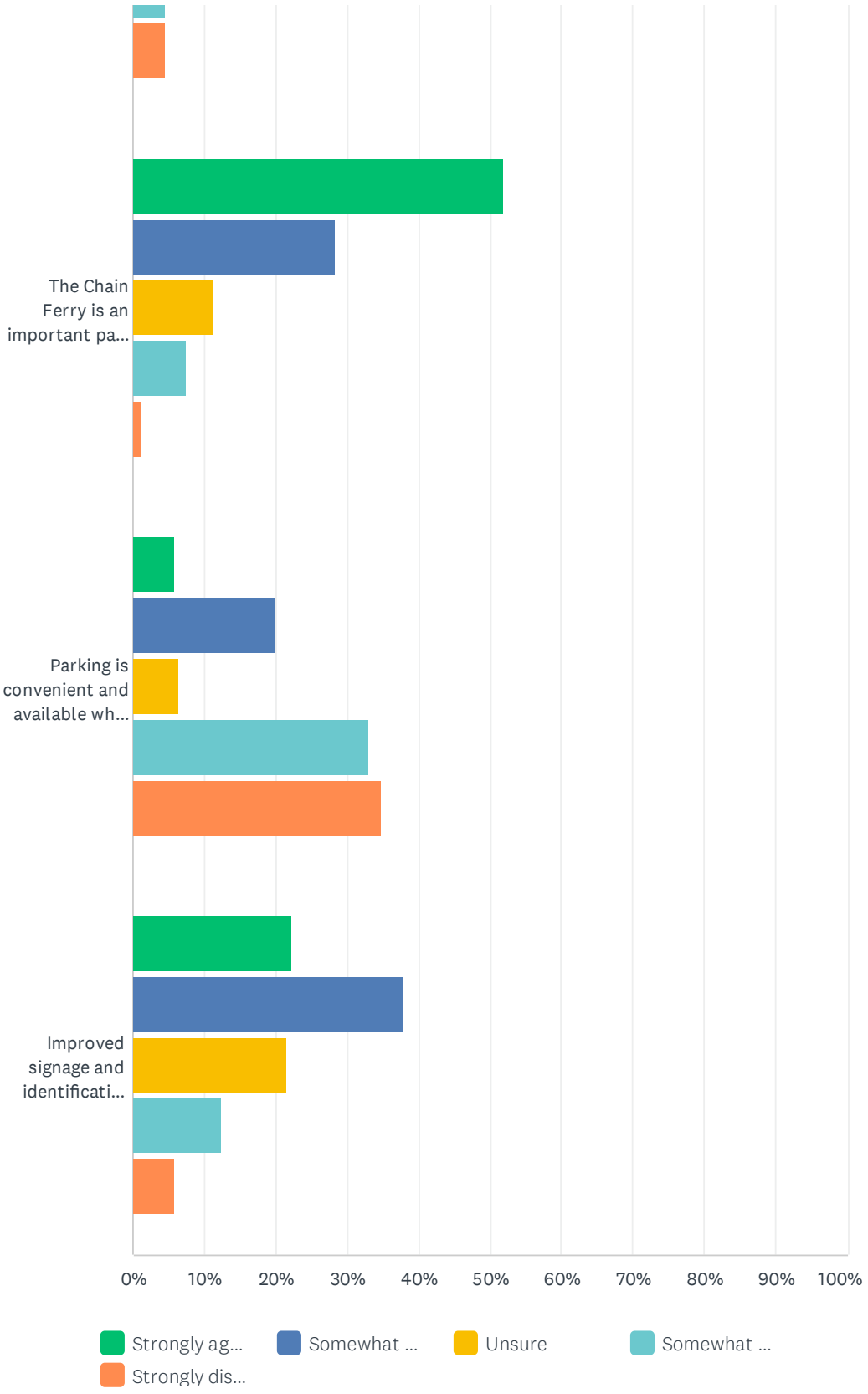


ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	34.48%	100
No	65.52%	190
TOTAL		290

Q35 Do you agree or disagree with the following statements?

Answered: 295 Skipped: 91




The Chain Ferry is an important pa...
Parking is convenient and available wh...
Improved signage and identificati...
0%
10%
20%
30%
40%
50%
60%
70%
80%
90%
100%
Strongly ag...
Somewhat ...
Unsure
Somewhat ...
Strongly dis...

	STRONGLY AGREE	SOMEWHAT AGREE	UNSURE	SOMEWHAT DISAGREE	STRONGLY DISAGREE	TOTAL
The downtown area is safe and convenient for the mobility of disabled individuals.	12.97% 38	30.03% 88	26.96% 79	20.48% 60	9.56% 28	293
Options for public transit (buses, trolleys, etc.) should be expanded.	23.81% 70	34.69% 102	17.01% 50	15.99% 47	8.50% 25	294
A multi-use pathway should be constructed along Perryman Street to walk or bike to Oval Beach.	54.42% 160	24.49% 72	10.20% 30	6.46% 19	4.42% 13	294
A multi-use pathway should be constructed along Park Street to walk or bike to Oval Beach.	55.33% 161	24.40% 71	11.34% 33	4.47% 13	4.47% 13	291
The Chain Ferry is an important part of the transportation system.	51.88% 152	28.33% 83	11.26% 33	7.51% 22	1.02% 3	293
Parking is convenient and available when I need it.	5.80% 17	19.80% 58	6.48% 19	33.11% 97	34.81% 102	293
Improved signage and identification of parking areas are needed.	22.26% 65	38.01% 111	21.58% 63	12.33% 36	5.82% 17	292

Q36 Where can crosswalks and pedestrian connections be added or improved?

Answered: 134 Skipped: 252

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	SCA to Coughlin Park, Holland St at Simondson/Lucy	10/4/2025 7:52 AM
2	Bikes should not be allowed on sidewalks. A fog line could be drawn on the street to allow motorists to exist together with cyclists on the road. Walking on the narrow sidewalks with a dog or small child is very dangerous e when bikes or pedal bikes are trying to go by with no warning.	10/3/2025 10:19 PM
3	In the busier neighborhoods with more STRs	10/3/2025 3:00 PM
4	Enforce/ticket vehicles that do not YIELD to pedestrians.	10/3/2025 2:39 PM
5	Water, Butler and Culver Street's	10/3/2025 1:23 PM
6	Lucy/Simonson and Holland	10/3/2025 12:09 PM
7	Simply paint them regularly so that they are visable.	10/3/2025 10:19 AM
8	Coming down from the hill, the steps are broken on the way down to the Women’s Center.	10/2/2025 7:34 PM
9	unsure	10/2/2025 2:34 PM
10	Paint all of the cross walks before Memorial day with paint approved by MDOT. The rainbow cross walk is nice but its slippery when wet. I also feel its a distraction to drivers unfamiliar with our area. I feel its unsafe to bike in downtown Saugatuck the roads are to narrow and out of town visitors dont pay attention.	10/2/2025 1:03 PM
11	Need consistent sidewalks on all streets (both sides) and much improved lighting.	10/2/2025 11:25 AM
12	From Ferry to oval beach to mt Baldy and back along Campbell and lakeshore to center	10/2/2025 8:39 AM
13	Holland Street needs a bike lane. Bikes and pedestrians on sidewalks are a problem. Crossing Lake Street near Blue Star to get to the sidewalk on the north side is somewhat hazardous. There is a crosswalk, but traffic moves fast.	10/1/2025 8:32 PM
14	Across all the major streets -- Allegan, Maple, Park, Holland, Water, North (I am probably missing some)	10/1/2025 2:52 PM
15	A crosswalk between the chain ferry and the Beachway is needed. In the summer, the people walking to the and from the chain ferry to the beach or Mt. Baldy are crossing Perryman with cars coming down the hill very quickly stopping past the stop sign and people turning to go to Oval. It is a very dangerous crossing. Pedestrian walkway on Park and Perryman are very needed as well for safety. Blind corners and no place to move over to the side of the road make walking very dangerous.	10/1/2025 2:39 PM
16	Sidewalk on Griffith street down to Francis	10/1/2025 12:07 PM
17	There are no crosswalks on Holland Street. It is one of two streets that enter downtown.	10/1/2025 8:58 AM
18	Between Santa Fe & Grins on Butler St	10/1/2025 8:23 AM
19	N/A	9/30/2025 7:55 PM
20	Lucy Street	9/30/2025 7:54 PM
21	On the curve in front of Mill Pond Realty. At the intersection of Hoffman and Butler.	9/30/2025 4:32 PM
22	Leave the crosswalk warnings up all the time like Douglas does	9/30/2025 1:41 PM
23	Blue Star Hwy, Ferry Street/Park Street	9/30/2025 7:43 AM

24	Chain ferry	9/29/2025 11:50 PM
25	On way to Oval beach	9/29/2025 10:59 PM
26	at the Chain Ferry on Park Street, Heule's ugly wall and electrical panels present a grave hazard to pedestrians	9/29/2025 8:31 PM
27	Blue Star and Lake Street intersection	9/29/2025 8:27 PM
28	Crossing over Griffith Street on Hill/Mary Street. The cross walk white paint is old. People tend to go fast in both directions. Very risky especially going into or coming from downtown… Maybe a sign can be added in both directions and new white paint?	9/29/2025 7:53 PM
29	Park street	9/29/2025 4:57 PM
30	Across Lake street at bluestar hwy.	9/29/2025 4:29 PM
31	Along park street.	9/29/2025 3:08 PM
32	Start giving ticket to those that disobey our traffic laws.	9/29/2025 2:59 PM
33	Park street.	9/29/2025 2:54 PM
34	none come to mind	9/29/2025 2:52 PM
35	Cars do not always yield to pedestrians	9/29/2025 10:02 AM
36	Lucy, Maple, any street in Saugatuck that doesn’t have a sidewalk	9/29/2025 8:31 AM
37	None	9/28/2025 9:47 PM
38	-	9/28/2025 8:21 PM
39	Lucy st	9/28/2025 2:44 PM
40	Signage to High school parking	9/28/2025 9:47 AM
41	plenty already	9/27/2025 12:52 PM
42	Dont waste community money	9/27/2025 10:18 AM
43	On Lake street between blue Star highway and downtown	9/26/2025 4:46 PM
44	Maple and North streets with sidewalk from North to Holland st.	9/26/2025 1:57 PM
45	as is	9/26/2025 1:04 PM
46	Put them back white.	9/26/2025 12:10 PM
47	It’s not easy to walk in many parts of the city that don’t have sidewalks	9/26/2025 12:08 PM
48	Griffith and hoffman streets near downtown. Sidewalks are incomplete.	9/26/2025 4:29 AM
49	There is absolutley no where to safely cross Lake St if you live east of Couglin Park until you get to near Blue Star highway. Its dangerous as traffic does not obey the speed limit.	9/25/2025 11:13 PM
50	Unsure	9/25/2025 9:39 PM
51	Unsure	9/25/2025 4:47 PM
52	Build the build the Blue Star Trail to make the more City accessible	9/24/2025 6:04 PM
53	Just about everywhere. It is very confusing to see where people walk especially if it is not along Butler.	9/24/2025 8:39 AM
54	Water and Lucy should have a painted crosswalk.	9/24/2025 7:29 AM
55	From the chain ferry to the woolham trail	9/23/2025 8:24 PM
56	Finish Blue Star trail. Sidewalk on Lucy Street. Sidewalk connection on Elizabeth Street so there is a complete sidewalk to the high school. Continue bike path down Holland Street. Crosswalk connecting Saugatuck Wilds and Tails and Trails park/trails. (in the township, but a bike trail along Old Allegan Rd to help residents bike into Saugatuck and Douglas)	9/23/2025 1:36 PM
57	Up and down butler st	9/23/2025 1:24 PM

58	Along Allegan, Maple, many of the streets on the hill	9/23/2025 9:22 AM
59	More crosswalks add to drivers confusion.	9/22/2025 9:57 PM
60	None	9/22/2025 8:12 PM
61	Park Street to Oval Beach.	9/22/2025 7:05 PM
62	Need to slow it all down. People looking for parking spots / not people. Would love to see less cars downtown and more people walking safely	9/22/2025 3:54 PM
63	Park Street	9/22/2025 2:49 PM
64	No	9/21/2025 9:55 AM
65	Sidewalk on both sides of Griffith st. Need a walking and biking path to the oval	9/20/2025 7:14 PM
66	There should be a side walk on the west side of Griffith street connecting to the church side walk going down to Francis street	9/20/2025 11:28 AM
67	Saugatuck is doing a far better job than the much larger cities.	9/17/2025 5:42 PM
68	Lake St where Saugatuck aign is at the bridge	9/17/2025 3:28 PM
69	Not needed	9/17/2025 1:26 PM
70	none that stand out to me.	9/15/2025 9:45 PM
71	Park St is a disaster and so unsafe, it needs to be a priority considering it leads to 2 of our most visited areas. It would be nice to have more greenspace corridors connecting towns, parks, trails and non-motorized trails.	9/15/2025 1:53 PM
72	Blue Star Highway	9/14/2025 5:19 PM
73	In the neighborhood streets connecting Blue Star/Holland St. and downtown.	9/13/2025 5:00 PM
74	It depends on the season	9/11/2025 12:56 PM
75	Corner of Holland and Lucy Sts.	9/11/2025 12:29 PM
76	Along Park Street at west chain ferry landing	9/11/2025 11:24 AM
77	No opinion	9/10/2025 12:49 PM
78	everywhere downtown	9/10/2025 11:44 AM
79	Everywhere!	9/9/2025 9:50 PM
80	Generally, sidewalks are narrow and uneven.	9/9/2025 11:56 AM
81	North Street, Maple Street and Mason Street	9/9/2025 10:24 AM
82	We need a pedestrian/bike path that crosses the old wash out on Lakeshore drive!	9/9/2025 9:51 AM
83	I’m not aware of any problems.	9/8/2025 8:37 PM
84	4 way stops everywhere. Tourists are confused and cause problems.	9/8/2025 3:02 PM
85	Golf carts	9/8/2025 1:03 PM
86	Communications on Chain Ferry (where to park on either side, cost, frequency) would be beneficial. I've only just recently started exploring parking on the Douglas side of the channel and ferrying to the other side for restaurants and shops but I'm not sure how the Chain Ferry works.	9/8/2025 11:13 AM
87	Crossing Blue Star Highway at North Ave and 134th	9/8/2025 11:12 AM
88	Crossing Lake street from the water side- people ex wed the speed limit	9/8/2025 10:28 AM
89	I am not sure if it is possible, but a sidewalk on Lucy would be helpful.	9/8/2025 9:40 AM
90	West side of Water Street from Butler to Mason needs a sidewalk; Lucy Street from Water to Holland; West side of Lake street	9/8/2025 8:45 AM

91	The 4 way stops on Water/Park in front of The Butler and Malu could be improved. It’s challenging to navigate the stops with traffic and pedestrians.	9/8/2025 8:34 AM
92	Lucy St	9/8/2025 1:34 AM
93	Enforce the no-parking at intersections. Persistent illegal parking along Water by Francis blocks visibility of pedestrians and makes the area unsafe. Similar at several places along Water and Butler. Some offenders are locals/employees because I see the same vehicle for weeks during the summer.	9/7/2025 9:50 PM
94	Lucy st between water and holland	9/7/2025 8:50 PM
95	Fix the streets and roads! They are a mess on The Hill.	9/7/2025 8:29 PM
96	Lake and Culver Streets need a bike lane. I never feel safe riding my bike on those streets. I always use their sidewalks, which I know I shouldn't, but feels much safer than sharing the road.	9/7/2025 8:51 AM
97	Park st	9/6/2025 2:48 PM
98	Going downtown oathboff Griffith	9/6/2025 12:25 PM
99	Griffith at the path at the top of the hill. By the playground	9/6/2025 12:24 PM
100	It's difficult to cross the street downtown because of the parking situation. It's also hard to cross crosswalks by car for the same reason.	9/6/2025 12:22 PM
101	There isn't a need	9/6/2025 12:17 PM
102	On Griffith by the path to the hill. People don’t stop. And by the playground.	9/6/2025 12:15 PM
103	From Blue star into downtown. Very dangerous	9/6/2025 8:20 AM
104	134/North and Blue Star Old Allegan and Blue Star	9/6/2025 7:43 AM
105	None	9/5/2025 11:43 PM
106	Along Park Street, Ferry Street	9/5/2025 9:57 PM
107	Griffith street in front of "secret" path to downtown.	9/5/2025 9:48 PM
108	By Wicks Park/Wicks Restaurant is a dangerous crosswalk	9/5/2025 9:23 PM
109	Add another crosswalk across Water Street at the south side of Wicks Park. music in Park Wednesdays that intersection is really busy on both sides of the street between the city parks.	9/5/2025 8:58 PM
110	Griffith street needs speed bumps— I live on Griffith street and people literally go 50 miles hour there should be a sidewalk on the west side of Griffith street all the way down to Francis Street	9/5/2025 8:06 PM
111	From the high-school to the downtown area	9/5/2025 8:06 PM
112	Unsure	9/5/2025 4:48 PM
113	Two cross walks need to be added to Culver street infront of the parking lot to the adjacent park.	9/5/2025 11:56 AM
114	They owned by the public. They should be neutral in color.	9/5/2025 8:44 AM
115	Blue Star highway	9/5/2025 8:35 AM
116	Water st and blue star Hwy, Allegan st and water st, Allegan and pleasant, Allegan st and Maple st	9/5/2025 8:12 AM
117	Better lighting	9/5/2025 8:10 AM
118	There are plenty of spots with very low visibility in the core downtown for pedestrians (Water and Butler). Spots where cars which are much larger than they used to be can park right next to the crosswalk make it incredibly hard for me to see pedestrians in a car and be seen on foot	9/5/2025 7:45 AM
119	Farmers market	9/5/2025 7:25 AM
120	Bridge desperately needed to connect oval beach	9/3/2025 1:34 PM

121	Butler Street and Mason.	9/3/2025 10:41 AM
122	Anywhere along oval beach the road is narrow. I think a great solution would be a hiking trail alongside the road for pedestrians. It is dangerous for them and cars when they walk on the side of the road.	8/31/2025 9:33 AM
123	I don't think these areas need improvement; I think the drivers need to be more aware of pedestrians right of way laws	8/30/2025 7:18 PM
124	Blue Star Highway, Park St, Maple St, Perryman, Holland	8/30/2025 5:54 PM
125	Park street, Maple street,	8/30/2025 4:13 PM
126	no input	8/30/2025 3:43 PM
127	everywhere	8/30/2025 12:47 PM
128	Park street and perryman	8/30/2025 10:39 AM
129	I see people fall on the corner of Mary and Butler often. the city's job is to spend our money on infrastructure all of the side streets between water and Butler need to be improved starting with Mary and going down to Spear. Our tax dollars should not be used to improve store fronts and other buildings. That's up to the people that own them.	8/30/2025 8:17 AM
130	we MUST construct a path down park street to oval beach and out to Woosa. so many people ride bikes and walk this area, it's so unsafe	8/30/2025 7:30 AM
131	Blue Star corridor	8/30/2025 6:11 AM
132	uncertain	8/29/2025 7:57 PM
133	Downtown and to the beaches	8/29/2025 5:31 PM
134	Anywhere where Blue Star Highway - Lake Street. Like electrical outlets in homes, cannot go wrong with identified cross walks. Possibly consider other type of markings to support the city’s support as a welcoming city of all, and appropriate signs that also include the responsibility of motor vehicle drivers.	8/29/2025 5:28 PM

Q37 Where can street intersections be improved with signals, lighting, signage, or other features?

Answered: 119 Skipped: 267

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	They need to stop allowing restaurants to put their seating out in the road near crosswalks.	10/6/2025 2:37 PM
2	Blue Star and North St	10/4/2025 7:52 AM
3	A permanent electronic speed sign should be placed on Holland Street due to many speeders who do well over te speed limit of 25.	10/3/2025 10:19 PM
4	Few vehicles travel 25 mph on Holland. There is a lack of speed limit enforcement and a lack of informing drivers of their speed.	10/3/2025 9:56 PM
5	Fine the way it is currently	10/3/2025 3:00 PM
6	Enforce illegal parking at yellow curbs on corners. Ticket!! Tow!!!	10/3/2025 2:39 PM
7	All of downtown.	10/3/2025 1:23 PM
8	Griffith and Mason	10/3/2025 12:09 PM
9	Enforce no parking in the yellow curbs at corners so that the sight line is restored.	10/3/2025 10:19 AM
10	It would help if the street marking were done prior to season. Maybe the city should scape off the old flaking yellow paint first instead of painting over flakes. No prep is done.	10/2/2025 2:34 PM
11	Paint all of the cross walks before Memorial day with paint approved by MDOT. The rainbow cross walk is nice but its slippery when wet. I also feel its a distraction to drivers unfamiliar with our area.	10/2/2025 1:03 PM
12	Lighting on the hill is inadequate as well as on Ridgeview and Singapore streets	10/2/2025 11:25 AM
13	None	10/2/2025 8:39 AM
14	lake street and blue star highway needs a light, especially for people turning left. Holland street and bluestar, very dangerous intersection More motion sensor street lights on the hill in the residential district and areas of darkness downtown	10/1/2025 11:09 PM
15	We definitely need a traffic signal at Lake and Blue Star.	10/1/2025 8:32 PM
16	Corner of Water and BS; a light up stop sign at Park and Perryman. Township needs to improve things along BS, especially at Holland.	10/1/2025 2:52 PM
17	A light at Holland Street would be very beneficial!	10/1/2025 2:39 PM
18	Slow down on Griffith street	10/1/2025 12:07 PM
19	Speed limit ENFORCEMENT.	10/1/2025 8:58 AM
20	Holland St and blue star also lake street and blue star	9/30/2025 7:55 PM
21	Entrances to both ends of town	9/30/2025 7:54 PM
22	there should be traffic lights on bluestar hwy.	9/30/2025 4:32 PM
23	Lake Street and Blue Star Hwy, Maple and Blue Star Hwy, North Ave. and Blue Star Hwy, Holland St and Blue Star Hwy.	9/30/2025 7:43 AM
24	No more street lights	9/29/2025 11:50 PM
25	they are well lit now. This is a small town we should not let the new big city folks light the town like Chicago	9/29/2025 8:31 PM
26	Blue Star and Lake Street intersection. Also North Street and Blue Star intersection; as well as	9/29/2025 8:27 PM

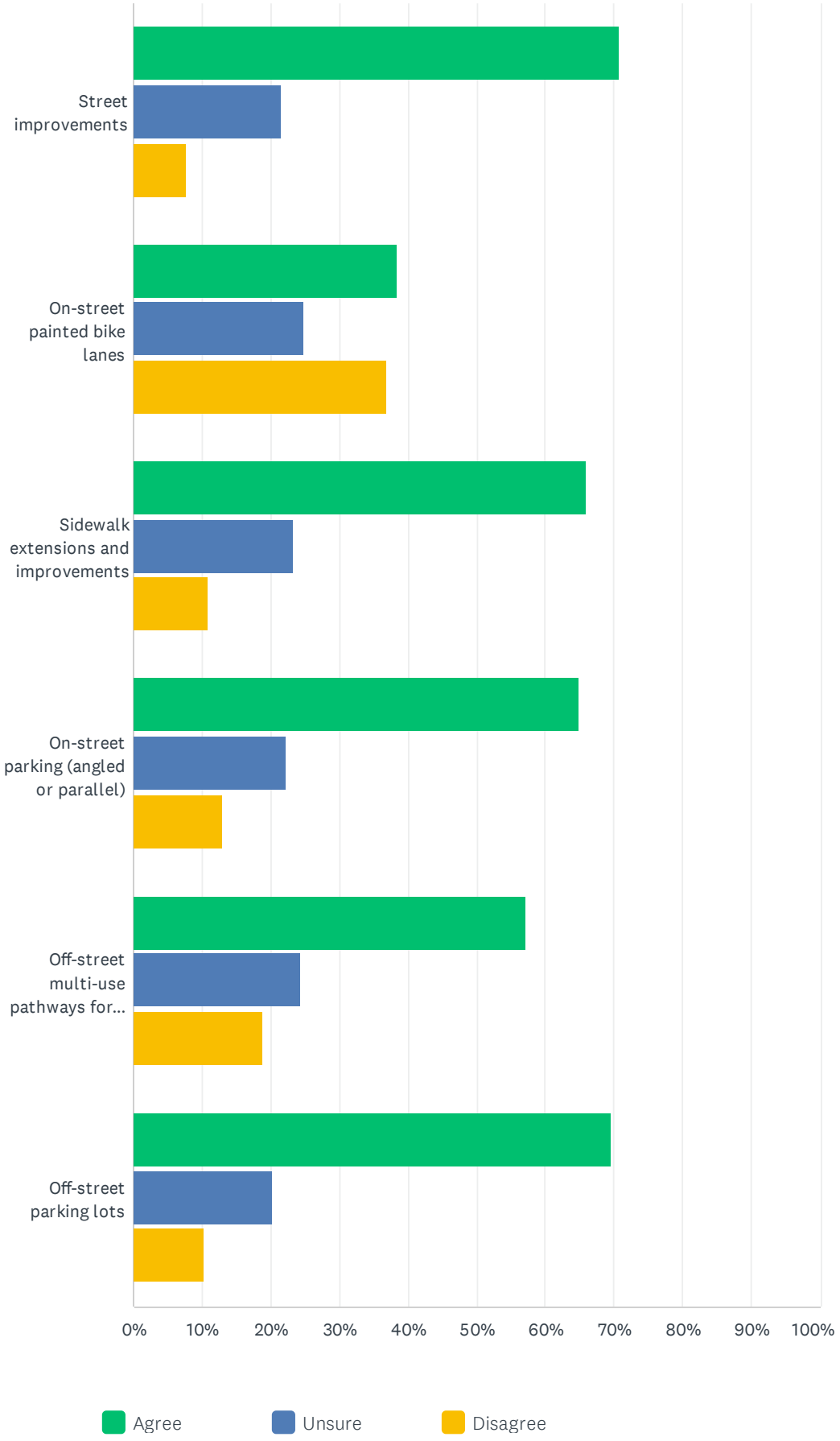
	Holland Street and Blue Star intersection; and definitely the five way intersection at 134th and Blue Star highway.	
27	Corner of Butler and Lake.	9/29/2025 2:59 PM
28	Yellow street stripping for fall needs major repainting. Bike the path from Saint Peter‘s Church into downtown Saugatuck and you will understand clearly	9/29/2025 2:54 PM
29	none come to mind	9/29/2025 2:52 PM
30	Busiest intersections	9/29/2025 10:02 AM
31	Can’t think of any	9/29/2025 8:31 AM
32	Butler & culver	9/28/2025 9:47 PM
33	Consistent "no parking" signs are needed on the hill. It's a mess of inconsistent no parking signs.	9/28/2025 8:21 PM
34	Butler street	9/28/2025 3:38 PM
35	Lucy st	9/28/2025 2:44 PM
36	Main st	9/28/2025 12:49 PM
37	Unsure	9/28/2025 9:47 AM
38	Lake and Blue Star, and Holland and Blue Star	9/27/2025 1:17 PM
39	saugatuck sign at north entry	9/27/2025 12:52 PM
40	Dont waste community money	9/27/2025 10:18 AM
41	Since the round about was put in in Blue Star that was my big issue.	9/26/2025 4:46 PM
42	streets in town need resurface. they are terrible	9/26/2025 1:04 PM
43	There is no rhyme or reason on where street lights are placed. The ones that exist are too bright for residents and are not near busy intersections on the hill.	9/26/2025 12:12 PM
44	Holland is tough to walk at night without lights	9/26/2025 12:08 PM
45	245 hoffman lacks a sidewalk. Griffith lacks a sidewalk north at the next intersection past main.	9/26/2025 4:29 AM
46	We need a stop light at Lake and Blue Star Highway.	9/25/2025 11:13 PM
47	Unsure	9/25/2025 9:39 PM
48	Need lights at Blue Star Hwy and Lake St.	9/24/2025 6:04 PM
49	We do not need any additional signals, but better signage and crosswalk markings.	9/24/2025 8:39 AM
50	North ave - blue star, blue star - lake, holland -blue star	9/23/2025 8:24 PM
51	Especially with the completion of the Blue Star trail, a light at Lake St and Blue Star is essential.	9/23/2025 1:36 PM
52	Up and down butler st	9/23/2025 1:24 PM
53	no comment	9/22/2025 9:57 PM
54	None	9/22/2025 8:12 PM
55	Reduce the width of the bike/multi-use lane on Blue Star Highway particularly at Main St…it has created an unsafe pinch point.	9/22/2025 7:05 PM
56	Anywhere you cross should be highlighted especially in the heart of Downtown. Perhaps a unique and artfully tasteful way to label and bring attention to pedestrians	9/22/2025 3:54 PM
57	A light would help by the Saugatuck sign/entrance	9/22/2025 2:49 PM
58	No roundabouts, please.	9/22/2025 10:48 AM
59	I think a traffic light should go at Lake and Blue Star Highway ASAP	9/21/2025 3:03 PM

60	No	9/21/2025 9:55 AM
61	Speed control on Griffith st , people park at the high school and many people rent on the hill and to walk downtown you have to cross griffith street to the path and it’s the service road all the delivery trucks use at very high speed	9/20/2025 7:14 PM
62	There should be a speed bump on Griffith street— cars are going over 50 miles an hour constantly	9/20/2025 11:28 AM
63	North and Blue Star. Lake and Blue Star	9/19/2025 9:19 AM
64	light at Lake and BSH	9/18/2025 5:39 PM
65	I don’t know but for godsakes get rid of all the terrible glaring commerical lighting that blinds me	9/17/2025 3:28 PM
66	Remove stop light by the Butler - it never changes make it 4way	9/17/2025 1:26 PM
67	lighting on the hill is very dark, and when employees are walking to their cars after 12am I can understand the hesitation to walk alone.	9/15/2025 9:45 PM
68	All along Blue Star	9/14/2025 5:19 PM
69	Crossing Butler Street or Water should have 4 way stop signs	9/14/2025 5:19 PM
70	Unsure.	9/13/2025 5:00 PM
71	None	9/11/2025 12:29 PM
72	West chain ferry landing, Park/Perryman intersection	9/11/2025 11:24 AM
73	Griffith and Mason St. Lake Street and Blue Star Highway	9/10/2025 4:55 PM
74	Perhaps a light where Lake St. and Blue Star intersect.	9/10/2025 12:49 PM
75	Lake Street for sure	9/10/2025 11:44 AM
76	Clear signage and adequate lighting are needed at every intersection.	9/9/2025 9:50 PM
77	Lake/Blue Star	9/9/2025 6:17 PM
78	with the many other state organizations declaring the colored cross walks illegal is the City opening themselves up for liability should a pedestrian get hit?	9/9/2025 2:20 PM
79	Some streets allow parking too close to the intersection, making it impossible for cars to see oncoming traffic.	9/9/2025 11:56 AM
80	4-way stop on Butler at Hoffman. Lane divider to better demarcate the merge lane from Lake Street onto Blue Star (people don't know how to use it)	9/9/2025 10:24 AM
81	Who is lost. Saugatuck is not that big. European cities make big bucks on tourists wondering aimless and lost.	9/8/2025 8:37 PM
82	People park where Griffith st ends at the water in the yellow striped area all the time. It blocks ADA access It’s needs signs and restriping. Please ticket them	9/8/2025 3:02 PM
83	Speeding High School and tourism traffic up on the hill is concerning. Additional radar / speed notification signs would benefit public safety, especially on Francis street	9/8/2025 1:24 PM
84	golf carts	9/8/2025 1:03 PM
85	There should be 4-way stops on The Hill. Side Walk/Bike lane on Maple Street.	9/8/2025 11:12 AM
86	The signage at the traffic circle is too large and ineffective, and it should be presented to drivers prior to their arrival to it, not at it.	9/8/2025 9:38 AM
87	Add a stop light at Lake and Blue Star	9/8/2025 8:45 AM
88	Lake and Blue Star	9/8/2025 1:34 AM
89	Butler and Hoffman should be a 4-way stop. Unsafe for pedestrians.	9/7/2025 9:50 PM
90	Informational signs for downtown, restrooms, parking, etc might be helpful for visitors.	9/7/2025 8:51 AM

91	No need	9/6/2025 2:48 PM
92	Griffith and hiffman	9/6/2025 12:25 PM
93	Most of the time, things run smoothly	9/6/2025 12:17 PM
94	Blue Star and Lake Street	9/6/2025 8:20 AM
95	See above	9/6/2025 7:43 AM
96	Turning onto Blue Star Highway from Lake St	9/5/2025 9:23 PM
97	No signals needed	9/5/2025 6:08 PM
98	Butler street on the north end is pretty dark.	9/5/2025 4:55 PM
99	Throughout the city	9/5/2025 4:48 PM
100	Lake Street @ Blue Star Hwy	9/5/2025 1:27 PM
101	Blue star highway	9/5/2025 8:35 AM
102	Need more speed signs on Allegan St and another radar detector on Allegan going West Bound. Too many drivers driving over 25 mph	9/5/2025 8:12 AM
103	Use reflective materials	9/5/2025 8:10 AM
104	This one is less important to me. I think the design of a street is vastly more important than the signage or signals you put on it. Lighting should be wherever pedestrians are expected to be (like if you build a multiuse path out to oval beach, which I hope you do)	9/5/2025 7:45 AM
105	not sure	9/5/2025 7:25 AM
106	Perryman & Park	9/3/2025 6:34 PM
107	lake and blue star. holland and blue star	9/2/2025 10:27 AM
108	MORE CHRISTMAS LIGHT MORE MORE MORE	8/31/2025 9:33 AM
109	As above in #36	8/30/2025 7:18 PM
110	Blue Star Highway, Holland	8/30/2025 5:54 PM
111	Roundabout at the intersection bluster, 135th, 65th by the dune ride	8/30/2025 4:33 PM
112	Lake at Blue Star highway	8/30/2025 4:13 PM
113	no input	8/30/2025 3:43 PM
114	everywhere	8/30/2025 12:47 PM
115	i think it's fine the way it is	8/30/2025 7:30 AM
116	Blue Star Hwy and Lake Street	8/30/2025 6:11 AM
117	Water street needs 4 way stops because it is hard to see around cars parked on an angle	8/29/2025 8:38 PM
118	they are fine as they are	8/29/2025 7:57 PM
119	See above	8/29/2025 5:28 PM

Q38 Do you feel the City should invest in the following?

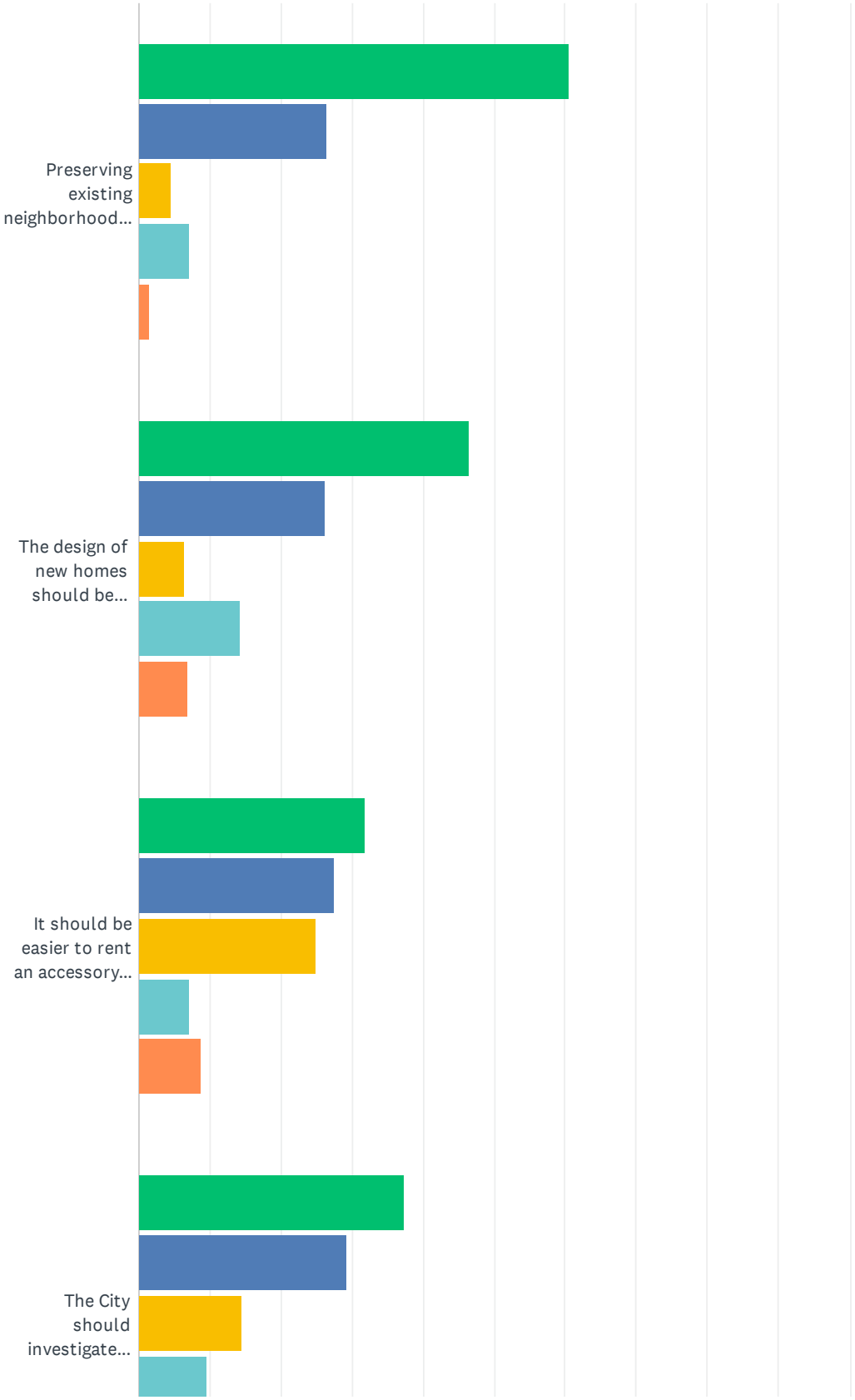
Answered: 293 Skipped: 93

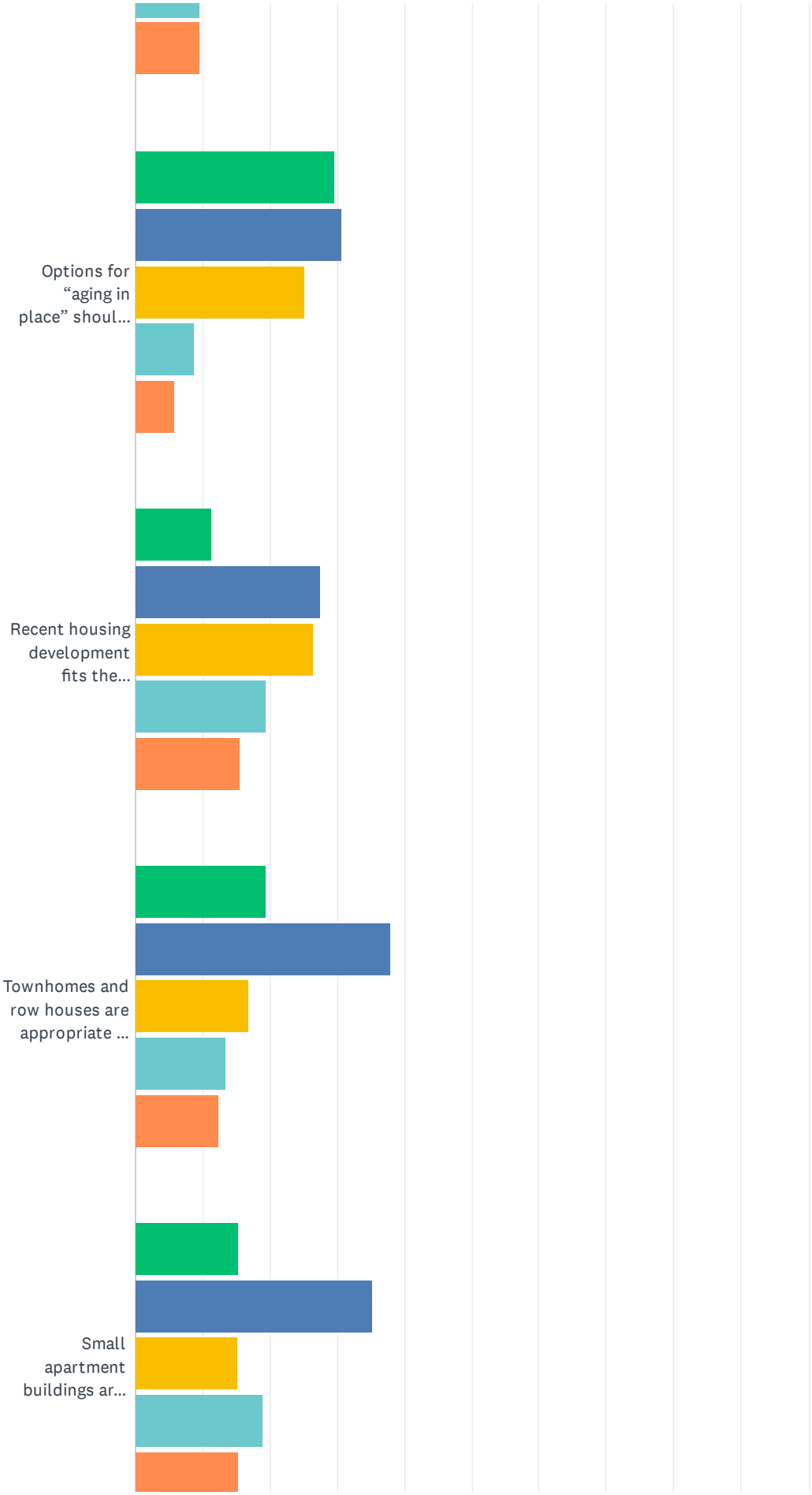

Street improvements
On-street painted bike lanes
Sidewalk extensions and improvements
On-street parking (angled or parallel)
Off-street multi-use pathways for...
Off-street parking lots
0%
10%
20%
30%
40%
50%
60%
70%
80%
90%
100%
Agree
Unsure
Disagree

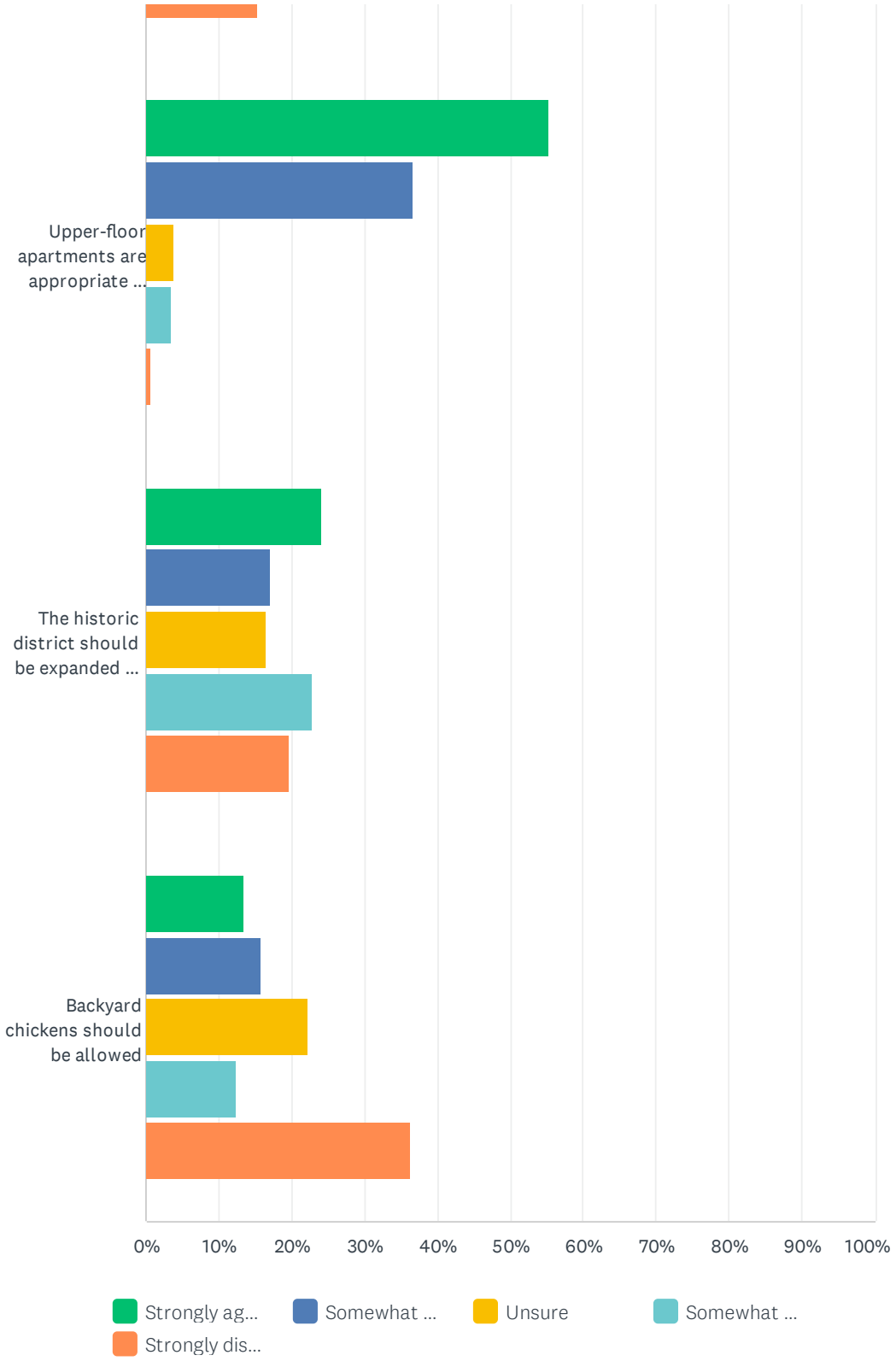
	AGREE	UNSURE	DISAGREE	TOTAL
Street improvements	70.83% 204	21.53% 62	7.64% 22	288
On-street painted bike lanes	38.33% 110	24.74% 71	36.93% 106	287
Sidewalk extensions and improvements	65.96% 188	23.16% 66	10.88% 31	285
On-street parking (angled or parallel)	64.73% 189	22.26% 65	13.01% 38	292
Off-street multi-use pathways for walking, biking, running, scooters, roller skates/blades, etc.	57.09% 165	24.22% 70	18.69% 54	289
Off-street parking lots	69.42% 202	20.27% 59	10.31% 30	291

Q39 Do you agree with the following statements about housing?

Answered: 287 Skipped: 99



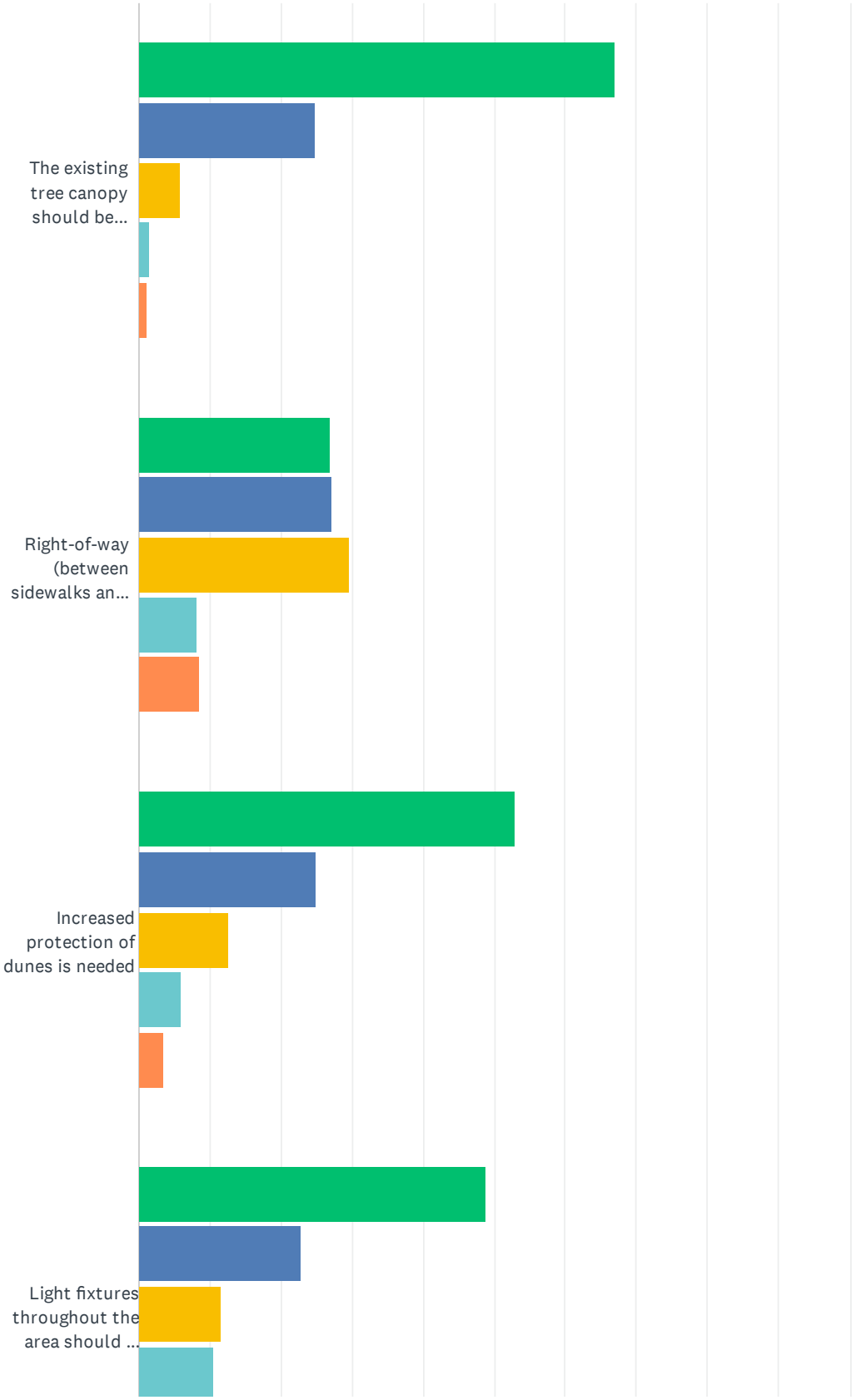

Options for "aging in place" shoul...
Recent housing development fits the...
Townhomes and row houses are appropriate ...
Small apartment buildings ar...

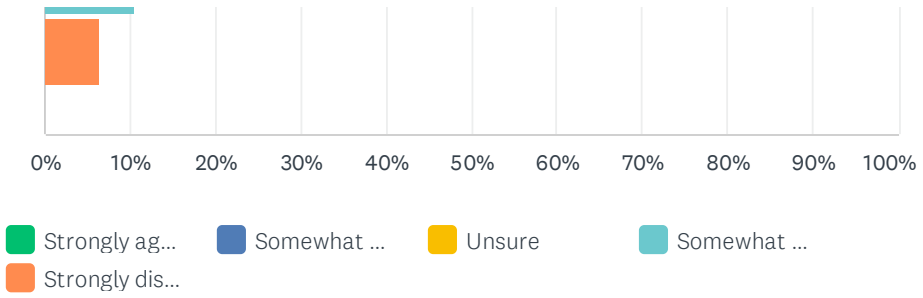

Upper-floor apartments are appropriate ...
The historic district should be expanded ...
Backyard chickens should be allowed
0%
10%
20%
30%
40%
50%
60%
70%
80%
90%
100%
Strongly ag...
Somewhat ...
Unsure
Somewhat ...
Strongly dis...

	STRONGLY AGREE	SOMEWHAT AGREE	UNSURE	SOMEWHAT DISAGREE	STRONGLY DISAGREE	TOTAL
Preserving existing neighborhood character should be a priority	60.56% 172	26.41% 75	4.58% 13	7.04% 20	1.41% 4	284
The design of new homes should be limited to be consistent and compatible with the scale of existing homes in the vicinity	46.45% 131	26.24% 74	6.38% 18	14.18% 40	6.74% 19	282
It should be easier to rent an accessory dwelling unit (long-term- 30 days+)	31.69% 90	27.46% 78	25.00% 71	7.04% 20	8.80% 25	284
The City should investigate strategies for more affordable workforce housing	37.32% 106	29.23% 83	14.44% 41	9.51% 27	9.51% 27	284
Options for “aging in place” should be explored (down-sizing, senior housing, etc., in the same community)	29.68% 84	30.74% 87	25.09% 71	8.83% 25	5.65% 16	283
Recent housing development fits the character of the City's neighborhoods	11.27% 32	27.46% 78	26.41% 75	19.37% 55	15.49% 44	284
Townhomes and row houses are appropriate in neighborhoods if designed to fit the scale and character	19.37% 55	38.03% 108	16.90% 48	13.38% 38	12.32% 35	284
Small apartment buildings are appropriate in neighborhoods if designed to fit the scale and character	15.44% 44	35.09% 100	15.09% 43	18.95% 54	15.44% 44	285
Upper-floor apartments are appropriate in the downtown area	55.24% 158	36.71% 105	3.85% 11	3.50% 10	0.70% 2	286
The historic district should be expanded to place further restrictions on redevelopment and new development	24.13% 69	17.13% 49	16.43% 47	22.73% 65	19.58% 56	286
Backyard chickens should be allowed	13.38% 38	15.85% 45	22.18% 63	12.32% 35	36.27% 103	284

Q40 Do you agree with the following statements about the environment?

Answered: 287 Skipped: 99

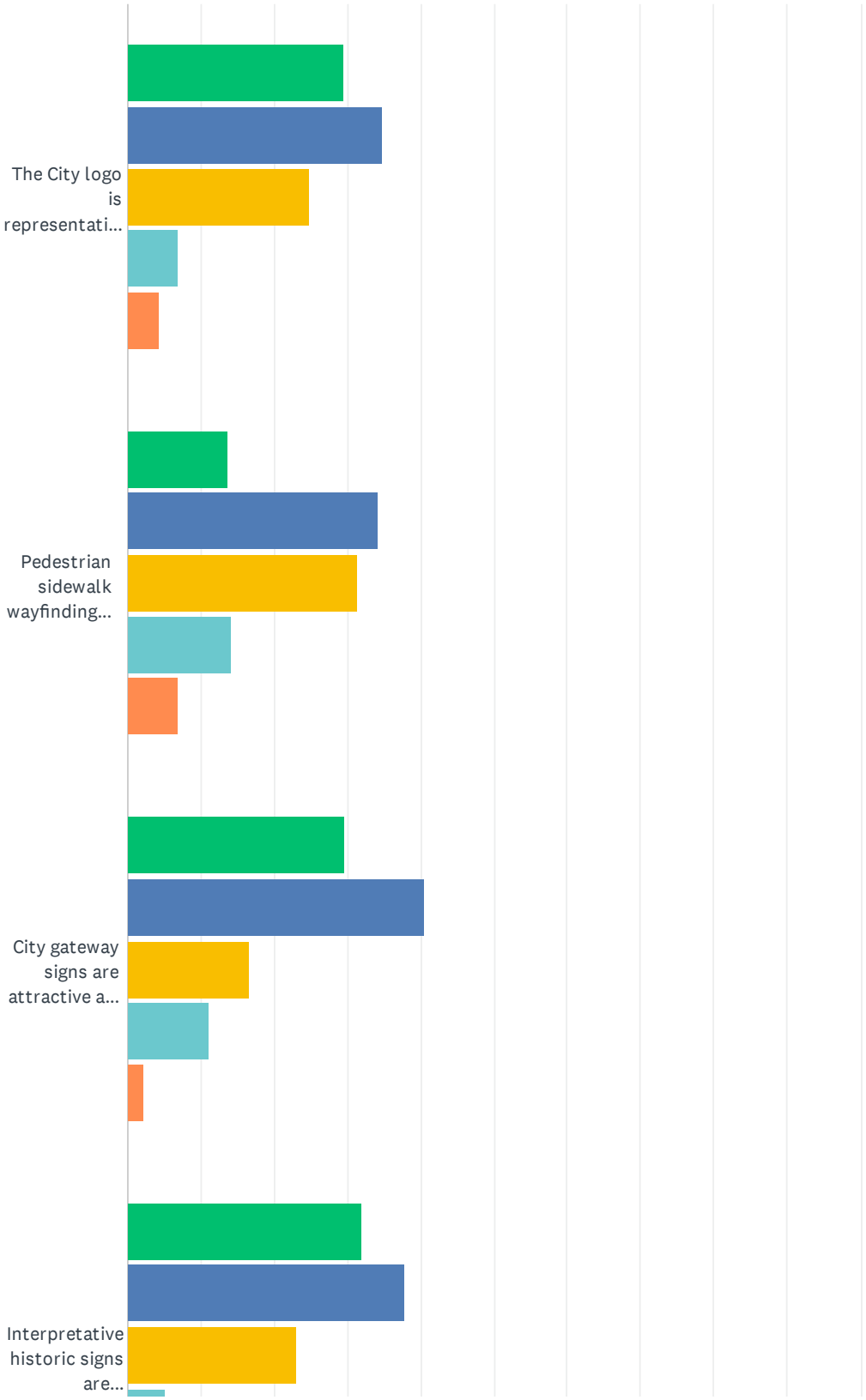


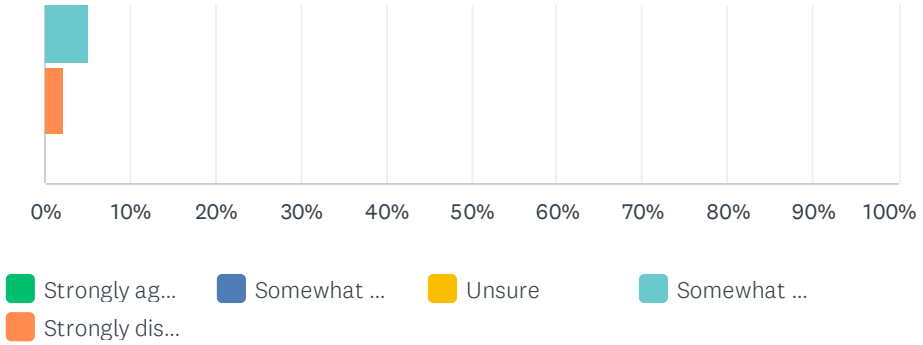


	STRONGLY AGREE	SOMEWHAT AGREE	UNSURE	SOMEWHAT DISAGREE	STRONGLY DISAGREE	TOTAL
The existing tree canopy should be preserved and new street trees planted	67.02% 189	24.82% 70	5.67% 16	1.42% 4	1.06% 3	282
Right-of-way (between sidewalks and streets), yards, parks, and green spaces should be used for rain gardens and natural stormwater treatment	26.76% 76	27.11% 77	29.58% 84	8.10% 23	8.45% 24	284
Increased protection of dunes is needed	52.98% 151	24.91% 71	12.63% 36	5.96% 17	3.51% 10	285
Light fixtures throughout the area should be "Dark Sky Friendly," meaning they have a lesser impact on the night sky.	48.77% 139	22.81% 65	11.58% 33	10.53% 30	6.32% 18	285

Q41 Do you agree with the following statements about the City's logo and signs?

Answered: 279 Skipped: 107





	STRONGLY AGREE	SOMEWHAT AGREE	UNSURE	SOMEWHAT DISAGREE	STRONGLY DISAGREE	TOTAL
The City logo is representative of the community	29.39% 82	34.77% 97	24.73% 69	6.81% 19	4.30% 12	279
Pedestrian sidewalk wayfinding signs are attractive and conveniently placed throughout the community	13.67% 38	34.17% 95	31.29% 87	14.03% 39	6.83% 19	278
City gateway signs are attractive and representative of the community	29.60% 82	40.43% 112	16.61% 46	11.19% 31	2.17% 6	277
Interpretative historic signs are representative of our history and culture	32.01% 89	37.77% 105	23.02% 64	5.04% 14	2.16% 6	278

Q42 What else is important to consider about the City's identity?

Answered: 102 Skipped: 284

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	Maintaining the harbor.	10/6/2025 9:16 PM
2	That the residents are not tourists.	10/6/2025 2:42 PM
3	Thank you on backside of Holland and Blue star	10/5/2025 12:32 PM
4	I think more effort should be put towards promoting family, and less on LGBTQ.. less advertising(CVB) for "events and activities" that are adult oriented, wine, wine, art stroll, more wine, Venetian festival 80's party , more wine tasting and wine tours, fine art, more wine and drinking, " pride"events. Those should be up to each business to promote, with some promotion from the CVB .	10/4/2025 7:15 PM
5	Small town nature of the community	10/3/2025 3:08 PM
6	Don't allow the CVB to promote the city in ways that are untrue. The city is weak on art galleries, and LGBTQ activities are essentially limited to a single bar in Douglas. Do not oversell the area. When visitors arrive expecting more than what's actually here, they will be disappointed and unlikely to return.	10/3/2025 2:45 PM
7	Long lasting retail shops and restaurants.	10/3/2025 1:32 PM
8	Recognition of Native American heritage	10/3/2025 12:19 PM
9	It is hard to call the area the ART COAST with so very few TRUE galleries and live performances within City limits.	10/3/2025 10:34 AM
10	Landlords should be required to properly maintain their buildings. Many downtown buildings are poorly maintained.	10/2/2025 7:43 PM
11	all of the lights, benches, trash cans should be the same	10/2/2025 1:09 PM
12	Saugatuck should preserve its historic character and promote its history thru the atmosphere/look of the city (the Butler addition is an eyesore, it doesn't fit the historic character of the exiting architecture).	10/2/2025 11:34 AM
13	More flowers and landscaping should be added. Douglas has beautiful gardens throughout Center Street. We should follow their lead.	10/1/2025 8:42 PM
14	Historic buildings within the historic district could be identified with building date.	10/1/2025 3:54 PM
15	our signage and logo need an overhaul.	10/1/2025 2:52 PM
16	Welcome to Saugatuck! Slow down and relax.	10/1/2025 9:09 AM
17	It should be much more than a tourist destination and summer home for the wealthy. We need opportunities for families to live and work, with affordable housing, medical care and jobs.	10/1/2025 8:42 AM
18	It's always been a tourist town. Leave it be as is. Leave STRs alone.	9/30/2025 8:08 PM
19	I believe direction of people moving to our community. I have no history when it comes to generational homes, generational homes should be able to rent and be grandfathered in to keep these homes in these families for many generations because these are the people in the communities before us that made Saugatuck great.	9/30/2025 8:07 PM
20	I think you should replace the Saugatuck sign that moved from Mount baldhead Park to the entrance to the city. Baldhead Park is an important welcoming sign for voters entering the harbor.	9/30/2025 5:31 PM
21	Our streetscapes downtown are desperate for improvement - from being downright dirty with trash, or lack of any natural objects. I would love to have the areas and streetscapes that Douglas has managed to create. The natural, native plantings in season are amazing.	9/30/2025 2:20 PM

22	Saugatuck has lost most of its original charm & that happens when you loose your community of families & their children who actually live here.Thefocus here is making money off real estate & renting your property to make more$,	9/30/2025 1:50 PM
23	Keeping the reflection that Saugatuck is a community that values art and artists. That Saugatuck is a safe place for people of all walks of life, religions, political preferences and races.	9/30/2025 7:53 AM
24	Eliminate the houseboats on park street	9/29/2025 11:55 PM
25	Access to the boardwalk, from Coughlin Park all the way to the chain ferry.	9/29/2025 8:31 PM
26	Don’t change what’s not broken	9/29/2025 5:02 PM
27	We need full-time residents. We need kids who live here.	9/29/2025 3:11 PM
28	The painters palette signage is charming. Tourist Towns like Hilton Head island have had code to maintain the signage charm. That includes even retail like mcdonalds	9/29/2025 3:03 PM
29	The Interurban is a failure. Rarely do i see more than one person riding. Winter is zero. Stop this wasteful transport. See how Sarasota does it with the Wave Runner. The app is great, you always know when and where it is. Taxes need to be lowered. They are terrible for a town this size and a school district with less than 1000 students. Cut back	9/29/2025 10:10 AM
30	Too many small cottages are being replaced by huge mega homes	9/29/2025 7:45 AM
31	None	9/28/2025 9:51 PM
32	-	9/28/2025 8:25 PM
33	Feeding people to online website, for daily updates, Oval parking availability and Interurban routes (including scheduled pick up and drop offs to oval beach.	9/28/2025 10:09 AM
34	Do Not get rid of the Palette Sign. The sign on the north entrance of Saugatuck should be replaced with a sign like the one that was there before.	9/27/2025 2:54 PM
35	Great people yet the corruption at the city council level is frustrating, we recently had a council member serving as a felon due to voter fraud and currently have 2 serving council members and one commissioner on Historic that the State of MI report claims that they most likely committed a felony in voter fraud in the past election	9/27/2025 1:19 PM
36	Do not make any more small round-a-bouts	9/27/2025 10:24 AM
37	City should be less seasonal and more year round events	9/26/2025 4:52 PM
38	replace the Saugatuck sign at N entry	9/26/2025 1:13 PM
39	Our Art Fair seems to be more crafty then a true art fair. We have great galleries so we should attract a juried art fair.	9/25/2025 11:18 PM
40	Arts Culture	9/25/2025 9:42 PM
41	Community	9/25/2025 4:59 PM
42	Walkability, there should be paramount; crosswalks, sidewalks and bike racks wherever appropriate	9/25/2025 4:29 PM
43	Be kinder to tourists. Current council has pissed them off, they feel unwelcome and may not come back	9/25/2025 3:59 PM
44	The art palette sign needs to be maintained and remain for decades to come. Other signage needs to integrate that look and feel.	9/24/2025 8:43 AM
45	Buried utilities along butler Street	9/23/2025 8:28 PM
46	More signs to show business locations, bathrooms, activities, and Interurban pick-up spots. I think the History Center has done a fantastic job with the historic signs throughout town.	9/23/2025 1:54 PM
47	It should represent an art community and be designed by local artists	9/23/2025 1:29 PM
48	The city was rooted as a seasonal city during the 1800's, and the feeling is the city is erasing this history to please full-time residents like myself, when in fact, what attracted many people	9/23/2025 9:37 AM

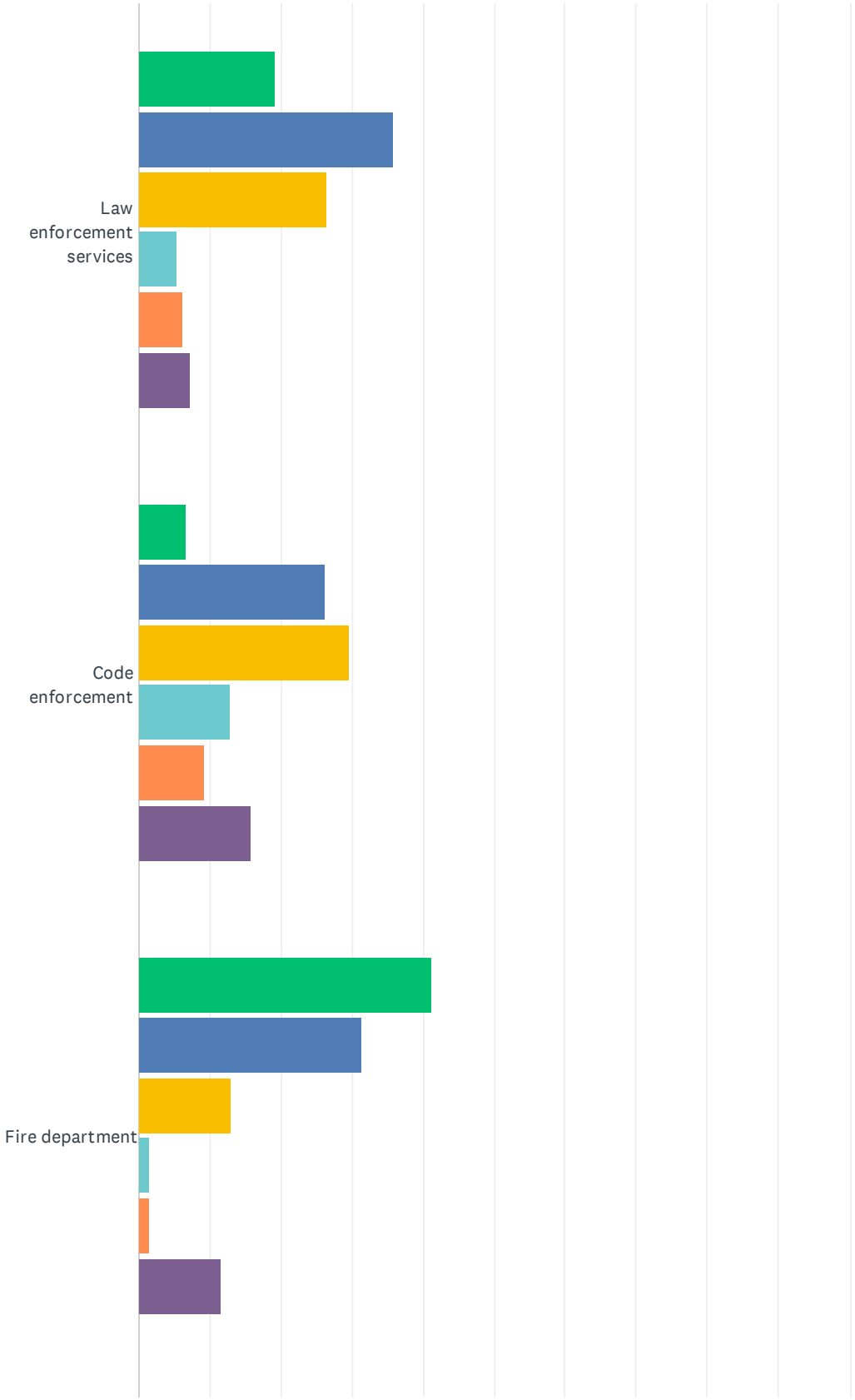
	is the vibrance the city offers in the summer. In my humble opinion, the village representatives are slowly degrading the business of the city by making it more difficult, or even pushing out tourists that stay in the city to other towns like Douglas, and eventually will lose tax revenue to fund all the proposed projects unless they reverse course on their actions on short-term rentals. By doing so could be viewed as an aggressive move against the minority community that put Saugatuck on the tourist map by limiting their availability to stay in our community.	
49	The City once had a picture of the Village Hall Building as its logo. Charming & historic That certainly is much more historical than a river.	9/22/2025 10:14 PM
50	More inclusive language and other languages	9/22/2025 1:04 PM
51	Better sidewalks downtown.	9/22/2025 12:53 PM
52	Lose the entitlement attitude	9/22/2025 11:35 AM
53	I fully support the LGBTQIA+ community and I hope the city does too as it is a part of who we are and where we've been	9/21/2025 4:59 PM
54	Lower taxes and stop spending on BS crap raising taxes especially for water front property it's getting insane	9/21/2025 10:01 AM
55	The influx of very large expensive houses along the river and lake are changing the character of saugatuck	9/20/2025 7:19 PM
56	focus on nature, the waterways, dunes and trails	9/18/2025 5:42 PM
57	Incorporate all of the iterations of Saugatuck, including native american background, lumber town, biker and concert town, beach town, LGBQ history, second-home/vacation town culture, rich artistic identity, including theater and visual arts, and the coastal/dune resources and preservation.	9/17/2025 5:59 PM
58	History of Indigenous peoples originally living here and of the gay community's contribution	9/17/2025 3:37 PM
59	we need Less regulations from the City - property rights are more important	9/17/2025 1:30 PM
60	A warm community without the toxic behavior of the city leaders. Who operate on personal agendas vs real data	9/15/2025 9:55 PM
61	we need to invest in universal signage and wayfinding with Douglas and Township to it's safe and makes sense. we need an updated logo- both Douglas and Township have done great work with this.	9/15/2025 1:58 PM
62	Artist Community	9/14/2025 5:27 PM
63	Liveable town versus tourist focus	9/14/2025 5:22 PM
64	We need to ensure that "gateway" roads to Saugatuck are mowed on the sides to look attractive (and not unkept) when entering/driving thru our town.	9/11/2025 12:08 PM
65	We consider ourselves the city of trees (and have been awarded as such by the Arbor Day Foundation) yet we: -don't do enough to plant new trees, care for older trees (trim, treat diseased trees, etc.) -don't have an formal tree plan (i.e. number of trees to plant each year, desired varieties, location, professional care plan, formal process for requesting trees, etc.) for the city, other than DPW's back-of-the-envelope, management. -dissolved the tree board whose purpose was to oversee the process for management and removal of dead or diseased trees. -allows homeowners to remove trees in the right-of-way with no repercussions, such as what occurred at 450 Park St. last year (~7 perfectly healthy trees removed to improve river views).	9/11/2025 11:52 AM
66	Love the painter's palette sign as you enter the city	9/10/2025 10:35 AM
67	Inclusivity and Creativity are the hallmarks of Saugatuck.	9/9/2025 12:00 PM
68	First impressions matter. The city should require business owners to maintain their properties more. Coral Gables is embarrassingly dilapidated, as is the vacant old market building next to Bayside Inn on Water Street.	9/9/2025 10:31 AM
69	Many of the questions reference design and scale of buildings. I think you would get more valuable information from the responses if you separated design from scale.	9/9/2025 10:04 AM

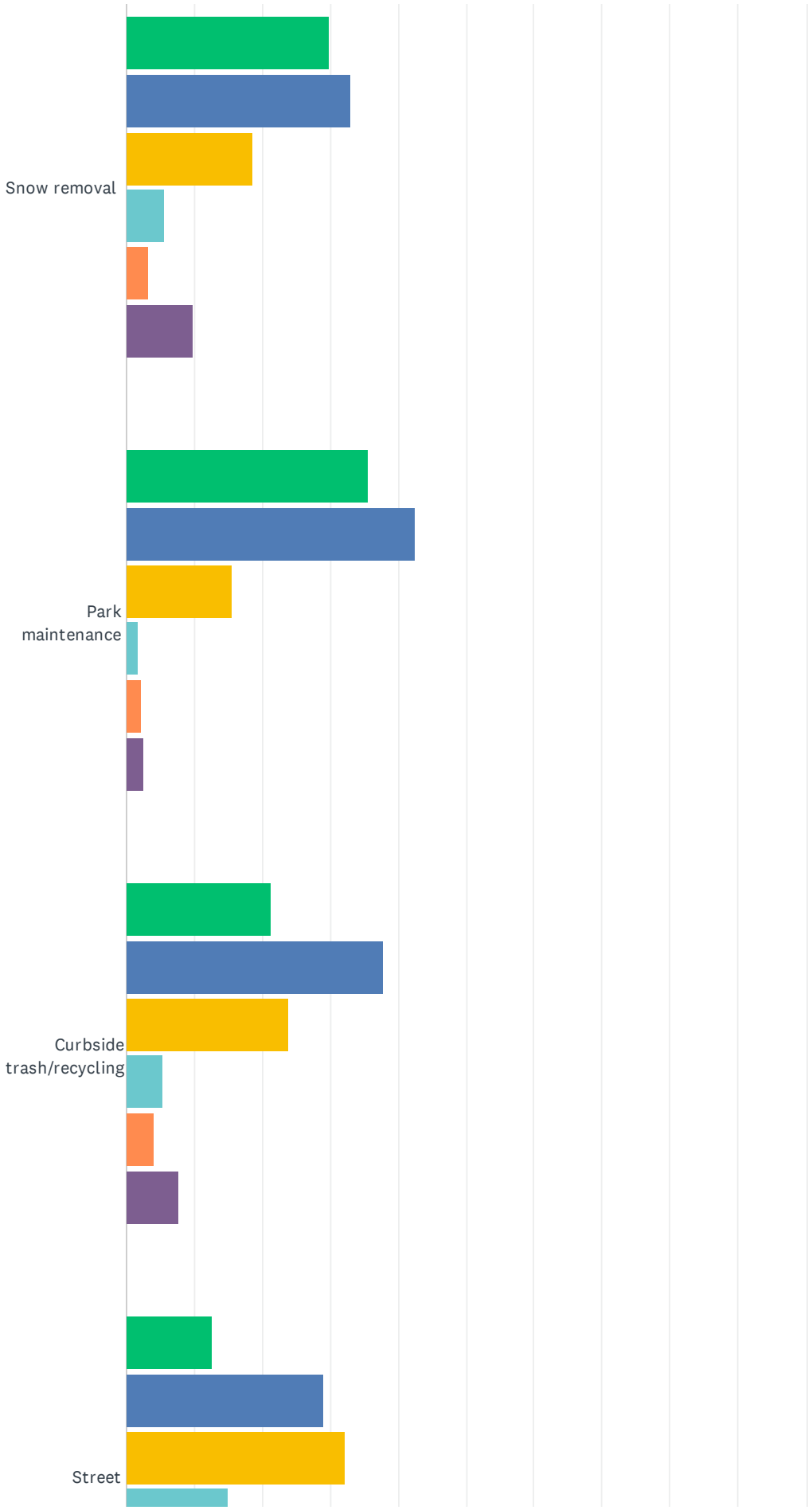
70	More affordable vacation rentals.	9/9/2025 7:36 AM
71	No chain food or stores.	9/8/2025 8:46 PM
72	Sidewalks downtown could be made more attractive. Petoskey is a good model.	9/8/2025 3:27 PM
73	I am sorry but the canary is silly	9/8/2025 1:06 PM
74	The waterfront should be perserved.	9/8/2025 11:22 AM
75	When I think about the City's identity, I believe it needs to reflect more than just our logo and signage. Our identity is rooted in being a small town that is welcoming, creative, and inclusive. Saugatuck's history as an artists' colony is still alive today in our galleries, theater, and cultural events, and that artistic spirit should continue to shape how we present ourselves. Just as importantly, we're known as a community that openly supports and celebrates the LGBTQ community, and that inclusiveness is part of what makes this place feel like home. I also think our natural setting—the lake, the river, the dunes, and the trails—should be reflected in how we express our identity. These landscapes aren't just a backdrop, they're part of who we are. To me, the City's identity should balance all of these things: our small-town character, our creativity, our inclusivity, and our connection to the natural environment.	9/8/2025 9:44 AM
76	Need to maintain a small resort town feel	9/8/2025 1:40 AM
77	Need to ensure the "Art Coast" remains thriving. Loss of many quality galleries has reduced the area's focus on our artistic identity.	9/7/2025 9:55 PM
78	No more rainbows! It's NOT inclusive of everyone that lives here! It's divisive!	9/7/2025 9:12 PM
79	The extended history of events.	9/7/2025 8:57 PM
80	Encouraged eccentricity. We've become too homogeneous. More street performers and less regulation	9/6/2025 2:53 PM
81	Main Saugatuck's sign off bridge	9/6/2025 12:30 PM
82	More historic area signs. More entry way signs to Saugatuck. Neighborhood signs in the hill	9/6/2025 12:27 PM
83	We have a lovely, historical, city. Just because people want to see it doesn't mean that we need to change it to accommodate ALL of the people! They are coming for a reason, don't change that reason by expansion.	9/6/2025 12:25 PM
84	Historical, artistic and coastal are all you need	9/6/2025 8:27 AM
85	Inclusivity, Arts, Education, History, Ecological preservation	9/6/2025 7:48 AM
86	Not sure who decided to cut down all the trees in the park? Wow, that's a bad decision. OK someone has planted new tiny trees, but it was much better in the past. Miss all the beautiful trees and wildlife. Sad.	9/6/2025 12:46 AM
87	The main saugatuck sign across the bridge.	9/5/2025 9:55 PM
88	Please do something about Coral Gables. It looks awful and is so littered outside with broken furniture and trash.	9/5/2025 9:35 PM
89	Homeless ordinance	9/5/2025 6:15 PM
90	Small town feel	9/5/2025 4:54 PM
91	Get rid of the firetrap Coral Gables!!!!!!	9/5/2025 10:41 AM
92	LGBTQ inclusion	9/5/2025 8:41 AM
93	All historical buildings and dwellings such as Wicks Park Gazebo, Coral Gables, the river boardwalk, Chain Ferry	9/5/2025 8:18 AM
94	Boat slips and docks add character! Also, part of Saugatuck's charm is that it's an old town, and not everything needs to be perfect.	9/3/2025 6:40 PM
95	What is city logo? Pallet sign? or the Saugatuck blue with white river?	9/3/2025 1:08 PM
96	Keep the character of the City intact.	9/3/2025 10:50 AM
97	The historical character of the town needs to stay and not have modern housing and	9/3/2025 10:50 AM

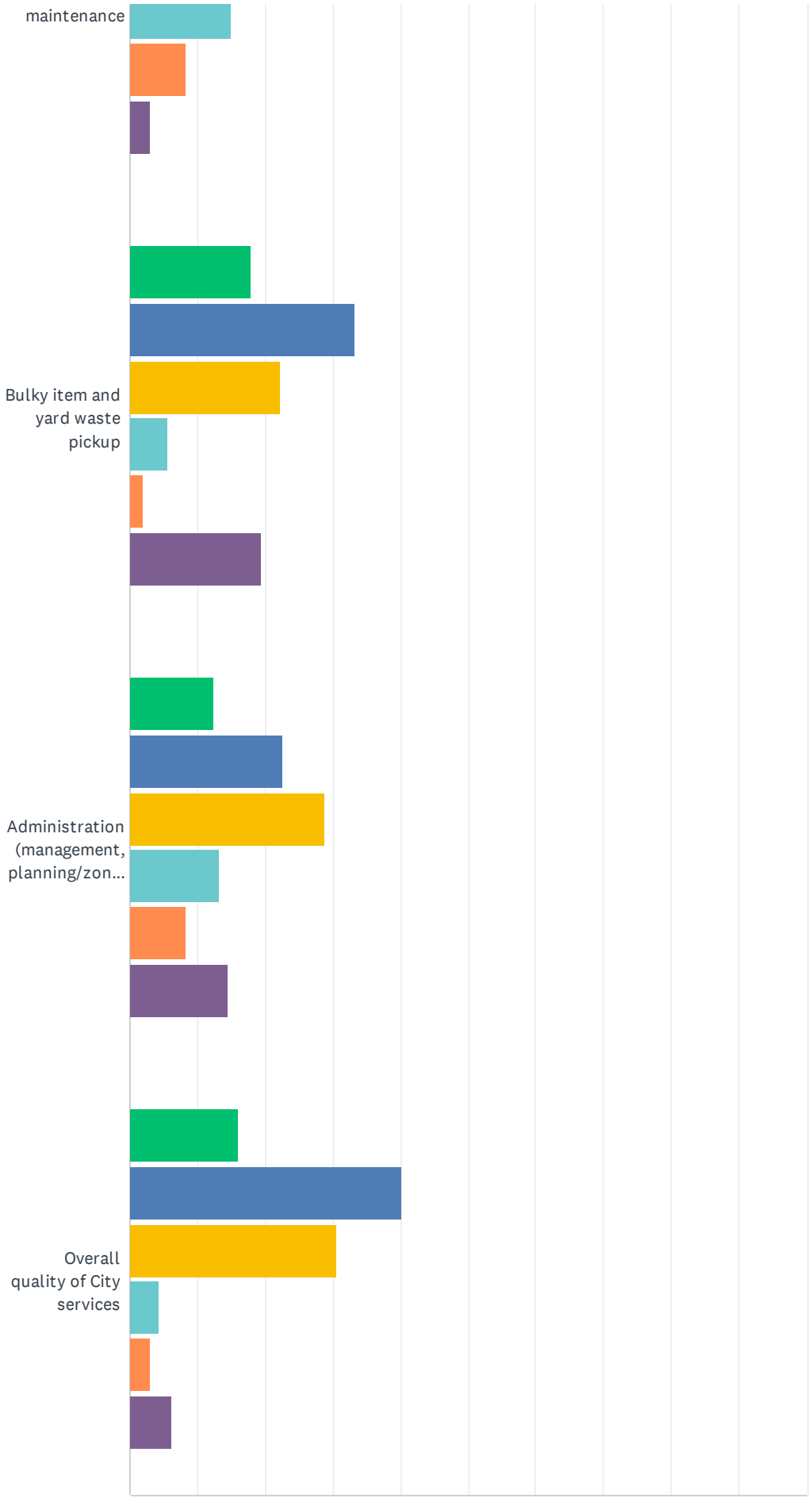
	commercial residences. The roads all need repair! Douglas has wonderful roads compared to Saugatuck!	
98	No corporate businesses allowed - look at the Butler, it's a disgrace what they did to the outdoor area. Lost all its ambiance and charm.	8/30/2025 7:29 PM
99	Being LGBT+ friendly and overall welcoming to all.	8/30/2025 5:59 PM
100	no input	8/30/2025 3:46 PM
101	bring back art in the park	8/29/2025 8:00 PM
102	Not arbitrarily spending tax money on consultants and studies to "upgrade graphics." These efforts are almost always without measurable results.	8/29/2025 4:58 PM

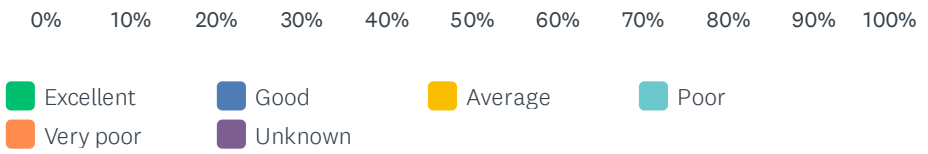
Q43 Rate the following City Services.

Answered: 277 Skipped: 109




Snow removal
Park maintenance
Curbside trash/recycling
Street

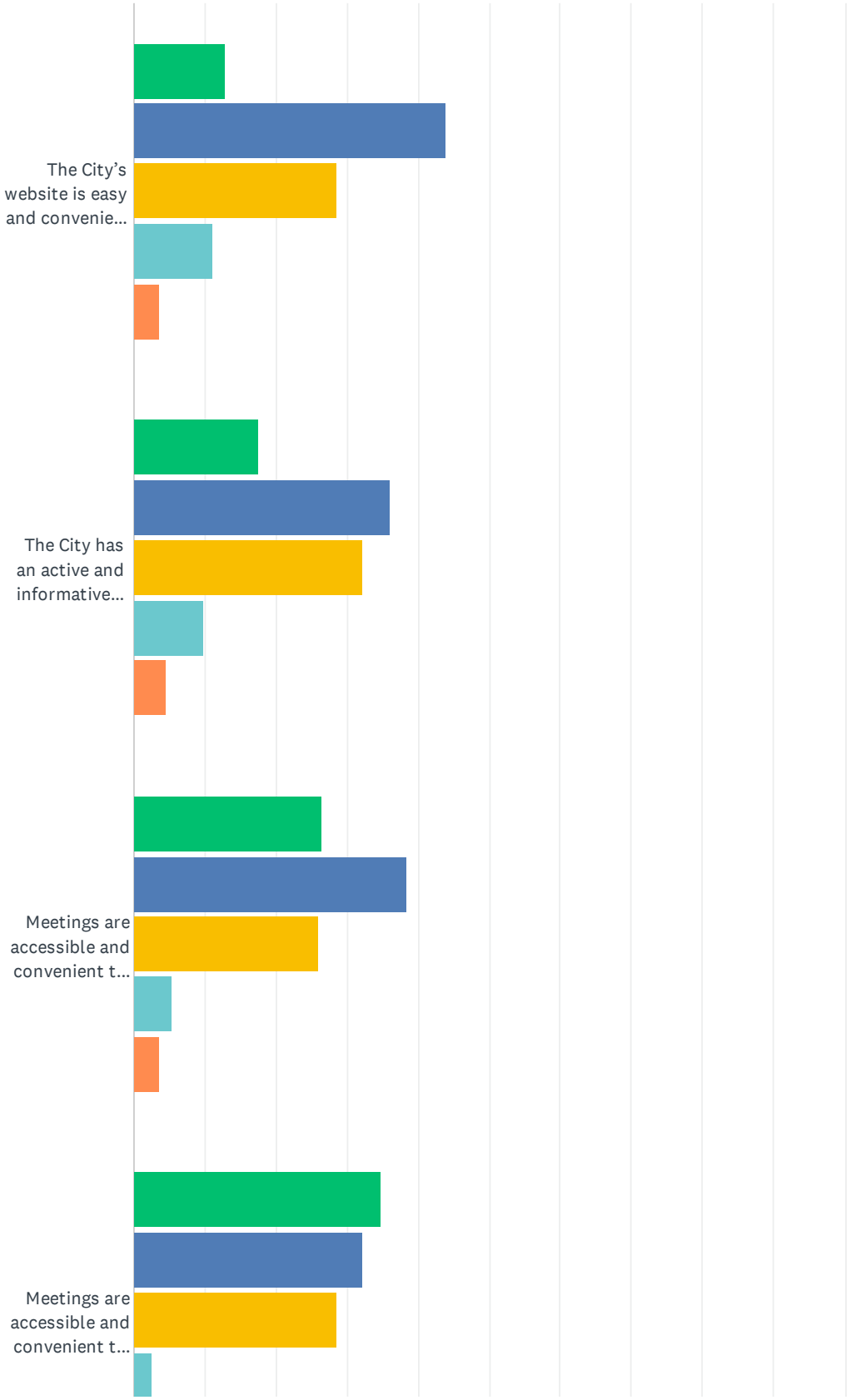

maintenance
Bulky item and yard waste pickup
Administration (management, planning/zon...
Overall quality of City services

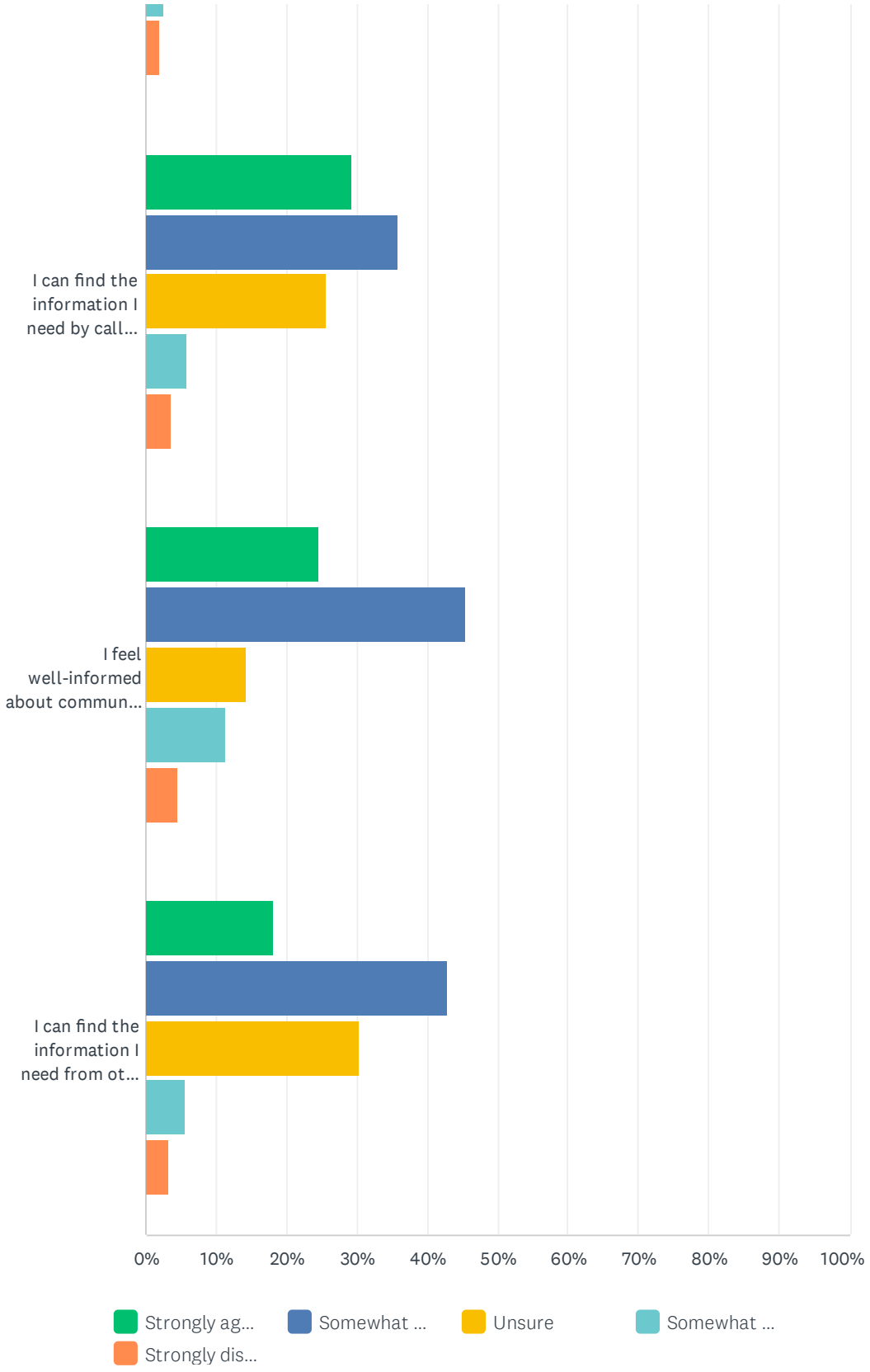


	EXCELLENT	GOOD	AVERAGE	POOR	VERY POOR	UNKNOWN	TOTAL
Law enforcement services	19.13% 53	35.74% 99	26.35% 73	5.42% 15	6.14% 17	7.22% 20	277
Code enforcement	6.57% 18	26.28% 72	29.56% 81	12.77% 35	9.12% 25	15.69% 43	274
Fire department	41.16% 114	31.41% 87	13.00% 36	1.44% 4	1.44% 4	11.55% 32	277
Snow removal	29.82% 82	33.09% 91	18.55% 51	5.45% 15	3.27% 9	9.82% 27	275
Park maintenance	35.51% 98	42.39% 117	15.58% 43	1.81% 5	2.17% 6	2.54% 7	276
Curbside trash/recycling	21.38% 59	37.68% 104	23.91% 66	5.43% 15	3.99% 11	7.61% 21	276
Street maintenance	12.68% 35	28.99% 80	32.25% 89	14.86% 41	8.33% 23	2.90% 8	276
Bulky item and yard waste pickup	17.88% 49	33.21% 91	22.26% 61	5.47% 15	1.82% 5	19.34% 53	274
Administration (management, planning/zoning, finance, assessing, building)	12.41% 34	22.63% 62	28.83% 79	13.14% 36	8.39% 23	14.60% 40	274
Overall quality of City services	16.00% 44	40.00% 110	30.55% 84	4.36% 12	2.91% 8	6.18% 17	275

Q44 Do you agree or disagree with the following statements?

Answered: 276 Skipped: 110

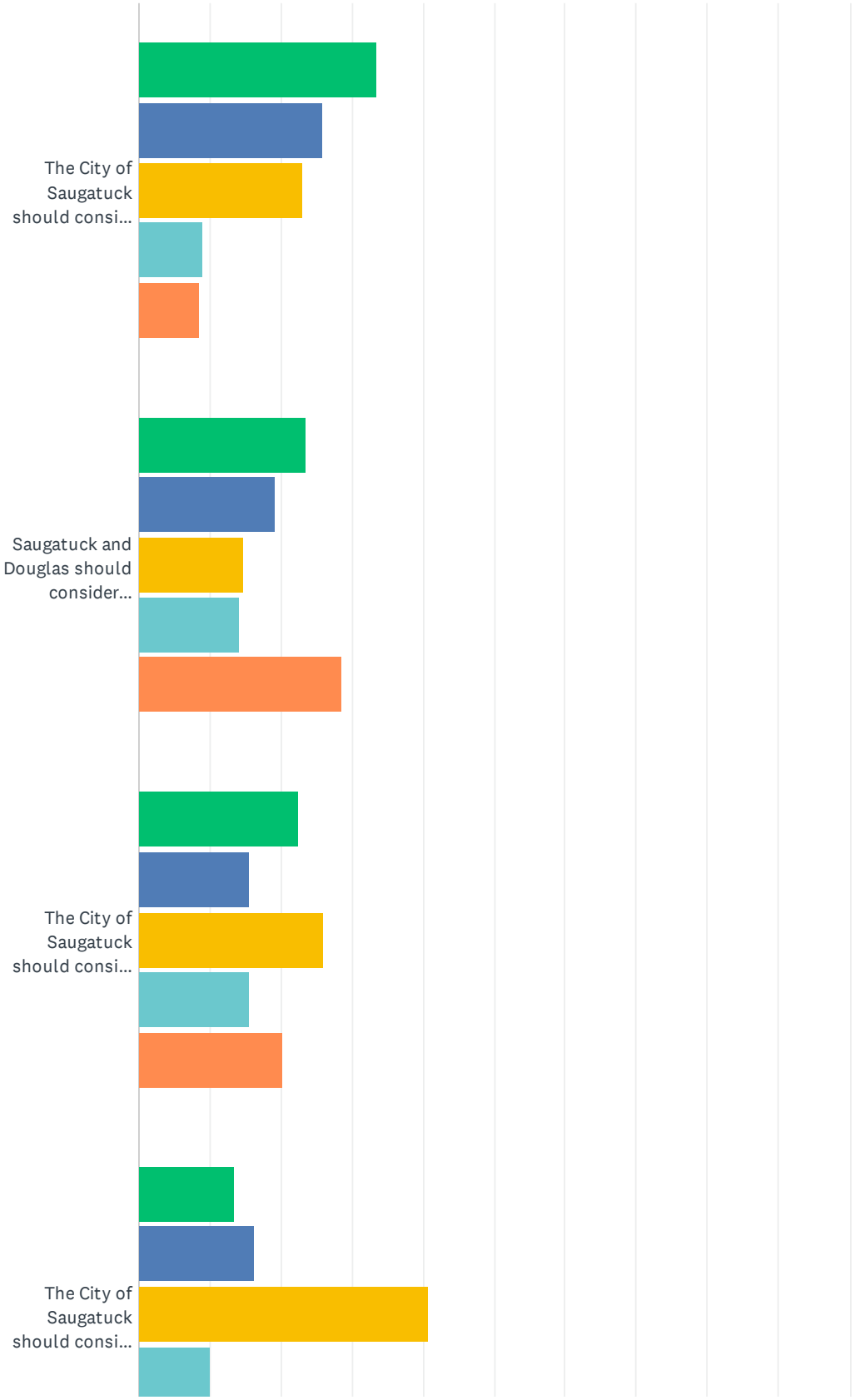


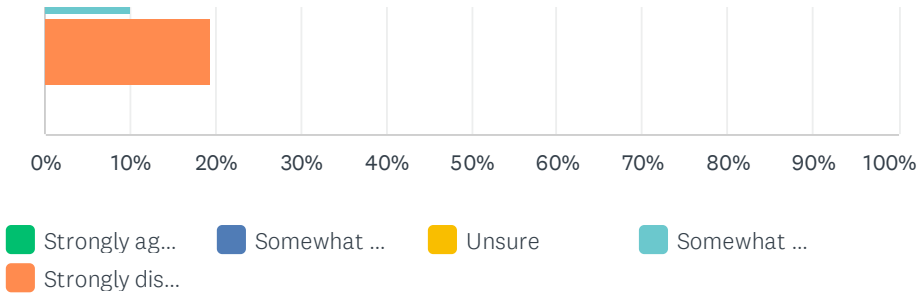

I can find the information I need by call...
I feel well-informed about commun...
I can find the information I need from ot...
0%
10%
20%
30%
40%
50%
60%
70%
80%
90%
100%
Strongly ag...
Somewhat ...
Unsure
Somewhat ...
Strongly dis...

	STRONGLY AGREE	SOMEWHAT AGREE	UNSURE	SOMEWHAT DISAGREE	STRONGLY DISAGREE	TOTAL
The City's website is easy and convenient to use for accessing information	12.82% 35	43.96% 120	28.57% 78	10.99% 30	3.66% 10	273
The City has an active and informative presence on social media	17.52% 48	36.13% 99	32.12% 88	9.85% 27	4.38% 12	274
Meetings are accessible and convenient to attend in person	26.45% 73	38.41% 106	26.09% 72	5.43% 15	3.62% 10	276
Meetings are accessible and convenient to attend online through Zoom virtual meetings	34.80% 95	32.23% 88	28.57% 78	2.56% 7	1.83% 5	273
I can find the information I need by calling or emailing City Hall	29.20% 80	35.77% 98	25.55% 70	5.84% 16	3.65% 10	274
I feel well-informed about community issues, events, and programs	24.54% 67	45.42% 124	14.29% 39	11.36% 31	4.40% 12	273
I can find the information I need from other community sources (social media, church, school, homeowners association, etc.)	18.18% 50	42.91% 118	30.18% 83	5.45% 15	3.27% 9	275

Q45 Do you agree or disagree with the following statements?

Answered: 279 Skipped: 107

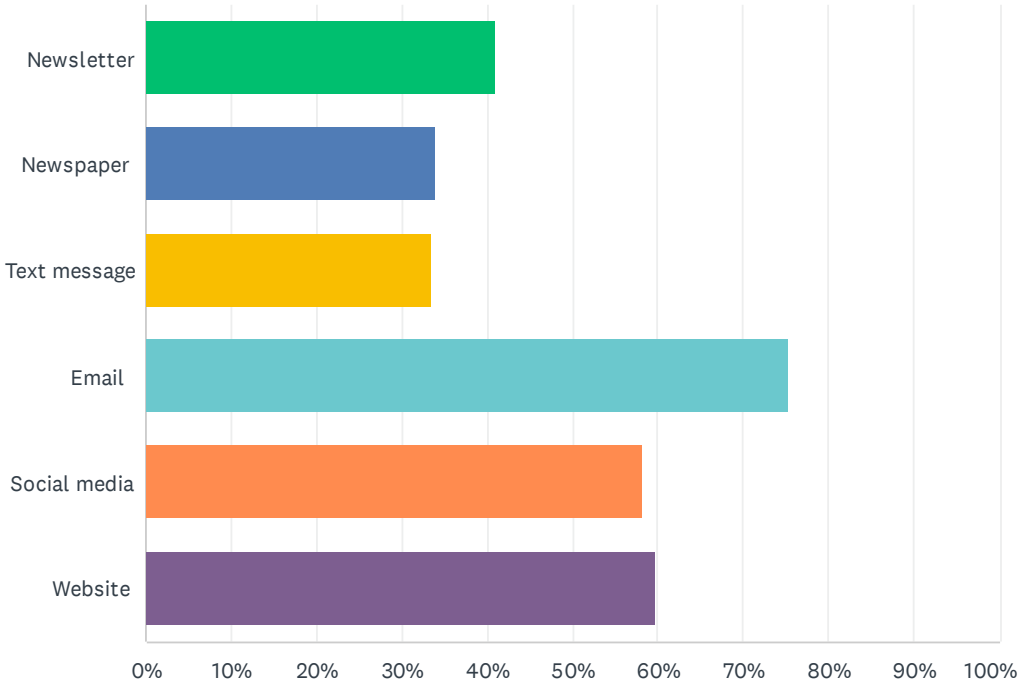




	STRONGLY AGREE	SOMEWHAT AGREE	UNSURE	SOMEWHAT DISAGREE	STRONGLY DISAGREE	TOTAL
The City of Saugatuck should consider consolidating its public works services with the City of Douglas.	33.45% 93	25.90% 72	23.02% 64	8.99% 25	8.63% 24	278
Saugatuck and Douglas should consider combining as one city.	23.47% 65	19.13% 53	14.80% 41	14.08% 39	28.52% 79	277
The City of Saugatuck should consider establishing its own police department.	22.46% 62	15.58% 43	26.09% 72	15.58% 43	20.29% 56	276
The City of Saugatuck should consider expanding its city limits by annexing land to increase the tax base.	13.36% 37	16.25% 45	40.79% 113	10.11% 28	19.49% 54	277

Q46 What are the best ways to receive community information? Choose as many reasons as you wish.

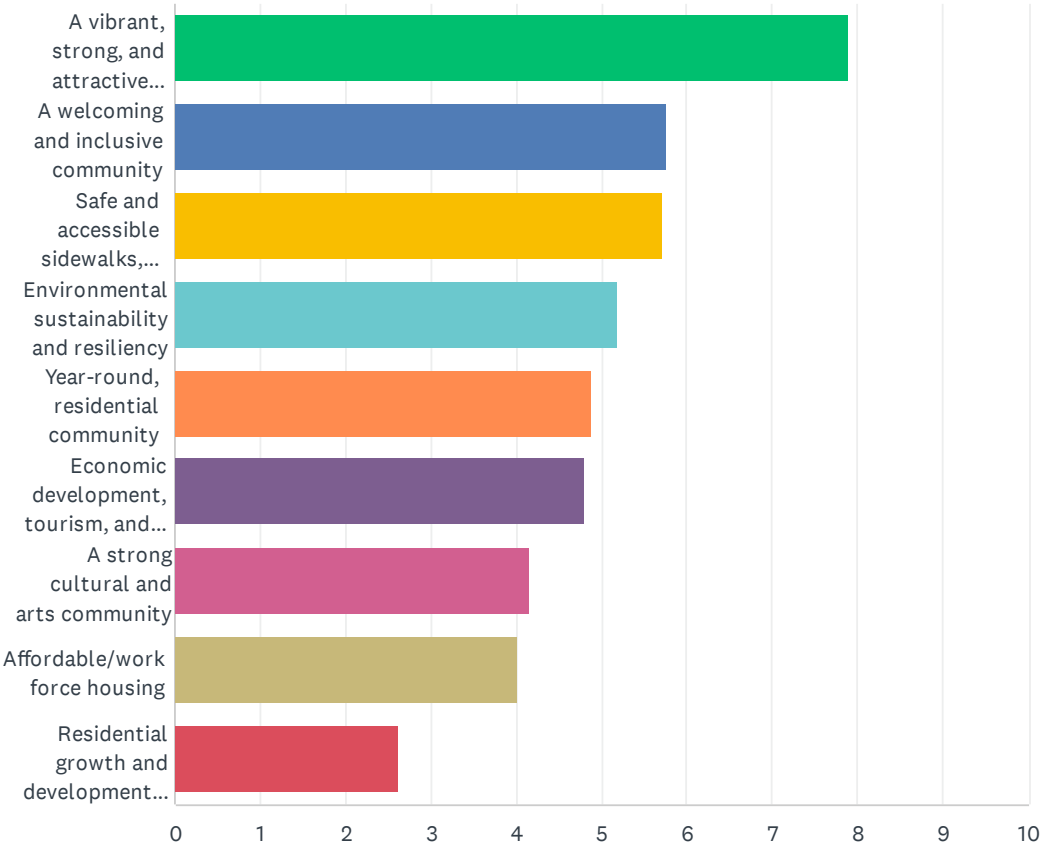
Answered: 278 Skipped: 108



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Newsletter	41.01%	114
Newspaper	33.81%	94
Text message	33.45%	93
Email	75.18%	209
Social media	58.27%	162
Website	59.71%	166
Total Respondents: 278		

Q47 Rank the top overall priorities for the City of Saugatuck.

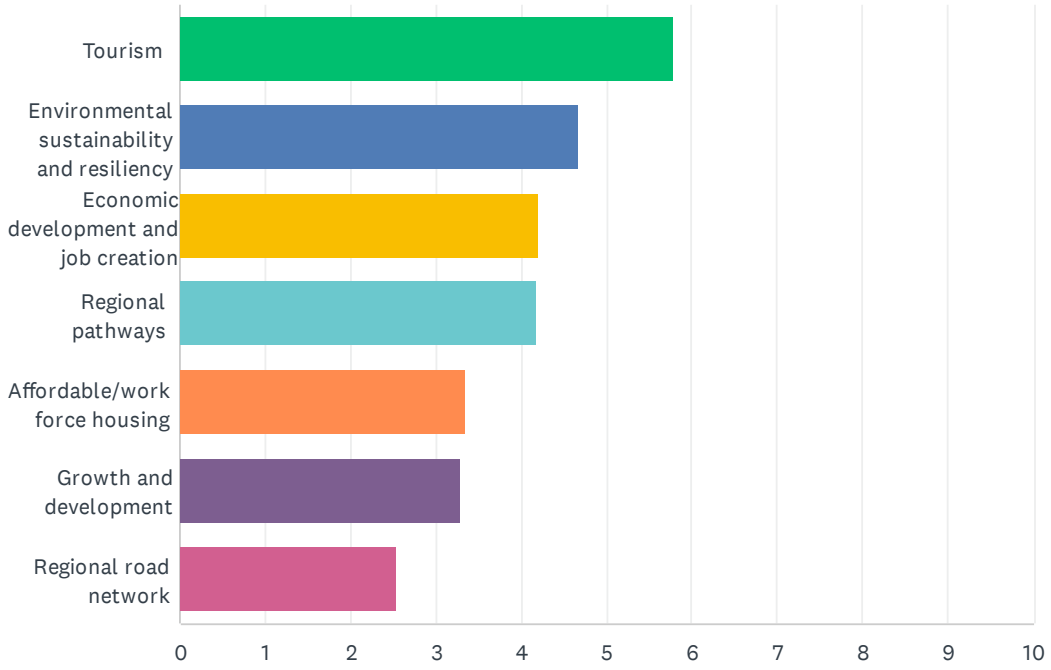
Answered: 272 Skipped: 114



	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	TOTAL	SC
A vibrant, strong, and attractive downtown that maintains small-town charm	53.68% 146	18.38% 50	10.66% 29	7.35% 20	3.68% 10	3.31% 9	1.47% 4	1.10% 3	0.37% 1	272	
A welcoming and inclusive community	9.19% 25	15.44% 42	19.49% 53	14.34% 39	14.71% 40	8.09% 22	7.72% 21	6.25% 17	4.78% 13	272	
Safe and accessible sidewalks, crosswalks, and pathways for pedestrians and cyclists	4.41% 12	17.65% 48	18.75% 51	15.07% 41	15.44% 42	12.50% 34	10.29% 28	4.41% 12	1.47% 4	272	
Environmental sustainability and resiliency	11.03% 30	12.87% 35	12.87% 35	10.29% 28	10.29% 28	12.50% 34	11.40% 31	11.03% 30	7.72% 21	272	
Year-round, residential community	9.93% 27	11.03% 30	6.62% 18	11.40% 31	12.87% 35	14.71% 40	13.97% 38	11.40% 31	8.09% 22	272	
Economic development, tourism, and support for local businesses	7.35% 20	13.24% 36	8.82% 24	10.29% 28	9.19% 25	12.87% 35	16.54% 45	15.81% 43	5.88% 16	272	
A strong cultural and arts community	1.47% 4	4.78% 13	11.76% 32	15.81% 43	12.87% 35	11.76% 32	11.03% 30	11.76% 32	18.75% 51	272	
Affordable/workforce housing	2.57% 7	4.41% 12	6.99% 19	11.03% 30	15.07% 41	15.07% 41	15.81% 43	15.44% 42	13.60% 37	272	
Residential growth and development (infill of neighborhoods or redevelopment of existing houses)	0.37% 1	2.21% 6	4.04% 11	4.41% 12	5.88% 16	9.19% 25	11.76% 32	22.79% 62	39.34% 107	272	

Q48 Rank the top overall priorities for the Tri-Communities Area (Saugatuck, Douglas, and Saugatuck Township)

Answered: 256 Skipped: 130



	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	TOTAL	SCORE
Tourism	55.47% 142	13.28% 34	9.77% 25	9.38% 24	3.91% 10	3.13% 8	5.08% 13	256	5.77
Environmental sustainability and resiliency	22.66% 58	22.66% 58	15.63% 40	8.98% 23	8.20% 21	10.94% 28	10.94% 28	256	4.66
Economic development and job creation	3.13% 8	14.06% 36	25.78% 66	26.95% 69	19.14% 49	10.16% 26	0.78% 2	256	4.21
Regional pathways	2.73% 7	23.44% 60	18.36% 47	20.31% 52	17.97% 46	14.06% 36	3.13% 8	256	4.18
Affordable/workforce housing	11.33% 29	11.72% 30	14.06% 36	7.03% 18	9.38% 24	12.11% 31	34.38% 88	256	3.35
Growth and development	2.34% 6	11.33% 29	9.38% 24	16.80% 43	24.22% 62	21.48% 55	14.45% 37	256	3.29
Regional road network	2.34% 6	3.52% 9	7.03% 18	10.55% 27	17.19% 44	28.13% 72	31.25% 80	256	2.54

Q49 What are the best things about living, working, and playing in the City of Saugatuck?

Answered: 183 Skipped: 203

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	Lake MI	10/10/2025 1:34 PM
2	Waterfront, water access	10/6/2025 9:21 PM
3	My age I don't have much longer for the B.S.	10/6/2025 2:45 PM
4	S T H needs control not 4 homes next to each other density should be considered	10/5/2025 12:38 PM
5	Small town feel, there’s no place like saugatuck	10/4/2025 7:21 PM
6	Recognizing people you know	10/4/2025 3:51 PM
7	Arts,water,volunteering	10/4/2025 8:10 AM
8	The riverfront is the best thing Saugatuck has to offer.	10/3/2025 10:08 PM
9	The small town nature and being a welcoming community	10/3/2025 3:13 PM
10	Easy commute to my work from home location.	10/3/2025 2:53 PM
11	Safety, Friendliness,	10/3/2025 1:46 PM
12	Tourists.	10/3/2025 10:39 AM
13	Wide variety of things to do, friendly people, and the calm of winter.	10/2/2025 8:05 PM
14	The community is open and friendly. Being a welcome community has always been touted as an asset.	10/2/2025 4:32 PM
15	The people.... I love the local people in the shops and restaurants that my family has know for generations. I also love meeting people form all over the world.	10/2/2025 2:34 PM
16	Small town	10/2/2025 12:36 PM
17	Small town charm and a resort community	10/2/2025 8:48 AM
18	Small town atmosphere. Safe	10/2/2025 8:37 AM
19	-The city is a charming and safe community. It is (mostly) walkable with many of the services needed by residents - post office, drugstore, shops easily accessible. -The tree-lined sidewalks make for pleasant walks. -City staff and elected officials are always helpful and pleasant. I love the small-town feel.	10/1/2025 9:25 PM
20	Knowing your neighbors and small town feel. Safe neighborhoods.	10/1/2025 9:06 PM
21	friendliness	10/1/2025 3:59 PM
22	natural beauty, neighborhoods (with neighbors), great city services	10/1/2025 2:52 PM
23	It has unique character & natural beauty, is not "Everywhere USA" and encourages acceptance of everyone.	10/1/2025 9:09 AM
24	Community feel and recreational opportunities.	10/1/2025 8:22 AM
25	Love the tourism. Also our lake and hiking trails.	9/30/2025 8:18 PM
26	Tourism #1 meeting people from all over the United States and around the world	9/30/2025 8:16 PM
27	Sense of community	9/30/2025 6:29 PM
28	Harbor Front, it’s a river town, maintain some of the few remaining water views, beach, small	9/30/2025 5:42 PM

	town, charm, walkable town area, water view and access to the river.	
29	It feels like home the minute you get off the Hi-Way	9/30/2025 2:53 PM
30	Nature	9/30/2025 1:57 PM
31	Sense of safety, positive atmosphere	9/30/2025 12:22 PM
32	Outdoor opportunities	9/30/2025 11:38 AM
33	The people that live here, the sense of small town community, safety.	9/30/2025 7:58 AM
34	Small town charm. Unfortunately, that feeling has lessened with the growth of airbnb rentals which has created a lack of community feeling because too many rentals and less resident families.	9/30/2025 6:02 AM
35	Waterfront and events and SCA	9/29/2025 11:57 PM
36	Safe and friendly	9/29/2025 11:07 PM
37	the waterfront, the waterfront, the waterfront. the dunes, the beach, the trails, our local restaurants, the parks and summer concerts, the neighborhood. city council officials that live in the city	9/29/2025 8:49 PM
38	The unique quality of it being a charming town nestled slightly inland from a Great Lake and on a beautiful river, with access to beaches, boating, dunes, woods, hiking, and farms. People here are interesting and while not always kind, aren usually worth the atienc eit takes to get to know them better.	9/29/2025 8:40 PM
39	Great restaurants, shopping, arts and community	9/29/2025 8:05 PM
40	Outdoors bars and restaurants, Orchard artwork	9/29/2025 5:05 PM
41	the people in my neighborhood	9/29/2025 4:36 PM
42	Safe, friendly, diverse	9/29/2025 4:30 PM
43	The community and where the city is located. Accessible to everything you could ever need.	9/29/2025 3:13 PM
44	The nature availability to buy Rx, clothes, food locally.	9/29/2025 3:12 PM
45	boating	9/29/2025 3:09 PM
46	Our proximity to beautiful Lake Michigan Our year-round neighbors who pay taxes, volunteer, and care about our community as more than a nice place to visit	9/29/2025 3:06 PM
47	The diversity and intelligence of the population. The SCA. The art scene. Restaurants and bar scene. The small town “feel”	9/29/2025 12:49 PM
48	I feel safe. Various opportunities to shop, eat, excercise, boat, events	9/29/2025 10:16 AM
49	Like living in a bubble with an easy way of life	9/29/2025 8:43 AM
50	Small town feel, clean, safe, beaches, parks, quaint	9/29/2025 7:49 AM
51	Small, vibrant community	9/28/2025 9:58 PM
52	-	9/28/2025 8:28 PM
53	Natural areas and recreational opportunities	9/28/2025 3:38 PM
54	It’s beauty	9/28/2025 12:59 PM
55	It is a safe, walkable town. Lots of diverse activities, food and bars.	9/28/2025 10:37 AM
56	The arts and culture, friendly and inclusive nature of the people in the community, nature (lake, dunes, trails, beaches), restaurants, bars and entertainment. Tourism…though it's sometimes difficult when the town is so full of people, I have enjoyed coming here as a tourist for my whole life before I moved here years ago and I love that so many people also love to come here and enjoy what those before us has so lovingly created here. No matter where in the US I travel, I find people who know of and love Saugatuck!	9/27/2025 3:44 PM
57	Charm, people, convivence, pace, Lakes and Harbor	9/27/2025 2:19 PM

58	The water, the dunes, the beaches; arts and culture; the vibrancy of Saugatuck (and Douglas); and, for full-time residents, the neighborhoods … also the professionalism and capability of Saugatuck government.	9/27/2025 1:45 PM
59	Waterfront	9/27/2025 10:35 AM
60	Safe, clean, family friendly	9/26/2025 7:04 PM
61	Tourism / meeting new people. Dining options and access to Lake Michigan	9/26/2025 4:59 PM
62	Lake, river, neighbors.	9/26/2025 1:32 PM
63	all of it is close and accessable	9/26/2025 1:27 PM
64	Peaceful, friendly, lots of outdoor recreation	9/26/2025 12:15 PM
65	The tourists. Walkability. The river, retail shops.	9/26/2025 4:46 AM
66	Their is a sense of community pride and quality of businesses.	9/25/2025 11:24 PM
67	Culture	9/25/2025 9:50 PM
68	Lake Michigan	9/25/2025 7:26 PM
69	Community	9/25/2025 5:04 PM
70	The connectedness of a small town, knowing your neighbors etc	9/25/2025 4:37 PM
71	Retail shops and restaurants	9/25/2025 4:05 PM
72	It is an attractive, safe and welcoming place	9/24/2025 6:21 PM
73	The commitment to sustaining a viable community and services	9/24/2025 11:26 AM
74	Welcoming and diverse community. LGBTQ presence is critical. SCA is a vital part of the community.	9/24/2025 8:48 AM
75	The community feel. The vibrancy of downtown paired with the solace of the natural areas.	9/24/2025 7:39 AM
76	I know my neighbors	9/23/2025 8:31 PM
77	small town	9/23/2025 3:59 PM
78	The people, the best restaurants around, the natural areas of Lake Michigan, Kalamazoo river, and surrounding dunes and trails	9/23/2025 2:29 PM
79	Downtown restaurants and shops	9/23/2025 1:31 PM
80	The ambiance the summers bring to the communities. It reminds me of being in a foreign country with a small time, but also big business town.	9/23/2025 9:46 AM
81	neighbors; it is never boring; caring residents; Oval Beach/Lake; great parks; History Center, love our tourists but... thankful for Fall;	9/22/2025 10:30 PM
82	The cuteness of the city.	9/22/2025 8:35 PM
83	The people and the natural beauty	9/22/2025 4:00 PM
84	Beautiful nature, small town charm, some nice people.	9/22/2025 2:56 PM
85	Beauty the arts committed community access to great creative opportunities and performances good restaurants the water	9/22/2025 1:08 PM
86	The small town community feel.	9/22/2025 11:10 AM
87	The people	9/21/2025 5:03 PM
88	The quaint and friendly and inclusive small town charm	9/21/2025 3:10 PM
89	Small town vibe	9/21/2025 10:04 AM
90	The nature and undevelopment of the lake shore , already have lost some of that it needs to be a priority to preserve , should be able to walk as far down the beach as you'd like , private land owners restricting that is a killer of what has made saugatuck popular	9/20/2025 7:28 PM

91	The lake and river	9/20/2025 11:34 AM
92	Friendly, safe and open environment.	9/19/2025 9:25 AM
93	proximity to nature, inclusive community, social connections	9/18/2025 5:45 PM
94	Its abundance of natural resources, access to water, and its vibrant downtown.	9/17/2025 6:14 PM
95	Clean water to swim in; safe roads to walk and bike on; wild green spaces (not necessarily parks); quiet neighborhood to live in; quality over quantity for all aspects of living (including arts and culture)	9/17/2025 3:55 PM
96	Charm	9/17/2025 1:33 PM
97	The Vibrancy that the visitors bring is what makes the town fun and interesting, as well it bringing diversity of people, ideas, and a lively downtown.	9/15/2025 10:08 PM
98	The lake, dunes, trails and parks and their accessibility are amazing. There are very few places in the country that have the quality of what we have in a small town atmosphere. We are so fortunate and should be thoughtful about all growth so it's balanced with nature as a priority. I love the addition of the Wilds, great foresight by council to protect that land with all the development going on. The City has brought in great investments with the new restaurants and have rounded out offerings in a way we haven't had in all the years we have lived here. Our food scene is much improved as are the businesses in general. The school bond is complete and is an investment we should all be very proud of for the future of this town.	9/15/2025 2:17 PM
99	Our inclusive community. Off season when we become a community again, but agreeing with the importance of tourism.	9/15/2025 11:20 AM
100	Small Businesses	9/14/2025 5:32 PM
101	Waterways, small town, the people	9/14/2025 5:25 PM
102	A beautiful city and environment that is welcoming and supports a vibrant business community.	9/13/2025 5:12 PM
103	The amount of activities that are available to participate in. also the amount of tourists that visit the town create an environment that they say "you have to visit Saugatuck it's such a fun town day and night"	9/13/2025 4:30 PM
104	Small town by the water with art, history & outstanding food.	9/11/2025 1:16 PM
105	Living in Saugatuck means embracing a life shaped by beauty and community. Working here offers opportunities for growth, creativity, and balance, while playing in the city invites endless adventure and cultural enrichment. Saugatuck blends small-town charm with great amenities, making every day feel like a celebration of nature, friendship, and possibility.	9/11/2025 12:52 PM
106	-Small town charm -Strong cultural institutions (i.e. churches, schools, social organizations, arts organizations, etc.) Recently enacted city policies such as short-term rental caps will ensure the long-term protection of these assets that make Saugatuck the special place that it is. The city council is to be commended for having the political will to pass this protection, without which the city could have fallen prey to the powerful economic interests that have sought to exploit these assets for personal gain.	9/11/2025 12:19 PM
107	Welcoming, easy to get involved, cultural opportunites	9/10/2025 5:03 PM
108	The full-time residents are key to Saugatuck's small-town charm and dynamic tourism economy. Without full-time residents the town losses its authentic character.	9/10/2025 3:23 PM
109	It's a beautiful place to live where it is easy to know your neighbors and be involved in our community in any number of ways. We are very lucky to have amazing public works department and a very responsive city hall The addition of the playground and the new Saugatuck Wilds has been a great example of moving our community forward. I was very happy to finally have a cap put on SSR's in my neighborhood so it can stay a neighborhood with actual neighbors. I live having the tourists enjoy our city and I equally love when they leave until the next year.	9/10/2025 1:10 PM
110	natural beauty and resources	9/10/2025 11:52 AM
111	Kind people, more diverse than surrounding areas	9/10/2025 10:37 AM

112	Great dining and shopping options in a walkable downtown area. Being on the water. Cultural events. Small-town charm on display in parades and events.	9/9/2025 10:06 PM
113	Saugatuck is a charming town with a lot to offer residents and visitors. The unique businesses downtown, variety of options, arts culture, and inclusive and welcoming people are all reasons why Saugatuck is a wonderful place.	9/9/2025 12:06 PM
114	Natural surroundings, access to beach and state park, friendly community, good restaurants given city size.	9/9/2025 10:36 AM
115	Access to great restaurants Access to a variety of art and cultural activities Welcoming culture	9/9/2025 10:12 AM
116	The best things about working and owning a business in Saugatuck are its ability to blend small-town charm with world-class tourism. The city enjoys strong recognition and positive press, which continually draws visitors from Chicago, Detroit, Indianapolis, and beyond. Tourism fuels the local economy and provides consistent opportunities for growth. While there is still room for the city to better support its business community, the steady stream of visitors and the reputation of Saugatuck make it a rewarding place to operate and grow.	9/9/2025 10:07 AM
117	The charm	9/9/2025 7:42 AM
118	Walking through town in a blizzard. Oval Beach. Strolling alone the marina with much less goose droppings than previous years.	9/8/2025 8:59 PM
119	Small town quaintness, walkability, knowing the shop owners and your neighbors!! Going to the HS Football games even if your don't have kiddos in school anymore, community events..ie chili cook off… I'm missing the small local events	9/8/2025 8:52 PM
120	Small town charm, natural beauty, great shopping/restaurants/bars, boating	9/8/2025 3:33 PM
121	Quaintness	9/8/2025 3:09 PM
122	The community and beautiful natural resources	9/8/2025 2:21 PM
123	Wonderful culture, people and natural beauty / resources	9/8/2025 1:32 PM
124	Food, cleanliness, sense of community	9/8/2025 11:35 AM
125	Small town with access to water and nature.	9/8/2025 11:28 AM
126	The best part of Saugatuck is the balance we have between being a small town and being a place with a vibrant cultural life. Our natural setting—the lake, the river, and the dunes—gives us incredible recreational opportunities, while our history as an artists' colony continues to bring creativity and energy into everyday life. There's also a real sense of community here: neighbors look out for each other, traditions like parades and festivals bring people together, and our inclusiveness, especially our support of the LGBTQ community, makes this a welcoming place for all.	9/8/2025 9:49 AM
127	It's small town charm, restaurants, bars, and stores.	9/8/2025 9:41 AM
128	Nature, unique stores/restaurants, inclusive community.	9/8/2025 8:52 AM
129	Small quaint walkable town that feels safe	9/8/2025 1:53 AM
130	View and access to the river, parks/hiking, walkable town, galleries, small population	9/7/2025 10:45 PM
131	Living in a small lake town that has beautiful people and surroundings where everything is walkable.	9/7/2025 9:18 PM
132	The small town vibe and vibrant arts and culture.	9/7/2025 8:38 PM
133	Lake Michigan and Oval Beach	9/7/2025 5:42 PM
134	people, natural beauty, open to new ideas commitment to community, arts and culture	9/7/2025 2:31 PM
135	Site lines and access to waterways, availability of restaurants and shops, great school system, caring and passionate community.	9/7/2025 9:14 AM
136	Very pleasant , friendly, quiet place to live	9/6/2025 5:07 PM
137	The people	9/6/2025 2:56 PM

138	small town feel with people know each each other and there’s plenty of new culturally	9/6/2025 2:55 PM
139	Knowing the people who surround you. Walking into a restaurant to find the staff that you love and the friends you want to be with! SCA is also amazing!	9/6/2025 12:38 PM
140	Great people, water, nature, charm, walk ability,	9/6/2025 12:32 PM
141	Historic charm, community events, nature, great restaurants, schools	9/6/2025 12:31 PM
142	Charming, walkable, safe	9/6/2025 8:31 AM
143	I love the excitement in the air downtown in the summer. There is always something going on.	9/6/2025 7:48 AM
144	Small town charm along lakeshore.	9/6/2025 12:50 AM
145	Charm, walk ability, restaurants, oval beach, art, tourism and guests, culture, its people.	9/5/2025 10:15 PM
146	The vibe	9/5/2025 10:05 PM
147	Inclusive environment, waterfront, downtown shops and restaurants	9/5/2025 9:45 PM
148	The Locals enjoy the city as much as tourists. We are surrounded by so much beautiful, natural environment. We work hard to preserve the character of our community and its natural treasures.	9/5/2025 9:29 PM
149	It’s so walkable, tons of things to do, great culture	9/5/2025 9:14 PM
150	Being able to walk to everything! No big brands!	9/5/2025 8:30 PM
151	People, arts, communit	9/5/2025 6:28 PM
152	Small town	9/5/2025 4:57 PM
153	It’s a relaxing, beautiful place to be	9/5/2025 4:56 PM
154	The food, the shopping, the views.	9/5/2025 2:54 PM
155	Charm and walkability	9/5/2025 2:13 PM
156	The water/boating	9/5/2025 10:45 AM
157	Fantastic blend of individuals and business	9/5/2025 9:07 AM
158	Small town, family and pet friendly, environmentally conscious	9/5/2025 9:06 AM
159	Living on the “hill” is ideal to walking into town and living in the community. Love the dunes, the water, the boating lifestyle and the people.	9/5/2025 8:24 AM
160	Beautiful, safe area, less traffic than the bigger cities, and mostly - by Lake Michigan	9/5/2025 7:40 AM
161	Safety	9/5/2025 7:33 AM
162	Lake Michigan, the sand dunes, boating, great restaurants.	9/3/2025 6:48 PM
163	Beautiful downtown riverfront walkway, great shopping, restaurants are fantastic, neighborhoods are safe. Love walking around the neighborhoods and seeing the charming homes.	9/3/2025 10:59 AM
164	Environment, small town charm, great people, excellent restaurants, arts scene	9/3/2025 10:57 AM
165	The people, both local and visitors. The safety and inclusiveness.	8/31/2025 6:03 PM
166	It's unique/different	8/30/2025 9:59 PM
167	The people, small town feel, and keeping big corporate business out	8/30/2025 7:37 PM
168	Community (knowing neighbors), safety (children can be more independent), amazing schools and teachers, ease of being out in nature.	8/30/2025 6:05 PM
169	Quiet, friendly place to live	8/30/2025 4:22 PM
170	Waterfront	8/30/2025 3:50 PM
171	Waterways and outdoors	8/30/2025 10:46 AM

172	Small town, sophistication….	8/30/2025 8:33 AM
173	lake, river, arts, restaurants	8/30/2025 7:56 AM
174	the unique small town feel, the bars and restaurants, beautiful airbnb's and inn's	8/30/2025 7:46 AM
175	Safe place and great vibe	8/30/2025 7:43 AM
176	Diverse welcoming residents (both full- and part-time); the presence of the SCA in the community; the walkability and accessibility of the community.	8/30/2025 6:51 AM
177	It’s small, beautiful and unique	8/29/2025 8:52 PM
178	the people	8/29/2025 8:02 PM
179	walkability to shops and restaurants	8/29/2025 7:58 PM
180	Safety, quality eateries, shops Access to Lake Mi Harbors and waterways	8/29/2025 5:53 PM
181	Relaxation, convenience to many places and cities	8/29/2025 5:43 PM
182	Welcoming area, many opportunities to connect with the Community.	8/29/2025 5:36 PM
183	Safety. Generally good services. Restaurants. Small-town character.	8/29/2025 5:04 PM

Q50 What improvements are needed to improve the City of Saugatuck?

Answered: 197 Skipped: 189

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	Harbor maintenance	10/6/2025 9:21 PM
2	Stop all the back stabbing in the City Council, grow up!	10/6/2025 2:45 PM
3	Butler Street one way with angle parking would maximize parking	10/5/2025 12:38 PM
4	See all of the above answers to survey questions	10/4/2025 7:21 PM
5	We need better snow removal, better sidewalks, enforcement of traffic laws, less rental houses and more full time residents.	10/4/2025 3:51 PM
6	Safe walking and biking paths	10/4/2025 8:10 AM
7	Electronic permanent speed sign placed on Holland Street. Fog lines painted on road. No bikes on sidewalks.	10/3/2025 10:42 PM
8	Saugatuck needs to focus on those that live here as opposed to those coming here.	10/3/2025 10:08 PM
9	Increased parking spaces and maintaining the small town character.	10/3/2025 3:13 PM
10	Work to reduce fraud, waste, and abuse in city government and by its elected officials.	10/3/2025 2:53 PM
11	Parking, Speed strips on Water street, Better lighting.	10/3/2025 1:46 PM
12	Sidewalks and bathroom at/near Coughlin Park. Prevent trailer parking in City lot next to SCA and prevent SCA marketers from parking in the City lot on market days.	10/3/2025 10:39 AM
13	Roads, safer sidewalks that are even, better lighting throughout the city and neighborhoods, better maintained buildings, more attention to what is being built and where (2 new buildings on a sliver of land next to high school, and expansion of Butler restaurant on prime land and not architecturally consistent)	10/2/2025 8:05 PM
14	Infrastructure of various areas is needed. City expenses and budget concerns should be addresses. Having an attorney attend so many meetings means either we have not hired knowledgeable or trust their judgement.	10/2/2025 4:32 PM
15	Side walks, improve the tired city infrastructure. Make all the lamps, benches, trash cans match.	10/2/2025 2:34 PM
16	Leadership to ensure continued small town feel, well maintained buildings and infrastructure, and robust permanent residential community	10/2/2025 12:36 PM
17	Ideals to oval beach and a local police force with housing assistance for those officers living and raising a family in the city	10/2/2025 8:48 AM
18	Roads. Parking downtown. Community planning	10/2/2025 8:37 AM
19	-Roads are terrible -Sidewalks are not consistently cleared in winter, impacting walkability -A newcomers' club would be helpful to new residents -City Council should encourage residents' engagement, ideas, and energy. This is not always welcome. -We should consider adding a community center that provides activities for all ages. Even without a building, more could be done to build community -The school tennis courts need renovated. Don't make these pickleball courts as these are too noisy for the adjacent residential neighborhood. -We need a kayak launching spot	10/1/2025 9:25 PM
20	Better control of invasive plants and expanded native plantings. More consistent sidewalks in neighborhoods. They seem to randomly start and stop.	10/1/2025 9:06 PM
21	more attention paid to maintaining the small town feel	10/1/2025 3:59 PM
22	We need neighbors back in our neighborhoods, we need to find ways to tuck in density	10/1/2025 2:52 PM

	especially more affordable housing, multi-unit housing that blends with our housing stock.	
23	Speed enforcement, parking enforcement, traffic, safety, signage (“where’s the beach?, is there more parking?, how do I get out of downtown?”).	10/1/2025 9:18 AM
24	Parking, parking and parking. Bathroom at Culver St, beautify downtown and parks.	10/1/2025 9:09 AM
25	Establish and maintain store front business that can survive…restaurants and retail!	10/1/2025 8:22 AM
26	More restrooms and bike racks. A city council that listens to the full time residents.	9/30/2025 8:18 PM
27	We need more short term rentals for all the tourist that come here they do not want to stay in a stinky hotel, motel boutique or bed-and-breakfast. They wanna stay in a personalized home.	9/30/2025 8:16 PM
28	Making sure businesses in the downtown fit the profile of the town. Upscale but not too much to price people out. We don’t need cheesy tshirt shops!	9/30/2025 6:29 PM
29	year-round portable or permanent bathrooms at Mount baldhead Park for those of us who like to walk along Park Street in the off season. Douglas maintains a year-round porta potty for hiking along Lakeshore Drive	9/30/2025 5:42 PM
30	More street parking is needed. I think it’s time to stop the outside seating for Restaurants taking up parking spots. It appears that the city does not do enough to support the othersmall businesses in town other than the restaurants.	9/30/2025 2:53 PM
31	Telecommunications, an actual plan with modern technology - street wide wifi Power stability - ensure continuous power, lessen amount of times w/o power, work to get lines underground Street improvement, fix the streets, uniform the streets Visual - make the streetscapes and parks match the ethos of the community - ie natural beauty, improve city streetscapes	9/30/2025 2:24 PM
32	Communication instead of pretending to include the neighborhoods.	9/30/2025 1:57 PM
33	Public off street Parking for FREE. Off street bike lanes. More information of local businesses for tourists.	9/30/2025 12:22 PM
34	Preserve access to the river on both sides. That means both physical and visual access.	9/30/2025 11:38 AM
35	Better infrastructure, better parking.	9/30/2025 7:58 AM
36	City wide wifi. Figure out better cell towers - there are times where I can’t make calls from my condo downtown on busy weekend. Very frustrating	9/30/2025 6:02 AM
37	Roads and curbs and pathways	9/29/2025 11:07 PM
38	fewer tee shirt and clothing stores, get hoopdee scooty back and more local shops, not the typical tourist shops that are now taking over downtown, more enforcement of historic and zoning ordinances, eliminate on street dining, open the sidewalk in front of Wicks Park, it is akin to walking through a gauntlet to get past that dump. more local control of zoning and less consultant	9/29/2025 8:49 PM
39	I think we need to be careful with density. I think we should avoid cutting corners and being miserly in our spending. I don't agree with, "Fiscal Responsibility" just because it sounds good. We need to protect our environment, we need to protect the river, and we need to make the river as well as the beach more accessible for pedestrians and for people on bicycles.	9/29/2025 8:40 PM
40	Sidewalks in neighborhoods, better crosswalks and signage/blinkers for pedestrians	9/29/2025 8:05 PM
41	Park street safety parking downtown	9/29/2025 5:05 PM
42	I sense we are on a good trajectory now.	9/29/2025 4:36 PM
43	Reduce the number of short term rentals. The negative impact offsets any real financials enjoy to the community and drives housing prices up thus forcing local working class families to live elsewhere.	9/29/2025 4:30 PM
44	We need to preserve the small-town character and find ways to attract young professionals.	9/29/2025 3:13 PM
45	The number one improvement would be an excellent grocery store like Trader Joes that would accomodate both summer and winter crowds. The Supervalu is more like a convenience store. Alcohol and snacks wont sustain a growing community with families The north east end of the blue star Highway would be an excellent location for a Trader Joe’s. It wouldn’t compete with a bigger grocery stores like Meijer or Family FAIR and it would also draw people from	9/29/2025 3:12 PM

	surrounding communities. Most residents drive to Holland or South Haven for real food. Safe pathways for walking and biking especially on park st Tourist parking.	
46	Lower taxes	9/29/2025 3:09 PM
47	more downtown parking	9/29/2025 3:06 PM
48	Keep the mega mansions out of of city proper.	9/29/2025 12:49 PM
49	Reduce taxes Tax payers should get perks over tourists like free Oval Beach pass.	9/29/2025 10:16 AM
50	More policing in the neighborhood to issue tickets for speeding, parking, etc.	9/29/2025 8:43 AM
51	Don't let it become too large with too many condos and buildings, it will lose all its appeal when it becomes larger, natural areas will shrink, preserve coast areas and beaches for the public not just rich people with mansions	9/29/2025 7:49 AM
52	Roads, overall community maintenance	9/28/2025 9:58 PM
53	STR on the Hill.	9/28/2025 8:28 PM
54	Seems like the decision process can be a bit drawn out - clearer roles/responsibilities for projects to move forward	9/28/2025 3:38 PM
55	Water and sewer for sure	9/28/2025 12:59 PM
56	It's sad we don't have a bank, millions of dollars from present business's and credit card transactions leave the area. As RJ said, a Gondola or tram from Chain Ferry area to the beach. Oval parking availability signage and Interurban routes (including scheduled pick up and drop offs to oval beach.	9/28/2025 10:37 AM
57	A more friendly city hall environment. I hear from people how unfriendly it is there. I hear that staff are turning over at a high rate. People are afraid to make a complaint for fear of retribution. This is not who we are in Saugatuck. This is a recent change over the past 5 or so years. Costs for permits of varying kinds are very high and I hear people have a very difficult time doing improvements on their home or building new homes. The Allegan County Sheriff needs to be held accountable to the agreement made with them when we signed on with them. We were guaranteed dedicated officers who would do community policing walking the streets, getting to know business owners and residents. It is on City Council and the City Manager to hold them accountable to their agreement. We Do Not want to go back to police officers who sat in their cars waiting for a speeder or for a person to come out of a bar so they could intimidate them and give them a ticket. We want highly trained, professional officers dedicated to our community. We don't need an officer in our town sitting in his car at 12:30 at night on a Monday in January, but we do need access to police nearby whenever the need arises. The City needs to be more friendly and supportive of business owners. I am aware of so much grief given to certain business owners when they are an important part of why we have the town we have. Without the business owners, we have no Saugatuck as we know it. They are an integral part of the fabric of this community. They have been berated, sued, fined and mistreated in other ways I never saw before. It really is one of the main responsibilities of the City to take care of the business owners and make their chances of success a possibility.	9/27/2025 3:44 PM
58	better city manager and mayor that support the people/community vs their own ideology. Also, why eliminate half the parking in town without a ready plan to replace the needed parking, short sighted and lack of vision. Current council and Manager appears very anti business in their actions.	9/27/2025 2:19 PM
59	Alignment around and protection of the values that create the allure of Saugatuck for visitors and residents alike; specifically, reduction of STRs, addressing safety issues such as conditions of sidewalks, reliable internet capability which includes Oval Beach, parking, and preservation of the ecology which the basis of the allure.	9/27/2025 1:45 PM
60	Study Round-a-bout designs before wasting money on small inaffective ones	9/27/2025 10:35 AM
61	Year round activities and events	9/26/2025 7:04 PM
62	More year round activities. Town shuts down December to May.	9/26/2025 4:59 PM
63	Limit short term rentals. They are affecting the quality of neighborhoods	9/26/2025 4:43 PM
64	Fix divisiveness in City Government	9/26/2025 3:08 PM

65	Focus on RESIDENTS needs first.	9/26/2025 1:32 PM
66	resuface the streets. they are terrible. stop touting Maple st project as to has been going on for years and still not started. look ay all the streets.	9/26/2025 1:27 PM
67	Infrastructure improvements including roads and sidewalks, replacing lead water lines, public bathrooms that are clean.	9/26/2025 12:15 PM
68	Fix steps. Make renting our homes out easier.	9/26/2025 4:46 AM
69	We need to protect and promote our river frontage and shoreline for the public good. We need to avoid the debacle that is The Butler outdoor pavilion which destroyed views from the public park and is an eyesore.	9/25/2025 11:24 PM
70	Improve parks.	9/25/2025 9:50 PM
71	Better enforcement of speed limits Stop construction of mega mansions that take over a year to build and disturb neighborhood peace More green space and parks	9/25/2025 7:26 PM
72	I’m Happy	9/25/2025 5:04 PM
73	Communication is generally lacking but more importantly is the need to have tri-community alignment on macro issues	9/25/2025 4:37 PM
74	Get rid of the mayor and her minions. We can see the corruption, why can’t you?	9/25/2025 4:05 PM
75	Better bike access and bike racks in nearby parking areas	9/24/2025 6:21 PM
76	Work with energy companies to create and/or maintain power. Underground wires, etc	9/24/2025 11:26 AM
77	The City Council or city hall staff have virtually no contact or interaction with the SCA and have done nothing to work to integrate the Center into the community.	9/24/2025 8:48 AM
78	Infrastructure	9/24/2025 7:39 AM
79	Less short term rentals more full time residents	9/23/2025 8:31 PM
80	Bury the utility lines to improve the tree canopy	9/23/2025 3:59 PM
81	Street and sidewalk improvements, better bike path connections, especially to Lake Michigan, better funding for downtown business district improvements.	9/23/2025 2:29 PM
82	A friendly mayor	9/23/2025 1:31 PM
83	Increase the access to tourists to be in the city. Allow permitting to revive old dilapidated buildings.	9/23/2025 9:46 AM
84	parking; removing much/all of outside restaurants on public streets; congenial city council;	9/22/2025 10:30 PM
85	It's so busy in the summer. We need more places to stay, more restaurants, more parking.	9/22/2025 8:35 PM
86	Safer walkways for pedestrians - parking enforcement for people parking like selfish jerks. Finding a way to use parking lots off city limits and busing in with Interurban to minimize cars on roads. Allow golf carts	9/22/2025 4:00 PM
87	More years round residents and more support for year-round, local businesses, and organizations	9/22/2025 1:08 PM
88	- Police presence as a part of the community. They aren’t as accessible and part of the community as the Douglas police. - Affordable housing. - Not getting so big or ultra-focused on tourism that we lose the community feel of the area. - Not letting developers clearcut large areas of land. Preserving nature where it’s possible.	9/22/2025 11:10 AM
89	Continuing to support the people who live and work in the community.	9/21/2025 5:03 PM
90	parking and public transportation services	9/21/2025 3:10 PM
91	Lower taxes stop spending	9/21/2025 10:04 AM
92	A real estate transfer tax , now is the time to implement this when all these very expensive properties are being developed and sold . That generates money that can fund the preservation of open space and the waterfront , a more extensive inter urban , events that bring tourism , infrastructure , any and all improvements to fire police library etc .	9/20/2025 7:28 PM

93	Lower taxes	9/20/2025 11:34 AM
94	Additional haz mat collections.	9/19/2025 9:25 AM
95	decrease in short term rentals and over development	9/18/2025 5:45 PM
96	Improve the parks and resources the City already has and assist the business community and community property owners. Allow various uses in existing housing inventory but restrict development in protected areas, such as wooded duneland west of the river.	9/17/2025 6:14 PM
97	Fewer huge houses being built in which people live for a few weeks or months of the year and take up SO much space. They are TOTALLY out of character for this town. No big parking lots being built, instead require shuttle service; Keep the CAP and stricter regs on the Airbnbs… this has helped tremendously in our neighborhood and reduced significantly the need to call police.	9/17/2025 3:55 PM
98	Fire the Fire Department - They are condescending and rude and far over reaching - nobody likes them we unfortunately need them but the Fireman need to change - fire the family of Gamby	9/17/2025 1:33 PM
99	The City Council needs to end its toxic culture and work together to serve all of the taxpayers who fund everything you are asking about in this survey. Not just the minority of what 10 people think Saugatuck should be because they left big cities.	9/15/2025 10:08 PM
100	There are some city council members that are very negative- they only come with problems and yet never have solutions. I hope they can learn to work more inclusively. The rest of council has worked so well on solving difficult problems that have been pushed to the side- by these same negative council members - for too long. I appreciate the hard work of council and staff that are tackling things like STRs, parking, lead pipes, connectivity of our greenspaces and coming up with informed and balanced outcomes so that full time residents and tourists can enjoy this beautiful town peacefully.	9/15/2025 2:17 PM
101	I think the building owners need to take better care of their property. When they close for the season they do little to maintain the front. I think the city needs to do better job with snow/slush removal. The curbs should be cleared regularly. You let a passenger out of your car and the step in 8 inches of mess.	9/15/2025 11:20 AM
102	Friendly City Council Members, Small Business Advacates	9/14/2025 5:32 PM
103	STR limit is terrible	9/14/2025 5:25 PM
104	While I agree Short Term Rentals need to be restricted, that ship has sailed and further restrictions will only hurt the business community that spurs our great tourism economy. While home owners want to protect their investments and see less STR's, they also moved here/stayed here because they LOVE the restaurants and shops. Restricting STR's without other planning to keep tourism growing threatens all of our businesses. Saugatuck must focus on reworking the codes that restrict the creation of hotel business in the city. There are many large scale old homes, or building sites that can be converted into boutique hotels, or new builds that allow single family homes to re-enter the real estate market, and keep beds available for tourists.	9/13/2025 5:12 PM
105	Increase the amount of STR permits to allow for tourist to stay in town instead of commuting elsewhere. The amount of people that stay overnite in town is a must for businesses to flourish. you don't want a town that rolls up the sidewalks at night.	9/13/2025 4:30 PM
106	Our city leadership needs to focus on the protecting our unique water setting that puts Saugatuck on the map. We are not large enough to have a Community Services Department to take care of those in need so the local non-profit organizations and county/state government services need to be utilized instead. Our elected city leadership needs to focus on developing ordinances to protect the park systems that draw many guests to our unique town. The Wicks Park Gazebo, which is reflected in many pictures representing this wonderful town, should NOT be utilized as an over-night sleeping option for anyone. PLEASE do what is necessary and develop the framework so enforcement can be maintained.	9/11/2025 1:16 PM
107	Saugatuck has a rich tapestry of history, natural beauty, and community spirit. By embracing forward-thinking improvements—across infrastructure, sustainability, economic development, community engagement, tourism management, and emergency preparedness—the city can build an even brighter future. Inclusive planning and active collaboration among public officials,	9/11/2025 12:52 PM

	residents, and stakeholders will help Saugatuck grow in ways that honor its heritage while welcoming innovation and diversity. In doing so, Saugatuck can continue to thrive as a cherished place to live, work, and visit for generations to come.	
108	-Non-motorized facility is needed along Park St., which can be downright dangerous for residents and tourists alike who walk or ride along Park St, (often on the road). -Better maintenance of city right of way (weed trimming, tree pruning, etc.) particularly on the west side, which is neglected by the City. -Better management of tourist assets such as the Chain Ferry (more reliable in-season service), Oval Beach (better traffic management during high season, etc).	9/11/2025 12:19 PM
109	In order to maintain the attractive small-town charm of Saugatuck that promotes tourism, we need our elected officials to develop and pass ordinances to protect our park systems; i.e, no loitering, closing times, etc.	9/11/2025 12:16 PM
110	Strategy to draw (and welcome) year round tourism	9/10/2025 5:03 PM
111	Continued enforcement of zoning that protects our woods and waterfront and limits out-of-control growth of short term rentals.	9/10/2025 3:23 PM
112	I think we should continue finding the happy medium of being a tourist destination and a place to reside year round. I would like to see a less contentious city council that is less concerned with maintaining a status quo of years gone by and embrace keeping our city relevant.	9/10/2025 1:10 PM
113	quit spending so much on attorneys and more on public safety	9/10/2025 11:52 AM
114	We need an arthouse movie theater downtown and more parking spaces	9/10/2025 10:37 AM
115	Improved lighting. When walking at night there are so many areas that are pitch black.	9/9/2025 10:06 PM
116	More parking that is not charged excessive fees like the ones that are here now. More bathroom facilities.	9/9/2025 2:28 PM
117	Wealthy investors from large metro areas buy houses and land at extremely high prices, build monstrously large houses, pay low taxes, and leave the homes vacant for a large part of the year. In combination with those renting through AirBNB, this prices regular people out of the market and ensures that Saugatuck can never be a year round town.	9/9/2025 12:06 PM
118	More public parking	9/9/2025 11:11 AM
119	Taxes are out of whack, and need more affordable housing options in the area. Young families will never be able to afford to live here (thus affecting the schools) given the price of real estate and real estate taxes. Should work with the state to allow for local sales taxes to allow tourist dollars to help reduce property taxes.	9/9/2025 10:36 AM
120	A pedestrian/bike bridge across the Lakeshore Drive washout, re-connecting the LSD community.	9/9/2025 10:12 AM
121	The City of Saugatuck needs to place far more emphasis on supporting small businesses, which are the backbone of tourism revenue. Allowing the town to essentially shut down on Mondays and Tuesdays sends the wrong message to visitors and weakens the perception of Saugatuck as a year-round destination. Only a handful of businesses remain open seven days a week throughout the year, and this lack of consistency makes it even harder to build momentum outside of the peak summer season. Even more concerning is the lack of effort to attract tourism during the fall and winter months — critical times when businesses struggle to sustain operations. Currently, it feels as though City Council prioritizes preserving “charm” over driving sustainable growth and economic strength. What makes Saugatuck charming in the first place is the vitality that tourism revenue provides. Stronger leadership, investment in off-season programming, and a genuine commitment to supporting the small business community are needed to ensure that Saugatuck remains not only beautiful but also economically resilient.	9/9/2025 10:07 AM
122	The city needs to prioritize residents needs above tourists' and businesses'. Here's a small example. Many residents of Park Street north have asked for speed control in the way of reduced speed limits, speed bumps, and/or other traffic calming devices. The city ignores us and we have to contend with dogs being run over, high speed traffic past pedestrians, and inattentive drivers. Rarely is the LEO presence.	9/9/2025 9:46 AM
123	More affordable vacation rentals, more breakfast restaurants, better public restrooms.	9/9/2025 7:42 AM
124	The road and sidewalks are falling apart.	9/8/2025 9:17 PM

125	More affordable family restaurants like Ida Reds.	9/8/2025 8:59 PM
126	I love it just the way it is!!!	9/8/2025 8:52 PM
127	Fix the roads. Potholes everywhere! Improve the attractiveness and uniformity of the downtown sidewalks.	9/8/2025 3:33 PM
128	Pedestrian walkways. Bike paths 4 way stops at all intersections. Restrooms at coughlin park	9/8/2025 3:09 PM
129	The public bathrooms by Village Square	9/8/2025 2:21 PM
130	Preserving and maintaining neighborhoods while increasing full-time resident population	9/8/2025 1:32 PM
131	Safety for pedestrians; housing for service employees; city support of charter fishing businesses	9/8/2025 11:35 AM
132	Downtown sidewalks and landscaping by sidewalks. Bring back the film festival and create winter events to attract tourists.	9/8/2025 11:28 AM
133	I think improvements should focus on making our parks, trails, and public spaces more accessible and user-friendly. That includes ADA upgrades, better signage, and amenities like restrooms, shade, and seating. It’s also important to strengthen pedestrian and bike connections—especially along Blue Star Highway and between key community spaces—so residents and visitors alike can safely and easily enjoy the city without relying on cars. At the same time, we should protect the natural features and small-town scale that make Saugatuck unique, even as we grow and welcome more visitors.	9/8/2025 9:49 AM
134	Please set up a recycling center or bins for residents to use.	9/8/2025 9:41 AM
135	The block of land between Allegan, Blue Star, Maple and 134th should be targeted for long-term redevelopment. This is prime real estate that is walking distance to downtown Saugatuck. Its highest and best use is not for self-storage, boat storage, DPW yards, etc. but would be a great location for mixed use or higher-density housing. I realize it is Township property so if annexation is not possible then collaboration with the Township should be explored or perhaps public/private partnerships to purchase and redevelop the land.	9/8/2025 9:27 AM
136	Need people in place to protect the charm of the City and bring in tourism to support local businesses, not redevelop it and jam in housing	9/8/2025 1:53 AM
137	safer streets for pedestrians, returned focus on arts, government transparency	9/7/2025 10:45 PM
138	Parking sucks and makes me hesitant to visit. I want to be able to easily find parking outside of downtown so it doesn’t lose its charm, but is a short walk or bus ride to downtown.	9/7/2025 9:29 PM
139	Stop the council members from bullying residents and business owners.	9/7/2025 9:18 PM
140	Repave and regrade the residential roads.	9/7/2025 8:38 PM
141	Less talk, more action, less rich people and more workers. Tear down the trash heap in the middle of town aka Coral Gables	9/7/2025 5:42 PM
142	more walking, biking paths, more commitment to residents	9/7/2025 2:31 PM
143	Bike lanes on Park, Culver and Lake Streets.	9/7/2025 9:14 AM
144	Continue to enact and enforce appropriate behavioral norms for tourists. Fix the roads on the Hill.	9/6/2025 5:07 PM
145	Less regulation.	9/6/2025 2:56 PM
146	We need to stop billing so as a area for bicycling, it is already too small and too crowded to safely cycle anywhere in town or to the beach	9/6/2025 2:55 PM
147	We need to focus on improvement while keeping the integrity of our town. Again, people come here for a reason, don't change it. Bigger is not better...I've seen what happens too many time.	9/6/2025 12:38 PM
148	Remove STR Cap	9/6/2025 12:32 PM
149	Need our own police. Tax assessor has many errors and inconsistencies that need to be addressed. More winter activities downtown.	9/6/2025 12:31 PM
150	Parking. Allow more designated for smaller golf carts, scooters & bicycles. More benches	9/6/2025 8:31 AM

151	Reduce property taxes and remove the cap on STR's	9/6/2025 7:48 AM
152	Plant trees and restore gardens. Wish there was more sidewalk restaurant seating closer to the water.	9/6/2025 12:50 AM
153	Remove the STR cap, how can my neighbor down the hill rent its property when I can't because I live on the hill. Options are important and life and so is tourism.	9/5/2025 10:15 PM
154	change the property tax structure so that the new property owners are not paying inordinately more tax than long established residents	9/5/2025 10:05 PM
155	Coral Gables is a complete eyesore. More advertising for interurban to alleviate parking	9/5/2025 9:45 PM
156	We need more opportunities for parking downtown to do business with local merchants. Our schools are top notch. We need families living and working here.	9/5/2025 9:29 PM
157	The City needs to figure out how to get Tourists here during the winter months. It’s really hard to operate a business in this town during those months- almost impossible. There are not enough locals to spread the love- tourists are our life lines!! We also need affordable housing for employees- like Mackinac Island does. There isn’t enough workers and the workers we do get are far from great.	9/5/2025 9:14 PM
158	Local shuttles	9/5/2025 8:30 PM
159	Lower taxes	9/5/2025 8:14 PM
160	Do away with patio dining as part of a plan to improve parking for visitors	9/5/2025 6:28 PM
161	Streamline the paperwork and meetings needed to do any work on your property. The number of hoops to jump through are ridiculous. And often you receive misinformation. Police should do a better job monitoring parking violations. I see visitors parking directly in home property (grass) or blocking roads and private drives.	9/5/2025 5:01 PM
162	Parking	9/5/2025 4:57 PM
163	Accessibility for people with disabilities. The sidewalks are narrow and not level at all. In some areas (like in front of Wicks Park Bar and Grill you cannot get a wheelchair through with the way their seating is and people sitting in chairs, having their dogs with them, waitresses crossing the sidewalk, people waiting for a seat etc. Access to the waterfront is limited. Many of the stores can not even be entered by someone in a wheelchair or with a walker. Parking also needs to be addressed. We struggle to find parking every time we're in Saugatuck, and if I'm with my friend who is in a wheelchair there are only a handful of handicapped spots available. My husband and I go to Saugatuck all the time, but when I went with my wheelchair bound friend for the first time we were seriously disappointed. For a town that prides itself on the "celebration of human diversity" that doesn't seen to apply to those with physical disabilities.	9/5/2025 2:54 PM
164	More parking	9/5/2025 2:13 PM
165	Enforcement of size of boats permitted at dinghy dock!	9/5/2025 10:45 AM
166	Remove the restaurant seating on the streets. Not only does it remove valuable parking spaces. All it will take is one impaired motorist to put Saugatuck in the news for the wrong reason	9/5/2025 9:07 AM
167	Drive bachelorette and bachelor parties out of downtown	9/5/2025 9:06 AM
168	More parking	9/5/2025 9:05 AM
169	The best improvements are done by the private sector.	9/5/2025 8:58 AM
170	The street are in very poor condition	9/5/2025 8:24 AM
171	Not a lot - more recycling bins; keep maintaining and improving buildings and emphasizing historic nature	9/5/2025 7:40 AM
172	parking	9/5/2025 7:33 AM
173	Downtown traffic is tough in the summer. I wonder if one-way streets could alleviate this? Pedestrians don't always pay attention or cross at the crosswalk. A municipal dock near Baldy, similar to the dinghy dock, would be a nice addition.	9/3/2025 6:48 PM

174	Connect oval beach and Downtown with year round pathway!	9/3/2025 1:40 PM
175	Roads need work!!	9/3/2025 10:59 AM
176	Road maintenance, enforcement of codes and rules.	9/3/2025 10:57 AM
177	Sidewalks need help in many areas downtown. More parking would be helpful.	8/31/2025 6:03 PM
178	Steps at Oval Beach and wider walkway that can accommodate wheelchairs.	8/30/2025 9:59 PM
179	A downtown small grocery store	8/30/2025 7:37 PM
180	Additional sidewalks, a small market or deli downtown that is open year round, similar to Farmhouse.	8/30/2025 6:05 PM
181	Bike parking, roundabout/traffic control near dune rides, parking downtown (resident downtown parking passes for priority spots?), useful things would be a Meijer, a Veterinarian, urgent care, more Asian/cultural food options.	8/30/2025 4:59 PM
182	Less noise, light pollution, slower traffic	8/30/2025 4:22 PM
183	Sidewalk repair/replacement in the residential neighborhoods. Cleaner sidewalks along the storefronts.	8/30/2025 3:50 PM
184	Walkways around park street and perryman. Dangerous!	8/30/2025 10:46 AM
185	Parking options, police	8/30/2025 8:33 AM
186	The summer parking issue needs to be addressed and absolutely not with parking meters. Restaurants need to come off the streets and move back into their indoor space.	8/30/2025 8:33 AM
187	Parking. Saugatuck feels rundown compared to Douglas. Douglas has terrific signage. Douglas is easily understood and clean.	8/30/2025 7:56 AM
188	safer walking/biking on park street, store fronts need to stay clean, updated and in good repair. Coral Gables needs major improvement, it's an eyesore and major disrepair. Keep higher end stores and encourage more of the same	8/30/2025 7:46 AM
189	Path along park street for walking and bikes	8/30/2025 7:43 AM
190	At the level of daily city occupancy often reached during the summer season, the quality of the experience for visitors and the quality of life for residents is no longer positive; there is a persistent and unhealthy preoccupation with and endlessly expanding tourism without adequate supporting infrastructure and especially an adequate number of things of interest to do or places to visit.	8/30/2025 6:51 AM
191	Parking Sending everyone to the school creates conflicts when school is in session	8/30/2025 5:17 AM
192	It needs to be affordable for people to actually live here. My family has lived here for generations upon generations, and sadly, my kids don’t believe they will be able to continue the tradition of living here and are being forced to move away because it’s not even close to affordable. Saugatuck is losing all of the people that have made it the Saugatuck we know and love. It will be a completely different community in the next generation because it will be filled with people from other places who don’t have roots or a deep connection to our town and its beautiful history.	8/29/2025 8:52 PM
193	none	8/29/2025 8:02 PM
194	sidewalk to oval	8/29/2025 7:58 PM
195	Do not allow franchises Figure out traffic control	8/29/2025 5:53 PM
196	More winter residences of people	8/29/2025 5:43 PM
197	I'd like to see the city focus more on infrastructure maintenance rather than unneeded feel-good projects like the "Saugatuck Wilds" boondoggle.	8/29/2025 5:04 PM

Q51 What else would you like to tell us?

Answered: 124 Skipped: 262

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	Love it here! It's a gem.	10/10/2025 1:34 PM
2	Maintain a healthy balance between tourism and supporting the residential community.	10/6/2025 9:21 PM
3	The Deer problem - why on gods green earth are we paying to have them killed? There are hunters that will do it for free!	10/6/2025 2:45 PM
4	Please do not make quick decisions but yes some of these have lingered for years. Fix oldest first	10/5/2025 12:38 PM
5	Lucy street needs a sidewalk. It is very dangerous to have people in the street with strollers and pets. Also, fireworks aren't necessary. They pollute the river and traumatize the pets.	10/3/2025 10:42 PM
6	Taxes are disproportionately high compared to what owners receive. Given that nearly half of the students come from outside the district, it makes sense to close the schools. Demographic trends strongly support this conclusion.	10/3/2025 2:53 PM
7	I think the city council, planners, fire and police departments should at least once a year stop in our shops and restaurants to just say hello and ask about our concerns.	10/3/2025 1:46 PM
8	Reduce property taxes.	10/3/2025 10:39 AM
9	Enforce noise ordinances, coordinate art fairs so they are more spread out over the summer and fall, require builders to complete construction projects in more timely fashion. Patrick Murphy’s construction projects have become a joke- 2-years to build a new house. Coral Gables is an eye sore on the board walk and should be required to maintain property- not contributing to any degree if Saugatuck charm. Need more affordable restaurants downtown. The boardwalk is dangerous and needs repairing because of rotted planks. What needs to be done to fill the Mermaid Restaurant space? Is there something the City can do as an incentive- wasted the entire summer.	10/2/2025 8:05 PM
10	Let me begin by saying, this survey is bias and contains multiple trick questions with options unknown to the respondent. I also find your query as to sexual (LGBT) identification insulting and grossly inappropriate. Please point to the study that identifies that a gay person utilizes city services differentially. Your premise and narrow scope are insulting. I thought Saugatuck takes pride in the fact 'all are welcome'. to call out one's sexual preference has no bearing on this survey and the topics presented. Does such a question have any value to my responses? If so, this survey is worthless. Unless the resident is aware a parking committee has been formed to research doable solutions/potential cost the query is irrelevant. The city has already determined a public restroom is needed in the south portion of the city. At least, two studies have been completed with architectural drawings sitting in the basement of city hall. New residents and most of council are unaware as there is little intuitional knowledge present or even asked for. No questions asked the public about city spending, salaries, or budget concerns. A few fluff queries as to the delivery of services. Questions related to expansion of taxable land or enjoining with Douglas etc. are just 'pie in the sky' with no objective information. Preservation of the waterfront is a value to all of us. Most residents are unaware PUD's have been approved for that area. Always a good way to obfuscate the real end goal to develop to the max while the city can hide behind a bad decision on it most valuable asset to the residents. You ask if there are enough restaurants, perhaps in July but many are closed in January. Another question with insufficient information or context. For the most part, questions related to the business community are a power grab for additional enforcement, control and money. While outdoor restaurant seating usurps parking it adds to the charm of the community and is necessary in the competitive tourism market. As to bringing in affordable housing, good idea perhaps but where? The idea that affordable housing is plus for workers to the area is simply another fairy tale to solving a problem is simply area for years. Furthermore, while public housing maybe desirable the city is landlocked. Saugatuck is unable to be all things to all people and therein lies the most important question which was not asked. How should	10/2/2025 4:32 PM

	Saugatuck be identified? Presently and historically Saugatuck has been a tourism destination. The community is not rural farmland, an industrial park or a community large to enough to market to all demographics. There are some that want the city to become a sleepy community/suburb. One of the many studies secured by council years ago touted the following wise tag line " As your downtown goes so does the community" If we discourage downtown development, constrain eateries, add additional taxing authorities to the business area, all properties will suffer to include housing on the hill and the other side of the river. No one seems to look at the big picture. While some can barely tolerate the rental properties, they still continue to be a large portion of tax revenue. What is the answer to the loss of such revenue. I have heard some residents boast they don't even shop in the downtown with pride. Your survey misdirects and fails to identify what is possible. The need for all the personal information solicitated is not needed to determine sidewalk width or use of a bike. If you need to know one's sexual preference your survey means nothing. Does such a question have any value to me or my busines	
11	Saugatuck has always been inclusive to the LGBTQ community. Saugatuck has always been open to EVERYONE!!!!!	10/2/2025 2:34 PM
12	When you're improving the roads, could you PLEASE put the utilities underground. Short term - more expensive; long term - fewer power outages, fewer downed power lines due to our unpredictable weather and more esthetically appealing, and probably safer for everyone. Better cooperation among the 3 communities to reduce everyone's expenses. Seems completely ridiculous to have 3 city governments for such a small population.	10/2/2025 12:36 PM
13	Develop the waterfront	10/2/2025 8:48 AM
14	D na	10/2/2025 8:37 AM
15	-Saugatuck should focus on enhancing and preserving the natural beauty that attracts residents and visitors. Add native plantings wherever possible. Add pocket prairies and monarch waystations that are labeled as such. Focus on plantings for wildlife, particularly pollinators and birds and encourage residents to do likewise. -We should pursue becoming a MI Green Community. Nothing is more important than addressing global warming and our community has the resources to become a model green community. -Try to acquire the Peterson Mill. This is an iconic landmark that should belong to the city. -Our downtown needs more upscale shops. As a community that prides itself on art, we have too many T-shirt shops and clothing boutiques and not enough art galleries. -We don't need to attract more tourists. Parking is a problem because we have more than enough visitors. Restaurants are so overcrowded I only visit these during the off season. -Add more picnic tables. These could be placed in Cook Park which does not seem to serve a purpose besides supporting the Singapore Yacht Club. -The ban on short-term rentals is a huge benefit for residents. Thanks for having the courage to implement this!	10/1/2025 9:25 PM
16	The city needs to push dark sky initiatives and native plantings/pocket prairies.	10/1/2025 9:06 PM
17	thanks for providing the opportunity to do this survey	10/1/2025 3:59 PM
18	There may be potential for new revenue from slow-water hydroelectric generators in the river.	10/1/2025 9:09 AM
19	Appreciate this survey and all you do!	10/1/2025 8:22 AM
20	Need new city council members	9/30/2025 8:18 PM
21	Keep short term rentals only for people that have ties to the Saugatuck community. Do not allow investment companies to come in here or a big-time realtors and buy everything up then there's no ownership in our community in which we live in.	9/30/2025 8:16 PM
22	Improvements for pedestrians along Park Street on the west side of the river are critical for future safety. For too long, the city is not paid attention to the west side of the river where pedestrians have to constantly dodge traffic problem. Some type of dedicated pathway/sidewalks should be established from Center Street to Mount baldhead.	9/30/2025 5:42 PM
23	It is very expensive to live in the Tri- communities, between the taxes and the add on fees a family has a hard time to pay the bills. There should be ways to lower tax bills and fees. The fire department mileage and our water sewer fees are the highest fees from the surrounding cities that I see.	9/30/2025 2:53 PM
24	Some of these questions were difficult or flawed, for example the work question, I work from home full time, but didn't have an answer for that so left blank as answering with one of the	9/30/2025 2:24 PM

	options would have been bad data. There was a missed opportunity to explain why gathering the demographic data was important. As such it was a turn off to me to answer in depth as was requested as I didn't know why it was being asked, nor how it was going to be used, and I didn't see how that fit into the topic of the matter. There was a missed opportunity to indicate or give instructions on how to do the ranked voting, I can imagine someone not knowing you can move the topics / and/ or tick the up button. In question #50 I added my top improvements - was kind of surprised that 2 were not included in the overall topics, ie Telco, and Power stability	
25	The people of the community are fewer & soon it will be all air b&b investment like it is in this neighborhood.No one lives here, we are surrounded by rentals	9/30/2025 1:57 PM
26	Control growth	9/30/2025 11:38 AM
27	hold firm on elimination of Heuleville's wall, covered boat house, rental slips that should never have been approved and electrical panels, they are an eye sore for the community. Several times tourists have asked me "what are those"	9/29/2025 8:49 PM
28	There is no reason for such bitterness in the politics here.	9/29/2025 8:40 PM
29	The chain furry should have a residence user pass one time fee for the folks to use instead of going and trying to find parking downtown	9/29/2025 5:05 PM
30	Thank you for serving the community.	9/29/2025 4:36 PM
31	We chose Saugatuck as our second home, with a long term plan to be full time. The appeal is the small town charm, diverse community, arts, restaurants, etc. Don’t lose sight of what made sugatuck what it is when planning for the future!	9/29/2025 4:30 PM
32	The city is doing a great job.	9/29/2025 3:13 PM
33	Do away with the interurban	9/29/2025 3:09 PM
34	Thank you for asking for input and factoring it into your decisions. It's government at its best!	9/29/2025 3:06 PM
35	A joyful wonderful town.	9/29/2025 12:49 PM
36	Allow dogs on Oval Beach. Traverse City has a dwtn Beach, leashed dogs and alcohol allowed, no problems	9/29/2025 10:16 AM
37	Small town politics in Saugatuck is a bit embarrassing.	9/29/2025 8:43 AM
38	Fire the person in charge of city maintenance and fire the city manager	9/28/2025 9:58 PM
39	-	9/28/2025 8:28 PM
40	The taxes and waters bill is ridiculous	9/28/2025 12:59 PM
41	Lawyers are eating us alive, need more qualified people to run city, lawyer should only be on retainer. Finish the house boat situations. Need to focus on and protect the future for generations to come. The city used to help seniors with things. Cost of meeting and some permits is absurd. It’s just a money grab. The cost of doing business with the city for homeowners has become prohibitive. The city isn’t for the people it’s for the city.	9/28/2025 10:37 AM
42	This town is supposed to be City Manager strong and City Council second to the City Manager. A City Manager is supposed to guide the City Council on appropriate actions. City Council should not have to pay exorbitant amounts for legal council because the City Manager should be able to be more of a guide in more situations. As it stands right now, there are 4 out of 7 city council members that run the City Manager. And those people don't know proper procedures or don't care what those procedures are. I don't think ethics is important to them nor is transparency. It looks like 4 are making decisions outside of city council meeting and that is not legal or ethical. There is eye rolling and snide remarks made to citizens and other city council members when they disagree. It is unprofessional, disrespectful and unacceptable. On this current council, there are those who are out of hand and I hope this elections cycle will remedy that.	9/27/2025 3:44 PM
43	This survey is very partial to steer everyone to the results you want. It is obvious base on the options you are set up for wanting neighborhoods, more controls on peoples propery rights and environmentand less part time residence. We have great neighborhoods already and we are	9/27/2025 2:19 PM

	environmental friendly. What is wrong with part time residents as that is a majory use of our housing. can't trust the results as this survey is setup to meet your wants.	
44	Gratitude to City Staff and Council for your leadership and hard work that assures that this place remains uniquely special. And, oh by the way, could you please reconsider the City's historic support for fireworks … they are not good for our non-human companions nor for human who suffer from PTSS or for the ecology!	9/27/2025 1:45 PM
45	Dont charge visitors $15 to park next to the CntForTheArts. Have the school do a bake sale if they money than our high taxes generate Build a parking structure in that space. Thank you	9/27/2025 10:35 AM
46	Do not agree with limiting short term rentals. Need better cell service downtown. Sometimes I cannot pay to park with my phone because of bad signal.	9/26/2025 4:59 PM
47	less diviceness, boards and commissions are all prepicked, it is a waste of time to apply, very dishonest process	9/26/2025 1:27 PM
48	The short term rental implementation is unfocused and unclear. Enforcement is inconsistent and communication poor. Reducing numbers will take a decade and all the while surrounding neighborhoods will build rentals given the recent large scale approved developments. What's the actual will to maintain and enforce the str rules?	9/26/2025 12:15 PM
49	Update STR policy to enable trust changes. Current STR owner policy tied to owners financial planning needs is frightening.	9/26/2025 4:46 AM
50	The recent short-term rental ordinance is government overreach. Not being able to transfer property into a trust or LLC for estate planning purposes violates private property rights. Saugatuck is built on tourism and this is anti-tourism.	9/25/2025 9:50 PM
51	Could we consider switching to a different option for street sweeping? It is so loud and it doesn't honestly seem to clean up much.	9/25/2025 7:26 PM
52	Good Work!	9/25/2025 5:04 PM
53	There should be more public pressure on Douglas and the township to engage in a shared masterplan	9/25/2025 4:37 PM
54	Great town making bad choices via the clique in council.	9/25/2025 4:05 PM
55	This work is a challenge. The look, feel, and character of the town must be maintained while allowing older buildings to either be renovated or replaced within standards that are affordable and keep the town looking similar to how it currently does. Thank you for undertaking this process.	9/24/2025 8:48 AM
56	Love the new park on 63	9/23/2025 8:31 PM
57	Thankful to all the volunteers in our community	9/23/2025 2:29 PM
58	Make city council friendly again	9/23/2025 1:31 PM
59	I hope our council members recognize why so many people are drawn to Saugatuck and why generations of visitors have come to love this town. While not everyone can afford to live in a place that has grown both beautiful and expensive, we shouldn't limit their ability to continue visiting by restricting STR's, especially because it is reducing the value of our property, which in a way I don't mind because it will allow me to contest and reduce my property taxes.	9/23/2025 9:46 AM
60	I am impressed by the high quality of this survey.	9/22/2025 10:30 PM
61	Thanks for doing the job so few love to judge but don't actually want to do.	9/22/2025 4:00 PM
62	Keep up the good work and thank you for your service.	9/21/2025 5:03 PM
63	Stop raising taxes on water front homes and condos	9/21/2025 10:04 AM
64	Don't be afraid to stand up to developers proposing things that don't fit with the small town character you are trying to preserve . They are counting on you to be afraid of lawsuits etc . It's how they operate , stand up for the town	9/20/2025 7:28 PM
65	Saugatuck is forcing out long time residents	9/20/2025 11:34 AM
66	You all do a great job! Keeping the balance is hard work, and the focus should remain improving what Saugatuck already has and the projects that the taxpayers need or request.	9/17/2025 6:14 PM

67	Thank you for giving us an opportunity to respond to this survey. I think the growth of Saugatuck (and Douglas along the Lake Shore) has gone unchecked for too long and the character of the village and the natural environment will be gone before long and once it's gone it can never come back. Tourists will stop coming and we'll end up with a "nothing" kind of place that people won't want to visit and those of us who live here may think of leaving this beautiful little village along Lake Michigan	9/17/2025 3:55 PM
68	Allow property owners rights first - we don't need more rules	9/17/2025 1:33 PM
69	Listen to all Taxpaying members of this community, not just the 750 who can vote, of which I am one of the voters. And Taxes are vastly broken, with some in the community barely paying anything, to homes that are incorrectly assessed values it all needs to be corrected.	9/15/2025 10:08 PM
70	Current Council members have personal agendas that have no place in any government	9/14/2025 5:32 PM
71	Investment in workforce housing is absolutely critical! As a business partner in one of the restaurants in Saugatuck, I myself can not afford to live anywhere near here. In fact, I drive from Grand Rapids each day, as do much of my staff. The lack of workforce housing (NOT INCOME RESTRICTED) kneecaps each business in Saugatuck from recruiting the top talent our customers are seeking. This must be an absolute top priority if Saugatuck is to thrive.	9/13/2025 5:12 PM
72	City manager should be required to live within 5 miles of city	9/13/2025 4:30 PM
73	The City of Saugatuck and its elected leaders should consider directing their efforts and investments toward projects that enhance residents' quality of life, improve visitor experience, and ensure city government services are accessible, responsive, and efficient. City leaders and elected officials must refocus on delivering essential services and maintaining the standards that both residents and visitors anticipate in a small resort community.	9/11/2025 12:52 PM
74	Thanks for seeking public input!	9/11/2025 12:19 PM
75	Support the downtown businesses with special events. I remember when bus loads of people would come for our sidewalk sales. Make the festival lighted boat parades affordable so boaters will want to participate.	9/11/2025 12:16 PM
76	Continued enforcement of the 20 percent cap on short-term rentals in the prime residential neighborhoods is critical to the long-term survival of the community.	9/10/2025 3:23 PM
77	Our little city is a great place to call home and maintaining that sensibility while also keeping up with changing times should keep us relevant for many years to come.	9/10/2025 1:10 PM
78	City Council members would benefit from visiting the downtown businesses to find out about the challenges faced. I only know of one who really understands them.	9/9/2025 10:06 PM
79	I have had experience with the Holland Downtown Development Authority, and would caution against following that as a model. It is not effective and does not support small, family businesses.	9/9/2025 12:06 PM
80	Thanks!	9/9/2025 10:36 AM
81	The number of parking spaces still being set aside for restaurants is excessive, especially since their interior spaces are not being filled to capacity in the high season.	9/9/2025 10:16 AM
82	Stop spending money on unnecessary projects. The new library is a prime example. Think about REDUCING taxes. We have a very high tax rate.	9/9/2025 9:46 AM
83	Growth is happening fast. The charm is disappearing…and almost gone. When I moved here everyone restaurant and shop was owned pretty much by Locals. That's disappearing.. corporations are buying things up. Used to be unassuming millionaires that had cottages, moved here… now we're on the edge of billionaires, wanting us to be Aspen, Jackson Hole, Naples West. Locals that recently graduated HS and wanting to come home, can't even touch a small 800sq ft home here. This is their hometown.	9/8/2025 8:52 PM
84	Increase the cap on short term rentals to 30%. Long time residents should be allowed to have them.	9/8/2025 11:28 AM
85	Saugatuck's identity is shaped by more than just tourism—it's about our people, our history, and our values. As the city looks ahead, I hope we continue to honor our artistic roots, celebrate our inclusivity, and preserve our natural setting while making thoughtful	9/8/2025 9:49 AM

	improvements to infrastructure. Those qualities are what make Saugatuck not only a special place to visit, but a special place to live and raise a family.	
86	The lack of openness to the motives of newer community members. There is an insinuation that newer or younger community members are here to exploit or to use the community as an investment. There is a lot of blame placed on part time residents for higher home prices, lack of workforce and elder housing. These are national issues, and the same issues facing many big cities and suburbs.	9/8/2025 8:52 AM
87	Snow removal on the sidewalks is terrible. My winter guests complain considering	9/7/2025 5:42 PM
88	Thanks for undertaking this project.	9/7/2025 2:31 PM
89	With recent passing of Lake Vista owner, I'm concerned about maintaining a local grocery store. Would like to see the Tri-Community have more services for residents that would keep us closer to home and fewer trips to Holland.	9/7/2025 9:14 AM
90	We need a full-time employee to enforce short-term renter behavior and to ensure real consequences- as in loss of rental license- on unscrupulous property owners.	9/6/2025 5:07 PM
91	Please prevent deforestation from continuing to take place in the City, especially on the west side of the river in the dunes!	9/6/2025 3:50 PM
92	Saugatuck has become a Disney version of itself. We need local color, more diverse socioeconomic community. Quit reacting to every complaint.	9/6/2025 2:56 PM
93	current level of tourism makes living here as a resident unpleasant. The streets are constantly with cars who have blocked our driveway on the hill more than one occasion.	9/6/2025 2:55 PM
94	We love living in Saugatuck (township)! It's a beautiful town with friendly people and wonderful activities for the locals (and tourists). The recent addition of the huge homes alone the river has changed the feel. We need to preserve the the history and quaintness of Saugatuck and not encourage the HUGE part time homes that keep popping up. Maybe set a "style" requirement to keep the charm of our town? Big, black, block homes don't belong here.	9/6/2025 12:38 PM
95	Great town, love living here. Remove STR cap. Real estate is down because of it	9/6/2025 12:32 PM
96	Love this town!!!	9/6/2025 12:31 PM
97	Property values have dramatically increased, but millage rates have remained the same. For a community with the average age of around 57, the property taxes are becoming unaffordable. If there were a way to tax the STRs to help reduce property taxes that would be helpful.	9/6/2025 7:48 AM
98	The STR cap was implemented to attract full time residents? The only way that will happen is if the STR cap tanks real estate prices to the point where families can afford to move to town because there are no Jobs that can support the real estate prices or more importantly the high property taxes. Sale prices in STR cap areas are down 15%. Understanding property taxes, limited transparency and a tax appeal board that doesn't understand real estate or valuation. There needs to be a better system for property taxes. Neighbors who complain and support the STR cap that have capped property taxes and paying significantly less than neighbors who have purchased within the past 5 years are out of touch with reality and living in la la land.	9/5/2025 10:15 PM
99	Park Street and Ferry Street need a sidewalk and more speed limit enforcement on Park Street past the Chain Ferry	9/5/2025 10:05 PM
100	Maintain the small town charm of Saugatuck. Don’t let it turn into a generic tourist trap	9/5/2025 9:45 PM
101	Many people riding bicycles in town do not observe traffic signs—especially STOP signs. Driving in downtown Saugatuck during summer is a very dangerous sport.	9/5/2025 9:29 PM
102	The City HAS to do a better job at supporting the local businesses. We struggle for 6 months out of the year and no one seems to do too much about it.	9/5/2025 9:14 PM
103	The taxes are so bad we are considering selling and my family has been her since 1835 (Morrison Heath family)— very sad for me	9/5/2025 8:14 PM
104	Share survey results frequently … don’t wait until you have all the input and answers … frequent sharing will prompt more responses … thanks for your hard work … appreciated	9/5/2025 6:28 PM
105	We live here because we love it here!	9/5/2025 4:57 PM

106	The dinghy dock frequently have very large boats docked there for MANY hours. Sunbathing, partying!	9/5/2025 10:45 AM
107	Stop usurping public monies and public property to glorify a social subgroup at public expense—most of whom are not LGB. It's encouraging tribalism and resentment. Public property is owned by the public as a whole. What people do with their own private property is their business. Never the two shall meet (the merger of government and private power is the definition of fascism).	9/5/2025 8:58 AM
108	Would like to see new homes being built to fit the character of a historical town. Too many homes are being built are too modern with flat roofs or straight lines. They do not belong here. Also, strongly believe in continuing the capping on rental properties. Too many rentals on the "hill".	9/5/2025 8:24 AM
109	we love visiting	9/5/2025 7:33 AM
110	I do not like seeing old cottages being knocked down and homes being built which are not consistent with the character of the town. Too many modern homes are being built which take away from the charm of our town. We are not living in Palm Springs!	9/3/2025 10:59 AM
111	Appreciate the opportunity to provide input.	9/3/2025 10:57 AM
112	Consider more activities in fall and spring shoulder seasons to see people. Bathrooms in south end of town.	8/31/2025 6:03 PM
113	We love Saugatuck! Lived in the township for 2 years, but unfortunately had to move back to east side of state; miss living in Saugatuck every single day, which is why we return about 6-8 times every year. There is always some event happening for entertainment, never a dull time in this city!	8/30/2025 7:37 PM
114	Thank you for considering the allowance of a limited number of backyard chickens (hens), We hope to see this approved.	8/30/2025 6:05 PM
115	Thanks for doing the heavy lifting.	8/30/2025 4:22 PM
116	City Hall is a nasty smelly mess. The city needs to bring back a can do attitude rather than the attitude of we will throw every road block in your way and charge you lots of money along the way. The planning administrator should be helping you achieve your goals rather than take a negative attitude and see how much money can be charged. the city manager should be more available to the people who pay his salary. City council is totally out of control!!! to much of the city is run by committees that were never elected by the people.	8/30/2025 8:33 AM
117	Boardwalks are an asset and they are not well maintained. Many tripping hazzards.	8/30/2025 7:56 AM
118	to keep the city and the housing values stable, we must be sure that businesses have standards and are held to them. Keeping storefronts in good condition	8/30/2025 7:46 AM
119	Many in the community are absolutists about the pursuit of economic goals and driving increased tourism (especially the Convention & Visitors Bureau), failing to understand that, past a certain level of occupancy, the small-town character, welcoming community, and available activities (the very reasons people come here) are no longer attractive or enjoyable for visitors. There are many indications, especially increasing incivility, that people are not enjoying themselves while visiting.	8/30/2025 6:51 AM
120	The city is going to get to a point that it is one big fake town that no one lives in. I bet like 5 percent know history of Saugatuck or could name what old buildings were. Need more diversity away from tourism all eggs are in that basket. The city is too busy and locals do not use restraunts and when it slows down businesses are closed because they are tired. They are becoming too lazy from the tourist money. They all should be open into the evening and off season for Christmas shopping ect. The eating in road and sidewalk is also off putting and looks bad. The lost parking is hurting other businesses. People drive in and just leave. Look at Fennville at night and you will see the spillover and lost business potential.	8/30/2025 5:17 AM
121	nothing	8/29/2025 8:02 PM
122	Mostly a good job administratively and maintaining the city	8/29/2025 5:53 PM
123	Don't remove so many trees to build neighborhoods	8/29/2025 5:43 PM
124	City government should have a list of values to guide them. Saugatuck Township has such a	8/29/2025 5:04 PM

	list and it serves their government and citizens very well.	