

Moving Linn County Forward 2042

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Comprehensive Plan Update Public Survey
Results Summary

June 28, 2021

Background

To begin the process for updating Linn County's current Comprehensive Plan, the County has begun its public participation process through an online survey promoted with a link throughout the community gathering input from June 7 through June 16. The survey contains 24 questions including request for email address and if respondent will agree to be contacted if needed. The results of the survey are being used to plan for the three (3) public input meetings to be hosted by Linn County in Mound City, La Cygne, and Pleasanton from July 19 through July 21, 2021. Survey responses and input received at the public meetings are to guide land use and development to update the Comprehensive Plan and move Linn County forward to 2042.

Survey Response Demographics

From June 7 through 16, 2021, 131 individuals completed the survey with differing number of years living in Linn County, ages, employment status, gross income range before taxes, and providing email, granting approval to contact in future, if needed. The survey responses to six (6) of the 24 questions shows these demographics.

Residence and Time Living in Linn County

Of the 131 survey respondents, 117 reside in Linn County; 10 are secondary residents; and four (4) are not residents. These residents have lived in the County for two (2) to more than 30 years, 41 for less than 10 years (13 for 2-3 years,; 10 for 4-5 years; and 18 for 6-10 years), 48 for 11-30 years (18 for 11-15 years; 8 for 16-20 years; and 22 for 21-30 years), and 39 for more than 30 years.

Age

The ages of survey respondents range from 18 to over 74 with 124 age 25-74 years old (30 age 25-44; 69 age 45-64; and 24 age 65-74). One respondent is over the age of 74 years and seven (7) respondents are between 18 to 24 years old.

Employment Status

Ninety-four (94) of the respondents are employed, 73 full-time working 40 or more hours a week, 7 part-time work, and 20 self-employed or home business. Four (4) are homemakers. One (1) is a student. One (1) is other. Twenty-five (25) are retired.

Gross Income Range Before Taxes

The gross income before taxes of respondents ranges between less than \$20,000 per year to \$100,000 or more per year. Fifty (50) respondents' gross income is between \$40,000 to \$99,999 per year with 32 between \$40,000 to \$79,000 per year and 18 between \$80,000 to \$99,999 per year. One (1) respondent has an annual gross income of less than \$20,000. There are 17

respondents with annual gross income between \$20,000 to \$39,000. Thirty-nine (39) have an annual gross income of \$100,000 or more. There are three (3) respondents that do not know their gross income and 22 who declined to answer.

Email Address and Approval to Contact in Future, if Needed

Of the 131 survey respondents, 123 provided an email address of which 110 gave approval to contact in the future for Comprehensive Plan update, if needed. Twenty-one (21) do not want to be contacted by email or asked questions about their survey responses.

Survey Results Summary by Topic Area

From the 131 survey responses received, responses have been reviewed and ranked according to frequency of response being the same or similar in order to group survey results of 18 questions into the following 13 topic areas:

1. Core of Linn County
2. County's Most Important Attribute
3. Linn County's Top Two Strengths
4. Favorite Thing to Do and Favorite Place to Visit in Linn County
5. Description of Linn County's Downtown Area and Activities Like to Have in Downtown Area(s)
6. Three Favorite Places to Spend Time (Outside Linn County), What Like About These Place, and What Linn County Should Do to Become More Like These Places
7. County's Major Source of Employment
8. Effect of Tourism Industry in Linn County
9. Important Buildings and Neighborhoods in Linn County
10. Current Housing in Linn County
11. Types of Development Like to Have
12. Envision Linn County in Year 2042
13. How People Will Get Around Linn County in Year 2042

1) Core of Linn County

Fifty-six (56) respondents consider Mound City, the County seat as the core of Linn County. Next, Pleasanton and along Highway 69 with 11 respondents is considered the core of the County. Some other responses to what is Linn County's core are: agriculture, La Cygne, small towns, Linn Valley, fairgrounds, rich history tied to the Civil War, framed by school district, people interact where they are, designating a core area would indicate other areas of the County are not as important, rural areas are heart and soul of Linn County, and not see the County as having a core which makes planning so difficult, especially with residents working and shopping outside the County.

2) Most Important Attribute of Linn County

The most important attribute of Linn County as ranked as the top 10 based on responses is:

1. The lakes, rivers, and waterways along with their communities and potential for future promotion and growth
2. The natural beauty, scenery, and wildlife for outdoor recreation and enjoyment
3. The history and heritage of the County
4. Agriculture and farms throughout the County
5. Safe rural and small-town atmosphere for peaceful, quiet country living and freedom
6. Affordable land and property
7. Friendly and caring people
8. Good schools
9. Stability of taxation and livability
10. No traffic lights or wind turbines

Other responses correlate to these or only are one response.

3) Linn County's Top Two Strengths

The top two strengths repeated through survey responses in order are:

- Outdoor recreation (lakes, rivers, waterways, fishing, hunting, boating, horseback riding, country driving) and Friendly people and families focused on caring for each other/small town atmosphere/hometown feeling
- Rural lifestyle and quality of life
- Support of schools and Power plant for jobs
- Agriculture and small farms and well-maintained roads and major roadways connecting County to more populated areas

Other responses are for only top two strengths singularly.

4) Favorite Thing to Do and Favorite Place to Visit in Linn County

Respondents primary favorite thing to do is fishing and favorite place to visit is the lakes throughout Linn County, either living there, to go to, or for fishing, hunting, and family get togethers. Secondary favorite things to do are being outdoors, enjoying the peace, quiet, and natural beauty of the County, and taking scenic drives. Secondary favorite places to visit are the parks, community events (fair, rodeo, arts and crafts fair), and libraries. Numerous responses are for specific one things and places.

5) Description of Linn County's Downtown Area and Activities Like to Have in Downtown Area(s)

Survey responses reflect that a downtown area of Linn County is questioned and nonexistent with possibly identifying with Mound City as a downtown area with comments that the towns throughout the County need upgrades and more businesses. In addition, respondents would like to have more community related and social events in the towns, attractions to draw people to a downtown, a facility similar to a YMCA, botanical garden, more shopping, restaurants (cuisine), extensive library, entertainment (music events), and businesses, concerts and band and movie nights in the parks, and hiking trails and amenities the community would use and enjoy.

6) Three Favorite Places to Spend Time (Outside of Linn County), What Like About These Places, and What Linn County Should Do to Become More Like These Places

Survey respondents three favorite places to spend time outside of Linn County and what they like about these places are:

- Elsewhere in Kansas – Fort Scott, Manhattan, Olathe, Overland Park, Paola, Kansas City, Louisburg, Pittsburg, Wichita, Bourbon County, Crawford County, and Johnson County to enjoy shopping, entertainment, sporting events, concerts, wineries, art, walkability, eat, and visit family and friends.
- Out of State of Kansas – Branson, MO, Colorado, Tennessee, Fort Worth, Texas, Cottonwood Falls, Oklahoma, Florida, Wisconsin, Arkansas, Alaska, Ozarks, Idaho, Georgia, Hawaii and Las Vegas, Nevada for change of scenery and lots to do (beaches, mountains, options not in Kansas, visit family and friends)
- Out of U.S. – Bahamas, Jamaica, and Mexico for warm climate and beautiful beaches

Respondents do not want Linn County to become more like these places. Some of the responses highlight the need to:

1. Focus on nurturing and cherishing what Linn County has and building on it through establishing a County focal point in bring residents, families, and businesses to get outdoors and enjoy existing amenities.
2. Incentivize growth of existing and new businesses for people to stay and visit Linn County while preserving beauty and nature and quality of life in a rural atmosphere.
3. Embrace the County as a whole and work to be self-sufficient as if there is nowhere else to go.
4. Work to diversify business, address the vacant buildings throughout the County, and develop infrastructure needed to attract new businesses to offset the loss of the power plant.

5. Define growth and development within the cities.
6. Clean up the County.
7. Increase tourism through destination attraction such as outdoor recreation.

7) County's Major Source of Employment

The major sources of employment in order by number of responses are:

1. Power Plant
2. Government (County, Cities)
3. Agriculture (farms)
4. Schools
5. Small businesses

Responses also mention the commute to metro areas to work.

8) Effect of Tourism Industry in Linn County

Forty-two (42) responses are that the tourism industry in the County has little to no effect with an additional seven (7) respondents referring to tourism as negative. Sixteen (16) respondents did not know its effect in the County. There are 18 responses of needing more tourism as existing tourism is based on two (2) annual events and hunting and fishing and has potential for growth if planned and marketed.

9) Important Buildings and Neighborhoods in Linn County

According to 38 survey respondents, the most important building in Linn County is the Courthouse. The next most important from 31 respondents are the historical sites and buildings including churches, schools, and libraries in Mound City, La Cygne, and Pleasanton. Other buildings of importance of remaining correspondents are Mine Creek, fairground buildings, and the power plant. Neighborhoods are not important other with the lake communities being the exception noted by 15 responses.

10) Current Housing in Linn County

The current housing stock in Linn County is older, substandard, and in need of clean up according to 30 respondents. Twenty-one (21) responses reflect a need for more good rental and affordable housing with 15 responses supporting new single-family housing. There is concern about the amount of vacant housing and need for code enforcement on existing housing. The sparsity and expense along with lack of new affordable single-family housing is noted in 23 responses. Some respondents consider current housing stock to be nice and some do not have an opinion on current housing.

11) Types of Development Like to Have

The types of development respondents would like to have in priority order are:

1. Restaurant (109 responses)
2. Grocery stores (90 responses)
3. Entertainment (85 responses)
4. Mixed-Use development projects (83 responses)
5. Hotels (35 responses)

12) Envision Linn County in Year 2042

Forty-four (44) respondents do not see Linn County much different than it is now in 2021 except for better Wi-Fi and more grocery stores, businesses, and restaurants focused on families and communities as a better version of itself. There are 22 respondents concerned that the County will be stagnant with high taxes where only those with wealth may live due to the loss of the power plant. On the other end of the spectrum, 54 respondents see extensive, almost double growth, as a progressive and vibrant country chic suburb of now metro areas with development centered along Highway 69 and within the existing city areas. There are 11 respondents who do not know what the County will be like in 2042.

13) How People Will Get Around Linn County in Year 2042

Getting around Linn County is not expected to change drastically in Year 2042. According to 93 respondents, people will get around by a vehicle, car (electric or gas) or truck (hover or gas). There are 21 respondents that see people getting around the County the same as now. Only four (4) respondents see mass transit as a way people will get around in Year 2042. Eight (8) did not know and other respondents offered different types of mobility options such as walking, rail service, wheelchair, horses, and autonomous vehicles.

Survey Response Implications for Comprehensive Plan Update

The next phase of the Comprehensive Plan Update public participation process is the input meetings to be hosted by the County July 19 through July 22, 2021. To prepare for these meetings, it is important to consider the following overall implications from the survey response:

- Maintain rural quality of life and uniqueness while balancing future growth tied to natural beauty and environment
- Recognize the County's geographic, economic, and recreational cores as assets for further growth and development
- Build on its assets – lakes, rivers, waterways, agriculture and people
- Develop options for people and community to do from within the County
- Potential for Linn County to become a tourism destination for its heritage and history

and outdoor recreation as part of tourism master plan to develop future assets and amenities to market and grow for economic viability

- Focus on historic sites and buildings preservation
- Address substandard and dilapidated housing
- Plan for affordable and new single-family housing
- Incentivize existing and new businesses
- Recruit grocery stores, restaurants, entertainment, and mixed-use development projects



Linn County Comprehensive Plan Update: Moving Forward to 2042

July 19, 20, and 21, 2021 Public Input Meetings Notes

The July 19, 2021 first of three public input meetings was held at Prairie View High School Performing Arts Center at 7:00 p.m. with 45 (+ or -) attending. Primary public input and comments verbally and written on comment cards focused on:

- **Reasonable Comprehensive Zoning**
 - Use Comprehensive Plan as the long-range plan and blueprint for the future of Linn County to guide the decisions of the elected officials (County Commissioners)
 - Protect the County by managing growth, zoning specific areas of County for recreation and trails and ATV use, designating Highway 69 corridor exits at LaCyne and Mound City as future development growth areas, and defining commercial lot sizes
 - Consider AirBNB zoning and seasonal lot zoning for park homes and campers in to be determined areas of the County
 - Ensure quality development within lake communities
- **Reliable Cell Phone and Improved Internet/Broadband**
 - meet the needs of the underserved or unserved areas of county
 - provide fiber to the home
- **Industrial Wind Development**
 - Opposition to industrial wind development
 - An implied need for zoning or land development regulations to address industrial wind development, its life cycle issues and property siting for leasing as well as protecting non-participating landowners (comparable to signage ordinance)

- **Power Plant**
 - Priority issue to do whatever can to keep the power plant operational
 - Future shuttering of Evergy power plant units 1 and 2 and impact of passage of HB 2072 incentivizing shut down through subsidies provided for solar and wind development profit from reliable, affordable renewable energy
- **Watershed Management**
 - Address flooding and stormwater drainage from where water is coming from, particularly along County Road 152 and the need to build up the road between LaCygne and Prairie View
- **Community and Economic Development**
 - Diversify the economy with more business growth and jobs through tax breaks to businesses
 - Target marketing for more restaurants and grocery stores and more County established entities such as hospital, aquatic center, and vocational trade center located throughout the communities
 - There are too many scrap businesses
 - Recognize employers as important to give people a reason to move here (Would the island be able to annex to help business?)
 - Plan for water infrastructure in more rural areas of community
 - Remove Meth Watch Signs
 - Improve LaCygne park area for recreation
 - Retain Mound City lake
 - Address Mound City area locations for car wash and swimming center
- **Housing**
 - Provide diversified housing stock
 - Clean up dilapidated structures
 - Incentivize individuals to purchase dilapidated properties
 - Develop a grant program to fix up historic buildings

The July 20, 2021 second public input meeting was held at Pleasanton High School gymnasium at 7:00 p.m. with approximately 55 people attending. Areas of common focus from public input and comment are:

- **Reliable Cell Phone and Improved Internet/Broadband**
 - be affordable
 - promote remote work and education
- **Industrial Wind Development**
 - Review pros and cons and set parameters
 - Not allowed to be located within a mile of a residence
 - Question moratorium and what it means for future
- **Power Plant**
 - Develop plan to replace lost revenue
- **Housing**
 - Focus on cleanup of dilapidated properties
 - Offer tax incentives for new housing development
 - Work in partnership with cities to address highway corridors and main streets
- **Community and Economic Development**
 - Support existing businesses, developers, and places in County (support what matters to residents)
 - Incubate businesses to grow such as carousel manufacturing
 - Review infrastructure and business promotional incentives of tax abatement and existing HUB zones to recruit businesses and create jobs while working closer with cities
 - Determine what needs to be done to attract larger businesses for job creation
 - Recruit young entrepreneurs
 - Create brand with attractive entrances and signage
 - Update and enhance existing codes and infrastructure
 - How to support economic development with County position being parttime

Other areas of public input and comments are:

- **Entertainment**
 - Invest in future of kids with facilities such as swimming pool/aquatic center

- Clean up racetrack property to create sport complex
- Consider potential for concerts and events to host at race track no longer happening throughout state such as Sundown Salute
- promote and support existing events and festivals as way to grow businesses such as restaurants, antique shops, and thrift stores
- **Tourism**
 - Attract more tourists through golf course, putt-putt, bike trails, sports and entertainment venues, shooting ranges, guide hunting and fishing
 - Promote and focus on history of County
- **Growth Management**
 - Focus development near or around lake communities and Highway 69 corridor
- **Services for Elderly**
 - Address needs and services for aging population including nursing home
- Distribution of county taxes to cities (how done)
- **Reopen online survey for additional public input** (report on what area of County 117 residents responding live)
- **Do not settle for status quo**

[Note: One of the meeting attendees is interested in serving on the Citizen Advisory Committee and provided contact information on comment card being shared with County for County Commissioners to consider appointment to Committee]

The June 21, 2021 third public input meeting was held at Jayhawk Linn High School gymnasium at 7:00 p.m. with more than 60 people in attendance. Public input and comments of similar feedback from the prior two meetings are:

- **Reliable Cell Phone and Improved Internet/Broadband**
 - Figure out how to become a virtue more mobile usage community
 - Have shared cell towers
- **Industrial Wind Development**
 - Adopt zoning and/or ordinance now

- Consider half mile setback to deter wind turbines from being in County (some in favor to offset loss of power plant revenue and oppose due to impact on natural beauty, assets of County, and potential for new home growth)
- **Power Plant**
 - Become a gas plant with pipeline of gas coming from Missouri
 - Have a revenue replacement plan
- **Community and Economic Development**
 - Divided County needs to consider how to share revenue with cities particularly with future development along Highway 69 corridor and at exits
 - Plan for how to promote 14,000-acre game reserve
 - Address land use, public land, and flooding
 - Bring jobs to community for more people living in County to work in County
 - Have a clear understanding of what is acceptable for development in Linn County such as type of retail (clothes, food, auto parts), housing (mobile homes, single family, rental, mixed, other types), businesses
 - Target Linn County to be different and the envy of other counties/communities
 - Develop existing business support and retention program
- **Entertainment**
 - Focus on families and youth, community love of sports and arts for development of arts and sports complex venues
 - Promote anything for people to stay in the County and support community and to also bring people in such as rodeo, pumpkin patch, Christmas tree farm, drive-in theater, expanded arts and crafts fair, County zoo, trap shoot competition, farm show, and fishing tournaments on the lakes with concerts and restaurants on the lakes
 - Develop a recreation center, go cart venue, clay shooting and shooting range and have movie nights or theater
- **Tourism**
 - Work with historical societies and sites to preserve and promote heritage tourism
 - Consider zoning a specific tourism corridor

- Capitalize on history
- Partner with small businesses to grow heritage tourism
- Have heritage days with re-enactments, food of the time and museum hopping
- Capitalize on hunting and fishing
- **Services for Elderly**
 - Address services for the elderly including assisted living and nursing home and stay in place wrap around services
- **Reopen Online Survey**
 - Streamline survey to multiple choice with less questions

Other areas of public input and comment offered are:

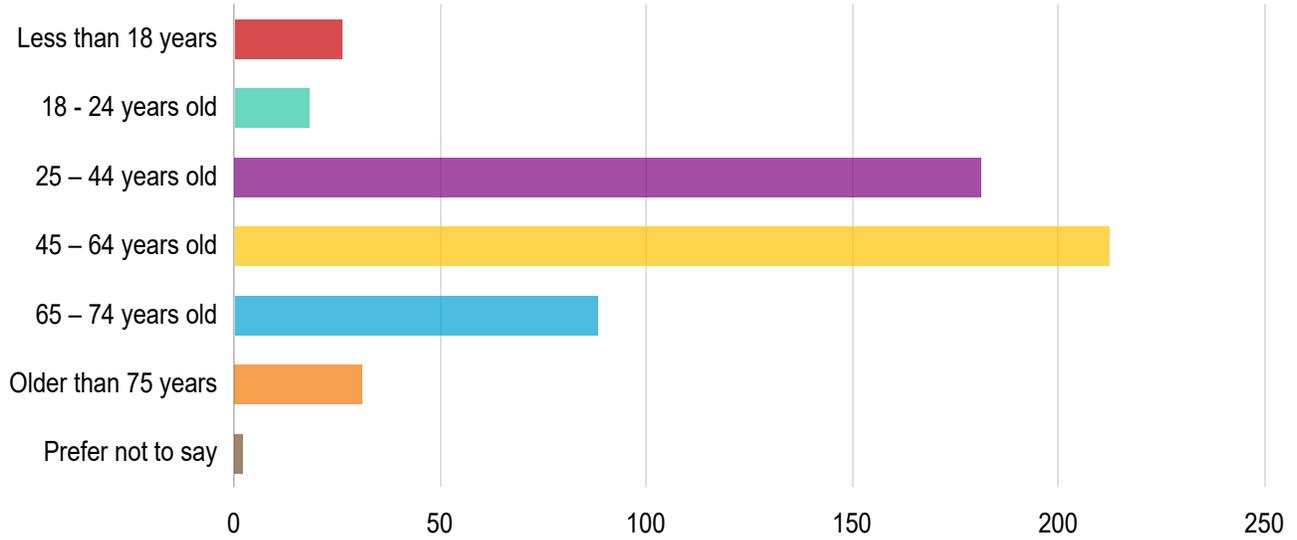
- **Emergency Services**
 - Have adequate ambulance and fire response coverage and alert sirens/communications systems
- **Revenue**
 - Provide public with more information on where County revenue comes from and what plan is to maintain revenue
- **High Fence Hunting Preserves**
 - Draft and adopt ordinance to deter high fences
- **Sale of Lake**
 - Do not sell lake (to pay for jail)
- **Kansas RO2 Program**
 - Question status of County involvement (did County opt out) [if opt in would be able to promote people moving to County]
- **Population Demographics**
 - Distinguish between rural and city populations within County
 - What are the populations of rural and city areas of County
- **Existing Assets**
 - Power Plant, DWSSD #13 water supply, and ISO rating for fire and insurance
- **Golf Course**
 - Be more affordable and inclusive

- **Swimming Pool**
 - Get it fixed for community to use and enjoy or develop new swimming complex
- **Recycling**
 - Develop more incentives to recycle
- **Dilapidated and Vacant Structures and Areas**
 - Clean up community and main streets
 - Address drug usage at lakes

[Note: Specific questions requested by residents to be answered from Comment Cards are being shared with County for response]

Community Survey #2

How Old Are You? *



Answers

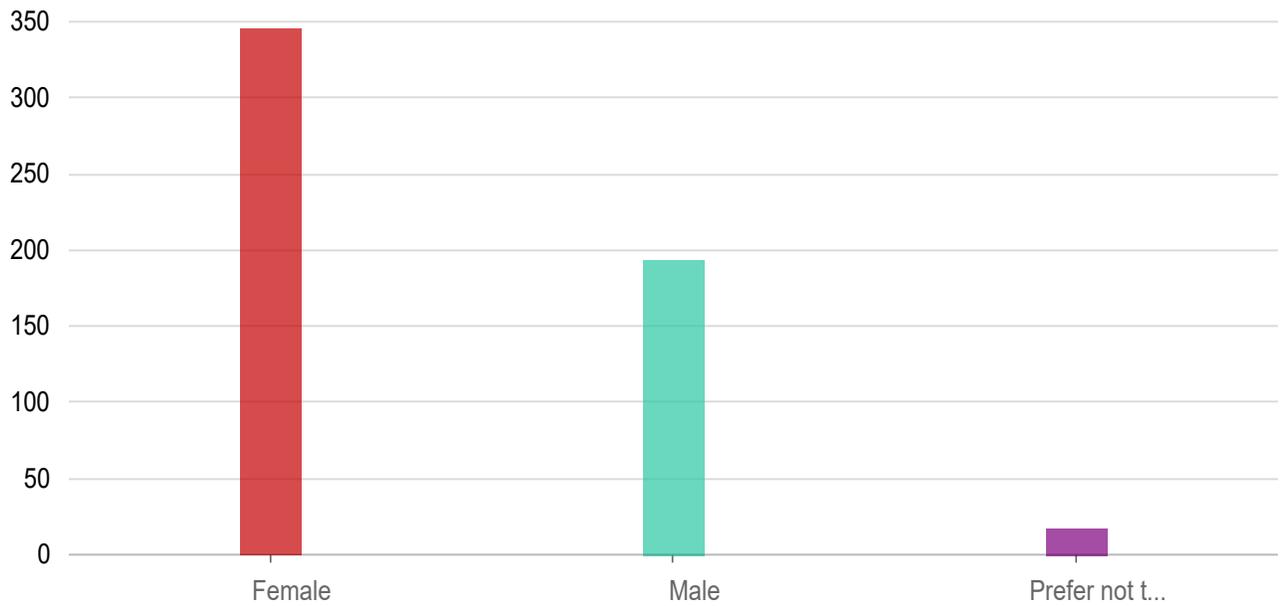
Count

Percentage

Answers	Count	Percentage
Less than 18 years	26	4.66%
18 - 24 years old	18	3.23%
25 - 44 years old	181	32.44%
45 - 64 years old	212	37.99%
65 - 74 years old	88	15.77%
Older than 75 years	31	5.56%
Prefer not to say	2	0.36%

Answered: 558 Skipped: 0

What is Your Gender? *



Answers

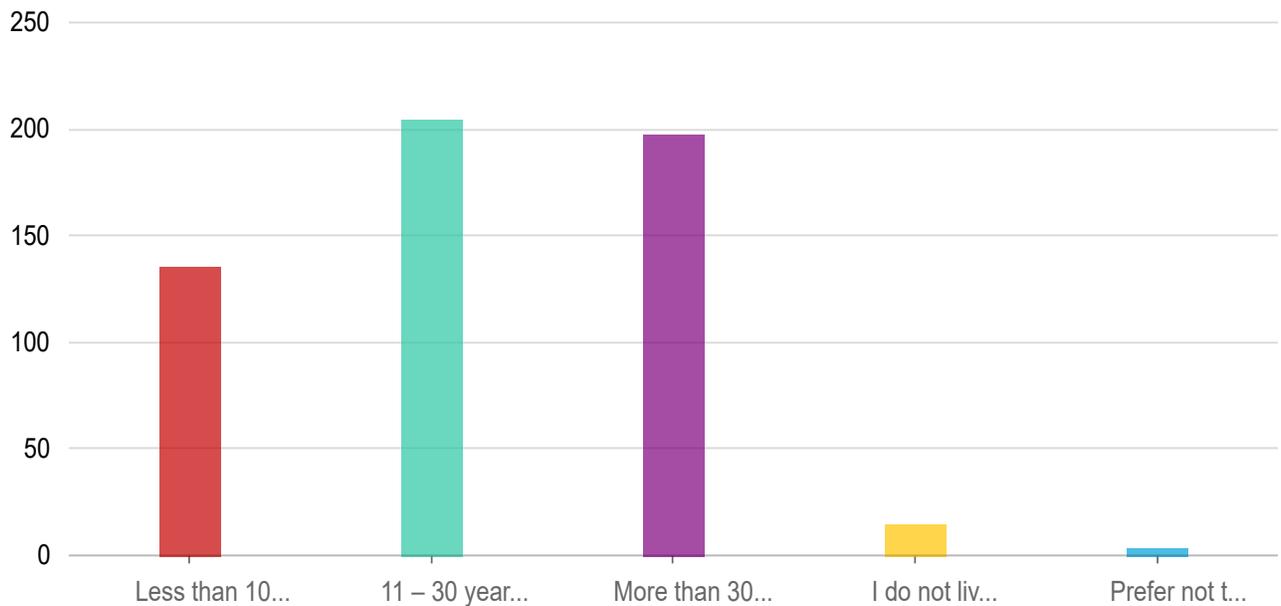
Count

Percentage

Answers	Count	Percentage
Female	346	62.01%
Male	194	34.77%
Prefer not to say	18	3.23%

Answered: 558 Skipped: 0

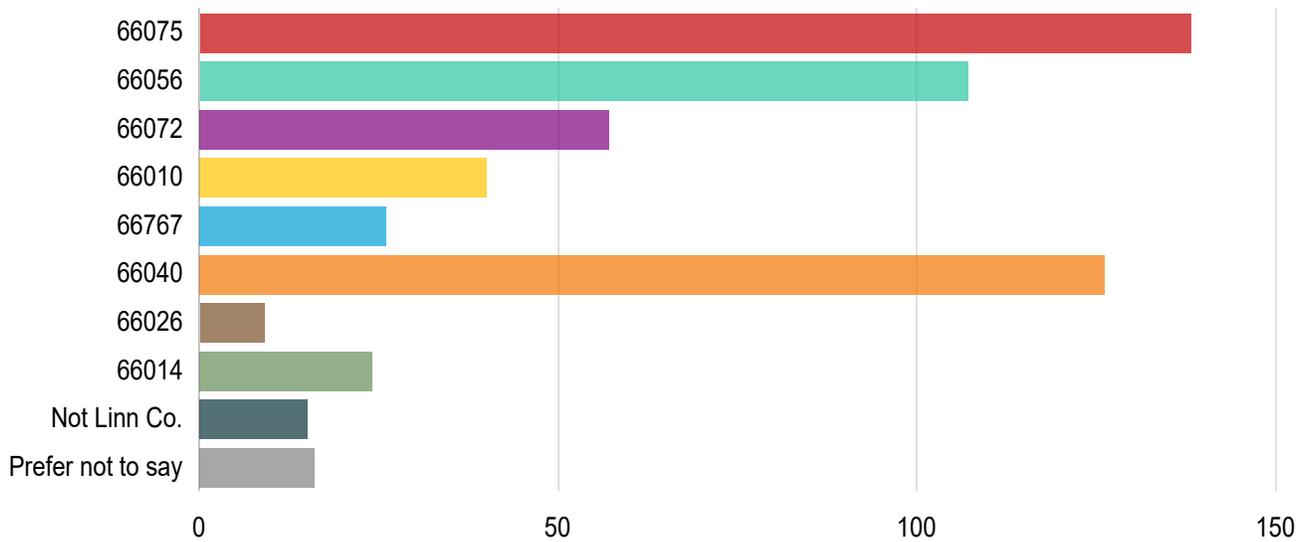
How Long Have You Lived in Linn County? *



Less than 10 years	136	24.37%
11 – 30 years	205	36.74%
More than 30 years	198	35.48%
I do not live in Linn County	15	2.69%
Prefer not to say	4	0.72%

Answered: 558 Skipped: 0

What is your Zipcode (if in Linn County)? *



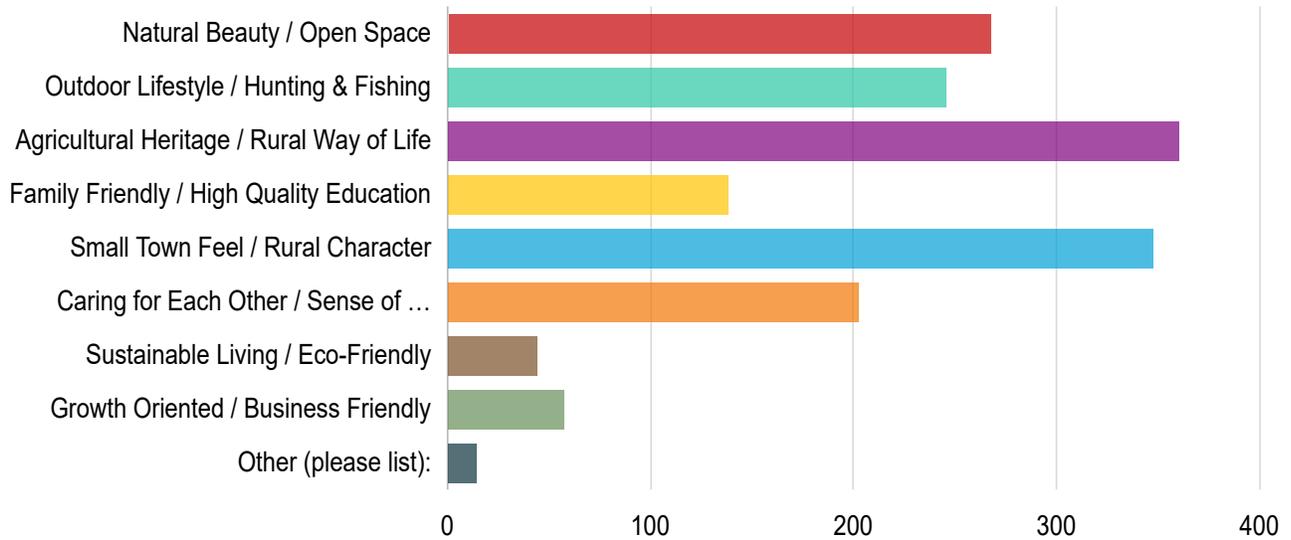
Answers	Count	Percentage
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Answers	Count	Percentage
66075	138	24.73%
66056	107	19.18%
66072	57	10.22%
66010	40	7.17%
66767	26	4.66%
66040	126	22.58%

66026	9	1.61%
66014	24	4.3%
Not Linn Co.	15	2.69%
Prefer not to say	16	2.87%

Answered: 558 Skipped: 0

What do you think are the three (3) most important values unique to Linn County? *



Answers

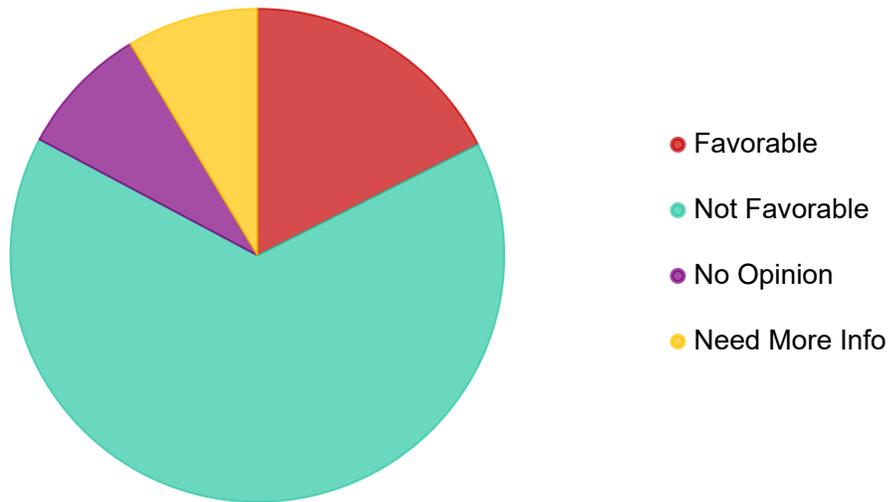
Answers	Count	Percentage
Natural Beauty / Open Space	267	47.85%
Outdoor Lifestyle / Hunting & Fishing	245	43.91%
Agricultural Heritage / Rural Way of Life	360	64.52%
Family Friendly / High Quality Education	138	24.73%
Small Town Feel / Rural Character	347	62.19%
Caring for Each Other / Sense of Community	202	36.2%
Sustainable Living / Eco-Friendly	44	7.89%

Growth Oriented / Business Friendly	57	10.22%
Other (please list):	14	2.51%

Answered: 558 Skipped: 0

What is your opinion about the following emerging issues?

o Wind turbine commercial development in Linn County *

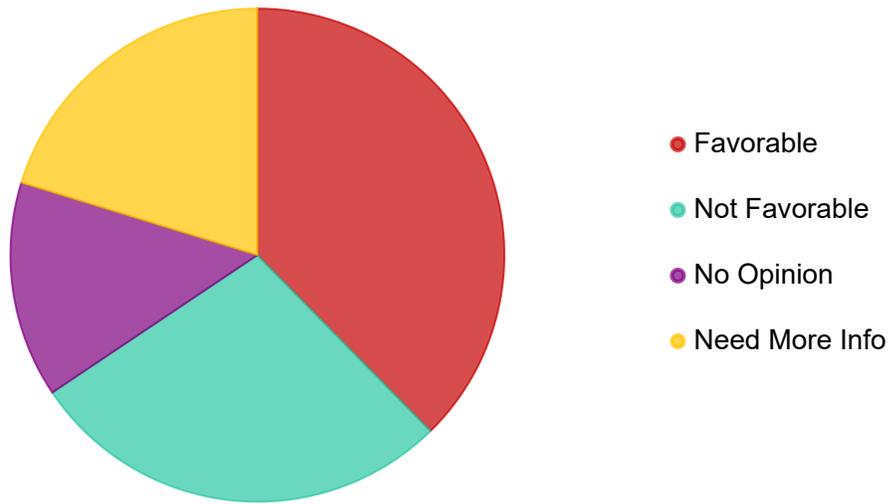


Answers **Count** **Percentage**

Favorable	98	17.56%
Not Favorable	364	65.23%
No Opinion	48	8.6%
Need More Info	48	8.6%

Answered: 558 Skipped: 0

o Solar panel commercial development in Linn County *

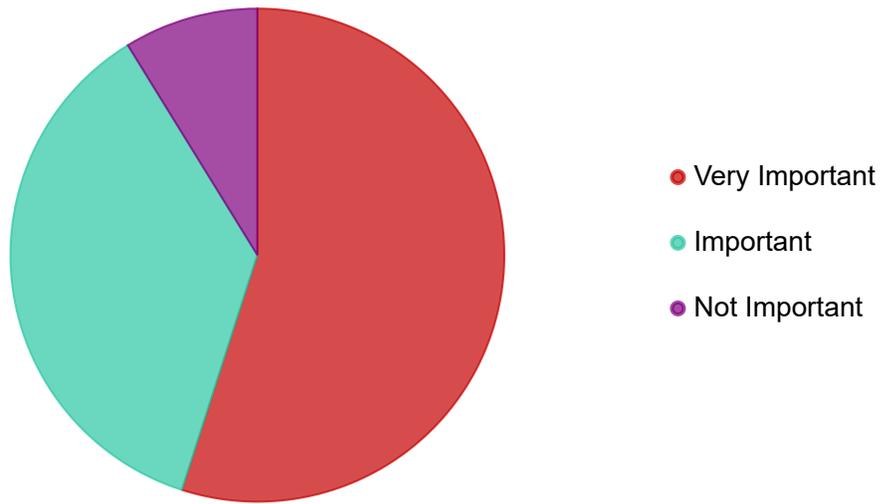


Answers	Count	Percentage
Favorable	210	37.63%
Not Favorable	156	27.96%
No Opinion	79	14.16%
Need More Info	113	20.25%

Answered: 558 Skipped: 0

How important are the following goals for Linn County to achieve in the next twenty (20) years?

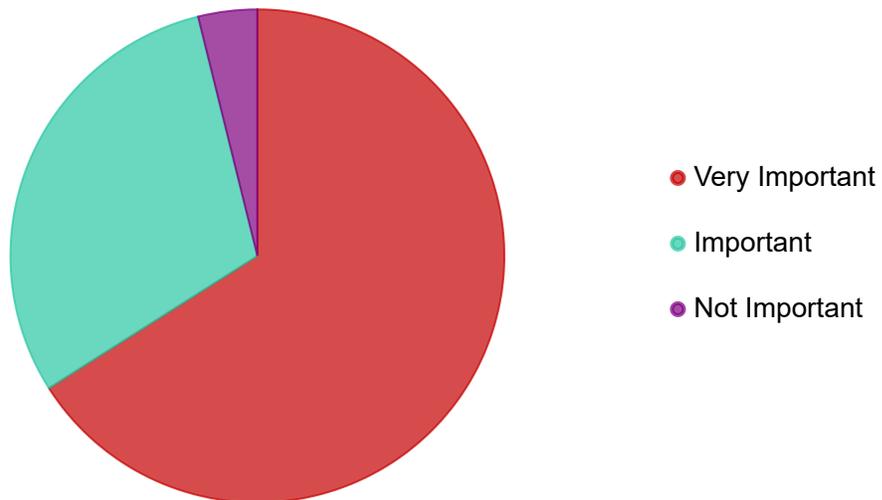
- Improve internet access



Answers	Count	Percentage
Very Important	300	53.76%
Important	198	35.48%
Not Important	48	8.6%

Answered: 546 Skipped: 12

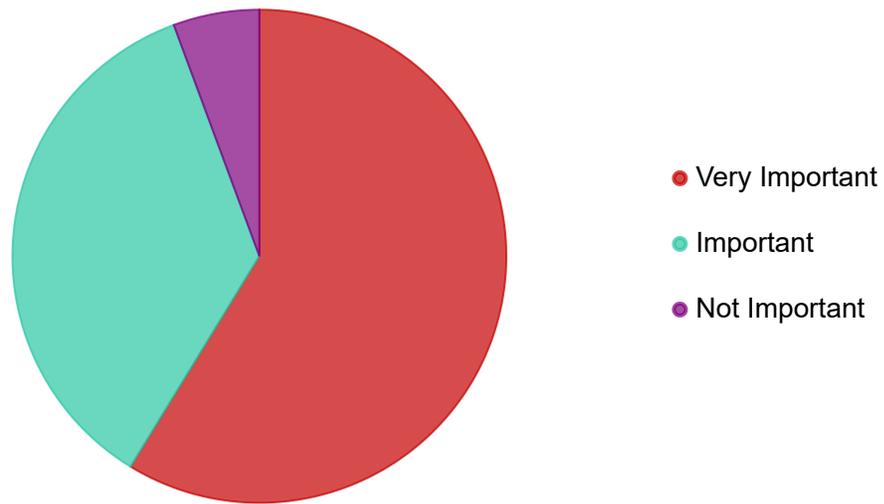
o Preserve natural beauty and open space



Very Important	359	64.34%
Important	164	29.39%
Not Important	21	3.76%

Answered: 544 Skipped: 14

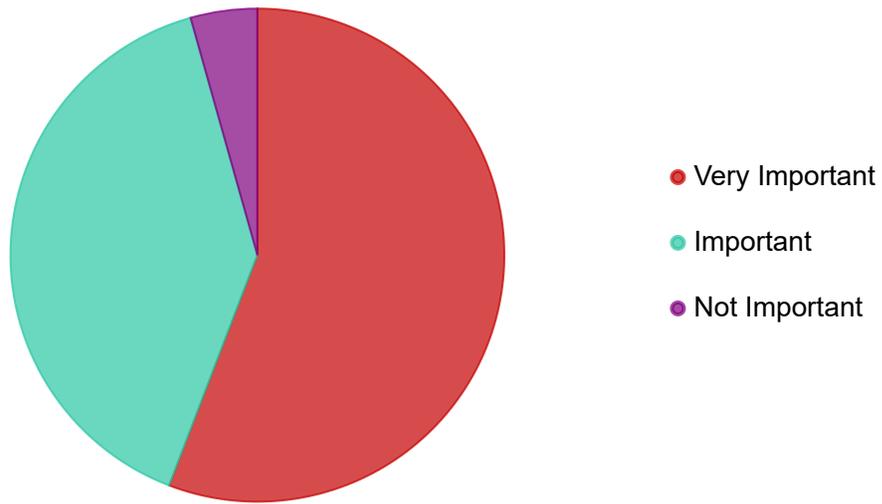
○ **Promote job creation and entrepreneurship**



Answers	Count	Percentage
Very Important	323	57.89%
Important	196	35.13%
Not Important	31	5.56%

Answered: 550 Skipped: 8

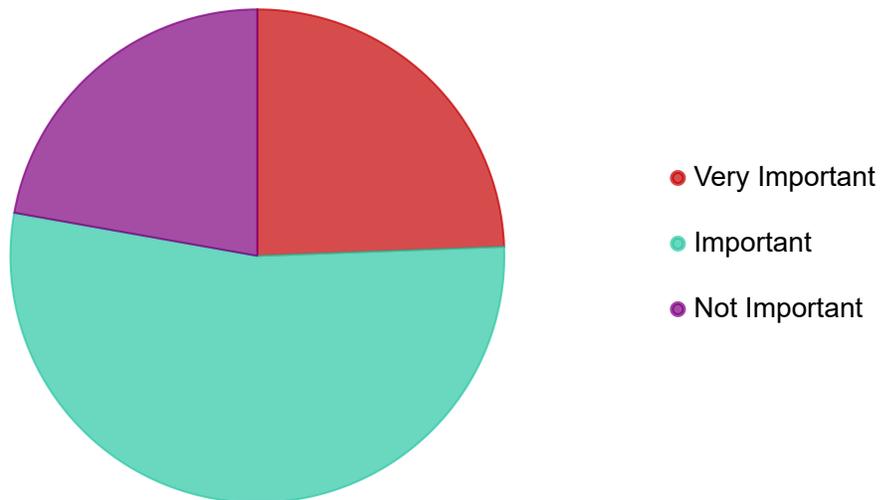
○ **Improve road conditions and flooding issues**



Answers	Count	Percentage
Very Important	307	55.02%
Important	219	39.25%
Not Important	24	4.3%

Answered: 550 Skipped: 8

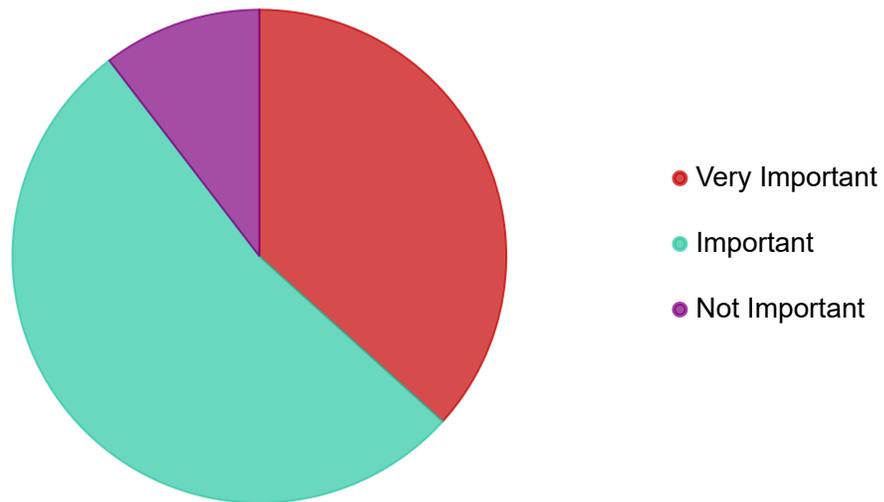
o Have clear, consistent, and enforced building codes



Very Important	133	23.84%
Important	291	52.15%
Not Important	121	21.68%

Answered: 545 Skipped: 13

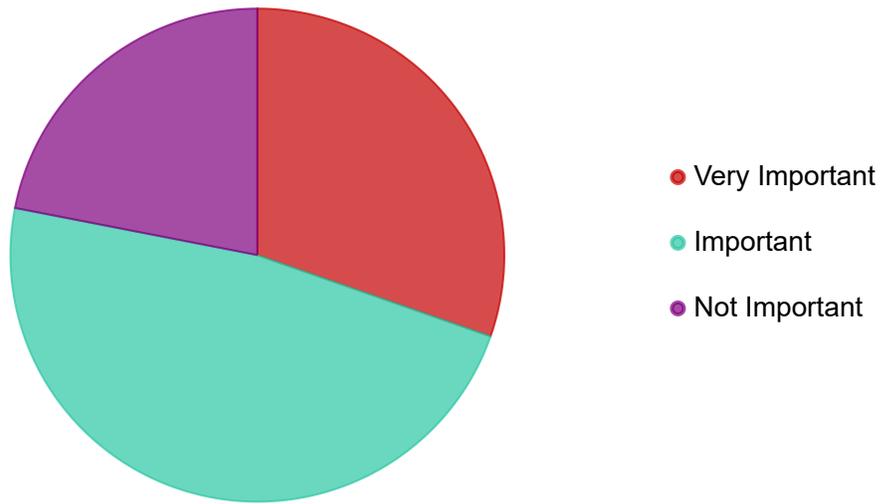
o Support a wide range of housing options (particularly for our elderly)



Answers	Count	Percentage
Very Important	201	36.02%
Important	290	51.97%
Not Important	57	10.22%

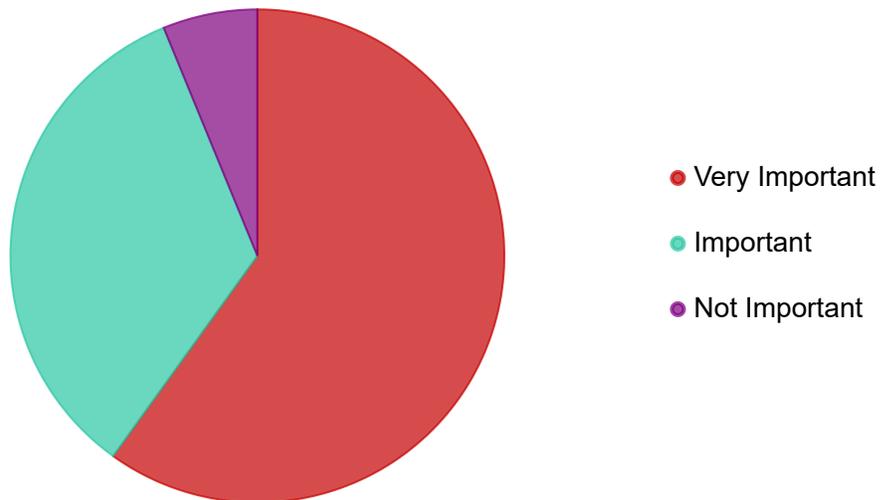
Answered: 548 Skipped: 10

o Promote tourism opportunities and community events (outdoor recreation, cultural heritage, etc.)



Answered: 547 Skipped: 11

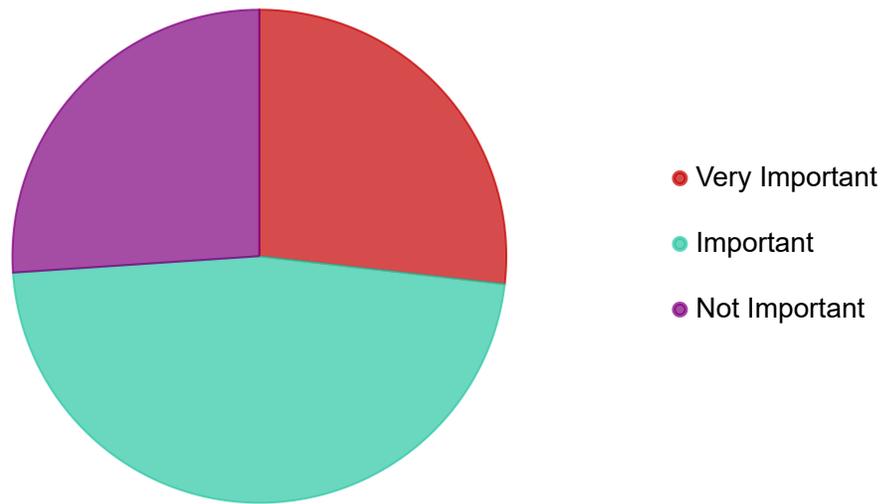
o Improve access to high quality drinking water



Very Important	329	58.96%
Important	186	33.33%
Not Important	34	6.09%

Answered: 549 Skipped: 9

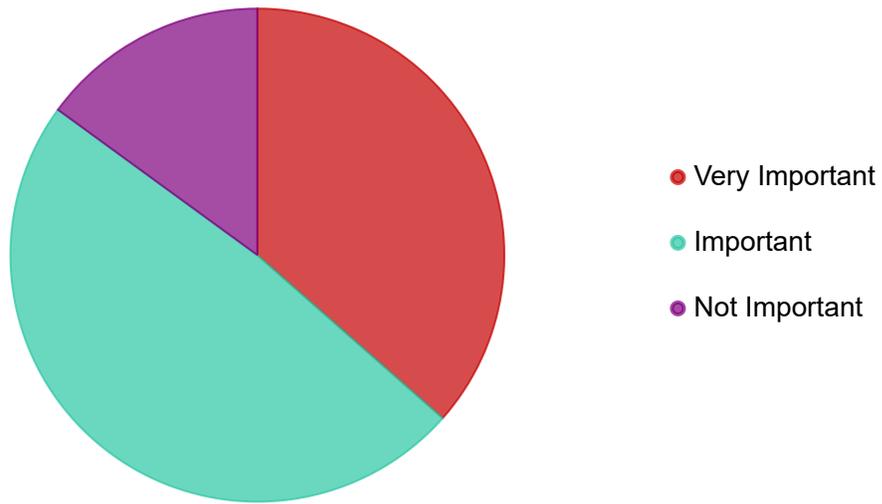
o Concentrate new development in clearly defined areas



Answers	Count	Percentage
Very Important	145	25.99%
Important	255	45.7%
Not Important	141	25.27%

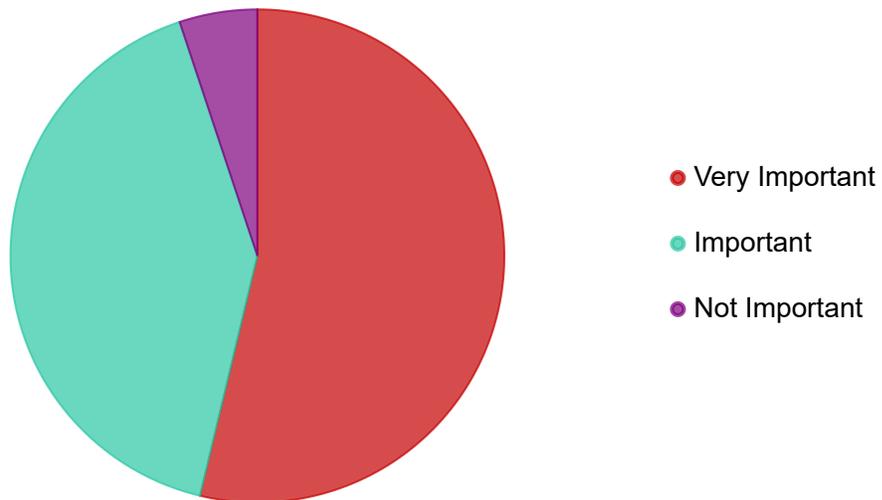
Answered: 541 Skipped: 17

o Incentivize home repair programs to fix dilapidated buildings



Answered: 548 Skipped: 10

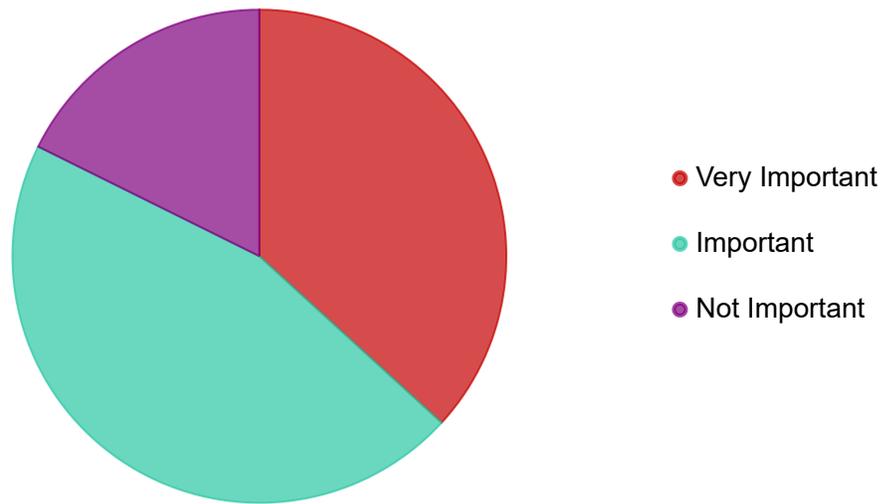
o Improve support services for our elderly and veterans



Very Important	295	52.87%
Important	226	40.5%
Not Important	28	5.02%

Answered: 549 Skipped: 9

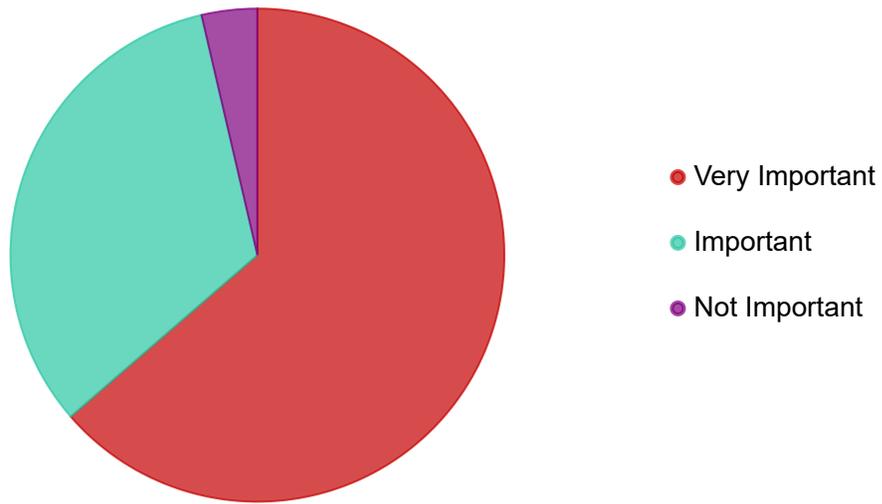
○ **Create more countywide amenities (aquatic center, vocational trade, etc.)**



Answers	Count	Percentage
Very Important	202	36.2%
Important	250	44.8%
Not Important	97	17.38%

Answered: 549 Skipped: 9

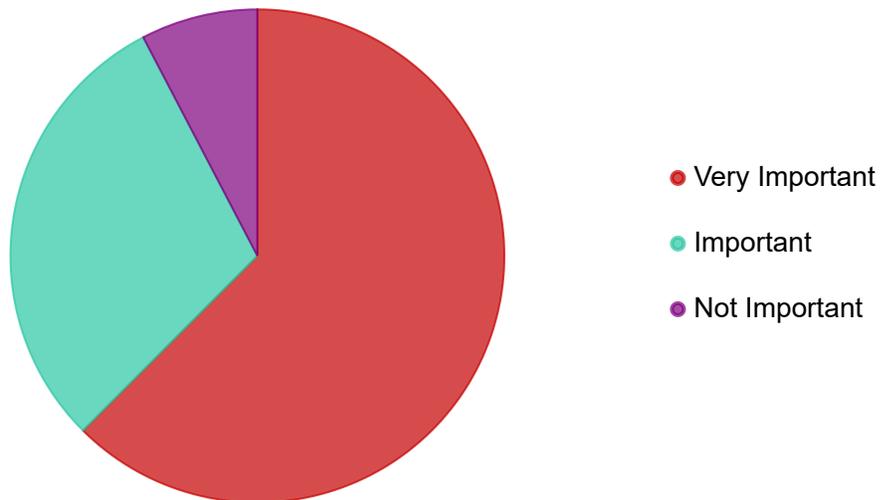
○ **Support existing businesses and attract new retail (grocery, restaurant, etc.)**



Answers	Count	Percentage
Very Important	350	62.72%
Important	180	32.26%
Not Important	20	3.58%

Answered: 550 Skipped: 8

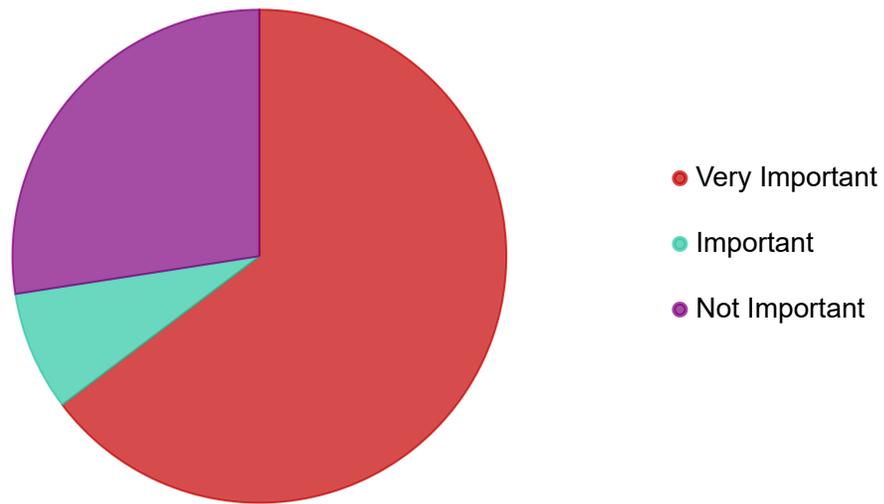
o **Extend the life of the power plant and explore strategies to bring additional tax revenue into the county**



Very Important	343	61.47%
Important	164	29.39%
Not Important	42	7.53%

Answered: 549 Skipped: 9

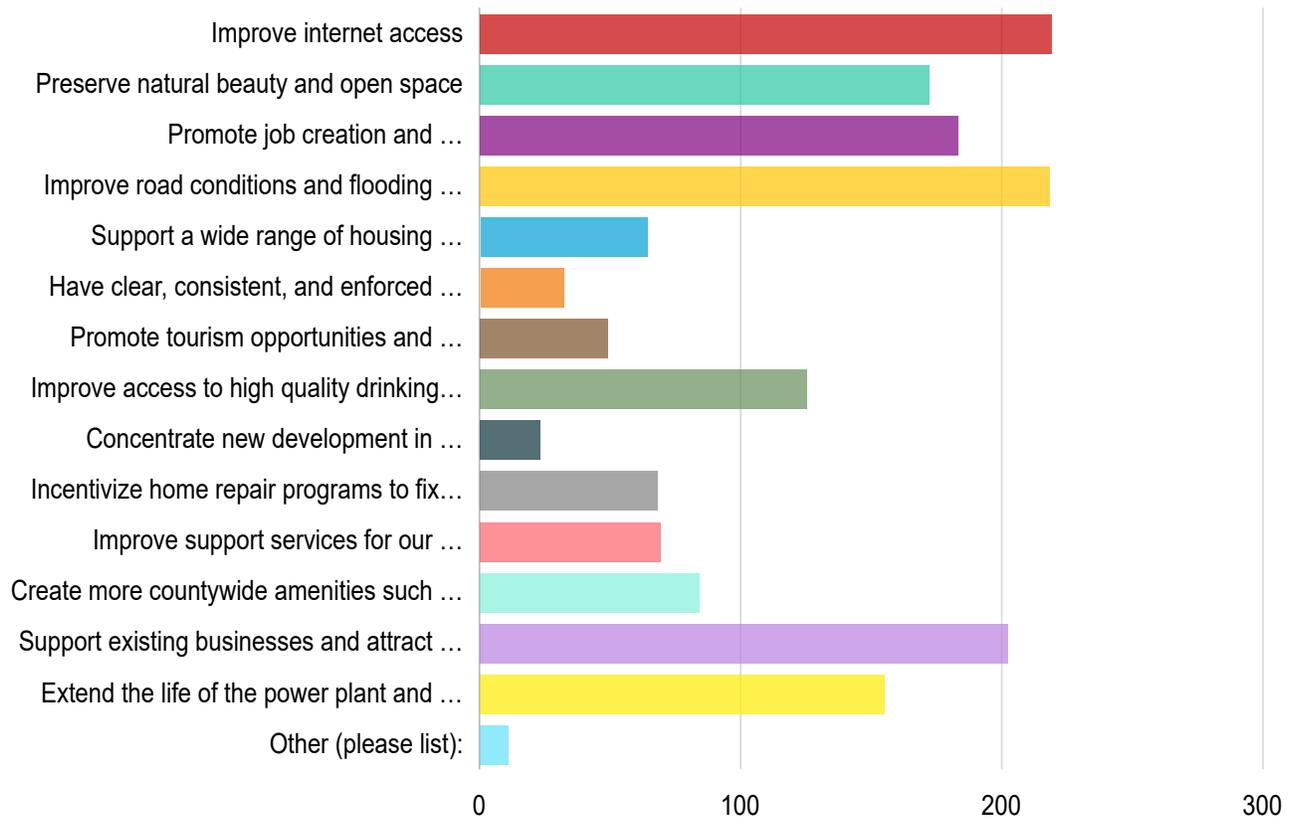
o Other (please list):



Answers	Count	Percentage
Very Important	33	5.91%
Important	4	0.72%
Not Important	14	2.51%

Answered: 51 Skipped: 507

What top goals would you like to be achieved within the next five (5) years? *



Answers	Count	Percentage
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Answers	Count	Percentage
Improve internet access	219	39.25%
Preserve natural beauty and open space	172	30.82%
Promote job creation and entrepreneurship	183	32.8%
Improve road conditions and flooding issues	218	39.07%
Support a wide range of housing options (particularly for our elderly)	64	11.47%
Have clear, consistent, and enforced building codes	32	5.73%
Promote tourism opportunities and community events (outdoor recreation, cultural heritage, etc.)	49	8.78%
Improve access to high quality drinking water	125	22.4%
Concentrate new development in clearly defined areas	23	4.12%
Incentivize home repair programs to fix dilapidated buildings	68	12.19%

Improve support services for our elderly and veterans	69	12.37%
Create more countywide amenities such as an aquatic center, hospital, vocational trade center, etc.	84	15.05%
Support existing businesses and attract new retail (grocery, restaurant, etc.)	202	36.2%
Extend the life of the power plant and explore strategies to bring additional tax revenue into the county	155	27.78%
Other (please list):	11	1.97%

Answered: 558 Skipped: 0

SURVEY #2 ADDITIONAL COMMENTS

What do you think are the three (3) most important values unique to Linn County?

Elderly care... we need a nursing home.
Would love to live in Linn Valley and work in Linn Valley, but not a position for a nurse unless driving elsewhere. Someday
Government protecting the freedoms of the people

How important are the following goals for Linn County to achieve in the next twenty (20) years?

Improve relationships with schools. More support for the arts. Limit commissioners personal attacks during meetings and focus more on county business.
Make tax distribution from any large entities like the power plant equal among every community not just because it is in a certain school district
Expand private property rights
DO NOT ALLOW WIND TURBINES TO BE ERECTED! IT IS A CANCER ON THE LANDSCAPE AND A TRAP FOR LANDOWNERS FOR GENERATIONS TO COME
Not to have windmills
Safety and health concerns - Paved road access to 169 Hwy through Parker, Centerville area avoiding 2 RR Tracks .
We need a hospital
Improve resources for our disability community . We have a large number of children that will soon be adults with disabilities
Preserve our waterways, make public access to the River, green spaces between waterways and crops, guidelines for feedlots
We are already being taxed to death in a very underhanded way.
It's very important to let others know about the 30x30 land grab. Keep windmills out!
I would like for the lots to be able to be combined to promote keeping the natural beauty and paying 1 HOA....
health care - Emergence facility or small hospital
We would love to have more dedicated nature trails for biking, hiking etc. in the county
Nursing home is needed
Need housing for the elderly like assisted living places.
Control noxious weeds growing on right of ways.
We need industrial business, not retail. Build a foundation from the industrial businesses that don't need local money to survive. People move here to work at industry, build homes, spend money. As the money and people start moving, THEN look at retail.
If we are promoting natural beauty...the power plant is an eye sore.
Mental health/drug alcohol rehabilitation
Continue high quality education. How the schools go, so does the communities.
address severe flaws in our schools and justice systems
Enforce legal judgements properly and prosecute violent offenders fully.
We already have great internet service - so I expect the Phone co to keep that up - so just important not very important
Offer tax incentives for development of the business sector and airport.
With the expansion of internet access, we should be promoting work from home business, and employees.
dont sale the lake
Maintain the beauty of our county. Wind turbine farms would be detrimental.
Stop taking public hunting and shooting and giving it free to businesses and taking it from the citizens
Get control of high taxes. Land owners can not sustain the mist taxes n survive
Lower property taxes and increased money in people's pockets for spending
Do NOT allow wind turbine development in Linn County
More stuff for kids and teens to do, bike track, skate park, etc.
Better healthcare
Crack down on crime (stealing and drugs)
Decrease Mound City property taxes
Cut county excess spending
Additional tax revenue into the county
flood mitigation

What top goals would you like to be achieved within the next five (5) years?

Bring in wind development and the massive tax revenue that comes with it
Extensive natural gas access
We need a place for our grandparents to live and not be taken away from their county.
Solar energy with less dependence on power plant
support the local lake communities growth that will bring in additional businesses and income tax dollars
Bring in more retailers.
I think we need more for the youth also. I want to see growth but not like a large city.
Lower property taxes stop oppressing the pour
I would be nice to have a news paper in our county that has fair representation to all the cities in the county.

Please provide any other comments below:

To make this county grow, Everything listed above needs to be updated.
We live in a very fractured county. Each community is great in its own right, but the competition and back-biting that goes on between the communities is deplorable. It has been handed down through the generations and needs to end. We cannot build a future of unity if we don't repair the splintered past. We need to pull together as one county by highlighting the great in each community instead of fracturing the county by dwelling on the differences of each community. What makes each community unique is what makes gives our county a unique strength. It is time to stop building walls and start building a foundation. he greatest obstacle standing in the way of new growth is old cynicism.
The county has to find a way to sustain itself without the revenue of the power plant. We need to be more aggressive in recruiting new business as well as build infrastructure to support those businesses. Being in education I would also like to see a trade school in the county that would offer adult education simultaneously with offering our local high schools trade training opportunities.
Our roads are awful, resources are wasted, and employee turnover is at historic high levels. Poor leadership.
It's imperative to keep the power plant operating and keep wind generators out of Linn County.

It is extremely important to me that we keep our wide open spaces and that I don't look out my back door to wind turbines at any point in our life span. They are not a great option for energy production.
Safety and health concerns for elderly and students transportation. No paved road in Parker , Kansas and Centerville that leads to 169 Hwy and to Hospital without crossing at least two RR tracks. When train is down there is no way to have access except on dirt roads. Firetrucks can't cross RR track n emergency due to trains. Also EMS is also slowed down due to trains.
This master planning effort is much appreciated. Linn County has a tremendous opportunity to differentiate ourselves by capitalizing on the natural beauty in many creative ways that enhance our county in lieu of falling victim to corporations that have no interest in our traditions or our future quality of life.
No large corporations.
For the community events include concerts or street dances.
I would like to see more affordable housing in all communities for all age groups
Help for me on my old home and yard would really help me. I am partly disabled and also have flooding issues in my yard. All things listed sound like improvements but will probably up taxes and prices which I can't afford.
The county is very fortunate to have 2 excellent telecommunications companies (People's and Crawkan) who surpass others in internet access. It would be nice to promote these companies to those contemplating moving here.
We need more housing available as rentals. Hotels for out of town people. More. Clean up Main Street to make more inviting. Housing codes enforced and tickets issued for non compliance. Some place for youth to go such as a boys and girls club or YMCA type place for all ages.
I don't see the connection between an aquatic center and vocational trade. Vocational training attracts new and expanding businesses. We currently have 4 restaurants open for business, 2 more to open soon and an ice cream store to open this fall. We also have a coffee shop on east side of LaCygne. We have approximately 15 places in the county to purchase food to eat.
It is very important to be able to provide for our elderly. Somewhere that they feel safe and can continue living in their community. A place that their family can come and visit them close. And a place for others to be able to enjoy as well. Linn County needs a nursing home!!
I moved to Linn County, specifically LV Lakes, to escape Johnson County, not to become an extension of JC. I believe focus should be concentrated upon what we can do to bolster our current communities instead of trying to become another version of Walmart retail and cookie cutter suburbs. I truly love Linn County and would hate to see it lose its rural life and thus our lifestyles.
When my mother was in a nursing home, I had to travel to see her!!! My fathers health is declining and I would love to put him in his home town into a nursing home! With that being said it would also be nice to not have to travel for work as i am a nurse and this would be a great place to work!!!!
Very supportive of the nursing home in Prescott. It's very needed in Linn County as our elderly are being placed in homes an hour or more from family. It would provide jobs as well as quality care for our elderly population, which is quite large in Linn County.
I have lived in Linn Co for 6 years now and have seen lots of change. Lake communities are growing and bringing in new residents who could become full time if they new their property was protected bringing in new income tax revenue. Lake communities don't feel like they have the support of the county to prosper and succeed. Building codes and enforcement with having people keep properties maintained is important for new business interests. Education should have more technology than agriculture, both are merging and should be taught together, family farms have generational knowledge that can't be taught in the classroom. Hemp production and hemp lumber production would be costly to startup however be a nice long term sustainability of jobs and revenue for the county. Have to both hand in hand to have supply chain and market. Wind and solar energy would be great expansions for the county. County is full of great fishing, expand on fishing tourism.
I was curious about the fuel center that was proposed for the 399th exit and if it will be in the works in the future. After seeing the traffic created by Dancefestopia and the party goers flooding Louisburg after the event I think it would be nice to have some more of that revenue. We also need a 69 HWY North sign coming from the east on 399th. We are in desperate need of fresh food stores or grocery store in Linn County. There should be an incentive out there, which I believe there is but someone should be trying to bring more retail to our county so we can keep our money in the county.
While I would love to see a new grocery store in Lacygne, I would like to keep the rural feel. I moved away from Johnson County to get away from big govt bureaucracy and housing/neighborhood developments. No big box stores that destroy small businesses. Protection of our freedoms & free speech for ALL!! Most of all, free, fair & transparency in our election process.
Our teenagers need a safe and enjoyable place that they are free to visit and "hang out" at. Example, a community center with basketball courts and vending machines or light concessions. A YMCA that has inside pool, basketball courts, tennis courts, weights, etc. With seasonal sports and afterschool programs for children to be supervised by adults. Offer free food drives on a weekly basis for our families to drive through the community center or YMCA to pick up food for their families. Daycare/preschool on site.
In no way should the public pay for a privately own nursing home.
In every aspect and at every level, an Industrial Wind Complex would be a major setback for Linn County's economic development and quality of life. Eastern Kansas counties that have embraced wind energy have suffered dramatically. Driving by them on the interstate is totally different than living in their shadows.
Bringing other industry to Linn County is imperative to the future success and survival of the County. Once the power plant shuts down, we will need new industry to help make up the difference in lost tax revenue to prevent triple taxes and avoid significant reductions in County provided services. To me, this should be our most significant concern and require the most effort and focus to overcome.
Keep the SRO programs in the schools!!!
I love Linn County the way that it is now, which is a big reason for us moving here a couple of years ago. We would love to see it stay the way that it is with some improvements.
That the government would protect the people's freedoms as they a put in to do!!
Pleasanton needs a sit down restaurant.
There is nothing really for kids to do here, it's against the rules to swim at the lake, some patents can't afford to pay for the pool, drugs here are horrible and there are so many pedophiles here.
My husband has lived here his entire life. We would like to see these things in the community.
ABSOLUTELY NO Windmills. They destroy our countries beautiful landscape and, contrary to what is believed to be fact, they will not decrease our electrical rates and are only a viable energy source due to its high government subsidies and stipulations.
Provide better paying jobs
Do something about the stealing in Linn County Cross Roads by Blue Mound. Need stop signs or intersections clear of trees before some one gets killed.
Internet access and job creation go hand in hand
There is no need to sell the Mound City lake to build a splash park." Use the 1/2 cent sales tax that is supposed to be for recreation and build a swimming park so people can go to other towns to swim.
Linn County was a great place to raise my children but as I have become a senior citizen I feel the support service for our elderly are very inadequate.