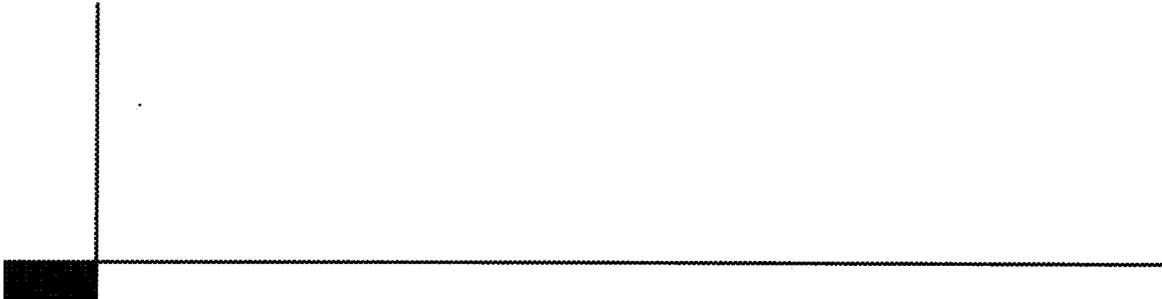


Appendix B

Portage County Comprehensive Planning and Zoning Survey Final Report

December, 2001

Town of Amherst
Comprehensive Plan
2015



Portage County
Comprehensive
Planning & Zoning
Survey

Final Report

December, 2001

Town of Amherst

Prepared By:

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Town of Amherst Planning Survey

County Trends and Land Use

1. From the year 2000 to 2020, Portage County's population is projected to increase 21 percent from 67,182 to 81,242. At what rate would you like to see growth occur?

	Responses	Percent
Faster than projected	7	5%
Present projected rate of growth	45	34%
Slower than projected	63	47%
No growth	14	11%
Don't Know	4	3%
Total	133	100%

2. The following types of growth should be encouraged within Portage County

Single family residential

	Responses	Percent
1- Strongly Disagree	3	2%
2-Disagree	9	7%
3-Neutral	29	21%
4-Agree	50	37%
5-Strongly Agree	45	33%
DK-Don't Know	0	0%
Total	136	100%

Valid cases 136
 Average 3.9

Multi-family residential

	Responses	Percent
1- Strongly Disagree	16	12%
2-Disagree	26	19%
3-Neutral	52	39%
4-Agree	29	22%
5-Strongly Agree	9	7%
DK-Don't Know	2	1%
Total	134	100%

Valid cases 132
 Average 2.9

Rural residential

	Responses	Percent
1- Strongly Disagree	20	15%
2-Disagree	31	23%
3-Neutral	30	23%
4-Agree	32	24%
5-Strongly Agree	16	12%
DK-Don't Know	3	2%
Total	132	100%

Valid cases	129
Average	2.9

Family farms

	Responses	Percent
1- Strongly Disagree	3	2%
2-Disagree	1	1%
3-Neutral	20	15%
4-Agree	46	34%
5-Strongly Agree	66	49%
DK-Don't Know	0	0%
Total	136	100%

Valid cases	136
Average	4.3

Small businesses

	Responses	Percent
1- Strongly Disagree	3	2%
2-Disagree	2	1%
3-Neutral	18	13%
4-Agree	63	47%
5-Strongly Agree	49	36%
DK-Don't Know	0	0%
Total	135	100%

Valid cases	135
Average	4.1

Hobby farms

	Responses	Percent
1- Strongly Disagree	9	7%
2-Disagree	15	11%
3-Neutral	42	32%
4-Agree	47	36%
5-Strongly Agree	18	14%
DK-Don't Know	1	1%
Total	132	100%

Valid cases	131
Average	3.4

Large corporate farms

	Responses	Percent
1- Strongly Disagree	53	40%
2-Disagree	33	25%
3-Neutral	29	22%
4-Agree	12	9%
5-Strongly Agree	5	4%
DK-Don't Know	2	1%
Total	134	100%

Valid cases	132
Average	2.1

Large retail outlets/centers

	Responses	Percent
1- Strongly Disagree	26	20%
2-Disagree	34	26%
3-Neutral	29	22%
4-Agree	24	18%
5-Strongly Agree	18	14%
DK-Don't Know	1	1%
Total	132	100%

Valid cases	131
Average	2.8

<u>Light industry</u>			<u>Heavy industry</u>		
	Responses	Percent		Responses	Percent
1- Strongly Disagree	8	6%	1- Strongly Disagree	23	17%
2-Disagree	7	5%	2-Disagree	24	18%
3-Neutral	15	11%	3-Neutral	31	23%
4-Agree	67	50%	4-Agree	27	20%
5-Strongly Agree	37	27%	5-Strongly Agree	25	19%
DK-Don't Know	1	1%	DK-Don't Know	4	3%
Total	135	100%	Total	134	100%
Valid cases	134		Valid cases	130	
Average	3.9		Average	3.1	

3. Local units of government have the responsibility to protect property owners and the community by regulating land use.

	Responses	Percent
1- Strongly Disagree	6	4%
2-Disagree	8	6%
3-Neutral	26	19%
4-Agree	68	49%
5-Strongly Agree	32	23%
DK-Don't Know	0	0%
Total	140	100%
Valid cases	140	
Average	3.8	

4. The use of zoning regulations is beneficial.

	Responses	Percent
1- Strongly Disagree	4	3%
2-Disagree	2	1%
3-Neutral	22	16%
4-Agree	70	50%
5-Strongly Agree	36	26%
DK-Don't Know	5	4%
Total	139	100%
Valid cases	134	
Average	4.0	

5. People should be allowed to develop their property any way they see fit.

	Responses	Percent
1- Strongly Disagree	35	25%
2-Disagree	45	32%
3-Neutral	23	16%
4-Agree	20	14%
5-Strongly Agree	16	11%
DK-Don't Know	1	1%
Total	140	100%
Valid cases	139	
Average	2.5	

Housing

6. Ideal urban neighborhoods would include homes as well as:

<u>Apartments</u>			<u>Shopping</u>		
	Responses	Percent		Responses	Percent
1- Strongly Disagree	7	5%	1- Strongly Disagree	0	0%
2-Disagree	16	12%	2-Disagree	6	5%
3-Neutral	27	21%	3-Neutral	19	14%
4-Agree	58	44%	4-Agree	80	60%
5-Strongly Agree	20	15%	5-Strongly Agree	26	20%
DK-Don't Know	3	2%	DK-Don't Know	2	2%
Total	131	100%	Total	133	100%
Valid cases	128		Valid cases	131	
Average	3.5		Average	4.0	

T. Amherst

Employment

	Responses	Percent
1- Strongly Disagree	0	0%
2-Disagree	8	6%
3-Neutral	28	21%
4-Agree	65	48%
5-Strongly Agree	34	25%
DK-Don't Know	1	1%
Total	136	100%
Valid cases	135	
Average	3.9	

Parks

	Responses	Percent
1- Strongly Disagree	1	1%
2-Disagree	2	1%
3-Neutral	12	9%
4-Agree	72	53%
5-Strongly Agree	47	35%
DK-Don't Know	2	1%
Total	136	100%
Valid cases	134	
Average	4.2	

Sidewalks

	Responses	Percent
1- Strongly Disagree	4	3%
2-Disagree	13	10%
3-Neutral	25	19%
4-Agree	62	46%
5-Strongly Agree	26	19%
DK-Don't Know	4	3%
Total	134	100%
Valid cases	130	
Average	3.7	

Schools

	Responses	Percent
1- Strongly Disagree	1	1%
2-Disagree	1	1%
3-Neutral	14	10%
4-Agree	72	54%
5-Strongly Agree	45	34%
DK-Don't Know	1	1%
Total	134	100%
Valid cases	133	
Average	4.2	

Alleys

	Responses	Percent
1- Strongly Disagree	13	10%
2-Disagree	32	25%
3-Neutral	46	35%
4-Agree	25	19%
5-Strongly Agree	11	8%
DK-Don't Know	3	2%
Total	130	100%
Valid cases	127	
Average	2.9	

7. Other than farm residences, what types of housing would be appropriate in rural areas

Single family (2+ acre)

	Responses	Percent
1- Strongly Disagree	9	7%
2-Disagree	10	7%
3-Neutral	17	12%
4-Agree	57	42%
5-Strongly Agree	42	31%
DK-Don't Know	1	1%
Total	136	100%
Valid cases	135	
Average	3.8	

Duplexes

	Responses	Percent
1- Strongly Disagree	36	27%
2-Disagree	45	34%
3-Neutral	26	20%
4-Agree	17	13%
5-Strongly Agree	4	3%
DK-Don't Know	5	4%
Total	133	100%
Valid cases	128	
Average	2.3	

Mobile home parks

	Responses	Percent
1- Strongly Disagree	71	53%
2-Disagree	38	28%
3-Neutral	14	10%
4-Agree	6	4%
5-Strongly Agree	1	1%
DK-Don't Know	4	3%
Total	134	100%
Valid cases	130	
Average	1.7	

Single family (<2 acre)

	Responses	Percent
1- Strongly Disagree	35	26%
2-Disagree	34	25%
3-Neutral	24	18%
4-Agree	24	18%
5-Strongly Agree	13	10%
DK-Don't Know	5	4%
Total	135	100%
Valid cases	130	
Average	2.6	

Multi-family apartments

	Responses	Percent
1- Strongly Disagree	53	40%
2-Disagree	48	36%
3-Neutral	18	14%
4-Agree	8	6%
5-Strongly Agree	2	2%
DK-Don't Know	3	2%
Total	132	100%
Valid cases	129	
Average	1.9	

No new non-farm housing

	Responses	Percent
1- Strongly Disagree	24	18%
2-Disagree	32	24%
3-Neutral	38	29%
4-Agree	18	14%
5-Strongly Agree	14	11%
DK-Don't Know	6	5%
Total	132	100%
Valid cases	126	
Average	2.7	

8. My city/village/township has a need for more:

Moderately priced homes

	Responses	Percent
1- Strongly Disagree	8	6%
2-Disagree	15	11%
3-Neutral	40	29%
4-Agree	50	36%
5-Strongly Agree	19	14%
DK-Don't Know	5	4%
Total	137	100%
Valid cases	132	
Average	3.4	

Higher priced homes

	Responses	Percent
1- Strongly Disagree	22	16%
2-Disagree	45	33%
3-Neutral	50	37%
4-Agree	10	7%
5-Strongly Agree	4	3%
DK-Don't Know	5	4%
Total	136	100%
Valid cases	131	
Average	2.5	

Manufactured(mobile) homes

	Responses	Percent
1- Strongly Disagree	52	38%
2-Disagree	46	34%
3-Neutral	30	22%
4-Agree	3	2%
5-Strongly Agree	2	1%
DK-Don't Know	4	3%
Total	137	100%
Valid cases	133	
Average	1.9	

Public/subsidized housing

	Responses	Percent
1- Strongly Disagree	32	24%
2-Disagree	39	29%
3-Neutral	37	27%
4-Agree	14	10%
5-Strongly Agree	5	4%
DK-Don't Know	8	6%
Total	135	100%
Valid cases	127	
Average	2.4	

Multi-unit rental housing

	Responses	Percent
1- Strongly Disagree	33	24%
2-Disagree	47	35%
3-Neutral	30	22%
4-Agree	20	15%
5-Strongly Agree	1	1%
DK-Don't Know	4	3%
Total	135	100%
Valid cases	131	
Average	2.3	

Housing for seniors

	Responses	Percent
1- Strongly Disagree	9	6%
2-Disagree	6	4%
3-Neutral	42	30%
4-Agree	59	42%
5-Strongly Agree	16	12%
DK-Don't Know	7	5%
Total	139	100%
Valid cases	132	
Average	3.5	

9. The overall quality of housing in my city/village/township is good.

	Responses	Percent
1- Strongly Disagree	2	1%
2-Disagree	4	3%
3-Neutral	17	12%
4-Agree	105	76%
5-Strongly Agree	9	6%
DK-Don't Know	2	1%
Total	139	100%
Valid cases	137	
Average	3.8	

10. Government should provide financial assistance for lower income residents to maintain and improve their homes.

	Responses	Percent
1- Strongly Disagree	16	12%
2-Disagree	18	13%
3-Neutral	43	31%
4-Agree	52	37%
5-Strongly Agree	9	6%
DK-Don't Know	1	1%
Total	139	100%
Valid cases	138	
Average	3.1	

Utilities & Community Facilities

11. New homes and businesses should be encouraged :

11a. Primarily in communities where sewer and water are available...

	Responses	Percent
1- Strongly Disagree	2	1%
2-Disagree	8	6%
3-Neutral	15	11%
4-Agree	78	58%
5-Strongly Agree	32	24%
DK-Don't Know	0	0%
Total	135	100%

Valid cases 135
 Average 4.0

11b. Next to communities where sewer and water could be extended...

	Responses	Percent
1- Strongly Disagree	11	8%
2-Disagree	20	15%
3-Neutral	35	26%
4-Agree	53	40%
5-Strongly Agree	14	10%
DK-Don't Know	1	1%
Total	134	100%

Valid cases 133
 Average 3.3

11c. Anywhere in the County, with or without sewer and water services...

	Responses	Percent
1- Strongly Disagree	34	25%
2-Disagree	35	26%
3-Neutral	33	24%
4-Agree	23	17%
5-Strongly Agree	8	6%
DK-Don't Know	2	1%
Total	135	100%

Valid cases 133
 Average 2.5

12. Future boundaries should be established for municipal water and sanitary sewer systems.

	Responses	Percent
1- Strongly Disagree	3	2%
2-Disagree	10	7%
3-Neutral	33	24%
4-Agree	67	48%
5-Strongly Agree	23	16%
DK-Don't Know	4	3%
Total	140	100%

Valid cases	136
Average	3.7

13. The boundaries described in Question 12 should be

	Responses	Percent
Very inflexible, essentially stopping development outside of the boundary.	33	25%
Somewhat flexible, allowing for some development outside the boundary	92	70%
Very flexible, allowing anyone who asks for sewer and water to get it wherever they are.	7	5%
Total	132	100%

14. How would you rate each of the following local services.

Sanitary sewer

	Responses	Percent
1-Very Poor	2	1%
2-Poor	2	1%
3-Average	15	11%
4-Good	31	23%
5-Excellent	7	5%
DU-Don't Use	78	58%
Total	135	100%
Valid cases	57	
Average	3.7	

Municipal water

	Responses	Percent
1-Very Poor	3	2%
2-Poor	2	2%
3-Average	20	15%
4-Good	28	21%
5-Excellent	3	2%
DU-Don't Use	77	58%
Total	133	100%
Valid cases	56	
Average	3.5	

Police protection

	Responses	Percent
1-Very Poor	2	1%
2-Poor	6	4%
3-Average	48	36%
4-Good	62	46%
5-Excellent	13	10%
DU-Don't Use	4	3%
Total	135	100%
Valid cases	131	
Average	3.6	

Fire protection

	Responses	Percent
1-Very Poor	2	1%
2-Poor	1	1%
3-Average	36	27%
4-Good	58	43%
5-Excellent	33	25%
DU-Don't Use	4	3%
Total	134	100%
Valid cases	130	
Average	3.9	

Ambulance service

	Responses	Percent
1-Very Poor	1	1%
2-Poor	7	5%
3-Average	34	25%
4-Good	63	47%
5-Excellent	20	15%
DU-Don't Use	9	7%
Total	134	100%
Valid cases	125	
Average	3.8	

Social service

	Responses	Percent
1-Very Poor	2	2%
2-Poor	6	5%
3-Average	42	32%
4-Good	38	29%
5-Excellent	8	6%
DU-Don't Use	35	27%
Total	131	100%
Valid cases	96	
Average	3.5	

Garbage collection

	Responses	Percent
1-Very Poor	2	1%
2-Poor	1	1%
3-Average	28	21%
4-Good	72	53%
5-Excellent	14	10%
DU-Don't Use	18	13%
Total	135	100%
Valid cases	117	
Average	3.8	

Library

	Responses	Percent
1-Very Poor	2	1%
2-Poor	3	2%
3-Average	22	16%
4-Good	74	55%
5-Excellent	26	19%
DU-Don't Use	7	5%
Total	134	100%
Valid cases	127	
Average	3.9	

Parks

	Responses	Percent
1-Very Poor	2	1%
2-Poor	3	2%
3-Average	26	19%
4-Good	79	58%
5-Excellent	22	16%
DU-Don't Use	5	4%
Total	137	100%
Valid cases	132	
Average	3.9	

Recycling program

	Responses	Percent
1-Very Poor	0	0%
2-Poor	7	5%
3-Average	28	21%
4-Good	79	59%
5-Excellent	15	11%
DU-Don't Use	5	4%
Total	134	100%
Valid cases	129	
Average	3.8	

Education

	Responses	Percent
1-Very Poor	2	1%
2-Poor	3	2%
3-Average	23	17%
4-Good	76	56%
5-Excellent	27	20%
DU-Don't Use	5	4%
Total	136	100%
Valid cases	131	
Average	3.9	

Recreation programs

	Responses	Percent
1-Very Poor	3	2%
2-Poor	7	5%
3-Average	35	26%
4-Good	55	40%
5-Excellent	13	10%
DU-Don't Use	23	17%
Total	136	100%
Valid cases	113	
Average	3.6	

Agricultural, Natural, & Cultural Resources

16. Portage County should work with farmers to identify and protect productive agricultural regions.

	Responses	Percent
1- Strongly Disagree	0	0%
2-Disagree	3	2%
3-Neutral	13	9%
4-Agree	50	35%
5-Strongly Agree	74	52%
DK-Don't Know	1	1%
Total	141	100%
Valid cases	140	
Average	4.4	

17. Local units of government in Portage County should address the issue of development in productive agricultural regions by:

17a. Preserving farmland at all costs

	Responses	Percent
1- Strongly Disagree	5	4%
2-Disagree	24	18%
3-Neutral	36	27%
4-Agree	39	29%
5-Strongly Agree	29	22%
DK-Don't Know	1	1%
Total	134	100%
Valid cases	133	
Average	3.5	

17b. Protecting productive farmland, but allowing growth in areas not suitable for agricultural use.

	Responses	Percent
1- Strongly Disagree	7	5%
2-Disagree	14	10%
3-Neutral	17	12%
4-Agree	76	55%
5-Strongly Agree	23	17%
DK-Don't Know	1	1%
Total	138	100%
Valid cases	137	
Average	3.7	

17c. Not protecting farmland, let owners develop as they see fit

	Responses	Percent
1- Strongly Disagree	68	50%
2-Disagree	28	21%
3-Neutral	24	18%
4-Agree	8	6%
5-Strongly Agree	3	2%
DK-Don't Know	4	3%
Total	135	100%
Valid cases	131	
Average	1.9	

18. The rural economy of Portage County should be protected by having growth directed into and around existing developed areas.

	Responses	Percent
1- Strongly Disagree	2	1%
2-Disagree	6	4%
3-Neutral	24	18%
4-Agree	75	55%
5-Strongly Agree	28	21%
DK-Don't Know	1	1%
Total	136	100%
Valid cases	135	
Average	3.9	

19. My city/village/township should make an effort to identify and protect the following:

19a. Woodlands

	Responses	Percent
1- Strongly Disagree	3	2%
2-Disagree	7	5%
3-Neutral	15	11%
4-Agree	58	42%
5-Strongly Agree	56	40%
DK-Don't Know	0	0%
Total	139	100%
Valid cases	139	
Average	4.1	

19b. Wetlands and floodplains

	Responses	Percent
1- Strongly Disagree	2	1%
2-Disagree	4	3%
3-Neutral	26	19%
4-Agree	45	32%
5-Strongly Agree	62	44%
DK-Don't Know	1	1%
Total	140	100%
Valid cases	139	
Average	4.2	

19c. Open spaces

	Responses	Percent
1- Strongly Disagree	3	2%
2-Disagree	10	7%
3-Neutral	36	26%
4-Agree	48	35%
5-Strongly Agree	40	29%
DK-Don't Know	1	1%
Total	138	100%
Valid cases	137	
Average	3.8	

19d. Lakes, rivers and streams

	Responses	Percent
1- Strongly Disagree	1	1%
2-Disagree	2	1%
3-Neutral	13	9%
4-Agree	52	37%
5-Strongly Agree	72	51%
DK-Don't Know	0	0%
Total	140	100%
Valid cases	140	
Average	4.4	

19e. Endangered species habitat

	Responses	Percent
1- Strongly Disagree	5	4%
2-Disagree	9	7%
3-Neutral	25	18%
4-Agree	40	29%
5-Strongly Agree	58	42%
DK-Don't Know	0	0%
Total	137	100%
Valid cases	137	
Average	4.0	

19f. Parkland, existing and future

	Responses	Percent
1- Strongly Disagree	2	1%
2-Disagree	4	3%
3-Neutral	23	17%
4-Agree	62	45%
5-Strongly Agree	47	34%
DK-Don't Know	0	0%
Total	138	100%
Valid cases	138	
Average	4.1	

19q. Historic and cultural sites

	Responses	Percent
1- Strongly Disagree	2	1%
2-Disagree	7	5%
3-Neutral	24	17%
4-Agree	61	44%
5-Strongly Agree	46	33%
DK-Don't Know	0	0%
Total	140	100%
Valid cases	140	
Average	4.0	

20. The following represent a threat to the quality of Portage County's groundwater:

20a. Residential runoff

	Responses	Percent
1- Strongly Disagree	2	1%
2-Disagree	18	13%
3-Neutral	18	13%
4-Agree	68	50%
5-Strongly Agree	26	19%
DK-Don't Know	4	3%
Total	136	100%
Valid cases	132	
Average	3.7	

20b. Agricultural pesticides and fertilizers

	Responses	Percent
1- Strongly Disagree	2	1%
2-Disagree	10	7%
3-Neutral	15	11%
4-Agree	54	39%
5-Strongly Agree	51	37%
DK-Don't Know	5	4%
Total	137	100%
Valid cases	132	
Average	4.1	

20c. Manure and liquid waste application

	Responses	Percent
1- Strongly Disagree	3	2%
2-Disagree	15	11%
3-Neutral	26	19%
4-Agree	51	37%
5-Strongly Agree	33	24%
DK-Don't Know	9	7%
Total	137	100%
Valid cases	128	
Average	3.8	

20e. Sewage holding tank and septic tank spreading

	Responses	Percent
1- Strongly Disagree	3	2%
2-Disagree	25	18%
3-Neutral	50	36%
4-Agree	33	24%
5-Strongly Agree	16	12%
DK-Don't Know	10	7%
Total	137	100%
Valid cases	127	
Average	3.3	

20g. Industrial waste land spreading

	Responses	Percent
1- Strongly Disagree	1	1%
2-Disagree	7	5%
3-Neutral	25	19%
4-Agree	54	40%
5-Strongly Agree	32	24%
DK-Don't Know	16	12%
Total	135	100%
Valid cases	119	
Average	3.9	

20d. Commercial/Industrial storm water runoff and infiltration

	Responses	Percent
1- Strongly Disagree	1	1%
2-Disagree	5	4%
3-Neutral	29	21%
4-Agree	62	46%
5-Strongly Agree	24	18%
DK-Don't Know	14	10%
Total	135	100%
Valid cases	121	
Average	3.9	

20f. Improperly abandoned wells

	Responses	Percent
1- Strongly Disagree	1	1%
2-Disagree	10	7%
3-Neutral	53	39%
4-Agree	38	28%
5-Strongly Agree	16	12%
DK-Don't Know	17	13%
Total	135	100%
Valid cases	118	
Average	3.5	

20h. municipal waste and sludge land spreading

	Responses	Percent
1- Strongly Disagree	5	4%
2-Disagree	10	7%
3-Neutral	34	25%
4-Agree	43	32%
5-Strongly Agree	29	21%
DK-Don't Know	15	11%
Total	136	100%
Valid cases	121	
Average	3.7	

21. The following represent a threat to the quantity of Portage County's groundwater:

21a. Municipal wells

	Responses	Percent
1- Strongly Disagree	9	7%
2-Disagree	28	21%
3-Neutral	55	40%
4-Agree	24	18%
5-Strongly Agree	5	4%
DK-Don't Know	15	11%
Total	136	100%
Valid cases	121	
Average	2.9	

21b. Agricultural irrigation wells

	Responses	Percent
1- Strongly Disagree	4	3%
2-Disagree	25	18%
3-Neutral	41	30%
4-Agree	35	26%
5-Strongly Agree	21	15%
DK-Don't Know	11	8%
Total	137	100%
Valid cases	126	
Average	3.3	

21c. Drinking water bottling plants

	Responses	Percent
1- Strongly Disagree	8	6%
2-Disagree	13	9%
3-Neutral	30	22%
4-Agree	36	26%
5-Strongly Agree	38	28%
DK-Don't Know	12	9%
Total	137	100%
Valid cases	125	
Average	3.7	

21d. Industrial water users

	Responses	Percent
1- Strongly Disagree	3	2%
2-Disagree	12	9%
3-Neutral	44	33%
4-Agree	46	34%
5-Strongly Agree	18	13%
DK-Don't Know	12	9%
Total	135	100%
Valid cases	123	
Average	3.5	

21e. Private wells

	Responses	Percent
1- Strongly Disagree	26	19%
2-Disagree	57	42%
3-Neutral	32	24%
4-Agree	8	6%
5-Strongly Agree	5	4%
DK-Don't Know	8	6%
Total	136	100%
Valid cases	128	
Average	2.3	

Commerce and Employment

22. What types of new development do you believe would be good for Portage County to attract?

22a. Retail development

	Responses	Percent
1- Strongly Disagree	8	6%
2-Disagree	23	17%
3-Neutral	41	30%
4-Agree	42	30%
5-Strongly Agree	20	14%
DK-Don't Know	4	3%
Total	138	100%
Valid cases	134	
Average	3.3	

22b. Service Development

	Responses	Percent
1- Strongly Disagree	6	4%
2-Disagree	26	19%
3-Neutral	60	43%
4-Agree	31	22%
5-Strongly Agree	12	9%
DK-Don't Know	3	2%
Total	138	100%
Valid cases	135	
Average	3.1	

22c. Office Development

	Responses	Percent
1- Strongly Disagree	9	7%
2-Disagree	26	19%
3-Neutral	47	35%
4-Agree	36	27%
5-Strongly Agree	13	10%
DK-Don't Know	4	3%
Total	135	100%
Valid cases	131	
Average	3.1	

22d. Industrial Development

	Responses	Percent
1- Strongly Disagree	9	7%
2-Disagree	17	13%
3-Neutral	23	17%
4-Agree	50	37%
5-Strongly Agree	31	23%
DK-Don't Know	5	4%
Total	135	100%
Valid cases	130	
Average	3.6	

23. New retail or commercial businesses should only be located in cities or villages

	Responses	Percent
1- Strongly Disagree	5	4%
2-Disagree	26	19%
3-Neutral	20	15%
4-Agree	51	37%
5-Strongly Agree	32	23%
DK-Don't Know	3	2%
Total	137	100%
Valid cases	134	
Average	3.6	

24. There are enough job opportunities to make a living in Portage County.

	Responses	Percent
1- Strongly Disagree	11	8%
2-Disagree	35	26%
3-Neutral	27	20%
4-Agree	44	32%
5-Strongly Agree	14	10%
DK-Don't Know	6	4%
Total	137	100%
Valid cases	131	
Average	3.1	

25. Tax dollars should be used to develop new jobs in the County.

	Responses	Percent
1- Strongly Disagree	16	12%
2-Disagree	29	21%
3-Neutral	43	31%
4-Agree	35	25%
5-Strongly Agree	12	9%
DK-Don't Know	3	2%
Total	138	100%
Valid cases	135	
Average	3.0	

Transportation

26. Local roads in my city/village/township are in good condition

	Responses	Percent
1- Strongly Disagree	7	5%
2-Disagree	26	19%
3-Neutral	16	12%
4-Agree	82	59%
5-Strongly Agree	8	6%
DK-Don't Know	0	0%
Total	139	100%
Valid cases	139	
Average	3.4	

27. Portage County Highways are in good condition.

	Responses	Percent
1- Strongly Disagree	4	3%
2-Disagree	8	6%
3-Neutral	15	11%
4-Agree	100	71%
5-Strongly Agree	13	9%
DK-Don't Know	0	0%
Total	140	100%
Valid cases	140	
Average	3.8	

28. Local units of government in Portage County need to provide:

28a. more bicycle routes

	Responses	Percent
1- Strongly Disagree	16	12%
2-Disagree	19	14%
3-Neutral	45	32%
4-Agree	39	28%
5-Strongly Agree	14	10%
DK-Don't Know	6	4%
Total	139	100%
Valid cases	133	
Average	3.1	

28b. more pedestrian routes

	Responses	Percent
1- Strongly Disagree	15	11%
2-Disagree	20	14%
3-Neutral	51	37%
4-Agree	33	24%
5-Strongly Agree	14	10%
DK-Don't Know	6	4%
Total	139	100%
Valid cases	133	
Average	3.1	

29. Local units of government should provide connections to regional trail systems.

	Responses	Percent
1- Strongly Disagree	18	13%
2-Disagree	17	12%
3-Neutral	35	25%
4-Agree	42	30%
5-Strongly Agree	22	16%
DK-Don't Know	4	3%
Total	138	100%
Valid cases	134	
Average	3.2	

30. How would you rate the following transportation-related services in Portage County:

Road maintenance

	Responses	Percent
1-Very Poor	7	5%
2-Poor	4	3%
3-Average	29	21%
4-Good	83	60%
5-Excellent	15	11%
DU-Don't Use	1	1%
Total	139	100%
Valid cases	138	
Average	3.7	

Public parking

	Responses	Percent
1-Very Poor	1	1%
2-Poor	11	8%
3-Average	55	40%
4-Good	57	41%
5-Excellent	6	4%
DU-Don't Use	8	6%
Total	138	100%
Valid cases	130	
Average	3.4	

Bicycle/pedestrian facilities

	Responses	Percent
1-Very Poor	4	3%
2-Poor	14	10%
3-Average	47	35%
4-Good	37	27%
5-Excellent	4	3%
DU-Don't Use	30	22%
Total	136	100%
Valid cases	106	
Average	3.2	

Snow plowing

	Responses	Percent
1-Very Poor	0	0%
2-Poor	9	6%
3-Average	26	19%
4-Good	85	61%
5-Excellent	16	12%
DU-Don't Use	3	2%
Total	139	100%
Valid cases	136	
Average	3.8	

Bus / Taxi / etc.

	Responses	Percent
1-Very Poor	1	1%
2-Poor	22	16%
3-Average	37	27%
4-Good	21	15%
5-Excellent	4	3%
DU-Don't Use	51	38%
Total	136	100%
Valid cases	85	
Average	3.1	

Transportation for seniors

	Responses	Percent
1-Very Poor	2	1%
2-Poor	10	7%
3-Average	29	21%
4-Good	33	24%
5-Excellent	5	4%
DU-Don't Use	58	42%
Total	137	100%
Valid cases	79	
Average	3.4	

Transportation for disabled

	Responses	Percent
1-Very Poor	4	3%
2-Poor	9	7%
3-Average	24	18%
4-Good	32	23%
5-Excellent	5	4%
DU-Don't Use	63	46%
Total	137	100%
Valid cases	74	
Average	3.3	

Airport facilities

	Responses	Percent
1-Very Poor	7	5%
2-Poor	17	12%
3-Average	40	29%
4-Good	24	18%
5-Excellent	5	4%
DU-Don't Use	44	32%
Total	137	100%
Valid cases	93	
Average	3.0	

Issues and Opportunities

31. My preference for development in rural Portage County in the year 2020 is:

	Responses	Percent
Preservation of the existing rural landscape with limited amounts of new development.	79	56%
Preservation of the existing landscape with moderate amounts of new development.	55	39%
Unrestricted development in rural areas.	6	4%
Total	140	100%

32. my preference for development in urban Portage County in the year 2020 is:

	Responses	Percent
Infill and redevelopment with no outward expansion of existing urban areas.	32	23%
Some outward expansion of existing urban areas with a focus on infill and redevelopment.	98	70%
Unrestricted growth of the urban areas with a focus on outward expansion.	11	8%
Total	141	100%

33. As Portage County and local government units plan for future development, should they discourage, encourage, or remain neutral regarding each of the following:

33a. Environmental preservation

	Responses	Percent
Encourage	117	84%
Remain neutral	22	16%
Discourage	0	0%
Don't Know	0	0%
Total	139	100%

33b. Farmland preservation

	Responses	Percent
Encourage	114	81%
Remain neutral	24	17%
Discourage	1	1%
Don't Know	1	1%
Total	140	100%

33c. Industrial development

	Responses	Percent
Encourage	71	52%
Remain neutral	46	34%
Discourage	15	11%
Don't Know	4	3%
Total	136	100%

33d. Residential development

	Responses	Percent
Encourage	47	34%
Remain neutral	70	51%
Discourage	18	13%
Don't Know	3	2%
Total	138	100%

33e. Retail development

	Responses	Percent
Encourage	53	38%
Remain neutral	62	45%
Discourage	21	15%
Don't Know	2	1%
Total	138	100%

33f. Tourism facilities

	Responses	Percent
Encourage	61	44%
Remain neutral	52	37%
Discourage	20	14%
Don't Know	6	4%
Total	139	100%

33g. Vacation homes

	Responses	Percent
Encourage	15	11%
Remain neutral	68	49%
Discourage	50	36%
Don't Know	6	4%
Total	139	100%

Demographics

36. How long have you been a resident in Portage County?

	Responses	Percent
Less than 1 year	1	1%
1 - 5 years	5	4%
6 - 10 years	11	8%
11 - 20 years	16	12%
over 20 years	99	71%
Not a resident but own land	7	5%
Total	139	100%

38. I currently

	Responses	Percent
Own	134	96%
Rent	5	4%
Total	139	100%

39. Please indicate your gender:

	Responses	Percent
Male	83	61%
Female	54	39%
Total	137	100%

40. What is your age:

	Responses	Percent
under 18	0	0%
18-24	0	0%
25-34	17	12%
35-44	28	20%
45-54	43	31%
55-64	22	16%
65-74	19	14%
over 75	11	8%
Total	140	100%

42. What is the highest level of education you have completed?

	Responses	Percent
some high school	5	4%
high school graduate	59	44%
technical college	21	16%
junior college	2	1%
college	32	24%
post graduate	15	11%
Total	134	100%

43. What is your employment status:

	Responses	Percent
employed	78	57%
unemployed	2	1%
self-employed	26	19%
student	1	1%
retired	30	22%
do not work	1	1%
Total	138	100%

44. What is your field of employment?

	Responses	Percent
Agriculture	11	10%
Wholesale trade	2	2%
Manufacturing	17	16%
Finance/Insurance/Real Estate	7	7%
Government	12	11%
Retail trade	9	9%
Transportation/Public Utilities	7	7%
Services	32	30%
Construction/Mining	8	8%
Total	105	100%

41. How many people live in your household, including yourself?

	Responses	Percent
0	1	1%
1	14	10%
2	57	42%
3	29	21%
4	24	18%
5	8	6%
6	2	1%
7	1	1%
8	0	0%
9	0	0%
10	0	0%
Over 10	0	0%
Total	136	100%

41a. number under 18 years old.

	Responses	Percent
0	65	55%
1	22	19%
2	20	17%
3	8	7%
4	2	2%
5	1	1%
6	0	0%
7	0	0%
8	0	0%
9	0	0%
10	0	0%
Over 10	0	0%
Total	118	100%

45. Where do you work?

	Responses	Percent
Portage County	47	46%
Stevens	26	25%
Point/Plover/Whiting/ParkRidge		
Marshfield Area	1	1%
Wisconsin Rapids	4	4%
Mosinee/Wausau Area	0	0%
Waupaca Area	17	17%
Outside Central Wisconsin	7	7%
Total	102	100%

46. What is your approximate gross (before tax) yearly family income?

	Responses	Percent
under \$15,000	6	5%
\$15,001 to \$29,999	28	22%
\$30,000 to \$49,999	33	26%
\$50,000 to \$99,999	48	38%
\$100,000 or more	10	8%
Total	125	100%

15. One recreational program or facility that my family or I would like to see provided somewhere in Portage County is:

T. Amherst

1. ATV TRAIL
2. connection of current trail systems
3. Rural Bike Trail
4. Afterschool Rec. Center age 10-18
5. shooting range
6. access to public swimming pool in winter
7. Youth Hockey Rink
8. MORE GOLF COURSES
9. Nature trails
10. Lighted night skiing ant Standing Rocks
11. County Landfill
12. N/A
13. Not qualified to choose
14. Swimming/Amherst
15. park(s) w/o facilities
16. Park Trailer for 1 or 2 weeks a year in Tree Farm property areas
17. soccer
18. snow shoeing trails
19. Community Swimming Pool
20. Senior citizens
21. more campgrounds
22. -
23. near Amherst
24. wellness- fitness center
25. for kids 16 to 21
26. none
27. movie theatre for teenagers
28. No Snowmobile trials
29. more count parks & better management
30. Improved fairgrounds
31. Boys & Girls Club of Portage Co.
32. Teen recreation spot in smaller villages
33. Wildlife Rehabilitaion and Education Center
34. Fitness center other than YMCA
35. Preserve the land from future development (complete bike trail from Plover to Rapids - Hwy 54)
36. no more
37. swimming pool
38. Soccer
39. ATV trail
40. Public Pool
41. A casino
42. boys girls club
43. archery targets in park

34. Please tell us the SINGLE greatest problem or concern you have regarding your city/village/township.

T. Amherst

1. gangs & drugs
2. planning- county doesn't plan very well
3. rapid growth
4. Highway 10 expansion
5. Too Many People
6. too much development
7. to much pressure to join village incorporation
8. unrestricted rural residential growth & peoples lack of knowledge of Agricultural practices
9. The social services needs to be expanded & more available to all
10. maintaining and developing arterial roads
11. the lack of local retail shopping for conveniences and variety
12. Big subdivisions taking over rural forest or crop land and letting them have small lots which means many more homes.
13. ?
14. The encroachment of the village of Amherst on our area.
15. Excessive use of power boats too large & too fast for size of lake
16. That re-routing Highway 10 will create another lackluster retail area as happened with the downtown.
17. none
18. Town of Amherst Roads suck!
19. Not enough Police Officers on the street.
20. NO MAJOR CONCERNS
21. Concern about ground water quality.
22. Urban sprawl
23. Rerouting Hwy 10
24. Road maintenance/snow removal Large feedlot farms/milking parlors.
25. increased traffic on narrow roads
26. Developing Farmland should be stopped
27. Dividing up of mid-size farms (40-200 acres) into smaller lots.
28. Must have 3 acres of land to build in country when 2 acres are sufficient stupid to waste land.
Why build 7 homes on forty acres when one could build 15 to 18 homes on same area.
29. Need more job's
30. Lack of attn. to preserving farm land and compensating retiring farmers to keep it in farming.
31. Not qualified to comment
32. Safety on small lake/over use by boaters and pwc
33. Expanding into rural areas (including water/sewer)
34. Water price
35. Growth (spreading out to far)
36. expanding development.
37. We have had people drive by our land & dump garbage out of their cars/trucks
38. To much traffic
39. Fire Protection
40. Should not wait so long to cut high grass along rural roads especially by four corners.
41. Development of subdivisions
42. not enough money for schools
43. The small roads aren't kept up & snow plowing is atrocious
44. Too many people from the city are moving to the rural area.
45. Trucking Co. in agriculture zone
46. Too much growth

47. School system is deteriorating
48. Town board does not encourage public participation or input.
49. Kids on drugs & drinking and drive too fast
50. loss of productive farmland due to residential development
51. Too much rural development
52. unplanned development - sprawl
53. schools
54. Too much traffic in the countryside, rural part of the county
55. -
56. High taxation (among other ag policies) that force families off of farms & encourage selling off land into residential lots.
57. Downtown Stevens Point needs to be revived! It is dead!
58. All is fairly well maintained.
59. County Highway R/W maintenance
60. better road maintenance & snow plowing
61. More law enforcement for outlying county- more county reps on committees. This is not Stevens Point County.
62. high taxes
63. City water is way too expensive!!
64. Diverting farmland away from ag use
65. Favoritism in Local Government
66. High taxes
67. Our groundwater
68. There are not enough good paying jobs to keep up with living cost.
69. narrow township roads
70. narrow township roads
71. The roads by Amherst are terrible Cty Q is nasty
72. ground water
73. no police protection village Amherst
74. taxes - roads
75. Large corporate farms & the inability to control smells
76. Money wasted on foreigners and refugees
77. Industrial Ag.
78. That farms will no longer be
79. Village of Amherst Junction, The wealthy people have influenced the board (zoning) to promote their development
80. We need more police surveylance around schools.
81. only roads to be improved lead to supervisor's homes.
82. Road Maintenance in Town of Amherst
83. Provincial attitudes regarding relationship with Stevens Point (city)
84. Snow removal
85. The teenagers seem to have no place to "hang out". Potential trouble spot with the local "hoods" and drug use.
86. Unrestricted rural development for home building
87. Not enough GOOD jobs with good pay/benefits
88. village trying to force sewer & water on town residents
89. Expansion in housing "subdivision" w/in township
90. Farm land becoming 2 acre or less home sites. Stop developing OR allowing homes on less than 100 acres
91. Sprawl
92. sprawl
93. Law Enforcement not in local village.

94. Family farms folding up and turning into subdivisions
95. The number of criminals who aren't locked up (Bracelet, probation etc)
96. Its fine
97. trees along roads are not trimmed enough
98. need more industries in village limits
99. rising property taxes
100. Lack of respect for agriculture
101. Over Growth
102. They don't plow the roads soon enough in the winter
103. schools
104. I work nights go in at 11pm roads don't get plowed until am traffic

35. Please share with us the best part of living in your city/village/township.
T. Amherst

1. open spaces
2. pretty area
3. quiet
4. Rural living w/ easy access to urban areas
5. Tight Knot Community
6. the open spaces and beauty of the country
7. quite a nice neighborhood-room
8. Being able to find anything I need in Stevens Point/services, shopping, hospital, good school
9. It is still quiet and safe
10. wildlife, beautiful rolling landscape
11. the sense of safety and low crime rate
12. country living but within good distance to shopping, etc.
13. Quiet- safe- able to take advantage of services in nearby cities.
14. natural, unspoiled beauty of rural countryside!!
15. excellent schools
16. peace & quite beautiful landscape
17. Good clean neighborhood.
18. SMALL TOWN FEEL
19. Quiet, beautiful, safe.
20. Nature and solitude
21. Low taxes & friendly people
22. Peaceful/quiet rural setting
23. close to cultural/shopping in St. Point, but room to breathe
24. Nice People
25. like country living
26. Large open spaces, occasionally dotted with small farms, residences.
27. Close to village but not in village close to run to store
28. scenery and privacy
29. ok
30. The friendly people
31. Living in the country on a farm-environment
32. It's homyness
33. Enjoyment of nature in rural setting
34. Quiet-clean-safe
35. Small town
36. It was better ten years ago

37. Simple life - few regulations - Family friendly
38. Quiet - open space
39. We have good access to help in case of emergency.
40. Rural atmosphere
41. where we live
42. The quiet in the evening.
43. The natives are friendly.
44. People are ready to help.
45. close enough to larger city but yet out in country
46. Quality of life is excellent
47. Rural character of area.
48. Good snow plowing
49. wide open country living
50. Beauty of the landscape, rivers, trees, no ugly apartments so far.
51. rural atmosphere
52. great community spirit & quiet rural living
53. Friendly & caring people. Small town atmosphere.
54. -
55. Rural area- I'd like to keep it that way.
56. The clean air and not to close to waste smell.
57. rural living
58. Hunting & fishing & other recreational things we can do.
59. Small, friendly, good schools.
60. Friendly People, Above Average Snow Removal
61. Knowing most of our neighbors
62. The people
63. Knowing that my kids will know what country life is.
64. fresh air
65. fresh air
66. small community with lots of open space
67. rural living
68. small town atmosphere; no congestion
69. peace and quiet country atmosphere
70. small population - uncongested - Peaceful
71. open space
72. The access to necessary service needs.
73. Quiet.
74. Rural setting is great compared to the cities
75. wide open country. No congestions.
76. Don't interfere w/my business
77. Good School District Quite Community
78. Quiet country location; close to nature, yet convenient to Village/City.
79. Quiet surroundings, well kept up
80. Amherst has retained that small-town atmosphere and pride in our community over the years.
81. Quiet small town lifestyle
82. Close to my job
83. People mind their own business, I have some privacy
84. open space/ great neighbors/ volunteer fire fighters
85. The woods that we are trying to keep for wildlife and the future.
86. people, school
87. not a city!!!
88. The Rural Areas Are not Overcrowded yet - Keep it that way!

89. unpopulated country, woods, lakes & streams
90. Being left alone. Having my right to private property respected.
91. Rural and simple government
92. the peaceful setting of country living
93. small town
94. Some what private yet close to larger towns
95. Location and schooling
96. meets all our needs
97. other residents