



Sauk County Comprehensive Plan Survey Report, 2009

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Staff and students working for the Survey Research Center at UW-River Falls were instrumental in the completion of this study. We would like to thank Denise Parks, Grady Stehr, Mandy Speerstra, and Aaron Peterson. We gratefully acknowledge their hard work and dedication. The SRC would also like to thank Mark Steward, Sauk County Planning and Zoning Director and Jenny Erickson, Sauk County UW-Extension Community, Natural Resource and Economic Development Educator for their substantial assistance. Finally, we would like to thank the Sauk County residents, County Board Supervisors and local officials who took the time to complete their questionnaires.

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Executive Summary

In August 2009, the Survey Research Center (SRC) at the University of Wisconsin – River Falls mailed surveys to a random sample of 1,134 Sauk County residences. The same survey questionnaire was also mailed to all 31 members of the Sauk County Board of Supervisors and to 295 local officials of the cities, villages and towns within Sauk County. The surveys were followed by reminder postcards and a second mailing to non-respondents. The overall response rate from the public was 42 percent (471 completed questionnaires), resulting in confidence interval of plus/minus 4.5 percent. The response rate from the County Board was 81 percent (25 completed questionnaires), resulting a confidence interval of plus/minus 8.8 percent. The response rate from local officials was 60 percent (176 completed questionnaires), resulting a confidence interval of plus/minus 4.7 percent. Statistical tests do not indicate that “non-response bias” is a problem in the sample from the public and local officials. The small number of County Board supervisors precluded meaningful testing for non-response bias.

The demographic profile of the public sample contains fewer women, young people, and more persons with higher education than would be expected. However, there are few differences in the opinions among the demographic groups. The percentage of public respondents who live in a city/village and those who live in an unincorporated town match the Census data.

Survey respondents were asked to rate their level of agreement with 65 action statements related to comprehensive planning in Sauk County. Each item had a rating scale ranging from “strongly agree” to “strongly disagree” plus a “no opinion” option. The 65 actions were divided into seven topical groups, including Sauk County Economy, Sauk County Agriculture and Natural Resources, Sauk County Transportation, Sauk County Education, Arts and Innovation, Sauk County Quality of Life, and Sauk County Government.

Overall, a majority of respondents from all three groups (public, County Board, and local officials) said they agreed or strongly agreed with most action items listed among the survey questions.

Three of the five economic self-sufficiency actions were supported by three-fourths of all respondents. Large majorities also supported all economic sustainability action items such as attracting high wage employers, supporting new and existing businesses, and collaboration to promote the Sauk County region. Energy conservation was also supported more than 80 percent of respondents.

When asked about various actions related to agriculture and natural resources, a majority of Sauk County respondents favored maintaining agriculture as a key economic sector, promoting local food production and marketing, protecting important rural forest lands, preserving open space and the area’s rural character, and intergovernmental cooperation to manage orderly growth and development.

Majorities of respondents agreed or strongly agreed with the transportation action items, such as ensuring an adequate supply of construction aggregate for local projects, use of life-cycle cost analysis, and capturing federal, state, and private funding for transportation projects. Some items were more strongly favored by the County Board than by the public, which had a higher

percentage of “no opinion” responses for the promotion of mix-mode transportation hubs in existing cities/villages. This latter response likely indicates a need for dissemination of additional information in order for the public to have an informed opinion. All groups favored regulations for the orderly development of the existing Highway 12 corridor and the new Highway 12 by-pass.

Two of the three education actions (identification of community assets to retain top-level educators and administrators and research to communicate the value of post-high school education) were supported by two-thirds of the public and local officials, and support among the County Board was stronger for these items.

Support for the arts and humanities was stronger among County Board respondents than among the public and local officials. Public respondents tended to have a significant portion of “no opinion” responses to questions about arts initiatives.

Very large majorities of all groups agreed or strongly agreed with actions to improve healthcare in Sauk County: identify and address health issues that affect the overall well-being of County residents, develop strategies to ensure and adequate supply of health care workers, and promote healthier lifestyles.

More than half of the public respondents and local officials disagreed or strongly disagreed with a proposal to adapt current programs and processes to better serve non-English speaking populations. This was the only item on the survey that was opposed by a majority of the public and local officials. However, more than 60 percent of the County Board said they support this initiative.

Regarding housing, large majorities favored the promotion of energy efficiency and alternative heating/power generation, the use of locally produced building materials and affordable housing. The public respondents were more cautious regarding the development of mixed-use buildings, with a relatively high percentage of “no opinion” responses.

Large majorities of all three groups said they would like to see the public be better informed about local government processes and activities and would like to see more opportunities for the public to provide feedback to governmental officials. Most respondents said they favored a process to address inconsistencies and conflicts caused by overlap of governmental jurisdictions.

When asked about emergency management, large majorities of all groups favored additional emergency management training and development of information/maps to identify areas prone to disasters in which development could be restricted.

Survey Purpose

The purpose of this study was to gather opinions regarding issues to be considered in the development of the Sauk County Comprehensive Plan. The County chose to work with the Survey Research Center (SRC) at the University of Wisconsin – River Falls. The County Planning & Zoning Department and UW-Extension Office requested that three groups be included in the survey. The first group was a random sample of residents of Sauk County, and throughout the report, this group will be referred to as the “public.” The second group was the 31 members of the Sauk County Board of Supervisors. The third group consisted of elected and appointed officials from the local units of government within Sauk County and is referred to throughout the report as “local officials.” This group included city mayors and councilpersons, village presidents and trustees, and town chairs and supervisors. The group of local officials also included members of plan commissions in those jurisdictions that have chosen to create a plan commission.

Survey Methods

In August 2009, the Survey Research Center (SRC) at the University of Wisconsin – River Falls mailed surveys to a random sample of 1,134 County residences, 31 Sauk County Board Supervisors and 295 local officials. The survey mailings were followed by reminder postcards and a second mailing to non-respondents.

The overall response rate from the public was 42 percent (471 completed questionnaires). Based on the estimated number of adults in the population of the County (46,713)¹, the results provided in this report from the public respondents are expected to be accurate to within plus or minus 4.5 percent with 95 percent confidence.

Twenty-five of the 31 County Board members returned their surveys (81%), resulting in a confidence interval of plus/minus 8.8 percent with 95 percent confidence.

The response rate from local officials was 60 percent (176 completed questionnaires). The data are expected to be accurate within plus or minus 4.7 percent with 95 percent confidence.

Any survey has to be concerned with “non-response bias.” Non-response bias refers to a situation in which people who do not return a questionnaire have opinions that are systematically different from the opinions of those who return their surveys. **Based upon a standard statistical analysis that is described in Appendix A, the Survey Research Center (SRC) concludes that there is no evidence that non-response bias is a concern for the samples of the public and local officials. Although 25 of the 31 County Board Supervisors responded to the survey, most responses (23) came from the first mailing, and the small number of responses to the second mailing (2) precluded meaningful testing for non-response bias.**

¹ 2009 Wisconsin Department of Administration Estimate

In addition to the numeric responses, respondents provided additional written comments that were compiled by the SRC from the surveys. **Appendices B1 (public), B2 (County Board) and B3 (local officials) contain the compilation of the comments.**

Appendices C1 (public), C2 (County Board), and C3 (local officials) contain a copy of the survey questionnaire with a complete quantitative summary of responses by question.

Profile of Respondents

Table 1a summarizes the demographic profile of the 471 respondents from the public who returned surveys. Where comparable data were available from the 2000 Census of Population and Housing, they were included to indicate the degree to which the sample represents the underlying adult population in the County.

There are fewer people under 45 years of age in this sample (16%) than the Census indicates should have been included (39%). Our experience is that younger residents in most jurisdictions are less likely to participate in surveys than are their older neighbors. The sample contained a higher proportion of respondents with post-secondary education than was reported in the Census.

The SRC performed statistical tests on the responses of these two public demographic groups and found remarkable similarity in the response patterns between the underrepresented groups and the overrepresented groups. Respondents under age 45 had statistically significant differences on seven variables, but only one was noteworthy. Those with post-high school education had statistically significant differences on 17 variables, but in only two instances was the difference large enough to be noteworthy. As we analyze the data in the report, we will identify when various demographic groups have different views.

The percentage of respondents who live in an incorporated city/village or live in an unincorporated town matches the Census data very closely.

About six in ten respondents have lived in Sauk County for more than 20 years. The Census does not collect length of residence data, so a comparison was not possible.

Table 1a. Demographic Profile of Respondents – Public							
Gender	Count	Male	Female				
Sample	461	55%	45%				
Census (Age 18+)	40,854	49%	51%				
Age 18+	Count	18 – 24	25 – 34	35 – 44	45 – 54	55 – 64	65+
Sample	461	0%	4%	12%	24%	31%	28%
Census	40,854	10%	17%	22%	19%	12%	20%
Residential Location	Count	City/ Village	Town				
Sample	462	41%	59%				
Census (total population)	55,225	40%	60%				
Length of Residency	Count	<5 yrs	5-10 yrs	11-20 yrs	21-30 yrs	31+ yrs	Part-time or seasonal
Sample ²	460	8%	7%	16%	12%	48%	9%
Highest Level of Education	Count	Less than High Sch.	High Sch. Dipl.	Some College/ Tech.	Tech. College Grad.	Bachelor Degree	Graduate/ Profess. Degree
Sample	456	3%	24%	29%	13%	19%	12%
Census (age 25+)	36,701	17%	38%	21%	7%	12%	5%

Table 1b summarizes the demographic profile of the respondents from the Sauk County Board and the respondents from among local officials. Compared to the overall population, these public officials are more likely to be male, to be long-term County residents, and to have college degrees.

² Census data does not contain a length of residence category.

Table 1b. Demographic Profile of Respondents – County Board and Local Officials							
Gender	Count	Male	Female				
County Board	24	71%	29%				
Local Officials	172	81%	19%				
Age 18+	Count	18 – 24	25 – 34	35 – 44	45 – 54	55 – 64	65+
County Board	24	0%	0%	4%	4%	33%	58%
Local Officials	172	0%	1%	10%	22%	35%	32%
Residential Location	Count	City/ Village	Town				
County Board	23	50%	50%				
Local Officials	171	40%	60%				
Length of Residency	Count	<5 yrs	5-10 yrs	11-20 yrs	21-30 yrs	31+ yrs	Part-time or seasonal
County Board	24	0%	4%	8%	17%	71%	0%
Local Officials	172	2%	5%	15%	11%	67%	1%
Highest Level of Education	Count	Less than High Sch.	High Sch. Dipl.	Some College/ Tech.	Tech. College Grad.	Bachelor Degree	Graduate/ Profess. Degree
County Board	24	0%	22%	17%	0%	30%	30%
Local Officials	171	3%	24%	23%	12%	17%	22%

Survey Organization

The content of the survey questionnaire was based on six topics to be included in the comprehensive plan. Within each topic are one or more goals, and each goal had two or more questions grouped under their respective topic and goal. The questionnaire asked the respondents to indicate their level of agreement with various statements related to the goals. The scale included the following choices: “strongly agree,” “agree,” “disagree,” “strongly disagree,” “and no opinion.”

The report presents the results of each question in a bar chart containing the combined percentage of respondents who said they “strongly agree” or “agree” with the statement. Responses from the public, County Board and local officials are presented separately for comparison. As indicated in the legend for each chart, percentages from the public are shown in the top bar, the percentages from the County Board are in the middle bar, and the percentages from the local officials are in the bottom bar. Differences in the percentages among the three groups shown on the charts are not necessarily statistically significant due to the possibility of sampling error. However, where there are noteworthy differences among the responses of the public, County Board, and local officials, they will be described in the report. Detailed percentages for each question are presented in Appendices C1 (public), C2 (County Board), and C3 (local officials).

Sauk County Economy

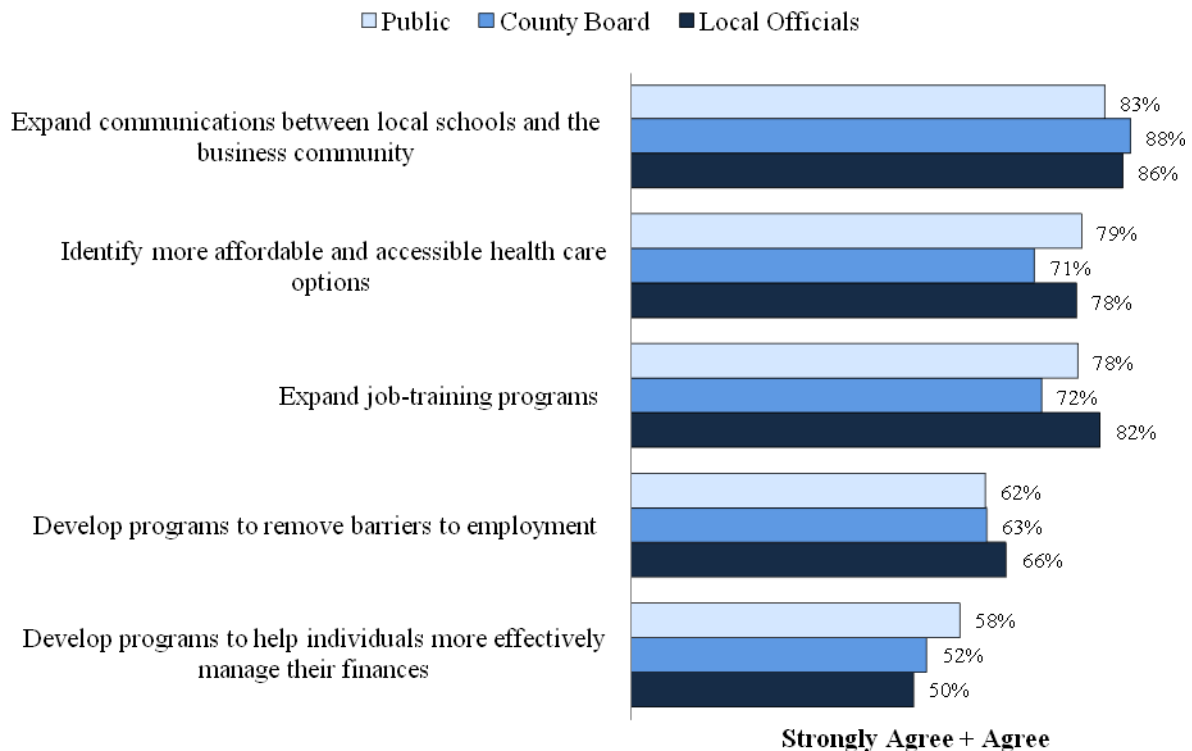
The initial section of the survey asked respondents three questions regarding goals for the Sauk County economy. Each question had between three and seven specific statements. The first question asked about actions to promote financially self-sufficient individuals and families, and Chart 1 summarizes the responses.

Large majorities, exceeding 80 percent, favored expanding communications between local schools and the business community regarding skills needed by graduates. Between 70 and 80 percent agreed or strongly agreed with the need to identify more affordable and accessible health care and to expand job-training programs. Over 60 percent favored developing programs to remove barriers to employment. The strength of agreement regarding the development of personal financial management programs was the lowest among the actions listed; nevertheless, a majority (58%) of the public said they agreed or strongly agreed with this action.

Within this group of actions, the highest percentage of “strongly agree” responses among the public were given to identifying more affordable and accessible health care options and expanding communication between local schools and the business community regarding the skills graduates need.

Differences in the responses among the demographic groups in the public sample were too small to be significant.

Chart 1. Economic Self-Sufficiency Actions



The next question regarding the Sauk County economy focused on actions to promote a sustainable economy. As shown in Chart 2, more than 80 percent of the public strongly agreed or agreed with seeking or creating employers that offer high wages jobs and supporting local business start-up operations.

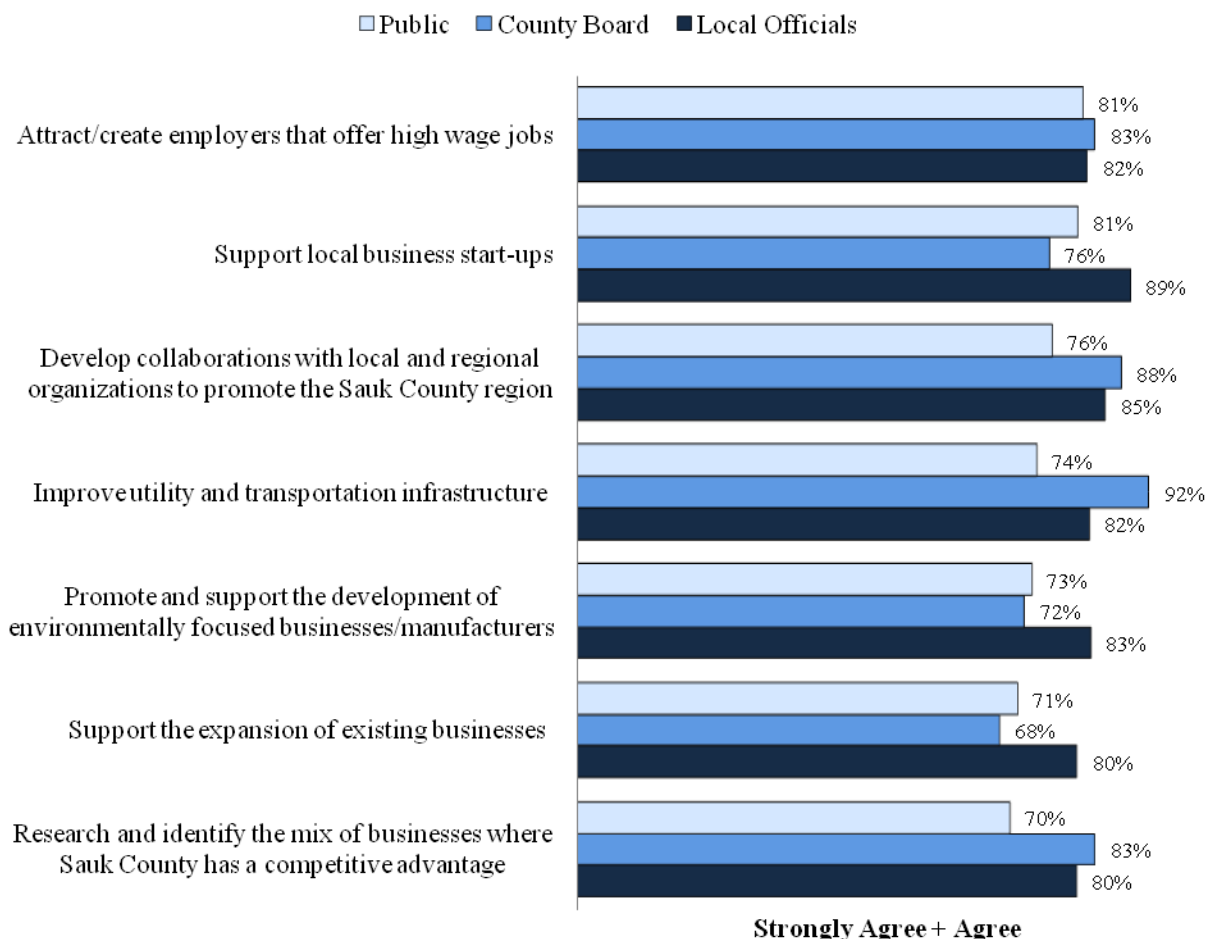
About three-fourths of the public strongly agreed or agreed with the development of collaborations among local and regional organizations to promote the Sauk County region, to support the development of environmentally focused businesses, and to improve the utility and transportation infrastructure. Agreement with the improvement of the utility and transportation infrastructure was stronger among the County Board respondents; over half (52%) “strongly agreed” with this goal and another 40 percent “agreed.”

Seven in ten public respondents said they agreed or strongly agreed to support the expansion of existing businesses and to conduct research to identify the mix of businesses where Sauk County has a competitive advantage. Members of the County Board had a higher level of agreement with conducting research to identify the best mix of businesses for the County, and 14 percent of the public chose the “no opinion” response to this action, which was higher than either the County Board or local officials.

Based on the percentage of “strongly agree” responses to these proposed actions among the public respondents, the highest priority is to attract/create employers that offer high wage jobs.

There were no differences among the demographic groups in the public respondents.

Chart 2. Economic Sustainability Actions

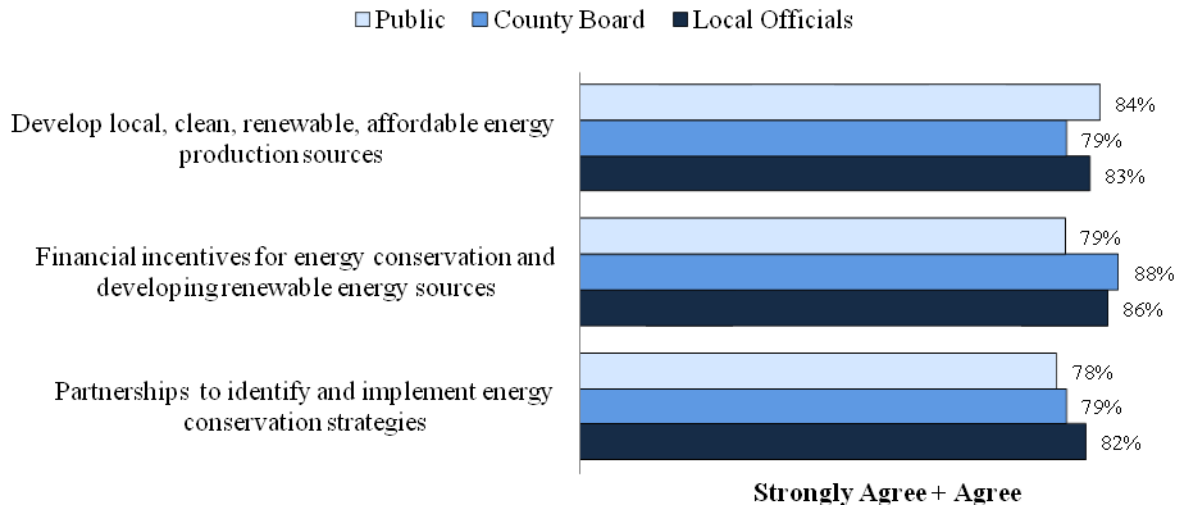


The last group of questions in the Economy section asked about actions to promote affordable, locally produced and environmentally sensitive energy sources. As shown in Chart 3, large majorities agreed or strongly agreed with each of the three action statements: (1) Develop local energy production sources that are clean, renewable, and affordable; (2) Provide financial incentives for energy conservation and developing renewable energy sources; and (3) Establish partnerships among local government, non-profit organizations, businesses, and community residents to identify and implement energy conservation strategies.

The highest percentage of “strongly agree” responses among the public was to develop local, clean, renewable, and affordable energy.

Agreement with these goals was consistent across all demographic groups within the public respondents.

Chart 3. Energy Actions



In summary, with the exception of developing personal financial management programs, large majorities agreed or strongly agreed with the action statements pertaining to the Sauk County economy.

Sauk County Agriculture and Natural Resources

The second section of the questionnaire asked three questions about actions related to agriculture and natural resources. The first question focused on the goal of having a viable agricultural sector in terms of environmental impact, social benefits, and economic return, and the results are summarized in Chart 4. Large majorities approaching or exceeding 80 percent agreed or strongly agreed to develop ways to assist farmers to protect the environment, to maintain agriculture as a key component of the local economy, and to support programs to assist people enter farming. County Board members were more likely to agree or strongly agree (92%) to work with farmers to protect the environment.

Between 69 percent and 74 percent of public respondents strongly agreed or agreed with the establishment of a food system that emphasizes local production and sales, to develop a multi-county agricultural tourism program, to minimize forest fragmentation and reestablish forest areas, and to develop incentives to maintain and protect significant threatened forest areas. A larger majority of County Board members agreed or strongly agreed to establish programs to minimize forest fragmentation.

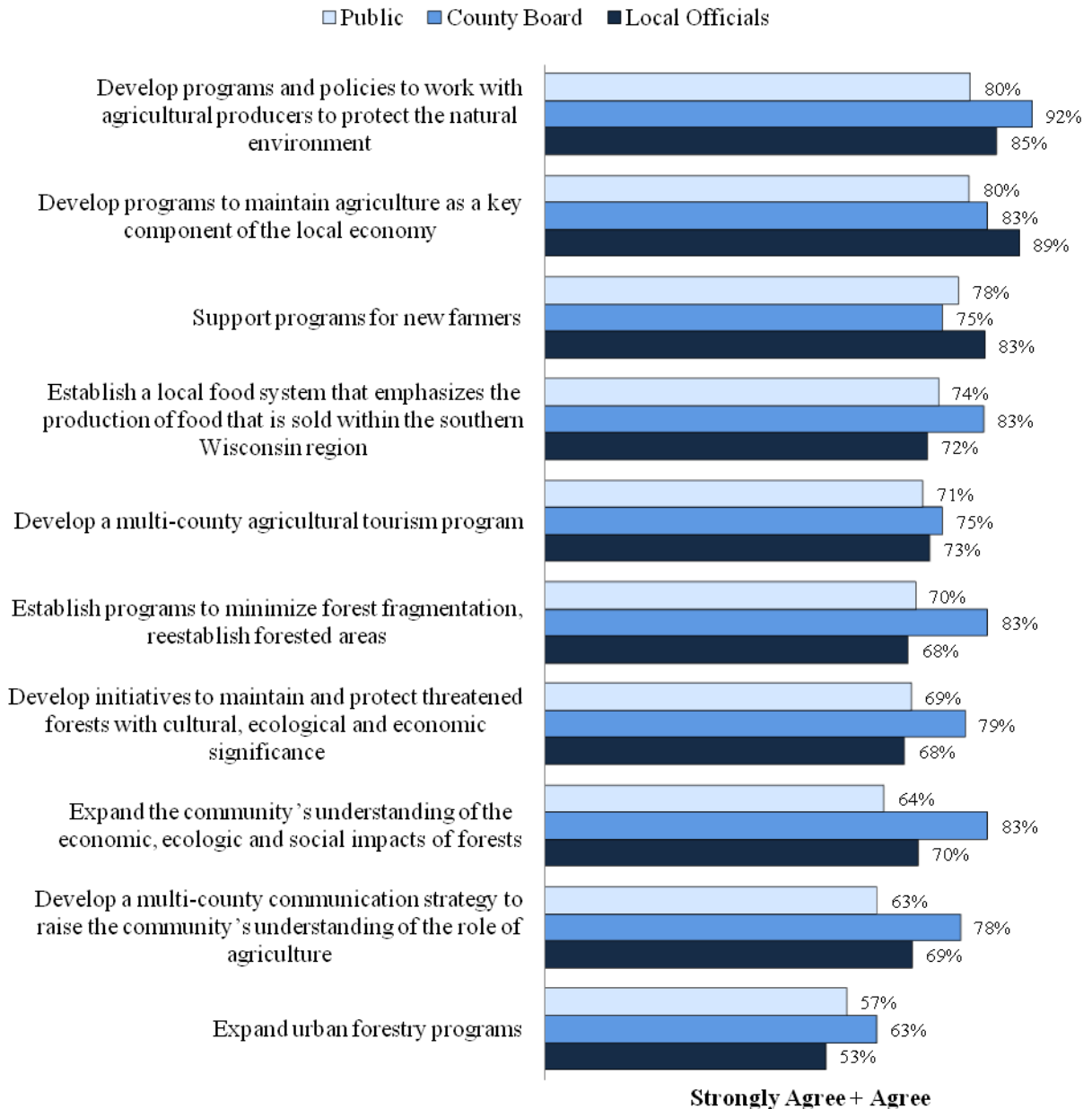
More than 60 percent of the public agreed or strongly agreed with efforts to expand the community's awareness of the impacts of forests and to raise the community's understanding of the role of agriculture. Members of the County Board had a significantly more positive opinion about these two actions, with 83 percent and 78 percent respectively agreeing or strongly agreeing.

Although still supported by a majority of all three groups, support for expansion of urban forestry programs was not as strong as for other actions in this list. Among public respondents, the percentage of “no opinion” responses was particularly high (17%).

Within this group of actions, the highest percentage of “strongly agree” responses among the public were given to developing programs and policies to work with agricultural producers to protect the natural environment and to programs that would support new farmers.

Among the demographic groups in the public, non-resident respondents had a higher percentage of “no opinion” responses regarding the development of an agricultural tourism program. Public respondents with post-secondary education were more likely to agree or strongly agree with efforts to expand the community’s understanding of the ecologic and social impacts of forests.

Chart 4. Agriculture and Natural Resources Actions



The next question in this group was directed at managing development and natural resource protection. As shown in Chart 5, among the six actions listed, about 80 percent of the public respondents agreed or strongly agreed with the pursuit of agreements between local units of government to allow for orderly growth and development, to protect groundwater recharge areas for municipal wells, and to develop intergovernmental agreements to maintain the rural character of Sauk County.

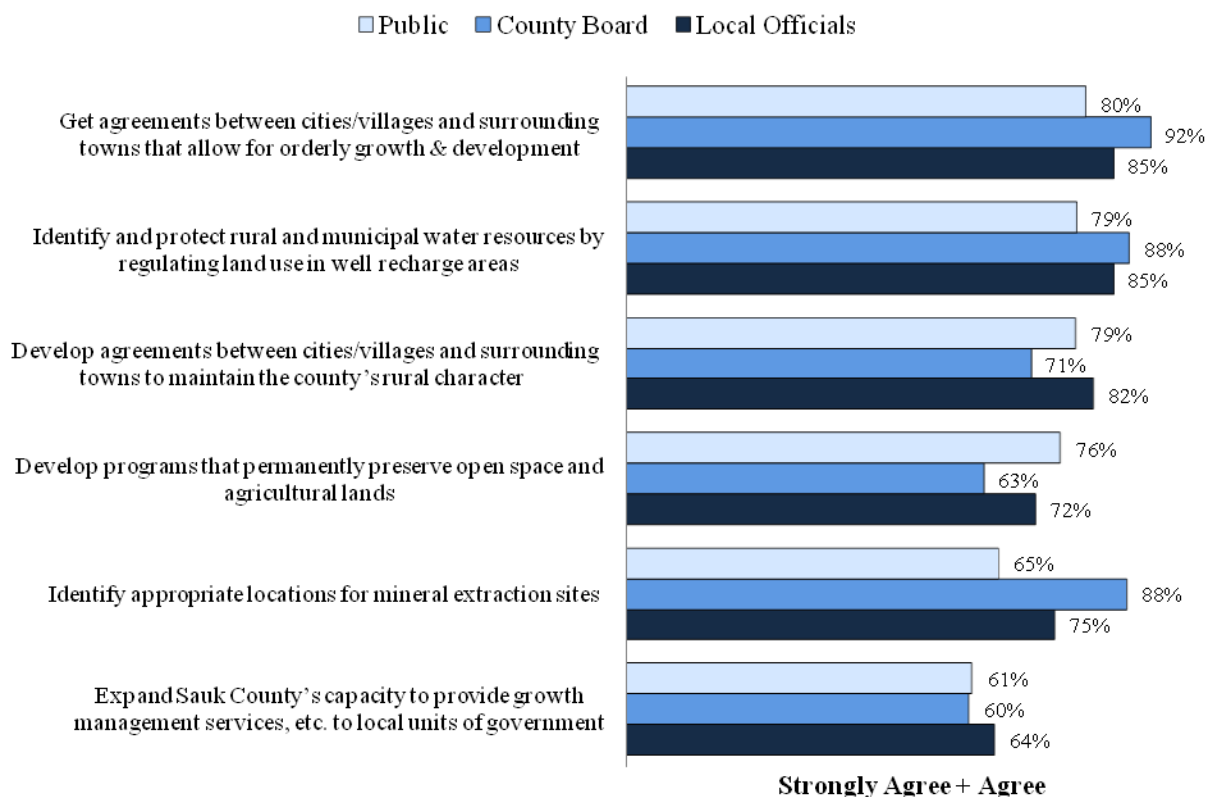
About three-fourths of the public agreed or strongly agreed to develop programs to permanently preserve open space and agricultural lands. Members of the County Board were not as strong in their support for this particular action (63%).

About two thirds of the public agreed or strongly agreed with actions to identify appropriate locations for mineral extraction operations. Support among County Board members was noticeably stronger, with 88 percent agreeing or strongly agreeing.

Based on the percentage who “strongly agree” with these proposed actions, the highest priority is to develop programs for the preservation of open space. Close behind were development of intergovernmental agreements to maintain the County’s rural character and protection of ground water resources by regulating development in well recharge areas.

About six in ten respondents agreed or strongly agreed to expand the capacity of Sauk County government to provide growth management services to local units of government.

Chart 5. Actions for the Management of Development and Resource Protection

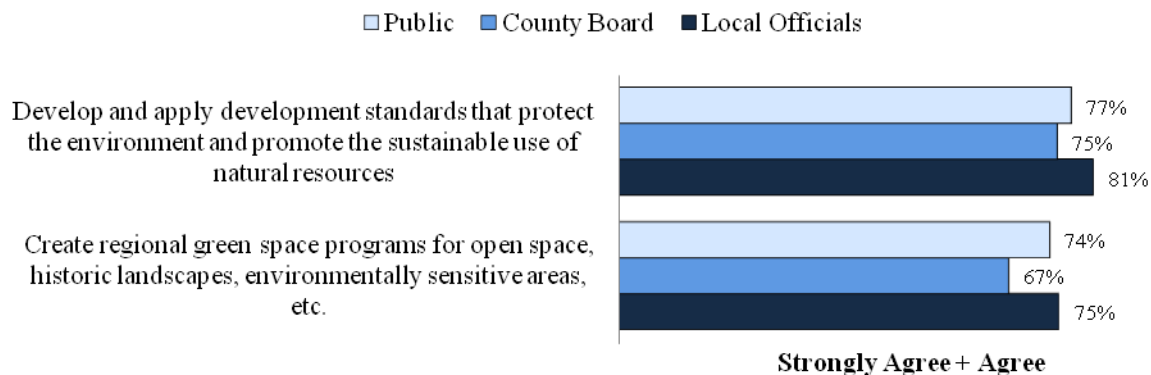


Although a majority of women agreed or strongly agreed with identifying appropriate locations for mineral extraction sites, they were more likely to have no opinion (23%) than were men (10%).

The last group of questions in this section consisted of two actions related to open space and rural character. As shown in Chart 6, there was strong agreement to create development standards to protect the environment and promote sustainable use of natural resources. The level of agreement was nearly as strong for the creation of green space programs to preserve regional connections of open space, historic landscapes, environmentally sensitive lands, waterways, and low-impact recreational lands, which also received the highest percentage of “strongly agree” responses from the public.

There were no noteworthy differences among the various demographic groups.

Chart 6. Open Space and Rural Character Actions



In summary, majorities of the public, County Board, and local officials agreed or strongly agreed with the action statements pertaining to agriculture and natural resources.

Sauk County Transportation

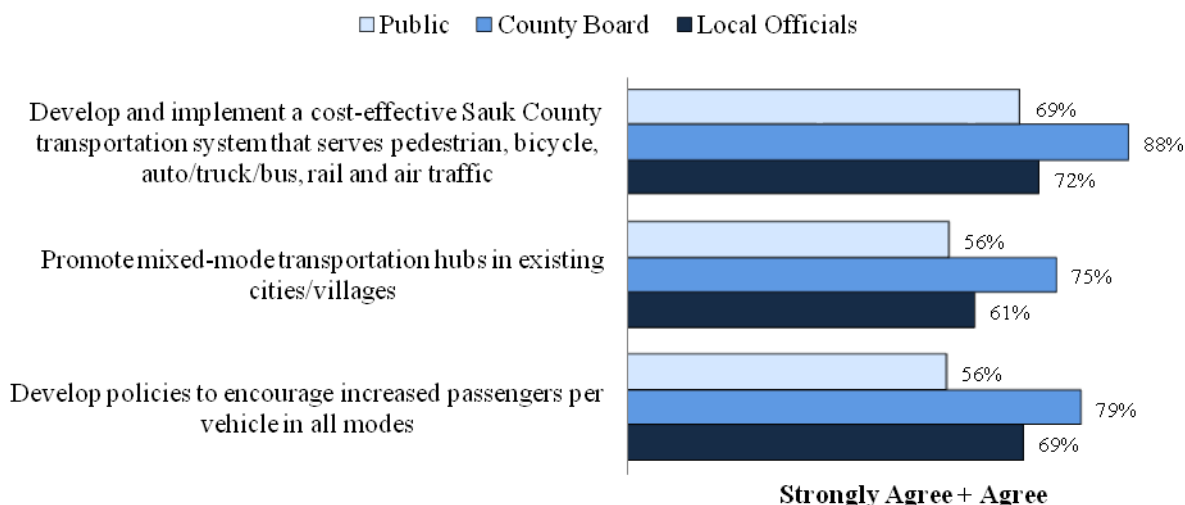
The third section of the questionnaire asked a series of questions regarding transportation issues in Sauk County. The first set of three questions addressed broad actions pertaining to the transportation system in the County. As shown in Chart 7, more than two-thirds of public respondents agreed or strongly agreed with the action to develop a cost-effective multi-modal transportation system that serves pedestrian, bicycle, auto/truck/bus, rail, and air traffic. The County Board had a higher level of agreement with this action; 88 percent said they agree or strongly agree.

Smaller majorities (56%) among the public respondents agreed or strongly agreed with the promotion of mixed-mode transportation hubs in existing cities/villages and with the creation of policies to encourage increased passengers per vehicle in all modes of transportation. County Board Supervisors agreed more strongly with these two actions when compared to the public. Local officials more strongly agreed with creating policies to encourage more passengers per vehicle in comparison to the public. The smaller percentages among the public respondents who agreed or strongly agreed with these actions is partially attributable to a higher percentage of “no opinion” responses (15 percent and 12 percent respectively) rather than higher levels of disagreement than was evident in the County Board and local officials groups.

The highest percentage of “strongly agree” responses among the public went to the proposal to develop and implement a cost-effective multi-modal Sauk County transportation system.

There were no noteworthy differences in the responses among the demographic groups in the public sample.

Chart 7. Transportation System Actions



The next group of three questions asked about maintenance issues. The results are summarized in Chart 8. There was strong agreement among the public, County Board, and local officials for each action listed. Seven in eight respondents in the public sample agreed or strongly agreed to capture available state, federal, and private funding. At the same time, 100 percent of the respondents from the County Board and 95 percent of local officials agreed or strongly agreed with this action.

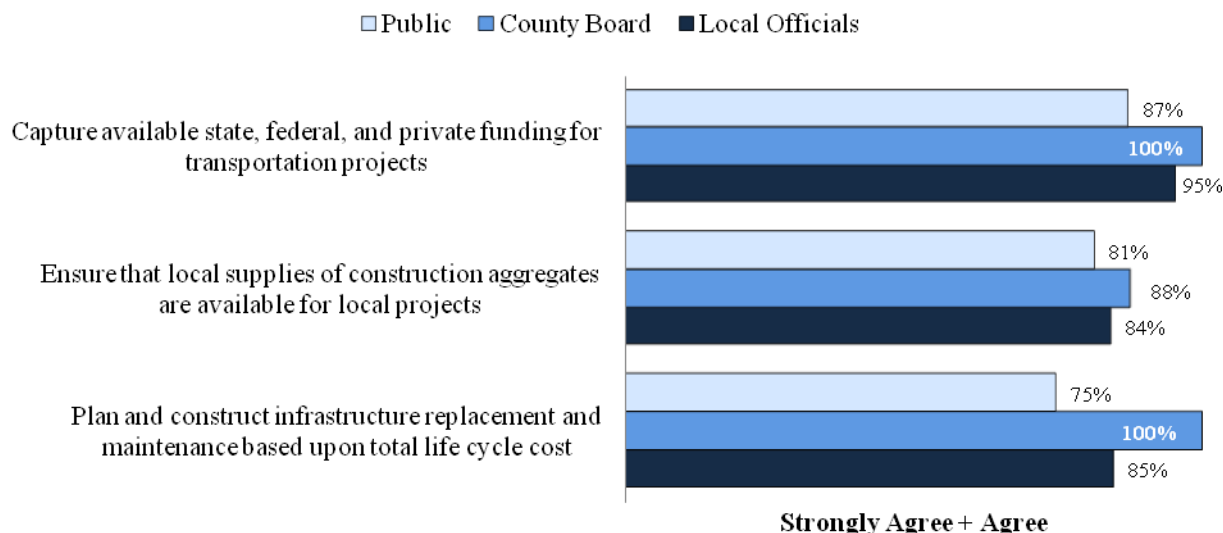
Large majorities, exceeding 80 percent of all three groups, supported initiatives to ensure that local supplies of construction aggregate (sand, gravel, and rock) are available for local projects.

All three groups had high levels of agreement regarding the use of life-cycle cost analysis for planning, maintaining, and replacing transportation infrastructure. Although a solid majority of the public respondents agreed or strongly agreed (75%), the percentages of the County Board (100%) and local officials (85%) were higher still than among the public. This difference among the public was due to the higher percentage of respondents who had no opinion (15%) rather than disagreeing with this action. This indicates a degree of uncertainty among the public that may present an opportunity for government officials to increase the level of understanding among the public regarding this method of analyzing the cost of transportation projects.

Based on the percentage of public respondents who “strongly agree” with the foregoing initiatives, it appears that priority attention should be given to capturing available state, federal,

and private funding for transportation projects. (This item had the highest percentage of “strongly agree” responses among all 65 actions listed in the survey.)

Chart 8. Transportation Maintenance Actions



The final set of three transportation questions asked about actions related to US Highway 12. Again, solid majorities of respondents from all three groups were in agreement with each action listed. As shown on Chart 9, between 70 percent and 80 percent agreed that regulations and programs should be developed for the orderly development of the existing Highway 12 corridor.

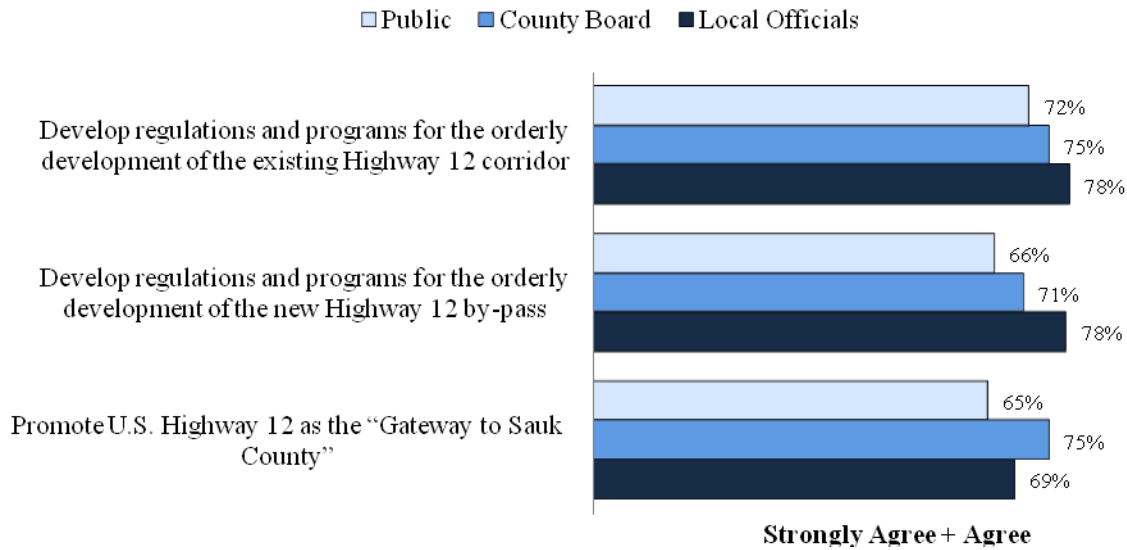
When asked about regulations and programs for the orderly development of the new Highway 12 by-pass, majorities of all three groups agreed or strongly agreed. The strength of agreement was stronger among local officials.

Between two-thirds and three fourths of respondents from each of the three groups agreed or strongly agreed to promote Highway 12 as the gateway to Sauk County as a tourism marketing strategy.

Developing regulations for the orderly development of the new Highway 12 by-pass garnered the highest percentage of “strongly agree” responses, although the other two actions were close behind.

Although a majority of the respondents from the public sample said they agreed or strongly agreed with each of the Highway 12 questions, the public group was more likely to say they have no opinion to each of these questions. Women, in particular, were more likely than men to have given a “no opinion” response regarding regulations and programs for the orderly development of the new Highway 12 by-pass.

Chart 9. Highway 12 Actions



In summary, majorities of the public, County Board, and local officials agreed or strongly agreed with each of the nine questions pertaining to transportation actions, although the public tended to have a larger proportion of “no opinion” responses.

Sauk County Education, Arts, and Innovation

The fourth section of the survey contained two groups of questions focused on education, arts, and innovation. Chart 10 indicates that about two-thirds of the public and local officials supported the identification of community assets in order to attract and retain top-level educators and administrators in the local school systems. Support for this action was notably higher among the County Board respondents (88%).

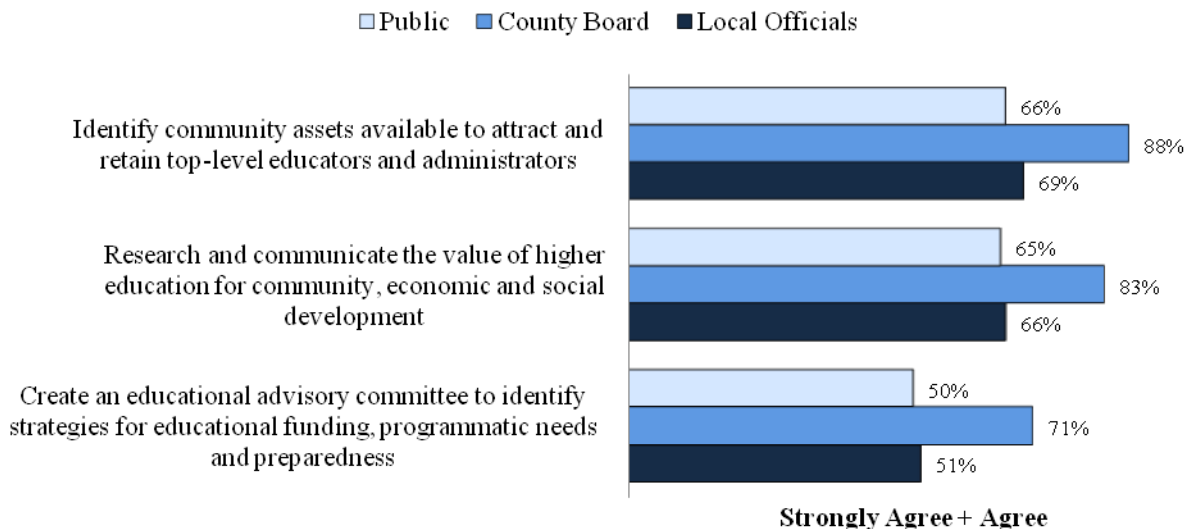
As was true in the previous question, about two thirds of the public and local officials agreed or strongly agreed with the action to research and communicate the value of higher education in terms of economic, social, and community impacts. Support for this action was noticeably greater among the County Board (83%).

The public and local officials were less sure about the creation of an educational advisory committee to identify strategies for educational funding, programmatic needs, and preparedness. About half of the public and local officials agreed or strongly agreed, but 15 percent of the public and 9 percent of local officials said they had “no opinion” regarding the advisory committee. Support for the educational advisory committee was substantially higher among the County Board, with over 70 percent in agreement.

Among these three proposed actions, the highest percentage of “strongly agree” responses went to researching and communicating the value of education. Identifying community assets to attract and retain quality educational staff was close behind.

Among the public demographic groups, men and respondents age 45 and over were more likely to have no opinion regarding the creation of an educational advisory committee. Respondents without post-secondary education were more likely to have said they have no opinion whether to research and communicate the value of higher education.

Chart 10. Education Actions



The second group of questions in this section contained five actions pertaining to arts and humanities. As seen in the previous question, the level of agreement with each of these statements was higher among the County Board than either the public or the local officials.

The level of agreement was highest regarding the development of scholarships and grants for projects that are unique and beneficial to the entire community, ranging between 62 percent (public) and 67 percent (local officials). Eleven percent of the public and 9 percent of local officials said they had no opinion. At the same time, nearly 80 percent of the County Board respondents agreed or strongly agreed with this action item.

Over 55 percent of the public and local officials were in agreement with promoting arts, humanities and historic preservation as a means of economic development, with a noticeable proportion of “no opinion” responses (11% of the public and 10% of local officials). In contrast, 88 percent of the County Board respondents agreed or strongly agreed with this action.

When asked about maintaining the funding and programs for arts and culture, fewer than half of the public said they agreed or strongly agreed, with 18 percent of the public and 14 percent of the local officials responding “no opinion.” Support for this action was strong among the County Board (83% agreed or strongly agreed).

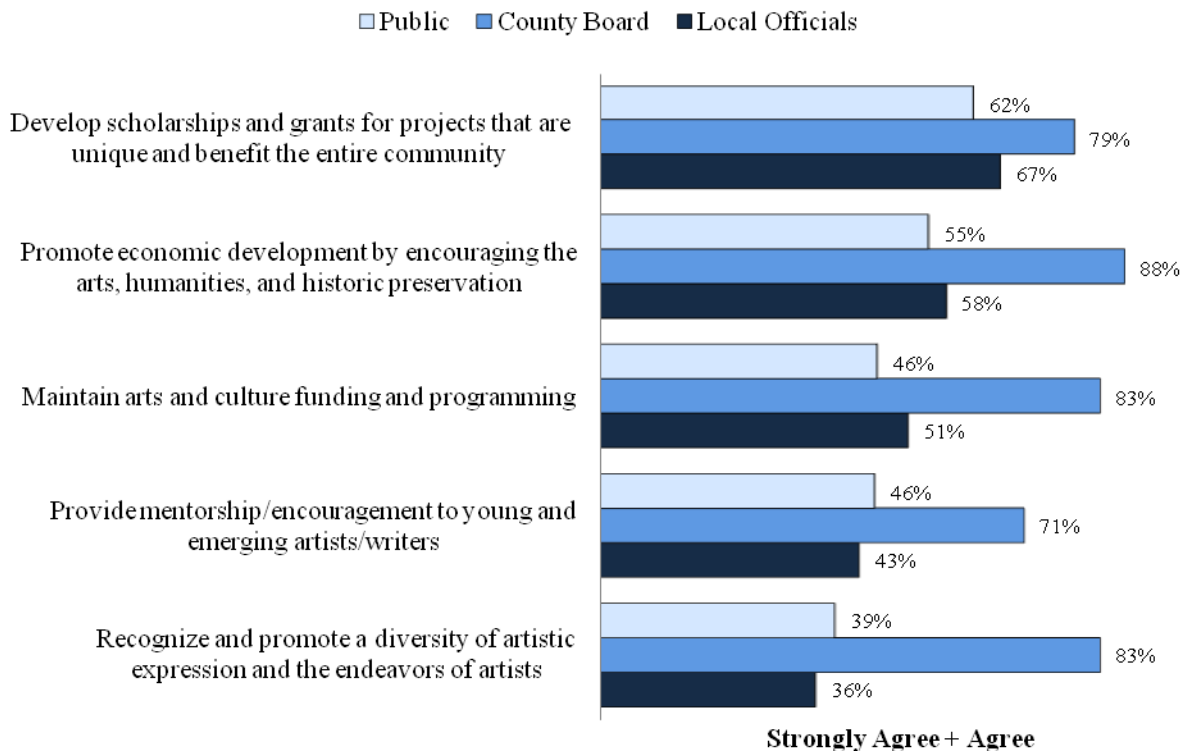
The level of agreement for mentoring and encouraging young and emerging artists fell to less than 50 percent among the public and local officials. There were relatively high proportions of

“no opinion” responses among the public (19%) and local officials (16%). The level of agreement remained high among the County Board respondents with more than 70 percent agreeing or strongly agreeing.

Relatively small percentages of public respondents strongly agreed with any of these action statements.

The gap between the County Board respondents and those from the public and local officials widened when asked about the promotion of a diversity of artistic expression and endeavors of artists. The level of agreement within the public and the local officials was less than 40 percent, with 17 percent of the public and 13 percent of local officials having no opinion about this action. At the same time, more than 80 percent of the County Board respondents agreed or strongly agreed with this item.

Chart 11. Arts and Humanities Actions



In summary, questions pertaining to education and the arts tended to elicit more diversity of opinion between the County Board respondents and those of the public and local officials. Majorities of the public and local officials tended to be in agreement with five of the eight action items in this section, but the level of agreement among the County Board was substantially stronger for every action item listed than among the public and local officials. Responses among the public and local officials contained higher percentages of the “no opinion” option, ranging between 9 and 19 percent.

Within this group of questions, there were no differences among the public demographic groups.

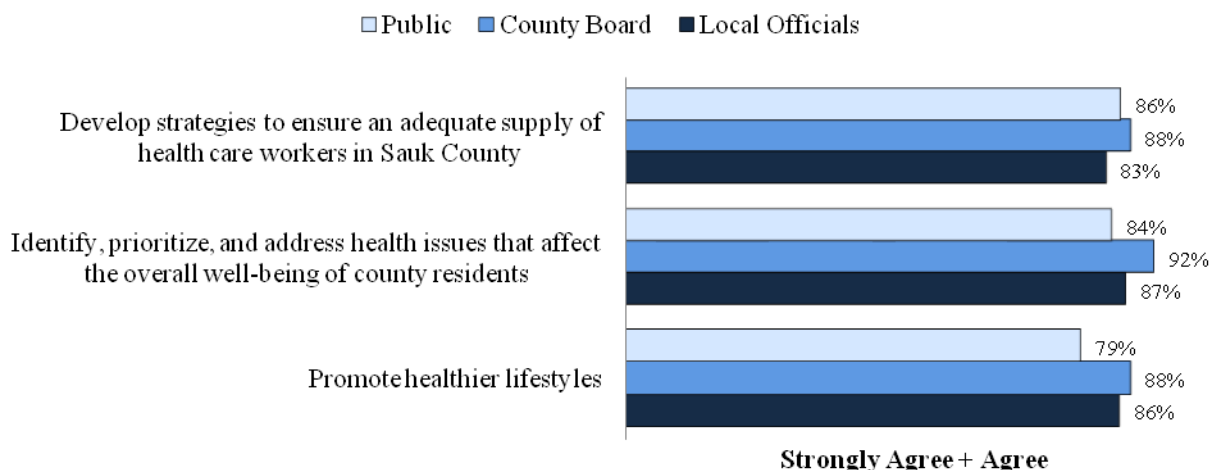
Sauk County Quality of Life

The next section of the survey contained questions pertaining to quality of life goals. When it came to actions related to health issues, Chart 12 shows there was strong agreement among all three groups regarding each of the three action items listed. Over 80 percent agreed or strongly agreed with the development of strategies to ensure an adequate supply of health care workers in Sauk County. Similarly, between 84 and 92 percent agreed to identify, prioritize, and address the overall well-being of Sauk County residents. The promotion of healthier lifestyles had the agreement of 79 percent to 88 percent of respondents.

These three actions were in a statistical tie for the highest percentage of “strongly agree” responses among the public.

There were no differences among the demographic groups in the public respondents.

Chart 12. Health Actions

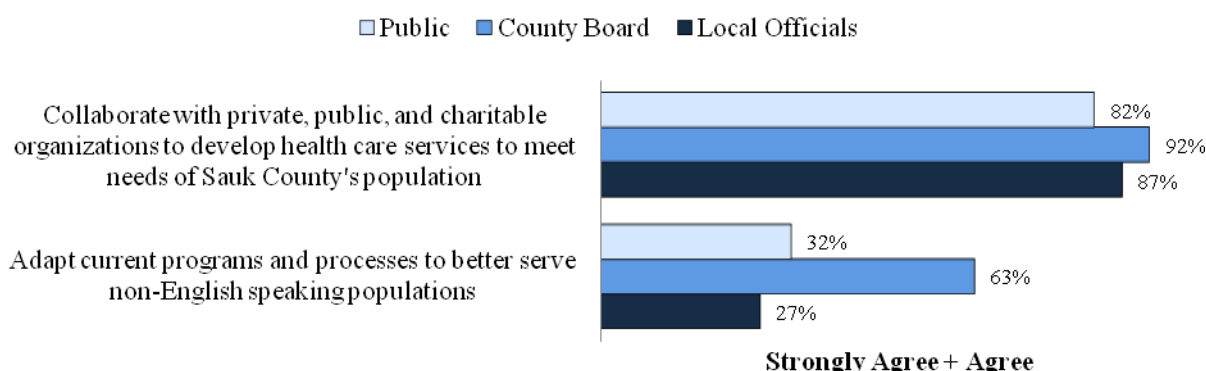


As shown in Chart 13, there was very little difference of opinion among the public, County Board, local officials regarding their level of agreement about collaboration with private, public, and charitable organizations to meet the needs of the County’s population. Very strong majorities of each group agreed or strongly agreed with this action item.

However, there was a substantial difference of opinion when asked about adapting current programs and processes to better serve non-English speaking populations. More than 60 percent of the County Board respondents agreed or strongly agreed with this action. In contrast, only a third of the public and a quarter of local officials said they agreed or strongly agreed with this statement. This was the only item on the survey that was opposed by a majority of the public and local officials.

Among the demographic groups in the public, there were no significant differences.

Chart 13. Community Services for a Diverse Population



The last group of questions in this section of the survey focused on housing issues. The results are summarized in Chart 14.

There was a very high level of agreement among the public, County Board and local officials to encourage and promote energy efficient housing and alternative heating and power systems. One hundred percent of the County Board respondents agreed or strongly agreed with this action, and between 87 percent and 90 percent of the public and local officials were also in agreement with this item.

Nearly 80 percent of each group agreed or strongly agreed to encourage and promote locally produced building materials.

Although majorities of all three groups agreed or strongly agreed to encourage the development of affordable housing that is consistent with local comprehensive plans, a higher percentage of County Board respondents said they “strongly agree” with encouraging affordable housing.

When asked about “mixed-use” development that combines residential, retail, and professional space, slightly less than half (49%) of the public and a majority (56%) of local officials said they agreed or strongly agreed. Support was stronger yet among the County Board respondents, with two-thirds saying they agree or strongly agree with this action item. A significant portion of the public (23%) chose the “no opinion” response to this question, which represents the highest percentage of “no opinion” responses to any question on the survey and is probably a result of a lack of information about the mixed-use concept. If County and local officials decide to develop policies to encourage mixed-use development, they will likely need to implement efforts to increase the public’s understanding of mixed-use development.

Less than 40 percent of the public agreed or strongly agreed with the action to facilitate collaboration among municipalities to enhance support for housing and services provided to part-time and seasonal workers. The level of agreement with this action was only slightly higher among local officials (42%). As seen in previous questions, there were a relatively high proportion of “no opinion” responses (20%) among the public, which represents a tie for the

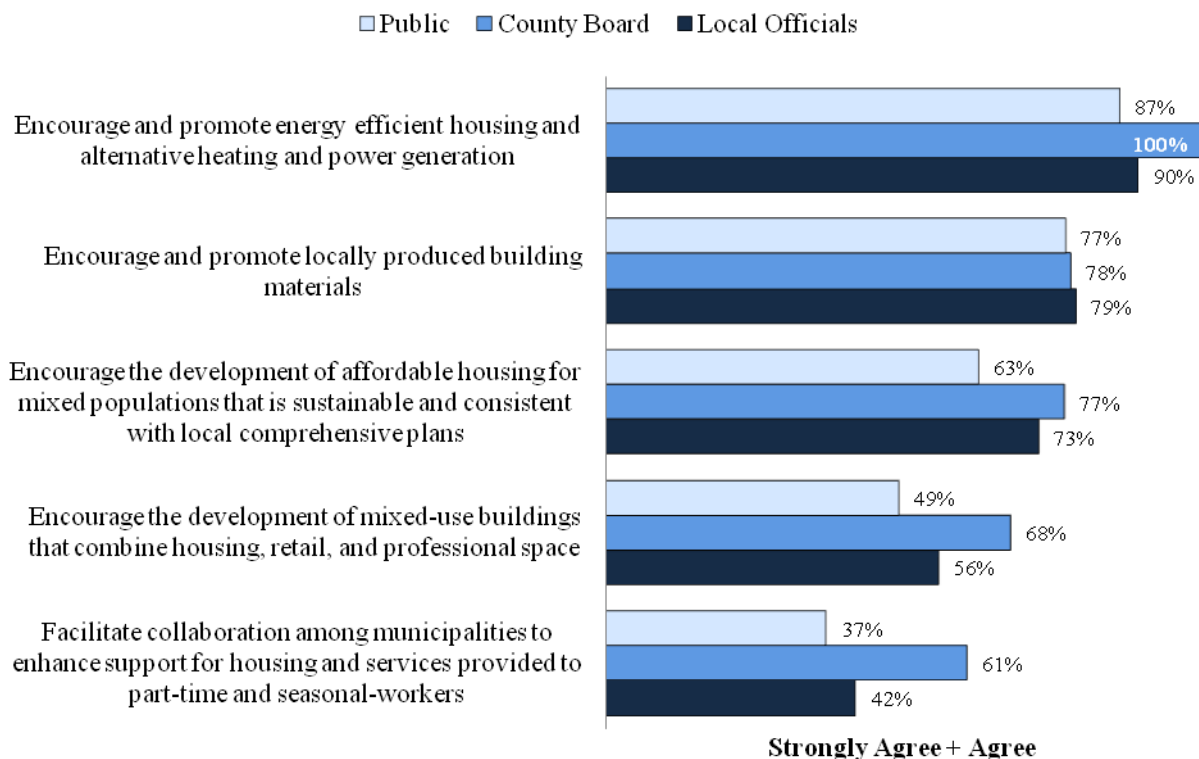
second highest percentage of “no opinion” responses among all survey questions. Another similarity to the previous question is the relatively high level of agreement among the County Board respondents – over 60 percent said they agree or strongly agree with this action statement.

Based on the percentage who “strongly agree” with the foregoing initiatives, it appears that priority attention should be given to encouraging and promoting energy efficient housing and alternative heating and power generation.

Non-resident respondents were more likely to have no opinion regarding the use of locally produced building materials.

To summarize, majorities of the all groups favor the encouragement of energy efficient housing, locally produced building materials, and affordable housing. A higher percentage of County Board supervisors agreed with mixed-use development and increased collaboration among municipalities regarding services and housing for part-time and seasonal workers, while the public had a relatively high proportion of “no opinion” responses to these latter two actions.

Chart 14. Housing Actions



Sauk County Government

The last section of the survey questionnaire asked two groups of questions regarding Sauk County government. As shown in Chart 15, a very large majority (81%) of the public

respondents agreed or strongly agreed that the public should be better informed regarding local government processes and activities. Interestingly, the percentage of local officials and County Board Supervisors who agreed or strongly agreed that the public should be better informed about their processes and activities was higher than among the public itself. Although this survey did not ask the public for their preferred methods to receive information from their local governments, the SRC has seen a consistent pattern in other surveys that the public has a definite preference for direct mailings and newsletters rather than the mass media.

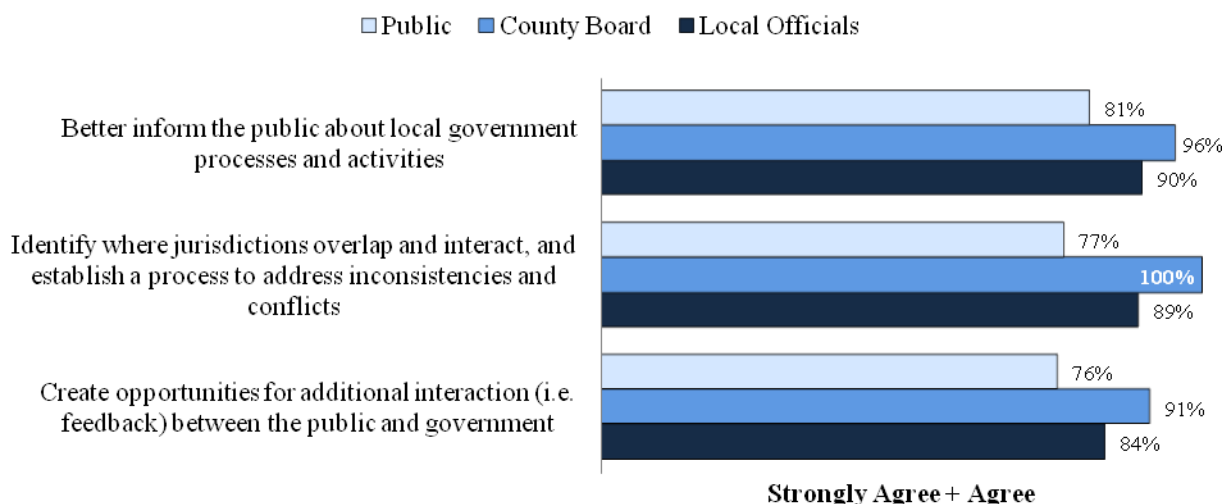
Three-fourths of public respondents said they agreed or strongly agreed that they would like additional opportunities to provide feedback to their government. The level of agreement among the County Board and local officials is stronger than the public on this issue. In fact, over 90 percent of the County Board said they would like see more opportunities for the public to provide feedback to their government officials.

Large majorities of all groups said they agreed with actions to identify intergovernmental inconsistencies and conflicts and to establish a process to address those problems. Support for this action was acute within the two governmental groups, where 100 percent of County Board respondents and 89 percent of local officials agreed or strongly agreed.

The percentage of “strongly agree” responses among the public was very similar for each of the three action statements.

There were no noteworthy differences among responses by the demographic groups within the public respondents.

Chart 15. Public Information & Intergovernmental Actions



The second group of questions in this section focused on emergency planning and preparedness, and the results are summarized in Chart 16. Large majorities of the public and local officials and 100 percent of County Board respondents agreed or strongly agreed to develop information and mapping resources that could lead to restricting developments in areas prone to disasters.

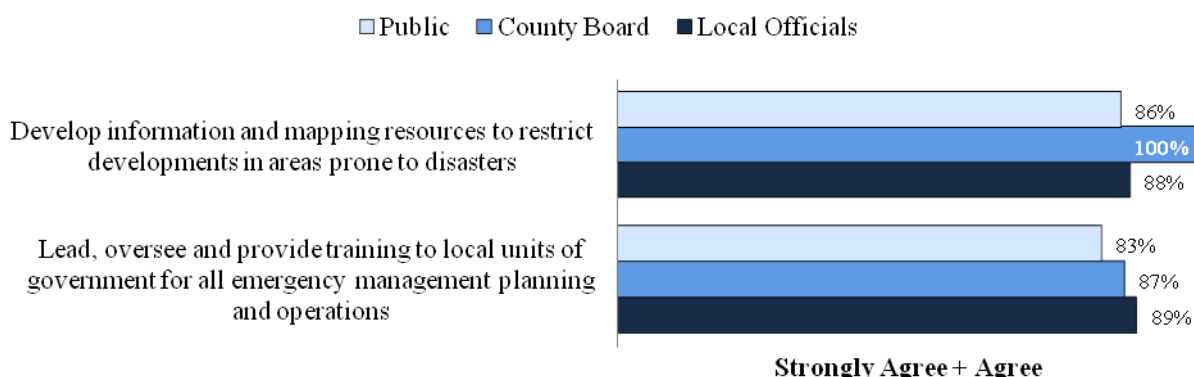
Between 80 and 90 percent of the public, County Board, and local officials said they agree or strongly agree with training for local units of government for emergency management.

Based on the percentage who “strongly agree” with the foregoing initiatives, the higher priority is to develop information and mapping resources to protect disaster-prone areas.

There were no noteworthy differences among responses by the demographic groups within the public respondents.

In summary, there is strong agreement among the public, County Board and local officials regarding actions to develop informational materials to protect disaster-prone areas from development and to provide training to local officials on emergency management.

Chart 16. Emergency Planning Actions



Open Ended Comments

Near the end of the survey, respondents were asked the following open-ended question, “What is one thing Sauk County should do to prepare for the future?” The SRC grouped the answers into broad categories and are summarized in Table 2a, 2b, and 2c. The complete list of responses is included in Appendices B1, B2 and B3.

Two topics accounted for almost half of the 238 total comments. As shown in Table 2a, nearly a third of the comments from the public related to taxes and spending. Given the economic stress occurring at the time of this survey, it

Table 2a. Additional Comments by Topical Category Public Respondents		
Topic	Count	%
Taxes and Spending	71	30%
Growth and Land Use	43	18%
Economic Development and Jobs	23	10%
Transportation & Utility Infrastructure	19	8%
Government – general	14	6%
Environment and Energy	14	6%
Education	10	4%
Healthcare	5	2%
Public Safety	5	2%
Emergency Planning and Management	4	2%
Miscellaneous	30	12%
Total	238	100%

not surprising that respondents were particularly concerned about taxes and spending. The following quotes capture the spirit of the 71 comments on this topic: *“Hold down government spending.” “Please do not raise taxes!”*

The second most common topic among the public’s comments was growth and land use, which accounted for 18 percent of the total. Many of the comments expressed a desire to preserve the qualities of Sauk County that residents find attractive as reflected in the following quotes: *“Develop a plan to steer future commercial and residential growth to preserve natural resource.” “Planned development/ slow down loss of farmland.”*

Among the County Board, taxes and spending shared the top ranked category with comments related to economic development and jobs. Each accounted for 20 percent of the total. Three topics each received 13 percent of the County Board’s comments: government (general), growth and land use, and transportation and utility infrastructure.

Table 2b. Additional Comments by Topical Category County Board Respondents		
Topic	Count	%
Economic Development and Jobs	3	20%
Taxes and Spending	3	20%
Government – general	2	13%
Growth and Land Use	2	13%
Transportation & Utility Infrastructure	2	13%
Healthcare	1	7%
Education	1	7%
Miscellaneous	1	7%
Total	15	100%

As was true among the public and County Board, the most frequent topic mentioned by local officials pertained to taxes and spending (24%). Growth and land use tied for second place with comments about government issues. The latter topic contained concerns for better communication among units of government and for improved in the enforcement of regulations be more consistency in rulings.

Table 2c. Additional Comments by Topical Category Local Government Respondents		
Topic	Count	%
Taxes and Spending	26	24%
Government – general	20	19%
Growth and Land Use	20	19%
Economic Development and Jobs	14	13%
Transportation & Utility Infrastructure	8	7%
Environment and Energy	6	6%
Healthcare	5	5%
Education	2	2%
Emergency Planning and Management	2	2%
Miscellaneous	4	4%
Total	107	100%

Conclusions

The results of this survey indicate that, in large measure, Sauk County residents, County Board Supervisors, and local government officials are in agreement with the 65 actions proposed in this survey as part of the Sauk County Comprehensive Plan.

Among the responses from the public, at least half the respondents supported (agreed or strongly agreed) 59 of the 65 (91%) action items, and there were very few variations among the demographic groups within the public. At least half of local officials agreed or strongly agreed with 61 of the 65 (94%) action items. Support for the 65 action items was strongest among the County Board respondents, where at least half the County Board respondents supported all 65 items (100%).

The relatively few items without majority support among the public and local officials were focused on the actions pertaining to support for the arts and for services for seasonal workers and non-English speaking populations.

When an action item did not receive majority support, this did not necessarily mean that a majority said they disagreed or strongly disagreed. Most frequently, it meant there was a significant proportion (up to 23%) of respondents who said they had “no opinion” regarding that item.

There was only one action item for which a majority of the public and local officials said they disagreed or strongly disagreed. Fifty-seven percent of public respondents and 63 percent of local officials said they disagree or strongly disagree with item 13b (Adapt current programs and processes to better serve non-English speaking populations).

This high degree of agreement with the proposed actions presents a dilemma for Sauk County decision makers in determining the highest priority actions. Examination of only the “strongly agree” responses among the public respondents may help differentiate the higher priority actions.

The action with the highest percentage of “strongly agree” responses among the public was to identify more affordable and accessible health care options (40%).

The following items had between 30 percent and 40 percent of “strongly agree” responses:

- Capture available state, federal and private funding for transportation projects (37%)
- Develop local, clean, renewable, affordable energy production sources (33%)
- Expand communications between local schools and the business community regarding skills graduates need (33%)
- Attract/create employers that offer high wage jobs (33%)
- Develop information and mapping resources to restrict development in areas prone to disasters (32%)
- Develop programs that permanently preserve open space and agricultural lands (32%)
- Encourage and promote energy efficient housing and alternative heating and power generation (32%)

- Identify and protect rural and municipal water resources by regulating the types of land uses and management practices that can occur in well recharge areas (31%)
- Develop agreements between cities/villages and surrounding towns to maintain the County's rural character (31%)
- Identify, prioritize and address health issues that affect the overall well-being of County residents (30%)
- Develop strategies to ensure an adequate supply of health care workers in the County (30%)
- Create regional green space programs that preserve permanent regional connections of open space, historic landscapes, environmentally sensitive areas, waterways, and low-impact recreational lands (30%)
- Access and promote financial incentives for energy conservation and developing renewable energy resources (30%)

Appendix A – Non-Response Bias Test

Any survey has to be concerned with “non-response bias.” Non-response bias refers to a situation in which people who don’t return a questionnaire have opinions that are systematically different from the opinions of those who return their surveys. For example, suppose most non-respondents from the public sample disagreed with providing support to local start-up businesses (Question 2a), whereas most of those who returned their questionnaires agreed with this action. In this case, non-response bias would exist, and the raw results would overrate public’s level of agreement with this action.

The standard way to test for non-response bias is to compare the responses of those who return the first mailing of a questionnaire to those who return the second mailing. Those who return the second questionnaire are, in effect, a sample of non-respondents (to the first mailing), and we assume that they are representative of that group.

Among the public, 334 people responded to the first mailing, and 137 responded to the second mailing. We found five variables with statistically significant differences between the mean responses of these two groups of respondents out of 65 variables on the questionnaire. Table A1 indicates that even when statistical differences exist, the magnitude of this difference is very small and the interpretation of the results is not affected. **The Survey Research Center (SRC) concludes that there is no evidence that non-response bias is a concern for this sample of the public in Sauk County.**

Table A1 – Statistically Significant Differences Between Responses of First and Second Mailings: Public Respondents			
Variable	Statistical Significance	Mean First Mailing	Mean Second Mailing
1e. Expand communications between local schools and the business community regarding skills graduates need.	.009	1.93	2.22
2f. Improve utility and transportation infrastructure (i.e. high-speed internet, freight rail, highway, and energy).	.009	2.10	2.40
5a. Get agreements between cities/villages and surrounding towns that allow for orderly growth & development.	.033	2.02	2.24
9b. Develop regulations and programs for the orderly development of the existing Highway 12 corridor.	.047	2.27	2.51
9c. Research and communicate the value of higher education (post high school) for community, economic and social development.	.035	2.37	2.64

Among the local officials, 133 responded to the first mailing, and 43 responded to the second mailing. As shown in Table A2, there was only a single variable with a statistically significant difference between these two groups. The magnitude of the difference was small and did not

affect the interpretation of the results. **The Survey Research Center (SRC) concludes that there is no evidence that non-response bias is a concern for this sample of local officials in Sauk County.**

Table A2 – Statistically Significant Differences Between Responses of First and Second Mailings: Local Official Respondents			
Variable	Statistical Significance	Mean First Mailing	Mean Second Mailing
11d. Provide mentorship/encouragement to young and emerging artists/writers.	.006	3.06	2.51

Due to the comparatively small size of the population comprising the County Board (31), statistical testing for non-response bias was not practical.

Appendix B1 –Sauk County Comprehensive Plan Survey Comments - Public

Question 17. *What is one thing Sauk County should do to prepare for the future?*
(238 comments)

Taxes and spending (71 responses)

- Agree not to spend so much money foolishly!
- All county board members should be required to go to workshops regarding budgets, basic law, and environmentally safe classes. Our county board members need to get a better handle on what we need for our beautiful county.
- All these programs and ideas have great foresight - keeping taxes within reason is the challenge.
- Alter the Budget System: should have a consistent amount annually for emergency funds, road repair, etc. that will roll over into the next year - not be removed and used for something else or less given if they do not use it all in any given year. Allow those funds to build up so there is money available when it is needed. I believe this should carry over to all areas of the whole budget.
- Be careful with spending to keep taxes at a reasonable level.
- Be more conservative and do not spend so much money just to look good.
- Be very careful about spending local money and do not depend on government.
- Control real estate taxes for homeowners.
- Cut government costs.
- Cut government programs and spending!
- Cut spending (county government), when other states and counties are bankrupt, Sauk County will then have great advantages for the future.
- Cut unnecessary spending.
- Cut wages of government employees.
- Decrease government back to basics (protect, defend). More control, less union control.
- Depend less on taxes and learn how to cut back cost and do more with less.
- Develop a plan that includes a priority of keeping taxes low and getting involved only in programs that the private sector cannot do and not duplicating services of other units of government, because some of your questions indicate you want to get involved in. In these economic times cut costs and you can start by reducing the number of county board members - three live within five miles of me.
- Do not give anyone a hundred million dollar bonus for doing their job to the best of their ability. That is everyone's job to do his or her best, no bonus just do your job.
- Do not waste good money on every social/liberal program out there.
- Do not waste hard working taxpayer's money on endless "programs" that we do not need.
- Eliminate pointless jobs to help lower taxes.
- Figure out ways to stop the current unstoppable increased cost of wasted money the Sheriff Dept. is getting and the County is cutting youth programs (or proposing them) which in turn likely causes a possible rise in crime. Youth programs save youth and turn them into our future.

- Find areas to cut waste of county taxpayer dollars. If taxes keep rising, people will not be able to live here.
- Find other ways of raising revenue besides higher property taxes.
- Fiscal responsibility by government.
- Focus on efficiencies and identify cost-saving measures to implement rather than relying on tax increases.
- Get more people like Tom Kriegl on the Sauk Co. Board; make all branches of government accountable for their expenditures.
- Get the Hell out of all these government programs!
- Government cannot do everything.
- Hold down government spending.
- Improve overall efficiencies in all aspects of county government that focus on real and actionable programs and improvements.
- Keep government small - if you are going to use resources for something, teach the people to support themselves and stop taxing us to death!
- Learn from the past. Do not borrow money. Project income and under spend. Create a surplus.
- Less tax for small business.
- Live within budget.
- Lower taxes so new businesses can start up.
- Minimize staffing and spending and develop a lean organization comparable to the industrial sector. Reduce Government waste.
- Need to spend tax dollars smarter.
- Not overtax new houses built in rural areas, i.e. Town of Franklin taxes new housing so high that nobody can afford to build. This is the most counter-productive plan I have ever seen!
- One thing? Keeping Sauk Co. an affordable place to live has to be considered within all these new ideas.
- Please develop one more program to figure out how to pay for all the rest of the programs without putting more of a burden on taxpayers.
- Please do not raise taxes!
- Please use your most creative thinking and efficient resources when planning for and accomplishing future goals. We know we cannot afford to pay more taxes to reach these goals.
- Promote a level budget. Imprison any official found receiving kickbacks as well as the contractor. Remove personal agendas and get back to the thought to see that is best for the county. Return the government back to the people.
- Realize that its citizens cannot afford to pay for every good idea. Many of the goals I just voted "disagree" to, are good ideas, but we absolutely cannot expect the county to pay for. We are driving the small business out of business!
- Reduce property taxes.
- Reduce spending.
- Reduce taxes.
- Restrict government spending for 4 years.
- Rethink all government growth. Growth = spending my tax dollars for more than absolute necessity.

- Right now I think with things there way they are, money is short. I think we should not do things to spend more money.
- Salary caps all Sauk County employees, and limit benefits.
- Sauk Co should give serious consideration to business that it is involved in that is not cost-based and uses taxpayer money that should be put into public health versus home care.
- Scale back spending.
- Scale down the government!
- Spend no more than (unreadable) income but do not raise taxes. Lower taxes on forest property so private landowners can afford to keep property whole and intact.
- Spend tax dollars as if they were hard earned, rather than throwing them around foolishly.
- Stay out of people's private lives. Currently all government spends too much costing taxpayers more and more of their hard earned money. In addition, government had never shown they are good business people and custodians of others money.
- Stop spending where not necessary and use it where it is, use natural resources and conserve them. Have nature conservancy--pay property taxes.
- Stop wasting money on highways and stop funding any museums and the arts.
- Stop wasting tax payers money on programs and committees that never amount to anything.
- Take a break from building and give the taxpayers a break. The taxpayer money barrel is running dry - we need a break or there will not be a future.
- The survey would have the county spending millions we do not have! When my taxes increase, we consider moving out of the county. Taxes 1998:\$860 2008:\$2100
- Think about the spending Sauk County does! There are some things that can be fixed with a little common sense. Do not think higher educated people are the only people here. Think of the small people in this county too.
- Try saving money-not handing it out to everyone who is to lazy to pull themselves up by their own bootstraps.
- Use all funding efficient for projects in the county to help keep taxes and other fees under control. Helping people live more affordable allows a healthy economy.
- Use the people's tax resources wisely. Do not jump on every bandwagon. We are chasing viable business out of the county as more and more regulations and taxes are loaded on their already considerable burden. Each business that leaves leaves a hole in the tax structure.
- Use the taxpayers' money wisely.
- What are the costs?
- While many of these ideas are very good, I could not support them without knowing how these initiatives will be funded. I am concerned about rising taxes and unfortunately feel this is the place to start-curtail new spending.
- Wise use of funds.
- Work to eliminate waste caused by duplication of services - costs can be cut without loss of services.

Growth and Land Use (43 responses)

- Preserve/Protect farmland (4x)
- Allow limited commercial development on Lake Redstone. Specifically a boat fuel station and convenience store.
- Back off! Rethink these "goals" and allow communities to develop as their residents see fit. Do not try to turn Sauk into Dane!
- Be absolutely committed to preserving, restoring, and enhancing the county's natural endowment - its woodlands, prairies, and natural features, such as the Baraboo Bluffs. Discourage McMansions in the countryside.
- Be open to growth. It will come you cannot stop it. Manage it. It's valuable and helpful in the tax role to require all other things.
- Because of the power of the Department of Natural Resources, and Planning and Zoning. Officials of these departments should be voted in their offices by the people that live in townships, cities, counties, state and federal governments, etc.
- Control urban sprawl, maintain quality farmland for farming, encourage agra-tourism, streamline health code for on the farm mini-restaurants.
- Develop a plan to steer future commercial and residential growth to preserve natural resources. Our "Rustic Road" mentality, the small town charm, and values are so important to the people of Wisconsin.
- Develop a sound comprehensive county plan (land use plan) set up a county planning commission-make a county- plan map to control growth and future developments make zoning decisions that reflect the structure of the plan and map.(land use districts).
- Develop more sources for funding of program to buy development rights of property owners in the Baraboo Bluffs and other select natural areas in the county.
- Discourage "strip mall" development and overuse of the Hwy 12 corridor.
- Do not allow condominium development on the lower Dells of the WI River near the scenic rock formations. This will destroy the entire character of the lower Dells!
- Encourage and promote population control.
- Hold accountable those who devalue private property as county employees.
- Keep it from turning into another Dane County!
- Keep the Badger Land for county use.
- Learn from other communities in which "urban sprawl" and rapidly changing demographic have adversely affected the character and quality of life for all!
- Let farmers build without 35-acre minimum requirement set aside.
- Maintain the beauty of Sauk Co., forest, streams and rivers. No development on Wisconsin River, when it is gone, it is gone.
- Maintain the county's rurality character by researching and developing environmentally viable alternative energy resources.
- Manage growth. Control expansion of the larger cities with an eye on the environment. However, this should be balanced with the economic costs some of the environmental rules create.
- No subdivisions less than 500 acres and no individual housing less than 60 acres.

- Other projects that ruin the greatest thing that makes Sauk County woodlands, bluffs, lakes, rivers.
- Plan.
- Planned development/ slow down loss of farmland.
- Protect our farmland for food production from development; we have lost so much in the last 13 years there is less left to save and thus it is even more critical to do.
- Protect our natural environment and those citizens who live in the rural area by discouraging the development of quarries in places that will affect people's health and well-being.
- Protect the "family farm" - farmland preservation. Assist/guide farmers/landowners as to "land trust" opportunities.
- Protect the beauty of Sauk County - Great county to live in. We need to keep building of new houses to small area.
- Put more money into buying public land for promotion of conservation and enjoyment of all - expand county parks.
- Put policies and ordinances in place to guide (and in some cases, insist upon) a sustainable, more self-reliant future.
- Quit selling land or giving it to the Indians taking off tax roll.
- Regulate growth and development to maintain rural character, specifically along Hwy 12.
- Restrict cities, villages, from taking over townships and beautiful agricultural land for housing projects and other projects that ruin the greatest thing that makes Sauk County woodlands, bluffs, lakes, rivers.
- Restrict population growth.
- Stop farmers selling acres for people to build a city home in the country thus avoiding city taxes. This makes school's busing very costly. Soon we will have no 100-acre farms.
- Stop micro managing from the Planning and Zoning Departments.
- Take a leadership role in protecting wooded areas, forests and wetlands. Promote the idea that our forests and wetlands are just as valuable as our farmland. Comprehensive plans need ordinances to be effective.
- The influx of new residents and potential new industries driven by the accessibility to the area by Hwy 12 upgrade.
- With land preservation issues, I am concerned about the protection of landowner rights [unreadable] and green space natural land.

Economic Development and Employment (23 responses)

- Bring in some industry with decent paying jobs. As highway 12 is completed, we will become an even more bedroom community. Get some new industry to keep people in Baraboo and to generate revenue for the new facilities that will be needed.
- Create more jobs in the area - better paying so that people work here and not commute to Madison.
- Encourage business that will promote good, well paying job opportunities for workers who can then support programs for a healthy and an aging population.
- Encourage local small businesses.

- Encourage new businesses, including industrial - minimize the hassle when a new business is interested in locating in Sauk County. Example: Wal-Mart, Menards, etc. (As I understand, were almost lost due to unnecessary restrictions!)
- Expand job-training programs for dislocated workers.
- Healthier business climate to attract business development.
- I think we need to bring more restaurants (chains).
- Jobs that can support your family.
- Keep emphasizing, "keeping it local" and sustainable!
- Keep existing jobs and create more new jobs in Sauk County; to improve economy of not just own county but entire state.
- Keeping Sauk County attractive for both agriculture and tourist interests.
- Maintain and increase the economics. Continue to get more industrial development.
- Make sure jobs are available to our own citizens and not to aliens coming in to find work.
- More jobs.
- Promote local economy and agriculture.
- Promote small business and shops in rural areas.
- Recruit green technology industries to build here. Reedsburg has a beautiful tech park that is mostly empty. Bring new green tech companies here.
- Restore local downtown business buildings to draw people to want to come and view the historical aspects. More shops, less bars and coffee shops. Create establishments like bookstores with coffee, better restaurants, and entertainment.
- Support and sustain business and industry which will/may then attract others to follow.
- Try to attract businesses that higher hire educated, better-paid employees.
- When I came to Sauk Co. in the early 60's Baraboo was very aggressive toward development. Many factories of today came here in the 60's-70's. We need better paying jobs not more work.
- Work to create middle class jobs so wealth is not concentrated so densely in this country.

Transportation and Utility Infrastructure (19 responses)

- High speed internet in rural areas. (3x)
- Build more roads and get more gravel pits to keep the cost down.
- Build the Hwy 12 4-lane bypass (around Sauk Prairie) as soon as possible or sooner! It's crazy to put all that traffic on Phillips Blvd!
- Develop light rail to Madison.
- Develop more recreational trails.
- Have good roads.
- Hydrogen stations.
- Improve communication resources. i.e. Internet, make sure information is current and up to date for taxpayers to view.
- Keep up on road repair.
- Mass transit for commuting workers.
- Prepare/promote rails to trails in Prairie Du Sac/Sauk City.
- Public transportation.

- Reduce the number of and quality of WI Dells tourism signs. They are an eyesore, dangerous, and take away from the beauty of nature.
- Road maintenance and road signs to better allow tourists and residents to appreciate the uniqueness of this county.
- Solar energy options transportation - train options.
- Upgrade all communications.
- We would love to see 4-wheeler trails in Sauk County. We feel it would bring in extra revenues that are currently being spent outside the county.

Environment and Energy (14 responses)

- Go green. (2x)
- Alternative energy sources that are affordable to the average citizen. (Wind, solar) Also, mandate that municipalities must allow these systems to be installed. My village will allow a tower in my back yard for a small wind turbine.
- Be sustainable- be green- that is one thing will point to all the other ideas presented in this questionnaire-schools/health/arts/business/natural resources/recreation. If we work towards this, it will create a great quality of life for everyone, which goes hand in hand with our natural environment since we are also a part of that environment!
- Become more efficient in construction, manufacturing, agriculture, transportation, and energy with an eye always on the environment.
- Build windmills and hydroelectric dams. Encourage communal farming to help people feed themselves. Promote synthetic fuel (coal).
- Buy energy efficient cars and buy homes you can afford.
- Commit to protecting the environment.
- Encourage smaller energy-efficient houses and vehicles.
- Promote new energy sources.
- This generation is going to go down the road of energy and environment, lets start a road like that in Sauk County.
- Use windmills for energy.
- We should depend more on private companies for energy efficiency such as Cardinal Glass-solar and WI Power and Light-wind.
- Work on keeping all the lakes clean and usable within the county.

Government – general (14 responses)

- Decrease the number of County Board Supervisors.
- Elect competent officials that work for the people and not themselves or their friends!!
- Find ways of helping or benefiting all the people of the county. Not just the special interest groups - try to get the most bang for our buck.
- Get rid of all the layers of fat that a person has to go through to get a permit. County board should keep better tabs on all departments especially the Sheriff's Dept.
- Have all of our representatives use good old "common sense".

- Keep all people informed on what is going on. Maybe hold town meetings with Sauk County officials once a year.
- Keep government agencies in tune with private needs.
- Make town hall meeting and recaps of the meeting accessible to those who cannot attend.
- Reduce the number of elected representatives on Sauk County Board. They cannot get anything done with 20+ people.
- Start listening to people. Stop interfering. Stop giving people free rides. Stop buying land for said "conservation".
- There is too much bickering and lack of action on the county board.
- Unelected bodies should advise not decide.
- Use common sense - be careful of how rulings may control lives.
- Use existing departments in government. They already have plans for most of this, if not all.
- Work together with local, village and town officials to develop a county that strives to improve as a whole and adhere to individual municipalities' feedback and regulations, not county overrule these decisions.

Education (9 responses)

- Better planned English and grammar in schools.
- Educate our kids.
- Education - more technical training. Mentor programs with volunteers to help increase reading skills. More classes that emphasize responsible citizenship.
- "Education k-12. Level of education current received far less than previous generations.
- Elect an entirely new board of supervisors!
- Fix school funding. Our schools are cutting to the bare bones.
- Focus on education & making sure every student has a chance to get a higher education if desired.
- Promote education at all levels - K2, higher education, tech ed. and job training for unemployed.
- Support quality elementary and secondary education and library services for adults.

Healthcare (5 responses)

- Have affordable medical, dental, and vision care for all.
- Plan to enlarge the new health care center in Reedsburg. As the number of seniors increases, there will be need for more beds!
- Provide countywide health insurance plan that would be attractive and affordable for households and business and promote medical facilities in the county.
- Start putting money into health and the basic needs of people and the community so we can survive this crisis we are in!
- Support health care.

Emergency Planning and Management (4 responses)

- Come up with a County wide emergency disaster evacuation and rebuilding plan.
- Establish localized and area weather sirens instead of useless countywide sirens.
- Panic came to Spring Green in late July when severe and near tornadoes sent people for shelter to the middle school site (which was locked up), because they didn't know the new fire station on Hwy 23 had been designated for that emergency purpose. So yes, promote local information.
- Warn people about flooding - prepare for disasters, what would be the outcome when Lake Redstone Dam breaks? What about when Petenwell breaks? Prepare for the future - before it happens.

Public Safety (5 responses)

- County board should keep better tabs on all departments especially the Sheriff's Dept.
- Cut Sheriff's Department budget
- Figure out ways to stop the current unstoppable increased cost of wasted money the Sheriff Department is getting.
- Sauk County needs to maintain a strong police force in its pristine rural areas. Threats of illegal drug use and robberies are threatening our safety in this rural landscape.
- Take good care of our law enforcement, especially state patrol. They provide a service that we need.

Miscellaneous (30 responses)

- Affordable housing.
- Build a sense of community and a neighborly attitude. We can't move forward without each other.
- Do more to help the elderly stay in their homes.
- Do not try to recreate the past. The questions on this questionnaire can be misleading. An answer can mean one thing to the respondent; another to a county official.
- Get ready for the drugs and gang violence that are getting worse. Teach English and respect
- Have a bartering system with exchange of goods and services.
- Help people that need help. Government gives help to people that do not need it. I am disabled and cannot get any help. Please let the government know this. I lost my house and am living with my mother.
- I cannot think of anything at this time.
- I think Sauk County is working on it right now starting with this survey. Listen to people's ideas, suggestions and opinions.
- I would like to see more advanced ideas of programs and building sites (non-Sauk Co. development?), buildings of private sector for baby boomers (next 15-20 yr) of for helping general population to stay in their homes longer programs perhaps incentives for nursing students at Reedsburg MATC??? etc. Promote Sauk Co. Perhaps build near schools for elderly seeing youth playing instead of corn fields! Across Hwy 23 S ideal place on hill near high school (Reedsburg area).

- Listen to locals. They know what is going on in their neighborhoods.
- Mandate Hispanics to learn English within a time period.
- Please remember, we live in a land of plenty and even without having many extras, Sauk County will still be a beautiful place to live and visit.
- Promote personal responsibility. i.e. Get a job and take responsibility for your life. The goals in this survey are all admirable. The question is - the amount of resources to be used (taxes).
- Protect residents from "bully" corporations, like Cardinal Glass in Spring Green; Cardinal has been a serious polluter.
- Provide a moral climate for future children. No hospital, etc. abortions of any kind. Fairness to fathers of broken homes, there is none current.
- Remember you are working with many low income people.
- Reedsburg needs a roller-skating and or skateboard park. Also, a dance club and more activities for youth.
- Volunteer community projects of repair/development (with simple "picnic" meals provided and/or volunteer provided) - "picnic potluck" meals.
- Send illegal aliens home!
- Start planning for Rick and Becky Demar's retirement party. Expect invite!
- Strengthening the knowledge of the differences between a "need" and a "want" on all levels, and perhaps distinguishing how much is enough.
- Take care of our low income and homeless people.
- Thank you for letting me fill out this survey. I tried to answer questions toward resources available.
- That is a hard question in these times. Our sense of entitlement is in the process of decline. This does rule out many financial incentives. Call it education, or just simply getting more information out to the people. Example: Teaching people the necessity of recycling and how to recycle.
- Think of the small people in this county too.
- Too late for this - should have had a plan in place before we opened our arms to all the non-English speaking population to come live in Sauk County. I would like to know how they are able to drive in this country, and need all the "free" help with everything else to be able to live here.
- Treat everyone equal.
- Use every possible form of media to make the public aware.
- What is the difference of having a burning barrel to burn papers or a back yard campfire? The smoke from campfires comes into the neighbors homes! If burning barrels are not allowed, campfires should not be allowed either!

Appendix B2 –Sauk County Comprehensive Plan Survey Comments – County Board of Supervisors

Question 17. *What is one thing Sauk County should do to prepare for the future?*
(16 comments)

Economic Development and Jobs (3 responses)

- Economic development.
- Work on Sauk County being more sustainable, helping farms and growers and sell more of their products locally. Encourage CSA's. Help farmers improve farm prices so they can earn a "living wage". Work toward encouraging businesses that pay higher wages and educate our children for these jobs.
- Pass the livestock siting law to promote progressive agriculture.

Taxes and Spending (3 responses)

- Reduce the current size, number of current employees, of county government, while maintaining those services that are necessary here.
- The county does not have the resources to maintain county services at the present level. How can we promote so many spending programs in the comprehensive plan?
- Stop spending such a huge part of local tax dollars for law enforcement.

Government – general (2 responses)

- We need to definitely have a new county chairman - we need honesty. One who pays his bills, obeys the law when ordered to appear in court, does not put himself above the law, and has hurt his family by the things he has done.
- Make our staff more accountable.

Growth and Land Use (2 responses)

- Farmland preservation/working farms.
- Save and protect Sauk County public owned lands.

Transportation and Utility Infrastructure (2 responses)

- Finish Hwy 12. Control corporate farms.
- Work on developing an adequate rail system for both passenger and shipping.

Healthcare (1 response)

- Control Health Care cost and caring for the elderly and disabled. Develop a transportation system throughout all of Sauk County.

Education (1 response)

- Change the public education system to prepare youth for a very changing world and the skills that will be (and already are) necessary for economic success. Kids who can't spell or add will not be productive contributors to a new world.

Miscellaneous (1 response)

- Identify the resources and assets that make Sauk County unique, productive, attractive and its residents proud - then be sure to maintain, protect and preserve for generations to follow!

Appendix B3 –Sauk County Comprehensive Plan Survey Comments – Local Officials

Question 17. *What is one thing Sauk County should do to prepare for the future?*
(107 comments)

Taxes and Spending (26 responses)

- Cut government spending. (4x)
- Lower taxes. (3x)
- Be fiscally responsible. (2x)
- Be socially and fiscally conservative.
- Become a smaller government and let the local government do their job.
- Before leaping to develop new programs and expand existing programs, make sure that there is control and oversight to prohibit wasting money on programs that should be done by other entities.
- Control spending, while providing essential services not easily provided by the private sector.
- Establish a "rainy day fund" that would draw interest and help sustain county operations, especially during hard times.
- Figure out what fraud waste and abuse of taxpayer money means AND put a stop to county workers doing the fraud, waste and abuse.
- Learn to control spending. Everything in this survey is costly. You need to spend what is necessary and not what your dreams are. You are trying to do too much and spend too much.
- Many of the things previously mentioned are important, however, not things that county government should be involved with or spending money on. Let the private sector do its part.
- Need to drastically reduce spending on law enforcement and use creative alternatives to incarceration. The budget of the Sauk County Sheriff's Department has been increasing at an unsustainable rate. The county board has shown no leadership in reining in the sheriff, and instead have given him trump status. This needs to end. You will never be able to pursue any of the goals outlined in this survey while such a large percentage of the county's budget is being allocated to one department that produces no economic benefits.
- Non-profit and government land holdings taking our tax base away.
- Prioritize County spending/resources on improving the economic and environmental sustainability of development. Particularly by reducing rural and leap frog development.
- Reduce energy use in county and reduce reliance on out-of-county sources of energy.
- Smaller government.
- Start with reduced property taxes on all agricultural land.
- Stop spending money on migrants for healthcare, education, etc.
- Stop spending money on programs that only benefit a few residents.
- Use common sense government. Not as much as you can spend government.

Government – general (20 responses)

- Better communication with cities/villages (2x)
- Be more consistent in rulings in the same department of government.
- Better enforcement of all restrictions and rules. Better support of towns regarding the above. All the rules in the world are of little use if strong enforcement is not in place Sauk County is too lax and lacks follow-up.
- Clean up the unethical dealings within the county board and county departments.
- Close pod A! If every supervisor were half as wise, caring, thoughtful, responsible, proactive, intelligent and ethical as Tom Kriegel, what a wonderful world this would be! Mr. Kriegel is one of the finest citizens and representatives in our midst and we are all indebted to his vision efforts and work.
- Do all they can to not instill rules that have no common sense behind them. Also, take the lawyers out of every decision that has to be made.
- Encourage government consolidation.
- Have a knowledgeable county board.
- Have a more interactive board with the constituents that elect them. They would get a better perspective to prepare.
- Hold Sauk County Board meetings at a time when younger people can and are able to attend the board meetings.
- Keep the PC crowd out of government and get people with common sense and experience on all boards!
- Less government control. Let the free and open market work.
- Look to get younger representation on County Board.
- Many of these objectives in the survey belong to the private sector and the county should direct these survey results to those groups.
- Promote communications between different governmental bodies to help Sauk County move in a unified manner. To get more consistency of ideas about where we are headed.
- Reduce the number of county board members and implement term limits.
- Reduce the number of people serving on the county board.
- Sauk County should focus on administrative, infrastructure, and zoning functions.
- Strong, well informed, involved educated local units of government. This will promote the ideals I would like to see and not be dictated from state government.

Growth and Land Use (20 responses)

- Create more parkland. Outdoor activities are becoming more and more difficult to do for those on middle and low incomes. Due to land fragmentation and high cost of land, hunting is becoming a sport only for the affluent.
- Discontinue development on land zoned exclusive agricultural.
- Help provide for orderly growth of residential and business and to develop policies to protect existing agricultural farmland.

- I feel Sauk Co. should work more with local entities with their own comp. plans and follow their wishes as to their comp. plans. Not try to override the local town comp plans - (more communication). I also feel the buying of development rights should be stopped as I foresee too many problems in the future with these purchases and possible new owner legal issues.
- Keep Sauk County agricultural, rural and natural.
- Logical city planning-stop the central town and village decline.
- Loosen up on all the building restrictions. Sauk County is making it impossible to get things done without spending too much money on permits and approvals. All the plans and ordinances are causing people to move elsewhere.
- Maintain and protect its unique rural character and environment. Protect natural sites from over development and misuse.
- Plan.
- Present towns without any zoning or very weak zoning to continue to develop the rural countryside completely uncontrolled.
- Preserve farm land and open spaces
- Preserve farm land while developing business centers.
- Promote urban density/redevelopment as opposed to urban sprawl.
- Property rights should be protected as future development occurs. The quest for material beauty should not be [unreadable] property rights.
- Slow down on planning and zoning. They do not know all the rules. Some regulations not good, the people who do things right usually get screwed over.
- Smart growth and efficient effective land use/conservation.
- Stop development of our wild places i.e. Baraboo Range and what us left of our beautiful countryside. i.e. Larger tracts for house building like 80 acres instead of 35 acres.
- Strong zoning regulations to protect natural beauty, environmental quality and rural character.
- Town of Washington has retail signs at the ends of most driveways. These signs and business should be centrally located all in one restricted area.
- We do not want to become Middleton!

Economic Development and Jobs (14 responses)

- Attract companies/good paying jobs!
- Bring good paying, green companies that are sustainable long term.
- Encourage employees to start and expand current business with tax incentives and pride factors (Made in Sauk County of the USA). Like to be the start of getting stuff made here and not in China. Hold people not working accountable, service days and rewards for performance.
- Get large companies to move to Sauk County and employ people.
- Get someone in Reedsburg that is pro-business (revenue).
- Industry-Tech offices to provide employment.
- Keep jobs and high paying jobs.
- Keep manufacturers and businesses in the community to keep jobs here for the people.
- Promote business.

- Recognize the plight of farmers and do everything possible to maintain the food supply needed for all.
- Small business growth.
- Solicit businesses into the county that will provide jobs that pay employees a wage that will support them and their families. Good jobs are needed in this county.
- Promote creation of new jobs and stabilization of existing jobs.
- We must sustain agriculture.

Transportation and Utility Infrastructure (8 responses)

- Encourage use of a rail system.
- Ensure Wi-Fi coverage in all rural parts of county through public-private partnership.
- Get good internet access for everybody.
- Make high-speed internet available to all at an affordable price. The country folks are at a huge disadvantage here. Farmers are using the internet for more of their operations and have great difficulty communicating with the rest of the world. Dial-up is too slow and cannot support large files.
- Keep up with changing times new technology.
- This is one of the questions on your survey. We need to identify where we are going to have our mineral extraction come from. We need to do this in advance of NEED!
- Turn Badger Ammunition into offroad vehicle park (revenue).
- Upgrade town road engineering standards to meet the needs of a changing agricultural business.

Environment and Energy (6 responses)

- Renewable energy. (2x)
- Get more information out to the public that wind generator towers cost more money than they generate.
- Green energy.
- Make it less expensive and more convenient to recycle and educate people on sustainable life styles.
- Protect water resources from agricultural pesticides, herbicides and by products such as manure disposal. This is a long-term survival issue requiring action now!

Healthcare (5 responses)

- Be a leader in health care.
- Be prepared for Meth.
- I think the Family Care Program makes resources more easily available to seniors. Would like to see it in Sauk County.
- Increased opportunities for employment and healthcare for our aging population.
- Nursing homes, health care initiatives, etc. are handled by private sector more efficiently and effectively than by government bodies.

Education (2 responses)

- Need to find new ways to come up with money to spend on schools!
- Provide incentives to K2 school districts to move from the model of a production line to integrating technologies without grades...educators are doing the wrong things right-real change is needed.

Emergency Planning and Management (2 responses)

- Have a solid plan to deal with natural and man made emergencies.
- I believe that should be a county (or statewide) attempt to prevent future flooding from the Baraboo River. I believe retention ponds should be used; either acquired or leased from properties where water flows heavily during rains. (Valleys in farm or other rural areas could be used.) (Again purchased or leased.) Also, this could be funded through the state stewardship fund? Money and property would be saved. Also, people would benefit in long term. Maybe lives could be saved.

Miscellaneous (4 responses)

- Establish and maintain communications and relations with faith based groups to ensure access to facilities and promote the importance of faith-based groups in our communities.
- Low income housing given the current economy.
- Move forward slowly. Do not let big money and talk take over common sense.
- Think of how to create a new and better tomorrow for living a meaningful life in a world of change, using this survey as a tool not an excuse.

Appendix C1 - Quantitative Summary of Responses by Question – Public

Sauk County Comprehensive Plan Survey – 2009 – Residents

Sauk County is committed to developing a comprehensive plan for land use that takes into consideration the existing infrastructure, business, agricultural, and recreational attributes of the County. Throughout the survey, you will find actions to consider for each section: economy, agriculture and natural resources, transportation, education, arts and innovation, quality of life, and government. We ask that you provide your level of agreement with each action item. Keep in mind that each action will likely require resources (money, time, materials) from somewhere (taxes, grants, donations) to be implemented, and **due to limited resources, not all of these actions can be implemented.**

Sauk County Economy

1. One of Sauk County's goals is to have financially self-sufficient individuals and families. Please indicate your level of agreement with each of the following actions. Resources should be used to:

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	No Opinion
a. Develop programs to help individuals more effectively manage their finances.	14%	44%	22%	11%	9%
b. Expand job-training programs for current and dislocated workers that will enable them to compete in a globally competitive economy.	22%	56%	10%	6%	6%
c. Develop programs to remove barriers to employment (i.e. transportation, day care and educational issues).	17%	45%	21%	7%	9%
d. Identify more affordable and accessible health care options.	40%	39%	10%	6%	4%
e. Expand communications between local schools and the business community regarding skills graduates need.	33%	50%	6%	4%	7%

2. A goal of Sauk County is to have a diversified and non-depleting (sustainable) economy. Please indicate your level of agreement with each of the following actions. Resources should be used to:

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	No Opinion
a. Support local business start-ups.	25%	55%	10%	2%	7%
b. Support the expansion of existing businesses into new markets.	18%	53%	17%	3%	9%
c. Develop collaborations with local and regional organizations to promote the Sauk County region.	22%	55%	10%	3%	10%
d. Promote and support the development of environmentally focused businesses/manufacturers.	24%	49%	15%	5%	8%
e. Research and identify the mix of businesses where Sauk County has a competitive advantage.	19%	51%	13%	3%	14%
f. Improve utility and transportation infrastructure (i.e. high-speed internet, freight rail, highway, and energy).	26%	48%	15%	4%	8%
g. Attract/create employers that offer high wage jobs.	33%	49%	9%	3%	7%

3. A goal of Sauk County is to have widely available, affordable, locally produced and environmentally sensitive energy source(s). Please indicate your level of agreement with each of the following actions. Resources should be used to:

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	No Opinion
a. Establish partnerships among units of government, non-profit organizations, businesses and community residents to identify and implement energy conservation strategies.	24%	53%	10%	5%	7%
b. Develop local, clean, renewable, affordable energy production sources.	33%	51%	9%	4%	3%
c. Access and promote financial incentives for energy conservation and developing renewable energy sources.	30%	49%	12%	4%	6%

SAUK COUNTY AGRICULTURE AND NATURAL RESOURCES

4. A goal of Sauk County is to have viable agriculture in terms of its environmental impacts, social benefits and economic return. Please indicate your level of agreement with each of the following actions. Resources should be used to:

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	No Opinion
a. Establish a local food system that emphasizes the production of food that is sold within the southern Wisconsin region.	25%	49%	13%	3%	10%
b. Develop a multi-county agricultural tourism program that enhances direct farmer to consumer marketing.	22%	49%	12%	4%	13%
c. Develop a multi-county communication strategy to raise the community's understanding of the role of agriculture in individual counties and the larger region.	17%	46%	19%	4%	15%
d. Develop programs to maintain agriculture as a key component of the local economy.	28%	52%	9%	2%	9%
e. Develop programs and policies to work with agricultural producers to protect the natural environment.	29%	51%	10%	3%	6%
f. Support programs for new farmers.	29%	49%	10%	3%	8%
g. Establish programs to minimize forest fragmentation, reestablish forested areas and explore techniques that would allow fragmented forests to retain a larger portion of their original ecological, economic, and social values.	28%	42%	12%	6%	12%
h. Expand the community's understanding of the economic, ecologic and social impacts of forests.	22%	42%	17%	5%	13%
i. Develop initiatives to maintain and protect threatened forests with cultural, ecological and economic significance.	25%	44%	16%	5%	10%
j. Expand urban forestry programs.	17%	40%	22%	5%	17%

5. A goal of Sauk County is to make sure residential and commercial development is carefully managed and agricultural/natural resources are protected. Please indicate your level of agreement with each of the following actions. Resources should be used to:

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	No Opinion
a. Get agreements between cities/villages and surrounding towns that <u>allow for orderly growth & development.</u>	26%	55%	10%	4%	6%
b. Develop agreements between cities/villages and surrounding towns to <u>maintain the county's rural character.</u>	31%	48%	11%	4%	7%
c. Identify and protect rural and municipal water resources by regulating the types of land uses and management practices that can occur in well recharge areas.	31%	48%	10%	4%	7%
d. Develop programs that permanently preserve open space and agricultural lands.	32%	44%	13%	5%	6%
e. Expand Sauk County's capacity to provide growth management, design services, stormwater and construction site management to local units of government.	13%	47%	17%	6%	16%
f. Identify appropriate locations for mineral extraction sites (including quarries) based on inventory of recoverable resources, estimated future local need, and local policy directives.	13%	52%	14%	6%	16%

6. A goal of Sauk County is to make sure that open space and rural character are acknowledged and protected as important community resources. Please indicate your level of agreement with each of the following actions. Resources should be used to:

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	No Opinion
a. Create regional green space programs that preserve permanent regional connections of open space, historic landscapes, environmentally sensitive areas, waterways and low-impact recreational lands.	30%	44%	12%	5%	9%
b. Develop and apply development standards that protect the environment and promote the sustainable use of natural resources.	27%	50%	9%	4%	9%

SAUK COUNTY TRANSPORTATION

7. A goal of Sauk County is to make sure that people and goods are transported safely, efficiently and effectively. Please indicate your level of agreement with each of the following actions. Resources should be used to:

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	No Opinion
a. Develop and implement a cost-effective Sauk County transportation system that serves pedestrian, bicycle, auto/truck/bus, rail and air traffic.	21%	47%	17%	5%	9%
b. Develop policies to encourage increased passengers per vehicle in all modes of motorized transportation (e.g. currently at 1.1 people per car for Sauk County to Madison commuters).	16%	39%	24%	8%	12%
c. Promote mix-mode transportation hubs (e.g. rail, roads, pedestrian) in existing cities/villages in Sauk County.	14%	42%	21%	8%	15%

8. A goal of Sauk County is to make sure that critical transportation infrastructure and systems are well-maintained. Please indicate your level of agreement with each of the following actions. Resources should be used to:

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	No Opinion
a. Ensure that local supplies of construction aggregates (e.g. sand, gravel and rock) are available for local projects.	21%	60%	8%	3%	8%
b. Plan and construct infrastructure replacement and maintenance based upon total life cycle cost, including costs of extraction, processing, removal, recycling and ultimate disposal of materials and resources utilized.	17%	58%	8%	3%	15%
c. Capture available state, federal, and private funding for transportation projects.	37%	50%	5%	2%	6%

9. A goal of Sauk County is to fully realize the environmental, social, and economic benefits from the expansion of the U.S. Highway 12 corridor (Sauk City to Lake Delton). Please indicate the level of agreement with each of the following actions. Resources should be used to:

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	No Opinion
a. Promote U.S. Highway 12 as the “Gateway to Sauk County” (emphasizing the county’s natural beauty, agriculture, economy, communities, and outdoor recreation).	18%	47%	16%	7%	11%
b. Develop regulations and programs for the orderly development of the existing <u>Highway 12 corridor</u> .	20%	51%	12%	6%	10%
c. Develop regulations and programs for the orderly development of the <u>new Highway 12 by-pass</u> .	21%	45%	17%	8%	12%

SAUK COUNTY EDUCATION, ARTS, AND INNOVATION

10. A goal of Sauk County is to make sure that communities are meeting the demands for educational, facility, and programmatic funding for K-12 and higher education. Please indicate the level of agreement with each of the following actions. Resources should be used to:

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	No Opinion
a. Create an educational advisory committee to identify strategies for educational funding, programmatic needs and preparedness for new, unpredictable challenges.	14%	36%	28%	7%	15%
b. Identify community assets available to attract and retain top-level educators and administrators.	17%	49%	18%	6%	10%
c. Research and communicate the value of higher education (post high school) for community, economic and social development.	18%	47%	17%	6%	12%

11. A goal of Sauk County is to support and promote the visual and performance arts, humanities, and historic preservation as an important part of community life. Please indicate the level of agreement with each of the following actions. Resources should be used to:

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	No Opinion
a. Maintain arts and culture funding and programming.	9%	37%	28%	8%	18%
b. Develop scholarships and grants for projects that are unique and benefit the entire community.	12%	51%	20%	6%	11%
c. Recognize and promote a diversity of artistic expression and the endeavors of artists.	7%	32%	30%	11%	20%
d. Provide mentorship/encouragement to young and emerging artists/writers.	8%	38%	27%	8%	19%
e. Promote economic development by encouraging the arts, humanities, and historic preservation.	9%	45%	22%	7%	16%

SAUK COUNTY QUALITY OF LIFE

12. A goal of Sauk County is to make Sauk County a healthy place to live for its citizens. Please indicate the level of agreement with each of the following actions. Resources should be used to:

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	No Opinion
a. Identify, prioritize, and address health issues that affect the overall well-being of county residents.	30%	54%	6%	4%	6%
b. Develop strategies to ensure an adequate supply of health care workers in Sauk County.	30%	56%	7%	3%	4%
c. Promote healthier lifestyles.	29%	50%	10%	4%	7%

13. A goal of Sauk County is to have critical community services available for a diverse population. Please indicate the level of agreement with each of the following actions. Resources should be used to:

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	No Opinion
a. Collaborate with private, public, and charitable organizations to develop health care services to meet needs of Sauk County's population.	20%	62%	7%	4%	6%
b. Adapt current programs and processes to better serve non-English speaking populations.	6%	26%	32%	25%	11%

14. A goal of Sauk County is to have well-planned, quality housing. Please indicate the level of agreement with each of the following actions. Resources should be used to:

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	No Opinion
a. Encourage the development of affordable housing for mixed populations (i.e., age, economic status, marital status, owned and rental, single and multi-family units) that is sustainable and consistent with local comprehensive plans.	13%	50%	18%	9%	10%
b. Encourage and promote <u>locally produced building materials.</u>	18%	59%	9%	3%	10%
c. Encourage and promote <u>energy efficient housing and alternative heating and power generation.</u>	32%	55%	6%	2%	5%
d. Facilitate collaboration among municipalities to enhance support for housing and services provided to part-time and seasonal-workers.	8%	30%	31%	12%	20%
e. Encourage the development of mixed-use buildings that combine housing, retail, and professional space.	9%	40%	21%	7%	23%

SAUK COUNTY GOVERNMENT

15. A goal of Sauk County is to have coordinated and consistent intergovernmental policies and practices. Please indicate the level of agreement with each of the following actions. Resources should be used to:

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	No Opinion
a. Better inform the public about local government processes and activities.	25%	56%	8%	2%	8%
b. Create opportunities for additional interaction (i.e. feedback) between the public and government.	25%	52%	10%	2%	12%
c. Identify where jurisdictions overlap and interact, and establish a process to address inconsistencies and conflicts.	23%	54%	6%	2%	15%

16. A goal of Sauk County is to have information exchanged and communicated to the public and between governments during natural disasters and rare occurrences. Please indicate the level of agreement with each of the following strategy. Resources should be used to:

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	No Opinion
a. Lead, oversee and provide training to local units of government for all emergency management planning and operations.	24%	59%	8%	2%	6%
b. Develop information and mapping resources to restrict developments in areas prone to disasters (e.g. flooding, fire, waste disposal sites).	32%	54%	6%	3%	5%

17. What is one thing Sauk County should do to prepare for the future?

See Appendix B1

DEMOGRAPHICS

Please tell us some things about yourself: Please choose only one answer per question

18. Gender	Male 55%	Female 45%				
19. Age	18 – 24 0%	25 – 34 4%	35 – 44 12%	45 – 54 24%	55 – 64 31%	65+ 28%
20. Highest Level of Education	Less than high school 3%	High school diploma 24%	Some college/tech 29%	Tech college graduate 13%	Bachelor's degree 19%	Graduate or professional degree 12%
21. Do you live within city or village limits?	Yes 41%	No 59%				
22. How long have you lived in Sauk County?	Less than 5 years 8%	5 to 10 years 7%	11 – 20 years 16%	21 – 30 years 12%	31+ years 48%	Not applicable (seasonal/part- time resident) 9%

Thank you for completing the survey! Your survey responses are anonymous and will be reported in group form only.

Appendix C2 - Quantitative Summary of Responses by Question – County Board of Supervisors

Sauk County Comprehensive Plan Survey – 2009 – Board of Supervisors

Sauk County is committed to developing a comprehensive plan for land use that takes into consideration the existing infrastructure, business, agricultural, and recreational attributes of the County. Throughout the survey, you will find actions to consider for each section: economy, agriculture and natural resources, transportation, education, arts and innovation, quality of life, and government. We ask that you provide your level of agreement with each action item. Keep in mind that each action will likely require resources (money, time, materials) from somewhere (taxes, grants, donations) to be implemented, and **due to limited resources, not all of these actions can be implemented.**

Sauk County Economy

1. One of Sauk County's goals is to have financially self-sufficient individuals and families. Please indicate your level of agreement with each of the following actions. Resources should be used to:

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	No Opinion
a. Develop programs to help individuals more effectively manage their finances.	20%	32%	36%	8%	4%
b. Expand job-training programs for current and dislocated workers that will enable them to compete in a globally competitive economy.	32%	40%	24%	4%	0%
c. Develop programs to remove barriers to employment (i.e. transportation, day care and educational issues).	21%	42%	29%	8%	0%
d. Identify more affordable and accessible health care options.	25%	46%	25%	0%	4%
e. Expand communications between local schools and the business community regarding skills graduates need.	42%	46%	13%	0%	0%

2. A goal of Sauk County is to have a diversified and non-depleting (sustainable) economy. Please indicate your level of agreement with each of the following actions. Resources should be used to:

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	No Opinion
a. Support local business start-ups.	32%	44%	24%	0%	0%
b. Support the expansion of existing businesses into new markets.	28%	40%	32%	0%	0%
c. Develop collaborations with local and regional organizations to promote the Sauk County region.	33%	54%	8%	4%	0%
d. Promote and support the development of environmentally focused businesses/manufacturers.	28%	44%	24%	4%	0%
e. Research and identify the mix of businesses where Sauk County has a competitive advantage.	29%	54%	13%	4%	0%
f. Improve utility and transportation infrastructure (i.e. high-speed internet, freight rail, highway, and energy).	52%	40%	8%	0%	0%
g. Attract/create employers that offer high wage jobs.	38%	46%	8%	4%	4%

3. A goal of Sauk County is to have widely available, affordable, locally produced and environmentally sensitive energy source(s). Please indicate your level of agreement with each of the following actions. Resources should be used to:

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	No Opinion
a. Establish partnerships among units of government, non-profit organizations, businesses and community residents to identify and implement energy conservation strategies.	42%	38%	21%	0%	0%
b. Develop local, clean, renewable, affordable energy production sources.	42%	38%	21%	0%	0%
c. Access and promote financial incentives for energy conservation and developing renewable energy sources.	38%	50%	13%	0%	0%

SAUK COUNTY AGRICULTURE AND NATURAL RESOURCES

4. A goal of Sauk County is to have viable agriculture in terms of its environmental impacts, social benefits and economic return. Please indicate your level of agreement with each of the following actions. Resources should be used to:

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	No Opinion
a. Establish a local food system that emphasizes the production of food that is sold within the southern Wisconsin region.	43%	39%	13%	4%	0%
b. Develop a multi-county agricultural tourism program that enhances direct farmer to consumer marketing.	38%	38%	25%	0%	0%
c. Develop a multi-county communication strategy to raise the community's understanding of the role of agriculture in individual counties and the larger region.	43%	35%	17%	4%	0%
d. Develop programs to maintain agriculture as a key component of the local economy.	50%	33%	17%	0%	0%
e. Develop programs and policies to work with agricultural producers to protect the natural environment.	46%	46%	8%	0%	0%
f. Support programs for new farmers.	38%	38%	21%	4%	0%
g. Establish programs to minimize forest fragmentation, reestablish forested areas and explore techniques that would allow fragmented forests to retain a larger portion of their original ecological, economic, and social values.	46%	38%	13%	4%	0%
h. Expand the community's understanding of the economic, ecologic and social impacts of forests.	38%	46%	13%	4%	0%
i. Develop initiatives to maintain and protect threatened forests with cultural, ecological and economic significance.	33%	46%	17%	4%	0%
j. Expand urban forestry programs.	33%	29%	29%	4%	4%

5. A goal of Sauk County is to make sure residential and commercial development is carefully managed and agricultural/natural resources are protected. Please indicate your level of agreement with each of the following actions. Resources should be used to:

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	No Opinion
a. Get agreements between cities/villages and surrounding towns that <u>allow for orderly growth & development.</u>	50%	42%	8%	0%	0%
b. Develop agreements between cities/villages and surrounding towns to <u>maintain the county's rural character.</u>	33%	38%	29%	0%	0%
c. Identify and protect rural and municipal water resources by regulating the types of land uses and management practices that can occur in well recharge areas.	40%	48%	12%	0%	0%
d. Develop programs that permanently preserve open space and agricultural lands.	42%	21%	21%	17%	0%
e. Expand Sauk County's capacity to provide growth management, design services, stormwater and construction site management to local units of government.	28%	32%	36%	4%	0%
f. Identify appropriate locations for mineral extraction sites (including quarries) based on inventory of recoverable resources, estimated future local need, and local policy directives.	58%	29%	8%	4%	0%

6. A goal of Sauk County is to make sure that open space and rural character are acknowledged and protected as important community resources. Please indicate your level of agreement with each of the following actions. Resources should be used to:

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	No Opinion
a. Create regional green space programs that preserve permanent regional connections of open space, historic landscapes, environmentally sensitive areas, waterways and low-impact recreational lands.	33%	33%	21%	8%	4%
b. Develop and apply development standards that protect the environment and promote the sustainable use of natural resources.	42%	33%	21%	4%	0%

SAUK COUNTY TRANSPORTATION

7. A goal of Sauk County is to make sure that people and goods are transported safely, efficiently and effectively. Please indicate your level of agreement with each of the following actions. Resources should be used to:

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	No Opinion
a. Develop and implement a cost-effective Sauk County transportation system that serves pedestrian, bicycle, auto/truck/bus, rail and air traffic.	33%	54%	8%	4%	0%
b. Develop policies to encourage increased passengers per vehicle in all modes of motorized transportation (e.g. currently at 1.1 people per car for Sauk County to Madison commuters).	42%	38%	17%	4%	0%
c. Promote mix-mode transportation hubs (e.g. rail, roads, pedestrian) in existing cities/villages in Sauk County.	33%	42%	21%	4%	0%

8. A goal of Sauk County is to make sure that critical transportation infrastructure and systems are well-maintained. Please indicate your level of agreement with each of the following actions. Resources should be used to:

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	No Opinion
a. Ensure that local supplies of construction aggregates (e.g. sand, gravel and rock) are available for local projects.	58%	29%	4%	0%	8%
b. Plan and construct infrastructure replacement and maintenance based upon total life cycle cost, including costs of extraction, processing, removal, recycling and ultimate disposal of materials and resources utilized.	54%	46%	0%	0%	0%
c. Capture available state, federal, and private funding for transportation projects.	75%	25%	0%	0%	0%

9. A goal of Sauk County is to fully realize the environmental, social, and economic benefits from the expansion of the U.S. Highway 12 corridor (Sauk City to Lake Delton). Please indicate the level of agreement with each of the following actions. Resources should be used to:

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	No Opinion
a. Promote U.S. Highway 12 as the “Gateway to Sauk County” (emphasizing the county’s natural beauty, agriculture, economy, communities, and outdoor recreation).	50%	25%	21%	4%	0%
b. Develop regulations and programs for the orderly development of the existing <u>Highway 12 corridor</u> .	38%	38%	21%	4%	0%
c. Develop regulations and programs for the orderly development of the <u>new Highway 12 by-pass</u> .	33%	38%	21%	8%	0%

SAUK COUNTY EDUCATION, ARTS, AND INNOVATION

10. A goal of Sauk County is to make sure that communities are meeting the demands for educational, facility, and programmatic funding for K-12 and higher education. Please indicate the level of agreement with each of the following actions. Resources should be used to:

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	No Opinion
a. Create an educational advisory committee to identify strategies for educational funding, programmatic needs and preparedness for new, unpredictable challenges.	33%	38%	21%	8%	0%
b. Identify community assets available to attract and retain top-level educators and administrators.	29%	58%	13%	0%	0%
c. Research and communicate the value of higher education (post high school) for community, economic and social development.	33%	50%	13%	4%	0%

11. A goal of Sauk County is to support and promote the visual and performance arts, humanities, and historic preservation as an important part of community life. Please indicate the level of agreement with each of the following actions. Resources should be used to:

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	No Opinion
a. Maintain arts and culture funding and programming.	50%	33%	13%	4%	0%
b. Develop scholarships and grants for projects that are unique and benefit the entire community.	33%	46%	17%	4%	0%
c. Recognize and promote a diversity of artistic expression and the endeavors of artists.	29%	54%	13%	4%	0%
d. Provide mentorship/encouragement to young and emerging artists/writers.	33%	38%	13%	13%	4%
e. Promote economic development by encouraging the arts, humanities, and historic preservation.	46%	42%	4%	4%	4%

SAUK COUNTY QUALITY OF LIFE

12. A goal of Sauk County is to make Sauk County a healthy place to live for its citizens. Please indicate the level of agreement with each of the following actions. Resources should be used to:

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	No Opinion
a. Identify, prioritize, and address health issues that affect the overall well-being of county residents.	42%	50%	8%	0%	0%
b. Develop strategies to ensure an adequate supply of health care workers in Sauk County.	50%	38%	13%	0%	0%
c. Promote healthier lifestyles.	33%	54%	8%	4%	0%

13. A goal of Sauk County is to have critical community services available for a diverse population. Please indicate the level of agreement with each of the following actions. Resources should be used to:

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	No Opinion
a. Collaborate with private, public, and charitable organizations to develop health care services to meet needs of Sauk County's population.	50%	42%	4%	4%	0%
b. Adapt current programs and processes to better serve non-English speaking populations.	29%	33%	21%	17%	0%

14. A goal of Sauk County is to have well-planned, quality housing. Please indicate the level of agreement with each of the following actions. Resources should be used to:

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	No Opinion
a. Encourage the development of affordable housing for mixed populations (i.e., age, economic status, marital status, owned and rental, single and multi-family units) that is sustainable and consistent with local comprehensive plans.	27%	50%	9%	9%	5%
b. Encourage and promote <u>locally produced building materials</u> .	35%	43%	22%	0%	0%
c. Encourage and promote <u>energy efficient housing and alternative heating and power generation</u> .	48%	52%	0%	0%	0%
d. Facilitate collaboration among municipalities to enhance support for housing and services provided to part-time and seasonal-workers.	30%	30%	22%	4%	13%
e. Encourage the development of mixed-use buildings that combine housing, retail, and professional space.	23%	45%	23%	9%	0%

SAUK COUNTY GOVERNMENT

15. A goal of Sauk County is to have coordinated and consistent intergovernmental policies and practices. Please indicate the level of agreement with each of the following actions. Resources should be used to:

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	No Opinion
a. Better inform the public about local government processes and activities.	30%	65%	0%	4%	0%
b. Create opportunities for additional interaction (i.e. feedback) between the public and government.	35%	57%	9%	0%	0%
c. Identify where jurisdictions overlap and interact, and establish a process to address inconsistencies and conflicts.	35%	65%	0%	0%	0%

16. A goal of Sauk County is to have information exchanged and communicated to the public and between governments during natural disasters and rare occurrences. Please indicate the level of agreement with each of the following strategy. Resources should be used to:

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	No Opinion
a. Lead, oversee and provide training to local units of government for all emergency management planning and operations.	57%	30%	4%	4%	4%
b. Develop information and mapping resources to restrict developments in areas prone to disasters (e.g. flooding, fire, waste disposal sites).	65%	35%	0%	0%	0%

17. What is one thing Sauk County should do to prepare for the future?

See Appendix B2

Demographics Please tell us some things about yourself: Please choose only one answer per question.

18. Gender	Male 71%	Female 29%				
19. Age	18 – 24 0%	25 – 34 0%	35 – 44 4%	45 – 54 4%	55 – 64 33%	65+ 58%
20. Highest Level of Education	Less than high school 0%	High school diploma 22%	Some college/tech 17%	Tech college graduate 0%	Bachelor's degree 30%	Graduate or professional degree 30%
21. Do you live within city or village limits?	Yes 50%	No 50%				
22. How long have you lived in Sauk County?	Less than 5 years 0%	5 to 10 years 4%	11 – 20 years 8%	21 – 30 years 17%	31+ years 71%	Not applicable (seasonal/part-time resident) 0%

Thank you for completing the survey! Your survey responses are anonymous and will be reported in group form only.

Appendix C3 - Quantitative Summary of Responses by Question – Local Officials

Sauk County Comprehensive Plan Survey – 2009 – Elected Officials

Sauk County is committed to developing a comprehensive plan for land use that takes into consideration the existing infrastructure, business, agricultural, and recreational attributes of the County. Throughout the survey, you will find actions to consider for each section: economy, agriculture and natural resources, transportation, education, arts and innovation, quality of life, and government. We ask that you provide your level of agreement with each action item. Keep in mind that each action will likely require resources (money, time, materials) from somewhere (taxes, grants, donations) to be implemented, and **due to limited resources, not all of these actions can be implemented.**

Sauk County Economy

1. One of Sauk County's goals is to have financially self-sufficient individuals and families. Please indicate your level of agreement with each of the following actions. Resources should be used to:

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	No Opinion
a. Develop programs to help individuals more effectively manage their finances.	8%	42%	32%	11%	7%
b. Expand job-training programs for current and dislocated workers that will enable them to compete in a globally competitive economy.	17%	65%	14%	3%	1%
c. Develop programs to remove barriers to employment (i.e. transportation, day care and educational issues).	11%	55%	23%	5%	6%
d. Identify more affordable and accessible health care options.	37%	41%	14%	5%	2%
e. Expand communications between local schools and the business community regarding skills graduates need.	33%	53%	11%	2%	0%

2. A goal of Sauk County is to have a diversified and non-depleting (sustainable) economy. Please indicate your level of agreement with each of the following actions. Resources should be used to:

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	No Opinion
a. Support local business start-ups.	29%	60%	9%	1%	1%
b. Support the expansion of existing businesses into new markets.	23%	57%	17%	1%	2%
c. Develop collaborations with local and regional organizations to promote the Sauk County region.	21%	64%	9%	2%	5%
d. Promote and support the development of environmentally focused businesses/manufacturers.	27%	55%	11%	2%	5%
e. Research and identify the mix of businesses where Sauk County has a competitive advantage.	18%	62%	16%	1%	3%
f. Improve utility and transportation infrastructure (i.e. high-speed internet, freight rail, highway, and energy).	31%	51%	12%	3%	3%
g. Attract/create employers that offer high wage jobs.	30%	52%	9%	4%	5%

3. A goal of Sauk County is to have widely available, affordable, locally produced and environmentally sensitive energy source(s). Please indicate your level of agreement with each of the following actions. Resources should be used to:

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	No Opinion
a. Establish partnerships among units of government, non-profit organizations, businesses and community residents to identify and implement energy conservation strategies.	25%	57%	11%	2%	5%
b. Develop local, clean, renewable, affordable energy production sources.	31%	52%	15%	1%	1%
c. Access and promote financial incentives for energy conservation and developing renewable energy sources.	29%	57%	11%	2%	1%

SAUK COUNTY AGRICULTURE AND NATURAL RESOURCES

4. A goal of Sauk County is to have viable agriculture in terms of its environmental impacts, social benefits and economic return. Please indicate your level of agreement with each of the following actions. Resources should be used to:

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	No Opinion
a. Establish a local food system that emphasizes the production of food that is sold within the southern Wisconsin region.	22%	50%	16%	2%	9%
b. Develop a multi-county agricultural tourism program that enhances direct farmer to consumer marketing.	21%	51%	17%	3%	8%
c. Develop a multi-county communication strategy to raise the community's understanding of the role of agriculture in individual counties and the larger region.	19%	50%	24%	1%	6%
d. Develop programs to maintain agriculture as a key component of the local economy.	33%	57%	9%	0%	2%
e. Develop programs and policies to work with agricultural producers to protect the natural environment.	36%	49%	13%	1%	1%
f. Support programs for new farmers.	25%	57%	13%	1%	3%
g. Establish programs to minimize forest fragmentation, reestablish forested areas and explore techniques that would allow fragmented forests to retain a larger portion of their original ecological, economic, and social values.	25%	43%	18%	6%	8%
h. Expand the community's understanding of the economic, ecologic and social impacts of forests.	17%	53%	21%	1%	7%
i. Develop initiatives to maintain and protect threatened forests with cultural, ecological and economic significance.	19%	49%	21%	2%	10%
j. Expand urban forestry programs.	10%	43%	30%	3%	14%

5. A goal of Sauk County is to make sure residential and commercial development is carefully managed and agricultural/natural resources are protected. Please indicate your level of agreement with each of the following actions. Resources should be used to:

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	No Opinion
a. Get agreements between cities/villages and surrounding towns that <u>allow for orderly growth & development.</u>	40%	45%	10%	2%	2%
b. Develop agreements between cities/villages and surrounding towns to <u>maintain the county's rural character.</u>	38%	43%	14%	2%	2%
c. Identify and protect rural and municipal water resources by regulating the types of land uses and management practices that can occur in well recharge areas.	36%	49%	10%	2%	3%
d. Develop programs that permanently preserve open space and agricultural lands.	34%	37%	22%	2%	4%
e. Expand Sauk County's capacity to provide growth management, design services, stormwater and construction site management to local units of government.	20%	45%	24%	6%	6%
f. Identify appropriate locations for mineral extraction sites (including quarries) based on inventory of recoverable resources, estimated future local need, and local policy directives.	20%	55%	15%	5%	5%

6. A goal of Sauk County is to make sure that open space and rural character are acknowledged and protected as important community resources. Please indicate your level of agreement with each of the following actions. Resources should be used to:

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	No Opinion
a. Create regional green space programs that preserve permanent regional connections of open space, historic landscapes, environmentally sensitive areas, waterways and low-impact recreational lands.	30%	45%	15%	4%	5%
b. Develop and apply development standards that protect the environment and promote the sustainable use of natural resources.	31%	50%	13%	3%	3%

SAUK COUNTY TRANSPORTATION

7. A goal of Sauk County is to make sure that people and goods are transported safely, efficiently and effectively. Please indicate your level of agreement with each of the following actions. Resources should be used to:

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	No Opinion
a. Develop and implement a cost-effective Sauk County transportation system that serves pedestrian, bicycle, auto/truck/bus, rail and air traffic.	17%	55%	16%	6%	6%
b. Develop policies to encourage increased passengers per vehicle in all modes of motorized transportation (e.g. currently at 1.1 people per car for Sauk County to Madison commuters).	21%	48%	23%	3%	5%
c. Promote mix-mode transportation hubs (e.g. rail, roads, pedestrian) in existing cities/villages in Sauk County.	14%	47%	27%	3%	10%

8. A goal of Sauk County is to make sure that critical transportation infrastructure and systems are well-maintained. Please indicate your level of agreement with each of the following actions. Resources should be used to:

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	No Opinion
a. Ensure that local supplies of construction aggregates (e.g. sand, gravel and rock) are available for local projects.	36%	48%	12%	1%	2%
b. Plan and construct infrastructure replacement and maintenance based upon total life cycle cost, including costs of extraction, processing, removal, recycling and ultimate disposal of materials and resources utilized.	25%	59%	9%	1%	5%
c. Capture available state, federal, and private funding for transportation projects.	52%	44%	3%	1%	1%

9. A goal of Sauk County is to fully realize the environmental, social, and economic benefits from the expansion of the U.S. Highway 12 corridor (Sauk City to Lake Delton). Please indicate the level of agreement with each of the following actions. Resources should be used to:

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	No Opinion
a. Promote U.S. Highway 12 as the “Gateway to Sauk County” (emphasizing the county’s natural beauty, agriculture, economy, communities, and outdoor recreation).	23%	46%	19%	8%	4%
b. Develop regulations and programs for the orderly development of the existing <u>Highway 12 corridor</u> .	27%	51%	13%	4%	4%
c. Develop regulations and programs for the orderly development of the <u>new Highway 12 by-pass</u> .	28%	49%	14%	5%	3%

SAUK COUNTY EDUCATION, ARTS, AND INNOVATION

10. A goal of Sauk County is to make sure that communities are meeting the demands for educational, facility, and programmatic funding for K-12 and higher education. Please indicate the level of agreement with each of the following actions. Resources should be used to:

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	No Opinion
a. Create an educational advisory committee to identify strategies for educational funding, programmatic needs and preparedness for new, unpredictable challenges.	11%	40%	31%	8%	9%
b. Identify community assets available to attract and retain top-level educators and administrators.	19%	51%	22%	5%	5%
c. Research and communicate the value of higher education (post high school) for community, economic and social development.	18%	49%	23%	5%	5%

11. A goal of Sauk County is to support and promote the visual and performance arts, humanities, and historic preservation as an important part of community life. Please indicate the level of agreement with each of the following actions. Resources should be used to:

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	No Opinion
a. Maintain arts and culture funding and programming.	7%	45%	29%	6%	14%
b. Develop scholarships and grants for projects that are unique and benefit the entire community.	9%	58%	20%	5%	9%
c. Recognize and promote a diversity of artistic expression and the endeavors of artists.	6%	30%	37%	9%	19%
d. Provide mentorship/encouragement to young and emerging artists/writers.	5%	38%	32%	9%	16%
e. Promote economic development by encouraging the arts, humanities, and historic preservation.	8%	50%	23%	6%	13%

SAUK COUNTY QUALITY OF LIFE

12. A goal of Sauk County is to make Sauk County a healthy place to live for its citizens. Please indicate the level of agreement with each of the following actions. Resources should be used to:

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	No Opinion
a. Identify, prioritize, and address health issues that affect the overall well-being of county residents.	22%	65%	9%	2%	2%
b. Develop strategies to ensure an adequate supply of health care workers in Sauk County.	18%	65%	13%	2%	2%
c. Promote healthier lifestyles.	32%	53%	9%	2%	3%

13. A goal of Sauk County is to have critical community services available for a diverse population. Please indicate the level of agreement with each of the following actions. Resources should be used to:

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	No Opinion
a. Collaborate with private, public, and charitable organizations to develop health care services to meet needs of Sauk County's population.	24%	63%	8%	1%	4%
b. Adapt current programs and processes to better serve non-English speaking populations.	4%	23%	41%	23%	9%

14. A goal of Sauk County is to have well-planned, quality housing. Please indicate the level of agreement with each of the following actions. Resources should be used to:

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	No Opinion
a. Encourage the development of affordable housing for mixed populations (i.e., age, economic status, marital status, owned and rental, single and multi-family units) that is sustainable and consistent with local comprehensive plans.	15%	58%	17%	6%	5%
b. Encourage and promote <u>locally produced building materials</u> .	13%	66%	12%	2%	6%
c. Encourage and promote <u>energy efficient housing and alternative heating and power generation</u> .	30%	59%	9%	0%	2%
d. Facilitate collaboration among municipalities to enhance support for housing and services provided to part-time and seasonal-workers.	5%	37%	33%	10%	14%
e. Encourage the development of mixed-use buildings that combine housing, retail, and professional space.	10%	46%	26%	6%	12%

SAUK COUNTY GOVERNMENT

15. A goal of Sauk County is to have coordinated and consistent intergovernmental policies and practices. Please indicate the level of agreement with each of the following actions. Resources should be used to:

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	No Opinion
a. Better inform the public about local government processes and activities.	24%	66%	8%	1%	1%
b. Create opportunities for additional interaction (i.e. feedback) between the public and government.	26%	58%	13%	1%	3%
c. Identify where jurisdictions overlap and interact, and establish a process to address inconsistencies and conflicts.	26%	63%	8%	0%	2%

16. A goal of Sauk County is to have information exchanged and communicated to the public and between governments during natural disasters and rare occurrences. Please indicate the level of agreement with each of the following strategy. Resources should be used to:

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	No Opinion
a. Lead, oversee and provide training to local units of government for all emergency management planning and operations.	30%	59%	9%	1%	2%
b. Develop information and mapping resources to restrict developments in areas prone to disasters (e.g. flooding, fire, waste disposal sites).	35%	53%	9%	1%	2%

17. What is one thing Sauk County should do to prepare for the future?

See Appendix B3

DEMOGRAPHICS. Please tell us some things about yourself: Please choose only one answer per question.

18. Gender	Male 81%	Female 19%				
19. Age	18 – 24 0%	25 – 34 1%	35 – 44 10%	45 – 54 22%	55 – 64 35%	65+ 32%
20. Highest Level of Education	Less than high school 3%	High school diploma 24%	Some college/tech 23%	Tech college graduate 12%	Bachelor's degree 17%	Graduate or professional degree 22%
21. Do you live within city or village limits?	Yes 40%	No 60%				
22. How long have you lived in Sauk County?	Less than 5 years 2%	5 to 10 years 5%	11 – 20 years 15%	21 – 30 years 11%	31+ years 67%	Not applicable (seasonal/part-time resident) 1%

Thank you for completing the survey! Your survey responses are anonymous and will be reported in group form only.