

Republic Township Planning Commission

SURVEY SUMMARY

November 2008

This survey was sent out to a total of 1260 households in Republic Township in August of 2008, requesting an anonymous response from one adult in each household. A total of 180 surveys, or

14.3%, were completed and returned.

The question, as presented on the survey sent to Republic Township residents, appears first, followed by the response summary. Not all questions were answered by all of the respondents, so the percentages are based on the total number of responses given for each question.

1. Indicate the number of people currently living in your household , including yourself.

One person 16%, two people 59.4%, three people 11.2%, four people 10.9%, five people 1.1%, six people 1%.

2. How many children under the age of 18 years live in your household .

No children 82.8%, one child 8.6%, two children 6.9%, three children 1.7%.

3. How long have you been a resident of Republic Township?

Less than 1 year 2.4%, one to five years 16.1%, six to ten years 11.3%, eleven to twenty years 18.5%, over twenty years 51.7%.

4. Do you own or rent your residence?

Own 97.5%, rent 2.5%.

5. Where do you work?

In Republic Township 12.2%, within 10 - 25 miles of Republic Township 7.8%, greater than 25 miles from Republic Township 26.1%, retired 50.6%, not employed 3.3%.

On a scale of 1 to 10 , with 1 being very satisfied and 10 being very dissatisfied , please circle

your level of satisfaction concerning community service on Republic Township. If you do not know an answer , leave it blank. Feel free to make additional comments at the end of this section.

1-3 were considered very satisfied, 4-6 satisfied, and 7-10 dissatisfied.

6. Condition of community roads

Very satisfied 11%, satisfied 12.2%, dissatisfied 76.8%

7. Quality of parks

Very satisfied 27.9%, satisfied 58.8%, dissatisfied 13.3%.

8. Water quality and service

Very satisfied 34.3%, satisfied 39.3%, dissatisfied 26.4%.

9. Sewer quality and service

Very satisfied 41.4%, satisfied 47.5%, dissatisfied 11.1%.

10. Ambulance/EMS service

Very satisfied 62.6%, satisfied 30.5%, dissatisfied 6.9%.

11. Fire Department service

Very satisfied 64.4%, satisfied 28.9%, dissatisfied 6.7%

12. Garbage service

Very satisfied 56.6%, satisfied 28.3%, dissatisfied 15.1%.

13. Snow removal service

Very satisfied 35.1%, satisfied 36.6%, dissatisfied 28.3%.

14. Quality of school

Very satisfied 54.1%, satisfied 25.5%, dissatisfied 20.4%.

15. Quality recreational programs

Very satisfied 28.1%, satisfied 39.4%, dissatisfied 32.5%.

Comments :

23.3% of respondents made comments on services and programs. Many of them reiterated their dissatisfaction with the condition of the roads. Several comments were made about the need for a recycling program. A few people stated their disapproval of trash cans left on the roadsides for several days after trash pick up. There were several other comments, which are available for review at the Republic Township office.

16. How do you feel about the over all appearance of housing in Republic Township.

Generally, very good 6%; over all, about average 56%; poor 32%; no opinion 6%.

17. How do you feel about the overall appearance of businesses in Republic.

Generally, very good 4.1%; over all, about average 37.1%; poor 53.7%; no opinion 5.1%.

18. Would you support an increased mill levy for. (Can circle more than one)

Streets and roads, 48.9%, parks and recreation 12.2%, sewer and water 6.7%, natural gas line in to town 8.3%, all of the above 6.7%, none of the above 27.2%, other 4.4%.

19. Should Republic Township provide additional resources (time, effect and or money) to attract businesses?

Yes 62%, no 18.7%, no opinion 19.3%.

20. What do you consider to be the ideal population for Republic Township in the next 20 years.

Smaller 4.7%, remain same 12.8%, increase somewhat 51.7%, depends upon circumstances 26.2%, no opinion 4.6%.

21. Please list two reasons why you like living in Republic Township.

81.6% of the survey respondents answered this question. The most common response was because the people are friendly. Other responses included liking the Michigamme River basin, the low taxes, the natural beauty and natural resources, the small town atmosphere, the churches, and feeling safe..

22. Please list two things you would like to change about Republic Township.

81.6% of the survey respondents answered this question as well. The most common response was repairing the bad roads in the community. Other responses included improving the appearance of the town, cleaning up junk cars, fixing sidewalks, and getting a gas station.

23. Do you feel there is a strong sense of community pride in Republic Township.

Yes 46.7%, no 28.7%, no opinion 24.6%.

24. Should Republic Township provide more annual events?

Yes 49.4%, no 18%, no opinion 32.6%.

25. Should the river basin level be maintained?

Yes 80%, no 6.5%, no opinion 13.5%.

26. Do you feel that the Heritage Trail is important to the Wetlands Preserve in Republic Township?

Yes 51.2%, no 23.8%, no opinion 25%.

27. Please indicate your priorities by rating the following recreation improvements 1-7, with 1 being your highest priority and 7 your lowest.

This question was the most difficult to evaluate. If each item was prioritized based on the percentage of #1 ratings it received, the summary looks like this.

 2 Acquire historic “Republic State Bank” on the northeast corner of the Town Square site and renovate as a trail head for the Iron Ore Heritage Trail and to provide support facilities for Munson Park and School Lake.

 7 Develop Pavilion on Town Square site; develop handicap access to School Lake with fishing pier and viewing platforms.

 3 Non-motorized trail system for hiking, biking and bird watching within the CCI wetland preserve including parking, landscaping, bathroom facilities and a kiosk with information and maps.

 6 Sewage dumping station for campsite

 5 Improvements to Republic beach property

 1 Ensure historic water level of the Michigamme River Basin through stabilization of water flow.

 4 Bike/walkway path connecting the communities of Republic and South Republic.

However, as indicated on the following page, if each item is evaluated based on the percentage of #1 ratings, #2 ratings, #3 ratings, and so on that it received, a different summary emerges.

7 Acquire historic “Republic State Bank” on the northeast corner of the Town Square site and renovate as a trail head for the Iron Ore Heritage Trail and to provide support facilities for Munson Park and School Lake.

This item received 32% of the 7 rating, 11% of the 6 rating, 2.8% of the 5 rating, 12.7% of the 4 rating, 14% of the 3 rating, 8% of the 2 rating, and 18.7% of the 1 rating.

6 Develop Pavilion on Town Square site; develop handicap access to School Lake with fishing pier and viewing platforms.

This item received 22.2% of the 6 rating, 14.1% of the 7 rating, 16.5% of the 5 rating, 13.8% of the 4 rating, 13.5% of the 3 rating, 12.1 percent of the 2 rating, and 9.4% of the 1 rating.

3 Non-motorized trail system for hiking, biking and bird watching within the CCI wetland preserve including parking, landscaping, bathroom facilities and a kiosk with information and maps.

This item received 17.9% of the 3 rating, 13.7% of the 7 rating, 11.7% of the 6 rating, 13.7% of the 5 rating, 11.7% of the 4 rating, 12.4% of the 2 rating, and 17.9% of the 1 rating.

5 Sewage dumping station for campsite

This item received 14% of the 5 rating, 28.6% of the 7 rating, 15.3% of the 6 rating, 12.6% of the 4 rating, 9.3% of the 3 rating, 10% of the 2 rating, and 10% of the 1 rating.

2 Improvements to Republic beach property

This item received 25.1% of the 2 rating, 4% of the 7 rating, 10.3% of the 6 rating, 13.2% of the 5 rating, 16% of the 4 rating, 18.8% of the 3 rating, and 12.5% of the 1 rating.

1 Ensure historic water level of the Michigamme River Basin through stabilization of water flow.

This item received 50.9% of the 1 rating, 16.9% of the 2 rating, 8.4% of the 3 rating, 9.1% of the 4 rating, 5.2% of the 5 rating, 2.6% of the 6 rating, and 6.5% of the 7 rating.

4 Bike/walkway path connecting the communities of Republic and South Republic.

This item received 12.4% of the 4 rating, 16.3% of the 1 rating, 15% of the 2 rating, 17.9% of the 3 rating, 8.4% of the 5 rating, 13.7% of the 6 rating, and 13.7% of the 7 rating.