

Key Findings: Brooklyn

Trends, themes, and hometown priorities highlighted by local residents

Percentages based on no. of responses per question; see full data set for distribution of responses

Overview

A total of 17 residents of Brooklyn responded to the survey, and there were no attendees at the community conversation that was planned for the Brooklyn Kid's Park. Key survey findings:

Neighborhood Environment	<p>Top priorities for improvement in hometown surroundings (response averages):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Internet access (100%), roads, water quality, and utility services (all 75%) • Open response: youth/family rec center, improved sidewalks, more street lighting, parks, playgrounds, and walking/bike trails <p>75% believe Brooklyn is not pedestrian/bike friendly 63% feel safe; property crime and drug use are top concerns (both 80%) Residents "like most": rural, small town feel, local businesses, church, low taxes Residents "like least": unmaintained properties, urbanization, no youth activities</p>
Economic Stability	<p>75% homeowners; 75% employed full-time 38% struggle to pay for monthly expenses and home repairs 29% face lack of childcare when job-searching 57% "usually" cover monthly expenses; 43% "comfortably" do 29% struggle to make payments on debt 71% would be able to cover an unexpected \$400 expense 29% use Social Security benefits</p>
Education	<p>43% completed high school; 29% hold a bachelor's degree or higher Top indicators of personal success ("very important" ratings):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Secure a paying job (57%), go to college (43%), start a family (29%) <p>Expense (86%) and childcare needs (43%) are top continuing-education challenges 2: average number of children currently living at home 67% of parents do not have access to safe/affordable childcare programs Top challenge faced at school: social acceptance/emotional health issues* Top hopes for children after they complete school ("very important" ratings):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Secure a paying job (57%), go to college (43%), go to trade school (14%) <p>57% of parents do not volunteer at their child's school</p>
Healthcare	<p>100% have health insurance; 57% provided by employer 43% travel 11-20 miles to see their regular doctor 57% wait one week or less for a doctor's appointment 57% do not use an ER for primary services, 86% are able to follow doctor's orders 71% have no healthcare needs that are not available nearby</p>
Food	<p>Top grocery sources: Kroger (83%) Meijer (50%) 67% can access/afford healthy foods; 67% of families eat 2-3 meals/day 67% eat fast food 1x a week 50% believe fast food is more expensive than home cooked meals Time (33%) and expense (33%) prevent families from cooking healthy meals</p>
Community Involvement	<p>50% know most neighbors; 33% know a few Top three community events for participation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • School activities (100%), church activities (67%), community meetings (50%)

**Includes social/emotional health issues, bullying, and lack of respect/acceptance*

Key Findings: Camby

Trends, themes, and hometown priorities highlighted by local residents

Overview

A total of 24 residents of Camby responded to the survey, and there were seven participants in the community conversation that was held at North Madison Elementary School. That discussion focused largely on the area's growth and development, and the impact it is having on crime, employment, and housing. Participants also highlighted significant gaps in social services and a lack of coordination among charitable organizations. Key findings from the survey and community conversation are highlighted below.

What do you like most about Camby?	What do you like least about Camby?
Convenient location Quiet, peaceful, safe Nice people, sense of community	Drug activity, increasing crime Lack of dining and entertainment options Lack of family-friendly recreation facilities

Growth and Development

Camby and its surroundings is the fastest growing area in Morgan County, according to a member of the Morgan County Planning Committee, who participated in the community conversation. Participants discussed the challenges and opportunities presented by this rapid growth, as follows:

Challenges	Opportunities
More people = services and schools struggle to keep pace with increasing needs	More people = justification for development of parks, community centers, sports facilities, etc.
Crime has been increasing along with population growth, but police presence remains low	Overall growth will justify need for a police substation to serve rural areas
80% of workers commute to work in other areas, no dining options	The NW area of the county is a prime location for warehouse and manufacturing jobs
There are few entry-level jobs in the area; youth move away because of lack of job opportunities	Increasing opportunities in IT, trucking, facilities management, factory, medical, retail

Community and Social Services

Participants of the community conversation shared concern about gaps in Camby's ability to meet the educational, rehabilitative, and nutritional needs of its residents. Specific areas of perceived need include:

- Services for people facing homelessness, drug addiction, and domestic violence
- Food pantry and/or coordination among churches who provide sporadic food assistance
- Sponsorship for students who are unable to afford after-school activities
- Entry-level jobs to reverse the trend of increasing crime and incentivize youth to stay

Key Findings: Camby

Percentages based on no. of responses per question; see full data set for distribution of responses

Neighborhood Environment	<p>Top priorities for improvement in hometown surroundings (response averages):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Roads (83%), Internet access (73%), utility services (70%) <p>78% believe Camby is not pedestrian/bike friendly 96% feel safe; property crime and drug use are top concerns (both 55%)</p>
Economic Stability	<p>78% homeowners; 77% employed full-time 43% struggle to pay for monthly expenses and home repairs 15% face lack of available jobs and affordable childcare when job-searching 57% “comfortably” cover monthly expenses; 33% “usually” do 29% struggle to make payments on debt 68% would be able to cover an unexpected \$400 expense 86% use no financial assistance services</p>
Education	<p>40% completed high school; 25% hold a bachelor’s degree or higher Top indicators of personal success (“very important” ratings):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Secure a paying job (90%), go to college (40%), go to trade school (30%) <p>Expense (80%) and childcare needs (25%) are top continuing-education challenges 2.3: average number of children currently living at home 40% of parents do not have access to safe/affordable childcare programs Top challenge faced at school: social acceptance/emotional health issues* Top hopes for children after they complete school (“very important” ratings):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Secure a paying job (88%), go to college (71%), go to trade school (41%) <p>59% of parents volunteer for extracurricular activities at school; 29% for athletics 66% face no educational challenges; 17% struggle to pay for adult tuition/books</p>
Healthcare	<p>89% have health insurance; 78% provided by employer 56% travel 0-5 miles to see their regular doctor 39% wait one week or less for a doctor’s appointment 83% do not use an ER for primary services, and are able to follow doctor’s orders 28% need but are unable to access mental health care services nearby</p>
Food	<p>Top grocery sources: Wal-Mart (67%), Meijer (56%), Kroger (50%) 83% can access/afford healthy foods; 56% of families eat 2-3 meals/day 44% eat fast food 1x a week 50% believe fast food is more expensive than home cooked meals Time (56%) and expense (28%) prevent families from cooking healthy meals</p>
Community Involvement	<p>50% know a few neighbors; 33% know most Top three community events for participation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> School activities (56%), community meetings (39%), church activities (28%) <p>Time (28%) and not feeling welcome (17%) prevent community involvement</p>

*Includes social/emotional health issues, bullying, and lack of respect/acceptance

Key Findings: Eminence

Trends, themes, and hometown priorities highlighted by local residents

Overview

A total of 68 residents of Eminence responded to the survey, and there were 10 participants in the community conversation that was held at the Eminence Community School. The school serves as the primary community gathering space, as it provides the largest venue for events, outdoor recreation facilities, and even a location for emergency medical services. The conversation focused on the unmet nutritional and medical needs of local families, and participants shared their concern about the safety and healthy engagement of students after school. Key findings from the survey and community conversation are highlighted below.

What do you like most about Eminence?	What do you like least about Eminence?
Friendly, helpful, tight-knit community Quiet, peaceful, safe Rural, country, small town living	Lack of retail, dining, and basic services Drug activity and property crime Lack of sidewalks, walking paths

Food Assistance

Evidenced by survey findings, and underscored by community conversation participants, there are many families in the Eminence area who struggle to feed their families. Known food support organizations/initiatives include:

- Sheltering Wings – providing nutrition/life skills
- Local food pantry – serving an average of 20 families, once every two weeks
- Gleaner's – mobile food bank serves 177 families, once a month

A pressing concern for teachers is that many students are going hungry. The school had a backpack feeding program that ended in 2016, and in past years the school has provided free breakfast/lunch for students in the summer. The community would like to secure funding to revive these programs.

Medical Services

Most residents (58%) travel 20+ miles to their regular doctor, which has led to a culture of families using the school nurse to address children's medical needs. While there are volunteer EMTs in the community, and the school has field space for an air ambulance, there are gaps in general medical care affect low-income populations the most. Community conversation participants highlighted a need for a mobile clinic, as well as countywide coordination of services among medical providers.

Student Safety and Engagement

After-school student safety and engagement is a primary concern of Eminence residents. Issues highlighted in the survey as well as the community conversation include:

- There are 50+ transfer students who have no place to go until they are picked up
- Lack of sidewalks is a safety concern; students walk on the edge of the road after school
- After school care is only available through 8th grade, and still too costly for some families

While the school has a comprehensive classroom/counseling program for behavioral health and an innovative life skills course (Pathways), opportunities for more after-school clubs/programs remain.

Key Findings: Eminence

Percentages based on no. of responses per question; see full data set for distribution of responses

Neighborhood Environment	<p>Top priorities for improvement in hometown surroundings (response averages):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Roads (92%), Internet access (76%), trash disposal, water quality (both 71%) <p>82% believe Eminence is not pedestrian/bike friendly 92% feel safe; limited police patrol (66%) and drug activity (57%) are top concerns</p>
Economic Stability	<p>84% homeowners; 61% employed full-time 47% struggle to pay for monthly expenses; 42% for home repairs 25% face lack of childcare when job-searching 58% “comfortably” cover monthly expenses; 29% “usually” do 21% struggle to make payments on debt 66% would be able to cover an unexpected \$400 expense 65% use no financial assistance services; 22% use Social Security benefits</p>
Education	<p>39% completed high school; 32% hold a bachelor’s degree or higher Top indicators of personal success (“very important” ratings):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Secure a paying job (81%), go to college (35%), start a family (35%) <p>Expense (79%) and childcare needs (24%) are top continuing-education challenges 1.68: average number of children currently living at home 58% of parents have access to safe/affordable childcare programs Top challenge faced at school: social acceptance/emotional health issues* Top hopes for children after they complete school (“very important” ratings):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Secure a paying job (82%), go to college (38%), go to trade school (32%) <p>36% of parents volunteer for extracurricular activities at school 60% face no educational challenges; 18% need help with child’s schoolwork</p>
Healthcare	<p>92% have health insurance; 53% provided by employer, 24% by government 58% travel 20+ miles to see their regular doctor 46% wait one week or less for a doctor’s appointment 79% do not use an ER for primary services, 87% are able to follow doctor’s orders 31% need but are unable to access dental and vision care nearby</p>
Food	<p>Top grocery sources: Wal-Mart (68%), Kroger (61%), Meijer, Dollar General (34%) 74% can access/afford healthy foods; 82% of families eat 2-3 meals/day 53% eat fast food 1x a week 28% believe fast food is more expensive than home cooked meals Time (46%) and expense (24%) prevent families from cooking healthy meals</p>
Community Involvement	<p>39% know a few neighbors; 34% know most Top three community events for participation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> School activities (63%), church activities (45%), youth groups (26%) <p>Time (26%) and lack of awareness (15%) prevent community involvement</p>

*Includes social/emotional health issues, bullying, and lack of respect/acceptance

Key Findings: Martinsville

Trends, themes, and hometown priorities highlighted by local residents

Overview

A total of 206 residents of Martinsville responded to the survey, and there were 11 participants in the community conversation that was held at the CFMC office. That discussion focused largely on youth, and the local programs and spaces that are being developed to provide young people with enrichment activities and opportunities for healthy recreation. Key findings from the survey and community conversation also include specific neighborhood concerns, highlighted below.

What do you like most about Martinsville?	What do you like least about Martinsville?
Friendly, helpful, tight-knit community Quiet, peaceful country living, natural beauty Proximity to town, cities, highways	Drug activity, decreasing feeling of safety Unmaintained properties, lack of sidewalks Lack of retail, employment, activities, parks

Youth Engagement

A top response to an open-ended question about neighborhood improvement priorities was need for a community center, recreational activities, and general “things to do” for youth. Additionally, a top thing residents “like least” about their community is lack of youth activities, playgrounds, and parks. Youth-related initiatives and concerns shared at the community conversation include:

- A youth center for middle school students is being developed to provide students access to sports, active recreation, and mentoring after school.
- The Martinsville library is designing a space designated for teens, who already congregate at the library after school. The room will have computers for gaming and general use, and glass walls to minimize noise yet allow for supervision.
- Transportation is a challenge for after-school activities; the bus is not available for all ages.
- Existing known programming for youth includes the PRIDE program, which connects youth with local businesses, 4H, and FFA. The nearest Boys and Girls Club is in Mooresville.

Neighborhood Environment

The survey asked several open-ended questions about what residents liked, disliked, and would like to improve about Martinsville. Many of these responses underscored results from related multiple-choice questions. Top responses to need for improvement in hometown surroundings include:

Pedestrian safety	75% of respondents agree sidewalks and bike paths are a top priority 66% believe that Martinsville is not “pedestrian/bike friendly” 31% would spend “unlimited money” on sidewalks*
Roads	87% of respondents agree this is a top priority 15% would spend “unlimited money” on this*
Street lighting	67% of respondents agree this is a top priority 19% improved street lighting as a priority*
Police presence	25% agree that limited police patrol contributes to a lack of safety in Martinsville 20% would spend “unlimited money” on this*
Property maintenance	9% say unmaintained property is what they “like least” about Martinsville* 10% would spend “unlimited money” on this*

**Data collected from an open-ended question; indicates underrepresentation of consensus*

Key Findings: Martinsville

Percentages based on no. of responses per question; see full data set for distribution of responses

Neighborhood Environment	<p>Top priorities for improvement in hometown surroundings (response averages):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Roads (87%), water quality (80%), Internet access (77%) <p>66% believe Martinsville is not pedestrian/bike friendly 79% feel safe; drug use and trafficking is the top concern (88%)</p>
Economic Stability	<p>84% homeowners; 62% employed full-time 42% struggle to pay for home repairs; 32% for monthly expenses 25% face lack of available jobs when job-searching 63% “comfortably” cover monthly expenses; 23% “usually” do 67% face no challenges affording regular expenses 78% would be able to cover an unexpected \$400 expense 68% use no financial assistance services; 20% use Social Security benefits</p>
Education	<p>23% completed high school; 45% hold a bachelor’s degree or higher Top indicators of personal success (“very important” ratings):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Secure a paying job (73%), go to college (33%), go to trade school (28%) <p>Expense (73%) and childcare needs (21%) are top continuing-education challenges 1.8: average number of children currently living at home 45% of parents have access to safe/affordable childcare programs Top challenge faced at school: social acceptance/emotional health issues* Top hopes for children after they complete school (“very important” ratings):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Secure a paying job (70%), go to college (45%), go to trade school (33%) <p>33% of parents volunteer for extracurricular activities at school 78% face no educational challenges</p>
Healthcare	<p>92% have health insurance; 55% provided by employer, 22% by self 27% travel 0-5 or 20+ miles to see their regular doctor 46% wait one week or less for a doctor’s appointment 85% do not use an ER for primary services, 83% are able to follow doctor’s orders 66% have no healthcare service needs that are not available nearby</p>
Food	<p>Top grocery sources: Kroger (83%), Wal-Mart (42%), Meijer (21%) 80% can access/afford healthy foods; 78% of families eat 2-3 meals/day 47% eat fast food 1x a week 40% believe fast food is more expensive than home cooked meals 1 respondent has gone without food for 2+ days in the last 30 days Time (39%) and expense (16%) prevent families from cooking healthy meals</p>
Community Involvement	<p>46% know a few neighbors; 33% know most Top three community events for participation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Church activities (51%), school activities (42%), community meetings (33%) <p>Time (22%) and lack of awareness (21%) prevent community involvement</p>

*Includes social/emotional health issues, bullying, and lack of respect/acceptance

Key Findings: Monrovia

Trends, themes, and hometown priorities highlighted by local residents

Overview

A total of 115 residents of Monrovia responded to the survey, and there were nine participants in the community conversation that was held at Monrovia Middle School. The discussion was centered on differing perspectives on if/how Monrovia should grow, and addressing the needs of students who are not being reached by current extracurricular activities and mental health services. Key findings from the survey and community conversation are highlighted below.

What do you like most about Monrovia?	What do you like least about Monrovia?
Country, rural living, peace and quiet Proximity to bigger towns and the airport Involved, caring, and service-minded people	Warehouse-associated growth, traffic, crowds Lack of parks, public spaces, youth activities Poor road conditions, dangerous intersections

Community Growth

Community conversation participants perceive a divide among Monrovia residents: there are those who do not want the town to grow, and others who see a real need and positive opportunities for controlled, thoughtful growth. Survey responses primarily reflect the pro-growth sentiment, offering the following suggestions for what they would like to see more of:

Public recreational areas	Parks, trails, playgrounds, sports facilities, outdoor amphitheater / events venue, dog park, community center, bigger library
Businesses	Restaurants, shops, gym, grocery stores, food delivery service, entry-level job opportunities (other than fast food)
Accessibility	Sidewalks, crosswalks, public transportation, affordable housing

The concern about growth may be attributed to an increasing presence of warehouse businesses, and the perceived unplanned/reactive growth that follows: more trucks, traffic, crowds, housing shortages, and fast food restaurants. Discussion participants indicated that the documentary *Monrovia, Indiana* highlighted the fact that those who attend town hall meetings do not accurately represent residents' diverse opinions on growth, and there could be more engagement with the town council to better inform community and business development plans.

Student Engagement and Support

The community conversation participants were very proud of Monrovia's youth. Local schools are supportive and provide many enrichment and extracurricular opportunities, and students are encouraged and able to participate in multiple clubs/sports due to the small student population. However, participants noted a few areas in need of improvement:

- After-school loitering: there are 30-40 students who transfer in to Monrovia schools, and hang out at the library while they wait for their ride home. The library offers once-weekly activities, but they are otherwise unable/unfunded to do more.
- Mental health services: counseling is provided as a social service for low-income students, but there is no mental health counseling available to the full student population.

The discussion on student support circled back to community growth: with a larger tax base, and more engagement from employers in the area, there may be funding to address these gaps.

Key Findings: Monrovia

Percentages based on no. of responses per question; see full data set for distribution of responses

Neighborhood Environment	<p>Top priorities for improvement in hometown surroundings (response averages):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Roads (73%), utility services (70%), Internet access (65%) <p>66% believe Monrovia is not pedestrian/bike friendly 97% feel safe; drug activity (49%), limited police patrol (47%) are the top concerns</p>
Economic Stability	<p>91% homeowners; 52% employed full-time 49% struggle to pay for monthly expenses; 38% for home repairs 15% face lack of available jobs when job-searching 55% “comfortably” cover monthly expenses; 28% “usually” do 28% struggle to cover debt payments; 20% automobile costs 59% would be able to cover an unexpected \$400 expense 74% use no financial assistance services</p>
Education	<p>29% completed high school; 34% hold a bachelor’s degree or higher Top indicators of personal success (“very important” ratings):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Secure a paying job (76%), go to trade school (36%), go to college (33%) <p>Expense (83%) and childcare needs (11%) are top continuing-education challenges 2.3: average number of children currently living at home 44% of parents have access to safe/affordable childcare programs Top challenge faced at school: social acceptance/emotional health issues* Top hopes for children after they complete school (“very important” ratings):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Secure a paying job (71%), go to college (46%), go to trade school (34%) <p>37% of parents volunteer for extracurricular activities at school 70% face no educational challenges; 11.5% need money for books, supplies, lunch</p>
Healthcare	<p>93% have health insurance; 67% provided by employer, 15% by government 37% travel 11-20 miles to see their regular doctor 49% wait one week or less for a doctor’s appointment 93% do not use an ER for primary services, 80% are able to follow doctor’s orders 59% have no healthcare needs that are not available nearby; 19% need vision care</p>
Food	<p>Top grocery sources: Kroger (63%), Meijer (52%), IGA (48%) 74% can access/afford healthy foods; 72% of families eat 2-3 meals/day 63% eat fast food 1x a week 31% believe fast food is more expensive than home cooked meals 1 respondent has gone without food for 2+ days in the last 30 days Time (38%) and expense (17%) prevent families from cooking healthy meals</p>
Community Involvement	<p>57% know a few neighbors; 30% know most Top three community events for participation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> School activities (47%), church activities (36%), youth groups, group sports/fitness (both 15%) <p>Time (32%) and lack of awareness (21%) prevent community involvement</p>

*Includes social/emotional health issues, bullying, and lack of respect/acceptance

Key Findings: Mooresville

Trends, themes, and hometown priorities highlighted by local residents

Overview

A total of 242 residents of Mooresville responded to the survey, and there were 13 participants in the community conversations that were held at the Mooresville Public Library and Miller's Merry Manor, a senior living center. Discussion themes included housing and infrastructure needs, better coordination of community services, and increased awareness of workforce development programs. Key findings from the survey and community conversation are highlighted below.

What do you like most about Mooresville?	What do you like least about Mooresville?
Friendly people, caring community Rural, small town feel, yet close to services Thoughtful growth, affordable, safe	Lack of diversity, inclusion, forward-thinking Unsafe roads, poor street lighting Lack of restaurants, retail, grocery stores

Housing and Infrastructure

Residents list sidewalk and road improvements as priorities in Mooresville, which is a common theme throughout Morgan County. Mooresville residents have also highlighted a need for improved housing infrastructure and property maintenance, to retain and attract more middle class families. Relevant comments and discussion points include:

Housing shortages	There is a housing shortage at multiple levels: affordable housing for low-income residents, "starter" homes for young middle class families, and high-end housing for professionals. The upcoming opening of a new St. Francis hospital facility may exacerbate this shortage, leading hospital staff to find housing elsewhere.
Property maintenance	Residents complain that both public and private properties are poorly maintained throughout Mooresville, which negatively affects property value, in-migration, and safety. There were many suggestions for funding to help families get the resources, training, and labor needed to maintain their properties.
Business infrastructure	An estimated 16,000 residents commute outside of Mooresville for work, and sometimes relocate to Greenwood/Plainfield, where businesses and services are more plentiful. Lack of retail, restaurants, services, and entertainment is a common complaint among Mooresville residents, and deters in-migration.

Coordination of Community Services

Mooresville residents point to the flood of 2008 as an example of the positive impact community organizations can have when they coordinate efforts. Dialing 211 connects residents to services, but it only connects with organizations that have registered to be listed. City Changers is working to better coordinate and increase awareness of community services.

Workforce Development

While there are some positive examples of workforce development initiatives (Ben Davis, Ivy Tech, IUPUI's Span Program), there is an overall lack of awareness, and some families struggle to afford the \$50-75/semester fee for dual enrollment at Mooresville High School and Ivy Tech. Additionally, there is a perceived lack of acceptance of career counseling, so connecting youth to entry-level jobs remains a challenge. There is an opportunity to increase awareness, affordability, and effectiveness of programs, targeting the reported lack of youth employability highlighted by survey respondents.

Key Findings: Mooresville

Percentages based on no. of responses per question; see full data set for distribution of responses

Neighborhood Environment	<p>Top priorities for improvement in hometown surroundings (response averages):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Roads (85%), water quality (72%), street lighting, utility services (both 71%) <p>50% believe Mooresville is not pedestrian/bike friendly 96% feel safe; drug activity (65%), property crime (45%) are the top concerns</p>
Economic Stability	<p>77% homeowners; 57% employed full-time 26% struggle to pay for home repairs; 22% for monthly expenses 18% face lack of available jobs when job-searching 57% “comfortably” cover monthly expenses; 21% “usually” do 22% struggle to afford health insurance 64% would be able to cover an unexpected \$400 expense 62% use no financial assistance services; 28% use Social Security benefits</p>
Education	<p>24% completed high school; 38% hold a bachelor’s degree or higher Top indicators of personal success (“very important” ratings):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Secure a paying job (77%), go to college (31%), start a family (29%) <p>Expense (69%) is the top continuing-education challenge 2.13: average number of children currently living at home 55% of parents have access to safe/affordable childcare programs Top challenge faced at school: social acceptance/emotional health issues* Top hopes for children after they complete school (“very important” ratings):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Secure a paying job (81%), go to college (42%), go to trade school (33%) <p>29% of parents volunteer for extracurricular activities at school; 43% none 80% face no educational challenges</p>
Healthcare	<p>90% have health insurance; 55% provided by employer, 23% by government 49% travel 0-5 miles to see their regular doctor 42% wait one week or less for a doctor’s appointment 81% do not use an ER for primary services, 84% are able to follow doctor’s orders 75% have no healthcare needs that are not available nearby</p>
Food	<p>Top grocery sources: Kroger (73%), Meijer (64%), Wal-Mart (32%) 85% can access/afford healthy foods; 76% of families eat 2-3 meals/day 45% eat fast food 1x a week 38% believe fast food is more expensive than home cooked meals 2 respondents have gone without food for 2+ days in the last 30 days Time (38%) and expense (13%) prevent families from cooking healthy meals</p>
Community Involvement	<p>47% know a few neighbors; 32% know most Top three community events for participation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Church activities (44%), school activities (42%), community meetings (24%) <p>Lack of awareness (25%) and time (24%) prevent community involvement</p>

*Includes social/emotional health issues, bullying, and lack of respect/acceptance

Key Findings: Morgantown

Trends, themes, and hometown priorities highlighted by local residents

Overview

A total of 59 residents of Morgantown responded to the survey, and there were 10 participants in the community conversation that was held at the Morgantown Public Library. The conversation was centered on the residents' efforts to upgrade outdoor recreation facilities, a need for youth activities, and opportunities to increase tourist appeal and business growth. Key findings from the survey and community conversation are highlighted below.

What do you like most about Morgantown?	What do you like least about Morgantown?
Friendly, helpful, close-knit community Quiet, peaceful, safe, small town feel Proximity to cities, services, shopping	Drug activity, theft, crime Distance to dining, shopping, medical services Nothing for kids to do, decreasing quality of life

Upgrades to Public Recreation Facilities

Several community conversation participants have been active in Morgantown's effort to upgrade a public recreation space to include baseball and basketball facilities, a walking trail, and a playground. Survey results support this as a priority; the top open-responses to needed neighborhood improvements include: *parks, walking trails, dog parks, and playgrounds*. The estimated cost of the proposed upgrades is \$140-150k. The application has been submitted to OCRA and CFMC but has been unsuccessful thus far. Residents are hopeful that this new level of engagement might revive the effort with increased visibility and public momentum.

Youth Activities

Morgantown does not have a school; most kids go to school in neighboring Trafalgar, which is where they also end up recreating and working entry-level jobs. Some churches in Morgantown host youth groups, but otherwise there is not much for youth to do locally. In addition to the envisioned upgrades to the recreation facilities, residents suggest: *youth/community center, bike trails, library upgrades and a skate park*.

Tourism and Business Growth

Because Morgantown is surrounded by family-owned farmland, growth is likely to only happen in the form of revitalization within the town boundaries. While weekend traffic is relatively heavy, Morgantown is currently only a pass-through town, with few unique businesses or events to attract tourists to visit. To increase curb appeal and encourage visitors, residents would like to see:

- A downtown beautification campaign and seasonal decorations
- A program helping low-income and elderly residents better maintain their properties
- Unique small businesses – “destination” restaurants, retail, and markets
- Festivals and events corresponding with peak tourist seasons in the area

Residents overwhelmingly appreciate the small town feel and close-knit community in Morgantown, and have many innovative ideas on how to revitalize their town without compromising on cultural and community values.

Key Findings: Morgantown

Percentages based on no. of responses per question; see full data set for distribution of responses

Neighborhood Environment	<p>Top priorities for improvement in hometown surroundings (response averages):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Internet access (94%), water quality (89%), home security (81%) <p>56% believe Morgantown is pedestrian/bike friendly 78% feel safe; drug activity (91%), property crime (39%) are the top concerns</p>
Economic Stability	<p>83% homeowners; 57% employed full-time 44% struggle to pay for home repairs; 29% for monthly expenses 46% face lack of available jobs when job-searching; 23% face lack of childcare 49% “comfortably” cover monthly expenses; 37% “usually” do 29% struggle to cover debt payments; 24% automobile costs 54% would be able to cover an unexpected \$400 expense 69% use no financial assistance services; 23% use Social Security benefits</p>
Education	<p>43% completed high school; 23% hold a bachelor’s degree or higher Top indicators of personal success (“very important” ratings):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Secure a paying job (77%), start a family (27%), go to trade school (21%) <p>Expense (78%) and childcare (22%) are the top continuing-education challenges 2: average number of children currently living at home 44% of parents have access to safe/affordable childcare programs Top challenge faced at school: social acceptance/emotional health issues* Top hopes for children after they complete school (“very important” ratings):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Secure a paying job (68%), go to college (38%), go to trade school (35%) <p>35% of parents volunteer for extracurricular activities at school; 44% none 72% face no educational challenges; 13% lack access to internet/computer</p>
Healthcare	<p>88% have health insurance; 59% provided by employer, 18% by government 38% travel 11-20 miles to see their regular doctor 41% wait one week or less for a doctor’s appointment 76% do not use an ER for primary services, and are able to follow doctor’s orders 26% lack nearby access to dental and general medical care; 44% no service gaps</p>
Food	<p>Top grocery sources: Kroger (70%), Wal-Mart (52%), IGA (45%) 61% can access/afford healthy foods; 73% of families eat 2-3 meals/day 52% eat fast food 1x a week 22% do not know if fast food is more expensive than home cooked meals 1 respondent has gone without food for 2+ days in the last 30 days Expense (33%) and time (24%) prevent families from cooking healthy meals</p>
Community Involvement	<p>47% know most neighbors; 28% know a few Top three community events for participation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community cleanups (38%), church and school activities (both 35%) <p>Lack of awareness (28%) and time (21%) prevent community involvement</p>

*Includes social/emotional health issues, bullying, and lack of respect/acceptance

Key Findings: Paragon

Trends, themes, and hometown priorities highlighted by local residents

Percentages based on no. of responses per question; see full data set for distribution of responses

Overview

A total of 44 residents of Paragon responded to the survey, and there were four participants in the community conversation that was held at the Paragon Fire Department. Key survey findings:

Neighborhood Environment	<p>Top priorities for improvement in hometown surroundings (response averages):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Internet access (93%), water quality (90%), roads (88%) <p>60% believe Paragon is pedestrian/bike friendly 83% feel safe; drug activity (71%), limited police patrol (58%) are the top concerns</p>
Economic Stability	<p>78% homeowners; 71% employed full-time 53% struggle to pay for monthly expenses; 23% for home repairs 35% face lack of available jobs when job-searching; 27% face lack of childcare 51% “comfortably” cover monthly expenses; 35% “usually” do 32% struggle to cover debt payments; 21% utility bills 51% would be able to cover an unexpected \$400 expense 58% use no financial assistance services; 21% use Social Security benefits</p>
Education	<p>39% completed high school; 29% hold a bachelor’s degree or higher Top indicators of personal success (“very important” ratings):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Secure a paying job (79%), go to trade school (47%), go to college (37%) <p>Expense (92%), feeling unprepared (21%) are top continuing-education challenges 1.8: average number of children currently living at home 38% of parents have access to safe/affordable childcare programs Top challenges faced at school: drugs, social acceptance/emotional health issues* Top hopes for children after they complete school (“very important” ratings):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Secure a paying job (88%), go to college (50%), go to trade school (50%) <p>35% of parents volunteer for extracurricular activities at school; 50% none 53% face no educational challenges; 25% lack access to internet/computer</p>
Healthcare	<p>94% have health insurance; 51% provided by employer, 29% by government 37% travel 11-20 miles to see their regular doctor 44% wait one week or less for a doctor’s appointment 86% do not use an ER for primary services, and are able to follow doctor’s orders 51% face no healthcare service gaps nearby; 21% lack general medical care</p>
Food	<p>Top grocery sources: Kroger (94%), Wal-Mart (51%), Dollar General (31%) 71% can access/afford healthy foods; 69% of families eat 2-3 meals/day 46% eat fast food 1x a week 40% believe fast food is more expensive than home cooked meals 1 respondent has gone without food for 2+ days in the last 30 days Time (46%) and expense (23%) prevent families from cooking healthy meals</p>
Community Involvement	<p>46% know most neighbors; 29% know all Top three community events for participation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • School activities (40%), church activities (38%), community meetings (34%) <p>Lack of awareness (22%) and time (16%) prevent community involvement</p>

**Includes social/emotional health issues, bullying, and lack of respect/acceptance*

Key Findings: Waverly

Trends, themes, and hometown priorities highlighted by local residents

Percentages based on no. of responses per question; see full data set for distribution of responses

Overview

A total of 16 residents of Waverly responded to the survey, and a community conversation was not planned for this town.

Neighborhood Environment	<p>Top priorities for improvement in hometown surroundings (response averages):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Roads (67%), walking/bike trails, home security, internet access (all 47%) <p>80% believe Waverly is not pedestrian/bike friendly 100% feel safe; limited police patrol (58%), drug activity (50%) are top concerns</p>
Economic Stability	<p>80% homeowners; 46% employed full-time 33% struggle to pay for monthly expenses; 27% lack affordable housing 45% face lack of childcare when job-searching; 27% lack employment resources 69% “comfortably” cover monthly expenses; 15% “usually” do 42% struggle to afford health insurance; 33% payments towards debt 46% would be able to cover an unexpected \$400 expense 75% use no financial assistance services; 17% use veteran’s benefits</p>
Education	<p>46% completed high school; 15% hold a bachelor’s degree or higher Top indicators of personal success (“very important” ratings):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Secure a paying job (67%), go to college (33%), go to trade school and join the military (both 27%) <p>Expense (73%), childcare needs (36%) are top continuing-education challenges 2.4: average number of children currently living at home 67% of parents have access to safe/affordable childcare programs Top challenge faced at school: social acceptance/emotional health issues* Top hopes for children after they complete school (“very important” ratings):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Secure a paying job (89%), go to college (60%), go to trade school (40%) <p>40% of parents volunteer for extracurricular activities at school; 30% none 70% face no educational challenges; 30% have difficulty reading (child)</p>
Healthcare	<p>90% have health insurance; 60% provided by employer 80% travel 11-20 miles to see their regular doctor 70% wait one week or less for a doctor’s appointment 90% do not use an ER for primary services, 80% are able to follow doctor’s orders 22% lack access to nearby dental, mental health care, and drug/addiction services</p>
Food	<p>Top grocery sources: Kroger (100%), Wal-Mart (60%), Meijer (40%) 70% can access/afford healthy foods; 80% of families eat 2-3 meals/day 90% eat fast food 1x a week 50% believe fast food is more expensive than home cooked meals Time (40%) prevents families from cooking healthy meals</p>
Community Involvement	<p>40% know all neighbors; 30% know a few Top three community events for participation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community meetings and school activities (both 60%), community cleanups and picnics (both 40%) <p>Lack of awareness (30%) prevents community involvement</p>

**Includes social/emotional health issues, bullying, and lack of respect/acceptance*