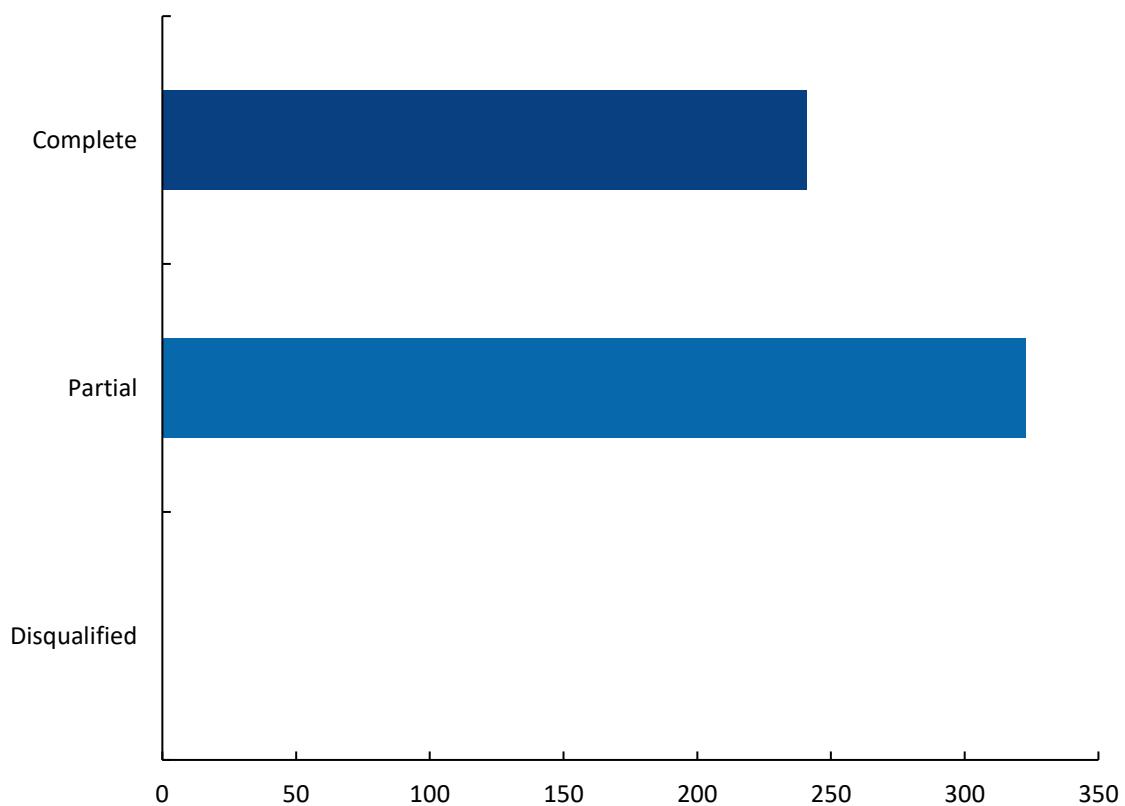


APPENDIX

OSHTEMO
2045

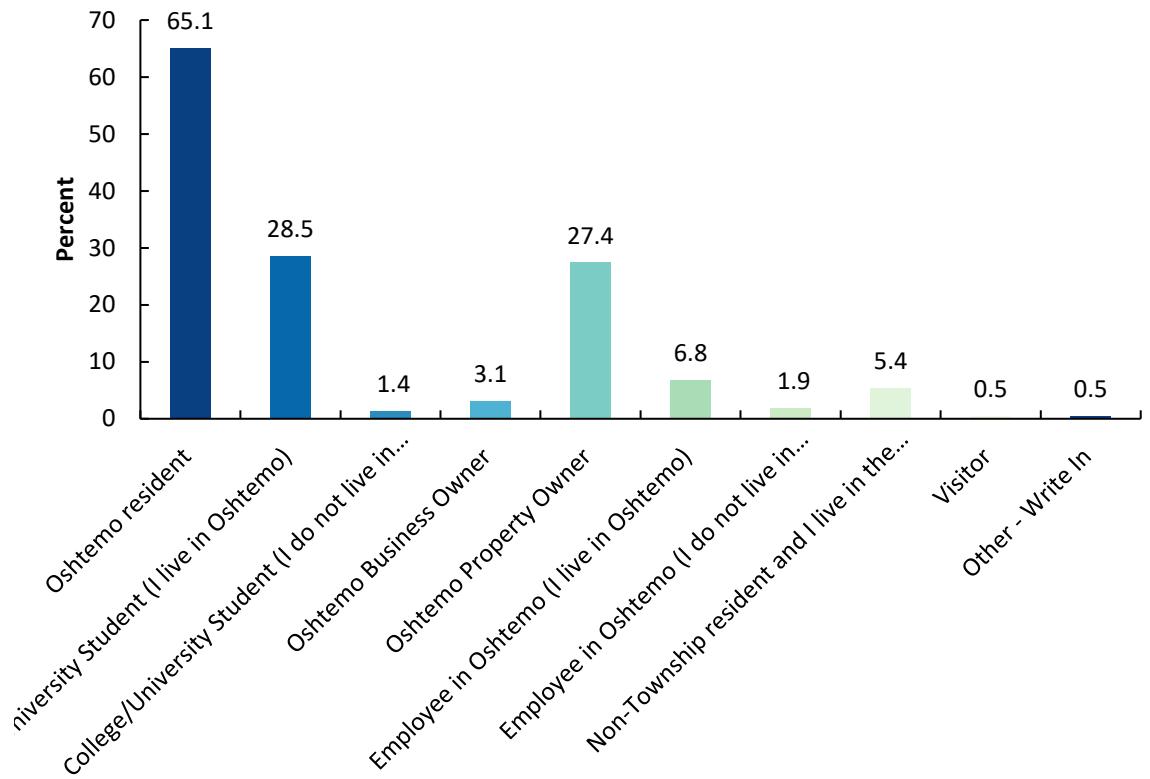
Oshtemo 2045 Comprehensive Plan Survey Report

Response Statistics



	Count	Percent
Complete	241	42.7
Partial	323	57.3
Totals	564	

1. I am a: (Please select all that apply.)

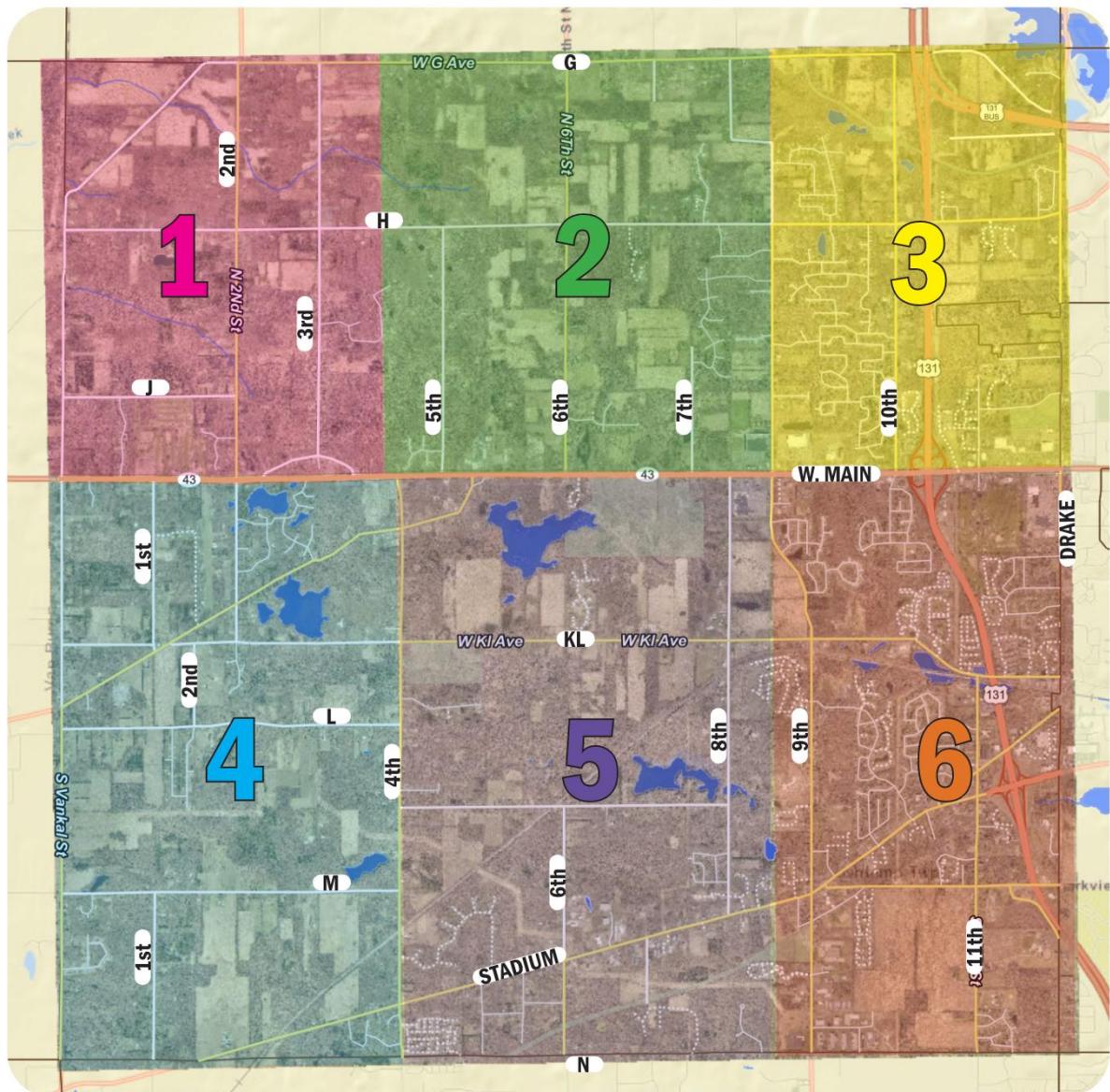


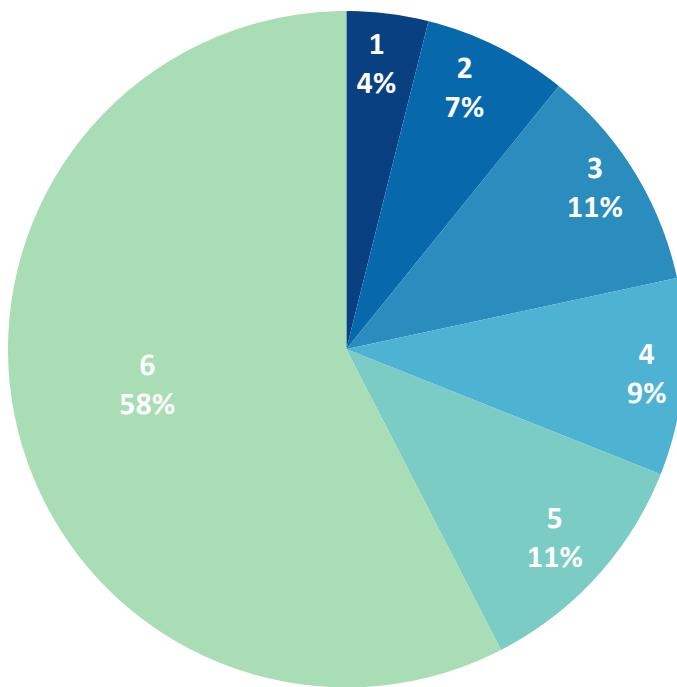
Value	Percent	Count
Oshtemo resident	65.1%	276
College/University Student (I live in Oshtemo)	28.5%	121
College/University Student (I do not live in Oshtemo)	1.4%	6
Oshtemo Business Owner	3.1%	13
Oshtemo Property Owner	27.4%	116
Employee in Oshtemo (I live in Oshtemo)	6.8%	29
Employee in Oshtemo (I do not live in Oshtemo)	1.9%	8
Non-Township resident and I live in the following zip code:	5.4%	23
Visitor	0.5%	2
Other - Write In	0.5%	2

Non-Township resident and I live in the following zip code:	Count
49008	6
49009	4
49006	2
49071	2
46260	1
48208	1
49001	1
49002	1
49004	1
49007	1
49024	1
49087	1
49201	1
Totals	23

Other - Write In	Count
Daughter of Oshtemo Residents	1
Municipal planner	1
Totals	2

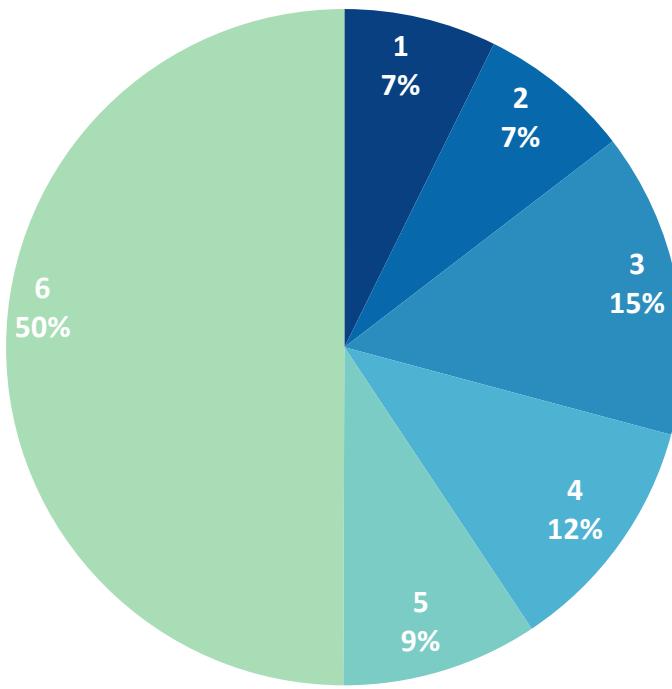
2. Which area of the Township do you live in? (Please utilize the map below to determine your area.)





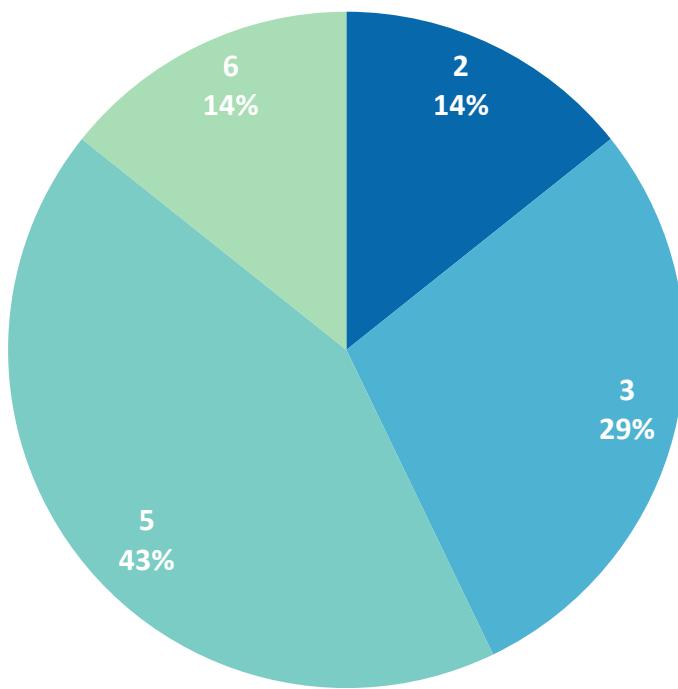
Value	Percent	Count
1	3.9%	14
2	6.9%	25
3	10.8%	39
4	9.4%	34
5	11.4%	41
6	57.5%	207
	Totals	360

3. Which area of the Township do you own a business or property in?



Value	Percent	Count
1	7.3%	7
2	7.3%	7
3	14.6%	14
4	11.5%	11
5	9.4%	9
6	50.0%	48
	Totals	96

4. Which area of the Township do you work in?



Value	Percent	Count
2	14.3%	1
3	28.6%	2
5	42.9%	3
6	14.3%	1
	Totals	7

5. What is the neighborhood / area of the Township that you live in called?

- **The Paddock (74)**
- **Country Club Village (43)**
- **58 West (37)**
- **Sky King & Related (21)**
 - Sky King Meadows (14)
 - Sky King (3)
 - Sky King 2 (3)
 - Sky King 3 (1)
- **Westport & Related (18)**
 - Westport (14)
 - Westport Village (2)
 - Westport Trails (2)
- **Oshtemo & Related (8)**
 - Oshtemo (7)
 - Oshtemo Village/FAIRLANE (1)
- **Country Trails (6)**
- **Quail Run & Related (6)**
 - Quail Run (3)
 - Quail Run 1
 - Quail Run II (2)
- **Springwood & Related (3)**
 - Springwood (2)
 - Springwood Hills (1)
- **Smaller Groups (2 Mentions Each)**
 - LaSalle (2)
 - Skyridge (2)
 - Westside (2)
 - Western Woods (2)

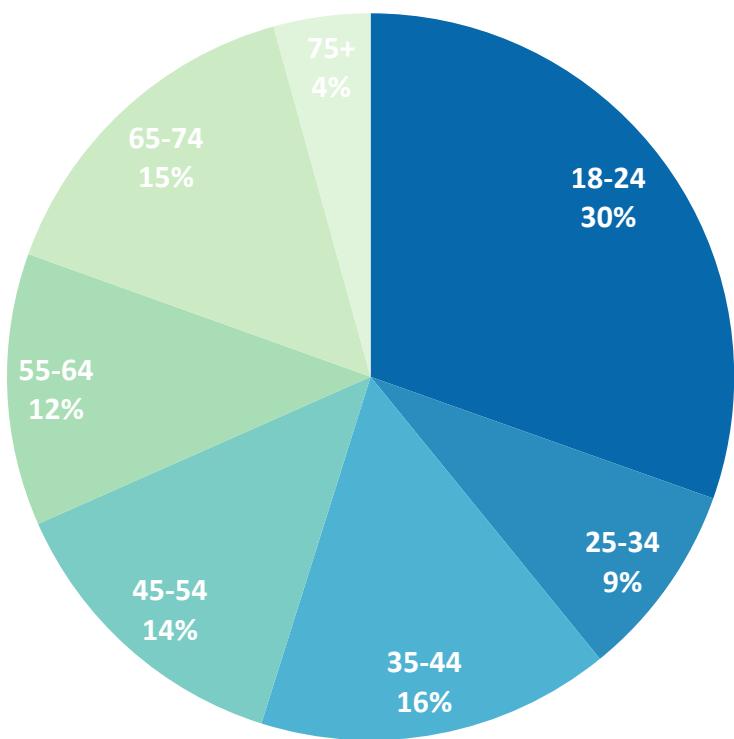
- Kalamazoo (2)
- Pine Acres (2)
- Fairlane (2)
- Unsure (2)
- Essex Hills (2)
- Rose Arbor (2)
- Stratford Hills (2)
- Big Rock (2)

- **Single Mentions (1 Each)**

- Elks
- Genesee Prairie
- West G Avenue
- Bella Sara
- Not Named
- Oakpark
- Unnamed
- H Avenue
- 8th and Stadium
- SkyView
- No Name
- Old Savannah
- West Point Condos
- 4th Street
- Buckham Highlands
- Lodge Lane
- Leisure Time Condos
- 6th Street
- Plainview Street (cul de sac)
- North 8th Street
- Redstone Farms
- Wickford
- Stonehenge Condos
- Huntington Run
- Quail Meadows
- I Don't Know
- M Avenue West
- Genesee Prairie
- Westwood Trails
- Not Aware of Any Name
- Whitegate
- Gibbs Ave
- Wolf Dr
- Redstone Farm
- Jefferson Commons Circle
- Oshtemo Woods
- Cross Country
- I Didn't Know It Had a Name. I Live on W Main Across the RSL Hardwoods.
- Fountain Springs

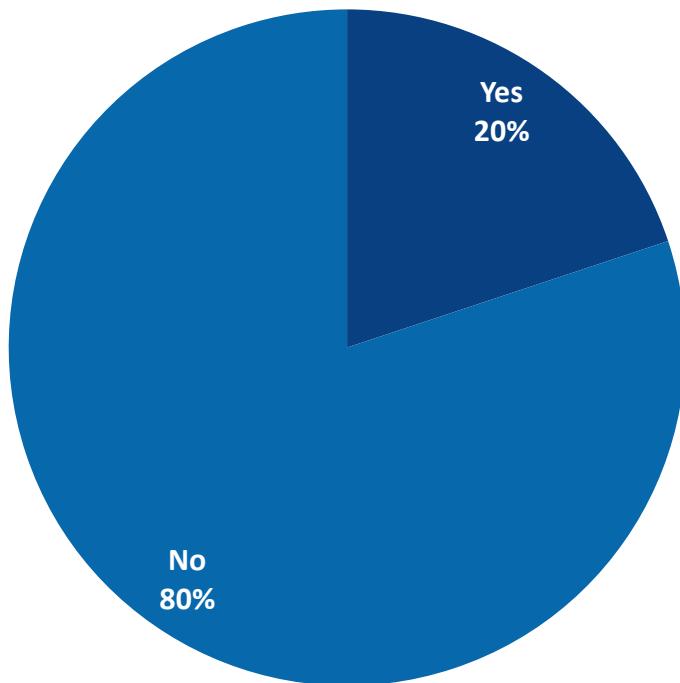
- Twelve Oaks
- 2nd Street
- Toscana Development
- 1st Street
- Driftwood
- North Township Line
- N 3rd St.
- Autumn View
- Mystic Heights Trail
- KI Ave
- North 2nd St.
- 3rd Street
- 1st St

6. How old are you?



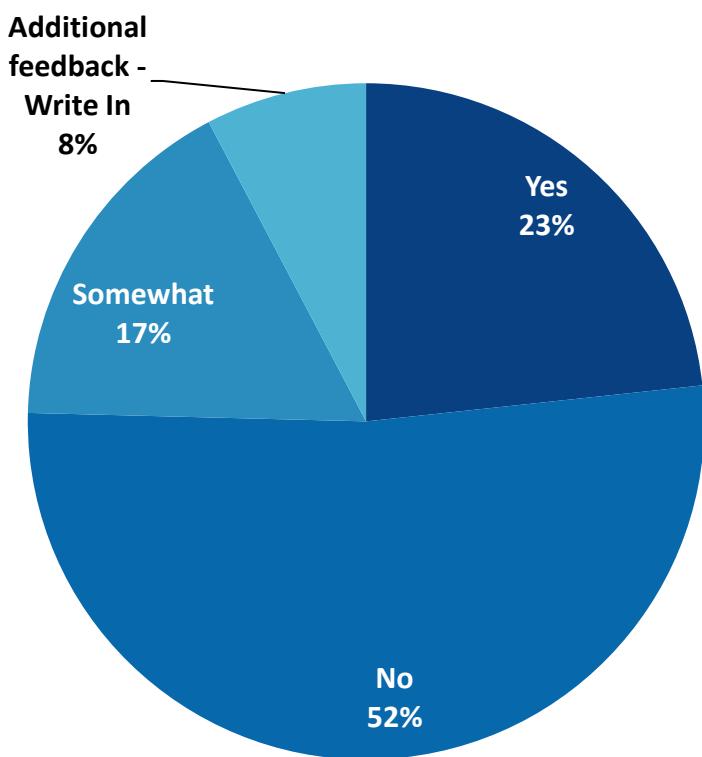
Value	Percent	Count
18-24	30.4%	126
25-34	8.7%	36
35-44	15.7%	65
45-54	13.5%	56
55-64	12.1%	50
65-74	15.2%	63
75+	4.3%	18
	Totals	414

7. Have you attended any of the Community Events for the Oshtemo Comprehensive Plan so far? (Pop-Up Events, Ice Cream Social, Breakfast for Dinner, Focus Group Meetings)



Value	Percent	Count
Yes	19.9%	62
No	80.1%	249
	Totals	311

8. Are there enough parks nearby that can be safely accessed without having to use a car?



Value	Percent	Count
Yes	23.3%	73
No	52.1%	163
Somewhat	16.9%	53
Additional feedback - Write In	7.7%	24
	Totals	313

Additional feedback - Write In

Asylum Lake and Flescher Field are both nearby, but neither can be safely be accessed without a car.

Great parks but they are not easily accessed by non-motorized transportation

I can bike to one- not walk, too far

I have a disabled daughter who uses a wheelchair. The lack of sidewalks throughout the township make it impossible to utilize township resources without traveling by car.

I live in Portage but my employer serves 8 counties in SW Michigan.

I think there is a plan to extend a sidewalk down Have to WPV - that will be awesome!

I would love to see a neighborhood park in Country Club Village. It is not safe for my young family to walk or bike to Oshtemo Twp. Park.

If you can't get there by car, do not need the park. No additional parks or bike lanes needed

If you extended sidewalks on 9th, yes!

Kind of, Walking distance might be a bit far

No, but we live in a rural area. That is the trade off when living outside the city area, less accessibility

Not near me.

Own large property, rarely use township parks

Sidewalks down KL and 9th would be helpful.

Somewhat - there are parks nearby, but the access to these is extremely low without using a car.

Somewhat - would not risk with my kids in tow!

Somewhat. Love further out so car is required.

The framing of these questions demonstrates a clear bias to the type/direction of feedback that is being sought. Instead of open ended questions, you are writing questions—topically and in form—to gather support for notions of connectivity.

Too many already

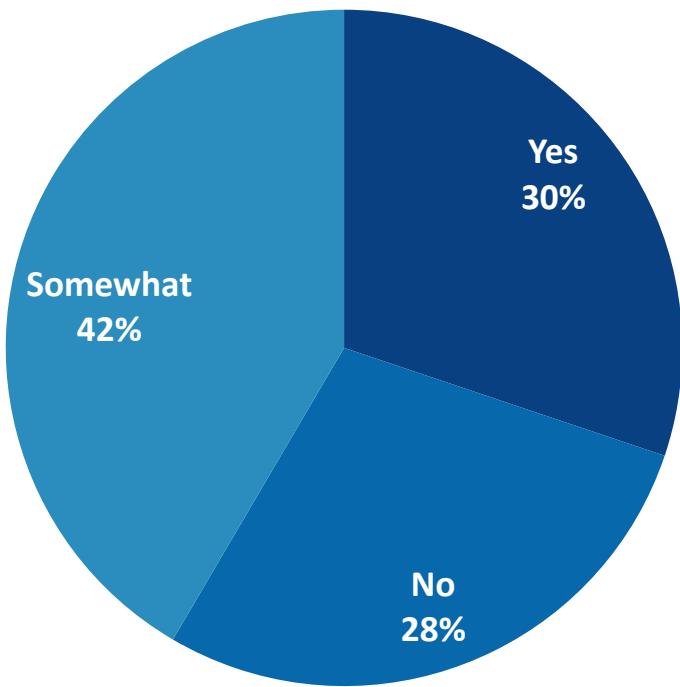
We are close to two parks but still need to drive. We don't mind.

don't use oshtemo parks

just neighborhood trails

rural area

9. Do you feel a sense of belonging in Oshtemo Township?



Value	Percent	Count
Yes	30.2%	95
No	28.3%	89
Somewhat	41.6%	131
	Totals	315

10. That is great to hear! What could be done to strengthen your sense of belonging further?

- **Connectivity & Transportation:** Residents want more sidewalks and bike paths but oppose new roads connecting neighborhoods.
- **Community Identity & Events:** Interest in more events, better promotion, and a unique town identity. College students feel disconnected.
- **Growth & Development:** Mixed views on development vs. preserving rural character. Strong opposition to connecting Country Club Village and Sky King.
- **Safety & Law Enforcement:** Concerns about gun violence and traffic safety.
- **Recreation & Community Spaces:** Requests for more parks, gathering areas, and pickleball courts.
- **Communication & Transparency:** Residents want better updates on developments, taxes, and events.

RespondID	Response
18	Not really sure. I love the community and lots of hiking options. Maybe making it easier to get around by bike would be nice.
22	create identify of the town to be known for something like a festival, unique park or space, etc.
24	NA
26	I can't think of anything
31	Sidewalks put in so I wouldn't have to walk on the street.
36	A 5G tower for coverage near Springwood Hills. Single hauler trash, yard waste and recycling service through the township.
38	a better announcement of events
41	More annual community events and outreach to HOA's.
54	More sidewalks. I also use the pickleball courts often, but more would be nice and definitely used. Fewer fast food places and more real restaurants. Thanks for asking!
63	Not sure at this time.
87	Stop trying to make Oshtemo like Westnedge. You are ruining the area. People moved here because it was slower paced and less congested and you're now completely changing that. We do not need more connected streets. We do not need more apartments. We need peace and we need safety.
100	Please don't connect our neighborhood to Sky Meadow!!
101	Keeping our neighborhood one way in and one way out. No cut through connections to other areas!!!
119	Do not connect to Sky King; keep our neighborhood safe for families
124	Law enforcement Efforts continue to reduce the gun violence that has plagued our community.

131	Less hostile community meetings.
135	Having the board of trustees show genuine concern for residents concerns at board meeting
142	Ability to get places by walking or biking.
153	Township contracted pick up service for trash, recyclables and compostables...with monthly verification for end results. Link up hiking, walking and biking trails with neighboring municipalities (such as Winchell neighborhood, WMU, cities of Kalamazoo and Portage). Develop a map within the comprehensive plan that identifies locations with ecological and environmental significance and mark them for no development. If political boundaries are encountered seek those municipalities to continue this same identification in their own plans. Natural features do not recognize political boundaries. Political jurisdictions need to recognize the values and sanctity of these features.
167	Please do not connect other developments to our neighborhood. We have lived here 26 years and the neighborhood is walkable and safe for all ages. Adding additional traffic will ruin the character of this unique neighborhood. We are very opposed to the introduction of additional access roads! Thank you for listening and helping us retain this quiet gem of a neighborhood.
168	If I was not a minority
170	If the oshtemo board members listen more to the residents issues
174	We do NOT want the hook-up between Country Club Village and Sky King. This proposal has been brought up in the past and was rejected then, and continues to be something that we do not want in our neighborhood. We have quiet safe streets for our children to play in and for walking dogs and meeting up with neighbors. We do not want increased traffic and through traffic in our neighborhood.
179	Build stronger community & neighborhood identity. Residents from City of Kalamazoo or Portage have a sense of pride that is not evident in Oshtemo
181	Not connect our neighborhood to any others
183	Continue holding community events and having capable, personable staff in the township offices.
184	Nothing now
203	Have affordable housing so my son could buy his own place.
216	Thoughtful and well-planned improvement and development to help retain the rural feel of the township while accommodating growth.
220	More community/parks areas to meet and gather. Places to easily walk to so I can walk and pickup coffee, walk and meet friends at the park.
252	Lower our taxes
253	Maintain the infrastructure and security in the surrounding areas.
254	I want the golf course to stay as is. I use the library. It would be helpful to have a street light on Main St to define the driveway after dark. Thank you Marsha Anger
266	Want recycling bins at 58 west. This is student colony. Every year students throw their furniture wasting money. Get us recycling places or plans
310	I would love to see more walking paths for our neighbors in apartment communities, especially along KL from Drake to 9th and north on 9th to the shopping centers. A walking/bike path on north 9th street from west main to H Ave is also very desirable for

	safety of bicycles and pedestrians. I see people walking and biking this and the route above every day I drive them. Lower the speed on 9th from west main to H back to 45 miles per hour. Low key Teen intramural community sports to provide additional opportunities for kids who don't make school teams or aren't comfortable trying out for school teams would also be great.
316	Throw many events more.
340	More events with advertising
344	Fun events and activities to get the community together.
375	As someone who lives in college apartments it feels like I am disconnected from the community as a whole. So, receiving more promotional information about events and places to see in Oshtemo would be helpful. Either a physical or digital format would work.
384	Stop the construction on the bridge
441	Construction inconveniences
479	Have a central downtown area
481	Communicate with the residents more frequently. Share why taxes continue to rise even though no more benefits
499	Keeping the rural feel
541	Nothing
543	Better, more frequent communication

11. What could be done to strengthen your sense of belonging in Oshtemo?

- **Infrastructure & Accessibility:** Residents want more sidewalks, bike lanes, streetlights, and green spaces. Safer roads, better traffic management, and improved public transportation are key concerns. More walkable areas and a defined town center are desired.
- **Community Identity & Engagement:** Oshtemo lacks a central hub or unique identity. Suggestions include more community events, better communication (newsletters, social media), and efforts to create a stronger sense of place through festivals, business development, and public spaces.
- **Safety & Crime:** Calls for reducing crime, increasing police presence, and addressing traffic and pedestrian safety.
- **Housing & Development:** Mixed opinions on growth, some want more density and local businesses, while others oppose rapid development and prefer to preserve green spaces.
- A few highlighted that they didn't feel a need for a sense of belonging or community engagement, noting that they were satisfied with their current situation and didn't have strong opinions on the subject of belonging.

ResponseID	Response
16	Sidewalks and walking paths and more trees/roadside greenbelts
17	N/A
19	More population density and non-motorized access to township assets
23	If 2nd Street were slightly widened to include a safe walking/biking lane on either side of the road, I could feel safer exercising. Many of the neighbors in the area walk or bike and it's a very dangerous road. Someone was just hit by a car while biking earlier this year.
27	A better definition of a central location
28	Reduce shootings
30	Not sure
32	Not something I look for in a township
34	Better Township board that actually listens to what residents want and not their personal agenda
35	The board listening to the community and stop wasting money on things we don't need
37	I've only lived here a year, more time will likely strengthen it.
39	I'd love to learn how to connect more with politically like-minded people in Oshtemo.
40	Township board actually listening WITH RESPECT to the people that speak up in various township meetings and actually take their comments seriously. Don't belittle or ignore.
46	The township could increase its focus on true accessibility. The lack of sidewalks and the lack of thoughtful accessibility planning for new projects (the fruit belt trail for example-

	crushed concrete is legally accessible but not actually accessible for people who are wheelchair users) are barriers for my family.
47	I'm not sure, most of my time is either spent at work in Downtown Kalamazoo, or at my house, which is on the very eastern edge of Oshtemo. My husband and I don't have children, do we don't attend any of the Township events, and most of our down time is spent with his family in Portage. I also don't really have a sense of place about Oshtemo, as my perception of the township is either heavy-traffic shopping strips or drive-by rural properties. There's no place that feels like a walkable community center.
49	I isolate myself so don't feel the need
55	Oshtemo - Okemos - Otsego... people from out of town get them mixed up all the time. I don't have an answer as to how to correct this. We need something here that is "Oshtemo's". Large car show... Fun Run on Kal-Haven trail... Hot air balloon competition... Something that is here in Oshtemo, that will help people remember our Township.
56	To actually see a police car that I pay extra for drive down my road and pull one of the 500 speeding cars that go by everyday over or to be able to get on a municipal bus that I pay extra for and ride it somewhere etc. etc.
58	There isn't anything you need to do. I'm not convinced people need a sense of belonging when they don't live in a city, and many are escaping that to begin with. I certainly don't feel disconnected.
60	Less animosity, more transparency.
65	Walkable shopping and living districts
71	Better sense of identity / uniqueness making it clear that you are in Oshtemo and not just another suburban area.
72	Having events at the Oshtemo township office area. There is a big conference room there.
73	Oshtemo is lacking a town center area to gather, shop, dine, etc.
79	Oshtemo is different than when we moved here 10 years ago. We moved here to be close to the city, but enjoy the green space and quiet of the suburbs. For Oshtemo to be a place that we feel we belong, the development would need to stop or be more conservative. We do not want excessive growth.
80	Send out information from meetings and keep communication active about what is happening.
82	Let the people know about, help plan, and vote on projects before they happen.
90	Perhaps park lights event in the holiday season. Meet and greets with local/state wide team mascots. We have two young kids who would love those types of events.
92	More local business and establishments in oshtemo (Latitude 42s, not Walmarts / Storage / Banks) A park between 131 and 9th Street with Bike / Walking Access from neighborhoods
93	More natural spaces within neighborhoods where people can gather, play, enjoy the outdoors.
98	For elected officials to listen to our requests. 1) We do not want our neighborhood to be a drive through neighborhood, it was one of the reasons we purchased here. 2) We paid considerable money for our septic, we refuse to be forced to hook up to city sewer. Only if/when it makes personally financial sense. 3) a left turn signal at the 10th Street/Lodge Lane and Westmain intersection is needed and necessary. I have sent multiple emails with

	absolutely zero response. A courtesy acknowledgement/reply would have at the very least been appreciated noting my concerns. 3) We
106	If my leaves were collected.
108	Stop forcing the sewer project down my throat...my names not heather harmon!!!
109	Township Board listening to our concerns and not moving forward with items we don't want.
111	The township makes decisions without the consideration or input from the constituents. I've seen how the council speaks to the people in the area. There is a general lack of respect.
114	A town board that doesn't try to put the cost of connecting to the sewer onto the homeowners as a one time cost without the cost transferring to any future homebuyer. Father I out from the residents. Practice transparency so it is clear you aren't doing this just for personal gain with a favored contractor. Go house to house in this neighborhood to gather input.
116	More parks, less development
118	The board could listen to the residents rather than mocking us and undermining us.
125	Honestly I'm not sure
126	Keeping established neighborhoods as is—your attempt at promoting connectivity generally is respectable, however doing so against the wishes of residents is unacceptable. And, to be frank, telling others what is best for the is offensive and condescending. Your plans for further development are based on increased taxable income/money, not what's best for residents and our neighborhoods. Decreasing green, open spaces to squeeze more money-producing people in a restricted area is not to way to enhance our quality of life.
130	If the township board actually listened to residents. You just make your own rules. I don't know why you bother with surveys. You're going to do whatever you want anyway.
133	N/A
139	Township Board needs to be more in tune with the community. Quit developing worthless park and the projects that go along with them.
140	Simply listening to the people in the township. Not only do we have to vote against the board we have to sue the township to not do things that we do not want.
149	Having the Oshtemo board actually listen and care for the residents
151	Traffic calming on major artery roads.
152	I identify more with belonging to Kalamazoo. I think a lack of centrally located and walkable businesses and restaurants adds to this. There is no hub.
159	It's hard to say - Oshtemo doesn't have a "city center". If the "village" area could be geared toward community events perhaps it would make people feel more connected.
161	Take care of the roads north of H Ave. Create a safe walking/biking block around the Kal Haven Trail park trailhead so locals can safely walk or bike directly there. Need more speed limit signs so people quit driving too slowly everywhere. Better representation of conservatives in the elected offices. Bring back the monthly dump days at the township hall - SUPER inconvenient to get a voucher!
162	The board who listens to the community vs making fun of them.
164	To have more community activities

172	Protecting neighborhoods from encroaching businesses and the traffic they bring.
173	It always helps to look for ways to increase communication between the township and the residents of our community.
175	Continue to be available and interested and engaged with residents and businesses in Oshtemo
178	Perhaps event(s) that would call us out to help others in our community. For example, participation in National Night Out, some big cleanup or recycling effort...
180	We are new here. With no downtown it's very different to feel connected. Maybe some simple gatherings at local parks could help
185	Better retailers with customers as top priority Not very friendly people here
186	Better communication on future plans and how they will benefit the residents.
189	streetlighting
190	not always wanting to change land use and especially without owners desire to do such
197	Build a stronger sense of welcoming to newcomers. We have learned as newcomers that Oshtemo runs on a hierarchy of a narrow band of old timers hogging power. Sharing power with newcomers is very important to building a resilient vibrant community.
199	Unsure. More inclusive community events and pride would help. Everyone seems to keep to themselves. A lot of mistrust- Pretty isolating
200	I would like for there to be more walkable areas and more community gathering places that are reachable by walking distance. I'd also like to see more areas/hangouts that are more adult oriented and less directed at families and kids.
202	Having the board actually listen and take into consideration the thoughts and options of those that speak out and act like they actually care.
205	Not charge me taxes for every little thing.
206	Have my neighbor's and my input taken seriously by the commissioners.
208	Springtime Park family events. Social Time - Community Outreach with resident Volunteers..
213	Lighten up on the ordinances. What makes sense in a "in town" neighbor doesn't always make sense in a rural area.
219	Community activities
226	A change in the Board representation.
229	More community events
237	The board could respect and actually listen to the residents. The board has been extremely rude and dismissive of a large segment of the residents.
239	Na
240	Value the input of residents more. REPAVE THE ROADS.. Use our increasingly high tax dollars towards better our areas, not filling your pockets
241	Rural roads having better shoulders for walking and biking.
247	Do not make my neighborhood a shortcut for public

257	Crime rates going down so there's more security and safety
264	Making the area more walkable (ie sidewalks on KL). An increase of funding in harm reduction and assistance for homeless people rather than increased police force would be favorable.
265	Sidewalks needed in the area. Roads at the nights are so dark.
275	more resources for queer people and new residents
279	Give younger people more opportunities to get together, active ways specifically.
281	I would say more college student outreach as that's the group I'm in, but I'm so busy with college stuff that I would probably never go to community events if I was even aware of them or specifically invited as a college student. I'm just happy to have a safe place to live a little bit away from the noise of Kalamazoo
284	idk
286	Nothing I don't equate belonging to where I currently live
289	Sidewalks, plowed roads, streetlights
303	N/a
308	More developed downtown
312	Better communication on newer platforms like tiktok
313	more greenery
318	I wish we had more things student orientated.
320	I'm not sure. I didn't feel a sense of belonging anywhere I've lived in Michigan.
327	If the board would listen to its residents.
331	More community events.
333	There is no "downtown". Oshtemo is just a spread out community all with different goals and aims.
376	Cheaper rent
387	More young people events
390	Finish the bridge construction
391	Better advertisement for events
397	Quicken construction
398	I'm not sure.
402	Christmas tree lighting, newsletters and updates on residents, text updates about local elections coming up, I did not even know there were things like ice cream socials (so more coverage to residents about local events)
426	When I first lived here I was a college student and now I'm here fully after college as I'm employed in Kalamazoo County and really felt safe in Oshtemo. I think a way the township could work to make people feel belong even if they're here for school or they just officially moved here. The township could reach out more to everyone. When I was a student we

	never heard anything from Oshtemo and it always felt like any activity you did hear about that the township was putting on was more directed to people who lived in the houses and were full residents. I think just advertising more, and definitely advertising more to those who aren't full time permanent residents but still live in Oshtemo would make it more welcoming.
429	Sidewalks along busy roads, lampposts with signs for Osthemo that could be changed seasonally, newsletters to have events be more publicized
432	less construction, more sidewalks, more parks, more small businesses, less trailer parks
434	Get rid of the obnoxious detour that hasn't been worked on since April 28th, when it started, even though today is January 27th of the following year.
439	More community events in the parks.
450	*More paved walking/biking trails *the ability to drive under us131 on kl ave
474	Township governance seems remarkably open to me, and it's my fault for not engaging more with it. Oshtemo residents comprise a diverse population, and may not have common interests. Not sure what level of belonging you have in mind. Have you defined it? (I may just be uninformed). Do you know when you will have it?
477	Give homeowners a larger voice.
478	I feel my concerns have been ignored or dismissed on the occasions I have reached out to township officials. There is a sense of belonging in my immediate neighborhood but not in the township as a whole. Maybe more local events and opportunities to have our voices listened to and considered as opposed to "heard" and ignored.
483	I am looking to deepen my connection with my community through Radiant Church!
492	We could do more in the community
495	Listen to what people say.
498	A centralized area that is recognizable as "Oshtemo Center". A place that is accessible and inviting where regular activities occur.
502	Closer community events. ie, music, art shows.
508	Have the Township Board actually listen to residents and stop being rude and condescending. End the sewer mandate. Give residents an actual say on the Master Plan instead of forcing the destruction of neighborhoods.
511	In observing meetings of the past I pick up on an apparent lack of servant leadership by some members of the Council. Some members actively portray themselves as unable to listen and consider the opinions of Township staff and residents.
512	Having a say in the township leadership/election process
519	I think Oshtemo is taxing people out of the township
526	Creating opportunities to meet and socialize with our first responders (fire) and police. Maybe an event that includes an ambulance and crew also. Give an opportunity for kids to experience being inside the rigs. Maybe even having information for job opportunities in EMS system. Give away ice cream. Not sure if you've done this in the past. Food trucks, what a great way to try something different and perfect for events. Use them but have a variety and support local. Set up an area that allows the vendors to use in a busy area, example is the mall parking area by Target. They would also get foot traffic from local employees. Easy in/out with vehicles. Rotate the local vendors. Have electrical hook up available for them. Parks, I've seen a few built in my 26 years of being in the area. Some of these are rarely used and are

	<p>a massive expense to build. No idea on cost of upkeep. Parks with trails seem to be more popular. Is there a soccer field anywhere in our area? I know we are football people but the rest of the world is all about soccer. Maybe a soccer park similar to the baseball park on the north side. One idea is having a business that allows dogs inside. Seen a few of these on the west cost as a medical traveler. The business serves beverages and then has food trucks outside. Check them out, has play areas, couches for humans and dogs to "chill". It's a no frills but such a fun place to socialize. They also do adoption events so you can see how these dogs in need of a home socialize. Allows one on one time with a potential new owner. Can also have vaccination programs that rotate through. So much cheaper than the vets. Traffic congestion in the West Main/131 area. I understand growth but it's starting to look like South Westnedge, just plain ugly. With new builds we need more green. Attractive landscaping with required upkeep. Especially roadside. As far as the traffic in the area, are there plans to better the flow of traffic? Are there plans for upgrade like Stadium/ 131 on/ off ramps? The merge from southbound 131 to west main is an issue and will only get worse. One question. Why in the Oshtemo area are we required to pay additional for our garbage removal for recycling? I haven't seen a household use these recycling yellow bins in years in my area. This is absolutely ridiculous. Where does this money go once pay my bill? Time to give back a little and get rid of this. Not getting into politics here but we voted in a new board for a reason. We ask that our tax dollars aren't wasted. We avoid doing business downtown because of traffic flow through town, available parking to businesses. Sad what the city has done. I could probably think of more but I'm still on my first cup of coffee.....</p>
530	A board that respects the residents. Need new voices that will contain wasteful spending. Dusty needs to stop shouting a citizens.
532	I think it is hard without a downtown or very many locally owned businesses here. Those things give a community a sense of individuality. Most stores and shops are chain/box. Latitude is fine, but it would be nice to have other similar local dining and some boutique shops, a bakery, specialty stores etc. that can only be found in Oshtemo
535	More outreach about events going on
536	I don't feel that the township board listens to, or cares about its residents.
537	The board doesn't care about the needs or wants of it's residence
538	More community get together or events
542	More green space and better traffic flow, i.e. slower traffic flow especially on 10th St, 9th St and H Avenue.
546	Unsure
554	Additional events that were more accessible for disabled people. More restaurants that had outdoor seating in more seasons. Advertisements so I knew what restaurants had outdoor seating.
557	When attending the township meetings, I did not feel welcome as everything was talking/discussing over my head as if I did not exist. A pre meeting welcome and/or post meeting catching up will be great. Even a recognition during the meeting will be helpful.
558	Develop neighborhood groups within numbered areas referred to earlier.
559	Have more diverse activities

12. A leading goal of this Comprehensive Plan Project is to strengthen feelings of belonging in Oshtemo. We would like to hear your analogy for belonging in Oshtemo. Here is an example of an analogy: "Belonging in Oshtemo is like a tree because we are all connected." Now it is your turn! Please fill in the blanks for the sentence below to share what belonging means to you.

Belonging in Oshtemo is like _____ because

_____.

Various full responses are shared below: Belonging in Oshtemo is like...

- 222 - A book with blank pages; *Our story is still being written.*
- 409 - A sunrise; *A new day brings fresh opportunities.*
- 510 - A bridge; *Connecting people, places, and ideas.*
- 160 - A lighthouse; *A beacon guiding the way forward.*
- 362 - A treehouse; *A place for adventure, imagination, and possibility.*
- **442 - A campfire; A place to gather, share stories, and build community.**
- **153 - Needing to protect the air we breathe and the water we drink; It is our responsibility for current residents and those who will follow.**
- **124 - A small hometown feeling; Oshtemo Township takes pride in providing a family-oriented community.**
- **183 – Community; The pace is slow enough that we can actually stop and converse with neighbors.**
- **189 - A river; A flowing connection between people and nature.**
- **558 - A river that winds; A place that adapts and continues moving forward.**
- **41 - Flower; We bloom where planted.**
- **145 - A budding flower; It is still growing.**
- **18 - Mycelial network; We are connected, and what we do impacts everyone else.**
- **23 - Family; A place to grow and share life together.**
- **51 - Family; A community that looks out for one another.**
- **101 - A family; Where people support and care for each other.**
- **106 - Family; A shared bond among neighbors.**
- **124 - A small hometown feeling; A close-knit and welcoming environment.**
- **167 – Home; A place where you feel safe and belong.**
- **190 – Home; More than a place, it's a feeling of comfort and familiarity.**
- **310 - Coming home; A return to warmth and connection.**
- **21 - Coming home; Where memories are rooted and new ones are made.**
- **275 - Being home; You feel safe.**
- **87 - Feeling at home; A sense of belonging and comfort.**
- **151 - Visiting friends and family; A place to connect with loved ones.**
- **30 - Spider web; We are all spread out and loosely connected.**
- **397 - A spider web with a massive hole in the middle; I can't travel easily.**
- **131 - The stars in the sky; There is room for all of us to shine.**

- **391** - The stars on the American flag; *We are all important individually and collectively.*
- **439** - The human body; *We all need to work together to create a better quality of life.*
- **220** - A puzzle; *Every person adds a unique piece to complete the picture.*
- **256** - A puzzle; *We are all meant to complete something together.*
- **199** - Being part of a tapestry; *We all contribute to the overall pattern.*
- **54** - **Having lots of friends in a safe environment; A good social life is important as we age.**
- **167** - Home; *It's a safe neighborhood to live in.*
- **275** - Being home; *You feel safe.*
- **124** - A small hometown feeling; *Oshtemo Township takes pride in providing a family-oriented community.*
- **183** - Community; *The pace is slow enough that we can actually stop and converse with neighbors.*
- **98** - I don't identify with an Oshtemo community; *There is no strong sense of belonging.*
- **78** - I don't "belong" to Oshtemo, I live here; *It feels like just a location, not a community.*
- **181** - An island; *We want to stay isolated in our neighborhood.*
- **200** - **Being on an island; It seems like everyone is on their own island, and we need more community connection.**
- **495** - An island; *We are isolated from board decisions.*
- **114** - Living in an anonymous apartment complex; *There is no community, just a ZIP code.*
- **498** - **A suburb; There is little identity or sense of place.**

ResponseID	Response
8	comfortable
16	a dream
17	a community
18	mycelial network
21	Coming home
23	Family
24	Welcoming
26	a responsibility
27	the weather
30	Spider web
31	A big hug
32	A farm
34	Huh?
35	Being taxed to death
36	a Spring morning

39	real life social media
41	Flower
46	Non- existent
47	a broken plate
51	family
54	Having lots of friends in a safe environment
58	Car
63	a fulfilling journey, the more I put into it, the more connected I feel and the more I get out of it.
66	a cup of cocoa on a cold day
73	a sports victory
75	Living in Cuba
78	I don't "belong" to Oshtemo, I live here
80	A cloud
87	Feeling at home
90	a bridge
98	I don't identify with an Oshtemo community, my neighborhood yes, otherwise it's just a convenient location
101	A family
106	Family
108	Buying a bag of cookies but not being aloud to eat them how I want
109	Tennis
114	Living in an anonymous apartment complex
119	High school
124	a small home town feeling
126	Being forced to accept what elected officials tell you that's best for you
130	A punishment
131	the stars in the sky
135	this is a tough question for a survey
137	Having your feet taken out from under you
139	Living in a kingdom
140	Living in a dictatorship.
142	seeking a pleasant peninsula
145	a budding flower

148	A community
149	Paying them most of your paycheck
151	Visiting friends and family
153	needing to protect the air we breathe and the water we drink
167	Home
168	Removing the construct of race
170	A party
172	Snow flake
173	being in a harbor with your boat
178	reaching outside your comfort zone
180	Being the outcast step child
181	An Island
183	community
185	living alone
189	a river
190	home
197	A mystery
199	Being part of a tapestry
200	Being on an island
205	an HOA
206	Not taking down green space for the sake of the lively hood and longevity of the tree.
208	Small Community
216	a retreat
220	puzzle
226	a dictatorship
237	Screaming under a steamroller
239	A flat tire
240	A slap in the face
247	My roads and my neighborhood stay safe quiet
252	Being a grape
253	A Sailboat
254	A sports team

256	Puzzle
257	Zoo
264	a choir
266	Being part of a traditional US living
275	being home
279	circumstance
281	An oasis
286	I don't know
288	feel lonely
289	living outside a city
303	I don't know
306	childhood
308	black ice
310	Coming home
312	Important
316	A cup of coffee
320	Dancing when nobody is watching
331	Quiet room
344	Coming together
375	a roadtrip
387	a hockey game
391	The stars on the American flag
397	A spider web with a massive whole in the middle
398	White noise
432	always being annoyed
439	The human body
450	Running every day
477	mushroom
479	Floating snowflakes
483	A river
485	a 3rd world country.
487	A box of chocolate

493	This is a ridiculous question for a government to ask!!
495	An island
497	NA
498	a suburb
502	Bedroom
508	No
516	fence
522	a HOA
525	Comfortable
526	Seriously? Not crazy about this question. Please don't waste our tax dollars on a project about "feelings". Maybe a better explanation of project goals to the community.
530	a closed box
532	A blank name tag
537	a dead tree
538	Island
542	Better than Kalamazoo
543	being in a small town
545	An ocean
557	thin air in outer space
558	A river that winds

because...

ResponseID	Response
8	access to nature & commercial
16	it isn't real
17	of its rural nature and natural features
18	We are connected and what we do impacts everyone else
21	Our family is here
23	You don't have to agree to get along.
24	I have wonderful neighbors and the township does a fantastic job!
26	we are a community that must work together for our common good.
27	my feelings change from day to day
30	We are all spread out and loosely connected
31	All my neighbors are great.
32	While there are animals, there is plenty of space to feel free and connected at the same time.
34	Very odd question
35	We waste to much money on things we don't need
36	Every day my community is a breath of fresh air.
39	you can go viral with just kindness and support
41	We bloom where planted
46	Oshtemo is bitterly divided over sewer and leadership issues.
47	we are isolated neighborhoods that feel fractured, not connected by any one central place or identity
51	people are friendly
54	a good social life is important as we age.
58	We have M-43
66	it warms your soul
73	we're all in this together
75	Nobody listens to us
80	Nobody knows what's coming down next
87	Peace is why I moved here
90	we are the connection between urban and rural areas.
98	I was born here, buy Oshtemo in and of itself has never felt like a town, more like an outlying area of Kalamazoo.

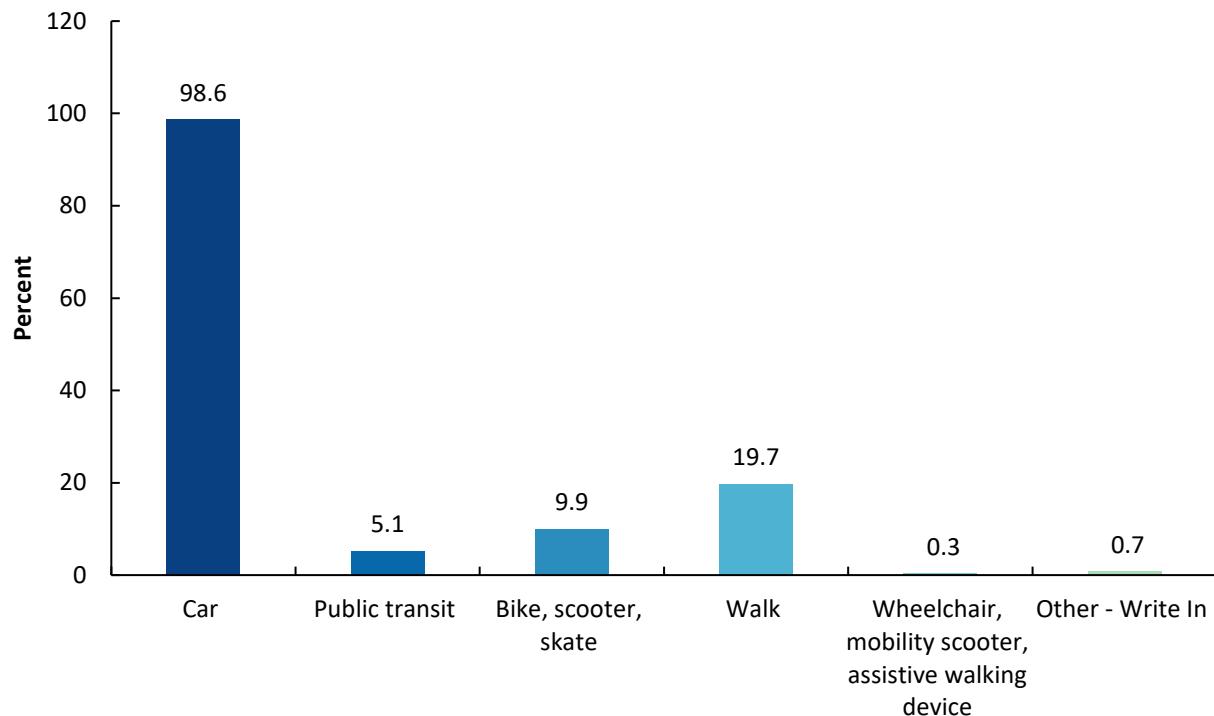
101	We all look out for each other
106	Our neighborhood watches out for each other
108	We have a board that has been given a little power and it goes straight to there head almost like they were picked on in school and now they are getting revenge
109	It's not a team sport
114	There is no community, just a zipcode
115	every time I take a step, I am reminded that the township is governed by a team of democrats
118	We don't have a say and things are done against our will
119	I feel bullied by the elected officials
124	of how Oshtemo township takes pride in providing a family oriented community
126	"Growth", "progress," and "development" means making my money
130	The township board
131	there is room for all of us to shine.
137	We continually have to fight to be heard.
139	The King (Township Board) serves itself and not the people.
140	The board does whatever they want.
142	you just look around you
145	it is still growing
148	We are all neighbors
149	The board wants all of our money
151	We deserve safe comfortable spaces.
153	it is our responsibility for current residents and those who will follow.
167	It's a safe neighborhood to live in.
168	Everyone is seen as human and treated equally.
170	It's fun to get together with family and neighbors
172	It starts strong and then melts
173	like the weather, township decisions and policies affect us all though we have our individual homes and lives.
175	over the past decade it has been very inconsistent
178	it takes a little effort, but can yield big rewards.
180	We are have a Kazoo zip code and no central town
181	We want to stay isolated (our neighborhood)
183	pace is slow enough that we can actually stop and converse with neighbors.

185	to concerned about politics
189	we run together
190	we have been here for 60+ years
197	there's not a lot of transparency among leadership
199	We all contribute to the overall, more vibrant pattern that is our community
200	It seems like everyone is on their own island and we need more of a sense of community.
203	no one can drive affordably
205	You can own a home or property there, but the taxes and regulations will drive you away.
206	Because cutting down the roots of the tree mutilates it and leads to the death of the woods and the current ecosystem with the threat of global warming.
208	We care about Our green spaces and each-other.
213	Of all the strictness
214	We are taxpayers and adults and don't need this nonsense
216	it's peaceful and calm
220	every person adds a unique piece to complete the picture
226	the Board doesn't act in the way the citizens want
237	The township board doesn't listen or respect the residents but also plows ahead with their agenda regardless of how it hurts the residents.
239	The roads are horrible
240	The board does not give 2 cents about the residents and will cheap, scam and do anything to stay afloat... hence the election this year.
247	We need a left turn to our area before someone dies, and we do not need extra traffic in our streets. We are already have a lot of noise from highway and Westin st
252	A bunch of us make great wine.
253	Outside forces guide you
254	We all want to thrive.
256	We are all meant to complete
257	We're all close, however never fully united
264	it takes many voices to make something great
266	Its beautiful and closer to nature
275	you feel safe
279	this is where I can afford to live
281	It's just far enough yet close enough to the city
286	I don't know

288	I am new in the town, and I don't know how to integrate myself.
289	there's always something going on but it can be quiet
303	I'm a college student
306	the parks seem inviting & exciting
308	you can't always see the danger, but you know it's there
310	Of our wonderful neighbors and sense of community
312	We are all human
316	It combines all the ingredients making relaxing and joyful feelings.
320	nobody cares how bad you're dancing.
331	You aren't really sure anyone else is there.
344	We are doing fun activities but also raising money for a need
375	we're all driving together
376	I'm connected and contaminated
387	its fun!
391	We are all important individually and collectively
397	I can't travel easily
398	I don't know or see much about it
432	there is so much construction
434	of the detour
439	We all need to work together to create a better quality of life.
450	I don't
477	your kept in the dark
479	We're dispersed
483	it is just a stop along the way
485	elites make all the rules,
487	Everyday is different
493	This is an absolutely silly, MEANINGLESS question!!
495	We are isolated from board decisions
497	NA
498	there is little identity
502	It's part of whole Kazoo.

508	Stop spending money on ridiculous surveys like this and actually work with residents on what they want. A board that listens, department employees that serve residents and freeze taxes and assessments so residents can still afford to live here.
516	I'm surround by commercial property and blocked off
522	They keep regulating us more.
525	Small enough but big enough
526	I'm waiting for my taxes to go up.
530	no one listens
532	We are lacking a sense of identity
536	the board doesn't listen to it people
537	the board doesn't care
538	I feel like each community is on their own island
542	It is quieter
543	we share in the enjoyment of our environment.
545	We all ride the quiet wave
557	it does not exist
558	people living on opposite banks aren't able to reach across to the other side.

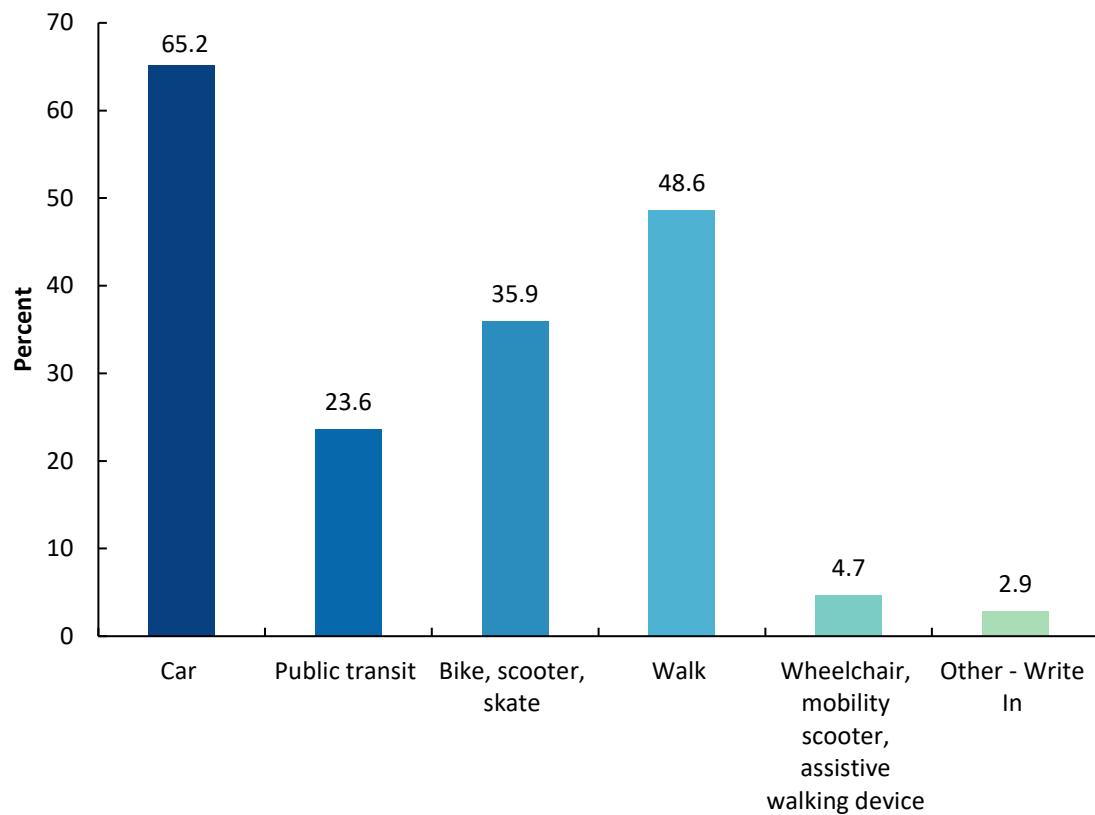
13. How do you currently travel in Oshtemo? (Please select all that apply.)



Value	Percent	Count
Car	98.6%	290
Public transit	5.1%	15
Bike, scooter, skate	9.9%	29
Walk	19.7%	58
Wheelchair, mobility scooter, assistive walking device	0.3%	1
Other - Write In	0.7%	2

Other - Write In	Count
Family rides	1
Run/jog to visit car repair businesses	1
Totals	2

14. How do you wish you could travel in Oshtemo? (Please select all that apply.)



Value	Percent	Count
Car	65.2%	180
Public transit	23.6%	65
Bike, scooter, skate	35.9%	99
Walk	48.6%	134
Wheelchair, mobility scooter, assistive walking device	4.7%	13
Other - Write In	2.9%	8

Value	Count
Other - Write In	
Bike path	1
Flying cars	1
Personal jet pack. https://tenor.com/bGi7N.gif	1

Safer biking and walking. Our neighborhood has no sidewalks.	1
Uber or Lyft	1
bike - paths are disconnected	1
graded walking trail near my house	1
magic carpet	1
Totals	8

15. We would like to know the reasons why you do or do not walk in Oshtemo; what would make you feel comfortable to walk more often? Please answer the following 3 prompts:

I DON'T walk in Oshtemo because...

The overwhelming concern shared here is a **lack of safe, connected, and accessible walking infrastructure** in Oshtemo. Many residents cite **missing or incomplete sidewalks, dangerous traffic speeds, and busy roads without pedestrian-friendly crossings** as barriers to walking. The absence of **non-motorized facilities**, including trails or bike lanes, forces people to **walk on the edges of high-speed roads**, which feels unsafe, especially for those with **disabilities, children, or mobility challenges**. Additionally, some mention that **places they would like to walk to are too far**, and the current infrastructure does not support a **connected, walkable community**.

ResponseID	Response
16	there is no safe walking path on Parkview or 11th
19	Not enough nonmotorized facilities
20	I am disabled
21	I would have to walk on the edge of busy roads
23	Sometimes I feel unsafe on the narrow, hilly roads.
30	Traffic is too busy and too fast
34	I prefer to drive
36	Nearest roads are too dangerous for foot traffic
37	Of a lack of sidewalks
40	There is no trail system to walk or even fully completed sidewalks.
41	Roads are too dangerous. People drive WAY to fast on secondary roads.
46	because there are no sidewalks
47	there is heavy traffic and frequent gun crime in the areas around my neighborhood.
60	I use my car
62	Not enough safe spaces like paths sidewalks
65	traffic - fast moving cars - difficult to cross intersections
71	unsafe and too far to get to where i want to go
73	the neighborhoods aren't connected to anything
79	There are no sidewalks that lead outside of our neighborhood (the sidewalks have major gaps along 9th street and along west main (west of 9th)).
92	there are not safe paths that are not roads and are not near a busy road

93	most places I like to spend time at are too far to walk to safely with children
101	Of the traffic
105	No sidewalks in our neighborhood
106	No sidewalks and traffic
119	Too many homeless grifters
125	Neighborhood has no sidewalks and none to connect anywhere
133	No sidewalks
135	lack of safe walkways
137	Too many man made trails.
142	too dangerous on roads
145	intersections are dangerous
150	There is not enough sidewalks to feel comfortable walking
151	Risky traffic on main arteries
152	It would require time along W. Main and that doesn't feel safe, peaceful, or pretty
153	their are many roads with traffic and no sidewalks or identified walking/biking lanes
161	not enough safe walkways, and aren't maintained
167	We have limited car traffic
171	Road is in poor condition. Hilly.
174	Traffic/busy West Main
175	there arent connected places to walk to
180	Places I would go are far and I don't feel safe walking on 9th Street
181	It would be dangerous if cross traffic is able to come into our neighborhood
189	streetlighting
197	No sidewalks on the busiest streets
199	Often feel Unsafe + unconnected network to where I want to go
200	There aren't enough safe places to walk
205	I live too far away from places to walk to.
220	there's no connectivity between sidewalks/greenways
221	there are no sidewalks and walking along busier streets (9th, 10th) feels unsafe
229	even from my apartment complex to somewhere nearby, like Trader Joe's, there is no non-motorized infrastructure available. If I wanted to get from the south side of Stadium, I'd have to either play 'frogger' and run across the street, or walk way out of my way just to get to the other side of the road. The walk lights are far too short as well, especially in the DDA area.

239	Not enough sidewalks
241	I have to look for cars and dash off the roadway when a car is passing. Cars go so fast (55+mph)
260	there are no sidewalks connecting to my living community
264	there are little/no sidewalks
275	few sidewalks
278	There are not enough safe sidewalks and crossing areas on streets all around Oshtemo.
279	It is not safe to walk along the roadside
289	The distance is too far without sidewalks
296	No sidewalks near me
310	Traffic travels fast and there are not safe spaces
318	Not enough sidewalks
320	Lack of sidewalks
322	No sidewalk, too far, unsafe
329	no sidewalks on KL
332	9 street isn't safe to walk on edge of road.
333	From my residence I would have to travel on the shoulder of 9th street which is posted at 55 mph. Not safe.
340	There aren't sidewalks where I live
341	There are not accessible sidewalks from the apartment complex I live
364	Not many sidewalks
372	There aren't any sidewalks where I'm at, with not a lot of shoulder space
375	there aren't a lot of sidewalks near me.
378	there aren't any sidewalks next to the roads
381	Lack of bike/walking paths
390	No sidewalks
391	There aren't sidewalks near me
398	There are no sidewalks connecting to neighborhood.
399	There's no sidewalks
408	There is no sidewalk on most of KL Av where I live
424	Sidewalks would be helpful along KL and 9th.
429	The roads are too busy and there are no sidewalks
430	You can't, it's not safe and there aren't sidewalks

432	no sidewalks
434	There is nothing close enough for walking and we can't walk under the bridge because of the construction that IS NOT being worked on
439	No where to walk
457	Not a walkable area
467	Not many sidewalks in area
479	9th street is 55mph speed limit
495	No sidewalks
498	There are few things close enough and there are not safe paths.
504	M43 is too dangerous to cross on foot
518	Lack of consistent sidewalks
525	Not conducive to shopping or dinning
526	Busy areas, waiting for pedestrians to cross access to businesses disrupts traffic flow
532	It's not safe with insufficient sidewalks along busy roads
535	There are no sidewalks where I live
538	There is not enough safe roads county friars with areas designated for walking
541	Nothing shoulders on my road
542	We need sidewalks not road side
554	There are no sidewalks in my neighborhood or near my neighborhood and there aren't many places that are close enough for me to walk with my disabilities.
557	No side walk
562	it's too dangerous

I DO walk in Oshtemo because...

Many residents **enjoy walking within their own neighborhoods** because they feel **safe, have low traffic, and find it convenient for exercise, socializing, or walking pets**. Some appreciate **nearby parks and trails**, like the Kal-Haven Trail and wooded areas, as places to walk for **recreation and connection with nature**. While some areas have **sidewalk access or quiet streets that allow for safe walking**, many still mention having to **drive to trails or parks** to find a suitable walking environment. **Walkability is valued**, but often limited to **specific neighborhoods or designated park spaces** rather than being a community-wide feature.

RespondID	Response
21	I can walk in my small neighborhood
23	I love to walk my dog.
26	I walk for exercise
30	Traffic is slower but Only in the neighborhood
34	My destination is close
36	If it is my local neighborhood the foot traffic is fairly safe
37	Convenience and closeness to services and recreation
47	I walk across Drake Road to access the fantastic wooded trails off of Arboretum.
56	there are a few parks and the KalHaven trail to walk on
73	there are some nice neighborhoods for short walks
92	only within my neighborhood, because there is no through traffic and it is safe
101	I have kids
105	Other parks with sidewalks and trails are available in good weather
106	For exercise and to cut down on pollution
109	My neighborhood is safe a private from lots of traffic
119	My neighborhood is safe
137	Where I walk is untouched, natural and uninhibited by man made trails
140	Because my neighborhood is a one-way in one way out and does not have much traffic. All the traffic that my neighborhood has our people that live here.
142	N/A
145	some sidewalks actually go to a destination
150	I don't walk
152	Only in my neighborhood. My neighborhood is safe and only traveled by residents of our neighborhood
162	Only neighborhood or park

167	Our neighborhood is safe
168	I have a safe place to walk.
170	We walk as a family. We don't have sidewalks but we feel safe in the streets since we have one entrance in to the sub and little traffic
174	We walk in our neighborhood for exercise and to go to neighbor's houses
180	N/a
181	I walk in our neighborhood
189	sidewalk access
197	It's safe to share side streets with cars
199	I like fresh air and want to exercise
200	I only walk around my neighborhood
219	Exercise in my neighborhood
220	There's a beautiful park by my workplace
229	There is technically sidewalk infrastructure across the street, and having public access to subdivisions that are less traveled roads that feel safer than walking on high traffic corridors like Stadium
241	I walk on my neighbors forested property, Lillian Anderson property, and around my block - Wolf-H-2nd
266	Its so beautiful
275	bus transit makes it easier
278	I dont
289	It's close enough
307	It's nice to talk to neighbors and walk the dog
310	Of my peaceful neighborhood and the wonderful walking trails (that I have to drive to)
319	It's sometimes easier than driving
320	No other options
326	I need the exercise.
390	Sidewalks
429	NA
430	i never walk
432	my neighborhood is safe
434	NA
439	There are parks
457	I don't

463	I can't drive
478	I have a dog who loves walks.
479	Only in my neighborhood
492	I like the outside
498	I need exercise
518	Parks are walkable
526	Only walk in rural area for exercise
538	Only in my small neighborhood
541	On the trails
542	My neighborhood plat is walkable
549	Love the Kal-Haven Trail
558	My neighborhood is pleasant for walking

I WOULD walk in Oshtemo if...

People would walk more if **there were more sidewalks, safe walking paths, and connected trails** that linked neighborhoods to key destinations. Many want **separation from fast-moving traffic**, safer ways to **cross busy roads**, and **better pedestrian infrastructure**, such as wider roads with bike/walk lanes, working crossing signals, and complete sidewalk networks. **More natural spaces, community trails, and well-lit, attractive paths** would also encourage walking. Additionally, some would walk more if **businesses and amenities were within closer walking distance** or if **safety concerns, like high traffic speeds, were addressed**.

ResponseID	Response
16	there was a safe walking path on Parkview
19	Less traffic and more connectivity
21	If there was a way not to walk on busy roads like West Main
23	If we had wider roads that included a biking/walking lane, I would walk more and feel safer.
24	I would walk more if I could directly connect to the trail without walking down the side of H ave
30	There were more walking paths and places to go
34	I wanted to
36	There were more paths connecting neighborhoods and sheltering walkers from vehicles. I'm not going to walk down M-43 without a sidewalk.
37	Crossing signals are in working order at busy intersections.
40	There was a trail system like in Portage.
41	Speed limits dropped and there were more pedestrian pathways.
46	there were sidewalks
47	it felt safer.
62	There were paths along the roads
63	there were more residential sidewalks.
65	there were safer ways to cross the streets
73	there was more non-motorized infrastructure connecting the neighborhoods
79	9th street had a safe sidewalk without gaps.
92	i would walk more if there were more safe paths that do not have any cars on or near them
93	There were more community natural spaces nearby.
101	There were more sidewalks
105	There were more sidewalks
106	If there was less traffic and sidewalks.
119	There were less transients and beggars

125	We could connect
127	There were better designed walkable communities.
133	Sidewalks
135	there were more non-motorized ways
137	Things would be left natural.
140	Equi
142	roads wider and/or paths along roads
145	all sidewalks actually go to a destination.
150	There were more crosswalks
153	if I felt more secure walking on sidewalks or identified lanes.
167	See above
174	There was a sidewalk that extended to the library/Oshtemo Park
175	if there were safe places to walk that connected places of interest
180	I knew more about paths available
181	I'll continue in our neighborhood and would beyond if there were paths or didewslks
189	if there was more light
197	10th street had a sidewalk
199	Walking felt safer - more street trees/separation from cars. + more complete sidewalk network
200	If it was safer to do so and had more sidewalks/trails that connected
205	there was something closer to walk to.
219	More trails with bathrooms available
220	I felt I wasn't competing with cars!
221	there were sidewalks and lights to make it safe
229	It felt safer (not cars going 60+ on Stadium Drive right near you), longer walk lights to cross the street, more connected networks, especially from apartment complexes to services, like Trader Joe's (which has internal sidewalk networks)
241	There was a little more room on the shoulders.
260	there was a sidewalk
264	there were more sidewalks
275	if we had more sidewalks
278	There were more safe sidewalks and actually safe biking lanes on the more active roads
279	their were safe passageways
289	The community felt safer

307	Better sidewalks by the library
310	There were better paths along busy streets
318	there were more sidewalks
319	There were more things to walk to
320	There were sidewalks near my home
322	sidewalks, businesses closer to me
332	If there were a better sidewalk from kl Avenue.
333	More interlinking bike or pedestrian trails.
341	there were adequate sidewalks
362	There were more sidewalks
364	There were more sidewalks
375	there were more accessible areas to walk on.
378	it was more accessible to
379	there were sidewalks on my road
381	There were biking/walking paths
390	Sidewalks
391	There were more sidewalks
398	There were sidewalks connected to my neighborhood that led all the way to WMU campus.
399	KL was open
408	There was a walkway or at least some sort of path
429	There were more sidewalks or parks or trails
430	I had to
432	there were sidewalks
434	I could walk under the bridge on KL that is blocked off
439	There were more places to walk
457	There were good sidewalks
478	My health was better.
479	Safe walking and bike trails
494	There were walking trails
498	there were safe and attractive trails, like the kalhaven south of W. Main
526	Probably won't
532	It was safer and the places I wanted/needed to go were within walking distance

535	There were sidewalks
538	There were more safe roads and trails
541	There were more sidewalks
542	H ave, 9th and 10th had paths that were not part of the roadway.
554	There were more sidewalks and restaurants near me with outdoor seating.
556	road shoulders were available and or wider
557	there is sidewalk on 9th Street
562	there were safe options

16. We would like to know the reasons why you do or do not bike in Oshtemo; what would make you feel comfortable to bike more often? Please answer the following 3 prompts:

I DON'T bike in Oshtemo because...

People avoid biking because **roads feel unsafe, lacking dedicated bike lanes, sidewalks, or shoulders**. Many mention **fast traffic, narrow roads, and high-speed limits** as major deterrents. **Connectivity is a challenge**, as bike paths and sidewalks often **end abruptly or don't link to key destinations**. Some areas also have **heavy traffic, crime concerns, or poor road conditions** that make biking unappealing. Additionally, **hilly terrain, long distances between destinations, and personal limitations** (such as disabilities or lack of a bike) further discourage biking. Many would bike more if there were **safe, dedicated bike lanes, improved road conditions, and better trail connections**.

RespondID	Response
8	fast traffic in my area
16	because I don't want to be hit by a car on roads with narrow shoulders
18	busy roads with not enough bike paths
19	Lack of facilities
20	I am disabled
21	Roads are too busy
23	There are no safe bike lanes on 2nd or in the surrounding areas.
27	my house is not on a street with a sidewalk
34	My bike is broken
36	Cars make more sense for errands
41	Same
44	The roads between my house and bike able areas is not wide enough for safe riding
47	there is heavy traffic and frequent gun crime in the areas around my neighborhood.
65	fast traffic
73	most primary roads have no bike infrastructure
79	THE ROAD SURFACE IN OUR NEIGHBORHOOD TEARS APART BIKE TIRES. The tar with gravel is the most horrendous, family and community unfriendly decision Oshtemo has made in our 10 years here.
92	same as above
93	because I don't feel safe doing so with my children.
106	Traffic

119	Traffic
133	No bike paths
135	lack of safe non-motorized ways
142	too dangerous; roads too narrow
152	It would require time along W. Main and that doesn't feel safe, peaceful, or pretty
153	Same reasons as walking..
161	can't safely get to bike trails
173	there aren't any bike paths or trails where we live.
174	Traffic/business of West Main
178	it's not pedestrian friendly in most places.
182	Where I live is hilly and there are no shoulders to safely ride.
189	I do not bike
197	No bike lanes
199	I would need to bike among traffic to really get anywhere
216	not enough safe bike lanes
219	Don't want to share roads with cars and trucks
220	there's no connectivity between bike paths/sidewalks
221	It feels unsafe without bike lanes or sidewalks
229	I don't own a bike, but the network seems unsafe, especially on like Drake Road, W Main St, and Stadium Drive. Look at how the bike infrastructure on the road shoulder ends from the City of Kalamazoo right at Drake Road when coming into the Township.
241	The roads are narrow and Meijers is a long way.
260	there is no bike lane connecting to my community and the speed of the traffic with the bend in the road makes it feel unsafe
264	there are no sidewalks
275	crazy driver's
278	There aren't enough biking lanes that feel safe nor sidewalks to use.
281	I would have to go on some main roads to get to the less busy ones
296	Nothing is that close
298	I don't have a bike
300	There's no sidewalk to campus
307	9th is dangerous
310	There are not designated lanes that are safe and separate from busy traffic

312	No proper path
316	Places are too far away from one another
322	unsafe, not a bike lane from my house
331	I live on W Main and it isn't safe.
333	Roads I have to travel have no bike lanes. I do not trust drivers
375	There are not bike lanes near me
378	no safe bike lanes/sidewalks near me
390	No bike
398	There are no sidewalks connecting to my neighborhood. And bike lanes feel small on such busy and fast roads.
408	No path to ride bike out of KL Avenue, I'd have to ride the side of the road and hope I don't get hit
429	No safe place for bikes
430	You cant
432	cars drive too fast
441	Safety
457	Not good for biking
462	I do not feel safe riding my bike on some of the roads.
463	there aren't bike lanes
479	9th street is 55 mph speed limit and no shoulder
485	roads are scary
493	Biking near my home is too dangerous as there are no shoulders on any of the roads. Additionally, the roads are too narrow and hilly to safely accommodate bikes without a shoulder on the roads.
498	few bike lanes
504	M43
510	not enough trails
518	Dangerous streets
538	It is not safe on roads like vankal because of traffic and vehicles and no safe space to walk beside them
554	It's not safe in my area and I don't have a bike
557	No bike lane

I DO bike in Oshtemo because...

Many people bike for **recreation, exercise, and enjoyment of nature**, often using existing trails like the **Kal-Haven Trail**. Some bike within their **neighborhoods** because they feel **safe due to low traffic**. Others appreciate the **bike paths and wooded trails** available, though many limit biking to these designated areas. **Connectivity remains a challenge**, as some **drive to trails** rather than biking directly from home. While some see **biking infrastructure improving**, others note they only bike when conditions are favorable, such as when their **bike is working** or when they can access **safe routes**.

ResponseID	Response
18	i like the bike paths we do have
19	I live here and need to if I want to get anywhere on a bike
33	of the bike trails
34	When my bike works
36	Recreation
47	I walk across Drake Road to access the fantastic wooded trails off of Arboretum.
56	because there are parks and trails that are provided
106	Exercise
109	We are close to Kal-haven trail and we bike often for exercise in the warmer months
119	It's fine in the neighborhood
142	N/A
152	Only in my neighborhood. My neighborhood is safe and only traveled by residents of our neighborhood
167	Our neighborhood is low traffic
170	There are bike paths and safe streets
173	we try to ride on quiet country roads where there isn't much traffic.
174	We bike within our neighborhood because there is low traffic and it feels safe for our children
178	It seems to be growing instead of decaying
197	I don't
199	Of the trail system - limited to recreationally. I drive to the trail and then bike
219	Just use KalHaven trail for exercise for that parking lot
220	I am on a trail.
221	I like the scenery and want to get fresh air and exercise
241	I bike for fitness, but I bike to the Kal Haven trail.

266	Its so beautiful
275	bike lanes and trails
278	I dont
307	Only in my neighborhood
310	Scenic and beautiful
316	Biking is good for physical health.
331	We have trails.
429	NA
430	Dont
432	my neighborhood is safe
457	I don't
479	Only on bike trails
492	I like biking and I can bike
493	A nice amount of wooded and nature areas that are easy to view while riding.
498	I like to bike and sometimes I don't want to drive somewhere else
538	Only in my small neighborhood or if I drive to an acceptable place
549	Love the Kal-Haven Trail
558	Some of The places I want to go are accessible

17. We would like to know the reasons why you do or do not bike in Oshtemo; what would make you feel comfortable to bike more often? Please answer the following 3 prompts:

I WOULD bike in Oshtemo if...

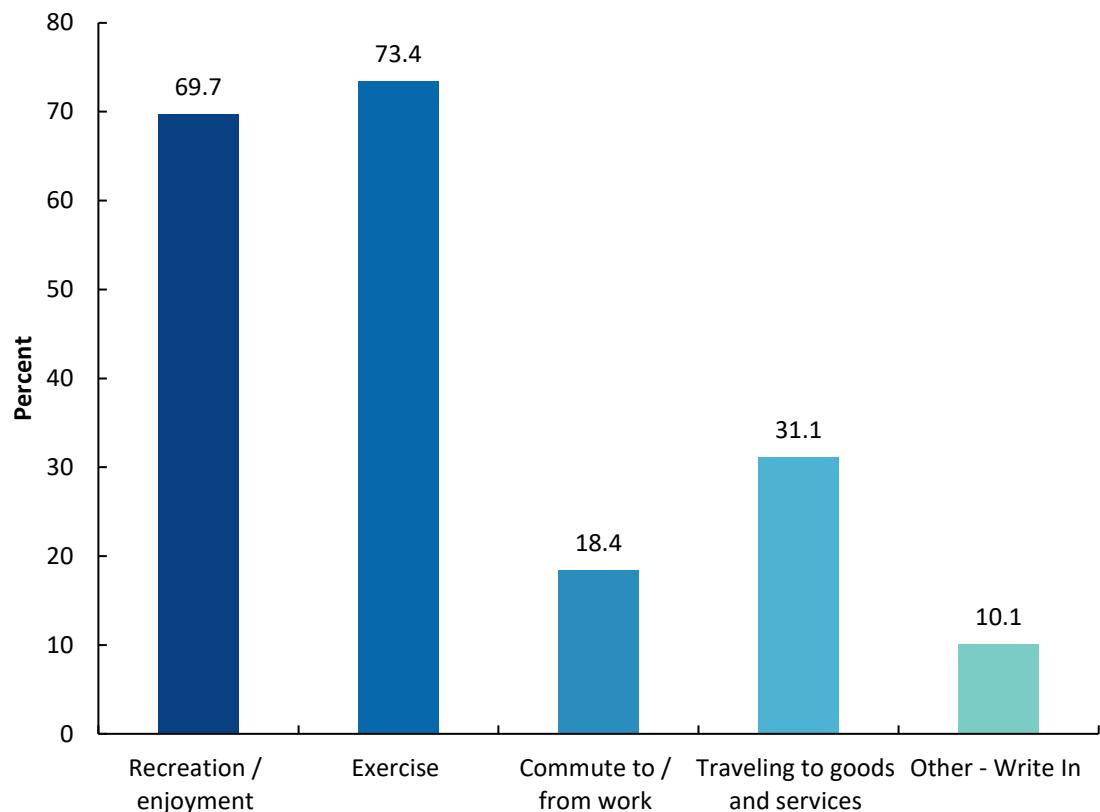
Many people would bike more if there were **more bike lanes, dedicated paths, and better connectivity** between key destinations. **Safety is a major concern**, with many wanting **protected bike lanes, sidewalks, wider shoulders, and safer intersections**. Some mention the need for **slower speeds, better signage, and increased enforcement** to improve road conditions. **Improved infrastructure on primary roads**, especially those with high-speed limits, would make biking more feasible. **Better connections between neighborhoods, trails, and services** would encourage more biking, as would **bike-friendly amenities like repair stations and air pumps**. Seeing **more people biking** would also reinforce the perception of safety.

ResponseID	Response
8	slower speeds, more signage
16	the non-motorized path planned along Parkview was finished
18	we had more bike paths
19	More facilities and connectivity
21	The area was connected by paths or sidewalks
23	We had bike lanes.
27	I could bike from my house to the Cal Haven trail without dealing with a 50 MPH road
34	I already do when I can
36	There were more bike paths
41	Same
44	I could get to 9th, west main, or the Kal Haven trail safely
47	it felt safer.
57	there were more bike lanes, especially on 10th street
73	there was more bike infrastructure on primary roads that connected to real destinations...not just scattered around town
79	There was a SAFE sidewalk that led to a park or longer bike trail
93	Major intersections had designated pedestrian crossing times/lights
106	There was less traffic in my neighborhood
119	Intersections felt safer
133	Bike paths
135	there were more non-motorized ways

142	it was safer
153	Same reasons as walking.
161	there were safe paths and shoulders to get to the trails
167	See above
174	Sidewalk extended to the library/Oshtemo Park
178	There was a bicycle shop nearby where I could get free air and buy I need for my bike.
182	I felt safer on the roads and had space to ride on the road.
197	There were bike lanes
199	It felt safer to bike along/with traffic
216	more bike lanes on roads
219	More rail trail options available
220	there was better connectivity between non-motorized paths.
221	there were bike lanes or sidewalks
229	There was a safe and connected network from dense areas of the Township to services
241	Some of the less traveled roads could get me somewhere.
260	there was a sidewalk or protected bikelane connecting to my living community
264	there were sidewalks on KL
275	increased cameras and policing of roads
278	More infrastructure was put in place for non-driving people
281	I saw more people out biking and I knew it was safe because they do it
300	Sidewalk to campus
307	I would like to ride it from 7th to Latitude 43, but no sidewalks
310	There were designated lanes that are safe and separate from busy traffic
312	There were protected bike lanes
316	Particular place or space for bikes along the roads and streets.
322	more bike lanes, safety rails
326	There were bike lanes along north 9th st, H Ave and north 10th st
331	We had a safer way to do so from our house.
333	More bike lane or pedestrian trails to meaningful locations.
372	there were sidewalks/bikepaths
375	there were bike lanes
379	there were dedicated bike lanes

390	Had bike
398	There were sidewalks so I don't have to ride the bike lanes.
408	Some path
429	There were safe lanes to do so
430	Have to
432	there were safe places to ride
439	More bike paths
441	Safety was not an issue
457	Clear wide bike lanes available
462	If there were wider shoulders and more protected bike lanes on more roads.
479	There were safe bike trails
498	There were bike path connections to other trails, like the kalhaven
538	They had more trail systems in my area for this activity i
554	There were more places to go that were safe and accessible by bike
557	there is a bike lane or sidewalk on 9th Street
558	There were more connections between the major thoroughfares

18. Why do you use or wish to use non-motorized transportation methods in Oshtemo? (Please select all that apply.)

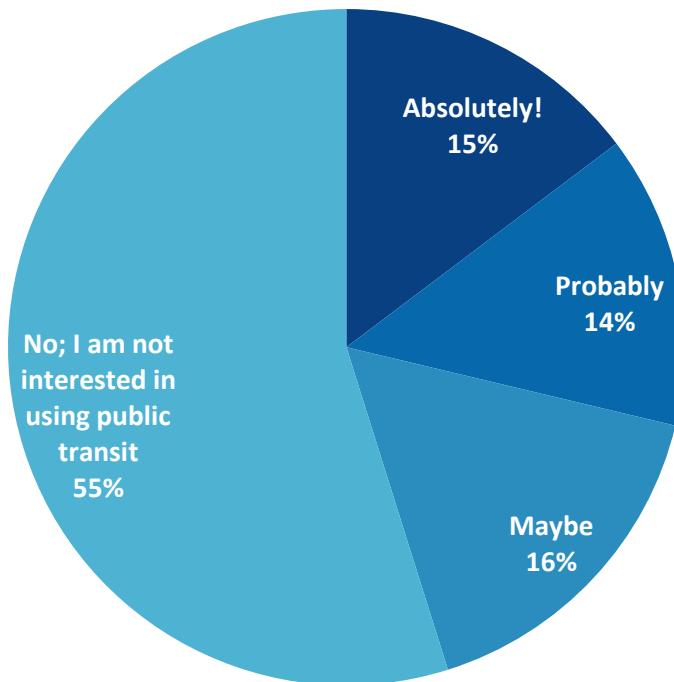


Value	Percent	Count
Recreation / enjoyment	69.7%	186
Exercise	73.4%	196
Commute to / from work	18.4%	49
Traveling to goods and services	31.1%	83
Other - Write In	10.1%	27

Value	Count
Other - Write In	
I don't	2
Again, misleading question. I don't prefer non-motorized	1
Bicycles are for hobby and relaxation.	1
Enjoy the outdoors	1
I do not	1

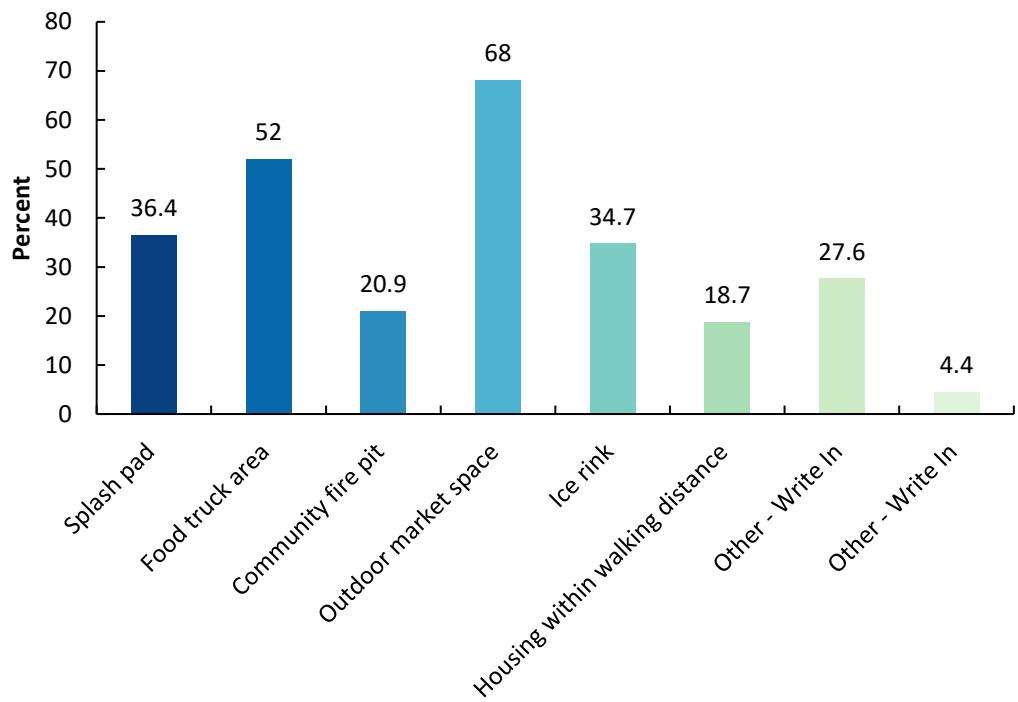
I do not	1
I do not use non motorized vehicles	1
I do think curbed sidewalks that all connect would be good for community, but they would need to be maintained and groomed by township. Otherwise it will never work as evidenced by westmain and stadium drive. If it's a community resource, than community resources should maintain them.	1
I don't wish to	1
I don't, stop catering to a tiny fraction of people who do and serve the vast majority	1
I don't.	1
I prefer my car	1
It is a wonderful way of getting to know my township.	1
N/A	1
NA	1
None	1
Save energy	1
Travel to school	1
We moved to Oshtemo 21 years ago so we could be away from the city and traffic but still have the ability to travel downtown when needed.	1
because a magic carpet is cool	1
car only	1
i dont	1
n/a	1
not a wish	1
pedestrian friendly "village" area	1
Totals	26

19. If the trail and / or sidewalk network safely connected you to a bus stop, would you utilize public transit more often?



Value	Percent	Count
Absolutely!	14.7%	43
Probably	14.0%	41
Maybe	16.4%	48
No; I am not interested in using public transit	54.8%	160
	Totals	292

20. OSHTEMO COMMUNITY CENTER The portion of the Township that includes the Township Hall, Township Park, Fire Department, and Library has been identified as a key center of the community (outlined on the map below). How might we enhance this area to make it a lively and welcoming space for people to gather and spend time? (Please select all that apply.)



Value	Percent	Count
Splash pad	36.4%	82
Food truck area	52.0%	117
Community fire pit	20.9%	47
Outdoor market space	68.0%	153
Ice rink	34.7%	78
Housing within walking distance	18.7%	42
Other - Write In	27.6%	62
Other - Write In	4.4%	10

Other - Write In

A splash pad might be nice in the 9th street park, but expensive to maintain.

Additional pickleball courts

Better bike trails for access

Better signs no one can find the park it's all to confusing

Calmer traffic on West Main

Coffee shop and or breakfast & lunch spot.

Community Pool

Community rental hall/event center. I own Hite House, I'll design it!

Community swimming pool

Connect to sidewalks in Oshtemo

Dog park for only Oshtemo residents

Don't be ridiculous. Stop spending money.

Easily accessible on foot or bike. It's currently off a very busy thru traffic corridor and feels cut off from where I live.

Extend the bike path along west main to the library

Farmer's Market

Farmer's market / Craft shows

Farmers Market on Sundays

Fine the way it is.

Food trucks are a bad idea. It would take away from the quiet atmosphere of the park.

Get internet. I used to visit the park daily and play Pokémon go but the last several years the whole area between the township and Meijer is a data dead zone.

Groomed and/or Lighted Cross country ski trail

I absolutely support all of these especially a splash pad during the summer and and outdoor marketplace for local vendors!

I like it how it is. Please don't over commercialize it. Keep it useful but peaceful.

Increased hours at the library

It's a great area. We use it a lot!

More Sports activities, Pickle Ball.

More signs showing where it is

None, lower our taxes

Open more often

Outdoor theater

Park is great. Maybe more benches?

Parking lot too full now

Pickleball courts

Quit wasting money on things like this and use it for things that actually matter since it seems budgets are very tight while watching board meetings.

Recycling

Seems like you already do a good job here

Sell the Twp owned property to small businesses and let the market decide

Sidewalk reaching to this area on West Main

Sidewalks to the area from nearby communities

Stop trying to spend money you don't have.

Tell new residents about this space! I only know the location brand y

Tennis court backboard

This space is not safely or easily accessible by most residents by any method other than a car. Fixing this would be highly impactful to the space feeling more the center of the Oshtemo Community

Traffic signal for safe turns into area

Walking access to these areas

Walking trails

Water park with slides

We enjoy the space as it is

Zip line

alternative ways to access other than trying to turn left across 55 MPH traffic

coffee shop, hammocks

entertainment to draw people in

food of some sort - coffee, ice cream?

it would be nice to NOT have the park area hidden behind the town hall and fire station

more space; too small

non-motorized paths that leads to here from neighborhoods

really like the development of the parks

retail

sidewalk from bus stops (Meijer and Walmart) to the Library

small commercial - coffee shop/diner

trail parking / access points

trash drop off

Totals

Other - Write In

A monthly market space with food and or crafts would be nice. It could be another way to bring the community together. Splash pads are a bad idea because it would bring too many people from outside the community to the park on a regular basis. Same thing with an ice rink.

Community multi purpose gymnasium

Free outdoor wifi and covered outdoor tables/chairs to work remotely while in nature. Check out the new covered patio area at Celery Flats.

Leave it as is. Events can be held in these areas and previously held. I love the green space that Oshtemo currently has.

Plenty of outdoor seating areas

Township festival

[lawn pavilion/outdoor theater/art gallery/cafe](#)

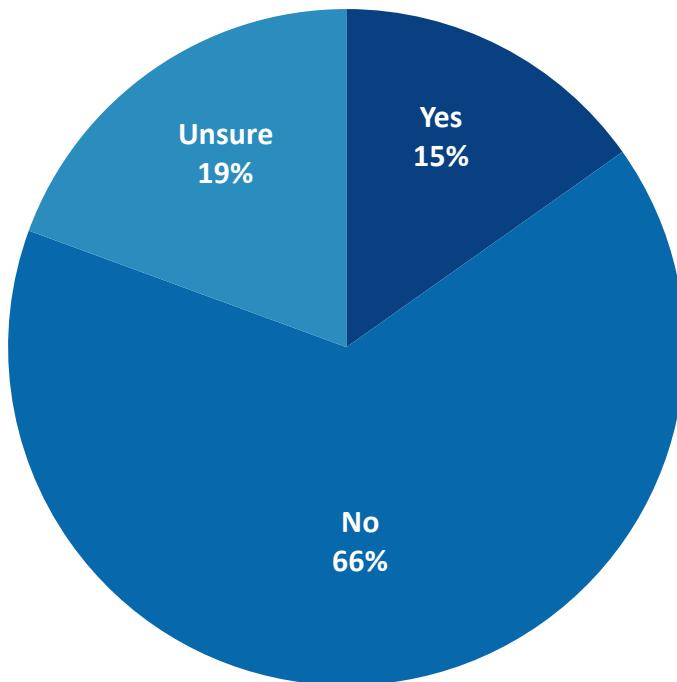
marketing

office

restaurants within walking distance of the park within crossing West Main or 9th St

Totals

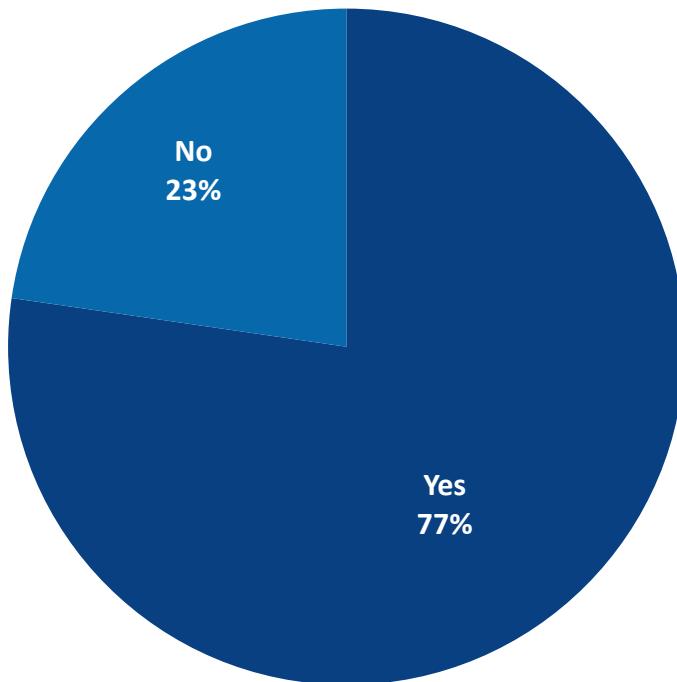
21. Are you familiar with the Oshtemo Place Types that are being used to guide future development in the Township?



Value	Percent	Count
Yes	15.2%	36
No	65.4%	155
Unsure	19.4%	46
Totals		237

22. The first Place Type we will look at is REGIONAL

CORRIDOR. These are areas comprised of large-scale heavily-traversed commercial uses with a county-wide draw. **CURRENT CONDITIONS:** Large commercial establishments providing goods and services with large parking lots and drive throughs. **DESIRED FUTURE CONDITIONS:** Large commercial establishments providing goods and services with infill development within parking lots and increased landscaping and sidewalks. **REGIONAL CORRIDORS** are/will be located at the following areas: Do you agree with the selected locations?



Value	Percent	Count
Yes	77.3%	177
No	22.7%	52
	Totals	229

23. Why or why not?

Main Themes:

1. **Traffic Concerns**
 - Many feel West Main is already too congested, comparing it to South Westnedge.
 - Concerns about increased traffic, noise, and unsafe conditions for pedestrians and cyclists.
 - Some suggest better traffic management, Michigan left turns, and limiting access points.
2. **Support for Development in Existing Commercial Areas**
 - Many agree that West Main and Stadium Drive are logical places for commercial growth.
 - Existing businesses and highway access make these locations suitable.
 - Some support infill development rather than expanding into new areas.
3. **Desire for Thoughtful Planning & Infrastructure**
 - Calls for better sidewalks, bike paths, and pedestrian-friendly infrastructure.
 - Support for landscaping improvements and better aesthetics in commercial areas.
 - Some oppose excessive parking lots and favor mixed-use development.
4. **Mixed Opinions on Growth & Economic Development**
 - Some welcome more retail and dining options, especially sit-down restaurants.
 - Others argue Oshtemo already has enough commercial space, pointing to vacant storefronts and struggling businesses.
 - Some suggest focusing on other areas, such as 9th Street near I-94.

Some concerns about **overdevelopment, loss of green space, and commercial creep into neighborhoods may stem from a misunderstanding of the proposal**. The plan focuses on **enhancing and optimizing existing commercial areas, not expanding them**. This means **no additional commercial sprawl or loss of natural spaces** beyond what is already designated.

ResponseID	Response
8	too far west on W Main could go a little further south on Drake
17	The type of development is atrocious. It has effectively ruined the natural beauty of the area. West Main has become another South Westnedge. The increased noise (I live a couple of miles away from West Main) is noticeable.
18	convenient and easy to access and already has a lot.
23	If I'm understanding this proposal correctly, there would be natural beauty added through green spaces and improved access through the installation of sidewalks. That sounds like an improvement to me.
24	They are there and conveniently located
25	Less access on m43 force people to the lights and make sure they have turn lanes and turn lights ie maple hill out turn lights up
26	Most traveled roads are the right places to concentrate this kind of business
27	too much traffic

30	Very close to my neighborhood
31	They are already located there
32	Best access for other communities and travelers.
35	It seems like the more you grow Oshtemo the more my property taxes go up and I've seen no benefits for me in the 30 years I've lived here
36	We need more utilization of the current space, more sidewalks and bike paths so that local residents feel comfortable on foot or bike.
37	Those are currently the largest commercial business areas in the township.
39	Those are both heavily trafficked areas.
40	Those areas are logical places for business growth, but they will only draw people if the businesses are what interests people. We need more than fast food or fast casual restaurants and more sit down type. Preferably locally owned. HOWEVER, we do NOT need extra ROADS connecting anything and everything. The big draw for us was the quiet smaller neighborhood that has a great community but is still close to things. If you want more "connectivity", do it with a trail system where we can walk or bike.
46	I agree with the West Main corridor but feel that the Stadium corridor is too close to quiet residential areas.
47	It seems like they already are regional corridors in those locations. I didn't really understand what infill development within parking lots means, so I don't understand if this provides a change from current use.
48	They should not push into housing or green spaces. Keeping them centrally to the highway and west main or 9th st is where they should stay
49	The west main one is my main retail area. I'd love more restaurant options besides fast food.
54	We're ok with West Main development as long as it's not cutting into our neighborhood. We don't want it connected to other businesses or other neighborhoods. It's fabulous the way it is...except we need sewers!
55	It is close to what we already have there so the development will be easier.
56	Yes but I also believe the I-94/9th Street/Stadium Drive area should be included
57	It would be great to build density along 10th street
58	This idea helps protect the natural outdoors that pulled us to our neighborhood.
59	The additional traffic increase, compounds the already poor traffic flow we already have.
60	Don't care much for the idea
63	Because they are in populated areas with major roads accessing them.
64	Easy off/on access to 131 makes sense -
72	Those two areas are where most of the stores are.
73	The section on West Main Street should extend farther south along US-131 and Drake Road.
75	We don't need any more commercial places in oshtemo

79	It's putting too many large commercial stores right up against neighborhoods! The community does not want these huge commercial stores connected to our homes! The traffic patterns are already creating an unsafe intersection in this area and putting these businesses will make walking and biking in the area impossible.
87	I don't like what you're doing. I don't like the way you are congesting the area in which I live. You don't listen to CURRENT OSHTEMO RESIDENTS anyway so why even bother doing surveys like this.
90	Already established as that.
92	Traffic and Noise in front of my neighborhood Traffic and congestion/noise on W Main
97	Already too much traffic in our neighborhood with speeders, and turn around vehicles
101	Good location
106	Because there's already a lot of traffic there
109	Because there currently are larger stores in those areas
111	One of them is directly impacting my living area. It's unnecessary development for the sake of developing. There needs to be more strategic thought. The area is not set up to be a walking area. If we add a cut through there will just be more cars, people will not utilize the sidewalk.
114	Looks good.
118	Because these properly appear to be regional corridors
125	Agree, massive parking lots look wasteful
126	W Main is already overdeveloped. Attempts toward more "growth" 2 will create another Westnedge like in Portage—and nearby neighborhoods will suffer accordingly.
131	More aesthetically pleasing.
133	Already concrete
137	These make sense due to their already being a plethora of businesses in these areas.
139	They are already developed in this manner
142	Physical location is appropriate-available land, roads, access, etc.
145	Those areas are located in the places that most people recognize as an entrance into Oshtemo.
148	I don't believe anything should be connected to the already very busy sky king and Beckham highlands neighborhood. This is already a highly occupied development with a lot of children who play on streets, sidewalks and culdusacs. We don't need additional traffic through here causing safety concerns.
149	Doesn't matter to me if there is landscaping in the parking lot of businesses that I want to go to
150	Oshtemo is already busy enough. Taxes are rising exponentially for what we already have. There is not enough police force or actual space to cover this commercial decimation of natural resources including trees and native animal life.
162	Oshtemo is busy enough with the Menards, Meijer and Walmart all located within a mile of each other... not to mention strip malls in place already. The one strip mall has issues with the businesses, restaurant staying open, we don't need more. Drake, W main is insanely busy,

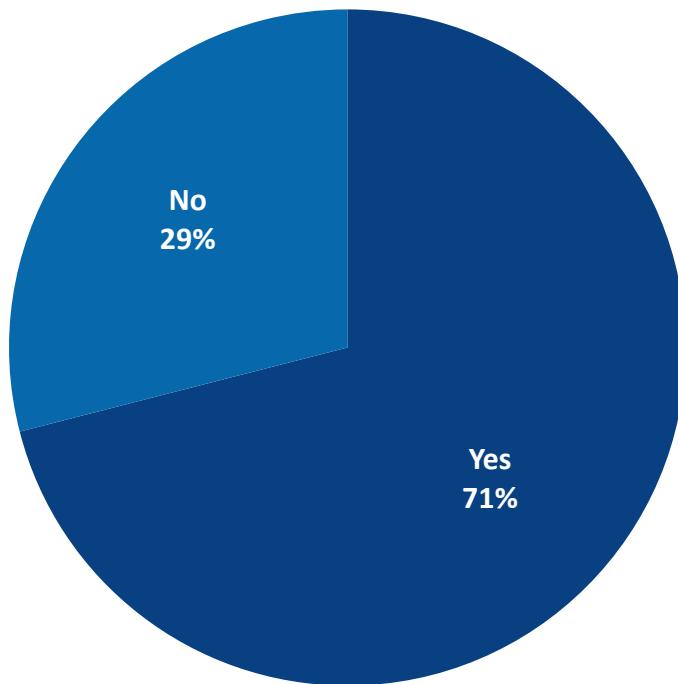
	more businesses will turn our lovely green Oshtemo to Westnedge part 2. Not needed nor wanted.
167	Seems appropriate
168	Expansion for the future.
170	I like growth
171	Accessibility
172	Keeping the business is fine on west main IF no more cut outs for parking/access are installed. More cut outs make it much more dangerous for people to use the bike path. Having a number of businesses using a loop with one or two existing cut outs makes sense. Use the newly installed light. Also do NOT allow development behind those business that connect to existing neighborhoods. Have the developers use the "loop" that the businesses will be using. DO NOT allow developers to make a profit at the existing neighborhood's expense. We pay the price while the developers take their profits and leave.
173	However, we are concerned with the high increase of traffic in these areas. Especially West Main.
174	The traffic on West Main is already too much. It is too hard to get into and out of my neighborhood safely (particularly n from West Main), and I do not feel safe walking or Nike riding to the library/park with my children along this corridor
178	It would be good to start developing a third area to cut down on congestion. That's already happening somewhat on ninth Street south of Stadium.
180	They are already built up. Don't take away more green space and please control signage (think Sedona, AZ-soooo nice how they've done it)
182	They are in high traffic areas.
183	Not sure. Don have enough information yet as to why these locations were chosen.
184	Business is good for tax base
185	More traffic.....more housing that is not needed Need no connections to other neighborhoods Instead of housing a park and picnic area for current residents
189	Most dense for shopping.
190	As long as the land owners are in full agreement
197	Most businesses are there
199	Should include drake
202	Why change it?
203	they are near 131
205	Those areas do seemingly fit the description, although the entirety of Drake would fit this as well.
206	Further detail needs to be provided. The sections highlighted already have business and heavy traffic. Why add more? Air quality and more traffic is not needed for sustainability. Further explanation and the impact needs to be discussed between residents and the elected commission.
207	They are already developed for this use.

212	Unutilized parking lots, BUT those areas are already very busy.
213	The amount of traffic on West Main from Drake to West of 9th Street is insane. It's like a 2nd Westnedge thru there. We don't need more traffic and landscaping islands making it more difficult to get out on to our off of West Main. Leave it alone out here!!!
214	Because, knowing current board, these areas will creep more and more into existing residential neighborhoods (with the exception of the neighborhoods they live in).
216	These are and will continue to be the primary developments of this type because of their locations.
219	Current location of most businesses and off 131 exits
220	Where most of the commercial lies in the township. also good to add more landscaped spaces.
226	I use my own rating system based upon road upkeep, crime and traffic.
229	Agree with capping the large commercial areas toward the boundary with the City of Kalamazoo, as well as providing infill development where there is already infrastructure. Agree with a robust non-motorized transportation network.
237	You are missing the 9th street corridor near I94.
239	Na
241	Those are commercial areas that are catering to cars. Making them more pedestrian friendly will make it better to park one time and perhaps walk to two stores, instead of driving to each one.
253	To close to our neighborhood and would lower the value of our home, investment.
256	They need more landscaping the area around there is very dull looking.
266	Its going to benefit maximum people
279	I dont want residential areas becoming commericalized
281	It would be easier to navigate these areas and more welcoming
288	Easy to go.
303	There's so much going on W main st already, I would know because I work on W main st and it can be very busy at multiple times a day and people aren't very aware in driving and there tends to be an accident every other week.
307	Great location
310	These are commercial spaces and the plan to infill and make safe for all modes of transport meets the needs of all residents
312	Those areas are already heavily trafficked.
318	Very easily accessible for the public, but one down by Stadium and 9th would be nice as well.
319	Freeway connection. It doesn't impact the rest of Oshtemo too much, being on the side of the township.
320	Thats where all the people are.
326	Current ingress/egress haphazard and dangerous.

331	Those are already cometh business areas. Not sure it looks much different. But the rewards and traffic around those places is not great as it is.
332	Oshtemo is growing fast.
333	They are already established and zoned for that. Creating new corridors just created additional areas segregating the community even more.
344	N/A
362	There would be places within walking distance from my neighborhood
365	The goods and services that I need to supplement my living are close enough. We do not need more shopping centers 5 minutes down the road.
375	There are a lot of establishments already in those locations, so further developing them is a positive thing.
387	Its where I go the most!
390	Cause I said so
391	I find it useful
397	Needs attention
398	No strong opinion
422	I visit those areas very often
426	I said no only because since having been here for five years now, I've noticed Kalamazoo as a whole, Oshtemo included has a problem with traffic. There is too many people and not enough space on the roads and way to many lights. If you spread out into areas that are developed yet and added one or two more plains to W main St and to stadium drive then you'd have an idea I would agree with more.
462	The selected locations are very easy to access, especially being very close to the highway. This makes it very easy to stop on my way back home.
467	They have a lot of traffic and a small variety of places I would actually visit and shop at
474	They're pretty built up already
477	To much traffic already.
479	Most logical place to have them
483	I think that both areas are a good place for the community feel considering they are heavily populated with college students.
485	Concentration of business to serve my needs within a specific area, with easy ingress -egress. West Main needs Michigan turns. It's getting as tough as Westnedge to navigate and there's congestion at all the lights packed in a given stretch.
487	Common areas
492	Right next to neighborhoods that have been there forever
498	Those are the areas with intense commercial development already. It makes sense.
499	Highway access. Still room for additional development without spreading to other areas.

502	Already very congested
504	I don't want to have to drive all of the way down west main to get into Meijer. That would be way out of the way. Also west main towards kalamazoo is more hectic and accident prone than towards the lake. Especially after the highway.
508	The map won't open in this survey
511	Doesn't account for areas such as 9th and I-94.
516	they are way too conjetsted
519	Their is already bussiness there
522	Traffic is already heavy, don't need another Westnedge.
525	Commercially concentrated
526	Seen these in many cities during my travels. So much better for traffic, visually more attractive and easier to get in and out
530	No more Advia type variances
532	I don't really have an opinion so I will trust the experts on this one
537	Who would go to 11th st. We have empty buildings there now
541	Traffic will be bad if those areas are developed further
542	They are ugly now.
545	Would create congestion.
553	Close to 131, and not impeding into housing areas causing excess traffic there.
554	Those places already have some of of this land use and are near housing and other land uses that could support this kind of region.
556	No. 11th and Stadium cannot handle the increased traffic flow. A better corner would be 9th and Stadium.
557	We do not need more development in these areas as the traffic is busy enough. Beside the green areas are the most precious feature of Oshtemo. This is why people choose to move here.
558	They're already started, might as well build them properly

24. The next Place Type we will look at is **NEIGHBORHOOD MIXED-USE**. These are areas of many different uses and housing types, with small-scale commercial and service amenities in a walkable environment. Neighborhood Mixed-Use areas do not currently exist in Oshtemo. We intend to build upon areas that currently have small scale commercial uses and help them become mixed-use areas with housing, local shops and services and public gathering spaces with connections to sidewalks and trails. **NEIGHBORHOOD MIXED-USE** areas will be located at the following areas: Do you agree with the selected locations?



Value	Percent	Count
Yes	71.0%	159
No	29.0%	65
	Totals	224

25. Why or why not?

There is some concern that certain locations (West Main & 1st, 6th & Stadium) are not appropriate for mixed-use development **due to their rural or industrial nature. However, the overall vision of small, well-integrated commercial areas is widely supported.**

Main Themes:

1. Support for Logical, Well-Distributed Locations

- Many agree the proposed locations make sense based on current development patterns and accessibility.
- Some appreciate the distribution across the township, making these areas accessible to more neighborhoods.
- Several comments note that small-scale mixed-use development could benefit western and central Oshtemo, preventing all growth from concentrating near major roads.

2. Concerns About Specific Locations (1st Street, 6th Street, Far West Areas)

- **1st Street and West Main:** Many believe this area is too far west and still feels rural, making it unsuitable for mixed-use development.
- **6th Street and Stadium:** Some note this area is primarily industrial and question whether mixed-use would be appropriate there.
- General concern about expanding too far west, with some preferring to focus development closer to existing infrastructure.

3. Desire to Protect Neighborhoods & Green Spaces

- Several comments express concern about encroaching on residential areas and increasing traffic in neighborhoods.
- Some fear that mixed-use areas will evolve into full commercial zones, impacting community character.
- Prairies Golf Course specifically mentioned as a green space to protect.

4. Traffic & Infrastructure Concerns

- Many worry about increased traffic, congestion, and pedestrian safety, particularly along West Main.
- Some emphasize the need for better sidewalks, trails, and connectivity to make mixed-use areas functional.

5. Desire for Small, Walkable Commercial Areas

- Many support small businesses and local shops but want them designed to integrate well with existing neighborhoods.
- Some emphasize that walkability and accessibility should be prioritized rather than car-centric development.
- A few suggest locations near existing student or lower-income housing to provide better access to amenities.

ResponseID	Response
8	1st street too far west node at DDA? 9th and Stadium 6th Street
17	Not interested in these types of development. The piecemeal linear development does not appeal to me in the least.

18	seams logical
23	They are spread out enough that they are accessible to residents from a variety of neighborhoods.
24	Seems reasonable based on current usage
26	It's good that they are planned in smaller sizes outside of the more dominant ones on Stadium, W Main and 9th St. More distribution of small commercial will benefit the central & western parts of the township.
27	mixed use does not seem to include high traffic influx
30	Where is the neighborhood there?
31	There is already a lot of residential housing here with a lack of small businesses and a lack of sidewalks.
32	The remote areas are unrealistic for this type of development. It may create small communities, eventually, which may not translate to belonging in the township
33	Most of 9th street south of Main street should also be neighborhood mixed use.
35	More trails more money
36	I agree because the mixed use gentrifies the community in a good way by spawning development and use.
39	The proposed positions are throughout the Township.
40	Again, those areas appear to be logical for the area. Trail and sidewalk access would be nice. Anything to make it seem like a quaint downtown area rather than an suburban big box store shopping corridor.
46	I love this! Our family prefers to shop small which means most of our dollars are spent in Kalamazoo instead of Oshtemo. We would love to see more small business in our own backyard.
47	I don't know enough about it to disagree.
49	Right near my house, like it.
54	As long as people living in those areas have a chance for input.
55	I agree with everything except West Main down by 1st street. I think it's too far away from everything else.
56	I don't believe this should happen on Stadium at 6th Street or West Main and 1st Street.
58	I'm not familiar with all of these, but the ones I am familiar with do make good sense.
59	Not more traffic on West Main!
60	Don't like the idea of don't force it. It just costs money and taxes are too high now
63	The mixed-use areas are scattered and not in rural areas.
71	I think they are generally good, but I think the one by 1st Street should probably be removed. Don't think we need any sort of infrastructure or density this far west.
73	The area near KL and Drake would be logical for this type of development since it's close to the university. The proposed area along US-131 south of West Main Street is not conducive to this

	type of development. Highway frontage areas should be focused on larger commercial development to create a buffer for the residential neighborhoods near highways. Land adjacent to highways does not promote walking or outdoor seating of any kind.
75	Again, no more commercial Oshtemo. Let us have our houses and live like we want to
79	I don't disagree with the areas, but I would like to see a mixed use area at 9th and West Main instead of big development.
87	Same reason as before
90	There's more than one, which allows access for more residents.
92	further traffic/congestion and noise and removal of green space - in particular The Prairies golf club. less safe walking and biking travel
101	I don't want my neighborhood opened up to more traffic
106	Too much traffic in neighborhoods. Not safe for kids playing.
109	Those areas are easier to develop this type of vision
111	I am not from Michigan. I have seen these types of developments in my previous home town. It just causes congestion and too much traffic for the people living in the areas. I personally do not find those areas appealing.
118	No issues here
124	Love the concept and access to a better shipping experience
126	Based on what has already started to happen, mixed use has largely been more business development. With lots of exceptions to further weaken neighborhoods.
137	The area near sixth street would not make sense as there is nothing there now, and it feels like it would out of place because it is so far from everything and to build this area up seems a waste. For example, 8th street would make more sense because you already have places here, however they seem to be hit or miss with the establishments here. They are there a few years and then close. Or they are a gym and a daycare. But still these places do not get the kind of action that is needed to be sustainable, they are still too far from the main areas to make sense.
139	Why do you want commercial businesses in housing developments. This only serves few people. Keep business grouped in commercial areas
142	Don't understand how/why WM Main & 1st were selected. Where are the "connections to sidewalks and trails" going to go/come from? Need to know what "public gathering spaces" are. Rest of them make good sense.
145	It looks like infill will be possible in those areas.
149	There are enough businesses in our area. These are people's neighborhoods you want to bust into
150	Same answer as previous stated. Oshtemo is not supposed to be a cement paradise.
159	Don't agree with the areas west of 131 on W Main. Don't agree with area west of 8th St on Stadium. Mixed use should be in areas already concentrated with commercial,
162	That is encroaching on a very nice green space. Leave nature alone. People want their trails and green spaces naturalnot with more buildings. Oshtemo has been a rare gem because its prior focus was environmental... Not intense commercial development.

167	Seems appropriate
168	Not currently made use.
170	Growth is good
171	Diverse neighborhoods
172	I can't even tell where you are proposing these mixes from the map. Maybe you could include what color block I should be looking at. Again, the issue is connecting new mixed use neighborhoods with existing neighborhoods. Adding more traffic to the sky king meadows or country club village neighborhoods because they are close to west main would increase the traffic in those neighborhoods to a dangerous level. Also, if this is where the planning board wants to go, why was it so difficult for latitude 42 to connect to lodge lane for access to a left turn? Not having existing businesses work together to make these mixed neighborhoods may be an issue and a place to start. I am thinking that Advia credit union may be a place to start a small mix use area since the roads are there plus Meijer, bus route and a bank.
173	If it's done right but commercial businesses by a neighborhood can be worrisome if not done in a tasteful way.
174	I think it is nice to have neighborhood shops that are walkable as long as they don't create too much traffic
178	The ones further west yes. But the ones closer to Drake Road no because that area is already too densely populated.
179	Far west location at the golf course not necessary - plenty of other options identified for this use
180	One is closed we to me and other apt areas. Please make sure there are SAFE walking paths
182	Some of them don't look easily accessible and a couple of them and not in areas that encourage people to stop. Ex. West Main and 1st Street
183	Again, not sure. Insufficient information to determine why each of these locations was chosen. The general idea of mixed-use spaces is desireable.
184	Preferably 1 to review but many at a time can't be specific then
185	just no
189	connecting areas between larger shopping and smaller local businesses. Walkable for housing.
190	as long as the owners of this land are in full agreement
199	Unclear what areas are selected.... The blue? Red? Purple? All?
203	There is enough housing around to allow for walking to them
205	Somewhat close to my home and would be nice to be able to have a place to walk.
206	Again, further explanation is needed as to the impact. Housing has come up as an issue however rent control or subsidize housing has not been a topic of discussion when discussing these plans. There is not a shortage of housing as much as shortage of affordable housing. How will the commission ensure the cost of living IS affordable and controlled?
213	We moved out here because it's peaceful & serene. You're trying to take away country living!!!

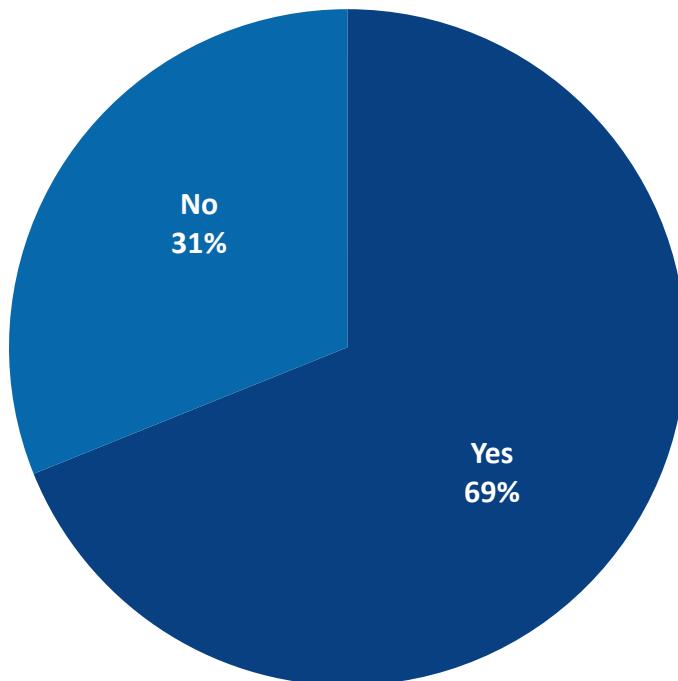
214	Again these will sprawl into bigger commercial use areas destroying existing neighborhoods. There is no respect in these plans for current residents or taxpayers. And again No impact to areas current board areas live in.
216	These are the areas that will most likely accommodate mixed-use development due to their locations.
220	The one by 1st street and main feels rural and therefore would be hard to support neighborhood mixed use. How about more of neighborhood mixed use in areas like: 11th st/KL? or KL/9th/Main or Drake/KL?
226	Absolutely not. Let the market decide. When Oshtemo says that "they (meaning the Twp govt) intend to build" says to me that more land will be converted from private to Twp owned and further restrictions/ordinances will be placed upon the residents.
229	Agree with the buffering ideas of this smaller-scale commercial with the larger scale commercial. Drawing down the scale as it approaches housing.
239	Na
241	I agree with the places that are already developed. I believe that the west side of Oshtemo, that is rural should stay looking that way and not have these created place types making it look like something it is not. It is countryside and suitable business should be Husteds, Ver Hage, etc. The only possible Place Type could be Doughertys Corner.
256	Their located near shops
260	Could expand more
264	it would be nice to have this kind of thing near student living/low income areas as well... such as the paddock and 58 west
266	It wil. B benefiting people
279	It suits the area
281	I don't typically go to these spots and would have a reason to go there
284	can do things without driving
288	Good location.
303	Looks good
307	Expands the area and connects to others
312	Looks like you are trying to put a place where the prairies is at. Leave that place alone.
319	There are a lot spread throughout the township
325	I cannot access the map
326	Makes sense
331	Looks like you would be trying to take more rural areas and make them commercial.
333	Not fully committed or not based on seeing ways to get to them other than by vehicle
344	N/A
375	Building up these new communities in the areas they are in will bring more attention to the businesses already in the area and it will allow for new businesses to pop up.

379	create more mixed use living areas!
387	Keeps it close to where I am
391	I think this is a wonderful idea, great for community building and enrichment
397	Needs attention
398	No strong opinion
408	I would love to live in mixed use areas and have shops or small businesses nearby
426	These areas are in more safe areas of the Kalamazoo county which is heavily why I agree with the locations.
474	Don't see the drivers that will make this happen. What's going to draw desirable small business to these locations? They feed off each other, it seems - cafes, bookstore, small food stores, small clothing store together would draw foot traffic for multiple reasons. Another McDonald's would not.
477	To much traffic already.
483	N/A
485	This is a car state. To force bike lanes into the mix is heavy-handed government illogic. Having pockets of mixed use makes sense, if they have parking and reasonable ordinances for signage, building construction and parking, even in winter.
487	Lack of population density
498	The spots on Stadium/9th and W. Main and Drake make sense. What is the rationale for the smaller places: Stadium/6th and W.Main/1st??
499	They seem like logical locations. I think the traffic will need to be slowed down on W. Main from 131 through the Township Hall area. I live off 7th behind Menards and it seems increasingly dangerous through there.
504	Developing across the street from the fire station/ library is not a good location. M43 is very loud. Additional businesses would mean cutting down the forest which is very important to the local wildlife and to the people who live on that wooded street. There is a strip mall across the street from the large advia building where businesses are already struggling to occupy the spaces. The advia parking lot is also quite empty. Other empty builds nearby include: large building on the corner of west main and 8th, and the mostly empty doctor's office after the Walgreens. There is a lot of open land and brown field opportunity very close by, and nearer to bus stops. Please do not create an additional development just because the township office happens to be there. Option: move the 10 or so people who work there into any other office building.
508	Map won't open in this survey
511	With this many spaces shown, overall I would agree.
519	Mom and pop shops are very important for a community
522	Not needed in our township.
525	Seems like a good place to start
526	The 1st street area. Why?
530	None are useful to me from my location

532	Any additions like this would be welcomed; I am not knowledgeable enough to have a strong opinion on where. I would say that I hope the area across from 10th street would have a safe way to cross/be connected to the neighborhood that is on the west side of the street from the proposed area
535	I'm worried that the houses in mixed use areas won't last and then the area will become fully commercial. Like what happened with all the houses between 131 and 9th St.
537	There's nothing there that would interest many people
541	Traffic will be bad and we need to preserve more green areas
542	The prairies golf course should be green space! Save the golf course and add a community pool or rec center
552	Don't agree with the location on 6th/Stadium. The rest look ok
554	Again, this makes sense based on the commercial currently in those areas. They are also places near public transit or within walking distance (if sidewalks were improved) to public transit or higher density commercial
556	Stadium and 6th St is Industrial and most likely will remain industrial. Why consider a change there if the current use/businesses have no plans to change or move? The 9th and Stadium corridor has been locked in time for the last 50 years. Given the current zoning for signs and parking, significant development will never occur. Retail establishments want/need signs on the road to advertise and or show their existence, and they also want parking in front of their building. It is this simple: Hide the parking; hide the business's success; the customers drive by.

26. The next Place Type we will look at is **NEIGHBORHOOD**

RESIDENTIAL. These are areas comprised of walkable suburban residential development with opportunities for social interaction and housing of all shapes and sizes. These areas are intended to be flexible; they will include a variety of housing types located near goods and services, schools, and parks as well as sidewalks and bike lanes for neighborhood connectivity. The kinds of housing that will be permitted will be dependent on the character of the area it is proposed and may include a range of the following examples: **NEIGHBORHOOD RESIDENTIAL** areas are/will be located at the following areas: Do you agree with the selected locations?



Value	Percent	Count
Yes	68.9%	155
No	31.1%	70
	Totals	225

27. Why or why not?

Overall, residents support thoughtful residential growth, **particularly** infill and mixed-use development, **while emphasizing the importance of** preserving rural and natural areas, enhancing infrastructure, and maintaining Oshtemo's character **through well-planned, balanced development. However, concerns were raised about** traffic congestion, infrastructure capacity, environmental impacts, and the potential loss of open space **as the township grows.**

1. Concerns About Overdevelopment & Loss of Rural Character

- Many residents moved to Oshtemo for its natural areas, privacy, and rural feel and do not want to see it transformed into high-density, cookie-cutter neighborhoods.
- Strong opposition to expanding development west of 6th Street, north of H Avenue, and in the G Avenue area, which many believe should remain countryside residential or be preserved as parks or nature areas.
- Some fear Oshtemo is catering too much to land developers at the expense of existing residents.
- Concerns that new neighborhoods will lack character and resemble sprawling suburban developments seen in Metro Detroit or Applegate.

2. Preference for Focused Growth in Existing Residential Areas

- Many support new housing development but prefer it to be concentrated in areas already near shopping, infrastructure, and existing neighborhoods.
- Some believe Oshtemo already has sufficient housing areas and question the need for further expansion.
- Support for growth in logical locations, but opposition to expanding into currently undeveloped, wooded, or rural areas.

3. Infrastructure & Traffic Concerns

- Increased traffic and congestion is a major worry, especially if residential areas are expanded without proper road improvements.
- Some fear that connecting neighborhoods to main roads and businesses will make them less safe for children and pedestrians.
- Many emphasize the need for better sidewalks, trails, and public transportation if new neighborhoods are developed.
- Some believe that without municipal sewer service, large-scale development is impractical.

4. Calls for More Affordable Housing

- While some oppose additional housing, others stress the need for affordable options for millennials, Gen Z, and working-class residents.
- Some support mixed-income housing, but a few strongly oppose subsidized housing due to safety concerns.
- Suggestions for more diverse housing types, including townhomes and smaller, energy-efficient homes rather than just large single-family developments.

5. Protection of Green Space & Natural Areas

- Many value open land, trees, and wildlife habitat, stressing that Oshtemo's rural character should be maintained.
- Some call for land conservation efforts and incentives for property owners to preserve natural landscapes rather than develop them.
- Concerns that too much wooded land is being cleared for housing, diminishing Oshtemo's appeal.
- A few suggest that Oshtemo should focus on managing its existing natural areas rather than expanding residential zoning.

6. Mixed Reactions to Neighborhood Connectivity

- Some support better connections between neighborhoods, while others prefer cul-de-sacs and one-way-in/out designs for safety and privacy.
- Many residents do not want their quiet, private neighborhoods connected to major roads or high-traffic areas.

ResponseID	Response
8	uncertain, maybe too much dedicated in mid-township
17	I didn't move to Oshtemo to be bombarded with high density, cookie cutter neighborhoods. The natural areas were the selling point.
18	seems like what is already there
20	No. I think the northern portion...around the G Avenue area should be designated countryside residential. This area is filled with fields and lakes and the natural areas should be preserved as parks or nature preserves rather than being built up into neighborhoods. We are losing too much of this type of area to built up residential sections.
23	As long as the developed areas remain in areas that are currently neighborhoods that are closer to shopping, I don't have a problem with it. What I would hate to see is loss of natural habitat in areas west of 6th Street. We moved to the country because we love the peace and quiet of nature. We love observing the wildlife. We value our privacy. We don't necessarily want to see our neighbors from our back /front porches.
24	Current usage
26	My Android didn't bring up the map or questions, so I can't answer this item
27	You are not specific on how you would achieve this? Redistricting? I live with a lot of unused land around my house and I like it that way.
31	Close to highway
32	Northern area should remain as is to keep the peaceful, remote feeling of the area.
33	The area at or above H Ave should be countryside residential.
36	This appears to not include my neighborhood, Springwood Hills, but I am ok with that for now. I like the lack of development so far. I am relatively new to the township. If you ask me again in a couple of years you may get a different answer.
39	Many of the suggested areas are already within neighborhoods, which could be helpful.
40	Again, logical for the given spaces. A big however is that most of us in Oshtemo are here for the lack of urban sprawl and smaller, more intimate neighborhoods that breed a closer community. We do NOT need the sprawling and unending bland neighborhoods of the metro Detroit area, or

	even the sprawling Applegate neighborhoods off 12th Street. Keep the more rural character with lots of natural green spaces.
44	There are areas of this map that align well with the countryside residential area.
47	The proposed areas seem large and incorporate much currently wooded land. I'm concerned about land conservation and possible loss of habitat and wildlife.
48	One thing that I really liked about Oshtemo was the fact that it didn't have dense populations of houses and development. Catering to land developers again!
51	Losing a lot of rural, open land
54	We want our neighborhood to stay small keeping kids safe from tons of traffic.
58	Quite familiar with these areas. A greater variety of housing types would be beneficial to residents that I know.
60	Don't we have these already?
63	It looks like it would work if Oshtemo is also using mixed use and mixed income.
71	Reflects existing conditions and trends, but I would go further north at the N / Drake location.
73	This type of development is too low in scale/density to be east of US-131.
75	Let us choose where we're going to build our own houses and what type of neighborhood we want to have.
79	If the land has to be zoned, then it should be zoned as residential. But I disagree with adding more housing in Oshtemo.
87	Again congesting and developing areas that people don't want developed. You miss the whole reason people moved to Oshtemo. It's all about tax dollars
90	However, I believe apartment complex locations should be CAREFULLY examined.
92	some of these areas would be OK, but connecting the neighborhoods through from the main streets and with businesses will make neighborhoods less safe. This would need to be done so carefully to ensure neighborhood safety. Also, absolutely no housing should be subsidized. some of the nearby neighborhoods are not safe, and in particular the apartments and rentals off of KL, south of CCV
101	I don't want my neighborhood opened up to traffic
106	Fine for different types of houses. Not for goods and services. It will be too much traffic. Unsafe.
109	There is no need to expand the current neighborhoods. It safer to start something new with one way in/out for the safety and security of the neighborhood
111	For me this comes down to affordability. We cannot continue to build homes and condos that our working millennials and gen Z cannot afford. So, while I am a yes for more neighborhoods and living it must be affordable.
112	Connecting my neighborhood with other surrounding residential areas will increase traffic. I enjoy the limited traffic conditions as they are now. There is little need to enter my neighborhood unless you live here or visiting.
124	I am a senior and would appreciate the close proximity of a combined outdoor space mixed in with affordable housing, recreation, shopping, and patronage to favorite restaurants.

125	I do not think this is adequately explained and I do not believe linking existing neighborhoods without wide enough roads and no sidewalks is appropriate.
126	Much of this land is green space which is undeveloped—providing a natural environment that protects against noise pollution, overcrowding, property devaluing, etc. I'm wondering when the survey is going to ask about the townships commitment to preserving green space and a natural environment. Seems like the questions, again, are designed in a bias fashion.
130	I do not want my nice quiet neighborhood connected to skyline on 9th st. Leave it alone!
131	The area is already very densely populated and busy.
135	for the most part it would be a yes but be more careful of western expansion particularly along the ML/KL corridor
137	I do agree to a point with these being designated as residential, except for places that run near the giant electrical towers. There are rules and regulations that go with those areas and building near them. Other places make sense as they are already established as residential areas. However, families that have lived in these areas for a long time are being priced out of family homes due to Oshtemo being the most expensive, tax-wise, area within the districts around us.
139	This is rural or low density area why does the city push higher density housing
142	Location; still time/room to shape development of these areas.
145	These areas need walkability to feel connected to the greater community.
149	People paid a lot of money and taxes to choose to live in their specific neighborhood. If we wanted more, we would have picked a different location to spend our money in and raise our kids in
150	Stop bringing in illegal refugees and there's plenty of housing
152	I do not want to see anything beyond a walking and/or bike trail connecting Country Club Village and the Sky King neighborhoods. A road is not needed or wanted.
154	No street connections from Lodge Lane. Terrible impact on family-centered neighborhood along Lodge Lane
161	north of H Avenue and west of 10th should be Countryside Residential
162	Again... All of those areas don't need to be majorly developed. Leave it alone.
164	You should only be developing in areas where there are no houses
167	Exclude Country Club Village; we already have this.
168	Progressive
170	Growth is good
171	No municipal sewage service.
172	It makes sense to put them off the busy West Main Street but it can't all be apartment buildings. Perhaps some bigger homes, smaller and then townhouses? And allowing for different developers/builders for some diversity and for climate friendly homes (solar, wind and efficient energy use).
174	The locations seem appropriate however having too many pre planned neighborhoods cuts down old froth trees and diminishes the character of the neighborhood

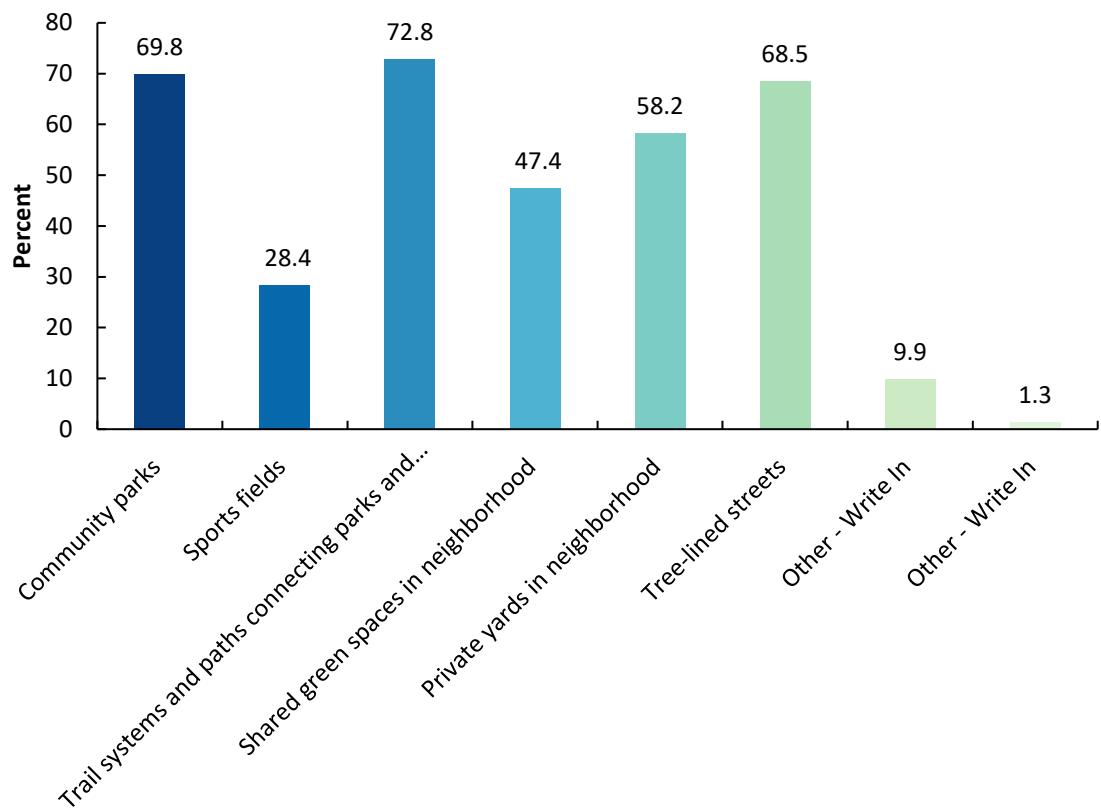
178	Yes, but not all of them. For example, the one in the lower right corner looks like it's cramming and segregating densely populated housing in one place. That's not a good thing.
179	cut off for this use closer to 7th / 8th street
180	Covers large he area. Just be sure to have as many green spaces as feasible
181	But would like our neighborhood to remain safe for walking and children playing which will mean not connecting it to any other neighborhoods/roads
183	Public transportation routes will need to be added if new denser living units (apts) appear. Are the map open spaces currently active farms? If so, can we afford to lose farmland to housing?
184	Again macro approach not comfortable for replies in a survey
185	No more housing needed.
189	Residential density on the outskirts of some of the shopping areas.
190	Don't change are property classification without our FULL agreement
197	I think side streets don't have enough traffic to merit sidewalks and I am comfortable sharing the street.
199	Makes sense. Focus on existing residential areas.
203	I agree except for the low-lying areas that should stay for water run off
205	Yes, although about 50% of this is Churches.
206	Again, housing is not an issue as much as price control for affordable housing. Additionally, the commission has talked about creating a neighborhood with a pool and pickle ball court. That money should go to affordable housing, price control, and the residents should have a vote on the need and funds going towards a pool and a pickle ball court. If it was not a pool a park. We already have a park and it is not viable to destroy green space to create a park.
212	We said in 2017 we wanted more single family home.
213	See previous answer. LEAVE COUNTRY LIVING ALONE
214	Allow areas to grow organically. The 2020's buzzword "connectivity" will be out of fashion by the time you read this
216	Because of the predominance of existing and potential residential development in these areas.
220	Good to keep west side of Oshtemo rural/country
226	The Twp should stop trying to dictate the shape of our community and simply maintain our poor roads and provide fire protection.
229	I agree with housing of all types, including reducing the amount of zoning in the Township for exclusionary single-family zoning.
239	Na
241	I think that it is extending too far west. The land west of 8th especially on ML and K L is that beautiful high land. Lots are large and there is forest and habitat for wild life on the west side of Oshtemo. Shouldn't we be helping property owners to manage that land, rather than making Oshtemo look like a suburb? Platting land messes with watersheds, runoff, trees, native species. The natural landscape cleans water as it is absorbed back into the land. Trees provide important carbon sinking. Wild land is so much more valuable to the mental health of humans.

	West Oshtemo is valuable as a country landscape, someplace without human intervention. I also don't agree with the 6th Ave development. These places are rural and need to stay rural.
253	Our zoning is based on a larger frontage for single family homes, again this would reduce our property value.
256	Good location
260	could expand more
264	please do not take away the apartments though
266	Easy access
279	It's a great position for the age groups living near by
281	It connects the college living with the more suburban and rural parts of kalamazoo
284	do things without driving
288	I like the location.
303	Need more housing especially options for college students
307	Large area
310	I mostly agree, but would rather see undeveloped areas to the west remain undeveloped or become public natural areas with trails that are accessible to existing neighborhoods
312	You're infringing on the prairies, leave them alone.
319	No notes; it seems right that residential takes so much space.
325	I cannot access the map
326	Logical areas
331	Are you keeping them as residential or are you hoping to build a bunch of neighborhoods? One of the things we like about living where we do isn't in a neighborhood but we are still close to everything.
332	Safer for pedestrian and vehicles.
333	To much housing already. Came to Oshtemo to be more rural. Not living in overcrowded suburbia.
375	Suburbs are an important aspect of a growing community, especially communities that are close to cities, like Oshtemo is to Kalamazoo. Building up the suburbs in these locations will be nice.
387	Its the homes area.
391	It would enlighten Oshtemo
397	Needs attention
398	No strong opinion
408	I'd appreciate a mix of residential and small commercial. Otherwise it's a giant suburb or apartment complex with no meeting places

426	I think the areas chosen are fine for new residential area. I think however the housing options that are made need to be made affordable, rentable options like apartments or townhomes, and not jacked up Prices. The average rent in Kalamazoo is over \$1200 for one resident which is way to high for the conditions that people are placed in, but also for the area. You won't fill up places that are too high in rent as you need to look at other places that are new or updated and see how they aren't full of residents because no one can afford them.
474	Well, not sure what alternatives were considered, but these areas are not developed commercially and I think that's fine. I sure hope you're considering traffic - the authentix apartments may cause a mess in the 9th St/N Ave area. Also have no idea what sort of density you have in mind. That could change me to a "no"
477	I like single-family residential areas.
479	This encompasses too much of the current rural areas in the western township. That's why people move to Oshtemo.
483	N/A
485	Many of them are logical growth areas of similar socio-economic stature, but many have streets that just END, with only 1 way in or out, which means the County may put them last on the plow list or access may be limited.
487	Includes otsego schools
493	I do not agree that rental properties and apartment buildings/ apartment complexes, because no matter how nice they are when built, the care and concern for their surrounding areas substantially decline due to the desire to make profits. As these individual rentals and multi-unit rentals decline in appearance, esthetics, and safety; it is extremely unfair to single-family homeowners. These areas should not be mixed together because, while initially seemingly positive, they have a very negative impact in the long-term.
499	However, I think the township should strive to improve the "quality" of the developments. Too many one street, dead end subdivisions with no character to the development or the houses. We are zoned rural residential on 4 acres in one of these areas, but have not been very happy with the infill of these types of subdivisions. Need to be more creative and appealing.
502	Sidewalks. Close convenient store. NO. Big industry. Our taxes are already too high
504	Please do not cut down forests to build more homes.
508	Map won't open
511	Again, overall I would agree
522	No more cube farms. Keep Oshtemo Rural.
525	Consistent with current uses
526	Makes sense
530	Huh? Makes no sense, these already are neighborhood residential areas.
532	I agree to some extent though it seems like there is unused space west of 7th street
537	Who can afford to live there
545	Certain areas should only be used, some areas are already crowded and should keep some areas for nature.

554	A lot of this space is already residential. I'd like to see more parks and other features in addition to just homes in these areas. But it makes sense
556	Locations are but enact zoning to allow for mobile home or manufactured home communities.
557	Current connectivity within each neighborhood is perfect and safe for the residents. Please do not add unnecessary/unsafe/not desired connectivity to connect neighborhood.
558	With a caveat... nothing should be done without tending to the traffic on the thoroughfares. The commercial traffic near these areas needs to be contained on internal access roads off the main roads.

28. Which kinds of green spaces do you value in the NEIGHBORHOOD RESIDENTIAL portions of the Township? (Please select all that apply.)



Value	Percent	Count
Community parks	69.8%	162
Sports fields	28.4%	66
Trail systems and paths connecting parks and residential areas	72.8%	169
Shared green spaces in neighborhood	47.4%	110
Private yards in neighborhood	58.2%	135
Tree-lined streets	68.5%	159
Other - Write In	9.9%	23
Other - Write In	1.3%	3

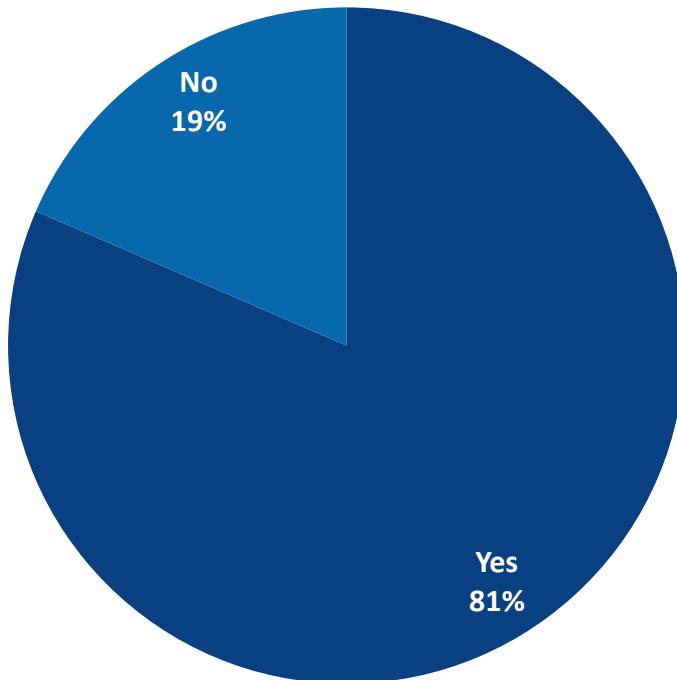
Other - Write In	Count
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Again, the prompts offered are biased — where is the option for large, open, and undeveloped spaces???	1
Being able to own property	1
Community pools and recreational buildings	1
Conservation of native wetland habitat within communities	1
Dog park	1
Golf courses	1
LARGE, fenced off-leash dog park	1
Leave the undeveloped land alone	1
Less restrictive ordinances	1
More playgrounds. This makes the area more attractive to young families	1
No projects that utilize land grabs of private property. Respect the homeowner	1
None of the above	1
Protected wooded areas	1
These don't all have to be in all places.	1
Trails not connected to residential areas.	1
Untouched woodlands where wildlife exists.	1
Walking paths to coffee shops/restaurants, if they existed	1
We need more community green space!	1
community garden/natural (minimal development)learning spaces	1
enough space between houses to not feel "crowded"	1
large plots of wooded areas.	1
paths that connect to commercial areas	1
wider shoulders for safe walking and biking	1
Totals	23

Other - Write In	Count
Leave the country living as it is	1
Safe way to walk/bike in these areas.	1
The woods that we currently have.	1
Totals	3

29. The next Place Type we will look at is **COUNTRYSIDE**

RESIDENTIAL. These are residential areas characterized by single-lot residential development within a countryside setting. **CURRENT CONDITIONS:** Large properties located in a quiet atmosphere with high privacy; in close proximity to natural features and farmland. **DESIRED FUTURE CONDITIONS:** These areas will remain nearly the same, with increased land preservation efforts, increased lot sizes, and increased connectivity between neighborhoods. **COUNTRYSIDE RESIDENTIAL** areas are/will be located at the following areas: Do you agree with the selected locations?



Value	Percent	Count
Yes	81.5%	176
No	18.5%	40
Totals		216

30. Why or why not?

Overall, there is strong support for preserving Oshtemo's rural character, particularly in the western and northern portions of the township, where residents value peace, green space, and large lot sizes. Many respondents support extending countryside residential areas further east to protect more land from development.

Key Themes from Responses

1. Preservation of Rural Character

- Strong support for protecting Oshtemo's rural areas, particularly in the western and northern portions of the township.
- Residents value peace, privacy, and green space and want to maintain the existing countryside feel.

2. Expansion of Countryside Residential

- Support for moving the boundary eastward to include more land in countryside residential.
- Desire to preserve open spaces and natural areas, preventing further urban encroachment.

3. Concerns About Overdevelopment

- Worries about loss of natural areas, increased traffic congestion, and neighborhood expansion reducing rural appeal.
- Some feel development is pushing too far eastward, reducing green space.

4. Debate Over Lot Sizes

- Some support larger lot sizes to maintain rural character.
- Others argue increasing lot sizes leads to sprawl, higher land costs, and reduced housing affordability.

5. Mixed Views on Connectivity

- Some support increased neighborhood connections for safety and accessibility.
- Others believe adding roads and sidewalks in rural areas disrupts the countryside lifestyle.

6. Need for Balanced Growth

- Calls for allowing appropriate development while protecting farmland, forests, and open spaces.
- Some suggest better integrating neighborhood and countryside residential areas rather than strictly separating them.

7. Desire for Stronger Conservation Efforts

- Many want to preserve forests, farmland, and large parcels, preventing unnecessary clear-cutting.
- Strong support for ecological preservation in planning decisions.

ResponseID	Response
8	go to 7th in the top bubble go to 8th / ML
17	Move the boundary eastward to include a large area of Oshtemo.
18	looks good

20	This section should also include the northern boundary of the township. That area also needs to be protected from being built up and losing the beauty of the natural areas to neighborhood. Oshtemo Township needs to preserve this aspect beyond just the western portion.
23	I enjoy the peace and quiet, the wildlife, and the privacy of country living.
24	Makes sense
26	The western portion of the township has always been rural, and I value that protection from over-development.
27	It keeps the area the way it is.
31	They aren't heavily populated right now.
32	Agree but believe it should expand a bit east
33	more of Main street west of 6th avenue should be Neighborhood mixed use. All of the area north of H Avenue should be included as countryside residential.
36	Yes, increased connectivity between neighborhoods is desirable. The downside to being on the periphery is not being able to safely walk to another neighborhood without going on the highway or a country road that has a narrow shoulder.
39	It makes sense to have the large private areas not within the busiest part of the township.
44	There are areas of this map that align with neighborhood residential.
47	Seems fine, I don't know enough about it to disagree.
51	I would also like to see the area bordering N Avenue northward to remain countryside residential.
58	I don't know enough about current lot size requirements to know if it makes sense to increase them. If this reduces future housing it might not be a good idea.
59	It's very important to keep these areas "country" and not over develop these.
60	It's wasteful to mandate large lots/parcels. It's encouraging sprawl and forcing higher land costs
63	they are located on the edge of the urban areas.
73	Ultra-low density residential is not efficient or affordable for upcoming generations to absorb. This area should be smaller and pushed farther west.
75	Whenever you can encourage people to own more of their own land it's good
79	We should have more of this type of land to keep Oshtemo the place we love.
87	This should be preserved from 10th street outward towards south haven.
90	Because it is the more rural part of Oshtemo and people who live there chose it for that reason.
101	Good location
106	Seems like a good area to develop
124	It's a personal choice when choosing to live in a country setting and the amenities outlined in the question would be a welcomed bonus to a homeowner in my opinion.

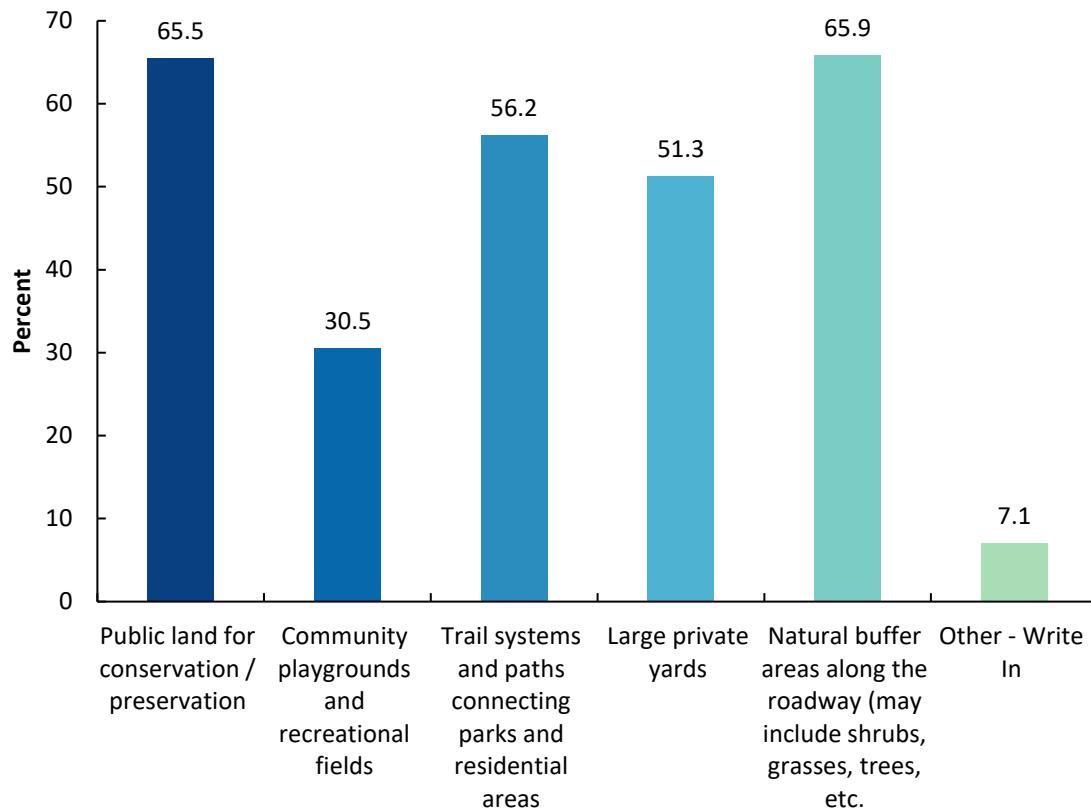
125	Once again, I do not believe in connecting existing neighborhoods that do not have wide enough roads or existing sidewalks. This is a safety issue.
126	These areas seemed to be moving more than more west—over the years, with less and less green space eastward. This is not okay, given that eastern Neighborhoods also want large open green spaces.
135	Keep the rural/residential part of the present master plan
137	I think this should also include a portion from 4th st up to, but not limited to, a portion of 8th st due to properties that own more than an acre of land.
139	Too limited
142	Ability to shape these areas to meet this goal is doable.
145	The northeast corner of the Township may also be countryside residential.
149	We chose these locations because of no connectivity. Connecting isn't always a good thing
150	Why not preserve all the land that's already forest.
159	To protect larger parcels and support rural character.
162	Yes... I like that this plan was notated to preserve and leave alone, unlike the rest.
164	If there are very few houses already there
167	Seems appropriate
168	Utilization of space
170	This area should be kept the way it is
171	No more roads. Community supported agriculture. Safe havens for wildlife and bird population.
172	Keeping this the same makes sense.
173	We like the area where we live to be preserved and protected.
174	To preserve green space and environments for nature. The woods behind our house was all cut down to create a planned neighborhood, and it has displaced lots of animals living in that area which has then created conflicts within our property with the displaced animals (ex: woodpeckers pecking holes in our roof and raccoons hunting our chickens).
178	This is not as easy as yes/no. Not enough info.
179	not in favor of increased lot sizes
180	It maintains a less crowded feel for this side of Kalamazoo
183	"...increased lot sizes, and increased connectivity..." seems in conflict with "...nearly the same, with increased land preservation efforts..." This "open" space seems to already be "countryside residential", does it need development?
184	Pretty established for now
189	In an effort to preserve some of the green space in the area.
197	This area should be conserved as much as possible.

199	Makes sense. Existing rural portion of the community - thank you for preserving
203	They are currently away already from the hustle and bustle
205	I would like to see this extended to encompass everything North of H.
206	The residents of Oshtemo enjoy the green space we currently have and we would like to preserve it.
213	At least there's this
214	These should be developed, including current board members' areas to include all features being included in regular residential including non motorized pathes for bikers, sewer and city water Why should this area not be "connected" with the rest of the township? There is a lot of land out there that could be used for commercial ventures or business to connect the township.
216	Maintaining these areas as a country setting is important to preserve one of the most desirable features of Oshtemo Township.
220	But I feel like there should be some sort of "gateway" (or other) to mark the transition from countryside/rural to more urban section (neighborhood residential).
226	Folks live in different areas for different reasons. To group folks strictly by geography is anti-people.
229	This area of the Township has large properties and think lots of people in this area prefer such.
239	Na
241	I think the line should be east of 6th and just west of 8th because of the natural features of the high moraine.
256	Because that's land that needs to be preserved
266	It will allow us grow fruit trees
279	Don't mess with the farms or their way of life, we need it.
281	I venture out this way to go on hikes and it's important to me that these places remain valued and maintained
288	Look like the right place.
303	Looks good
307	Away from business
310	I would shift the eastern boundary further east to cover other existing undeveloped/farm land.
312	Far enough away from population to spread out.
319	It seems like a large area to limit population growth so much. Effectively, a third of the township is given toward no development. Ecological preservation matters, but a township cannot grow much with so much space dedicated to residences.
326	Makes sense
331	I think it looks like oh this is the land that is left so we will just leave it as is. Not sure you are really looking at how the community is already being developed.
332	Spaces get too small if it's not careful from growth.

333	Needs to go to 9th and all the way North.
375	I really do not have a lot of opinions on these types of residential areas since they are privately owned.
387	Open area.
391	No reason specifically
397	N
398	No strong opinion
426	I don't think trying to connect these country land areas to residential areas is helpful at all. As someone who comes from a farming town most people don't want sidewalks out there in the county, and they surely don't want bus transportation systems out there either. That's the only thing I disagree with on this part of the project is to try and connect more residential areas to the country side areas.
474	Why don't you mix Countryside Residential and Neighborhood Residential more?
477	Not everyone wants to live on a postage stamp-size property.
479	This area should extend further east
483	N/A
485	Halt selling farmland to Chinese and major developers who have attorneys who force their way into land, ignoring brownfields that could be developed, rather than clear-cutting and bulldozing tracts of preserved land.
487	Agree
493	This is the type of neighborhood that I live in and it is extremely peaceful with a very high quality of life. Neighbors know each other and kids can play outside with each other. There is not much traffic in my neighborhood, basically only neighborhood residents, which helps with the peacefulness of neighborhood for people who enjoy being away from the hustle and bustle of densely populated areas.
499	However, I do fear losing some of this character in that currently exists in Neighborhood Residential. We are on the west end of the northern most zone of Neighborhood Residential. It has some of the feel of Countryside Residential, which we like. I would hate to see it become more dense, except maybe along W. Main.
504	6th and 7th, and some of 9th street should also be included. There is a sheep farm on 9th street
508	Map won't open
511	This is the general idea of the area. It is what appeals to me as an attraction to reside in the Township.
522	You want to increase lot sizes, but just decreased accessory building sizes for large parcels!!! Why?? No explanation was given in the the minutes. You just decreased this a couple years ago.
525	Geographically makes sense
526	Most of us purchased our home due to it being rural. We would like to keep it that way.
532	That answers my previous question

537	No more aartments or solar or wind farms
542	We need space. Quiet. Green. Beauty
552	Please keep these areas rural. Love the idea of increased preservation efforts in these areas rather than expanding into them with more housing.
554	It isn't changing much so that makes sense. Preserving the rural uses seems important. Improving access and land use seems good in these rural areas
557	Keep the same. Do not need to increase lot sizes.
558	I think these could be built out as well.
559	It has the most space nestled space

31. Which kinds of green spaces do you value in the COUNTRYSIDE RESIDENTIAL portions of the Township? (Please select all that apply.)

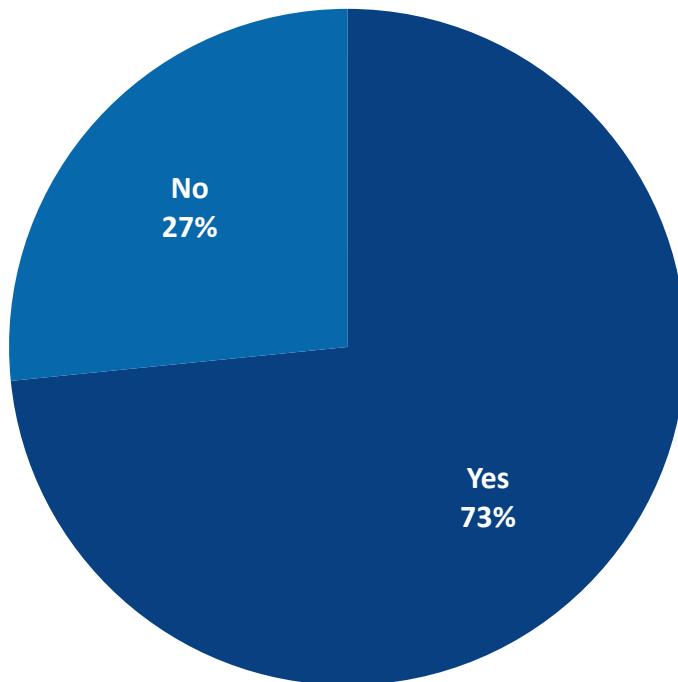


Value	Percent	Count
Public land for conservation / preservation	65.5%	148
Community playgrounds and recreational fields	30.5%	69
Trail systems and paths connecting parks and residential areas	56.2%	127
Large private yards	51.3%	116
Natural buffer areas along the roadway (may include shrubs, grasses, trees, etc.)	65.9%	149
Other - Write In	7.1%	16

Value	Count
Other - Write In	
Forests to support carbon sinks that support reduction in greenhouse gases	1

LARGE, fenced off-leash dog park	1
Let it be	1
Must be able to safely walk/bike along roads.	1
N/A	1
Natural beauty areas	1
Privacy!!!!	1
Respect for private property	1
Separating our township into neatly established TYPES doesn't work when people want different things in all of the areas that they live. If folks wanted such separate, definitive lives they would decide to live in downtown Kalamazoo, Portage, Matawan, etc. we chose to move to Oshtemo because we like the way that it is—not that city officials want to make it something else.	1
The current green space that exists is valuable and should remain.	1
Undeveloped land	1
Walking/biking lanes along the roads	1
biking lane addition - lots of bicyclists on roads out here	1
community garden/less developed learning spaces	1
less traffic allowing for safer walking, biking, and neighborly interactions without much concern about traffic (qty or speed)	1
tree lined streets	1
Totals	16

32. The final Place Type we will look at is INDUSTRIAL PARK. These are areas comprised of industrial facilities and support services designed in a sustainable and efficient manner. CURRENT CONDITIONS: Areas are somewhat separated from one another and not located directly nearby major highway connections. DESIRED FUTURE CONDITIONS: New locations for future Industrial Park areas will contain innovative industrial buildings located near highways with adequate access for trucks and large parking areas for operations; they will contain significant landscape buffering from surrounding uses. INDUSTRIAL PARKS are/will be located at the following areas: Do you agree with the selected locations?



Value	Percent	Count
Yes	73.4%	152
No	26.6%	55
Totals		207

33. Why or why not?

1. Opposition to Development at West Main & I-131

- Strong opposition to any further development at the intersection of West Main and I-131 and westward down West Main.
- Concerns about increased traffic, congestion, and loss of rural character.

3. Industrial Development Near Highways

- General support for industrial areas near highways to keep truck traffic out of neighborhoods.
- Some feel the proposed areas are not highway-accessible enough.

4. Mixed Views on Industrial Expansion

- Support for industrial development near existing industrial parks, particularly near N Avenue and Stadium Drive, to create jobs close to new apartments.
- Some residents believe there is already enough industrial zoning and prefer to keep new development away from residential areas.

5. Traffic and Infrastructure Concerns

- Worries that increased development will worsen congestion, particularly around Stadium Drive and Drake Road.
- Some argue road capacity should be improved before allowing further industrial expansion.

6. Environmental & Aesthetic Concerns

- Concerns about pollution, noise, and the impact on natural areas.
- Desire for requirements on green space, trees, and limits on large paved areas in industrial developments.

ResponseID	Response
8	center area looks spot zoned? connectivity should move away from neighborhoods
17	NO MORE DEVELOPMENT AT THE INTERSECTION OF WEST MAIN AND I-131 AND WEST DOWN WEST MAIN!!!!!!!!!
18	seems accessible
23	It seems to be a good location, away from neighborhoods.
24	Makes sense
25	N and stadium is the industrial park let the distribution center come in so the new apartments have jobs close by
26	It takes advantage of areas already beginning to look like industrial parks.

27	I live there. I am not in favor of any manufacturing.
31	Already a lot of businesses there
32	Seems unnecessary and a detractor to the character of the township
36	This seems appropriate and far enough away from residential spaces.
37	The areas still don't appear to be that highway accessible.
39	It's close to the highways.
40	Away from residential areas and close to the freeways.
46	I think the best way to build community is through small business that provide goods and services to our local community not through the building of additional industrial complexes.
47	Seems fine, I don't know enough about it to disagree.
48	No idea what that map is showing. There are purple spots, grey spots, pink spots and yellow. Do not overlay previous marked out map places with what you are displaying with the question.
51	That's where I live!!!
54	Same as above.
56	In addition to what you are recommending I do believe the KL Avenue area near the railroad tracks between 11th and 8th Street should be considered for light industrial
58	The stated strategy makes very good sense, and highway access is key to moving industrial goods without moving them through neighborhoods.
60	If they are already there why mess with it
63	the new locations would allow for ease of access, less commuting time.
64	Unsure about residential housing being placed so closely near the south end...that would seem undesirable and potentially bring down real-estate costs
72	They need to be away from housing.
73	More opportunities for industrial development should spread farther north into the township...likely near US-131.
75	We don't need more industry here
87	Same as before
90	Already established for that purpose.
101	Do not want the traffic
106	Not heavily populated
109	Those are currently being utilized for this purpose
111	I am ultimately choosing no here. It's not terrible idea but unless there are businesses ready and willing to set up in this area it doesn't make sense.
124	It makes sense to be located nearby freeways, etc. with the intent to keep the heavy trucks from driving through neighborhoods, etc.

126	We do not need any additional industrial parks.
130	Westmain is way too busy
137	Because they are already established industrial park areas, even though some are baron.
139	Township missed out on development of the I-94 area for commercial development. Too late
142	Connections to major roads, I-94. Stadium Dr Parkway is a bit far, but would/should be kept as lower intensity of truck traffic. Wish there was more industrial though.
145	There is too much overlap with residential, especially along Stadium near Quail Run, but also Woodland Estates off Atlantic.
149	Traffic is already a nightmare in that area. Bringing more trucks in and out will be a disaster for the residents of this quiet community
150	More pollution
162	That is fine. It is commercial already.
164	Not sure why
167	Appropriate
168	Progress
172	The west main and 131 interchange has a neighborhood on the south west side that needs to be protected and not overrun with industrial complexes.
173	Keep industrial parks away from the western part of Oshtemo township which is primarily residential.
178	Seems fine
180	Logical but please have requirements for signage, green space, trees and no overkill on giant paved parking lots which sit vacant!
183	Are the proposed industrial parks the purple areas or the gray areas? Seems like the larger gray area already is an industrial park. Is the smaller gray area where the Township Hall exists now??
184	Established
189	Keep industrial and manufacturing away from densely populated areas and close to highway.
190	Only if land owners agree
197	That area should be left close to how it is now.
199	Where industrial development currently is.
203	seems like there is already a lot of diverse items in these areas that don't need the additional sounds of industrial development and semi tractors running 24/7
205	I would like to see this expand slightly to add more jobs to the area.
206	I'm not familiar enough to include my input. What do the residents who will be directly impacted in these areas want?
213	Neutral

214	There is currently residential backing up to this area. As long as this area remains in its footprint and does not expand.
216	These areas are the most suitable for truck access and to preserve other areas for other types of development.
219	My neighborhood is near there. This area is currently a field. I would not want an industrial park built there (11th and N Ave to Parkview)
229	Agree with keeping the industrial areas toward the southern portion of the Township near the highway.
239	Na
241	I don't see that the 6th ave and Stadium is Industrial.
253	This area is only a few blocks from my home and would create a Terrible Mess of traffic and security concerns for families who live near and around the area. This would absolutely lower the value of our properties.
256	By highways
266	Seems best
279	keeps factories relatively hidden from residential areas
281	This doesn't really affect me but I appreciate that it's out of the way, providing jobs and commerce opportunities without taking over what's already here
303	Looks good
307	Away from homes
310	I support reusing existing brownfields to the maximum extent possible
312	Proximity to highway is key.
326	Fits with current uses
332	Where between 2 major highways.
333	No opinion.
375	Industrial parks are important when they are sustainable and helpful for both the community and the environment. Placing them out of the way, like they are in the map is going to be very beneficial.
387	It makes sense/
391	I think it will be good for the transfer of goods
397	N
398	No storong opinion
402	I desire to preserve the natural areas in this location
426	Again I go back to the point of choosing areas which dense traffic. You need to add more lanes in the road if you're going to want to develop more of these areas selected. I would stray far away from Staduim drive and drake road area as COSCO puts in too much traffic and is built poorly for that area. I would go into the area where Menards is on W Main st.

474	I live near one of these areas in what you'd term a Residential Neighborhood. We have quite enough noise as it is.
477	I think we have enough industrial areas.
483	N/A
485	Key off of truck traffic, noise, existing park extensions.
492	Can't tell where they are from your drawing
499	Seems logical as is
502	Congestion. Like the natural green spaces.
504	You already highlighted that area on westmain as something else.
508	Map won't open
511	Confirms mostly with current state though the stadium corridor could be used west of 9th.
522	No change is needed.
525	Neutral already there maybe restrict additonal industrial parks potential better locations outer limits of township.
526	As mentioned in requirements
530	Keep out industrial areas.
532	Seems like a fine spot
535	I'm concerned about the ecological impacts
537	By the highway would be better for these
542	Don't want much industry in Oshtemo. Retail is ugly enough. Want quiet and less traffic
554	Seems to make sense. It's nearer to the highway
556	Extend the Stadium Dr corridor from 8th to Lawton Winery on Stadium.
558	You could increase this option

34. Is there any additional feedback you would like to share regarding the future of Oshtemo and this Comprehensive Planning Project?

ResponseID	Response
16	Yes. We live on Parkview Avenue, and signed on to a township project to put in a non-motorized pathway. We let you rip out all of our privacy landscaping and establish a permanent easement on our property in order to make that pathway possible because we were excited to have walking/biking access to Asylum Lake and Flescher Field. However, construction of the pathway has not even begun, and no further mention of it has been made in any newsletters since the roundabouts on Parkview were finished. We were led to believe it would happen in conjunction with, or shortly after, the Parkview roundabout project. But nothing has come of it, and we feel like we've been left hanging. What is going on with the Parkview Pathway project? Will the township follow through on this commitment? We feel like the planning people at the Township have some good ideas but pretty lousy follow-through. As much as we support the fruit belt trail project, I don't understand why it takes precedence over building safe walking corridors along Parkview and 11th, where people walk all the time on dangerously narrow road shoulders. If you want people to have a sense of belonging, maybe you should focus on their immediate need to safely move around this busy and developing commercial area.
17	Oshtemo is rapidly losing its natural beauty due to the continued unfettered development. Residents are finding Oshtemo a much and less desirable place to live.
18	no. This all looks good to me
23	I like that in your planning you are considering preserving/conserving and creating land and open spaces to keep the country atmosphere that many moved to Oshtemo for.
24	I have been so impressed since I moved to Oshtemo with everything that the township does. Thank you!!
26	Thanks for the many people doing this work!
27	I don't feel clear on what the comprehensive plan may mean for my location.
32	Seems unrealistic as it will depend highly on the success of Kalamazoo which is struggling to attract talent, retain business, and build economic resilience.
36	More 5G towers would be desirable. Thank you for all of your hard work to improve the community. There is a clear mandate to further this endeavor. I look forward to the progress it brings for the community as a whole.
39	Not at this time.
40	Please do not connect everything with roads that increase traffic through intimate neighborhoods where children can play safely. Additional roads also increases pollution, both air and storm water pollution. Encourage connectivity through safe sidewalks and trailways. Make this a healthier place to live.
46	Accessibility and Community Building! Oshtemo must start planning with true accessibility in mind. I would highly recommend that someone in the planning department connect with staff at Disability Network Southwest Michigan to make sure all future plans are inclusive and accessible. There is also a significant need to rebuild our divided community.

47	<p>I love the idea of making spaces in Oshtemo more accessible and walkable. I hope land management for wooded and wetland conservation is made a priority as well. I would also love to see parking lots used for solar farms, which would give shade to the cars parked under the panels as well.</p>
48	<p>Do what that residents asked for when filling out the last surveys for the last 15 years! Quit allowing the building of dense sub divisions with crowded housing. Many on the board have been here for years and know what that means. We moved to this area which has lost of green spaces on purpose.</p>
54	<p>We appreciate all of the work and grief that has gone into getting sewers, but in the older areas it has to happen soon! We are aware of the most recent timeline, but it has been blocked so often. Keep working for us! Thanks</p>
59	<p>Being a longtime Oshtemo resident, I really dislike that West Main/M-43, Drake Road and Stadium Drive have now become the "Westnedge" of our township. Traffic flow and grid-lock have become the norm, sadly. The traffic lights are not set to keep cars moving, as it's all stop-n-Go and wasting gasoline. Traffic back up's get worse every week.</p>
60	<p>Stop spending our money on things we don't want</p>
63	<p>Not at this time. Nice job!</p>
64	<p>I am glad the township is considering accessibility needs. Thinking through barriers to transportation and housing ensures a more vibrant, thriving, and attractive community. It takes foresight and investment. A for that!</p>
71	<p>I think it is important that once adopted, all of the departments follow the lead of this plan and vision, including the building department and fire department.</p>
75	<p>I think the board needs to let individual residents make more decisions on their own. We don't like being told what we can and cannot do with property that we have paid for over and over again with our high taxes here</p>
79	<p>The residents don't want big box store development on every corner. It creates noise, pollution, traffic, and an environment that isn't conducive to raising a family.</p>
87	<p>Leave Oshtemo alone. Leave it as a rural suburb with undeveloped land and slow uncontested traffic. Development, adding buildings and streets doesn't improve all areas. Listen to your constituents, stop trying to fulfill YOUR vision. If you wouldn't build a strip mall or 500 units apartment complex RIGHT NEXT TO YOUR HOUSE, stop trying to build them next to ours.</p>
90	<p>Please consider that most Oshtemo residents live there for PRIVACY and the GREEN SPACE. Most do not want to live in a high density situation. We value our quiet suburban lifestyle.</p>
92	<p>I support developing Oshtemo and there are some good concepts. Ensuring neighborhood safety, from increased auto traffic, or the impact of nearby subsidized housing is absolutely paramount to the growth and development of Oshtemo. Even now, in CCV, we get occasional passers through looking for shortcuts that impact the safe feeling our children should have in a neighborhood in Oshtemo</p>
93	<p>I appreciate the vision for Oshtemo Township and see the value in it. I just hope that keeping the integrity and "small feel" of current neighborhoods is a top priority. I believe creating better use of certain areas and not creating more traffic in certain neighborhoods can coexist.</p>
97	<p>I've hear rumors of trying to connect Lodge Lane neighborhood to 9th St. that will be problematic for our family having young children playing and adding traffic to our neighborhood.</p>
100	<p>Please don't connect Country Club Village to ANY neighborhood! We love our one way in one way out neighborhood!!! Keeps the children and families and pets safe!</p>

101	I am very against a cut through being added to the country club village neighborhood. We do not have sidewalks here and lots of children play in the streets and it would present an increased danger for our kids. Not worth it. People can take a few extra minutes to drive the main roads.
106	I do not want our neighborhood to be connected to the other neighborhood because of the traffic. No sidewalks. Lots of kids. Few street lights.
109	I don't think it's necessary to connect any current neighborhoods. It would be a threat to the safety, privacy and security of these well established neighborhoods. Creating potential for unwelcome visitors and more crime.
111	I would urge the planning team to truly understand and use the feedback from Oshtemo residents. Be intentional about the developments made and ensuring it is best for this community.
112	I enjoy living in an older, tree-lined neighborhood that is close to many amenities. Connecting my neighborhood to surrounding residential and commercial will increase the amount of traffic and cut down on the current "neighborhood feel." The road I live on is already fairly busy due to the fact it's the main road that connects the test of the neighborhood.
114	Gather input from lodge lane residents on our neighborhood. It is a unique neighborhood because of its layout. Do not destroy the uniqueness of this neighborhood by connecting it to other developments. It is a destination neighborhood for residents of the township and connecting it would destroy this.
118	What do the semi-hidden purple icons that cover the front half of Country Club Village represent. Also, are you still planning to connect Country Club Village to a business park and Sky King Meadows despite the opposition?
124	Love all of the ideas and wish the very best to the committee for all their hard work.
126	I certainly hope that elected officials will take heed of all of the comments that they've heard this past several months that—please let residents communicate our needs, wishes, and desires instead of telling us what we want or what we should want. Prioritizing connectivity over open, natural green environments and responsible growth (another core value) works against creating a sense of belonging. You're seemingly fly trying to create a sense of belonging through physical changes while you work against that very goal in the ways in which residents r voice are ignored, unheard, and/or filtered through biased means of data collection.
131	I do not want a road connecting the Country Club Village neighborhood with the Sky King neighborhood. We do not need additional traffic making it difficult for children to ride bikes or take walks for fear of the dangers of more traffic.
133	Do not connect Country Club village to the subdivision Sky xxxx. I used to live there, but moved to Westport after hearing gunshots from the new apartment complex (Copper ridge?). That was an awful decision for that subdivision. Now there are abandoned houses in there and squatters attempting to approach those empty homes. Country Club village has decayed since that complex went in.
139	Poor planning, too late to the party. Board is worried about parks that go to nowhere.
140	Country club Village does not need to be connected to the nearby neighborhood. By connecting country club Village and West Main to ninth Street as a cut through our streets will not be safe for our children to play on or neighbors to walk country club Village is a one-way one-way out quiet neighborhood that needs to stay one way in one way out.
142	Good luck!
149	No connectivity. We don't need it, we don't want it. We chose our location BECAUSE of the location

150	The future of Oshtemo looks bleak and expensive. Looks like a cement paradise that creates rising climate temperatures and brings in crime.
152	It is my family's wish that Country Club Village, the Sky King neighborhood, and any other future developments do not become connected via a road for motorized vehicles. There is an abundance of agreement amongst property owners and I hope that we can finally get a commitment that this will not happen now or in the future.
154	No connection using Lodge Lane. Leave our neighborhood alone!!
159	Oshtemo already has a diverse housing stock but if development must happen please remember that many residents like and want "room to breathe" I believe the past surveys indicated the community desires to keep the western part of the township protected to retain "rural character"
161	more roundabouts!
162	Please listen to your residents, not the developers. Thank you
164	I am all for development as long as you are not removing green spaces and trees and as long as there is no other development such as houses already there. Oshtemo residents do not want to become apartment rich. We want to have private homes and neighborhoods. Please consider putting apartment complexes where there are no homes.
167	No connections to our neighborhood please.
170	I live in Country Club Village. It is a great sub with little traffic, which is safe for my kids. I strongly disagree with any plan to connect other streets to my sub. There is no advantage to let this happen
172	I can not emphasize enough protecting existing neighborhoods and the people who are living in those areas. Adding more business, industrial parks, cut outs to west main, and traffic lights would not be conducive to protecting the neighborhoods of country club village, sky king and buckham woods.
173	We hope our feedback is valued. Thank you.
178	Yes. Zoning reform is important to address housing shortages. I hope to see some movement on approval/encouragement of accessory dwelling units (ADUs). I don't need one personally, but others could benefit from them. I could make my basement an ADU if I could install a full egress window (for fire safety purposes). But that's costly so I probably won't do it. Don't let the NIMBYs and CAVE* people get to you. 😊 Also, please no more gargantuan apartment or condo complexes zoned into one huge area. I live in one of those. It's not good. The population density causes problems. Instead put limits on how big a condo or apartment complex is allowed to be. I'd rather have a lot of smaller ones sprinkled among single-family housing tracks instead of two or three gargantuan ones segregated away from other residents. *Citizens Against Virtually Everything
180	What is the impact on our taxes?
181	Please do not connect Country Club with any other neighborhoods/roads
183	Is the push to develop meant to expand the tax base?
184	Not at this time
185	Way to much New Housing Construction which will cause more traffic, more crime, Over-priced New Housing. Keep Oshtemo small instead of trying to turn it into Kalamazoo, which is an awful city

190	Don't change land use without owners agreement they bought it the way it is for a reason and others should not be allowed to change it at will
197	Naturalization of public and private lands should be better supported instead of paying staff to go around to make sure all residents mow mow mow. It's like Oshtemo never heard about climate change or sustainable yards.
199	Not that I can think of
202	Quit wasting money on things that don't matter and work on the real issues at hand.
205	There are too many stupid churches in the area. They are taking up WAY too much area that people could live in.
206	No to pickle ball No to taking down the woods No to connecting the neighborhoods that are currently in opposition to the connectivity Future meetings should be held to discuss details Term limits should be implemented on board members to two years.
212	Sewer project getting scraped with new leadership or what? More green, more single family homes.
213	I would agree to cleaning it up and placing shrubbery but not building up the country land.
214	1. Start planning so you spend within your means. 2. Stop assuming everything you pass a project you get to hire more staff 3. Review your current legal staffing budget and needs. Our township attorney should not be the highest paid employee. Something is wrong with this optic. 4. We are a township not a city Act accordingly If you want to be a city, please begin process, hire a city manager and let us have the benefits of a city government.
216	none
220	I would love to see more public spaces that encourage community engagement, such as meeting places where locals can connect and interact. Additionally, spaces for outdoor music performances and theater would greatly enhance the cultural vibrancy of the area. It would be fantastic to have a YMCA in Oshtemo, featuring an outdoor swimming pool with a retractable roof. This would allow residents to enjoy swimming year-round, as the roof could be opened in the warmer months and closed during the winter for year-round use. I also think it would be a great addition to have one or more museums in the area, especially an art museum, to help foster creativity and provide an enriching cultural experience for both residents and visitors.
221	I would like to see the section between 9th and 10th street be more walkable and include more small retail, restaurants and community spaces
226	Oshtemo is not a growing community, nor does it need to be. What is needed is the Board to focus on is providing great roads, fire and police protection. Crime in Oshtemo is a major concern of residents, not trails and parks. Focus on that. Focus on reducing regulations to foster experimentation and innovation often constrained by unneeded ordinances. Reduce Twp property taxes to offset rising inflation using 'rainy day' funds. Help the people.
239	The roads are horrible, can you please address that? They are not well maintained when the weather is bad either, you know when you get into Oshtemo because of how bad the roads are.
240	We need recycling and yard waste offered more than just the trash service
241	I agree that when there is population density that parks, trails, sidewalks and connectivity are important to the desirability of a place. I hope Oshtemo abides by the Rural zoning it has set up in the west.
253	Consider larger buffers between existing neighborhoods and industrial zones with a minimum amount of impact on traffic congestion and safety.

256	No
264	Please do not forget about the low income and homeless population in Oshtemo. We need support just as much as the middle class and corporations.
266	There should be more fruit trees around every house
279	Make it safer. Crack down on crime and teach citizens how to keep themselves safe.
293	Please work to get w kl ave roadwork finished
303	N/a
310	Before new residential developments are explored, even on farmland, especially orchards, the soil should be tested for hazardous substances and heavy metals. Arsenic is a big concern on old orchards.
320	I hate trump and all of the neo-nazi policies he wants to put forward. Anyone who supports that kind of thing is a part of the fucking problem.
326	We need an extensive trail system so we can bike to retailers, restaurants, parks, library, etc.
331	Glad you are at least trying to get community feedback.
332	It would be nice too have a crystal ball to see whats best for all.
333	Why does Oshtemo need more housing? Why does it need bigger and better? Why can it not be a peaceful place that is not cookie cutter suburbia? Progress and improvements, sure, but not large scale changes that many residents came to Oshtemo to get away from.
365	I'm frustrated that the highway bridge construction project just prior to the Drake/KL Ave intersection has led to a detour for so long. What happened to opening the section up for through-traffic in the winter? KL avenue is the main roadway for 2 of the largest apartment complexes in the area for college students, and the detour is extremely congested. It has led to excessive wear on the 11th street railroad crossing intersection and there are large potholes that are beginning to form. I understand there are safety risks involved with allowing traffic to flow here during construction, but how did we intend on ever opening this section of road up in the winter if there hasn't been asphalt down in 6 months?
375	Even though I am just a college student and don't know how long I will be living in Oshtemo for, I have come to feel very connected with the community and people I have met. I have good intentions in my mind for others and I hope you still will take my suggestions and opinions seriously despite the circumstances of how I have come to live in Oshtemo in the first place.
391	Nope!
397	N
398	No
399	PLEASE OPEN KL MY DRIVE TO SCHOOL TAKES FOREVER AND NOBODY IS EVER WORKING ON IT
426	Build more lanes in the road, or try to decrease traffic in these areas . Kalamazoo county has too many residents and not enough road space that should be priority first in my mind.
432	Students are leaving Oshtemo because of the awful construction and time that it takes to school. I am wasting so much gas and so much money on rent and it is overall making my life harder.

434	Please end the construction. It has been detoured since April 28th and worked on for one day.... The detour adds ten-fifteen minutes to my day and is covered in potholes. Adjust the street like on KL at the very least.
474	Commercial areas need to have large buffers of conserved/preserved lands around them.
477	More single-family homes.
479	More controlled growth. Keep rural character that draws people to the area. We don't need a giant car wash. We don't need to fill the township with subdivisions. This will displace the people who currently love Oshtemo and call the township home.
483	N/A
485	Engage some common sense residents who are not bombarded with "planner jargon" such as "curb cuts" and allow empathetic discussion of many ways of growing, do what is possible to minimize heavy regulation and historical ordinance dominace: Oshtemo by Permit Only" reputation. Employees behind glass. Focus groups as opposed to large meetings.
487	Why not have an oshtemo high school? Otsego school district is very far and mattawan classrooms are packed
498	Thank you for doing this and for requesting input. Can you advertise this opportunity more widely?
499	Not at this time. I left my comments in each section.
502	I'd like current, plans as they occur. Our taxes are way too high for the Oshtemo we enjoy.
504	Please utilize brownfield options. We have a lot of space that is already developed that is being under utilized. Please do not cut down forests to build more. I strongly recommend working with established businesses to create a more lovely and inviting township.
508	Oshtemo is becoming too congested. We need to keep the rural, country feel. We do not need to develop every inch of land. You're pushing the sewers in the name of stopping climate change. How about, instead keeping green spaces, don't take down trees to expand neighborhoods or put in roads and sewers. Mandate future development and neighborhoods be at least 50% green space. We don't need more businesses or restaurants.
522	Bring back the ability to have large pole barns on large properties. That's why we moved here. If people don't want that they are welcome to move to other townships.
525	Updates on sewer progress
526	Should have had the plan earlier in the survey, would have saved me a lot of typing...Glad to see the planned progress.
530	This is a poorly designed survey. And you're going to base development plans based on a very limited number of surveys you get back claiming it is what 'the community wants'. This is what you've done in the past with The Green Plan and such - minimal number of returns and a spin to do what fits your agenda and waste money (like FruitBelt Trail). So why should we trust your decisions?
532	No
537	We don't have enough reasonably priced restaurants opened all day for breakfast and all meals not bar type. Not enough stores like Kohls for people of all ages not just stores like Marshalls. We have so many empty new buildings with nothing in them. No more traffic drawers

542	The Prairies GC should be preserved for community space. We don't need land developers to get richer from that space which has for decades been for exercise, recreation and community. Utilize it for community health! Swimming, pickleball, tennis, golf, walking paths, etc.
545	Should use more areas off of west main.
548	No
557	Please reach out to all residents and keep the survey completion % updated and publish on the website. You can also extend the survey for another year. Please do not say SORRY YOU MISSED THE SURVEY.
558	I suggest having the City of Kalamazoo annex the residential properties east of US 131