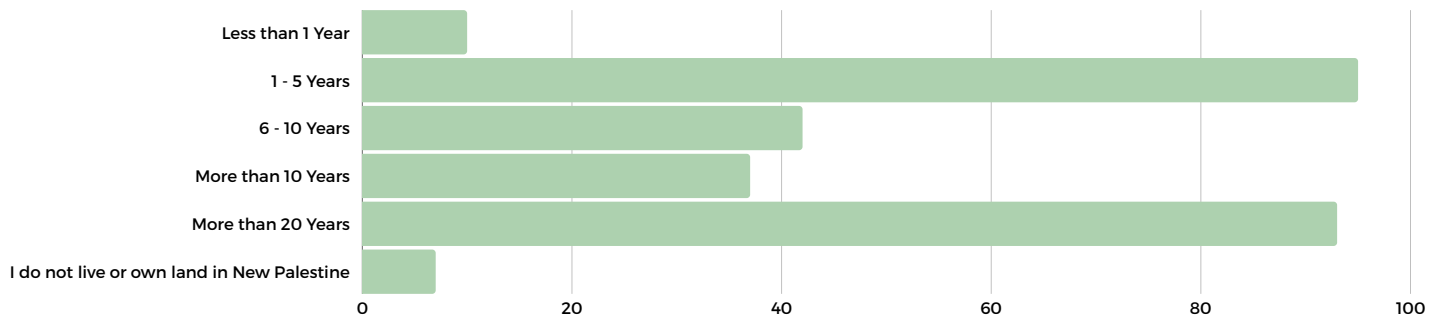


## FEEDBACK FROM COUNTY RESIDENTS & STAKEHOLDERS INCORPORATED IN THE COMPREHENSIVE MASTER PLAN UPDATE

A public survey opened to collect feedback from a broad range of county stakeholders. The survey was open between June 21, 2024 and will close August 1, 2024 and collected over 285 responses. This amount of participation demonstrated that there is significant public interest in the planning process. The survey is an important element for county officials to understand community perceptions about New Palestine, Indiana's future, economic growth, quality of life, public services, and infrastructure.

## COMMUNITY SURVEY SUMMARY

The vast majority of survey respondents were county residents as 93% indicated that they lived in New Palestine, while others indicate their connection to the community is through family or living just outside the town's boundaries. Most respondents were also under the age of 49 with residents age 30-39 yrs old and 40 - 49 yrs old making up the largest age cohort at 24.56% and 24.91% of responses. An interesting residential dynamic within survey respondents indicates the largest two categories of residents at a nearly equal percent have lived in New Pal for 1-5 years and More than 20 years. After assessing the demographic make-up of respondents, the survey gathered information on the town's strongest assets and challenges, and feedback on potential growth scenarios and identified priorities.



## NEW PALESTINE COMPREHENSIVE PLAN SURVEY TOPICS

### GROWTH & DEVELOPMENT

Preservation of current charm and small town character, support for diversifying residential housing stock, attraction of more restaurant and shopping amenities, positive growth strategies with flexibility, preserving the historic core, parks and streetscapes

### ASSETS

Quality of local schools, quality of place/community character, local family-owned businesses, Hancock Wellness Center, family-friendly community events, and safe community

### CHALLENGES

Lack of restaurants and cultural arts experiences, concern of growing too fast and too many lower quality housing types, desire for more trails and sidewalks, cost of infrastructure and sewer fees



### LAND USES

Preserving the town's greenspace, and agricultural land uses with scrutiny on potential residential development to combat growing too fast. Desire for connection between proposed developments and the rest of the town, minimizing traffic impacts

### COMMUNITY PRIORITIES

Protecting community identity, small town charm, tight knit, family-friendly atmosphere while balancing potential growth and managing community resources

### QUALITY OF LIFE

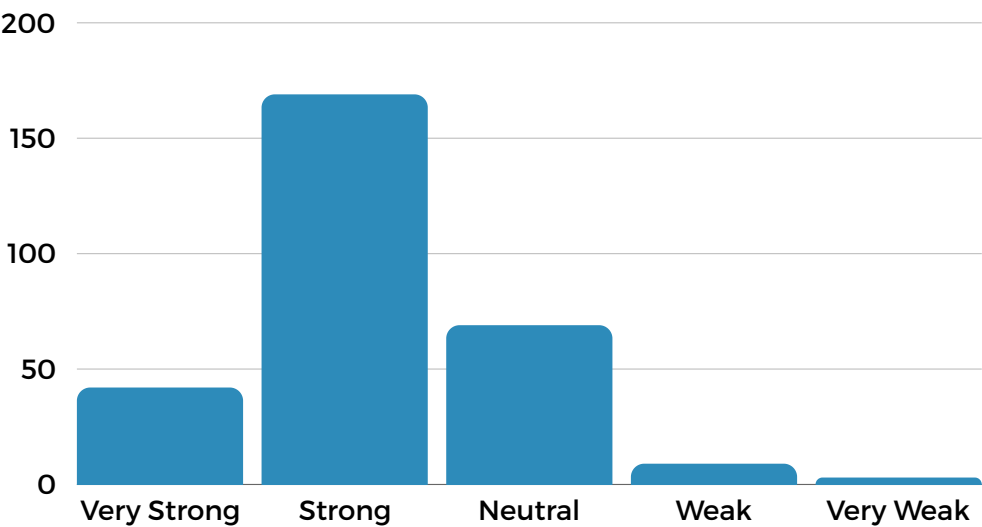
A significant focus for respondents centered on quality of life and residential amenities including recreational opportunities with a growing demand for more parks and trails, and a desire for additional retail amenities and access to restaurants.

NEW PALESTINE COMMUNITY SURVEY

DESCRIBE NEW PALESTINE IN UP TO THREE WORDS



HOW WOULD YOU RATE THE SENSE OF COMMUNITY IN NEW PAL?



NEW PALESTINE COMMUNITY SURVEY

COMMUNITY CHARACTER: STRENGTHS & WEAKNESSES

Respondents were asked “When considering the New Palestine, IN’s existing **commercial and industrial areas**, identify if each of the following is a strength or weakness for the community today.”

Character of Commercial Areas

	GREAT WEAKNESS	WEAKNESS	STRENGTH	GREAT STRENGTH	TOTAL	WEIGHTED AVERAGE
☆	10.33% 25	50.83% 123	35.95% 87	2.89% 7	242	2.31

Character of Industrial Areas

	GREAT WEAKNESS	WEAKNESS	STRENGTH	GREAT STRENGTH	TOTAL	WEIGHTED AVERAGE
☆	19.57% 46	49.79% 117	25.53% 60	5.11% 12	235	2.16

Mix and Availability of Shopping Options

	GREAT WEAKNESS	WEAKNESS	STRENGTH	GREAT STRENGTH	TOTAL	WEIGHTED AVERAGE
☆	36.82% 95	46.90% 121	12.02% 31	4.26% 11	258	1.84

Access to Everyday Goods and Services

	GREAT WEAKNESS	WEAKNESS	STRENGTH	GREAT STRENGTH	TOTAL	WEIGHTED AVERAGE
☆	19.31% 50	40.15% 104	33.98% 88	6.56% 17	259	2.28

Opportunities for New Commercial Development

	GREAT WEAKNESS	WEAKNESS	STRENGTH	GREAT STRENGTH	TOTAL	WEIGHTED AVERAGE
☆	9.92% 24	32.23% 78	43.80% 106	14.05% 34	242	2.62

Impact of Industrial Uses On the Community

	GREAT WEAKNESS	WEAKNESS	STRENGTH	GREAT STRENGTH	TOTAL	WEIGHTED AVERAGE
☆	18.94% 43	48.02% 109	27.75% 63	5.29% 12	227	2.19

Employment and Job Opportunities

	GREAT WEAKNESS	WEAKNESS	STRENGTH	GREAT STRENGTH	TOTAL	WEIGHTED AVERAGE
☆	20.33% 49	61.00% 147	14.11% 34	4.56% 11	241	2.03

Opportunities for New Office and Employment Uses

	GREAT WEAKNESS	WEAKNESS	STRENGTH	GREAT STRENGTH	TOTAL	WEIGHTED AVERAGE
☆	15.81% 37	47.86% 112	28.63% 67	7.69% 18	234	2.28

NEW PALESTINE COMMUNITY SURVEY

COMMUNITY CHARACTER: STRENGTHS & WEAKNESSES

Respondents were asked “When considering the New Palestine, IN’s **existing community facilities and services**, identify if each of the following is a strength or weakness for the community today.”

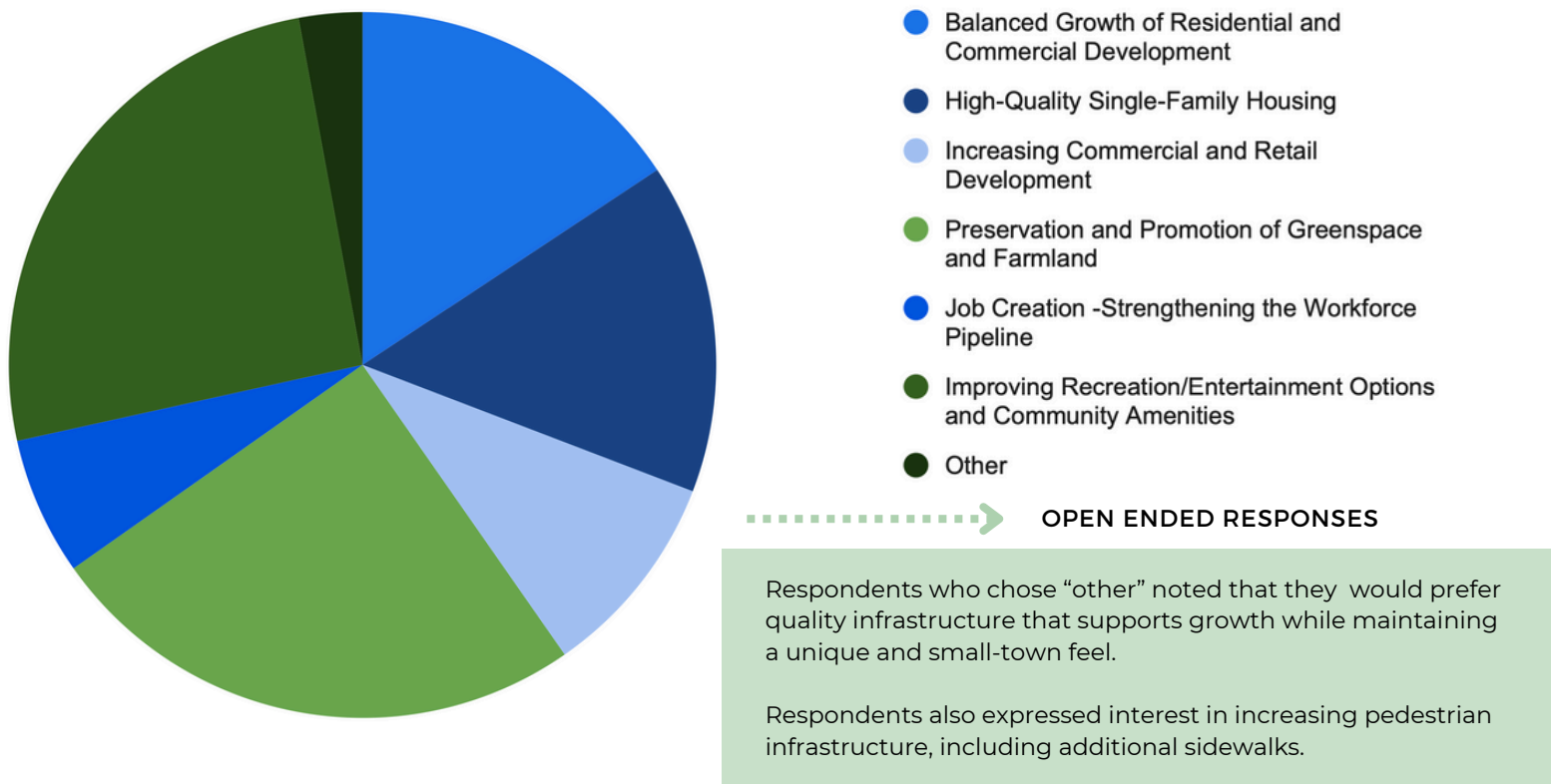
Schools Kindergarten - 8th Grade		GREAT WEAKNESS	WEAKNESS	STRENGTH	GREAT STRENGTH	TOTAL	WEIGHTED AVERAGE
	☆	2.35% 6	7.06% 18	38.04% 97	52.55% 134	255	3.41
High Schools		GREAT WEAKNESS	WEAKNESS	STRENGTH	GREAT STRENGTH	TOTAL	WEIGHTED AVERAGE
	☆	2.34% 6	6.64% 17	41.80% 107	49.22% 126	256	3.38
Higher Education Options		GREAT WEAKNESS	WEAKNESS	STRENGTH	GREAT STRENGTH	TOTAL	WEIGHTED AVERAGE
	☆	21.58% 52	47.30% 114	20.75% 50	10.37% 25	241	2.20
Police protection & public safety		GREAT WEAKNESS	WEAKNESS	STRENGTH	GREAT STRENGTH	TOTAL	WEIGHTED AVERAGE
	☆	3.46% 9	6.54% 17	46.92% 122	43.08% 112	260	3.30
Fire protection & emergency response		GREAT WEAKNESS	WEAKNESS	STRENGTH	GREAT STRENGTH	TOTAL	WEIGHTED AVERAGE
	☆	1.15% 3	1.53% 4	38.70% 101	58.62% 153	261	3.55
Drinking water quality		GREAT WEAKNESS	WEAKNESS	STRENGTH	GREAT STRENGTH	TOTAL	WEIGHTED AVERAGE
	☆	7.20% 18	22.40% 56	46.80% 117	23.60% 59	250	2.87
Water and Sewer Utilities		GREAT WEAKNESS	WEAKNESS	STRENGTH	GREAT STRENGTH	TOTAL	WEIGHTED AVERAGE
	☆	10.44% 26	21.29% 53	51.81% 129	16.47% 41	249	2.74
Electrict Utilities		GREAT WEAKNESS	WEAKNESS	STRENGTH	GREAT STRENGTH	TOTAL	WEIGHTED AVERAGE
	☆	3.97% 10	14.29% 36	60.71% 153	21.03% 53	252	2.99
Broadband availability & reiliability		GREAT WEAKNESS	WEAKNESS	STRENGTH	GREAT STRENGTH	TOTAL	WEIGHTED AVERAGE
	☆	9.65% 25	32.43% 84	43.24% 112	14.67% 38	259	2.63
Trash removal & recycling services		GREAT WEAKNESS	WEAKNESS	STRENGTH	GREAT STRENGTH	TOTAL	WEIGHTED AVERAGE
	☆	9.58% 25	27.59% 72	48.28% 126	14.56% 38	261	2.68
Stormwater drainage (flooding)		GREAT WEAKNESS	WEAKNESS	STRENGTH	GREAT STRENGTH	TOTAL	WEIGHTED AVERAGE
	☆	9.20% 23	25.20% 63	51.60% 129	14.00% 35	250	2.70
Healthcare & Medical Services		GREAT WEAKNESS	WEAKNESS	STRENGTH	GREAT STRENGTH	TOTAL	WEIGHTED AVERAGE
	☆	6.69% 17	25.20% 64	46.85% 119	21.26% 54	254	2.83

# NEW PALESTINE COMMUNITY SURVEY

## GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT

Survey Participants were asked to identify top priorities within the community. A majority of community respondents encouraged the addition of new amenities while continuing to prioritize the preservation of historic building and green spaces, as to maintain the small town charm of the community.

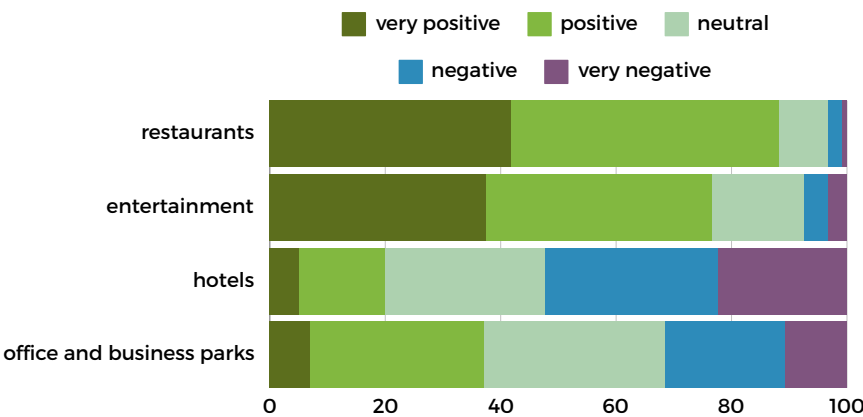
### SURVEY PARTICIPANTS WERE ASKED WHICH TOPICS ARE A PRIORITY FOR THEMSELVES AND THEIR COMMUNITY BY CHOOSING ALL THAT APPLY.



### SURVEY PARTICIPANTS WERE ASKED THEIR OPINION ON THE IMPACT OF VARIOUS TYPES OF DEVELOPMENT IN THE COMMUNITY

The average sentiment of respondents supports the development of new amenities including retail, entertainment, and personal services.

Development in industrial, warehouse, and office space was less preferred by respondents.

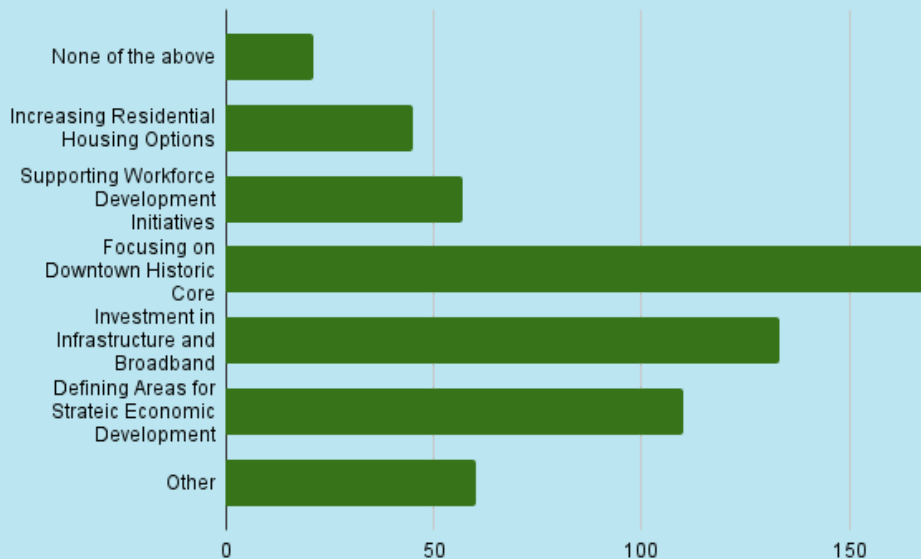


## NEW PALESTINE COMMUNITY SURVEY

### INFRASTRUCTURE AND GREEN SPACE OPPORTUNITIES

Survey Participants were asked to determine their level of agreement regarding initiatives aimed to encourage growth and implement infrastructure improvements.

#### SURVEY PARTICIPANTS WERE ASKED TO INDICATE THEIR SUPPORT FOR VARIOUS EFFORTS TO ENCOURAGE GROWTH BY CHOOSING ALL THAT APPLY



Survey participants preferred growth strategies related to improvements in downtown historic core and developments in infrastructure.

For those who answered “other”, the open ended responses indicated that many expressed their interest in increasing the number of sidewalks and bike lanes, and increasing the walkability of the community.

The Survey asked participants to express their interest in preserving community green space. An overwhelming majority Agree or strongly agree with the question: **“Should Preserving community Green space be a priority?”**

The overall community sentiment indicates a strong desire to enhance visual appeal by creating additional green spaces.



## NEW PALESTINE COMMUNITY SURVEY

### ADDITIONAL OPPORTUNITIES FOR COMMUNITY PRIORITY ALIGNMENT

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#### TOP RESPONSES TO THE SURVEY PROMPT: “WHAT DO YOU LIKE MOST ABOUT LIVING IN NEW PALESTINE?”

SAFETY

SMALL-TOWN  
APPEAL

HIGH-QUALITY  
EDUCATION

Survey respondents identified the community's **foremost appeals as its safety, small-town charm, proximity to a large city, strong community pride, and high-quality education**. While there is recognition of the community's rapid pace of growth, respondents look to make improvements and add infrastructure without jeopardizing the appeal small town characteristics of the community.

When asked what could inhibit growth in the community, **respondents expressed that the most important thing to consider is how the community can grow without getting rid of the charming small-town feel**.

#### INFRASTRUCTURE AND PUBLIC SERVICES: RESPONDENTS WERE ASKED TO CONSIDER WHAT INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENTS THEY WOULD LIKE TO SEE IN A COMPREHENSIVE PLAN FOR THE COMMUNITY

Survey respondents highlighted their desire for more sidewalk to improve pedestrian safety, and connectivity, better traffic control, and repair of existing bridges and roads.



Survey respondents expressed a preference for quality housing that reflects individuality and character. This feedback underscores the community's commitment to maintaining a distinctive character and residential landscape that aligns with their values.





## NEW PALESTINE COMMUNITY SURVEY

### ADDITIONAL OPPORTUNITIES FOR COMMUNITY PRIORITY ALIGNMENT

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#### COMMUNITY RECREATION AND ACTIVITY: RESPONDENTS WERE ASKED TO CONSIDER WHAT RECREATIONAL IMPROVEMENTS THEY WOULD LIKE TO SEE IN A COMPREHENSIVE PLAN FOR THE COMMUNITY

Survey respondents **expressed a strong desire for the development of additional parks** within the community. The feedback highlights a community-wide interest in fostering a healthier, more vibrant environment through increased access to well-maintained parks, which are seen as essential for promoting both physical and mental well-being among residents.



Survey respondents indicated a **strong interest in increasing the variety of dining and entertainment options** within the community. They expressed a desire for more restaurants and recreational venues to enhance the local cultural and social scene.

**SUMMARY:** THE COMMUNITY SURVEY REPORT REVEALS A STRONG SENSE OF IDENTITY AMONG RESIDENTS, WHO VALUE THE AREA'S SAFETY, SMALL-TOWN CHARM, EXCELLENT SCHOOLS, AND RAPID GROWTH. RESIDENTS ARE ENTHUSIASTIC ABOUT DEVELOPMENT BUT EMPHASIZE THE IMPORTANCE OF PRESERVING THE SMALL-TOWN CHARM THAT DEFINES THEIR COMMUNITY. THE SURVEY UNDERSCORES A COLLECTIVE ASPIRATION TO BALANCE GROWTH WITH THE MAINTENANCE OF THE QUALITIES THAT MAKE THE AREA UNIQUE AND APPEALING.