

Local officials survey
Charlevoix County Planning Commission and Planning Department

The goal of this survey is to learn more about how you and your community are using Charlevoix County Planning Commission and Planning Department services, and what services and training would be most useful in the future. This information will guide the Planning Commission as we develop our work plan for 2010 and beyond.

Please complete this survey and return in the postage-paid envelope no later than **October 23, 2009**.

1. Who in your community do you think has contact with the Charlevoix County Planning Commission and/or Planning Department? *Check all that apply.*

- Planning Commission Chairperson **66.4**
- ZBA Chairperson **35.5**
- Supervisor **46.4**
- Clerk **42.7**
- Zoning Administrator **73.6**
- Paid planning consultant **28.2**
- Other **13.6** see attached _____
- Not sure **5.5**

Final results - 110 surveys tallied

2. How often have you, personally, contacted the Charlevoix County Planning Commission or Planning Department in the past year?

- None **61.8**
- 1-5 times **28.2**
- 6-10 times **3.6**
- More than 10 times **6.4**

3. Has your community submitted any new or revised zoning ordinances (including rezoning) or master plans for review by the County Planning Commission within the past three years?

- Yes **71.8**
- No **10.0**
- Not sure **18.2**

→ If yes, how useful was that review in making revisions and adopting those ordinance changes or plans?

Not at all useful		Somewhat Useful		Very useful	
1 (0)	2 (5.3)	3 (46.7)	4 (34.7)	5 (13.3)	Average = 3.56

What did you like or dislike about the Planning Commission/Planning Department review(s)?

_____ see attached _____

What would make those reviews more informative and useful?

_____ see attached _____



4. Why, in your opinion, does the County Planning Commission review local zoning ordinances and plans? _____ see attached _____

5. What other Planning Commission or Planning Department services have you or your community utilized within the past three years? *Check all that apply.*

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Technical planning advice 20.0 | <input type="checkbox"/> Census information 11.8 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Assistance with plan development 19.1 | <input type="checkbox"/> Pre-hearing review of ordinances and/or plans 20.0 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Research on planning-related topics 20.0 | <input type="checkbox"/> Grant information 9.1 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Land use information 35.5 | <input type="checkbox"/> Internet/County web site assistance 34.5 |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ see attached _____ |

no listed services - 38.2%
1-2 listed services - 37.3 %
3 or more listed services - 24.5%

6. What specific services would you like to see offered, in the future, by the County Planning Commission and/or Planning Department?
_____ see attached _____

7. One of the functions of the County Planning Commission and Planning Department is to facilitate and coordinate planning activities between Charlevoix County townships, cities and villages. How important is that facilitating and coordinating role to your community?

Not at all important		Somewhat important		Very important	
1 (3.0)	2 (4.0)	3 (30.7)	4 (33.7)	5 (28.7)	Average = 3.81

8. Has your community revised or developed a new ordinance establishing the planning commission to comply with the new 2008 Michigan Planning Enabling Act?

- Yes **50.9**
- No **2.7**
- We're in the process **20.7**
- Not sure **26.4**

no training topics checked - 13.6%
1-3 training topics checked - 37.3 %
4-6 training topics checked - 24.5%
7 or more training topics checked - 25.5 %

9. On which of the following topics would you like training? *Check all that apply.*

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Affordable housing 8.2 | <input type="checkbox"/> Running a meeting (minutes, findings of fact, etc.) 16.4 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural preservation techniques 14.5 | <input type="checkbox"/> Oil and gas exploration 6.4 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Brownfield redevelopment 9.1 | <input type="checkbox"/> Open space zoning 12.7 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Capital improvement programming 5.5 | <input type="checkbox"/> Recreation planning and grant sources 31.8 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conditional rezoning 21.8 | <input type="checkbox"/> Right to farm act and zoning 22.7 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation design techniques 15.5 | <input type="checkbox"/> Septage storage and treatment facilities 12.7 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Economic development and the New Economy 11.8 | <input type="checkbox"/> Site plan review 19.1 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Ethics and conflict of interest 13.6 | <input type="checkbox"/> Smart growth 18.2 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Form based zoning 10.0 | <input type="checkbox"/> Sprawl 11.8 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Geographic information systems 10.9 | <input type="checkbox"/> Traffic access management 7.3 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic preservation 22.7 | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation planning 3.6 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Land divisions and subdivisions 20.0 | <input type="checkbox"/> Water and riparian rights 29.1 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Master plan development 14.5 | <input type="checkbox"/> Wind energy 37.3 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Legal aspects of land use 22.7 | <input type="checkbox"/> Wood heat and outdoor wood boilers 20.9 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Low impact design 13.6 | <input type="checkbox"/> ZBA operations, responsibilities, processes 30.0 |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Other 0.5 see attached _____ |

10. How would you prefer to receive training on planning and zoning topics? *Put a 1 next to the method you most prefer, 2 next to your next most preferred, and so on.*

- 1 ___ Evening workshops at a central location **2.41**
- 6 ___ Multi-evening short course **3.82**
- 2 ___ Special presentation in my community **2.79**
- 3 ___ Short informational DVD that we can play during our meeting **2.96**
- 5 ___ Written publications sent to me **3.66**
- 8 ___ Newsletters **4.83**
- 10 ___ Planning magazines **7.04**
- 7 ___ Information on County web site **4.02**
- 9 ___ Webinar (live presentation over the Internet) **4.96**
- 4 ___ Self-paced Internet short course **3.33**
- ___ Other _____

Average rank. Lower scores are better.

11. I am a:

- Planning Commissioner **40.9**
- ZBA member **23.6**
- Elected official **30.9**
- Other **15.5** see attached _____

12. How long have you served in your current role?

- Less than 1 year **14.0**
- 1 – 5 years **33.6**
- 6 – 10 years **21.5**
- 11 – 15 years **11.2**
- More than 15 years **19.6**

13. I live in a:

- Township **80.6**
- City **19.4**
- Village **0**

14. Do you have any other comments about current or future County Planning Commission and Planning Department services? *Use the back page, if you need more space.*

_____ see attached _____

Thank you!