

**Local officials survey
comments**

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

Other

- anyone who has question/concern
- Bob Draves
- citizen
- City Manager (5)
- Me - PC member & ZBA member
- Member of the Planning Commission
- Planning Comm. Secretary
- Planning Commission as a whole
- Planning Director
- Staff
- Unsure about PC Chairperson, ZBA Chairperson, and Zoning Administrator

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

Like

- Fine - nothing
- good job
- Comments were timely and helpful
- I liked their thorough review.
- Another set of eyes to review.
- Cooperation moved approval time up
- It's always useful to get insight outside of our township
- It is good to know our Planning and County Planning are going in the same direction
- Advised us on problems or conflicts and legal aspects.
- opportunity to attend the meeting at which our ordinance was reviewed
- The format was good - I am positive about it
- They are good - no problem with them.
- They review our Proposed Zoning Ordinance and did a good job
- They seemed complete and easy to follow.
- They were informative; however, a bit "we do it this way..."
- They were timely
- Typically very useful suggestions.
- Useful views
- Very thorough and thoughtful review
- We appreciate input; don't always adopt the recommendations, however
- We liked the time & effort put into rev.
- I didn't dislike anything, but we are unlike anything with commercial, industrial or waterfront?

Dislike

- Disjointed understanding of our Township's mentality and/or thought processes
- Dislike the grammatical correction suggestions.
- Dislike: some points were too picky - involved possible grammar corrections
- Don't work well due to meeting date conflict.
- Incorrect info, personal opinions included
- Response not timely; Responses not in-tune w/ local needs.
- Review was very useful when it was informative with reasoning; Review was not at all useful when it was not understood
- Some comments seemed to be personally aimed at certain projects.
- Some of the recommendations do not apply to here on Beaver Island.
- The fact that it is necessary is somewhat of a hindrance in timely processing of changes. Seems as though comments were less numerous - could be better prep by Twp.
- They seem to be too little, too late.
- Too lenient
- Felt County made too many assumptions - did not seek input from Twp on their questions - gave poor suggestions

Not sure

- Have not participated enough to comment
- need dialogue to understand each side
- new member - not sure of these "specifics"
- Not informed
- nothing special
- Really don't know

Other

- Updating our Hudson Twp. Comprehensive Plan
- I know nothing about the planning commission, but know planning is very necessary. In this twp., zoning enforcement is very badly needed. I have owned property in this township for 45 years and the trash & junk is getting worse and I see no progress being made to clean it up.

3. What would make those reviews more informative and useful?

- A letter or minutes of meetings
- A plan to discourage people from getting lost at night in Chandler Township
- Acceptance of growth alternatives
- B.I. P/C's do need to work more closely w/ the Charlevoix P/C & P.D.
- Back up your reviews with specificity
- Been pretty good!
- Being better aware of individual twp's circumstances
- Comparison to adjoining municipalities - more input before twp has finalized the changes.
- discussion with local unit before County Planner makes report to PC

- Earlier in the process, I understand we control communications flow, but it would be smoother.
- Have not participated enough to know
- I'm not personally on the Planning Commission, so for me it would be meeting with them personally
- Maybe a person could come to a PC meeting to present their comments instead of a report/letter.
- More contact with Township during review
- More dialogue before report is presented to County Planning Commission by County Planner
- More direct interaction with our Planning Commission and its members at joint meetings, including those planning commissions of surrounding townships
- More frequent reviews
- More prompt reviews and return of suggestions
- new member - not sure of these "specifics"
- not deal with punctuation or grammar
- Not knowledgeable enough to comment
- Not sure
- One size doesn't fit all, but we enjoy the out -take from your input.
- Perhaps it would be more useful to have both bodies (Twp P.C. and County P.C.) sit down together and discuss plans, etc.
- Rationale for recommended changes
- They are very good as is.
- We have too much zoning
- Written comments

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

Coordination

- coordinate ordinances w/ state & fed law
- coordinate/have knowledge of county-wide plans
- Coordination of effort, avoidance of problems
- To help local efforts know about & coordinate with county, neighboring & regional efforts
- Better coordination (also it's the law)
- To help County plans coordinate with local efforts
- The PC is absolutely necessary to help with coordinated planning among multiple jurisdictions.
- coordination between County & Township
- So all Twps can work together with County
- Coordinate with other townships
- To coordinate with adjoining entities
- To insure coordination
- Seeing as twps are part of the County, it is wise for the Co. to know what's going on around their area. Good ideas from one twp to another could be shared.
- To facilitate county-wide zoning coordination

- To provide coordination between townships and assure the utility of the plans
- To try to coordinate ordinances among contiguous localities
- To insure both are working together for the betterment of the greater community
- Trying to coordinate twps.

Consistency/ continuity

- Consistency across jurisdictions; compliance with law
- Continuity of county, state ordinances - know what is happening
- Continuity within Cty, have a somewhat common theme
- Continuity, see #7
- Check for errors, inconsistencies
- Does not clash w/ county goals
- Don't know, some continuity between ordinances?
- For continuity between various townships and the counties' goals
- For continuity in townships
- For countywide consistency
- It helps keep contiguous twps keep their "border" areas consistent to each other.
- In sync with County Plan
- Second opinion, so there's some consistency in this County
- Integrate countywide planning
- Make sure everyone is on same page - what Township is doing
- Overall consistent application of zoning law in County
- ensure no conflicts with County Zoning
- So Local doesn't trump State and County
- To maintain consistency with county planning/mission
- to keep consistency in the county
- To see how it lines up with county
- To provide overall continuity between townships
- Try to catch inconsistencies with other locality or county ordinances or plans
- To try to make them compatible with other twp., cities
- to keep up with local issues & assume a countywide continuity
- Continuity amongst townships
- the County Planning is the same
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Conformity

- conformity w/ cty planning; overlooking state law, conflict in language
- Conformity with County Plan
- County wide planning
- Double-check on legal issues; conformity with county-wide planning
- comply with the rules and requirements

- To assure compatibility/compliance with current County visions

Required by state law

- It is required by law.
- Mandated by State of Michigan
- It is required by Michigan Zoning Enabling Act
- Required by law.
- required by statute
- law compliance
- Reviewed for correctness legally
- State requirement
- to comply with the Law
- to insure continuity & compliance w/ State & Fed. Laws

Other

- For a wider perspective
- for language errors & compatible with others
- It helps keep everyone legal and aware of what's up in other areas of the County.
- Oversight
- to assist make sure we are doing everything right
- To attempt in getting more control, to help the township out
- To avoid conflicts with state law or adjoining townships.
- To become up to date on changes in County regarding the influx of business, migration of people & environment
- To better serve each & every community
- To bring them up to date & protect the community
- To double check if we missed something.
- To have trained professionals look at the work, from a local perspective
- - to assist to make sure the ordinance is legal.
- To keep current with existing conditions over time
- To look for errors and/or make recommendations
- To make sure all ordinances are up to date.
- To make sure it's been completed in the best interests of the community at large
- to see if it fits with Master Plan
- To see if it matches what they think it should be
- to see the bigger picture of what goes on in our County
- To try to force township planning to conform to County
- Two sets of eyes are better than one
- What Townships want, not County
- 1st - the law; 2nd - input from 3rd party

- Advisory
- An ounce of prevention can keep the train on the track.

Not sure

- No idea
- I'm not sure why they do.
- Have no idea
- I don't know of any good reason
- Not sure if even needed

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

other

- Being new to the Twp Planning Commission, I am not sure.
- Borrow resources
- Don't know
- GIS Department (2)
- Historic District
- Maps
- None that I know of
- Not Sure/no idea/unknown (6)

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

- Post definitions when they are revised/changed. 2. Post survey results.
- Acquisition of more public open space. Specifically, Big Rock Point
- Attending individual twp PC meetings. Chart all twp Z.O. and distribute to twps.
- Close down - You're not doing anything
- Coordinate recreation opportunities, bike trail, etc.
- Get to work on high speed broadband (greater than T-1)
- Ground-referenced topographic/GIS mapping
- Guidance on new areas, such as wind turbines
- Info. as to what's going on in the county (newsletter)
- Input as to the counties goals. Quite frankly, there doesn't seem to be any common "vision statement"
- Joint meetings
- Keep the same
- Keep the services that are now in place. The economy will not allow more.
- Keep working on getting waterfront zoning consistent in all townships.
- Land use - guidelines for new businesses in disregard to our environment

- More education for twp. Appointees
- More info on the county web site.
- More leadership in consensus standards, particularly waterfront, among all localities.
- Perhaps on-site training
- Presentations to Township boards - explain County ordinances and possible conflicts
- Promote economic growth
- The County should control the zoning instead of untrained people. This township cannot afford to keep the planning & zoning.
- They already provide everything necessary
- To administer zoning - Too costly for Twps.
- training would be good, but I don't see that happening
- web design
- Website & GIS assistance like in past
- No opinion/ don't know/no opinion (7)

9. On which of the following topics would you like training?

other

- GIS
- Larry is doing these things now.
- My experience is that most training is from MSU - cost?
- None at this time, but will note for future needs.
- Open Meetings Act

11. I am a:

- Alternate ZBA Member (2)
- appointed commission member
- Board of Review member
- Planner/Zoning Administrator/staff (4)
- Planning Board member
- Planning Commission as a whole
- Retired elected official

14. Do you have any other comments about current or future County Planning Commission and Planning Department services?

- Being new to the Township Board - I'm still learning about what goes on - That's why some items weren't answered.
- Charlevoix County has an excellent web site, I think the planning commission/Dept. could do more to present ongoing issues, goals, where resources are being dedicated, etc. through their link at this site. Also, I think the planning commission should make more of an effort to contact applicants when having discussions about their projects at meetings. It seems like many letters get written without all the facts.

- Comment on #7: ?...There is no control at all. Comment on #13: Hudson
- Comment on #7: Very important, but not utilized.
- I am a new member of the Charlevoix Township Planning Commission being appointed to serve out the remaining term of a Planning Commission member who resigned the position.
- I am a newly elective trustee and have not been to many P.C. Meetings. What I have seen has been very informative and I look forward to more in the future
- I am pleased that the PC will be enlarged to 9 members; 1 to be from Beaver Island and 1, hopefully, from the east end of the County. Hang in there on the Chx/BC bike trail.
- I believe Big Rock Point should be for public use, because of its uniqueness and pristine condition. Not to be used for condominiums!
- I have been a PC member 2+ years and I am just starting to feel like I am being productive so it is early yet to offer suggestions
- I have been involved with Twp's government since 1974, and I think it is well past time (for the County) to take over Township Zoning. I think the local administration has been abused & misused.
- I have found the Planning Dept. to be very knowledgeable & professional - I would like to see the Dept. apply more assist to the cities within the county.
- In response to #7: Under the current conditions where P.C. members are involved with committee mtgs we are attending at least 3 and sometimes 4 P.C.-based meetings a month - Hard to find time for more mtgs.
- It seems to me the most vital common area is waterfront - All localities would be best served by common standards for greenbelts, parcel size, etc. along our lakes.
- Just getting to understand process; past learning -
- Keep up the good work
- Keep up the good work - Educate elected officials & residents about the cost of development and how it may affect them.
- More information about changes
- More programs like Master Citizen Planner where you can gain certification
- Most helpful when we have unusual situations.
- Need more lakefront coordination. Lake Charlevoix County wide Master Plan!
- New to local government in Norwood. Minimal contact thus far with Charlevoix PC.
- None
- Promote Charlevoix County as a retirement area; Become the driving force for economic growth; Simplify zoning ordinances that will be understood by citizens
- Question 2: GIS Dept.
- Regional sharing of resources and services
- Staff is friendly & helpful & professional
- Thank you for asking for our input
- The County Planning Commission should actively involve itself with the townships and cities that it serves by attending meetings, holding forums (other than standard meetings) and foster not dictate ideas & suggestions relative to ordinance and plan reviews as submitted. This will result in a more responsive and receptive reaction from those same boards and its members that you are expective of.

- We don't always agree with the CPC but value their thoughtful review and availability for advice and recommendations.
- We need education for the volunteers. We pick Joe Blow as a member of the ZBA and they learn by doing and this is not fair to the township residents. All members of Boards should have training - both verbal and written - before being on any Board.
- We need our County planner for all of the new zoning and planning - we need Larry. Without Larry our township would be in big trouble we have to go by State zoning new rules.
- You do a good job! Stay helpful! Chandler is no less valuable than any other township in Chx County.