

Ida Grove Comprehensive Plan 2017-2018

IDA GROVE COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

To: Ida Grove City Council and Marc Dennison, City Administrator
From: Nicole Peterson, SIMPCO Regional Planner nicole@simpco.org
RE: Public Participation Results Report (Meeting and Surveys)
Date: January 8, 2018

Public Participation Methods

On November 15, 2017, SIMPCO staff facilitated a public meeting to gather opinions about the Ida Grove Comprehensive Plan update. Approximately 25 citizens attended the meeting held at Ida Grove Recreation Center from 7:00-9:00 pm. The meeting was developed to gather public opinion and inform the Ida Grove Comprehensive Plan update. Meeting attendees were asked to participate in small group discussions and short surveys focused on the following topic areas: Vision, housing, economic development, transportation, and community facilities and services. Please find the recorded results of the meeting below under the corresponding topic heading.

The City of Ida Grove and SIMPCO collected community surveys to inform the Ida Grove Comprehensive Plan. Surveys were collected online and paper copies at City Hall from November 6, 2017 to January 1, 2018. The survey included 47 questions in topic areas including: Vision, housing, economic development, transportation and community facilities and services. Some survey questions were derived from the 1993 Ida Grove survey conducted by Iowa State University. Eighty-eight (88) surveys were collected. A summary of the survey results is provided below under the corresponding topic heading and question. Similar words and phrases were combined to develop major themes and ideas to efficiently report the survey results. Discriminating language was removed from the summary information. The estimated frequency of each major theme is provided for text or narrative questions. The number of responses gathered is stated after each question in parenthesis.

Tentative Schedule

The next steps in the Comprehensive Plan process are to follow the tentative schedule below. The community survey was developed with questions that correspond to the chapters of the plan including: Vision, housing, economic development, transportation, and community facilities and services. At each of the following meetings we will be reviewing draft chapters of the plan and the corresponding survey results.

Meetings	Date
City Council Meeting - Review public comment summary	Jan 15, 2018
City Council Steering Committee Meeting - Review draft chapters	Jan 22, 2018
City Council Steering Committee Meeting - Review draft chapters	Feb 20, 2018
City Council Steering Committee Meeting - Review draft chapters	Mar 19, 2018
Public Comments	Mar-May 2018
Planning and Zoning Commission Review - 4th Monday/ month	May 28 or June 25, 2018
Public hearing to adopt final plan – City Council	June 18 or July 2, 2018

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VISION RESULTS

Meeting participants were asked what they envisioned for the future of Ida Grove and what their ideal community entails. The following results were recorded and participants voted for their most valued ideals. The number of votes is shown in parenthesis.

- Downtown thriving with businesses (14)
- Affordable housing (7)
- Job opportunities (6)
- Functioning industrial park (6)
- Good infrastructure (4)
- Place where children return (4)
- Entertainment – dining (4)
- Economic opportunities (4)
- Good service sector (Electrician, carpenter, plumber, heating and cooling) (4)
- Safe (2)
- Churches (2)
- Growing rural community (2)
- Family friendly activities (2)
- Foster entrepreneurial opportunities (2)
- Good rental housing opportunities (2)
- Good necessity shopping (Grocery, clothing, general, Target) (2)
- Clinic and Hospital (1)
- Recreational opportunities (1)
- Senior living opportunities (1)
- Vibrant spiritual community (1)
-
- Active library (1)
- Great Schools
- Clean, neat, tidy
- Cub appeal
- Community involvement
- Shopping – Convenience
- Strong City government
- Day Care
- Tourist destination
- Transportation needs met
- Taxi
- Sports facilities
- Good finance opportunities
- Internet
- Long term vision – progressive
- Proactive community vs. reactive community
- Hospitable – welcoming
- Cultural events
- Nice event venues (theater)
- Inviting downtown and residential neighborhoods
- Walkable community

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VISION RESULTS

The vision meeting results and survey results for question 1 were combined and reported together below. Results were combined by searching for common words that either received votes at the Vision Session meeting or appeared in the survey results. Word codes were assigned to lengthy or slightly different answers to ease the tabulation of results.

Survey Q1: Think of your ideal community, what are the characteristics of your ideal community? What ideal characteristics or improvements do you envision for Ida Grove in the future? (76)

Please find survey and Vision Session results related to the vision statement below separated into tables including major themes and themes with sub-categories.

Vision Major Theme	Total
Thriving Businesses - Downtown	68
Events - Activities - Recreation	30
Clean - Attractive	26
Housing	23
Services	21
Community Pride	17
Transportation	16
Education	12
Friendly	12
Jobs	11
Growth	9
Infrastructure (Sewer, water, storm sewer, utility)	7
Safety	5

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Thriving Businesses - Downtown	68	Meeting - Survey Statements
Thriving businesses	27	Lots of business activity, new business and industry, More businesses and greater diversity of businesses, more storefronts with unique items available for sale. Another grocery store such as a Fareway or HyVee (2). local trade businesses like Plumbing & Heating, new business incentive, variety of restaurants. Continued push for additional retail businesses, inviting restaurants, barber shop. More spaces available for new small businesses. Retail variety, Good restaurants, robust economy with small and medium size business/industry. more inviting shopping area (Spencer the light poles). Provide for more unique shopping (promotion of local artist) and experiences (lets capitalize on our castles theme). More shopping, boutique type stores. increased retail presence. Resources, enthusiastic. Recruit more Retail in town, get the movie theater going, get the Castle Brewery going, progressive in terms of new business to revitalize the uptown area. Shopping – Convenience.
Downtown thriving with businesses	14	Vision Meeting
Downtown	9	lots downtown businesses with a welcoming look, increased downtown business. More retailers downtown. aesthetically pleasing downtown, more retail-less "insurance alley". Vibrant Main Street. more business opportunities downtown. Great signage and a good variety of businesses and services. A downtown beautification including new curbs and sidewalks, benches, lights, trees, new banners. The King Theatre project, once completed will be huge for the downtown and whole area.
Functioning industrial park	6	Welcoming, updating downtown to bring more businesses to town
Economic opportunities	4	Vision Meeting
Good service sector (Electrician, carpenter, plumber, heating and cooling)	4	Vision Meeting
Foster entrepreneurial opportunities	2	Vision Meeting
Good necessity shopping (Grocery, clothing, general, Target)	2	Vision Meeting
Events - Activities - Recreation	30	Meeting - Survey Statements
Events, Activities, Recreation	23	Special events throughout the year such as music in the park with local talent performing. Activities. lots of recreation activities. activities for all ages that feel inclusive to everyone. can improve by making activities more well known and extending invitations to everyone for these activities. Entertainment. Teen activities. Activities for our older population Bingo? Exercise for elder like Galva. senior activities, active, More random events for all ages. Wrestling program in ida grove. Bring back bingo, dance classes for adults. Plenty of events to do recreational and entertainment. Recreational opportunities.
Entertainment – dining	4	Sports facilities. Cultural events. Nice event venues (theater).
Family friendly activities	2	Vision Meeting
Tourist destination	1	Vision Meeting
Clean - Attractive	26	Meeting - Survey Statements
Neat, Clean, Attractive	21	Neat yards, clean, attractive, bright, clean neat housing and neighborhoods, upkeep of buildings, updated. Buildings on south side, many, are an eye sore. well kept properties. houses and properties that are kept nice. cleaning up the highway business front across from bomgaars. White picket fences. Clean, neat, tidy. Curb appeal. Inviting downtown and residential neighborhoods.
No vacancies	5	No empty buildings all cleared & inviting, Active usage of buildings, condemn and destroy those not usable, fewer empty buildings

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Housing	23	Meeting - Survey Statements
		More good available housing, available housing, affordable, Condo housing for those over 70, improved housing, senior housing, need low income housing, housing for young families. middle price housing. revitalize some of the older neighborhoods: incentive to owners of rundown homes to take them down or help them find grants to fix up older homes.
Housing	14	less run down houses and rental property. Senior living opportunities.
Affordable housing	7	Vision Meeting
Good rental housing opportunities	2	Vision Meeting
Services	21	Meeting - Survey Statements
		Affordable services for fixed income, Products and services to purchase locally. Services for all ages. & an Adult Day Care facility.
Affordable services	4	
Parks	4	Inviting parks, Parks -would love to see some additional new updated equipment (city splash pad-see Spirit Lake Memorial Park)
Churches	3	Vision Meeting, Vibrant spiritual community
		Better city hall facility. Either renovate community hall or tear it down. Renovating city hall/community hall with new paint and putting the windows back in place of the old plywood, would be great...or purchase the former Lewis building on the highway
City Hall	2	for new city hall/chamber office.
Healthcare	2	good healthcare, Clinic and Hospital
Leadership	2	strong, consistent leadership. Strong City government
Daycare	2	Child care. Day Care.
Taxes	1	Low property taxes
Ordinances	1	city ordinances that support curb appeal for commercial and residential customers
Community Pride	17	Meeting - Survey Statements
		Feeling of community. I want to live in a community that takes pride in itself. COMMUNITY SERVICE. People who come together to support community efforts. Ideal community supports itself. More community projects to get people involved.
Community pride	7	
Place where children return	4	Vision Meeting
		Better communication, cooperation and consideration, not focused on "pet" projects, A more unified city. An ideal community
Cooperation	3	is well rounded.
Community involvement	1	Vision Meeting
Long term vision – progressive	1	Vision Meeting
Proactive community vs. reactive community	1	Vision Meeting
Transportation	16	Meeting - Survey Statements
		Proper repair & upkeep of streets & bridges, upkeep of roads, all working street lights, walkable, more walking trail, widening the street by the church on main, new streets. Transportation needs met. Taxi. Walkable community.
Transportation	14	
West access	2	Develop west with bridge, streets, sewer, water. West access, improve buildings on highway property.

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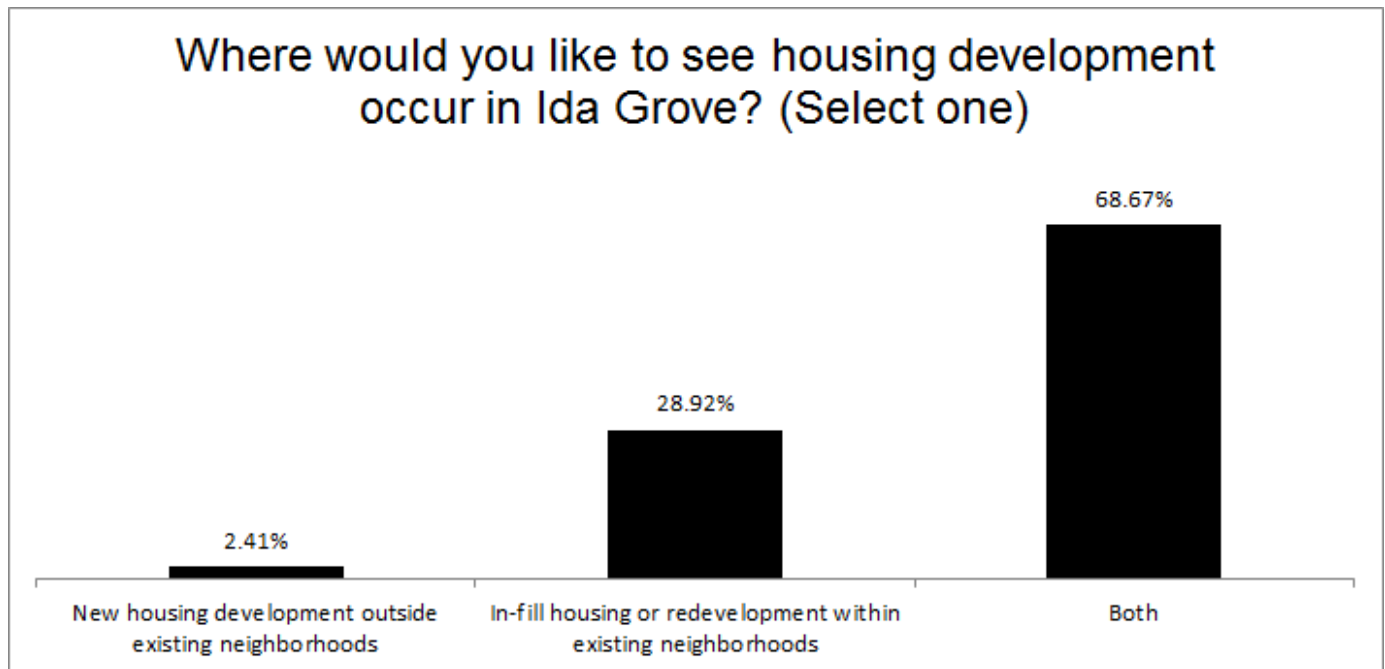
Education	12	Meeting - Survey Statements
Schools		Good, great schools. Continued improvements on the schools(first impressions go along way). supportive of the school and
Active library	11	their activities. Education. pass a school bond for improvment. Great Schools.
Friendly	1	Vision Meeting
Friendly	12	Meeting - Survey Statements
Friendly, inviting	9	many friendly people, Inviting, inclusive, family oriented, youthful, kind, respectful, family friendly, welcoming, close knit,
Caring	2	people who care for one another
Hospitable – welcoming	1	Vision Meeting
Jobs	11	Meeting - Survey Statements
Job opportunities	6	Vision Meeting
Jobs	4	Good jobs, employment opportunities, More better paying jobs
Good finance opportunities	1	Vision Meeting
Growth	9	Meeting - Survey Statements
Growth		Growing, more people, busy, Continue to develop. It is growing with industry, business and housing. Recreation is also growing
Growing rural community	7	and improving with parks, rec center, city pool etc. expand and bring in new things and more people
Infrastructure (Sewer, water, storm sewer, utility)	2	Vision Meeting
Infrastructure (Sewer, water, storm sewer, utility)	7	Meeting - Survey Statements
Good infrastructure	4	Vision Meeting
Infrastructure (Sewer, water, storm sewer, utility)	2	Review the flood plan for 3rd St. updated infrastructure
Internet	1	Vision Meeting
Safety	5	Meeting - Survey Statements
Safe	2	Vision Meeting
Safety	3	Safe, address alcoholism

HOUSING AND NEIGHBORHOODS RESULTS

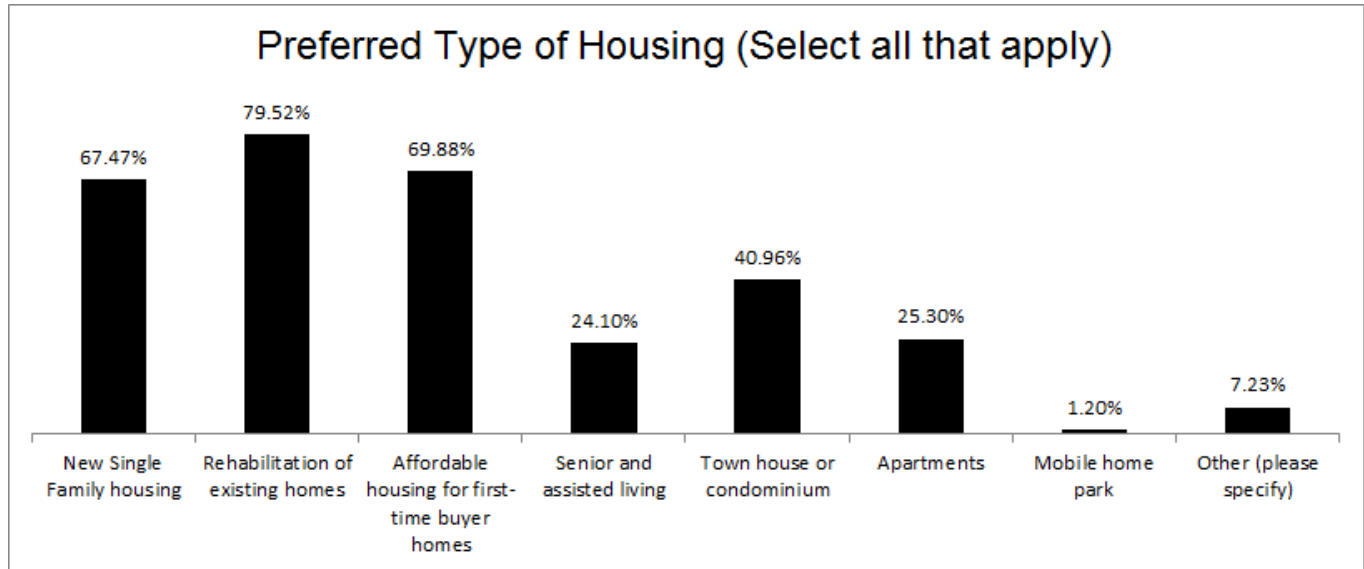
Meeting participants were asked what housing issues exist in Ida Grove and what improvements they would like to see.

- Need larger lots and / or address parking with smaller lots and narrow streets
- Need rental houses in good condition
- Public incentives to tear-down and build new
- Enhance curb appeal
- Lack of available lots
- Too restrictive zoning – need to allow townhouse, condominium, multi-family
- City needs middle range of affordability
- Rental property inspections to support better care and maintenance of rental
- Like existing assisted living facility – New construction, 5 years old
- Address unavailable vacant properties
- Identify available housing
- Define affordable housing
- Skilled tradesmen (Recruit and/or train)
- Rehabilitate older homes and stay in affordable range
- Build spec homes

Q2: Where would you like to see housing development occur in Ida Grove? (Select one) (83)



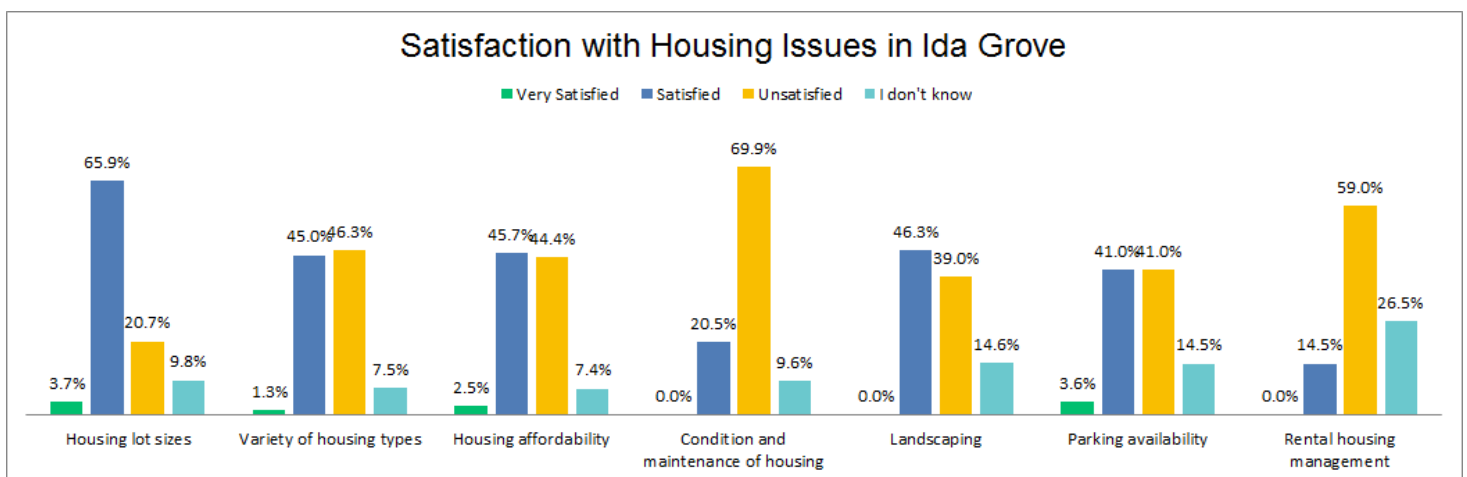
Q3: What type of housing would you like to see in Ida Grove (Select all that apply) (83)



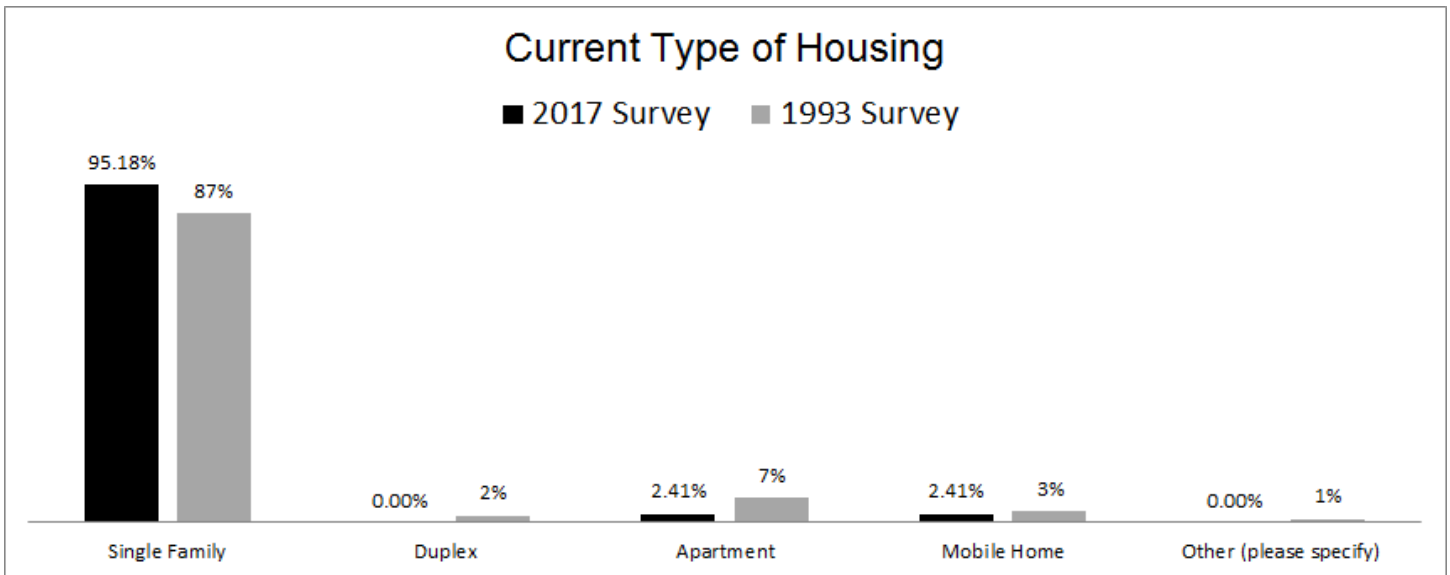
Comments:

- Mobile homes are called manufactured homes. 'Mobile' homes are RVs. Manufactured are not mobile.
- City, county, and state officials should keep in mind that there are many elderly people in Ida Grove who are on fixed incomes. Such officials should not be raising taxes beyond the level of inflation. Go easy on the tax bills.
- New affordable housing for young families.
- in-between place for seniors who don't need care, but a community to live in so people are looking out for them
- Improvements on the North side of Ida Grove would be nice and new housing.
- Many lots are already available in Ridgeview Estates and on West Fifth Street in those housing additions. Promote what we already have available!

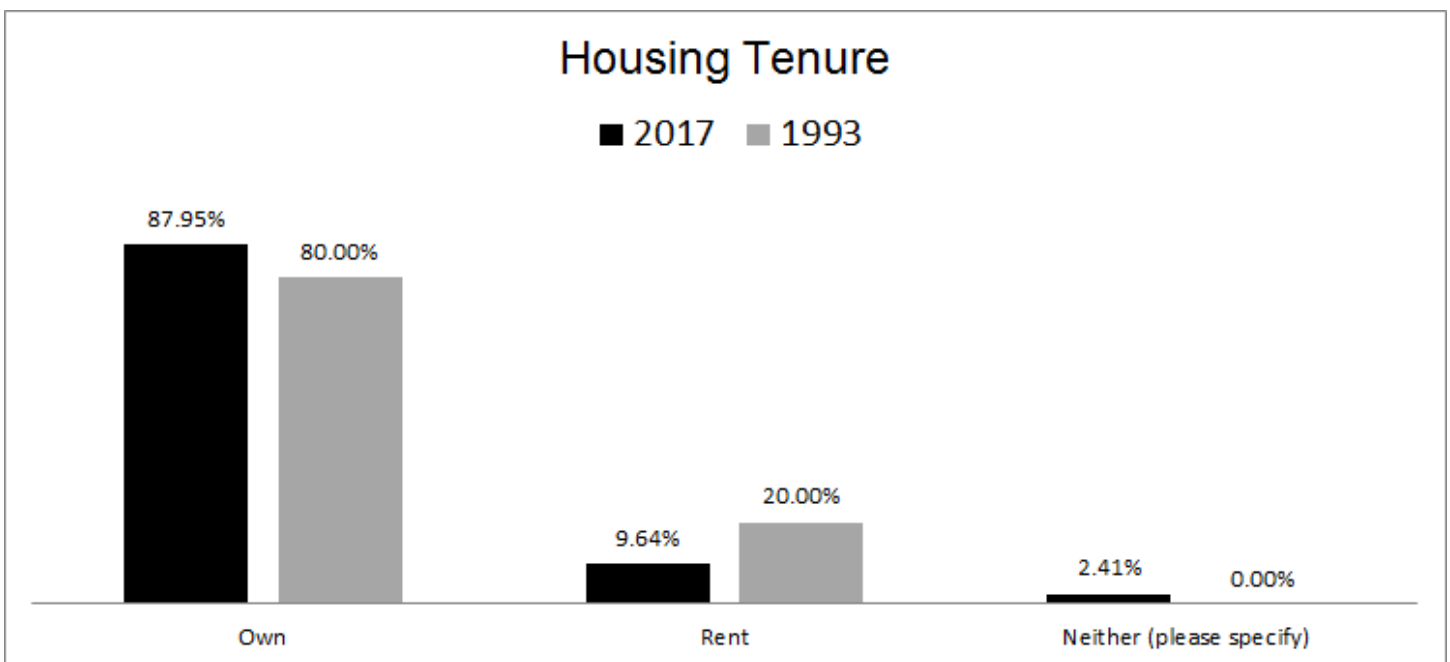
Q4: Please indicate your level of satisfaction concerning the following housing issues in Ida Grove. (83)



Q5: What type of housing do you live in? (83)



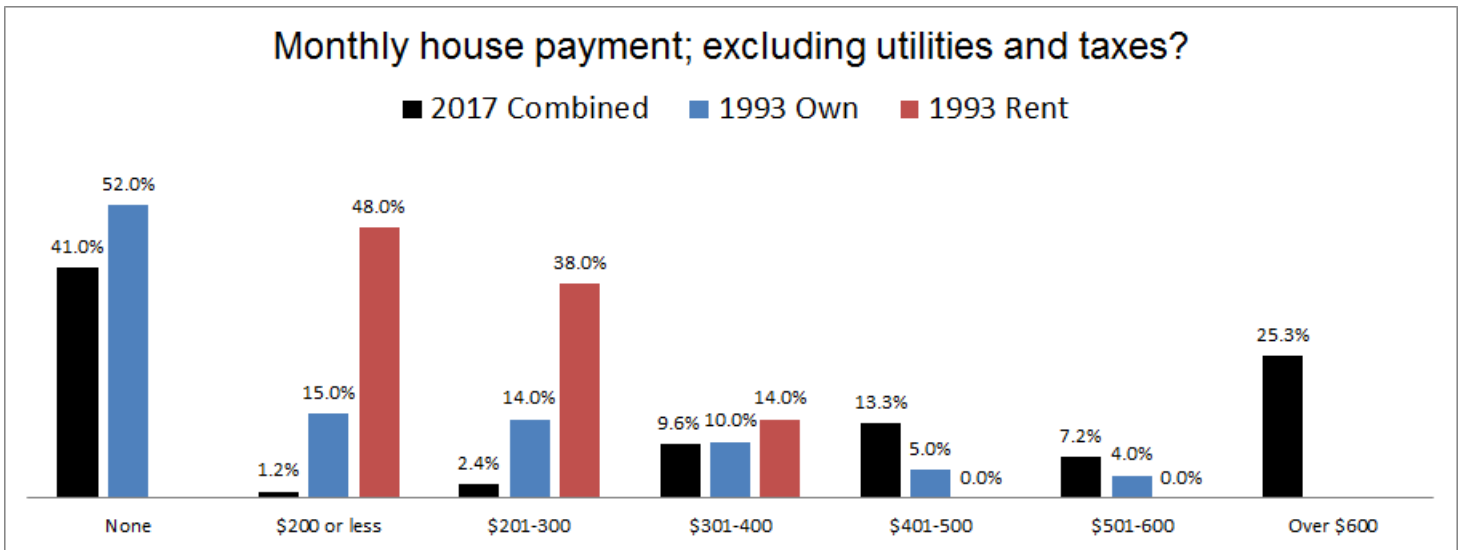
Q6: Do you rent or own the place where you live? (83)



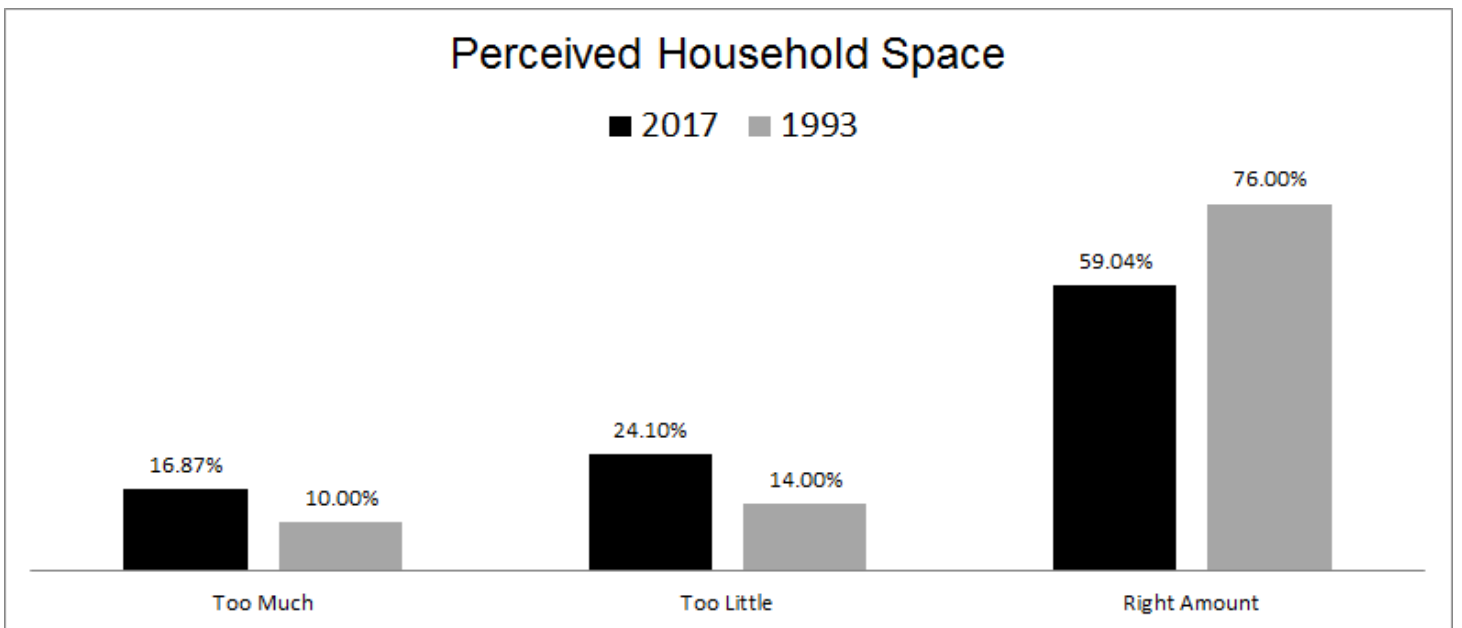
Comments:

- housing provided by employer
- LIVING WITH PARENTS

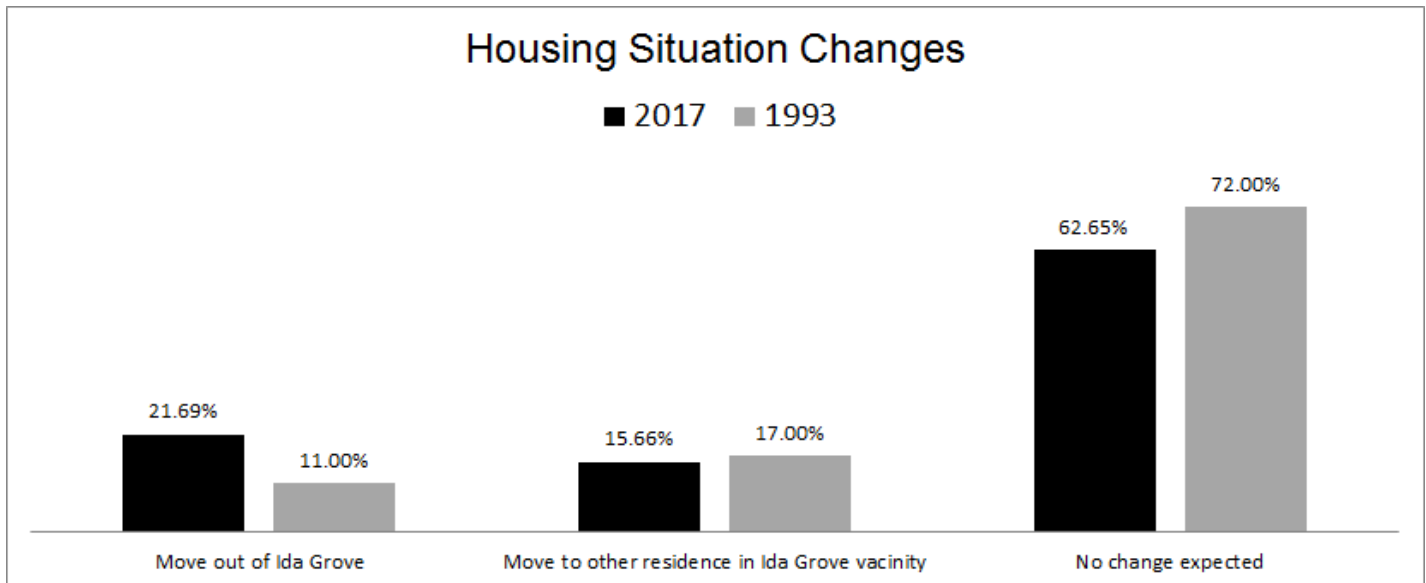
Q7: What is your monthly house payment; excluding utilities and taxes? (83)



Q8: In your opinion, do have Too Much, Too Little, or Right Amount of space for your household size? (83)



Q9: Thinking ahead over the next 1-10 years, what changes, if any, do you expect to occur in your housing situation? (83)



Q10: What do you feel is the most critical housing need in Ida Grove? Please share other suggestions for improving housing. (72)

1. Housing Price Suggestions (22)

- a. Move in ready at 60 to 100k,
- b. Mid range price housing. It seems like Ida Grove has very inexpensive housing or very high priced.
- c. low income housing like apartments, duplexes, etc.
- d. Affordable housing for 1st time homebuyers (3)
- e. decent affordable housing
- f. Affordable single family housing (4) Starter homes without being a fixer-upper.
- g. Mid level price range, \$150-200,000 3 bedroom homes and condos.
- h. Affordable to those working at plants in town
- i. New homes in 150,000.00 to 200,000.00 price range
- j. affordable single family & townhomes
- k. Affordable rental
- l. We do not have affordable housing for young families. The houses are either too expensive or need too much work to be acceptable.
- m. Clean affordable housing under \$100 thousand
- n. Affordable (3) upkeep and grounds maintenance
- o. Newer homes for single families at the \$200,000 range and town homes. Houses that young families can afford. Most on the market are either too high or too low.
- p. More new housing, condos or apartments that are affordable for people to upgrade and provide housing for new families.
- q. Housing that is affordable
- r. Middle income

- s. Affordable housing for rent or purchase

2. Clean Up Existing Housing (14)

- a. Improving, cleaning up, revitalizing existing neighborhoods,
- b. no new neighborhoods to develop, clean up trailer lot in old town.
- c. people to clean up their homes. It doesn't take money to pick up junk in the yard.
- d. Refurbish some of older empty housing to good affordable use.
- e. fixing up these houses that sit empty
- f. Offer some incentive to improve older homes
- g. City needs to hand out citations for houses that are not keeping their house up. For example yard maintained, garbage or junk visible from the street and any other maintenance of their house.

3. Senior Housing Suggestions (12)

- a. independent living
- b. housing for retired.
- c. Senior citizen selection; townhouses, condominiums, etc.
- d. Single level homes or condominiums suitable for seniors.
- e. Assisted Living (2)
- f. better run nursing home
- g. Homes for older people one story no stairs
- h. We need housing for the elderly who don't want to take care of a yard, etc. like condos or town houses.
- i. An upper end assisted living facility with larger rooms and higher quality furnishings.
- j. Retirement housing
- k. Condo or duplexes for older retired people

4. Housing Design Suggestions (12)

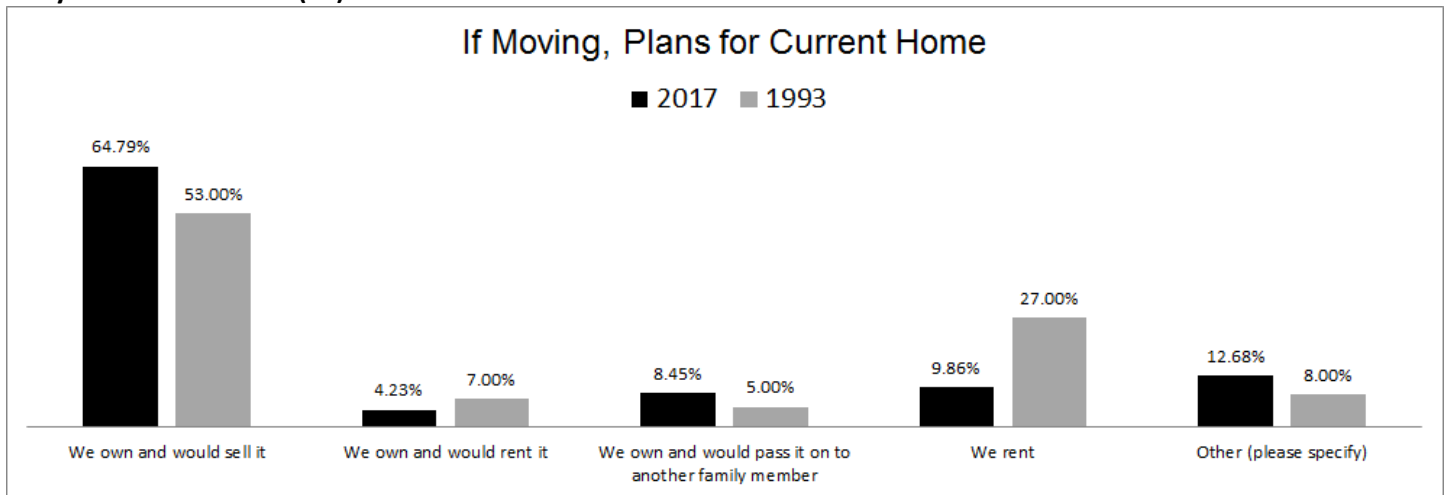
- a. New single family housing,
- b. Very accessible housing with walk in floor, more space between houses, double car garages,
- c. Starter homes of acceptable quality.
- d. Nice single family homes with nice lots, but don't need to be specifically big.
- e. upscale, attach garage condos.
- f. Family ranch houses.
- g. Apartment (3) Apt. style living for professionals. We currently have a nice apartment complex that anyone making more than \$30,000.00 a year does not qualify for so they are empty. Other apartment options are out dated and need work to modernize. Not Enough Apartments That Are Not Low Income Based
- h. town houses, condominiums & Nicer apartment complexes the largest apartment complex has an old agreement where new apartments cant be built in that edition
- i. family housing
- j. We really need townhomes somewhere.(2)
- k. New housing developments; more culdesacs
- l. Condos

- 5. **Rental homes (3)** I understand the need for rental homes, but it is unfortunate that many of the rental units in Ida Grove are very shoddy and in need of updating and repair. Fixing up rental properties

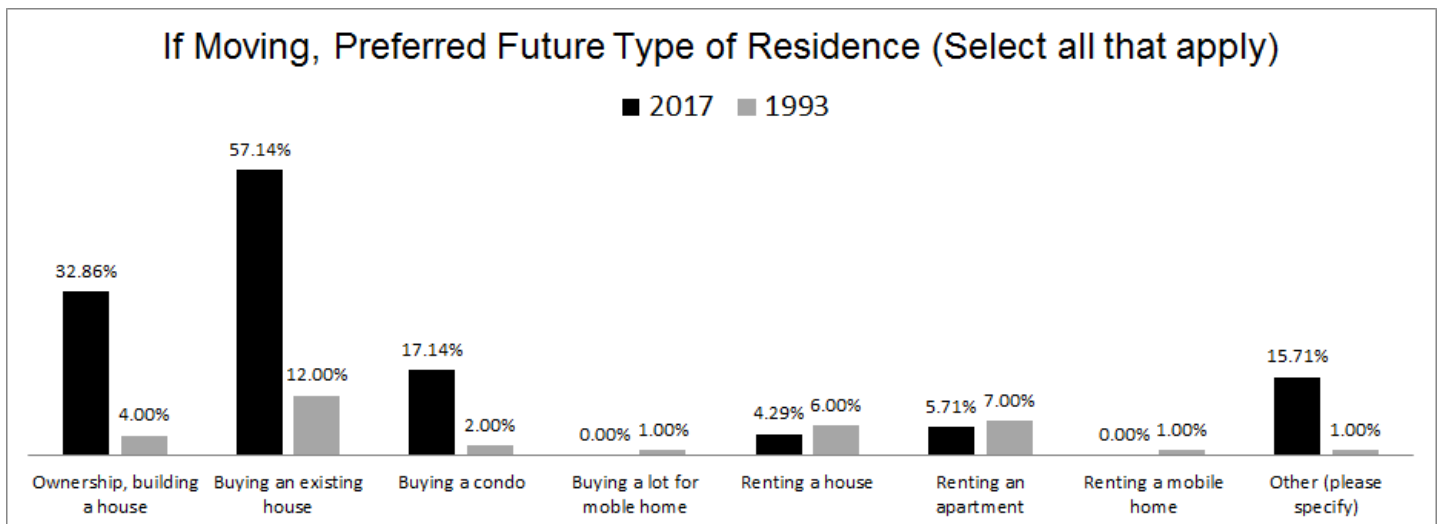
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6. Easier Access To Home Ownership
7. More housing, especially with all the windmill and construction workers coming through the area
8. Improvement in waste management of dog poop. Most of this side of Ida grove smells like dog poop. No one enforces it and it is a huge health hazard.
9. Promoting development of empty lots around town.
10. Tax break for tearing down old and building new

Q11: If you are considering moving to another residence in Ida Grove vicinity, please share your plans for your current home. (71)



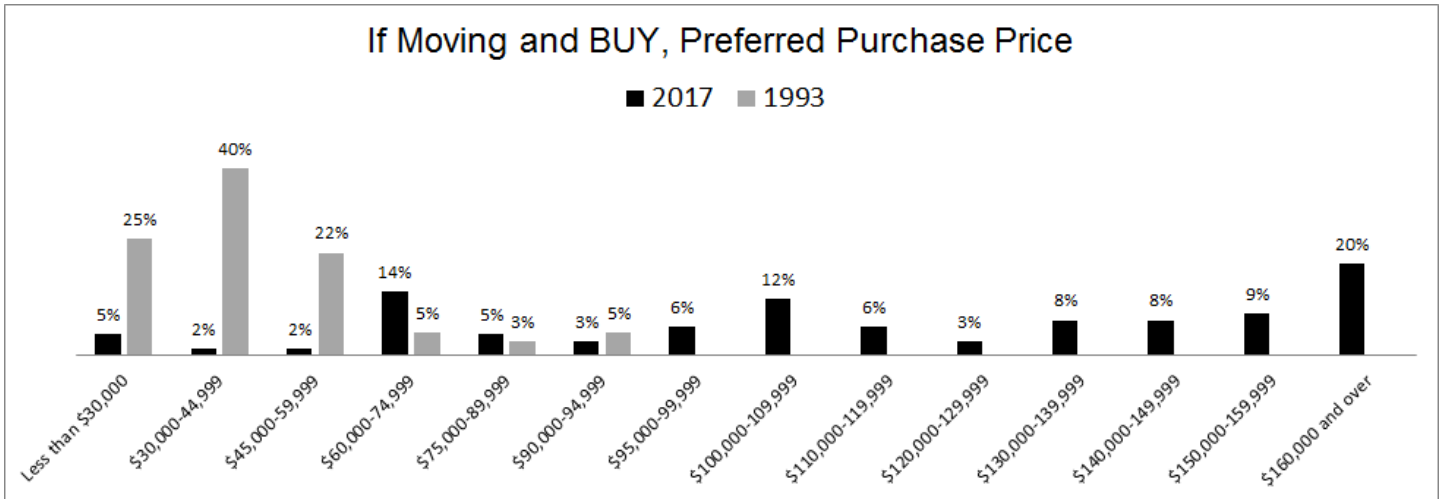
Q12: If you are considering moving to another residence in Ida Grove vicinity, what type of residence will you consider in your move? (Select all that apply) (70)



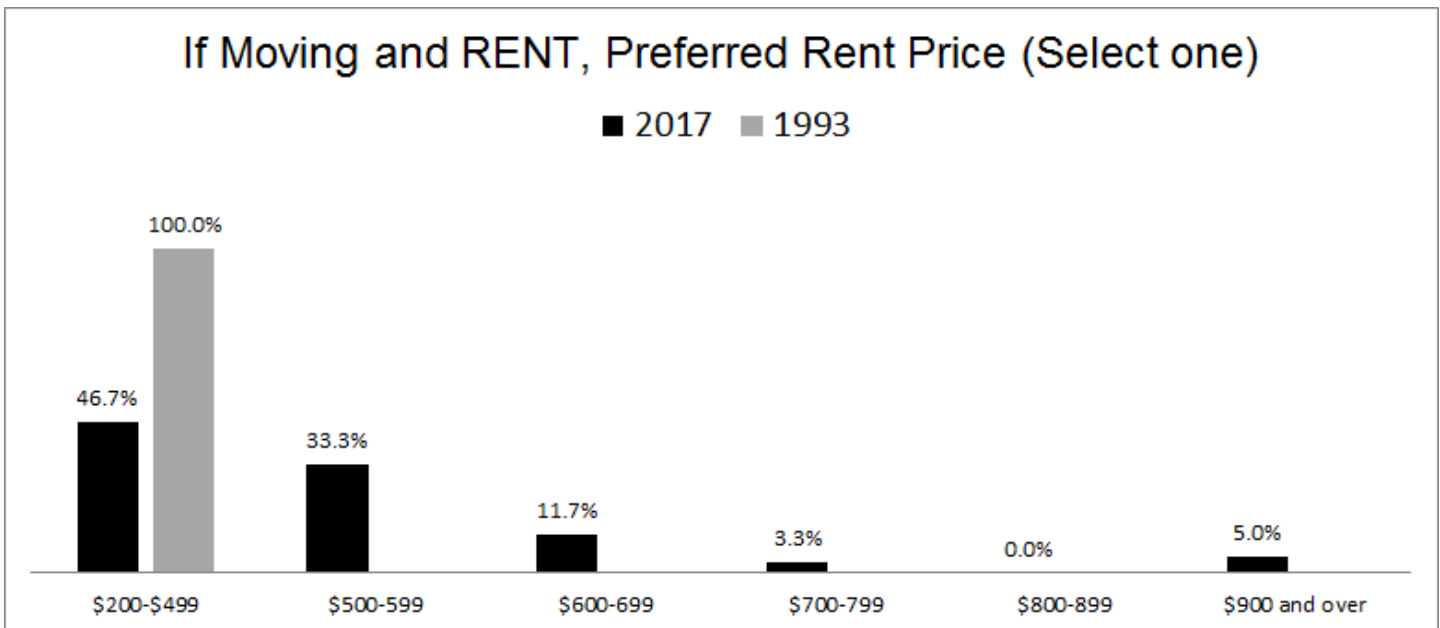
- Assisted living
- retirement/independent housing
- or assisted living 2 bedroom apartment
- I would consider a condo to avoid snow and maintenance

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Q13: If you are considering moving to another residence in Ida Grove vicinity and you are looking to BUY, what purchase price would you consider? (66)



Q14: If you are considering moving and you are looking to RENT, what rent price would you consider? (Select one) (60)



ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT RESULTS

Meeting participants were asked what economic development issues exist in Ida Grove including businesses they would like to see in town and improvements they would like to see.

Meeting Results - Businesses people would like to see:

- Dining (18) Coffee and sandwich shop, more restaurants, downtown restaurant, steak house – fine dining
- Another grocery store (6) Fareway
- Clothing (5)
- Motel – Hotel (6) with conference center, restaurant, pool
- Car dealer (4)
- Lumber yard (4)
- New Car wash (3)
- Indoor shooting range – gun shop (3)
- Tradesman (plumbing, electrician, carpenters) (2)
- Sporting goods store (2)
- Lawn care service (2) and snow removal for seniors
- Micro brewery (2)
- Places for youth to go
- Gift store
- Theatre
- Plumber
- Dry cleaning
- Promote online businesses
- Chinese food
- Variety retail
- Antiques and Boutique stores
- Nice bar
- Rehabilitate or fill the old pharmacy building with unique shop
- Laundromat
- General store – shopping
- Medical
- Industrial, manufacturing or processing
- Craft store
- Improved City Hall
- Verizon
- Car repair
- Online businesses in store fronts
- Start-up business incubator encourage entrepreneur
- Housing
- CPA Accounting Service

Survey Q15: What businesses or services would you like to see in Ida Grove? (66)

1. Restaurants (36)

- a. Downtown restaurant
- b. Hardees or Burger King
- c. Family restaurant
- d. Another restaurant family or fast food. Another motel little up scale.
- e. Soda shop with breakfast and lunch....similar to the Java House we had
- f. Restaurant or food chain but not "fast food"
- g. Bars, sit down and fast food restaurants,
- h. More evening eating choices, Deli sandwiches, etc
- i. We need a good "draw" restaurant. Holstein has Backdraft - Odebolt their bowling alley.
- j. Steakhouse type rest. (2)
- k. Fast food chains (2)
- l. pizza restaurant,
- m. nice sit down restaurant where to get a good steak or sandwich
- n. Coffee shop (6) downtown cafe, coffee shop, something similar to rehabd in holstein
- o. Ethnic restaurant other than mexican.
- p. Cafe style restaurant with home cooking type menu

2. Dept store - Clothing (10) Womens clothing, mens clothing,

3. Retail, boutiques (9) boutique on main street

4. Car wash (8) A really good car wash. car detailing

5. Bakery (5)

6. Lumber yard (4)

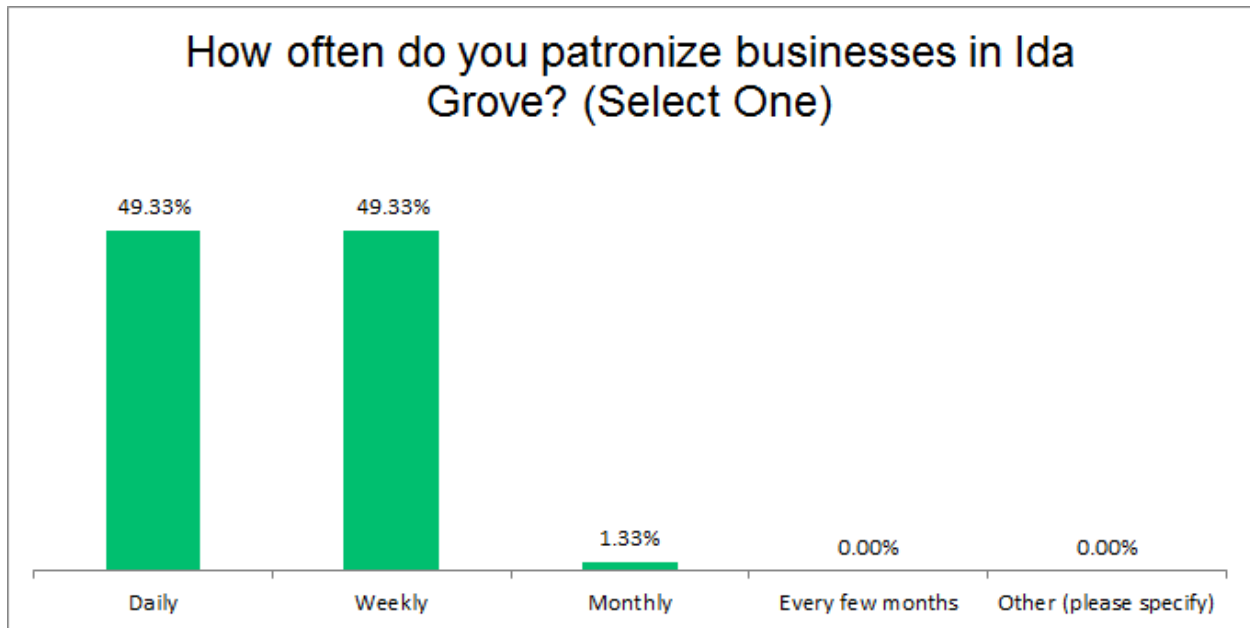
7. Grocery stores (4) Fareway

8. Trade businesses (4) handyman-home/yard maintenance, Plumbing, Brick Layer, Electrician, and Affordable Carpentry, tuck pointing, plumbing, carpet people, roofers usually have to call someone from out of town to come

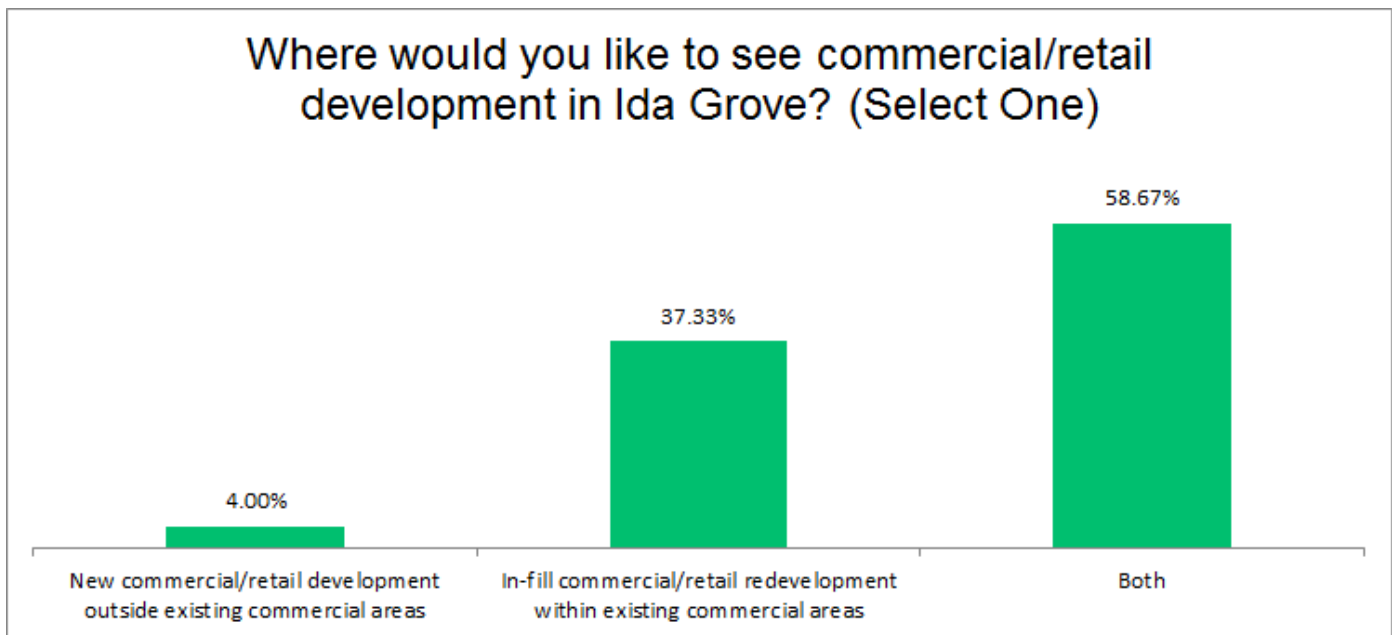
- 9. Sporting goods store (3) sportswear (Hibbets),
- 10. Activity center (3) water play rental, Kids play all day. Indoor for the winter. better ran rec center. Something directed towards the attention of pre-teens and teens. Elderly services.
- 11. Wal mart (2)
- 12. home decor shop (2)
- 13. gift shops (2)
- 14. Meat locker
- 15. House cleaning services
- 16. Car dealerships
- 17. renewable energy,
- 18. software development,
- 19. manufacturing,
- 20. improved internet access,
- 21. business to business startups,

22. a drive in
23. nail salon
24. entertainment
25. movie theatre
26. pet boarding
27. movie theater
28. Walgreens
29. laundry services
30. gun shop/bait shop
31. expanded bomgaars
32. mechanic/car service/repair
33. furniture store
34. Motel
35. more locally owned businesses
36. Larger Employers. Gomaco and Midwest are about the only employment options
37. New business in empty existing.
38. King Theatre
39. Daycare
40. Expanding of already owned businesses would be better

Q16: How often do you patronize businesses in Ida Grove? (Select One) (75)



Q17: Where would you like to see commercial/retail development in Ida Grove? (Select One) (75)



Business Incentive Ideas

Meeting Results Business Incentives

- Existing Ida County Economic Development: Advanced manufacturing, tax incentives, TIF districts, housing assessments, etc.
- Existing Ida County Betterment Foundation
- Existing City tax incentives: Better define and inform public
- Existing Chamber of Commerce hosts events: Halloween, Easter, Chamber bucks, Holiday event (Santa), Ribbon cuttings
- Develop a business incubator
- Offer online business support
- Offer tax incentives: for tear down and build new on highway, for filling vacant downtown buildings, for new businesses, for remodeling, for housing, retail and industrial, Tax Increment Financing (TIF)
- Re-establish Ida Grove Economic Development Corporation: currently inactive
- Market vacant buildings to prospective buyers
- Offer low interest loans, revolving loan fund, reinvestment
- Offer start-up funding for new business
- Develop west access and industrial park
- Offer entrepreneurship training
- Offer succession planning for small business
- Hire an economic development manager or director
- Offer business mentor program to share experience and advice
- 'Return to Ida Grove' campaign

Survey Q18: What incentives would you like to see for business retention, recruitment, expansion, or entrepreneurship in Ida Grove? (53)

1. Tax incentives, breaks (28)

- a. Tax breaks for new businesses (5)
- b. Tax incentives, TIF, tax abatement, tax incentive based on new hires.
- c. Tax breaks only for a period.
- d. Tax breaks for 10 yrs for businesses and property tax break for 10 yrs for those who build new homes in a new subdivision which we need.
- e. Building opportunities tax incentives

2. Improve Downtown (3)

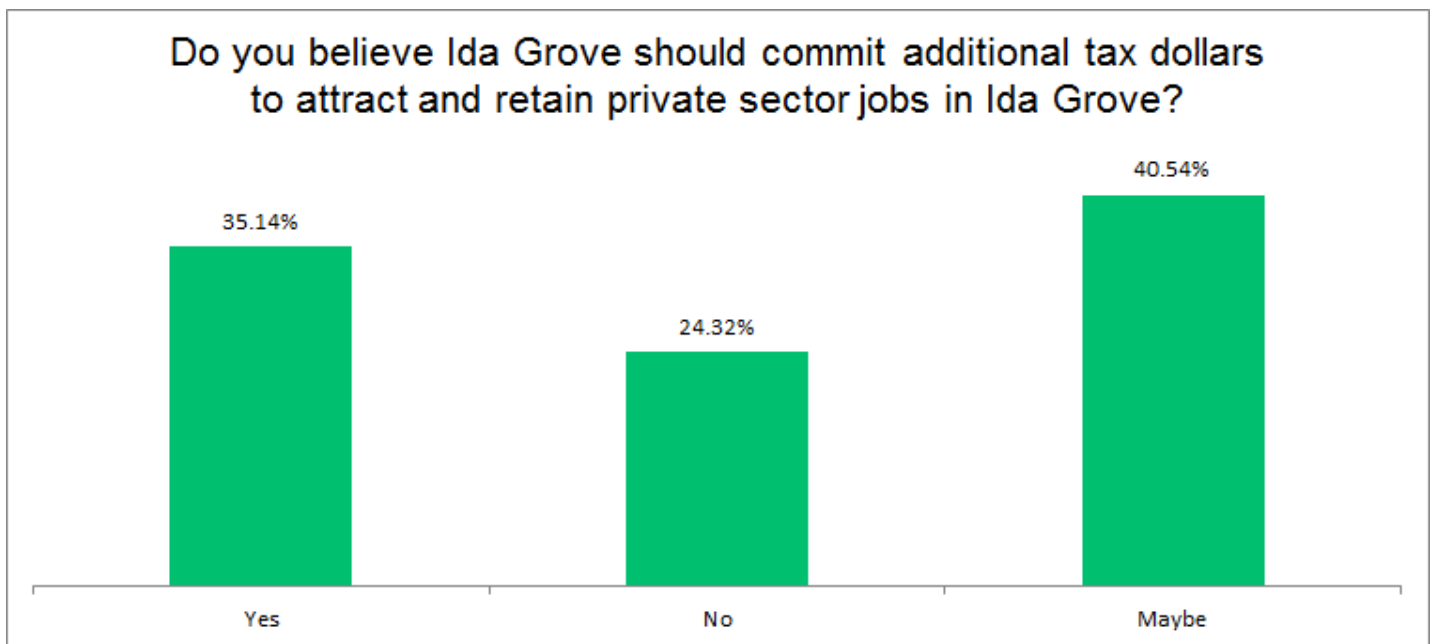
- a. Beautify downtown with a theme, buy up empty bldgs and give free rent for 6 months, property tax reduced by 25% for first 5 yrs.
- b. Sprucing up the downtown, city buy buildings and offer rent free for a year for new businesses,
- c. Help with start-up costs to renovate an existing building downtown

3. Help with utilities (3)

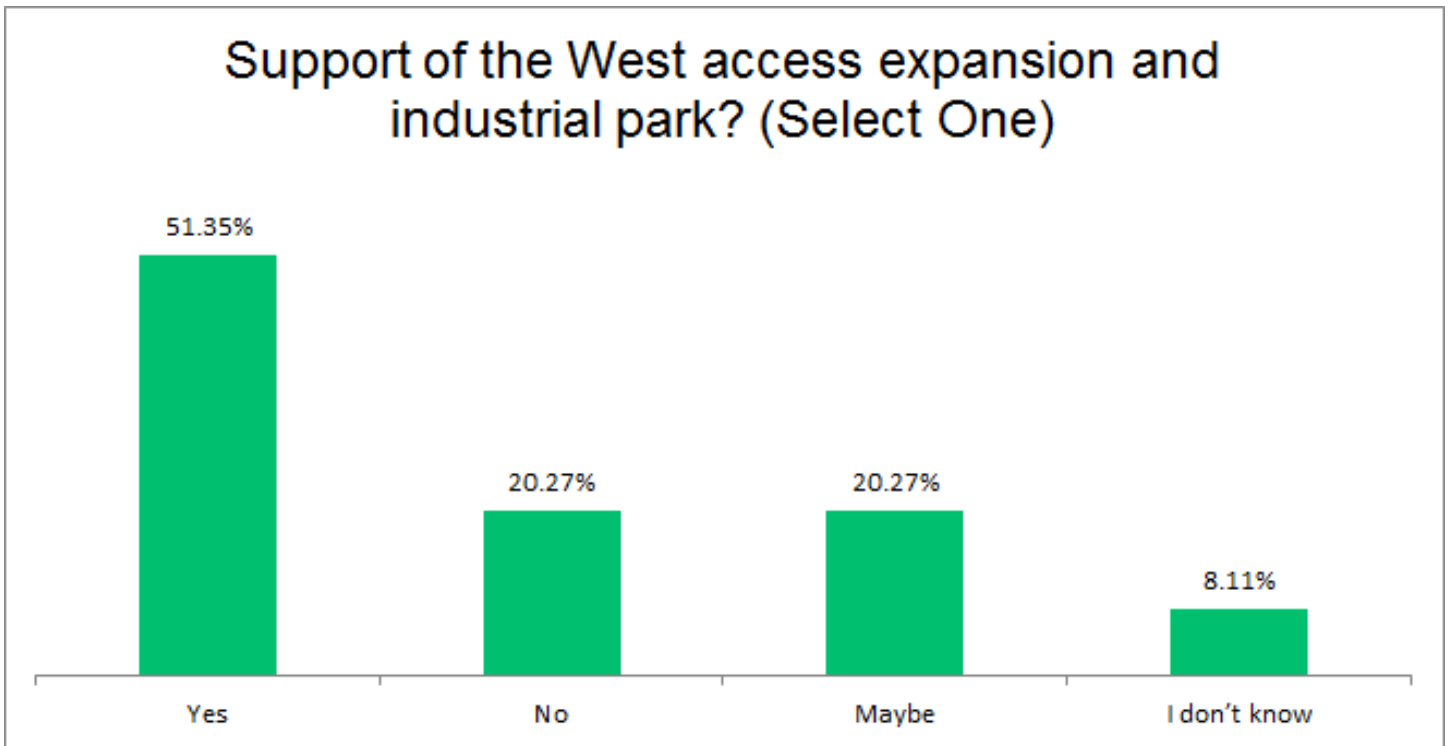
- a. free wi-fi only for a period
- b. Free phone & internet

4. **Anything (2)** has not seen any activity on city's part in 10 years or more. Anything to get more business going
5. None (2)
6. Active recruitment
7. Industrial park lots
8. Provide start up incubator
9. Reasonable space to rent
10. Joint promotions with multiple businesses, possibly some free advertising in papers for new businesses. Helping new businesses be promoted.
11. Customers
12. More jobs
13. Grant assistance in getting started.
14. West access, Do Not Want Tax Abatement, we need more income to improve our streets, water lines, well, etc
15. Dollars. Affordable loans.
16. No incentives would be needed if they get full support.
17. Work with the State of Iowa Dept of Economic Development
18. Maybe free rent for a while etc
19. Hire local businesses
20. I wish I knew with all the work or community so many activities or store specials go without notice. We are a community of retired/older people it seems.

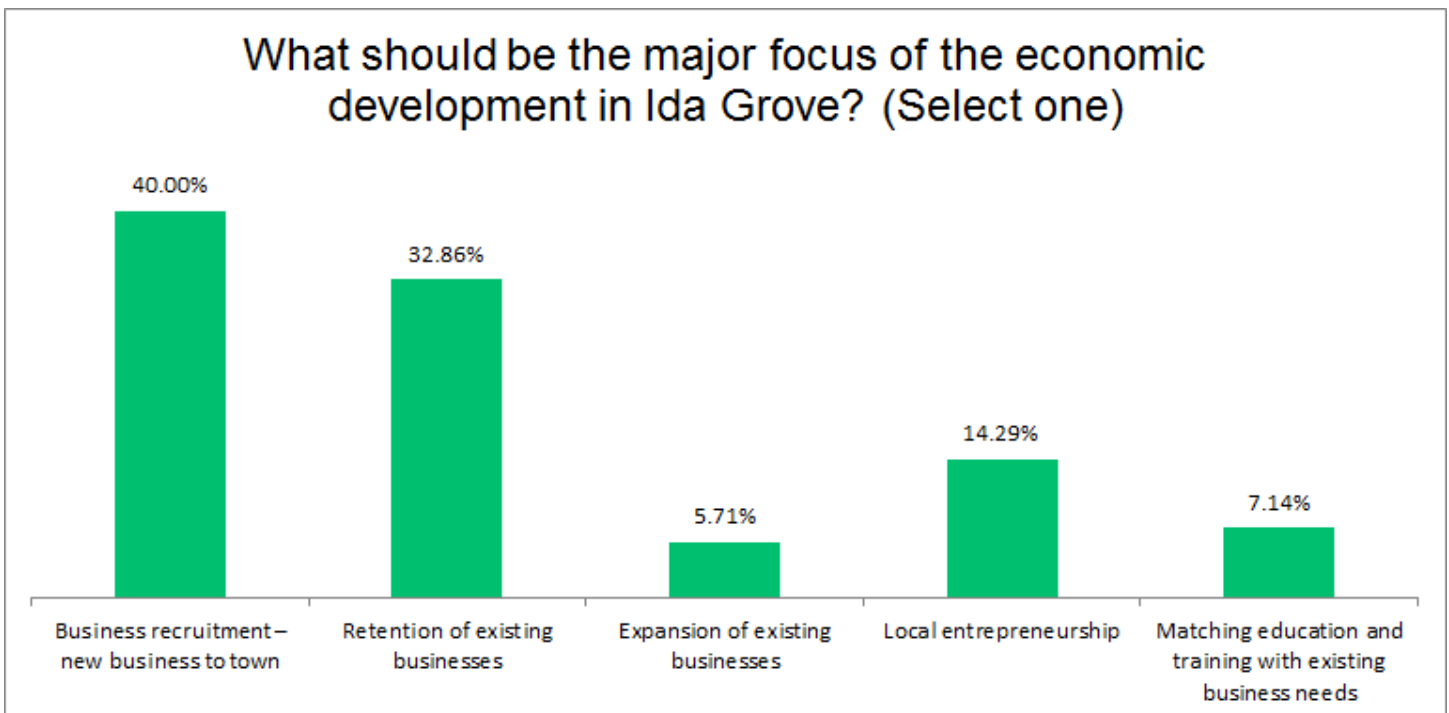
Q19: Do you believe Ida Grove should commit additional tax dollars to attract and retain private sector jobs in Ida Grove? (74)



Q20: Are you in support of the West access expansion and industrial park? (Select One) (74)

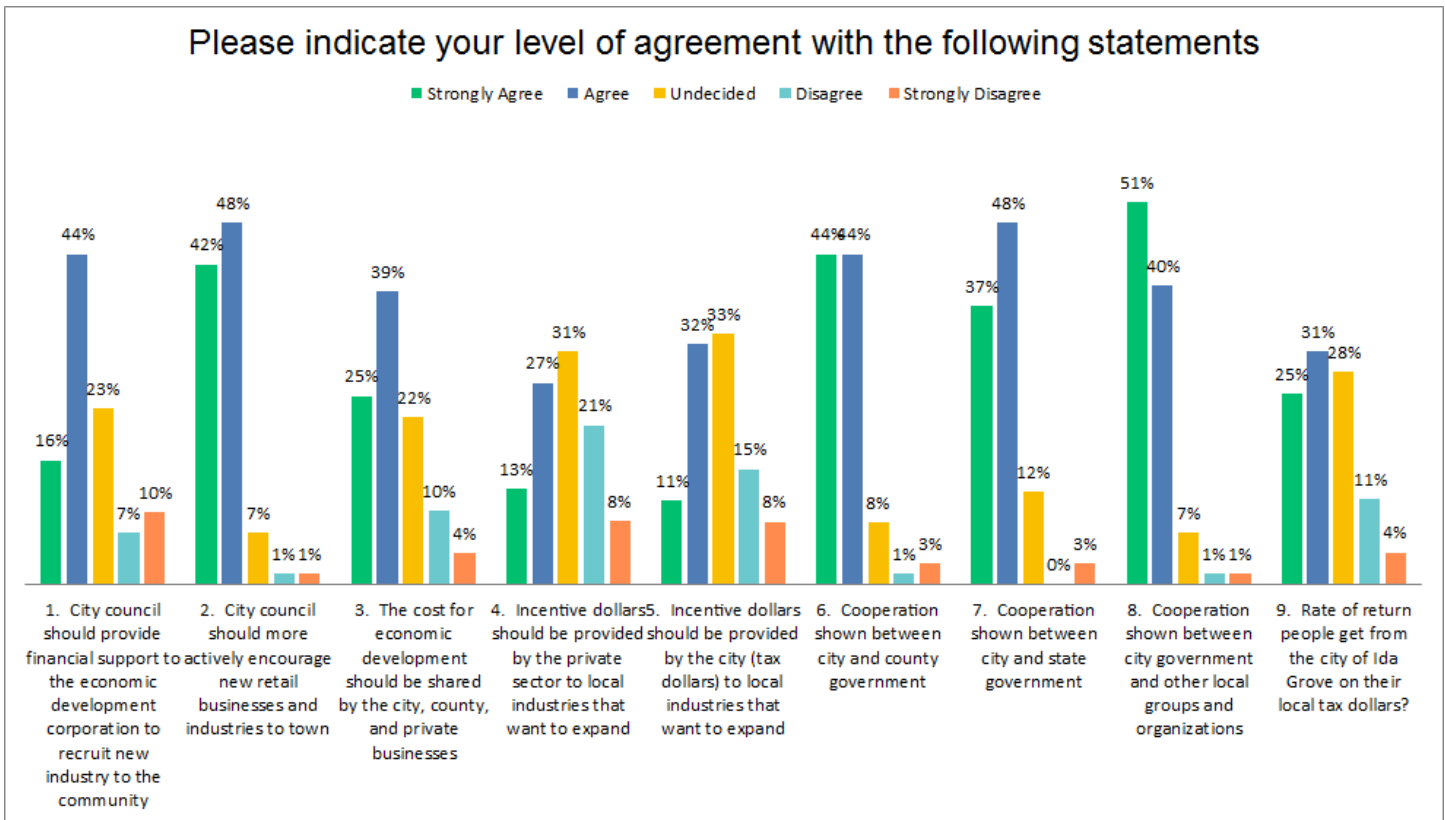


Q21: What should be the major focus of the economic development in Ida Grove? (Select one) (70)



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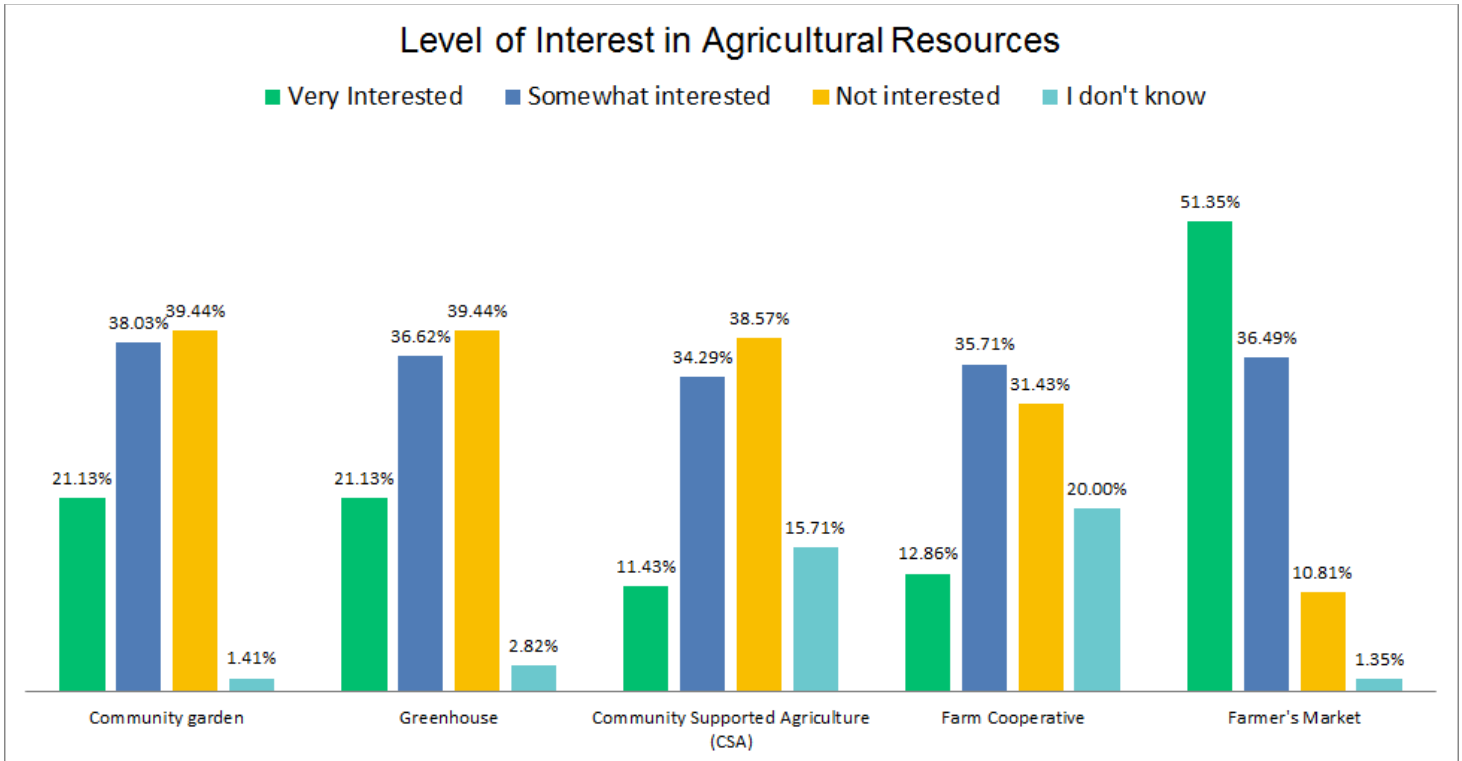
Q22: Please indicate your level of agreement with the following statements (74)



Please indicate your level of agreement with the following statements										
	Strongly Agree		Agree		Undecided		Disagree		Strongly Disagree	
1.City council should provide financial support to the economic development corporation to recruit new industry to the community	16%	12	44%	32	23%	17	7%	5	10%	7
2.City council should more actively encourage new retail businesses and industries to town	42%	31	48%	35	7%	5	1%	1	1%	1
3.The cost for economic development should be shared by the city, county, and private businesses	25%	18	39%	28	22%	16	10%	7	4%	3
4.Incentive dollars should be provided by the private sector to local industries that want to expand	13%	9	27%	19	31%	22	21%	15	8%	6
5.Incentive dollars should be provided by the city (tax dollars) to local industries that want to expand	11%	8	32%	23	33%	24	15%	11	8%	6
6.Cooperation shown between city and county government	44%	32	44%	32	8%	6	1%	1	3%	2
7.Cooperation shown between city and state government	37%	27	48%	35	12%	9	0%	0	3%	2
8.Cooperation shown between city government and other local groups and organizations	51%	37	40%	29	7%	5	1%	1	1%	1
9.Rate of return people get from the city of Ida Grove on their local tax dollars?	25%	18	31%	22	28%	20	11%	8	4%	3
Answered										74
Skipped										15

Agricultural Resources

Q23: Agriculture is the science, art, or occupation concerned with producing food including cultivating land, vegetable and fruit gardening, raising crops, and feeding, breeding, and raising livestock. What agricultural resources exist in your community that you would like to preserve? And what agricultural resources would you like to see in the future? Please indicate your level of interest below. (74)



Agricultural Resource	Very Interested		Somewhat interested		Not interested		I don't know		Total
Community garden	21.13%	15	38.03%	27	39.44%	28	1.41%	1	71
Greenhouse	21.13%	15	36.62%	26	39.44%	28	2.82%	2	71
Community Supported Agriculture (CSA)	11.43%	8	34.29%	24	38.57%	27	15.71%	11	70
Farm Cooperative	12.86%	9	35.71%	25	31.43%	22	20.00%	14	70
Farmer's Market	51.35%	38	36.49%	27	10.81%	8	1.35%	1	74
Other (please specify)									3
								Answered	74
								Skipped	15

Other:

1. All part of economic development
2. Vocational Agriculture program expansion, FFA
3. never heard of a CSA

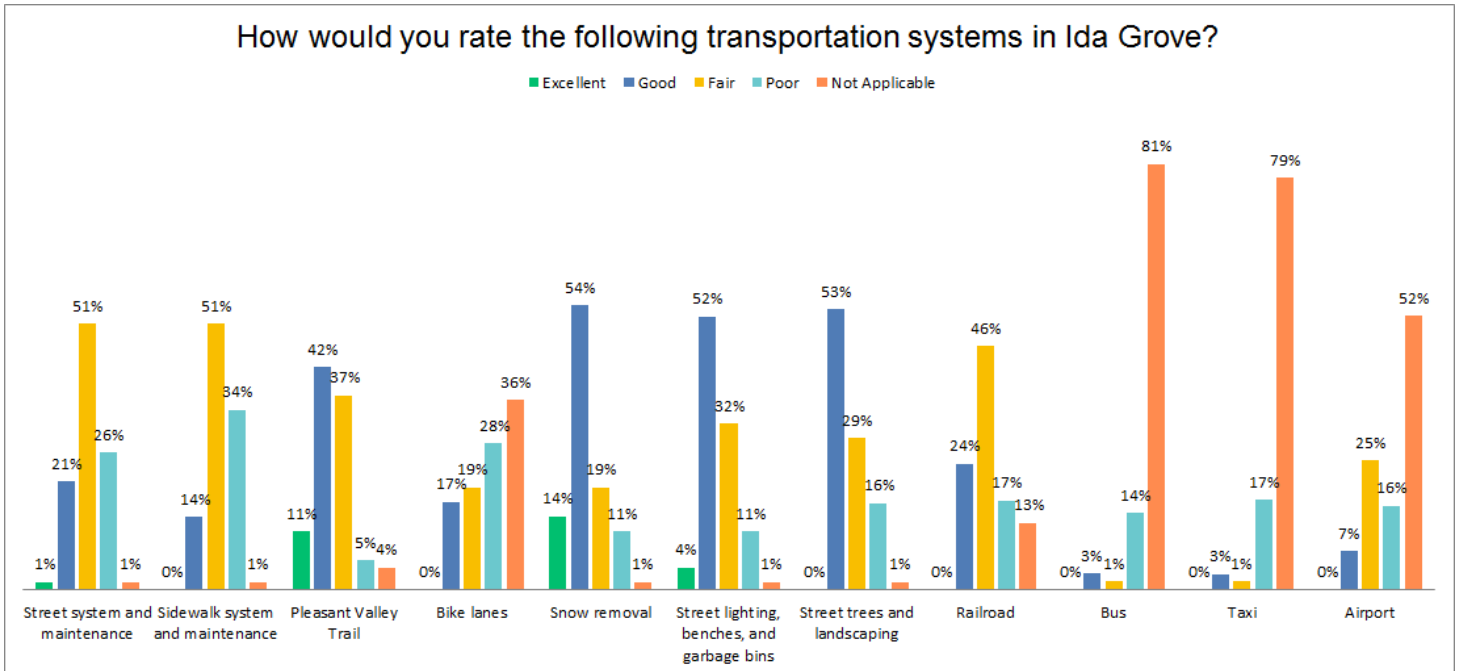
TRANSPORTATION RESULTS

Meeting participants were asked what transportation issues exist in Ida Grove and what improvements they would like to see.

- **Improve public transportation (9):** SRTS on-call is expensive, stigma, provide schedule; affordable transportation for seniors and all
- **Issue with street maintenance and condition (9)**
 - Improve 6th street
 - Road to hospital
 - Improve street to Zobel's addition
 - Alley maintenance
 - Work with Ida County to improve streets and bridges at City entrance
 - Improve curb and gutter (2) in downtown
 - Moorehead Ave bridge replacement
 - Harold Godberson Drive
- **Consider City taxi, uber, lyft (7)**
- **Provide continuous, safe, accessible (ADA) sidewalk system (5):** Enforce ordinance, provide incentives for repair and replace
 - Improve sidewalk to Zobel's addition
- **The railroad splits the town and disrupts traffic before/ after work (4),** Provide train schedules
- **Upkeep trail (3)**
- **Bike lanes (2)**
- **Have a good crew (2)** keeping clean, snow removal
- Need transportation alternatives
- Signs for trail and places in town
- Issue with location of cement plant and elevator
- Tree replacement, start a program
- Consider delivery service
- Adopt a Capital Improvement Plan (CIP)
- Parking availability issue in downtown

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Q24: How would you rate the following transportation systems in Ida Grove? (73)

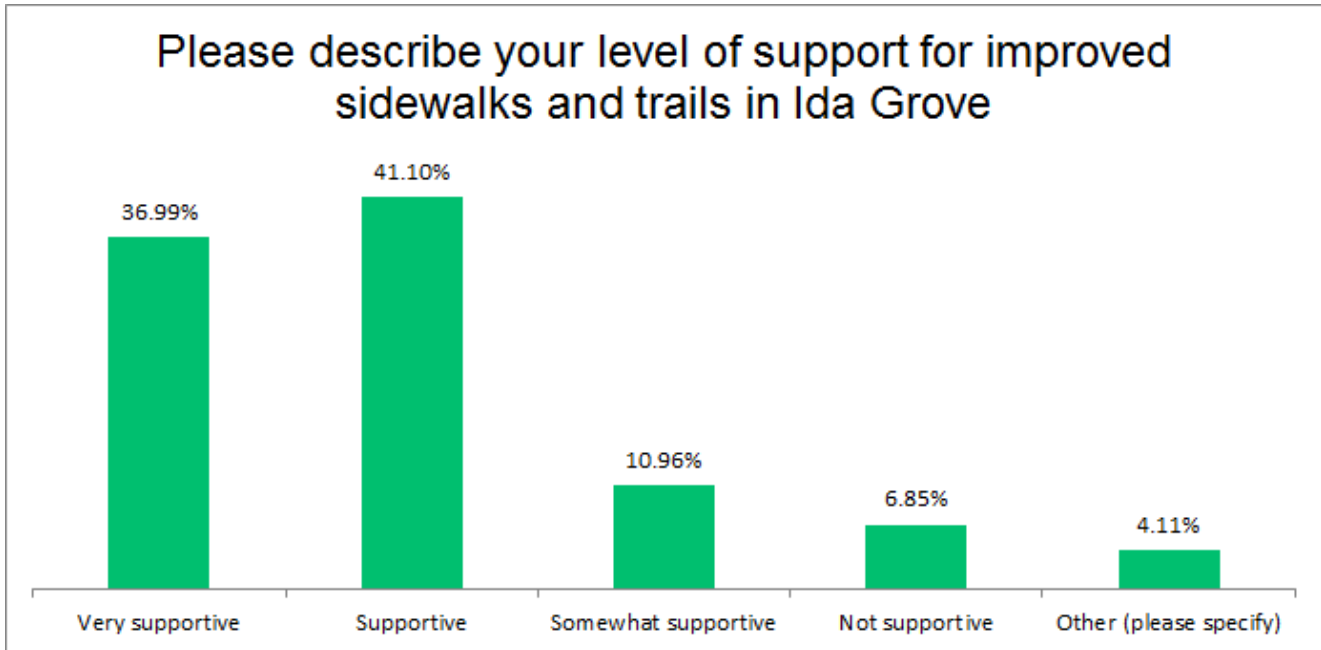


Transportation System	Excellent		Good		Fair		Poor		Not Applicable		Total
Street system and maintenance	1%	1	21%	15	51%	37	26%	19	1%	1	73
Sidewalk system and maintenance	0%	0	14%	10	51%	37	34%	25	1%	1	73
Pleasant Valley Trail	11%	8	42%	31	37%	27	5%	4	4%	3	73
Bike lanes	0%	0	17%	12	19%	14	28%	20	36%	26	72
Snow removal	14%	10	54%	39	19%	14	11%	8	1%	1	72
Street lighting, benches, and garbage bins	4%	3	52%	38	32%	23	11%	8	1%	1	73
Street trees and landscaping	0%	0	53%	39	29%	21	16%	12	1%	1	73
Railroad	0%	0	24%	17	46%	33	17%	12	13%	9	71
Bus	0%	0	3%	2	1%	1	14%	10	81%	56	69
Taxi	0%	0	3%	2	1%	1	17%	12	79%	55	70
Airport	0%	0	7%	5	25%	17	16%	11	52%	36	69
Other (please specify)											2
											Answers: 73
											Skipped: 16

Other:

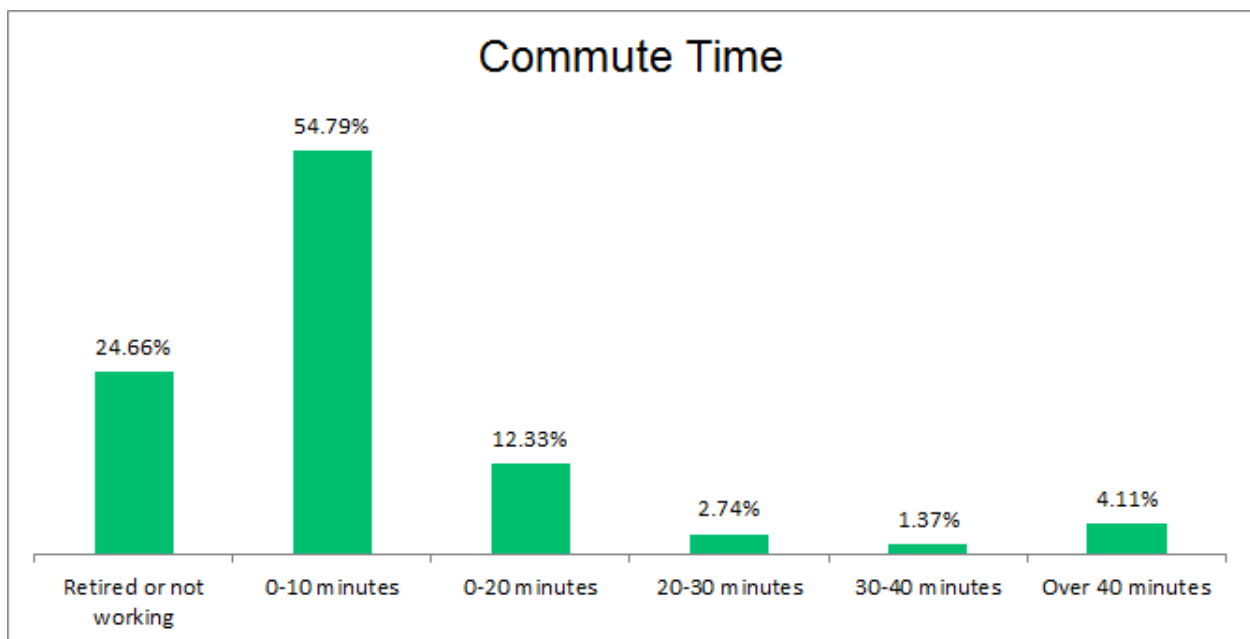
1. No taxi in Ida Grove that I'm aware of?
2. Streets and trails need repairs BADLY !

Q25: Please describe your level of support for improved sidewalks and trails in Ida Grove (73)

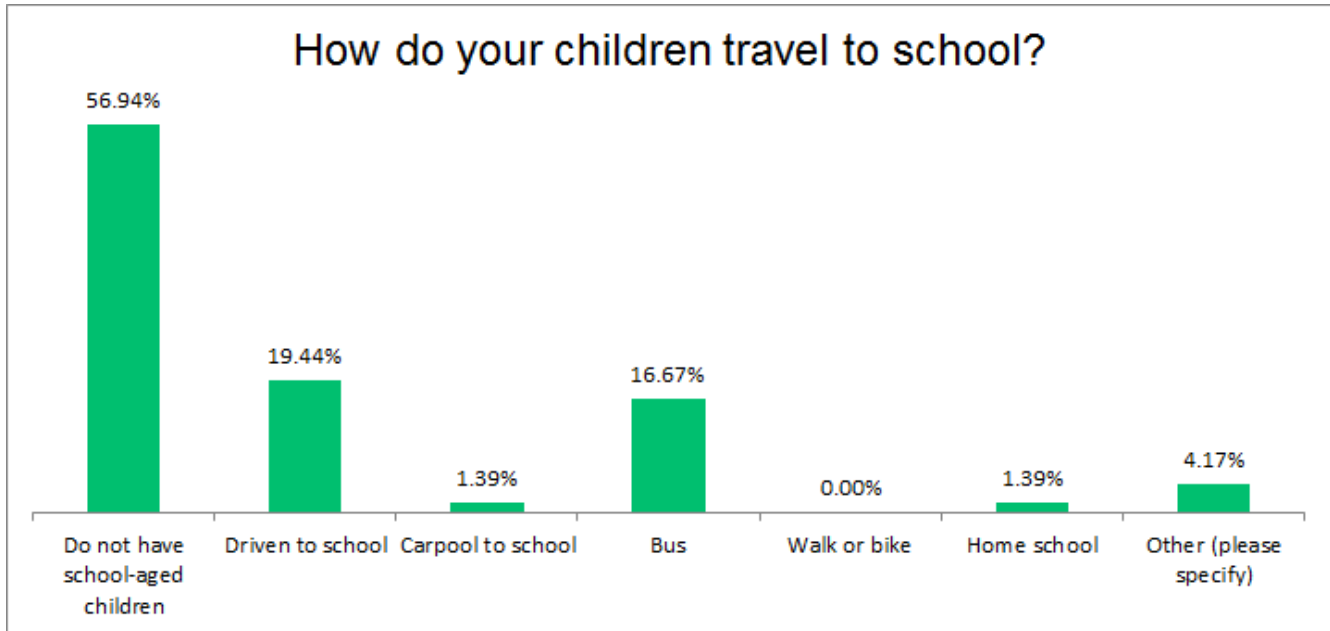


- Sidewalks yes, trails no
- support sidewalks but not trails
- I support it but since we paid for our own to be re-done, I don't support it enough for us to help pay for other's.

Q26: How far is your commute to work? (73)



Q27: How do your children travel to school? (72)



Other:

1. bus, bike, and drive
2. They drive themselves
3. Have school permit

COMMUNITY SERVICES AND FACILITIES RESULTS

Meeting Results Community Services

Participants were asked what community services and facilities issues exist in Ida Grove and what improvements they would like to see. Services include: Police, Fire – Ambulance, Schools, Utilities (Water, sewer, storm water, electric, internet, cable, natural gas), Garbage-recycling, City Maintenance Building, Wastewater Treatment plant.

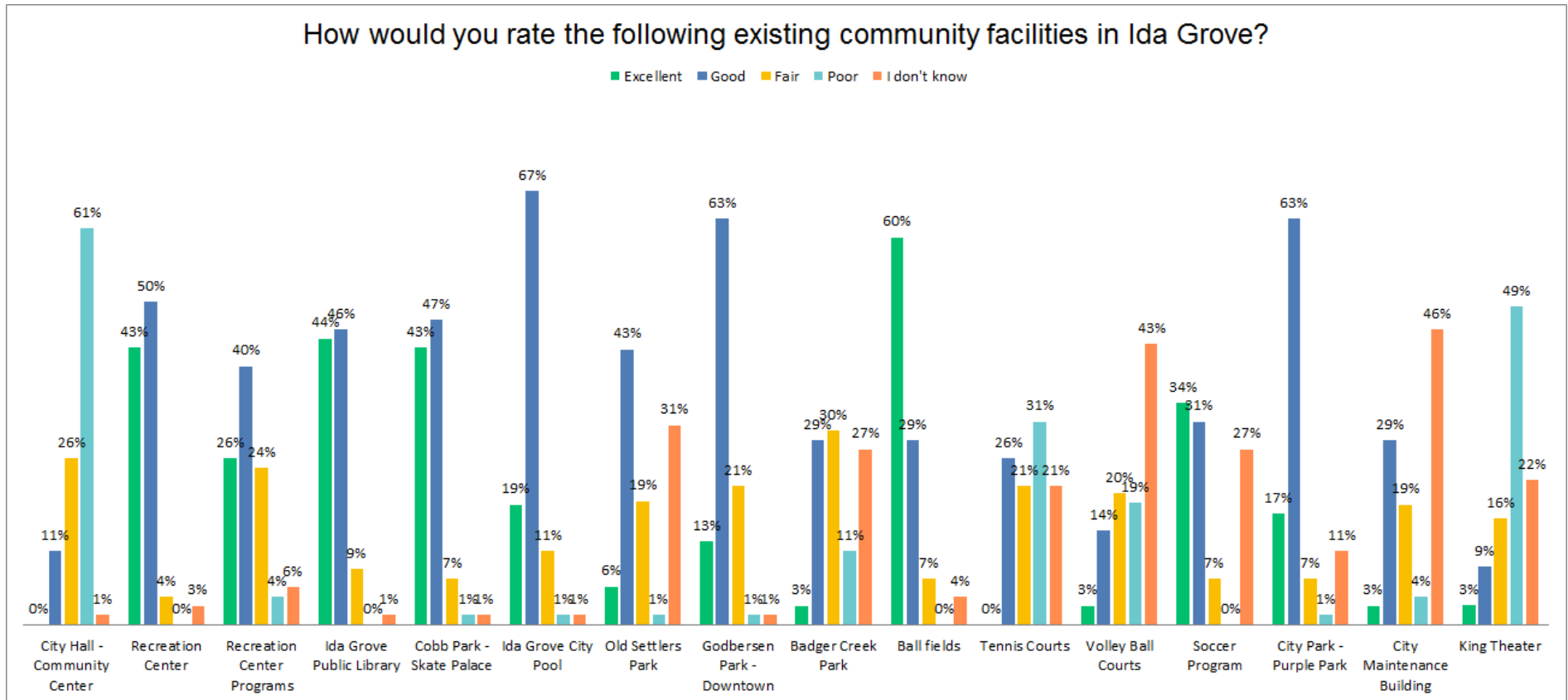
- Improve internet, broadband (15)
 - Develop viable collection site
- Improve water quality (11)
 - Water treatment system needs updating
 - Working with DNR on nitrate mitigation
 - Need new well, cleaner water
 - Easy billing
- Fire and Ambulance (10)
 - Struggle to keep volunteer ambulance personnel
 - Maybe combine Fire and Ambulance to build new facility (3)
 - Start funding Fire service – current reliance on donations
 - Good fire and ambulance service (4)
- City Hall issues (7)
- Update sewer plant, lines (4)
- Improve cellular service (5)
- Garbage (4)
 - New garbage cans problem
 - Good garbage pick-up (3)
- Recycling (3)
 - No glass recycling
 - Mandatory recycling is good
- Good police service (4)
- Schools (3)
 - needs to pass bond issue for improvements
 - Good schools
- Childcare issue (2)
- Like meals on wheels (2) add meals
- Need tree replacement program (ash trees)
- Storm sewer (2) Issue with sewer lines flooding
- Police issue
- Good City Staff and outdoor crew
- Excellent public school system
- Like to see City owned utilities
- Enforce nuisance ordinance
- Adopt a Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) to repair
 - replace water and sewer lines (2)
- Senior services
- Storm drains Zobels
- Youth center

Meeting Results Parks - Community Facilities

- Community-City Hall issue (12)
 - Demolish and relocate or build new (2)
 - Need new (3)
 - Use for different venues
 - Either fix or move
- Recreation Center (6)
 - Like (2)
 - Needs maintenance plan
- Trail
 - Fix it, maintain (3)
 - Like
- Like library
- Like Golf Course
- Like Skate Palace
- Like Pool (2)
- Like ball fields (4) Best in miles
- Like Moorehead Purple Park (2)
- Improve Cobb Park (2)
- Improve Badger Creek – Zobel Park (6)
 - update equipment (3)
 - Continue sidewalk all the way through
 - Nice size in nice area, serves large area
- City Park (3)
 - Like playground
 - Improve shelter house
- Need parks maintenance plan (2) and dedicated funding
- Need tree planning plan
- Four parks rarely used
- Like downtown planters – look great
- New park in Zobel's Addition
- Amp-theater or Band shell
- Driving range
- Conservation education center
- Partner programs with County park west of town
- Minimal outdoor activities – basketball, tennis courts
- No parks in town
- Add parks on north end of town

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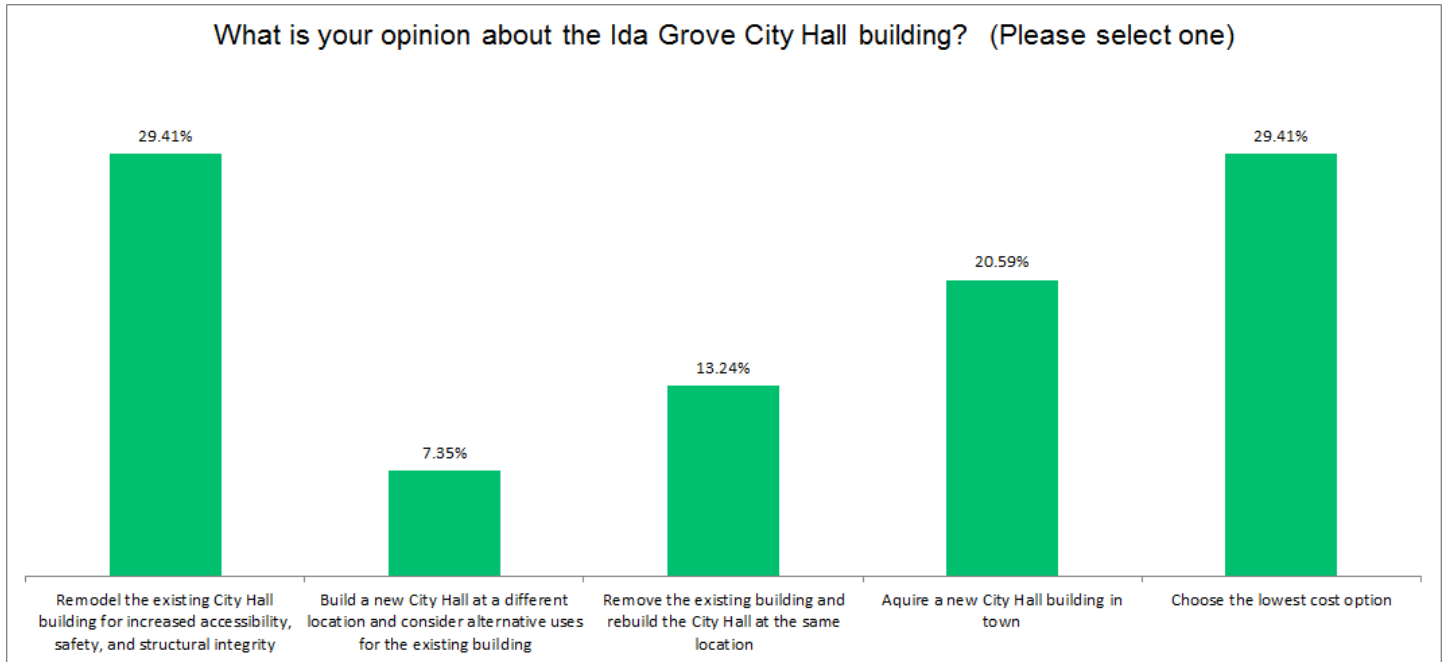
Q28: How would you rate the following existing community facilities in Ida Grove? (70)



Other:

1. Should not have started theater restoration project
2. do not think the King Theater project is worth the money
3. King theatre was hard to answer as work is being done to improve the facility
4. Put pickle ball markings/ fence on tennis courts
5. what/where is purple park - never heard of
6. I think King Theater will be an asset to the community once it is finished
7. Theater will be nice when finished!

Q29: What is your opinion about the Ida Grove City Hall building? (Please select one) (68)



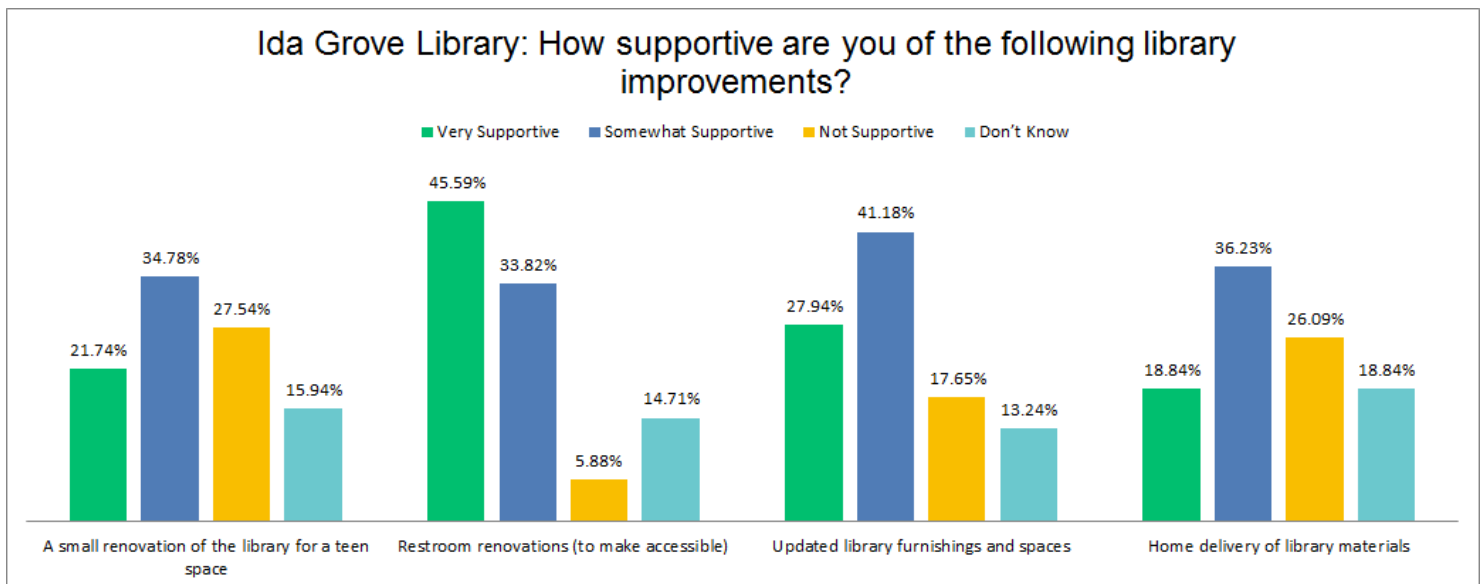
Other:

1. 2 buildings for sale on Hi175 by FP
2. Paper survey checked both 'Acquire new City Hall' and 'Choose lowest cost option'. Comment: Buy funeral home and have them move to old Lewis Drug building
3. Choose the most cost effective option utilizing the following: durability, attractiveness, long term accessibility.
4. How about the buildings across from Food Pride? I would also support a new building.
5. Could city hall be attached or adjacent to rec center or library?
6. The old Lewis Drug/Blimpie building could potentially be a great community building.
7. City hall is a place that everyone has to go - no matter what. It's the first place new residents go and is an embarrassment. In order to attract good city employees, we have to give them a clean, sound place to work.
8. Also remove existing building and rebuild there would also be okay
9. Give present one to legion and take old Lewis drug building and remake to use.
10. The city hall building is an eye-sore and has been for many years.
11. Remodel existing building by putting all windows back in, repainting and enlarging city hall area into community hall, if possible...OR buy the former Lewis building for city hall/chamber office.
12. Our city hall and community hall are so outdated it's embarrassing..... other towns have updated theirs it's time we do as well
13. Historic Building. Great location. Needs major overhaul

Q30: Ida Grove Library: Do you have any suggestions regarding library programs, services, materials, or physical facilities? (40)

1. Need restrooms updated
2. city needs to provide more funding & support
3. Host book clubs, discussion groups, and special events
4. meeting room underutilized - more daytime senior groups
5. Possibly start some book clubs in the evening.
6. I think the library does a great job with the funds they have.
7. Keep up the good work
8. The library does a great job, as is.
9. nice library
10. They are already doing a good job
11. The library is doing a fantastic job of appealing to school aged kids and adults... no improvement needed.
12. The Ida Grove Library does a great job with their programs!
13. They are doing an awesome job!
14. basically good
15. Saturday reading/craft time for ages 4 to 7
16. find a bigger budget
17. After school programs. Volunteers doing a crafts hour. More story time!
18. Maybe more programs for adults...
19. Get rid of dvds
20. Library is doing an awesome job!
21. Beautiful building!

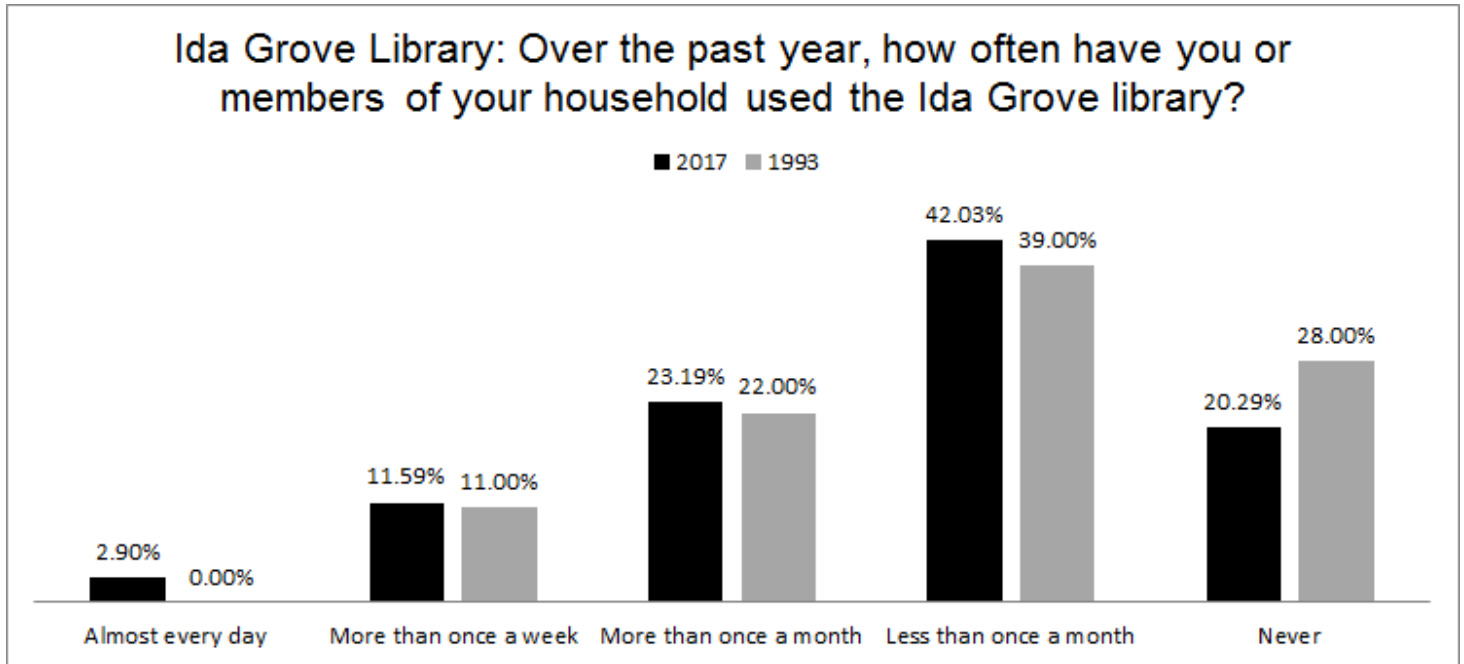
Q31: Ida Grove Library: How supportive are you of the following library improvements? (69)



- Cultural programs and speakers
- Would be supportive of delivery for homebound
- love the speakers and authors that come in.

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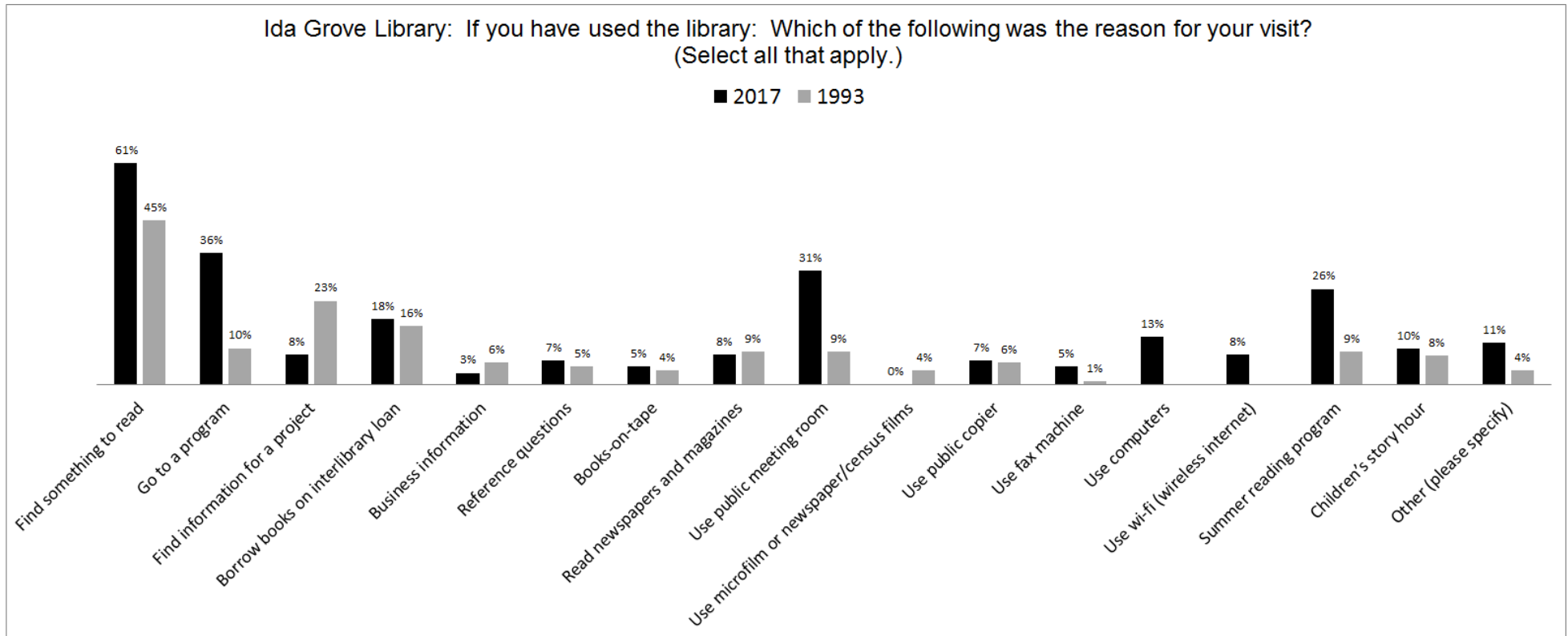
Q32: Ida Grove Library: Over the past year, how often have you or members of your household used the Ida Grove library? (69)



Library Visits	2017	1993	
Almost every day	2.90%	0.00%	2
More than once a week	11.59%	11.00%	8
More than once a month	23.19%	22.00%	16
Less than once a month	42.03%	39.00%	29
Never	20.29%	28.00%	14
	Answered		69
	Skipped		20

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Q33: Ida Grove Library: If you have used the library: Which of the following was the reason for your visit? (Select all that apply.) (61)

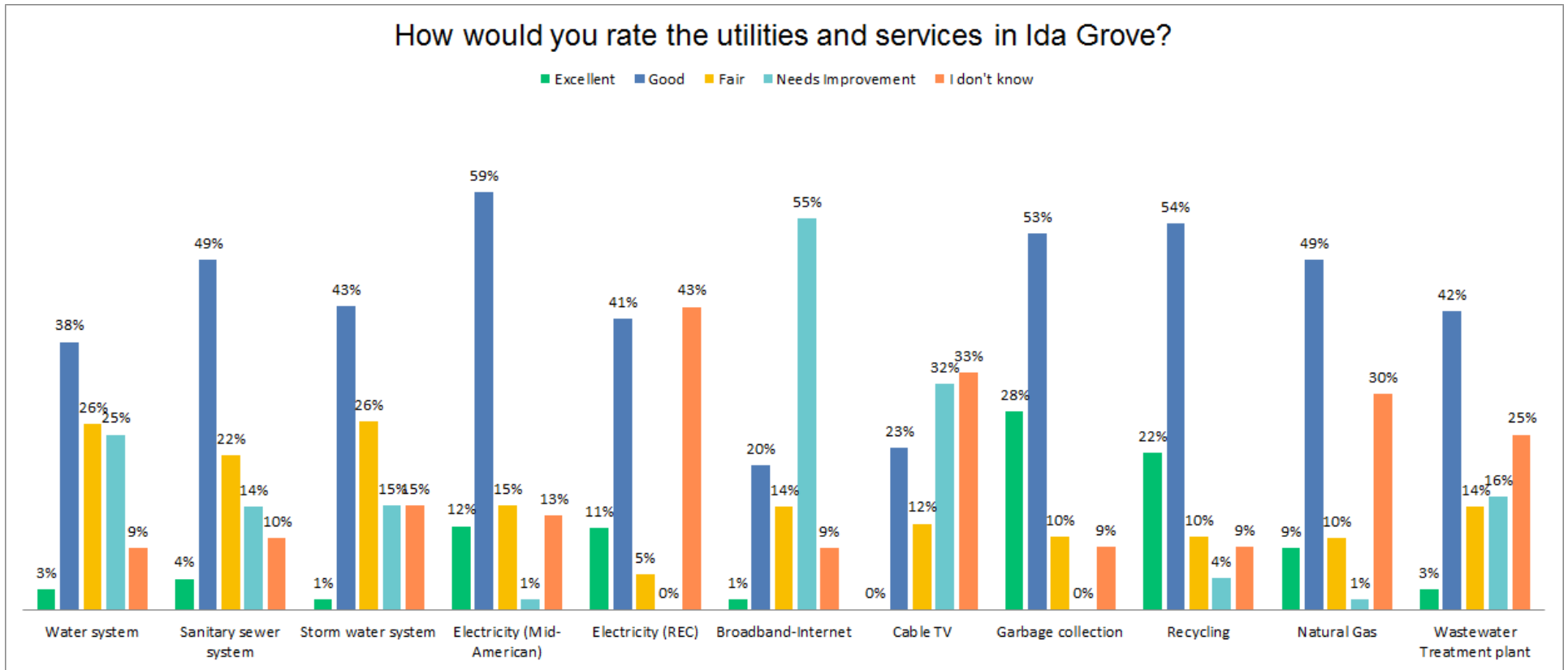


Other

- Movies!
- Donated books
- We donate books/movies
- videos

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Q34: How would you rate the utilities and services in Ida Grove? (69)

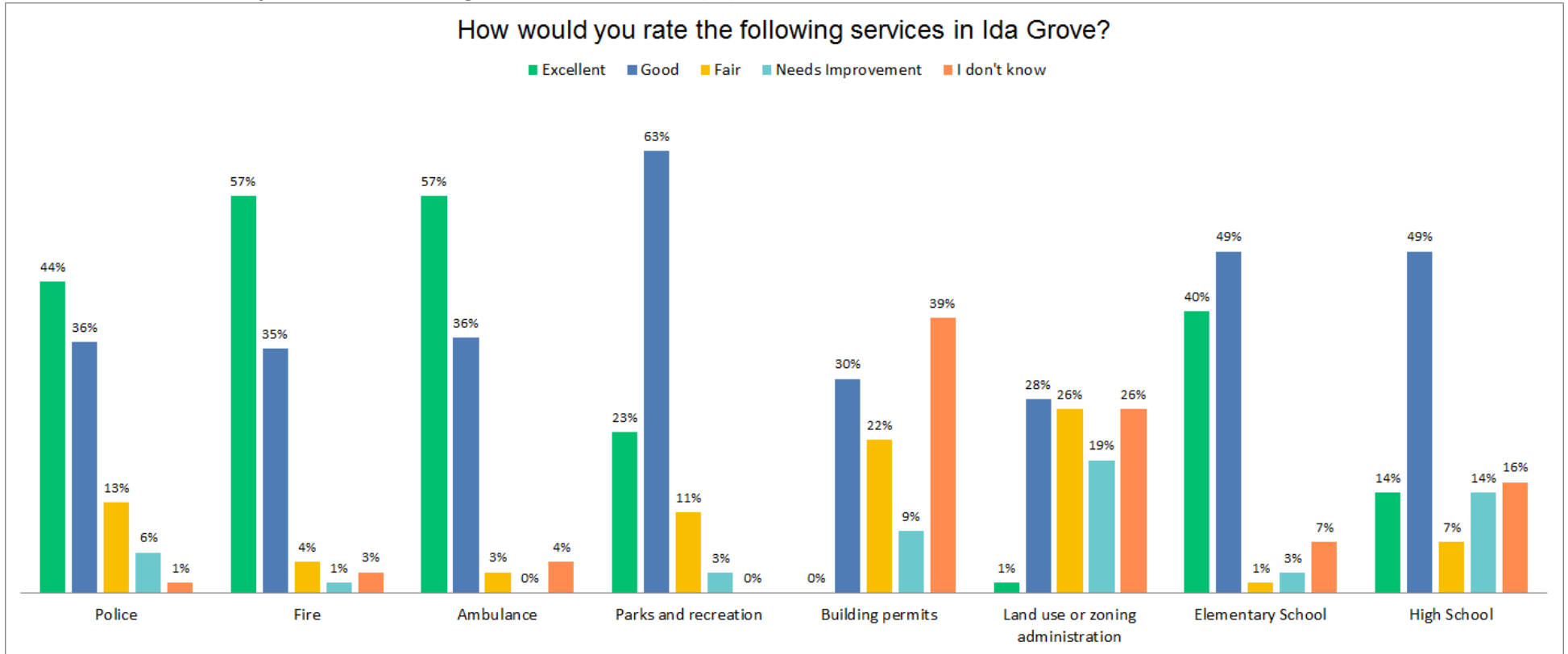


Other

- would like to recycle glass
- Live in the country
- I live in rural Ida Grove, so very few apply to me
- We have been paying extra for a new well for many years and nothing has happened. We need better water.

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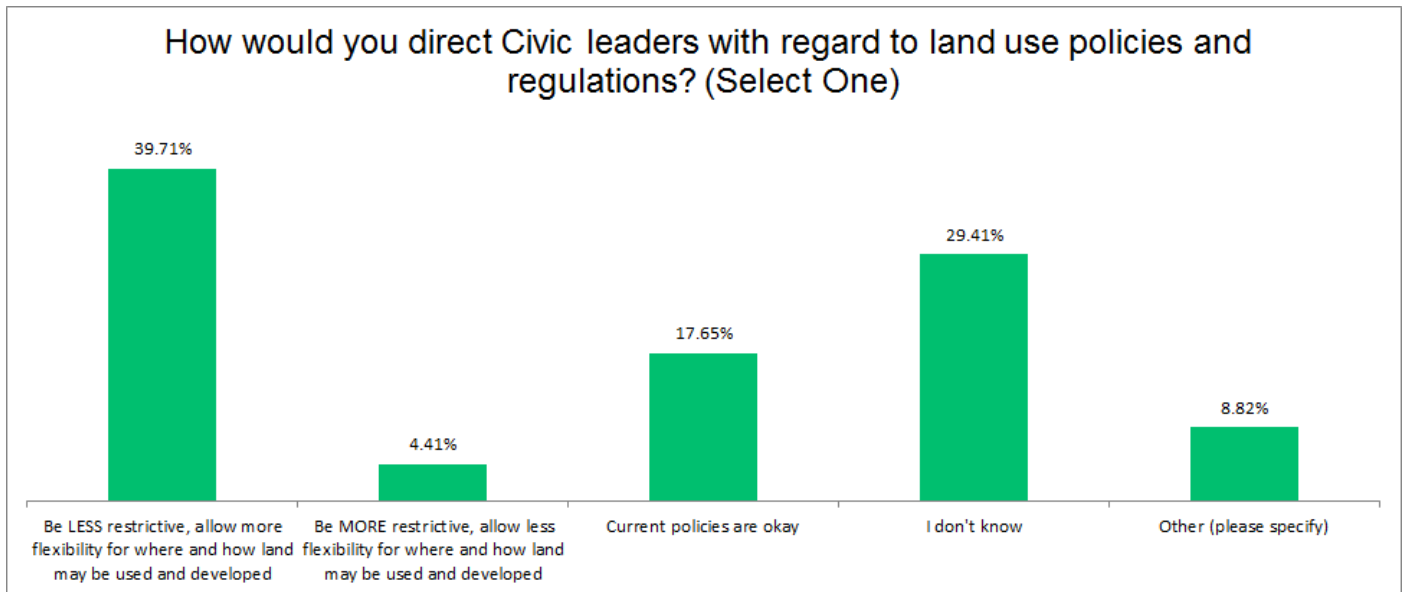
Q35: How would you rate the following services in Ida Grove? (70)



Other

- City should not be paying for Fire Staff to run private business out of fire station. City paid for the shredder, computer, printer that staff uses for business
- Who get a permit - most just do it don't they?
- The addition to the elementary school is terrific, but I feel that now the older part just looks older. The high school needs a fine arts center/auditorium
- We are not in favor of a high tax increase to pay for a high school addition, especially when we do not have children in school anymore. The landowners pay the highest tax increases.

Q36: How would you direct Civic leaders with regard to land use policies and regulations? (Select One)(68)

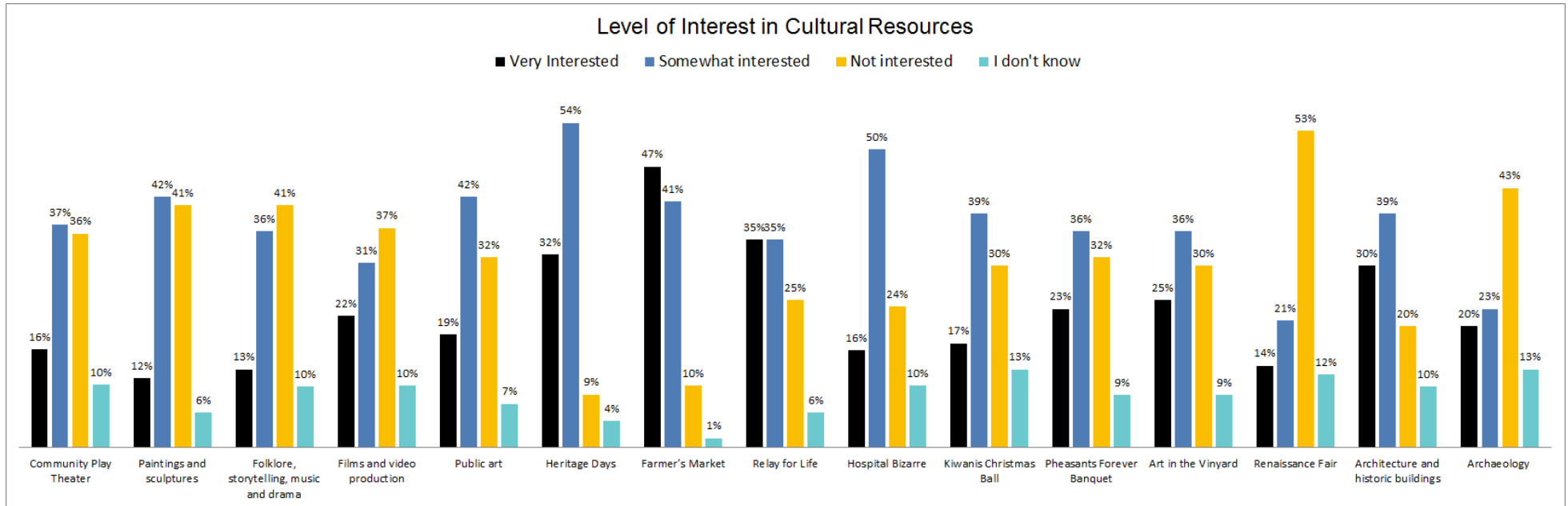


Other

- Be consistent in policies
- Apply fair practice. Not always fairly applied. Somewhat less restrictive would also be good.
- LESS restrictive within reason
- both the first and second: Clean-up junk properties, but the first if it leads to obvious benefits
- Depends on the situation
- Case by case consideration.

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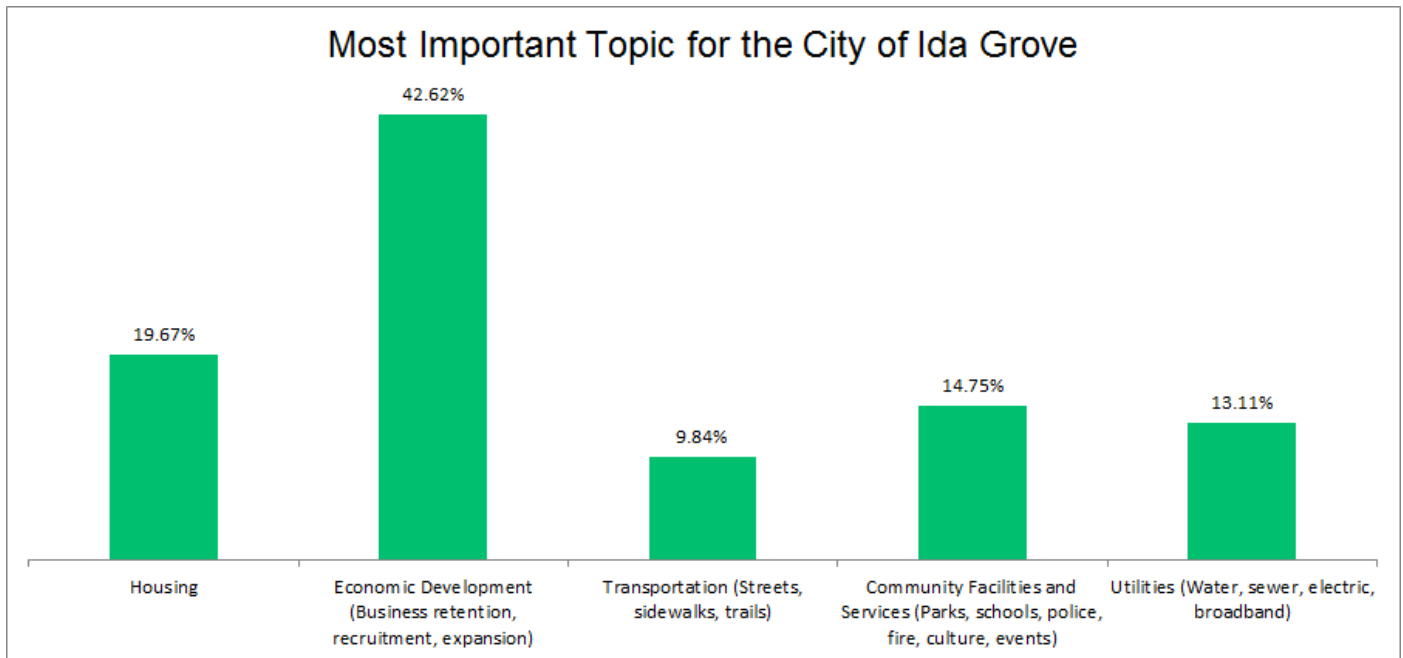
Q37: Cultural resources include both physical assets such as archaeology, architecture, historic buildings or artifacts, painting and sculptures and also intangible culture such as folklore and interpretative arts, such as storytelling, music and drama. What cultural resources would you like to see in your community in the future? Please indicate your level of interest below. (69)



Other

- Music Yes, Drama No
- Ida Grove offers very little for enhancing quality of life or for adult education
- need regularly scheduled active adult activities
- enjoy the music - not much for drama
- *Bazaar *Vineyard

Q38: What is the most important topic for the City of Ida Grove?

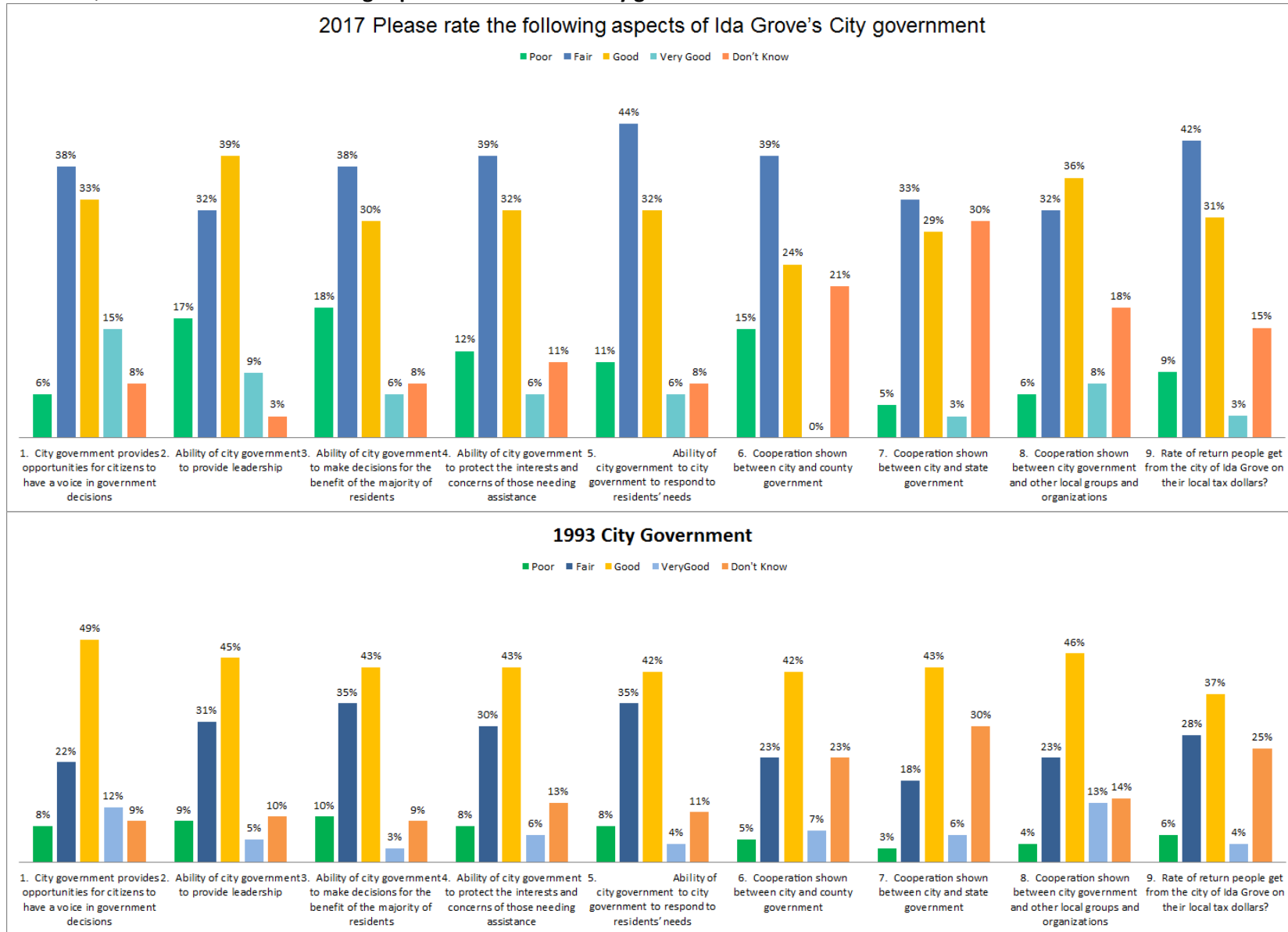


Other

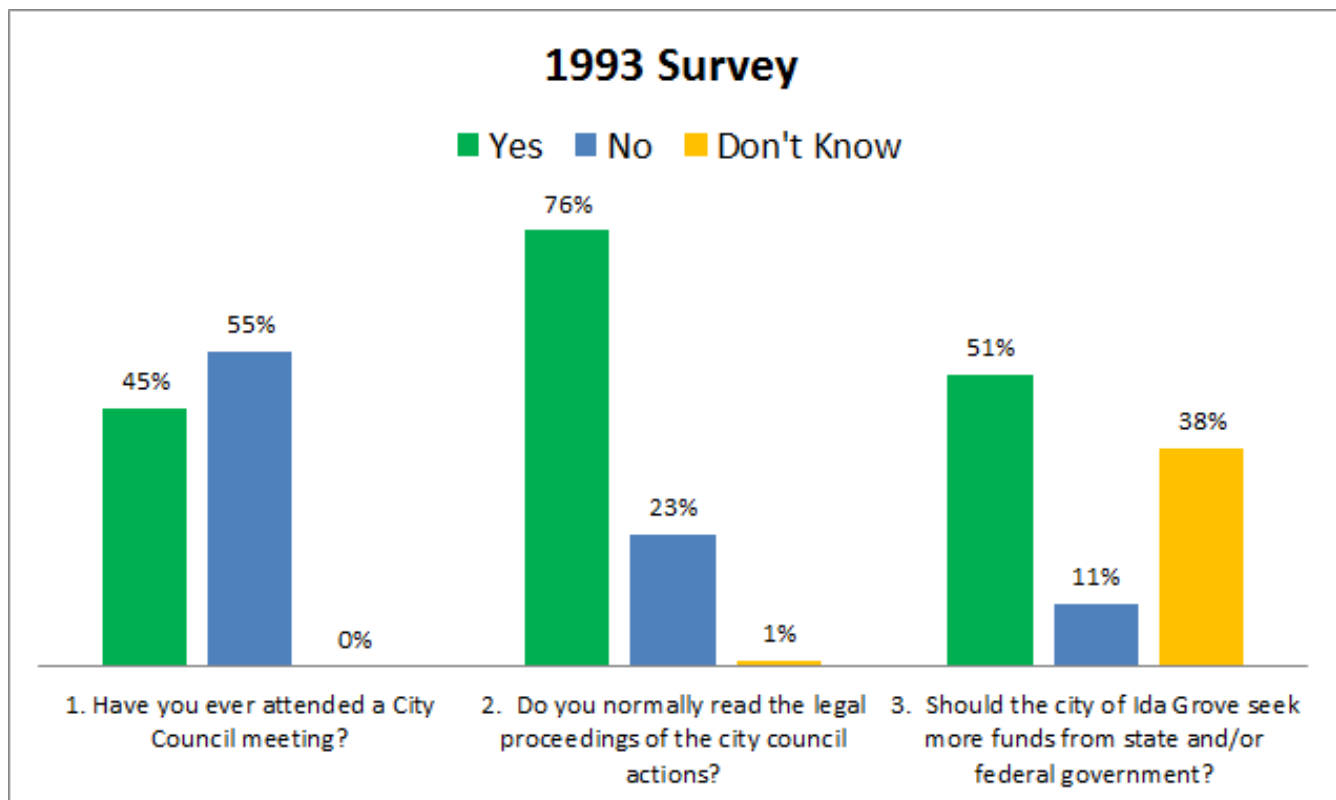
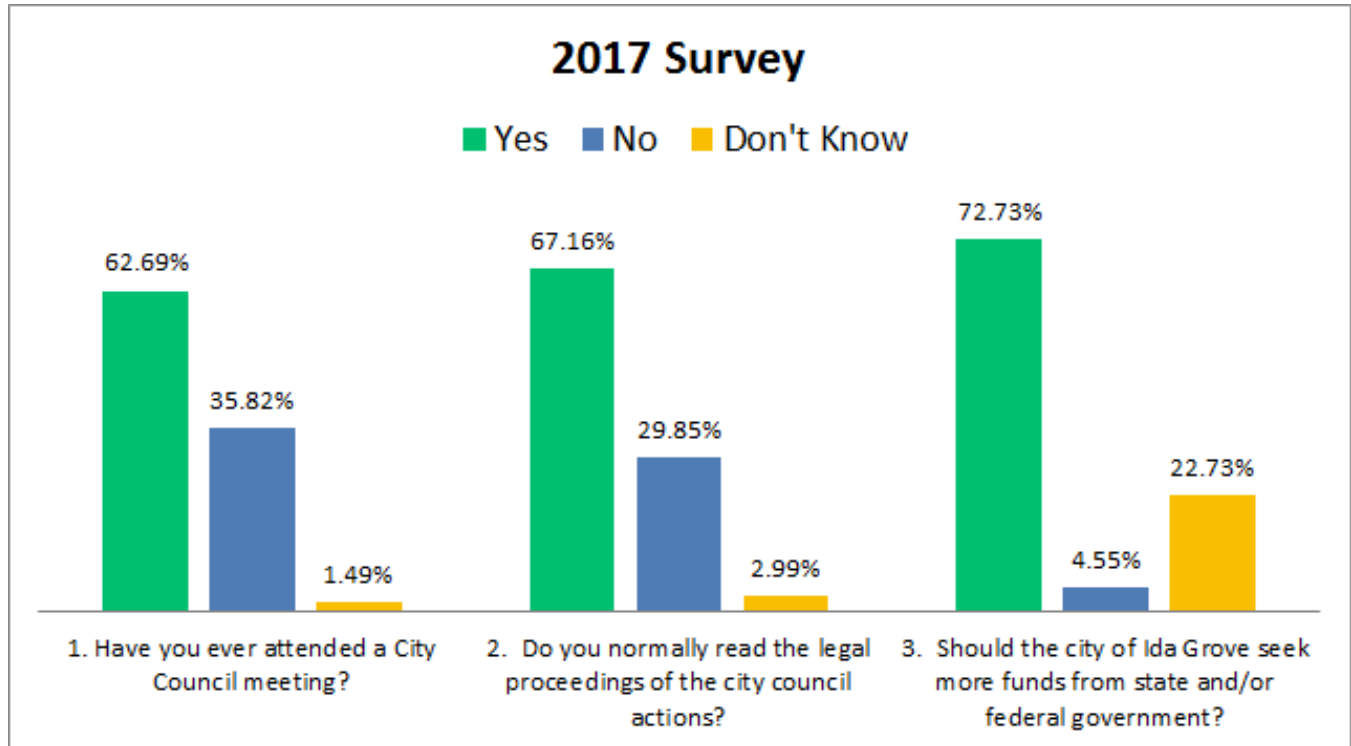
- Paper, Economic Development and Utilities
- You cannot have any one without any of the others
- If Ida Grove does not expand its economic footprint it won't need the housing.
- followed closely by housing
- Cleaning up the town! Then can address the others
- Streets need work too!
- housing is right up there also
- all are connected so hard to pick one
- Better Internet services. It is outdated
- They really are all pretty equal.
- And housing
- Hard to choose just 1. Something has to be done with city hall, streets, and sewer plant.

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Q39: Please rate the following aspects of Ida Grove's City government



Q40: Please answer the following. (67)



SURVEY DEMOGRAPHICS

