

Residential Survey Results

2009 Middletown Household Survey Results

As part of the City's Plan of conservation and development, Citizen's Advisory Committee drafted a public opinion survey that was mailed out to a random sample of Middletown residents. Sampling methods ensured that the entire town was covered and that apartment buildings, single-family homes, low- and upper-income households were all included. The survey asked 53 questions and encompassed a variety of issues from health care and homes for the elderly to tree planting. The purpose of the survey was to elicit opinions from Middletown residents regarding a range of issues and to allow an opportunity to provide input and guidance into the preparation of the new Plan of Conservation and Development.

This chapter presents the findings of the 2009 public opinion survey, conducted in October 2009.

Methodology

The Middletown Citizen's Advisory Committee designed the survey mailed out to Middletown residents in October 2009. Middletown mailed out 1000 surveys to a randomly selected list of households throughout the City. The sampling method included property addresses from the city tax assessor's motor vehicle lists.

Residents returned 249 surveys, resulting in a response rate of 25%.

Executive Summary.

| <u>Ranking</u> | | <u>Score out of 100</u> |
|----------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1 | Trash & Debris Removal | 70 |
| 2 | Energy Efficient Improvements | 70 |
| 3 | Libraries | 70 |
| 4 | Neglected Abused Children | 69 |
| 5 | Cleanup Lots & Buildings | 68 |
| 6 | Job Creation | 66 |
| 7 | Street Improvements | 66 |
| 8 | Sidewalk Improvements | 64 |
| 9 | Fire Stations | 63 |
| 10 | Parks & Recreation Facilities | 63 |
| 11 | Health Services | 61 |
| 12 | Youth Activities | 61 |
| 13 | Senior Centers | 61 |
| 14 | Anti-Crime Programs | 61 |
| 15 | Code Enforcement | 61 |
| 16 | Employment Training | 61 |
| 17 | Health Care Facilities | 60 |
| 18 | Drainage Improvements | 60 |
| 19 | Water/Sewer | 60 |

| | | |
|----|---------------------------------------|----|
| 20 | Homeless Shelters | 60 |
| 21 | Transportation Services | 60 |
| 22 | Commercial Rehab | 59 |
| 23 | Domestic Violence Services | 59 |
| 24 | Graffiti Removal | 59 |
| 25 | Start Up Business Assistance | 59 |
| 26 | Senior Housing | 58 |
| 27 | Senior Activities | 58 |
| 28 | Mental Health Services | 58 |
| 29 | Youth Centers | 58 |
| 30 | Small Business Loan | 58 |
| 31 | Housing for Disabled | 57 |
| 32 | Centers/Services for Disabled | 56 |
| 33 | Substance Abuse | 56 |
| 34 | Child Care Services | 56 |
| 35 | Residential Historic Preservation | 56 |
| 36 | Tree Planting | 55 |
| 37 | Affordable Rental Housing | 55 |
| 38 | Residential Rehab | 55 |
| 39 | Childcare Centers | 55 |
| 40 | Street Lighting | 55 |
| 41 | Accessibility Improvements | 54 |
| 42 | Lead-Based Paint Test/Abatement | 53 |
| 43 | Parking Facilities | 53 |
| 44 | Non-Residential Historic Preservation | 53 |
| 45 | Fair Housing | 53 |
| 46 | Homeownership Assistance | 52 |
| 47 | Façade Improvements | 52 |
| 48 | HIV/AIDS | 52 |
| 49 | Community Centers | 51 |
| 50 | Legal Services | 50 |
| 51 | Business Mentoring | 49 |
| 52 | Single Family Housing | 49 |
| 53 | Large Family Housing | 44 |

Residents who responded by proposing other needs and making additional comments

- After school program funds
- Keep taxes down for young homeowners
- Please put money towards blight, absentee landlords & crime, especially in the North End
- Hot Line for City Waste
- We have a sustainable senior transportation program run by ITN central ct.org and feel we should expand this to provide sustainable door to door to arm 24/7 transportation for seniors and people with visual disabilities. A small grant of \$25,000 can make this happen for all of Middletown.
- We need more houses that go by your income of 4 or more people who are living in 2 bedrooms with more than 3 children or they have a boy and a girl. Possibly if at all possible they could be if they have been a Middletown resident for 3 or more years.
- I'd very much like to see a skateboard park put in place for our youngsters
- The North End, where I live and would never move from, needs assistance.
- More police
- There is a lot of trash due to foreclosures
- Bring back free bulk waste pick ups. More police.
- Jobs in Middletown
- Police traffic enforcement
- Less taxes.
- Put it all in sidewalks and bike paths
- Helping tenants who have been living in moderate housing buy there own home if they have been in moderate or low income housing for 3 or more years. Federal housing always gets money what about sunset ridge and rockwood acres who sets right in the middle of a residential area. They need work.
- Skateboard park. Have kids help build it. This is an over due project.
- Tree maintenance and care on Municipal properties
- Need sidewalks on all of Newfield Street. For Senior citizens and Newfield rest home, including the general public.
- Boat launch.
- Clean Route 9 to Harbor Park
- Traffic services: Crosswalk improvements and bicycle lanes.
- Safety needs- Please put a curb and sidewalk on East Ridge Road between Lindsey and Farm Hill School to keep cars off of sidewalk. So people and school kids do not have to walk on road.
- Revisit In-law apartment regulations
- Need to improve South Farms area (Chamberlain Hill Road)
- Maybe they should look into who they are giving money to.
- Fix roads. Thanks for messing up Boston Road.
- Transportation for senior citizens.

- I hope Middletown uses these funds wisely. You wasted my federal taxes that I paid by making an extra road lane on Middle Street in Westfield and then changed your minds by eliminating it and putting a bike path. You also ruined driveways and my property. Now I have wet spots. Don't waste federal funds again.
- What about education- More teachers.
- Garbage pickup and street side bulk pickup
- Lower taxes.
- Pave eastern end of Randolph Road (intersection Randolph and Saybrook)
- More public transportation, bike lanes.
- Poplar Road and Ridgewood Roads. We are a residential area without sidewalks. Residents cannot go for a walk safely, in particular, parents with small children and babies are completely housebound. It is too dangerous to try and navigate our roads with a baby carriage. Would be wonderful if we could have some sidewalks to walk on.
- Senior housing for seniors who do NOT have mental illness.
- Need more energy efficient improvement.
- More parking space for cars here at Senior Center
- Senior Housing security.
- I would actually like to pay off bonds or other dept. Then you can invest with the money you save on interest.
- Adding sidewalks to areas of town without them; i.e. South Farms area.
- Keep Main Street alive!!!!!!!!!! It's doing great so far.
- Meals & food help for the needy.
- More access to legal forms like living wills, power of attorney and executor of estate at courthouse.
- School improvement overall.
- Reflective paint for Route 9 highway.
- Home trash removal every 2 years - Not 3.
- The old wooden bridge over the tracks on West Street should be replaced. It is very dangerous especially when wet and icy!!!!
- We need a city bus stop available for neighborhoods off Atkins Road.
- Elementary, Middle School & High School funding!!!!!!!!!!
- Less expensive access to town dump - Like Cromwell.
- Riverfront Development! Eviction of current leasers.
- Jobs, Jobs, Jobs!!
- Community pool.
- Bike trails
- More trees on Main Street
- Return to the "No Additional Fee" for bulk pick-ups....NO \$75.00 FEE!!!!
- In this economy, forget the flash. Basic human needs - food, shelter, healthcare.

Category rankings

Community Facilities

| | | |
|---|------------------------------|----|
| 1 | Libraries | 70 |
| 2 | Fire Stations & Equipment | 63 |
| 3 | Park & Recreation Facilities | 63 |
| 4 | Senior Centers | 61 |
| 5 | Health Care Facilities | 60 |
| 6 | Youth Centers | 58 |
| 7 | Child Care Centers | 55 |
| 8 | Community Centers | 51 |

Community Services

| | | |
|---|-------------------------|----|
| 1 | Health Services | 61 |
| 2 | Youth Activities | 61 |
| 3 | Anti-Crime Programs | 61 |
| 4 | Transportation Services | 60 |
| 5 | Senior Activities | 58 |
| 6 | Mental Health Services | 58 |
| 7 | Child Care Services | 56 |
| 8 | Legal Services | 50 |

Infrastructure

| | | |
|---|--------------------------|----|
| 1 | Street Improvements | 66 |
| 2 | Sidewalk Improvements | 64 |
| 3 | Water/Sewer Improvements | 60 |
| 4 | Drainage Improvements | 60 |
| 5 | Street Lighting | 55 |

Neighborhood Services

| | | |
|---|---------------------------------------|----|
| 1 | Trash & Debris Removal | 70 |
| 2 | Cleanup of Abandoned Lots & Buildings | 68 |
| 3 | Code Enforcement | 61 |
| 4 | Graffiti Removal | 59 |
| 5 | Tree Planting | 55 |
| 6 | Parking Facilities | 53 |

Special Needs Services

| | | |
|---|--|----|
| 1 | Neglected/Abused Children Centers & Services | 69 |
| 2 | Homeless Shelters/Services | 60 |

| | | |
|---|------------------------------|----|
| 3 | Domestic Violence Services | 59 |
| 4 | Center/Services for Disabled | 56 |
| 5 | Substance Abuse Services | 56 |
| 6 | Accessibility Improvements | 54 |
| 7 | HIV/AIDS Centers & Services | 52 |

Business & Jobs

| | | |
|---|--------------------------------------|----|
| 1 | Job Creation/Retention | 66 |
| 2 | Employment Training | 61 |
| 3 | Commercial/Industrial Rehabilitation | 59 |
| 4 | Start Up Business Assistance | 59 |
| 5 | Small Business Loans | 58 |
| 6 | Facade Improvements | 52 |
| 7 | Business Mentoring | 49 |

Housing

| | | |
|----|---------------------------------------|----|
| 1 | Energy Efficient Improvements | 70 |
| 2 | Senior Housing | 58 |
| 3 | Housing for Disabled | 57 |
| 4 | Residential Historic Preservation | 56 |
| 5 | Affordable Rental Housing | 55 |
| 6 | Residential Rehabilitation | 55 |
| 7 | Lead-Based Paint Test/Abatement | 53 |
| 8 | Non-Residential Historic Preservation | 53 |
| 9 | Fair Housing (Anti-Discrimination) | 53 |
| 10 | Homeownership Assistance | 52 |
| 11 | Single Family Housing | 49 |
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Public Service Cap Rank

| Ranking | | Score out of 100 |
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Non Public Service Projects

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