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Master Plan Survey 2005

Elk Rapids Village Master Plan



Elk Rapids Village
Planning
Commission

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Parks & Rec Responses

Extracts from

Data Compilation Volume

**Village of Elk Rapids Planning Commission
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I. Current Issues

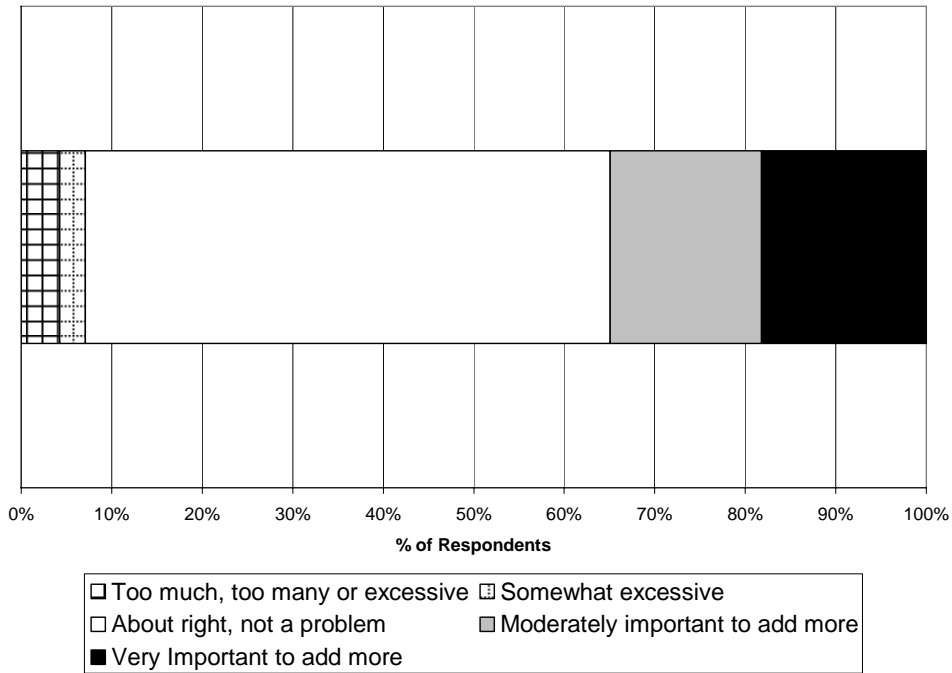
A. Lakes and Waterfronts

1. How important is public access to lakes and waterways?

No. of survey forms returned: **500**

No. of responses to this question: **495**

<u>Response Scale</u>	<u>Count</u>	<u>Percentage</u>
1. Very important to add more	90	18.2 %
2. Moderately important to add more	83	16.8 %
3. About right, not a problem	287	58.0 %
4. Somewhat excessive	14	2.8 %
5. Too much, too many or excessive	21	4.2 %



Respondents' Comments to Question 1

- Parking for day boating.
- Especially boat launch to Elk Lake
- More public docking on Elk Lake

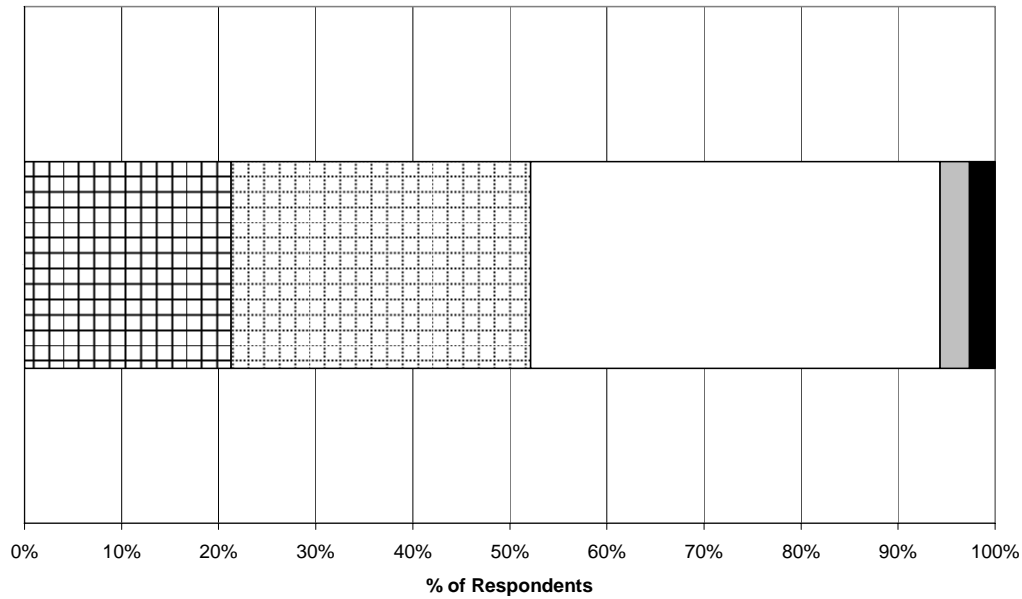
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2. How important is the current housing density of lakeshore development?

No. of survey forms returned: **500**

No. of responses to this question: **493**

<u>Response Scale</u>	<u>Count</u>	<u>Percentage</u>
1. Very important to add more	13	2.6 %
2. Moderately important to add more	15	3.0 %
3. About right, not a problem	208	42.2 %
4. Somewhat excessive	152	30.8 %
5. Too much, too many or excessive	105	21.3 %



<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Too much, too many or excessive	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Somewhat excessive
<input type="checkbox"/> About right, not a problem	<input type="checkbox"/> Moderately important to add more
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Very Important to add more	

Respondents' Comments to Question 2

- Ames St Harbor Watch condos --- EXCESSIVE!

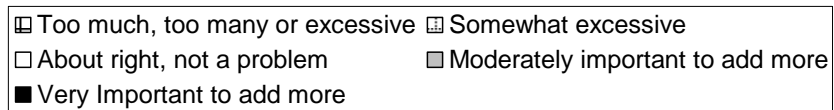
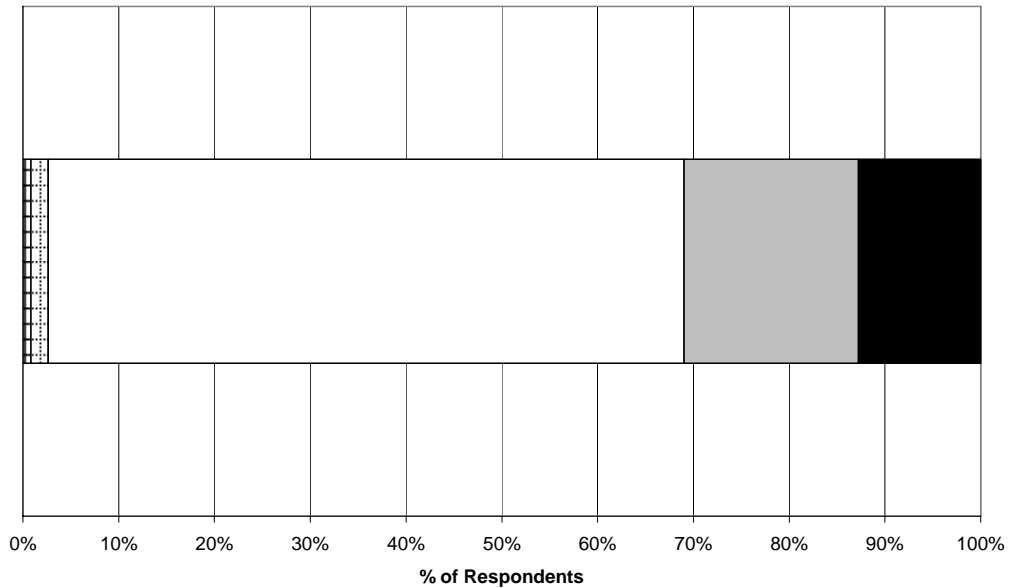
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3. How important are waterfront parks and harbors?

No. of survey forms returned: **500**

No. of responses to this question: **494**

<u>Response Scale</u>	<u>Count</u>	<u>Percentage</u>
1. Very important to add more	63	12.8 %
2. Moderately important to add more	90	18.2 %
3. About right, not a problem	328	66.4 %
4. Somewhat excessive	9	1.8 %
5. Too much, too many or excessive	4	0.8 %



Respondents' Comments to Question 3

- Very important: more resident and transient boat dockage on Elk River near downtown.

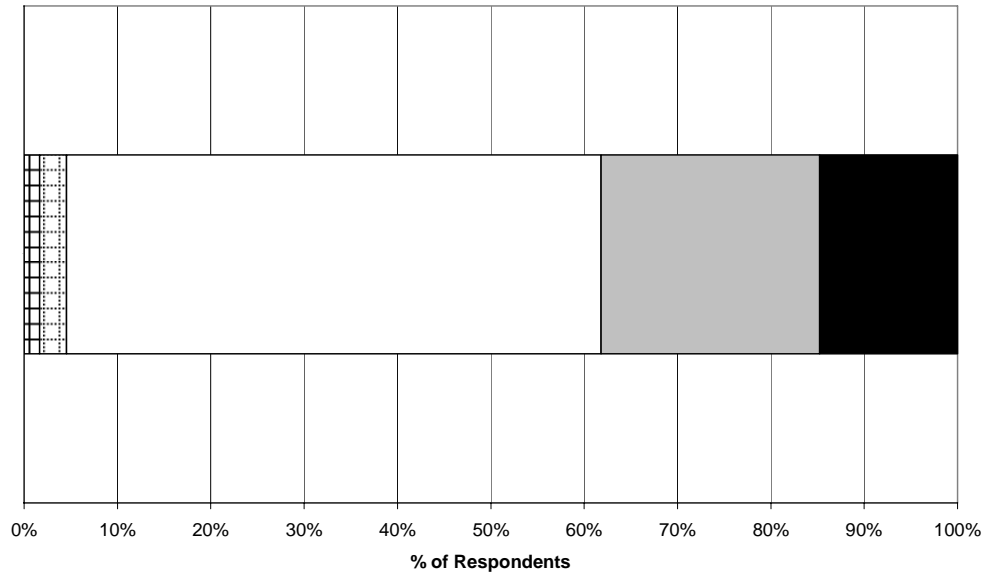
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4. How important is regulation of boating activity on lakes?

No. of survey forms returned: **500**

No. of responses to this question: **487**

<u>Response Scale</u>	<u>Count</u>	<u>Percentage</u>
1. Very important to add more	72	14.8 %
2. Moderately important to add more	114	23.4 %
3. About right, not a problem	279	57.3 %
4. Somewhat excessive	14	2.9 %
5. Too much, too many or excessive	8	1.6 %



<input type="checkbox"/> Too much, too many or excessive	<input type="checkbox"/> Somewhat excessive
<input type="checkbox"/> About right, not a problem	<input type="checkbox"/> Moderately important to add more
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Very Important to add more	

Respondents' Comments to Question 4

- Jet skis near shore
- Speed control
- Regulate noise of LOUD motors
- Should always be monitored
- Noise

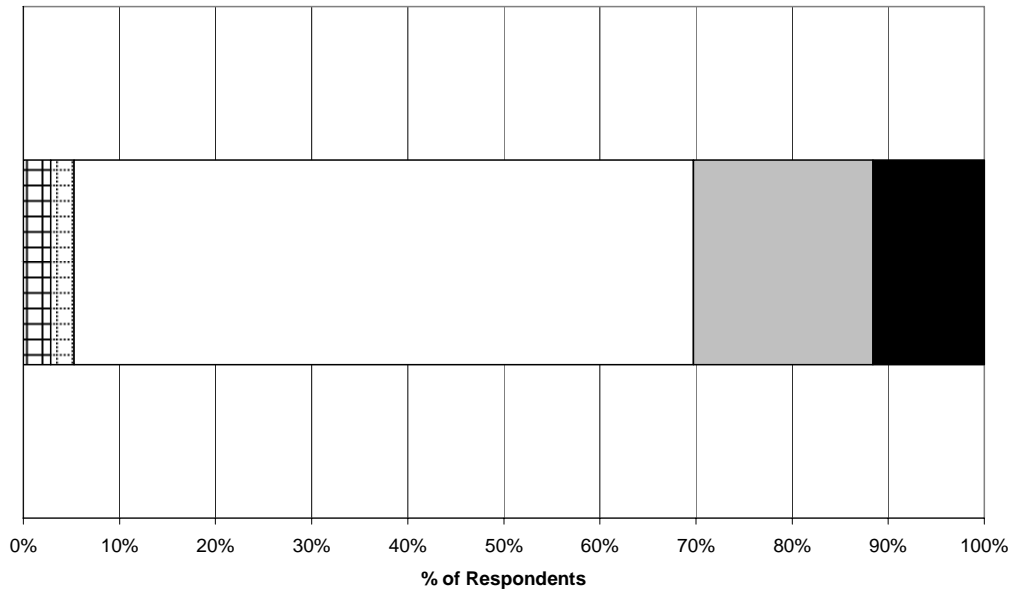
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5. How important are boat launch sites?

No. of survey forms returned: **500**

No. of responses to this question: **492**

<u>Response Scale</u>	<u>Count</u>	<u>Percentage</u>
1. Very important to add more	57	11.6 %
2. Moderately important to add more	92	18.7 %
3. About right, not a problem	317	64.4 %
4. Somewhat excessive	12	2.4 %
5. Too much, too many or excessive	14	2.8 %



	Too much, too many or excessive		Somewhat excessive
	About right, not a problem		Moderately important to add more
	Very Important to add more		

Respondents' Comments to Question 5

- On Elk Lake
- Improve existing
- Improve the one in Rotary park

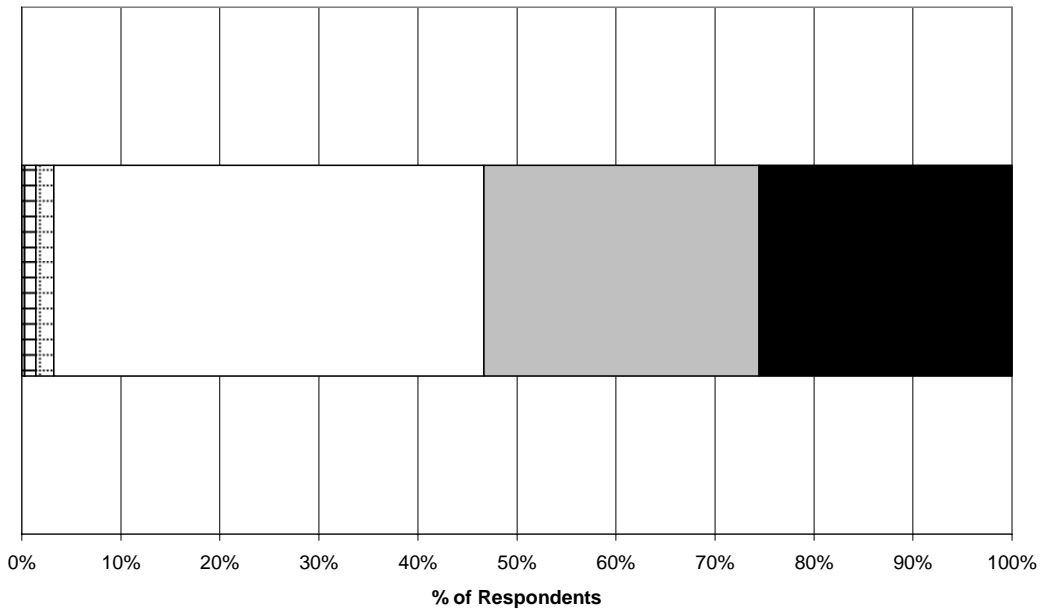
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6. How important are open spaces for viewing lakes?

No. of survey forms returned: **500**

No. of responses to this question: **493**

<u>Response Scale</u>	<u>Count</u>	<u>Percentage</u>
1. Very important to add more	126	25.6 %
2. Moderately important to add more	137	27.8 %
3. About right, not a problem	214	43.4 %
4. Somewhat excessive	9	1.8 %
5. Too much, too many or excessive	7	1.4 %



<input type="checkbox"/> Too much, too many or excessive	<input type="checkbox"/> Somewhat excessive
<input type="checkbox"/> About right, not a problem	<input type="checkbox"/> Moderately important to add more
<input type="checkbox"/> Very Important to add more	

Respondents' Comments to Question 6

- Keep parks open-limit condo buildings that cut off views
- Some of the garden trees are restricting water views, i.e., by the boardwalk by Riverwalk Grill.
- It just seems like there's no cohesiveness in buildings --- make the town/village quaint without being overdone. The water views are amazing but seem to be such an afterthought: a mustard factory?! A huge condo complex (former ER Inn)?

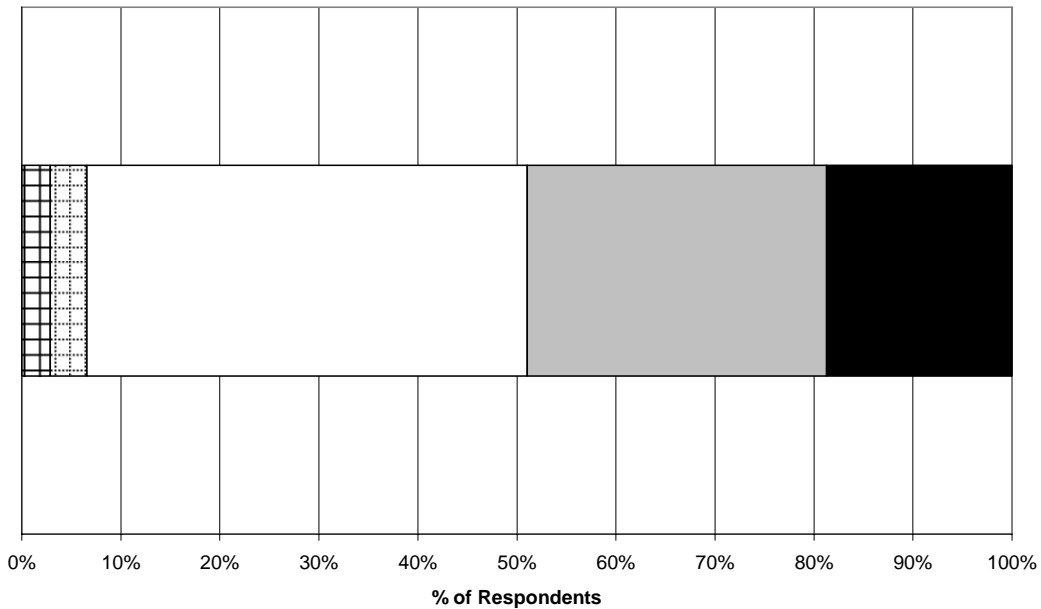
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7. How important is combined car-boat trailer public parking?

No. of survey forms returned: **500**

No. of responses to this question: **486**

<u>Response Scale</u>	<u>Count</u>	<u>Percentage</u>
1. Very important to add more	91	18.7 %
2. Moderately important to add more	147	30.2 %
3. About right, not a problem	216	44.4 %
4. Somewhat excessive	18	3.7 %
5. Too much, too many or excessive	14	2.9 %



<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Too much, too many or excessive	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Somewhat excessive
<input type="checkbox"/> About right, not a problem	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Moderately important to add more
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Very Important to add more	

Respondents' Comments to Question 7

- Use of school parking lot is a great idea. No sense adding more pavement for a 3-month concentration of trailers.
- No. 1 concern as area grows.
- They took away from our town marina. This was bad.
- OK --- with new Bridge St location; money may not realize Bridge St addition
- A problem ... enforce!

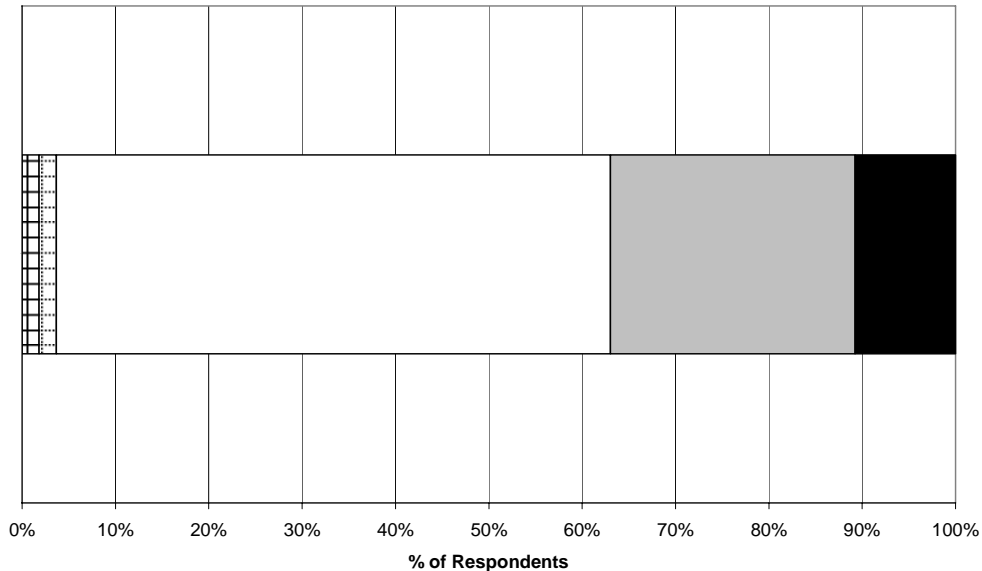
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8. How important are public parking facilities at parks and recreation areas?

No. of survey forms returned: **500**

No. of responses to this question: **492**

<u>Response Scale</u>	<u>Count</u>	<u>Percentage</u>
1. Very important to add more	53	10.8 %
2. Moderately important to add more	129	26.2 %
3. About right, not a problem	292	59.3 %
4. Somewhat excessive	9	1.8 %
5. Too much, too many or excessive	9	1.8 %



<input type="checkbox"/> Too much, too many or excessive	<input type="checkbox"/> Somewhat excessive
<input type="checkbox"/> About right, not a problem	<input type="checkbox"/> Moderately important to add more
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Very Important to add more	

Respondents' Comments to Question 8

- Could be black-topped.
- Where is land available?
- **PARKING!** We keep allowing more building/development yet don't increase or save parking space. The Village chose to allow 3- storey building next to the bakery instead of buying a parking area. We then fill half the village parking with snow and make residents/biz owners move cars. We also allow biz owners to park on River/Dexter St for the whole day taking away from customers (parking meters?). Bridge St, Dexter St, S Bayshore commercial district parking have all been reduced --- yet the village officials say they are promoting biz. This is an oxymoron. All rules for local policy and laws are then abandoned for Harbor Days.

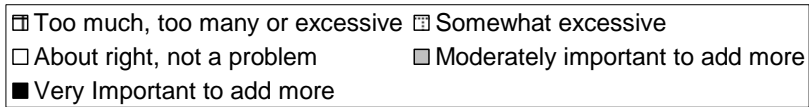
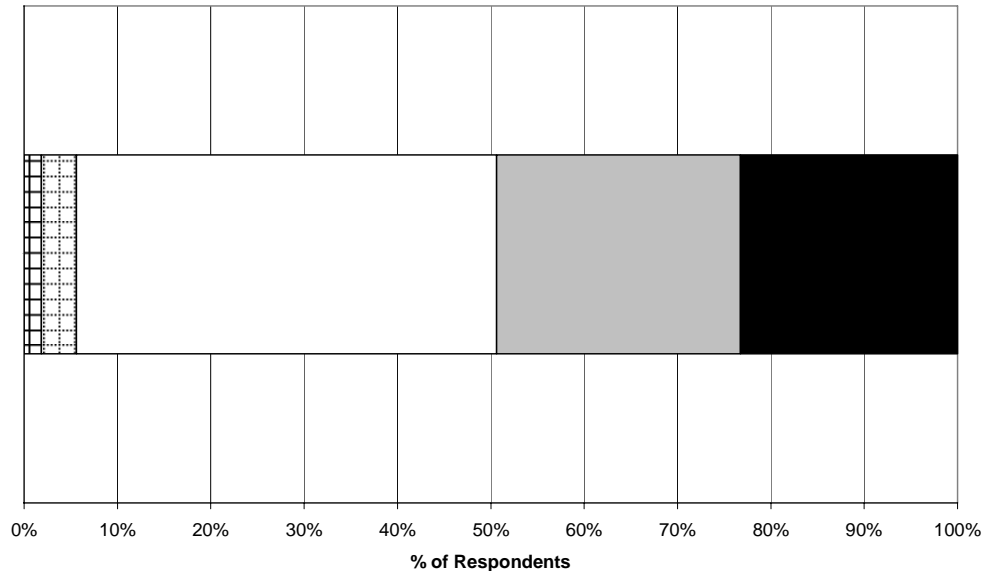
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9. How important are local or Village environmental protection measures for shorelines?

No. of survey forms returned: **500**

No. of responses to this question: **482**

<u>Response Scale</u>	<u>Count</u>	<u>Percentage</u>
1. Very important to add more	112	23.2 %
2. Moderately important to add more	126	26.1 %
3. About right, not a problem	217	45.0 %
4. Somewhat excessive	18	3.7 %
5. Too much, too many or excessive	9	1.9 %



Respondents' Comments to Question 9

- Keep weeds off.
- Important to maintain.
- We can never be too alert!
- Keep seawalls to minimum. We also have been on Indiana lakes with sea walls and believe the natural shore of Elk Lake is more appealing.

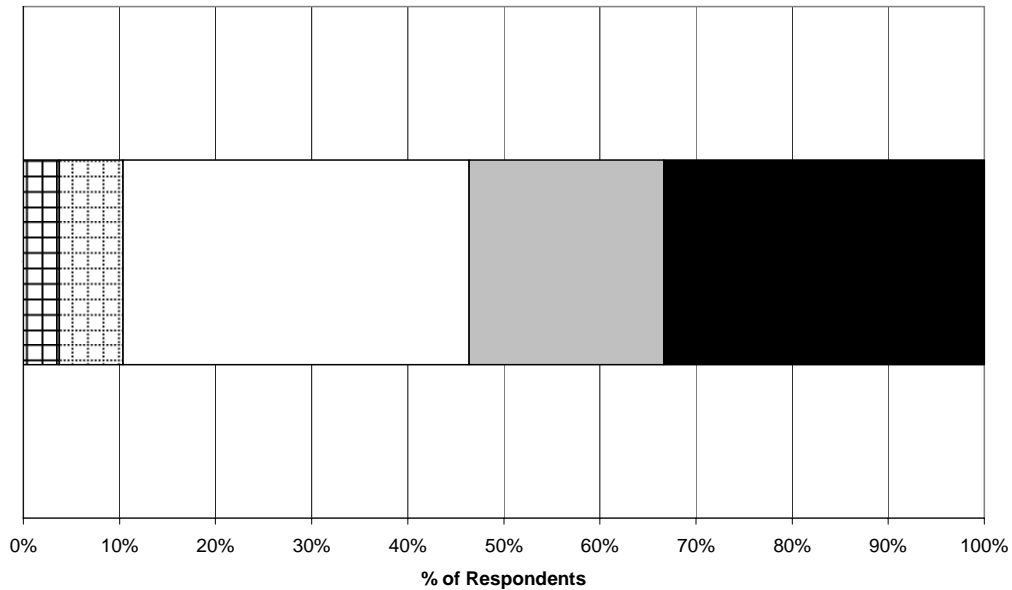
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10. How important are local or Village conservation measures for wetlands and natural areas?

No. of survey forms returned: **500**

No. of responses to this question: **483**

<u>Response Scale</u>	<u>Count</u>	<u>Percentage</u>
1. Very important to add more	161	33.3 %
2. Moderately important to add more	98	20.3 %
3. About right, not a problem	174	36.0 %
4. Somewhat excessive	32	6.6 %
5. Too much, too many or excessive	18	3.7 %



<input type="checkbox"/> Too much, too many or excessive	<input type="checkbox"/> Somewhat excessive
<input type="checkbox"/> About right, not a problem	<input type="checkbox"/> Moderately important to add more
<input type="checkbox"/> Very Important to add more	

Respondents' Comments to Question 10

- Preserve the "Preserve" --- restore to wetlands! Elk Rapids is appealing because it is small, there is evident pride in home ownership, the people are friendly, the streets are tree-lined, the gardens well cared for. Industry is mostly hidden. Downtown is attractive.

It's a bedroom community for many, but careful selection of industry to bring in must be considered or the current flavor will be lost. The historic neighborhoods, parks, and marina add beauty and appeal. Don't mess it up with out-of-control seasonal rentals and tourism catering --- there's plenty of that already!

I'd prefer to work here and I may someday instead of driving elsewhere, but I chose to live here and sacrifice with a work commute, to come home to a quiet, peaceful home... don't steal my serenity in the name of growth --- PLEASE!

- e.g. - Clous development got this far!
- Poor

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Respondents' Comments to Question 10 (cont.)

- It would be good if the so-called "Preserve" south of 4th St could be put back to its original natural condition. At present the mosquitoes have a great breeding ground with those open ponds and they are 10 times worse than they used to be. Also the ponds stink in the summer time.
- * Village sometimes over-emphasizes infrastructure improvements over natural resource protection.
 - * Survey/inventory remaining wetlands and natural features.

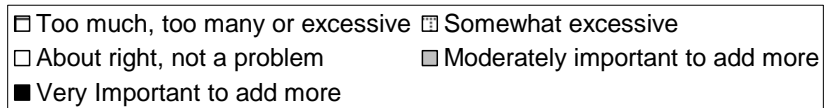
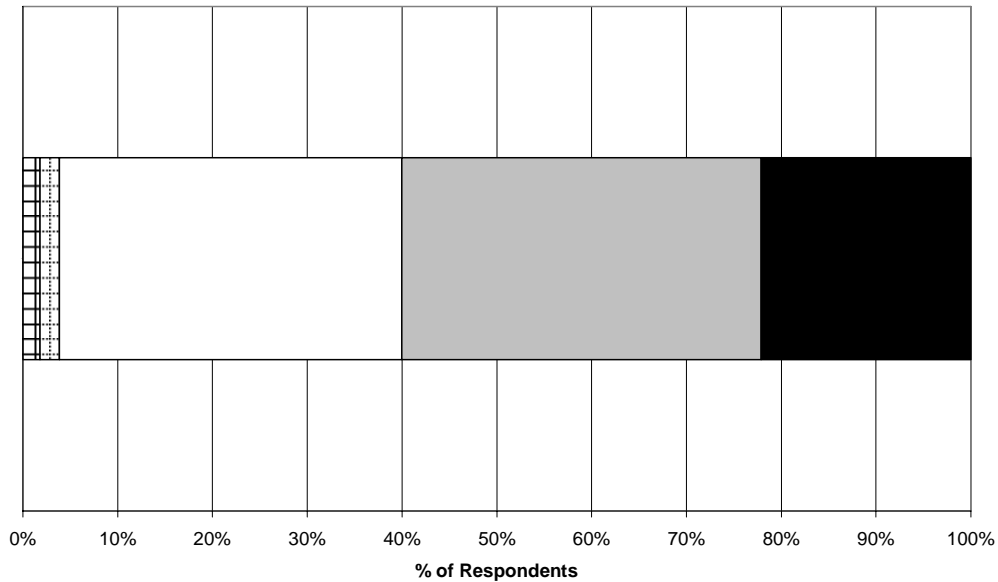
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11. How important are public facilities (toilets, etc.) at parks and recreational areas?

No. of survey forms returned: **500**

No. of responses to this question: **493**

<u>Response Scale</u>	<u>Count</u>	<u>Percentage</u>
1. Very important to add more	109	22.1 %
2. Moderately important to add more	187	37.9 %
3. About right, not a problem	178	36.1 %
4. Somewhat excessive	10	2.0 %
5. Too much, too many or excessive	9	1.8 %



Respondents' Comments to Question 11

- Permanent toilets in Memorial Park, no port-o-toilets.
- Enough if we unlock the current one!
- We need public rest rooms in our parks and in the area owned by the county and used by the Village "Dam Beach" so that the Bay which we live on stays clean and the beaches are not closed down.
- Local taxpayers are already taxed plenty to make rude, disrespectful tourists comfortable. Let the taxpayers who financially benefit from tourism ante up for the maintenance of tourist comforts.

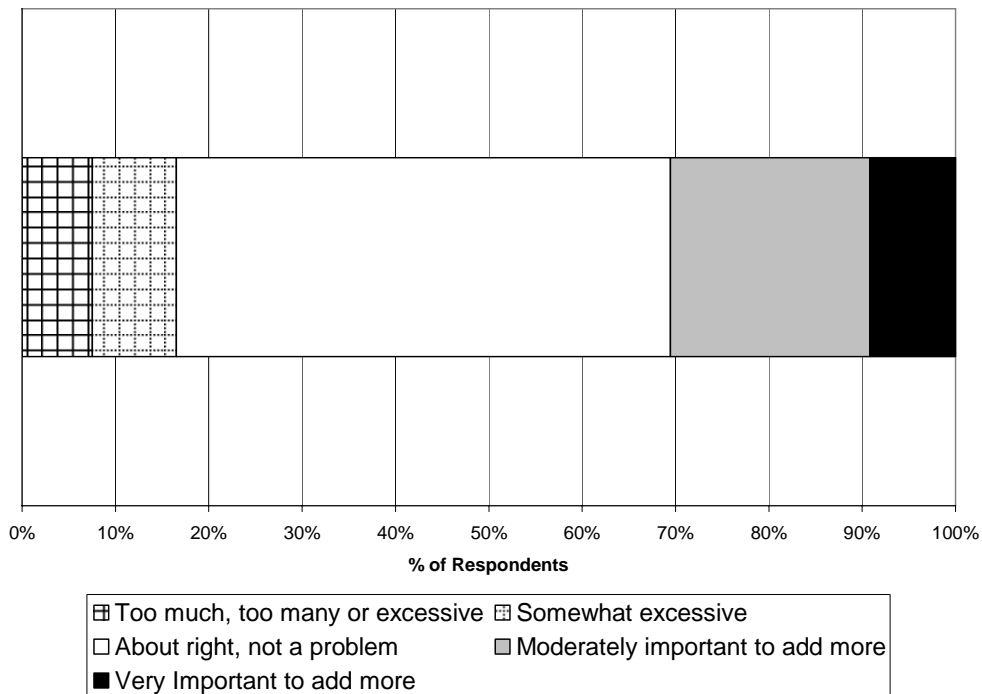
**Village of Elk Rapids Planning Commission
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12. How important are waterfront restaurants, inns, or hotels?

No. of survey forms returned: **500**

No. of responses to this question: **491**

<u>Response Scale</u>	<u>Count</u>	<u>Percentage</u>
1. Very important to add more	45	9.2 %
2. Moderately important to add more	105	21.4 %
3. About right, not a problem	260	53.0 %
4. Somewhat excessive	44	9.0 %
5. Too much, too many or excessive	37	7.5 %



Respondents' Comments to Question 12

- Do not need any!
- Do not want to block waterfront view.
- What hotels?
- No more condos!
- you had an opportunity to allow expansion of Beach Resort and nixed it: WHY?
- Not condos!
- Not necessary
- We liked the Sandwich Shoppe.
- Need River Café type

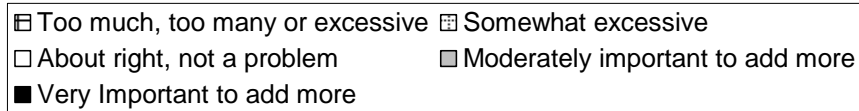
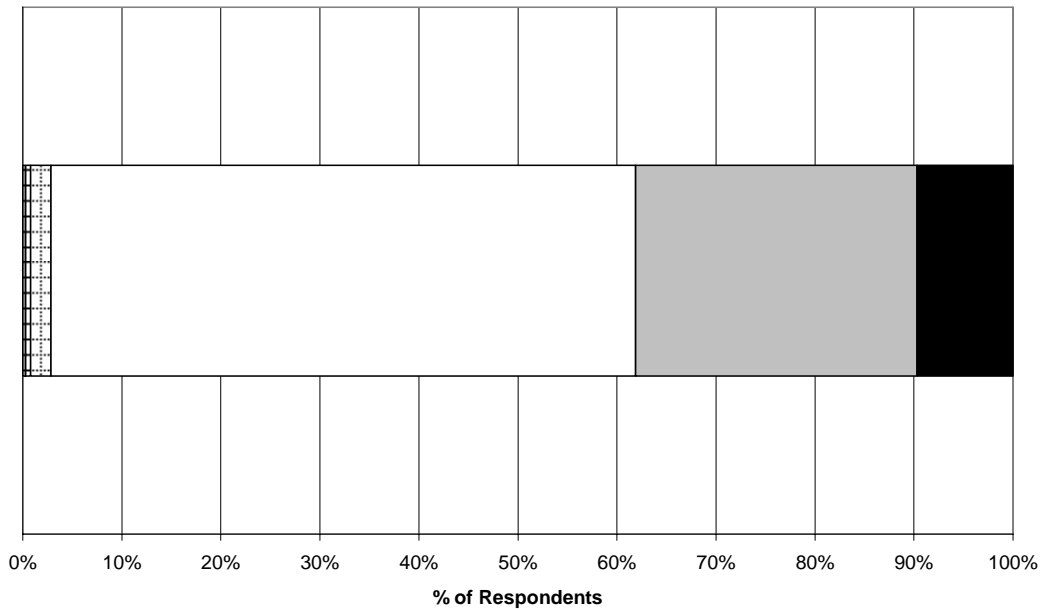
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16. How important are parks, gardens, and public facilities?

No. of survey forms returned: **500**

No. of responses to this question: **496**

<u>Response Scale</u>	<u>Count</u>	<u>Percentage</u>
1. Very important to add more	48	9.7 %
2. Moderately important to add more	141	28.4 %
3. About right, not a problem	293	59.1 %
4. Somewhat excessive	10	2.0 %
5. Too much, too many or excessive	4	0.8 %



Respondents' Comments to Question 16

- Dam road
- Except for need for bathrooms at Memorial Park

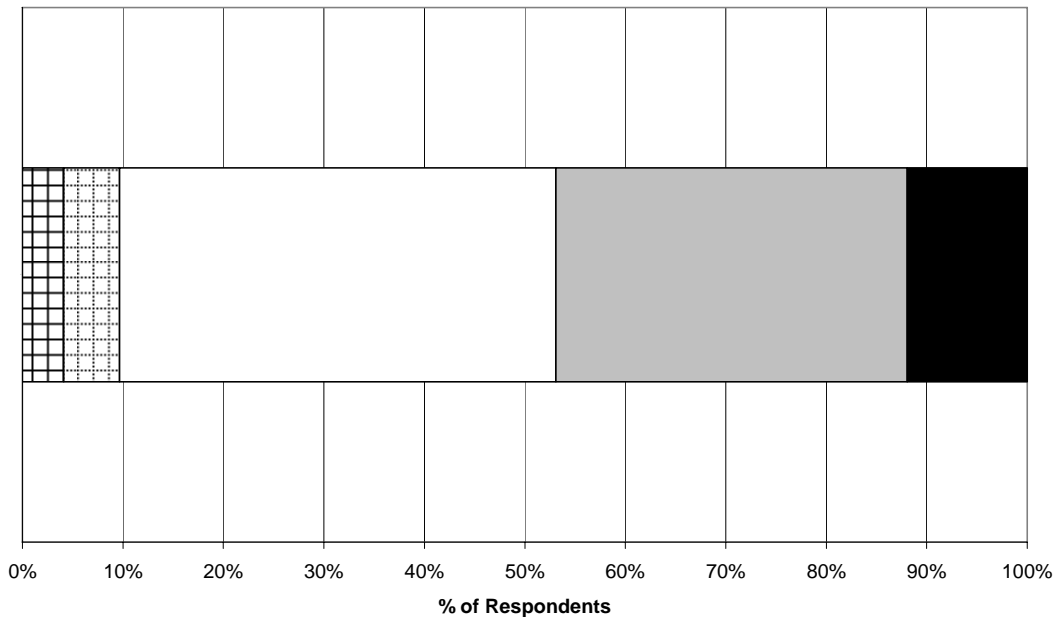
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17. How important are rental accommodations for tourists?

No. of survey forms returned: **500**

No. of responses to this question: **486**

<u>Response Scale</u>	<u>Count</u>	<u>Percentage</u>
1. Very important to add more	58	11.9 %
2. Moderately important to add more	170	35.0 %
3. About right, not a problem	211	43.4 %
4. Somewhat excessive	27	5.6 %
5. Too much, too many or excessive	20	4.1 %



Too much, too many or excessive	Somewhat excessive
About right, not a problem	Moderately important to add more
Very Important to add more	

Respondents' Comments to Question 17

- What kind?
- Bed & Breakfasts
- Way too many village homes for seasonal rent. Neighborhoods are empty part of year. Small motel/campground would be better.
- Lack of motels.
- Private homes --- too many rentals

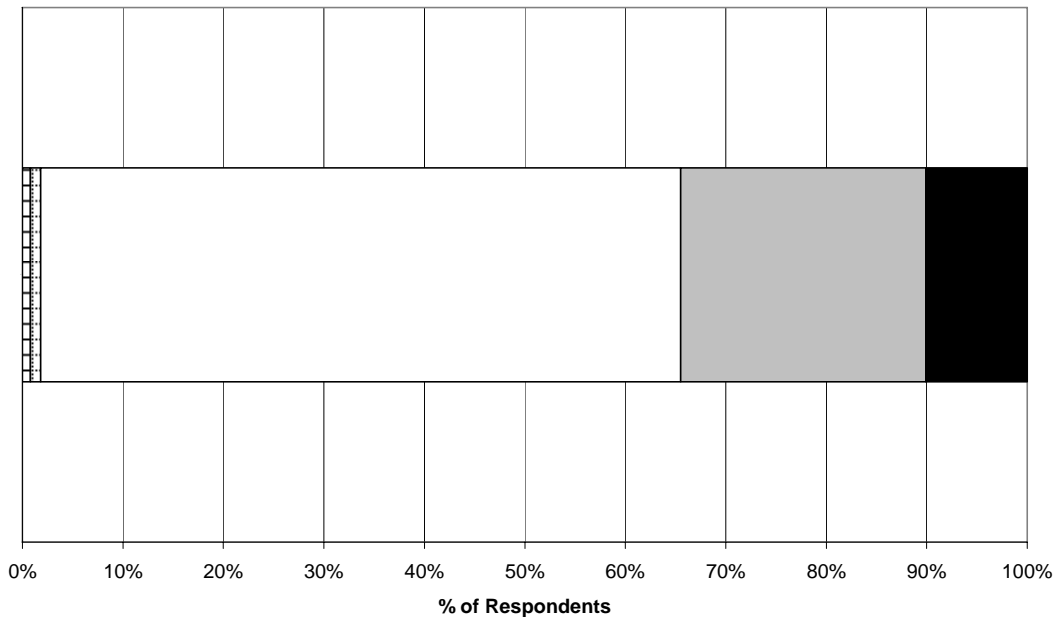
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18. How important is our current prevalence of garden areas?

No. of survey forms returned: **500**

No. of responses to this question: **496**

<u>Response Scale</u>	<u>Count</u>	<u>Percentage</u>
1. Very important to add more	50	10.1 %
2. Moderately important to add more	121	24.4 %
3. About right, not a problem	316	63.7 %
4. Somewhat excessive	5	1.0 %
5. Too much, too many or excessive	4	0.8 %



<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Too much, too many or excessive	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Somewhat excessive
<input type="checkbox"/> About right, not a problem	<input type="checkbox"/> Moderately important to add more
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Very Important to add more	

Respondents' Comments to Question 18

- Below and north of the dam
- They are beautiful --- do NOT need more.
- I like what we currently have.
- The gardens are beautiful. The gardens elevate the quality and curb appeal of the whole town.

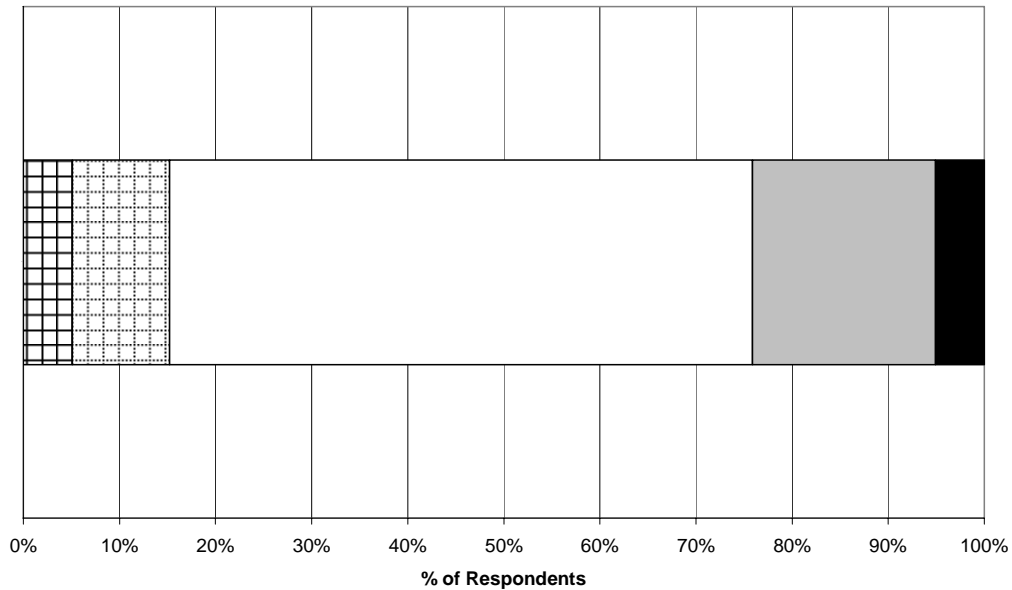
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19. How important is our prevalence of activities geared toward tourism?

No. of survey forms returned: **500**

No. of responses to this question: **493**

<u>Response Scale</u>	<u>Count</u>	<u>Percentage</u>
1. Very important to add more	25	5.1 %
2. Moderately important to add more	94	19.1 %
3. About right, not a problem	299	60.6 %
4. Somewhat excessive	50	10.1 %
5. Too much, too many or excessive	25	5.1 %



Too much, too many or excessive	Somewhat excessive
About right, not a problem	Moderately important to add more
Very Important to add more	

Respondents' Comments to Question 19

- Harbor Days is plenty big. Plenty of arts/crafts fairs.
- Does Harbor Days really benefit the village, or just inconvenience the residents?

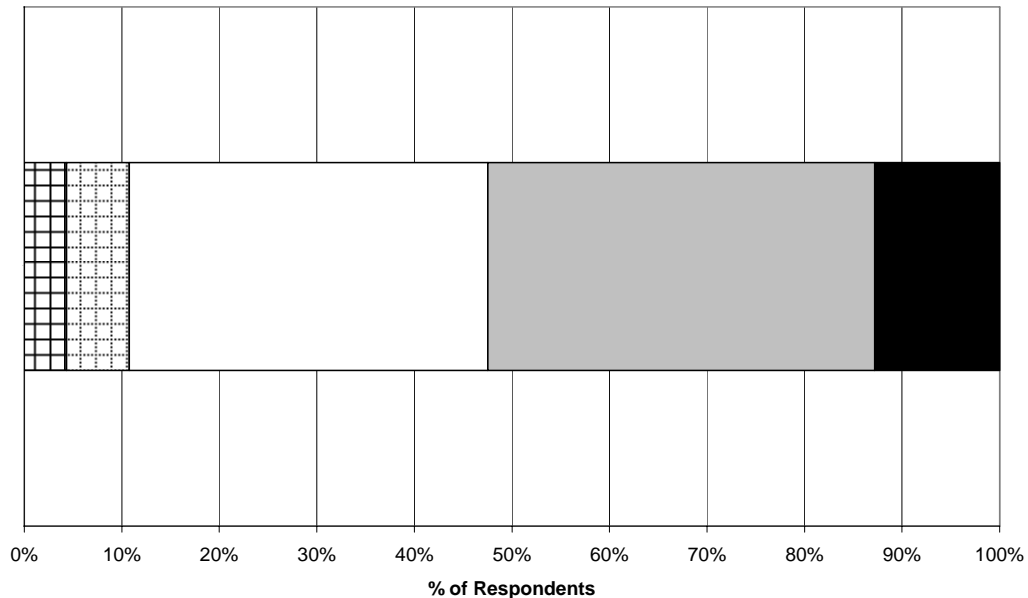
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23. How important are resort, hotel and motel development?

No. of survey forms returned: **500**

No. of responses to this question: **484**

<u>Response Scale</u>	<u>Count</u>	<u>Percentage</u>
1. Very important to add more	62	12.8 %
2. Moderately important to add more	192	39.7 %
3. About right, not a problem	178	36.8 %
4. Somewhat excessive	31	6.4 %
5. Too much, too many or excessive	21	4.3 %



<input type="checkbox"/> Too much, too many or excessive	<input type="checkbox"/> Somewhat excessive
<input type="checkbox"/> About right, not a problem	<input type="checkbox"/> Moderately important to add more
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Very Important to add more	

Respondents' Comments to Question 23

- Would rather have some small motel added and limit seasonal home renting.
- On 31 north or south of the village w/walking access to the village
- No more.
- Small scale --- no large chains
- Regarding rentals: your questions were very thought-provoking. I know we need some sorts of rentals --- this IS a wonderful place to visit. Things I do not want to see are large "Sleep Inns" or "Holiday Inn Express." A few small motels would be better.
- Add a hotel. No fast food restaurants! Keep village quaint!

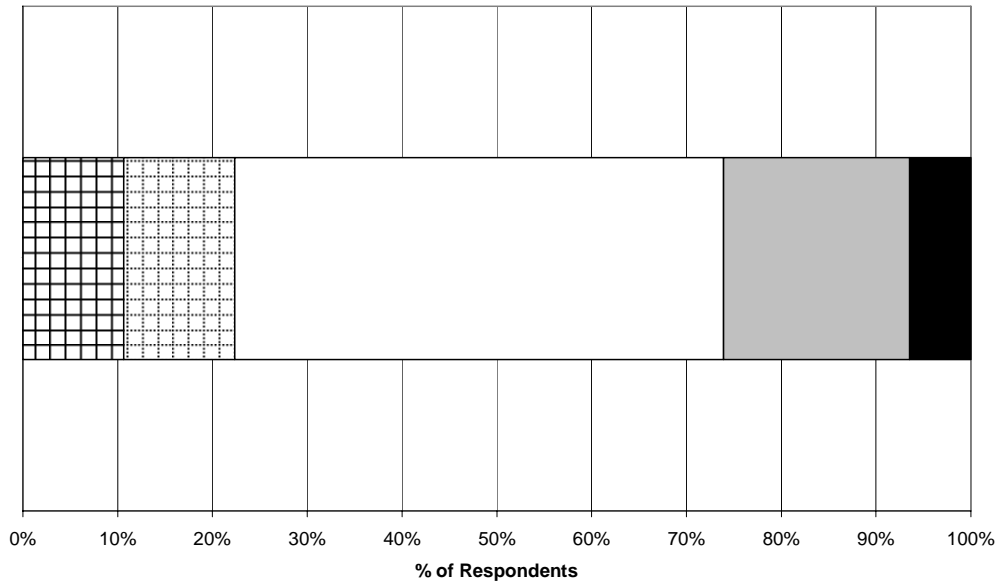
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24. How important are seasonal and weekly rental accommodations for tourists in residential neighborhoods?

No. of survey forms returned: **500**

No. of responses to this question: **479**

<u>Response Scale</u>	<u>Count</u>	<u>Percentage</u>
1. Very important to add more	31	6.5 %
2. Moderately important to add more	94	19.6 %
3. About right, not a problem	247	51.6 %
4. Somewhat excessive	56	11.7 %
5. Too much, too many or excessive	51	10.6 %



<input type="checkbox"/> Too much, too many or excessive	<input type="checkbox"/> Somewhat excessive
<input type="checkbox"/> About right, not a problem	<input type="checkbox"/> Moderately important to add more
<input type="checkbox"/> Very Important to add more	

Respondents' Comments to Question 24

- B&B's important
- No more condos.
- People reside in residential neighborhoods. You're already allowing houses to be rented on a weekly basis - how long before you'll be allowing a couple of additional housekeeping cottages in the back yard, too? Yes, we already have a couple - those aren't precedent setting, they're nonconforming! What part of Single Family Residential is ambiguous to you?
- NOT in residential neighborhoods.
- No weekly rentals.

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D. General Comments for Section I

- We need more hotel/motel for our tourists
- Mix must be CLOSELY watched. High density can become a big problem before the community knows what's happening. Greatly affects all quality of life.
- Buildable land in the Village is finite, and getting smaller. To get enough people, we need higher density housing.
- Retail too geared to tourists - how many antique stores do we really need?
- Necessity of toilet facilities near to the river access swimming area. The ones by play structure not convenient with small children.
- Simple restroom facilities in main park --- NW corner of tennis courts --- old blacktopped basketball area --- water and electricity nearby
- Far too many seasonal weekly rentals in residential neighborhoods
- Replacing the Elk River Inn --- a very affordable, conveniently- located motel with the INCREDIBLY UNSIGHTLY condos was a mistake of enormous proportions: shame on all who approved the already dated design, not to mention the short-sighted intent --- where will our visiting guests stay? They miss the chocolate donuts that they were offered at the ER Inn. HUGE MISTAKE!
- Get a developer to tear down vacant factory on 31 and build a motel. We do need a motel since the ER Inn was torn down.
- Housing mix - not all luxury development
- Love the gardens and walkways --- very attractive!
- RE weekly rentals: Too many rental properties in West side neighborhoods absolutely ruining the neighborhood. Properties look like rentals, not well maintained, no family feel! Totally wrong to commercialize a family neighborhood.
- I do not live in Elk Rapids --- have rental home there.
- Stop denying people who want to build within zoning ordinances, multi+ housing. Stop denying people their right to build on their property.
- We must maintain the charming wholesome Northern Michigan qualities for which we came here.
- Communities could always use more employment sources for local families.
- Would love to have Acme Super Wal-mart: we need it!
- Elk Rapids does need more affordable housing.
- There should be limitation of square footage of houses replacing original structure, which would be excessive to the apportionment of the lot. Also, have a clearly defined plan to resist strip zoning.
- Support our locals, promote our locals, support the Chamber. Invest in new Christmas decorations, use the light poles we have & use banners.
- Stop with the 1/2 million dollar condos. WE have enough.
- The area and town needs moderately priced housing for new families with young children
- Need more hotels, motels in area for family/friends when short term visits. More senior affordable housing (independent & assisted living).

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A. General Comments for Section II

- Too many commercial developments that make East side neighborhoods seem industrial. They could provide a nice introduction to East side with less commercial development.
- River St and portion of Bridge St improving. Old SuperTool Bldg and Morrison Cherry Factory is a sore sight for tourists. Ames St properties are deteriorating as far as houses. A few businesses are a compliment --- e.g., Blue Heron Gallery, Banks, New Art Gallery.
- Job opportunities are important as population increases.
- Thank you for keeping out "fast food" choices!
- Keep commercial or industrial growth north and south of town, or out Ames St. River St is great as it now is.
- Again, one very attractive motel to replace the vacant factory would be a positive addition to our village. Access should be on a side street.

Do not put a multilevel project on Palmer's vacant property. A restaurant would be nice there.

Get rid of the carnival in the parking lot during Harbor Days.

DDA monies should be spent on Ames St corridor, too.

Do not raise taxes to help private investors.

- There seems to be no thought as to design and aesthetics. The newer buildings have very dated looks already --- bordering on tacky. The whole area has so much potential --- there are too many ugly buildings. The city planners need to travel to other port towns to see how charming they are...
- The village has upgraded and improved the looks. Now stop and don't go overboard.
- Village looks like every northern Michigan town -- cute lights, paving bricks and Bradford pears.
- There exist properties (private and housing) along Ames and a few on the West side that desperately need maintenance attention.
- Important improvements should be focused on Ames, 31 and River (the streets people see!). The village should work to bury phone lines in the whole of the village. Ames & Bridge St, for example, look junky because of them. What kind of business district has large power lines over the sidewalks in front of businesses?
- Take some of the River St lights out on the west side and put them down on Ames St on the east side.

Get rid of the tacky Xmas decorations on the east side!! Decorate like the west side.

I also think it is time to consider change of zoning for Beck building on 31. It is an eyesore to people entering ER.

- The empty tool factory is an eyesore
- Keep the suburban plague from our Village! No more ugly "strip" malls ("plazas") and keep out any box retail --- (CVS, Wal-Mart, Meijers, etc). The minority of business owners should not dictate for the majority of residents!

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Section II General Comments (cont.)

- Keep the Village a village. You're pushing toward big box with addition of Gill-Roy's and national chains. Keep the small town flavor, business in the business district --- no wall-to-wall development along US 31. We live here because it's small, quaint, and personal.
- No building on village lots less than 80 feet frontage
- General value and reputation of ER has risen dramatically since construction of the harbor at its present site. IT is also a "neighborhood" during the boating months, and its people are "neighbors" as well. They've had a lot to do with how well this town's fortunes have risen over the last 15-20 years.
- Overall business district very positive presentation to residents and visitors. 31 Corridor better in current condition than the addition of a McDonald's, Meijers, etc., which would be a BIG distraction from all the positive aspects of Elk Rapids.
- Industrial on US 31 needs cleaning up.

Marina on Bridge St needs to be spruced up.

Clean up movie theater.

- Need public facilities on waterfront. The vacant land across from the boat slips (where fireworks are launched) would be a great park.
- I guess this question depends on how long one has been around the area. From 20 yrs ago there have been huge changes. Once the marina was added downtown storefronts became much more desirable and traffic and housing increased.
- Let's take what we have and make it nicer. We don't need to keep building new! Keep it quaint. Not too tall or wide or (?) -- small town is good! Too much \$ spent on extravagance.
- People passing by ER see US31 corridor as first impression. Aside the Chamber Building & boat launch park, the first impression is Industrial and Deteriorating Industrial at that. The abandoned buildings should be painted/repared or torn down. When I owned on Ames Street I had to keep my property to standards. These folk that own Super Tool Building should as well.
- Improve appearance of movie show.
- Straighten out Ames St. --- the leaning light posts.
- We strongly oppose and would discourage additional franchise presence, especially fast-food restaurants, convenience stores, and chain establishments, ex. drug stores, not to overlook Wal- Marts, Meijers, etc.

Let us continue to remain supportive of our local, and for the most part, independently owned and operated businesses.

- How can the Pres. Of our council let his theater go to rack and ruin when all other businesses in town have worked so hard to keep theirs up --- it's a disgrace!
- Move city hall back downtown.
- US 31 Corridor is unattractive and does not reflect the beauty of Elk Rapids.
- I have watched the changes for the past 40 years. I believe it is in the best shape it has been, but there is always room for improvement. I just hope it never loses the small town appeal.

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Section II General Comments (cont.)

- Overuse of lighting in business and commercial areas. Not consistent with recent trends in ambient light limitations. Streetlights on River St should be shielded at the top (lights on N Bayshore near Dexter: a good example).
- The US31 corridor is a mess. From either direction, we show our "worst side." It is worse than a strip mall --- no coordination --- a mish-mash.
- On traffic: 1) add a stoplight at US31 and 4th St, keep the existing blinker at US31 and Elk Lake Rd. 2) Hire a professional traffic planner to study the Village traffic patterns and plan appropriately.
- Also yard cleanup/brush. All is important. People shouldn't be able to blow their clippings into the street and across the street to their neighbors' yard. Blocking neighbors in their garage by parking is rude!
- All due to over-development
- Most people I know who also love Elk Rapids are fearful that more development (new neighborhoods, tract housing, etc.) will change the nature and the image of the village.
- Don't lose the historic appearance. Perhaps a Historic District Commission could be formed to maintain that appearance.
- Need a caution light at US 31 and 1st
- Need to get rid of the old factory building on 31.
- We have always thought US31 from the bridge south to caution light at Elk Lake Rd. is disappointing compared to the beauty of Elk Lake due to the unattractive factories and industry. Stores such as a 'cheery' kind of store might attract US31 traffic. We love the bridge but have always been disappointed in the appearance between the bridge and Elk Lake Rd. --- old factories with broken windows, etc. It is such a contrast to the charm of the village and the beauty of the lake.
- Get the theatre fixed up!
- Bring the east side of Elk Rapids "into the fold" with sidewalks, bike paths, cross-country ski paths. Use the US31 Corridor for motels/restaurants. Eliminate all manufacturing in the village. Restrict commercial development to one/two storey retail enterprises geared toward tourism i.e., apparel, sporting goods, home decor/art. Instead of random businesses dotted along Ames St., confine the businesses to an upscale outside "mini mall" area. Keep it uniform and cute.

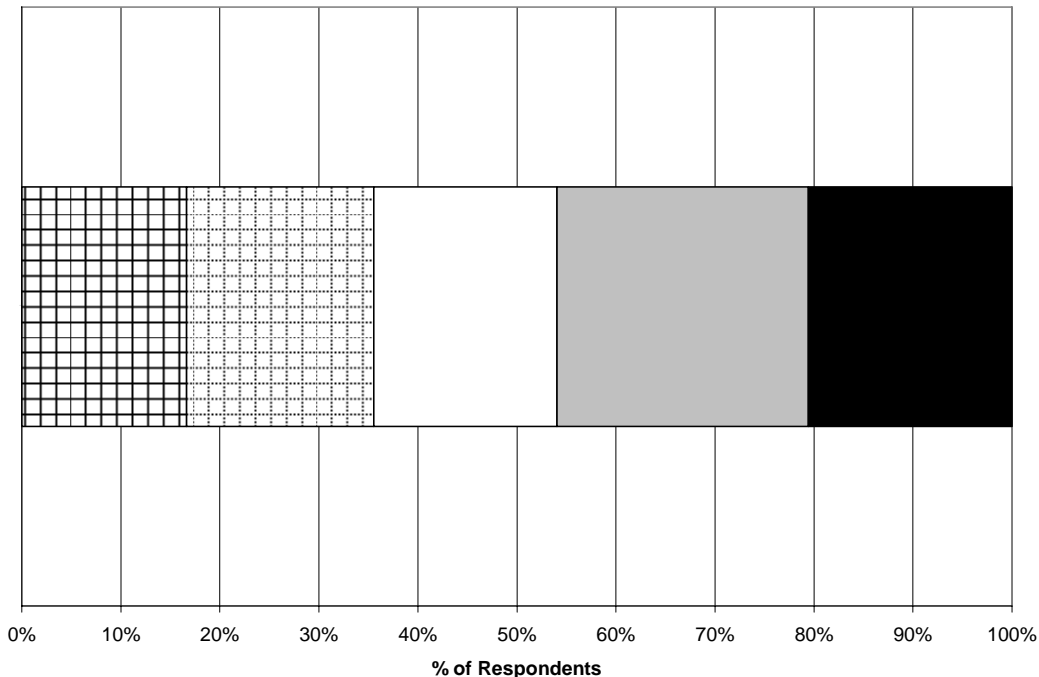
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58. Given ER's future population growth, do you agree or disagree with the statement: "I would like to see the Village develop as a beach community and center for family tourism"?

No. of survey forms returned: **500**

No. of responses to this question: **481**

<u>Response Scale</u>	<u>Count</u>	<u>Percentage</u>
1. Totally agree	99	20.6 %
2. Moderately agree	122	25.4 %
3. Neutral	89	18.5 %
4. Moderately disagree	91	18.9 %
5. Totally disagree	80	16.6 %



Totally disagree
 Moderately Disagree
 Neutral
 Moderately agree
 Totally agree

Respondents' Comments to Question 58

- Why?
- Only if the associated COST of accommodating tourism is borne strictly by the businesses that benefit from it. Don't you listen? - People who live in the neighborhoods don't particularly believe that increased tourism is good. And it's SOCIALIST to believe that everybody should be funding attractions that only benefit a few downtown businesses.
- The RESIDENTS do not benefit from tourism. We live in the Village. We pay TAXES. We should not benefit from our beaches. We do not need MORE tourists.
- Village is already a big enough center for family beach tourism
- Much too extensive tourism focus. We need to be geared to our residence population and their needs as well!

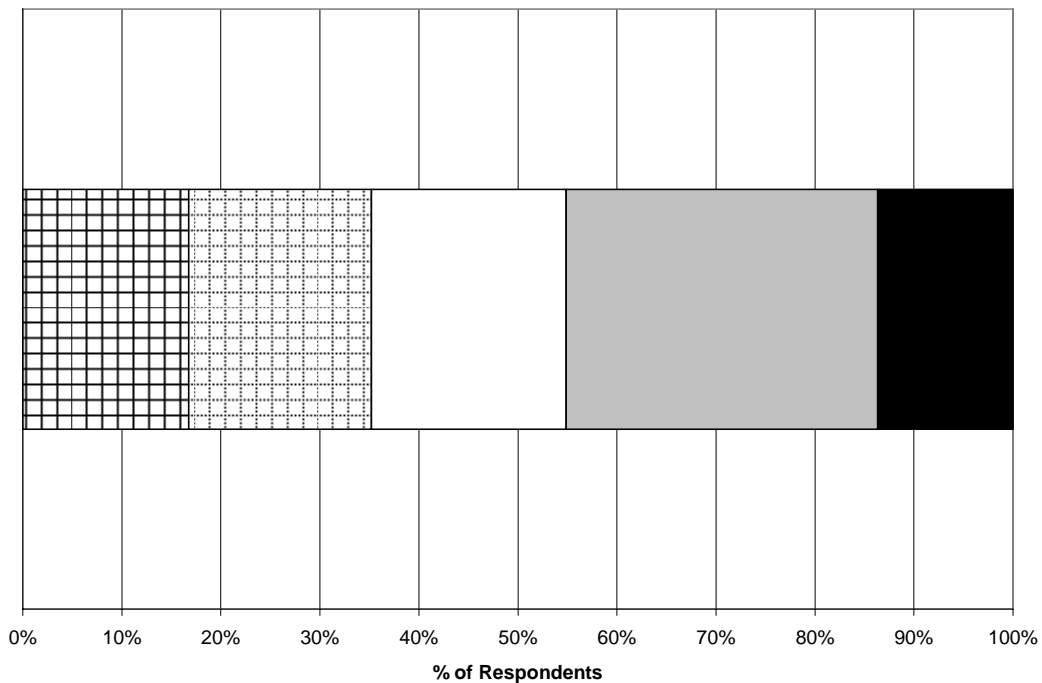
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66. Given ER's future economic growth, do you agree or disagree with the statement: "I would like to see more growth for the Village as a tourism destination"?

No. of survey forms returned: **500**

No. of responses to this question: **483**

<u>Response Scale</u>	<u>Count</u>	<u>Percentage</u>
1. Totally agree	66	13.7 %
2. Moderately agree	152	31.5 %
3. Neutral	95	19.7 %
4. Moderately disagree	89	18.4 %
5. Totally disagree	81	16.8 %



Totally disagree
 Moderately Disagree
 Neutral
 Moderately agree
 Totally agree

Respondents' Comments to Question 66

(No comments from Respondents)

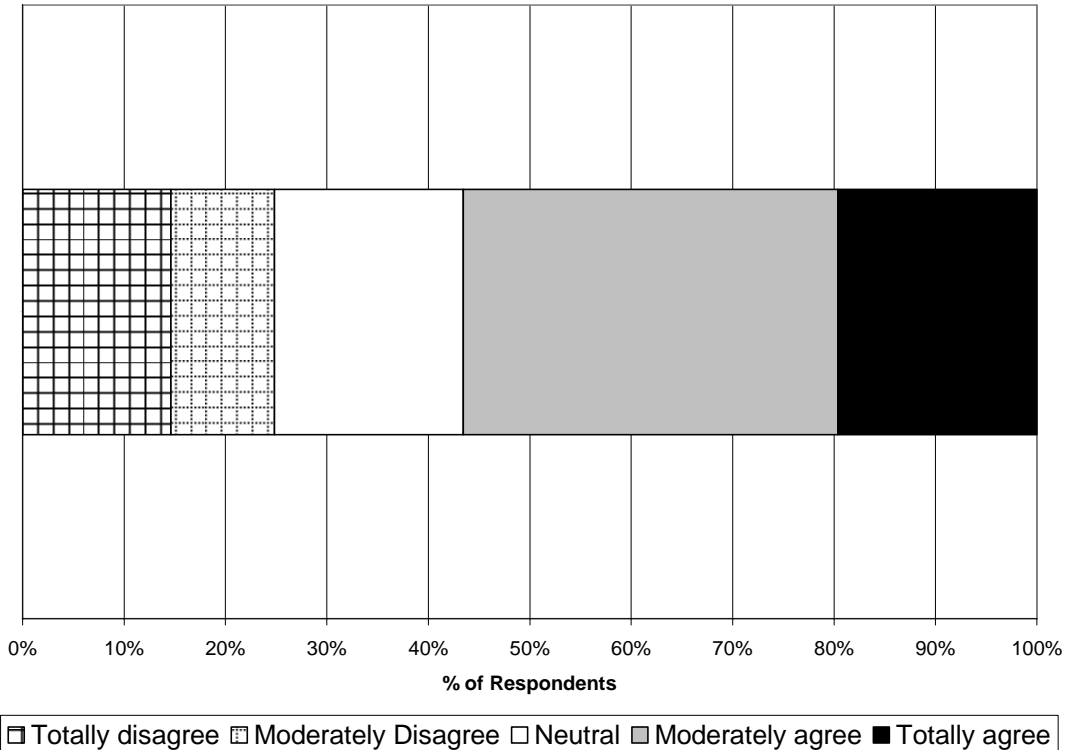
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73. Given ER's future economic growth, do you agree or disagree with the statement: "I would like to see economic vitality stimulated by encouraging businesses related to tourism, including campgrounds, summer and winter sports activities, etc"?

No. of survey forms returned: **500**

No. of responses to this question: **479**

<u>Response Scale</u>	<u>Count</u>	<u>Percentage</u>
1. Totally agree	94	19.6 %
2. Moderately agree	177	37.0 %
3. Neutral	89	18.6 %
4. Moderately disagree	49	10.2 %
5. Totally disagree	70	14.6 %



Respondents' Comments to Question 73

- Once again, why does the village have to be involved with this?
- No campgrounds
 - Not sure where you'd put it.
- Again, businesses ONLY should not dictate the welfare of our Village. We are a Village of residents first. More fun activities/outlets are always welcome, but not simply for tourists.
- NOTE: Elk Rapids location seems to draw summer tourists but I suspect it would be difficult to draw winter tourists --- there are plenty of other areas more centrally located to winter sport activities and more geographically disposed to develop them.

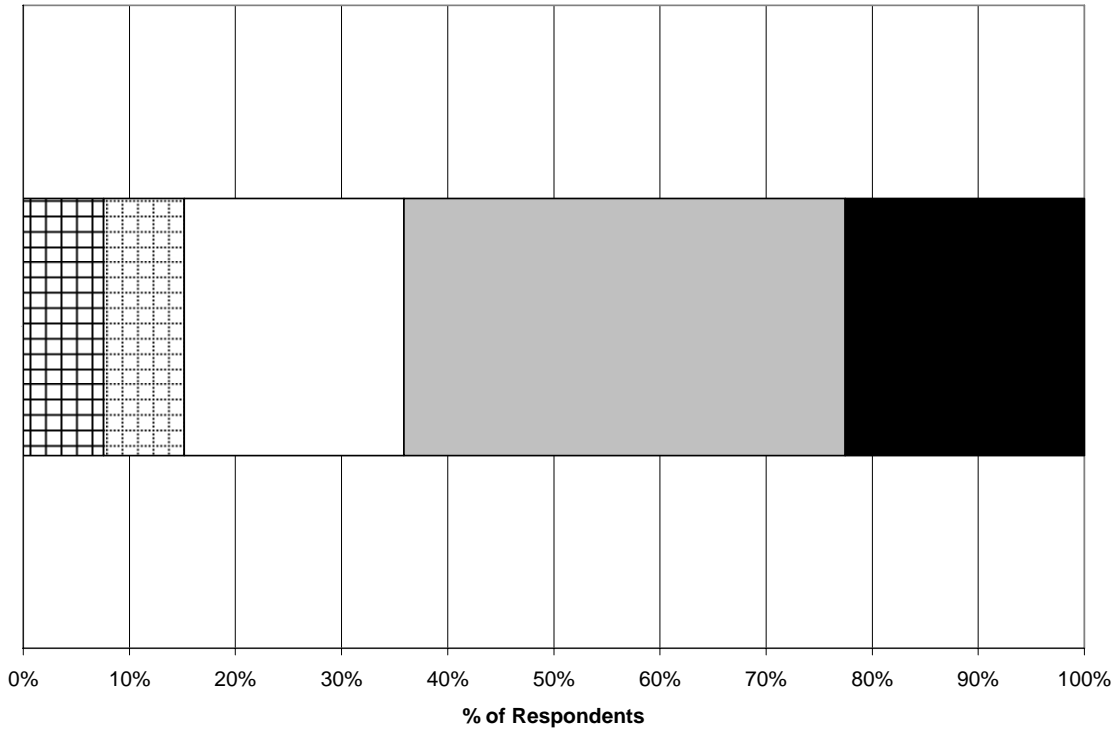
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74. Given ER's future economic growth, do you agree or disagree with the statement: "I would like to see ordinances developed that allow for and encourage viable bed and breakfast inns in the village"?

No. of survey forms returned: **500**

No. of responses to this question: **488**

<u>Response Scale</u>	<u>Count</u>	<u>Percentage</u>
1. Totally agree	110	22.5 %
2. Moderately agree	203	41.6 %
3. Neutral	101	20.7 %
4. Moderately disagree	37	7.6 %
5. Totally disagree	37	7.6 %



Totally disagree
 Moderately Disagree
 Neutral
 Moderately agree
 Totally agree

Respondents' Comments to Question 74

- As long as off-street parking is mandatory.
- Check fire and health regs
- Need more rooms, new building and full breakfast
- Allow NEW B&B's to be built. Allow food preparation for B&B's.

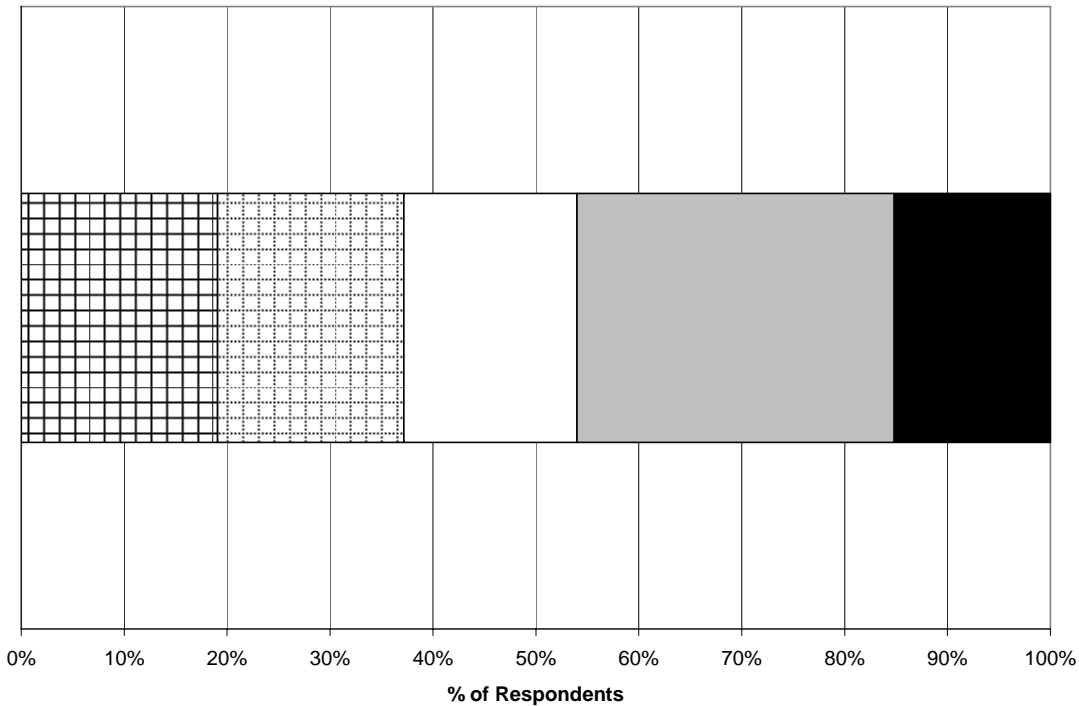
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75. Given ER's future economic growth, do you agree or disagree with the statement: "I would like to see ordinances developed that allow for and encourage viable motels and hotels in the village"?

No. of survey forms returned: **500**

No. of responses to this question: **487**

<u>Response Scale</u>	<u>Count</u>	<u>Percentage</u>
1. Totally agree	74	15.2 %
2. Moderately agree	150	30.8 %
3. Neutral	82	16.8 %
4. Moderately disagree	88	18.1 %
5. Totally disagree	93	19.1 %



Totally disagree
 Moderately Disagree
 Neutral
 Moderately agree
 Totally agree

Respondents' Comments to Question 75

- One motel is enough --- put on US 31
- Small motels
- Small single-storey
- No large chain hotels or motels
- Even though tourism is very important I don't want to see large chain hotels/motels, fast food restaurants, big commercial businesses, etc.. cluttering such a beautiful community. A nice hotel with a banquet room would serve the area nicely. I feel we should continue to support our local restaurants.
- Only small hotels --- no chains
- Not chains, etc.
- I could see one small one.

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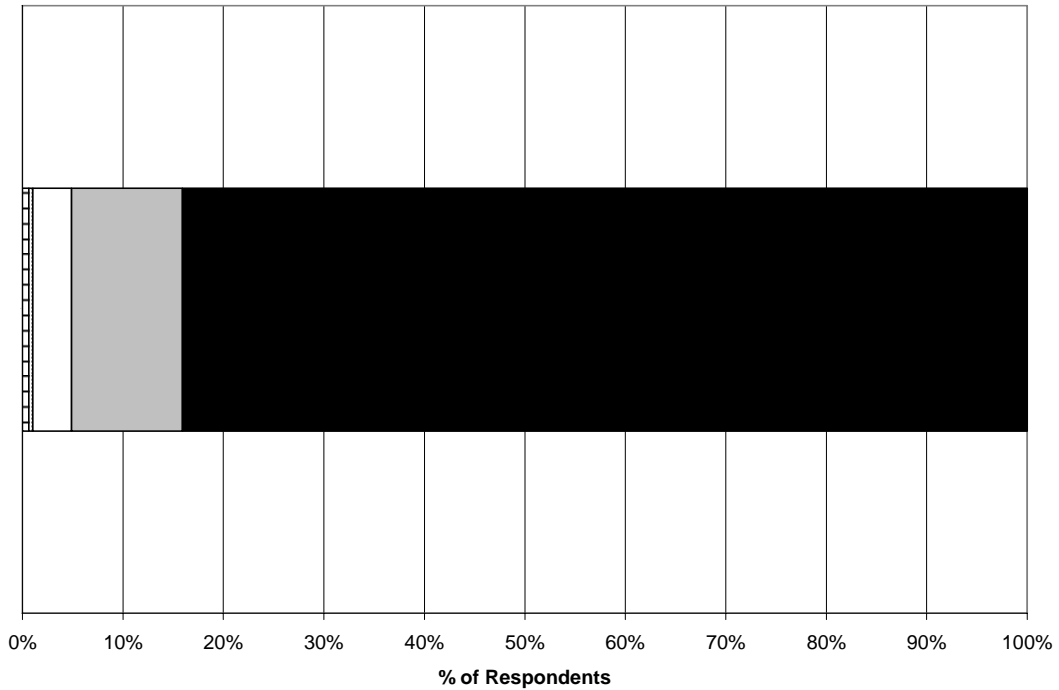
v. Protection of Village Qualities

78. How important is the protection of the following Village quality/facility: Scenic views of the water?

No. of survey forms returned: **500**

No. of responses to this question: **490**

<u>Response Scale</u>	<u>Count</u>	<u>Percentage</u>
1. Very important	412	84.1 %
2. Moderately important	54	11.0 %
3. Neutral	19	3.9 %
4. Not very important	2	0.4 %
5. Unimportant	3	0.6 %



Unimportant
 Not very important
 Neutral
 Moderately important
 Very important

Respondents' Comments to Question 78

(No comments from Respondents)

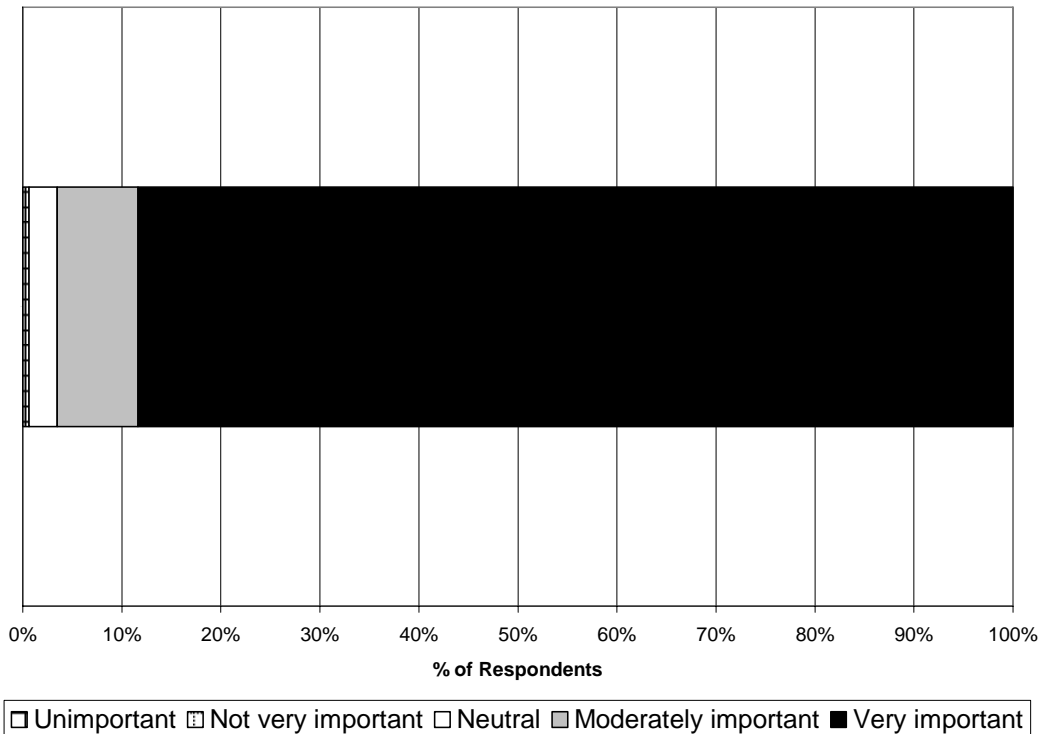
**Village of Elk Rapids Planning Commission
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81. How important is the protection of the following Village quality/facility: Lake water quality?

No. of survey forms returned: **500**

No. of responses to this question: **491**

<u>Response Scale</u>	<u>Count</u>	<u>Percentage</u>
1. Very important	434	88.4 %
2. Moderately important	40	8.1 %
3. Neutral	14	2.9 %
4. Not very important	0	0.0 %
5. Unimportant	3	0.6 %



Respondents' Comments to Question 81

- Especially at parks without bathrooms
- Whatever is needed to protect water quality must be done.

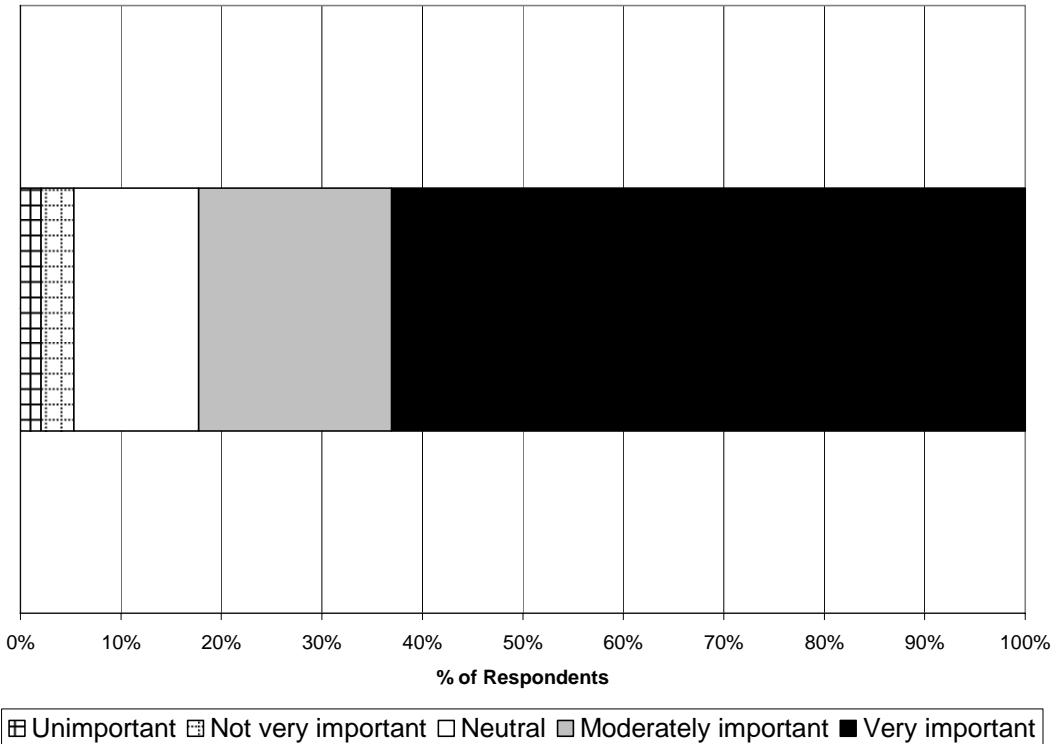
**Village of Elk Rapids Planning Commission
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83. How important is the protection of the following Village quality/facility: Wetlands and natural areas?

No. of survey forms returned: **500**

No. of responses to this question: **490**

<u>Response Scale</u>	<u>Count</u>	<u>Percentage</u>
1. Very important	309	63.1 %
2. Moderately important	94	19.2 %
3. Neutral	61	12.4 %
4. Not very important	16	3.3 %
5. Unimportant	10	2.0 %



Respondents' Comments to Question 83

- Preserve and Capa Bran are examples of what NOT to do.
- Stop filling, thereby flooding neighbors.

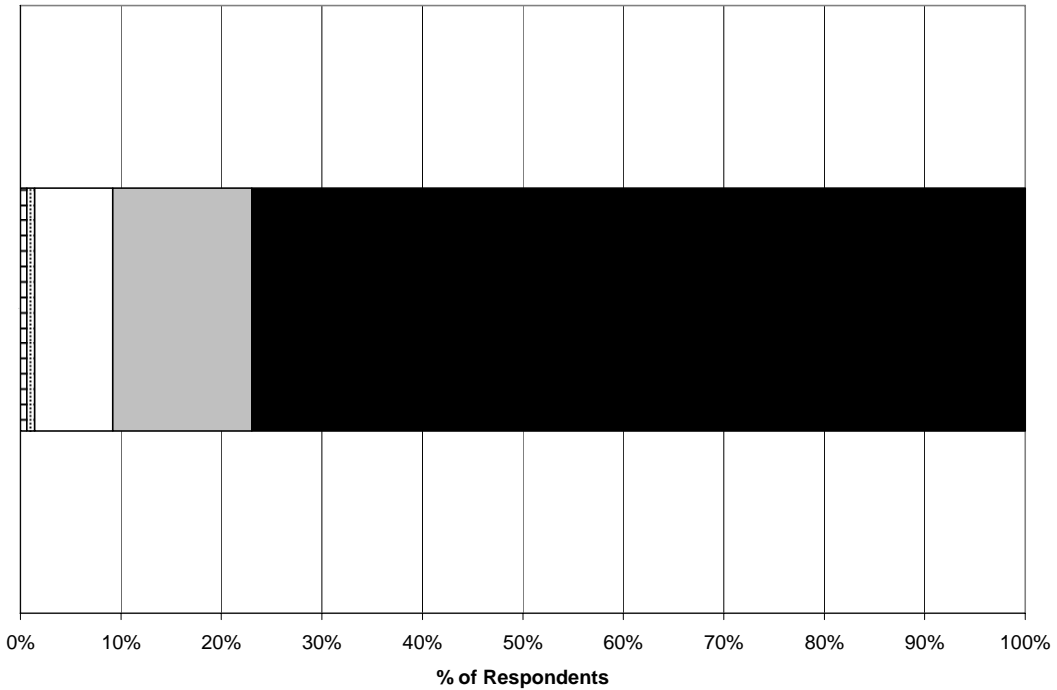
**Village of Elk Rapids Planning Commission
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84. How important is the protection of the following Village quality/facility: Air quality?

No. of survey forms returned: **500**

No. of responses to this question: **491**

<u>Response Scale</u>	<u>Count</u>	<u>Percentage</u>
1. Very important	378	77.0 %
2. Moderately important	68	13.8 %
3. Neutral	38	7.7 %
4. Not very important	4	0.8 %
5. Unimportant	3	0.6 %



Unimportant
 Not very important
 Neutral
 Moderately important
 Very important

Respondents' Comments to Question 84

(No comments from Respondents)

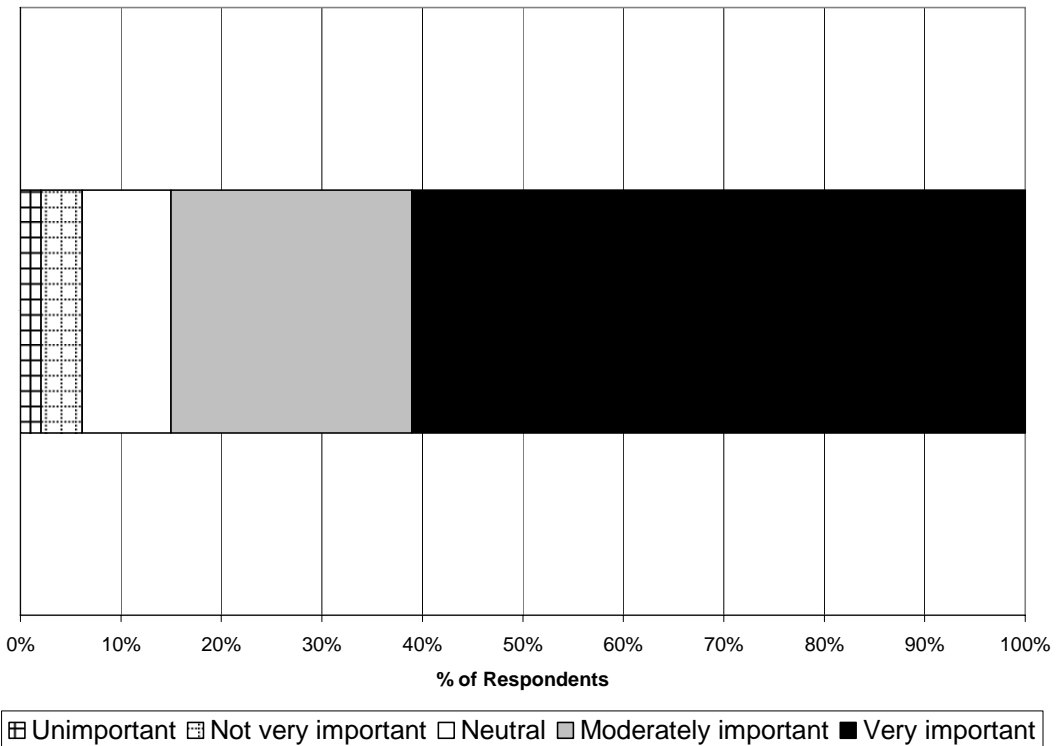
**Village of Elk Rapids Planning Commission
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85. How important is the protection of the following Village quality/facility: Informal lifestyle and slow pace of life?

No. of survey forms returned: **500**

No. of responses to this question: **488**

<u>Response Scale</u>	<u>Count</u>	<u>Percentage</u>
1. Very important	298	61.1 %
2. Moderately important	117	24.0 %
3. Neutral	43	8.8 %
4. Not very important	20	4.1 %
5. Unimportant	10	2.0 %



Respondents' Comments to Question 85

- Love this!!

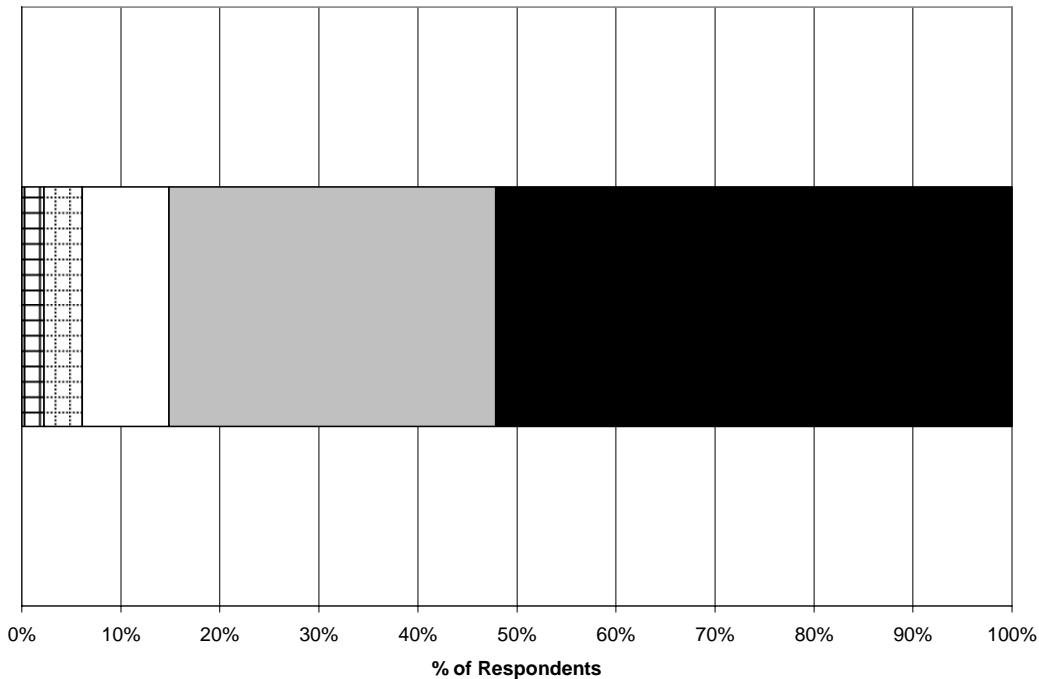
**Village of Elk Rapids Planning Commission
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86. How important is the protection of the following Village quality/facility: Recreational opportunities in village harbors and parks, such as tennis courts, playgrounds, etc ?

No. of survey forms returned: **500**

No. of responses to this question: **491**

<u>Response Scale</u>	<u>Count</u>	<u>Percentage</u>
1. Very important	256	52.1 %
2. Moderately important	162	33.0 %
3. Neutral	43	8.8 %
4. Not very important	19	3.9 %
5. Unimportant	11	2.2 %



Unimportant
 Not very important
 Neutral
 Moderately important
 Very important

Respondents' Comments to Question 86

- NOT a band shell/arts pavilion!
- We have that... I'd like to remain.
- We do not have room to add the above, improve what we have.
- Screw the tennis courts. Nobody plays.
- For all, not just tourists!
- Utilize school grounds for community - taxpayers' money
- Need to keep open space --- not all filled up with playgrounds, courts, etc.

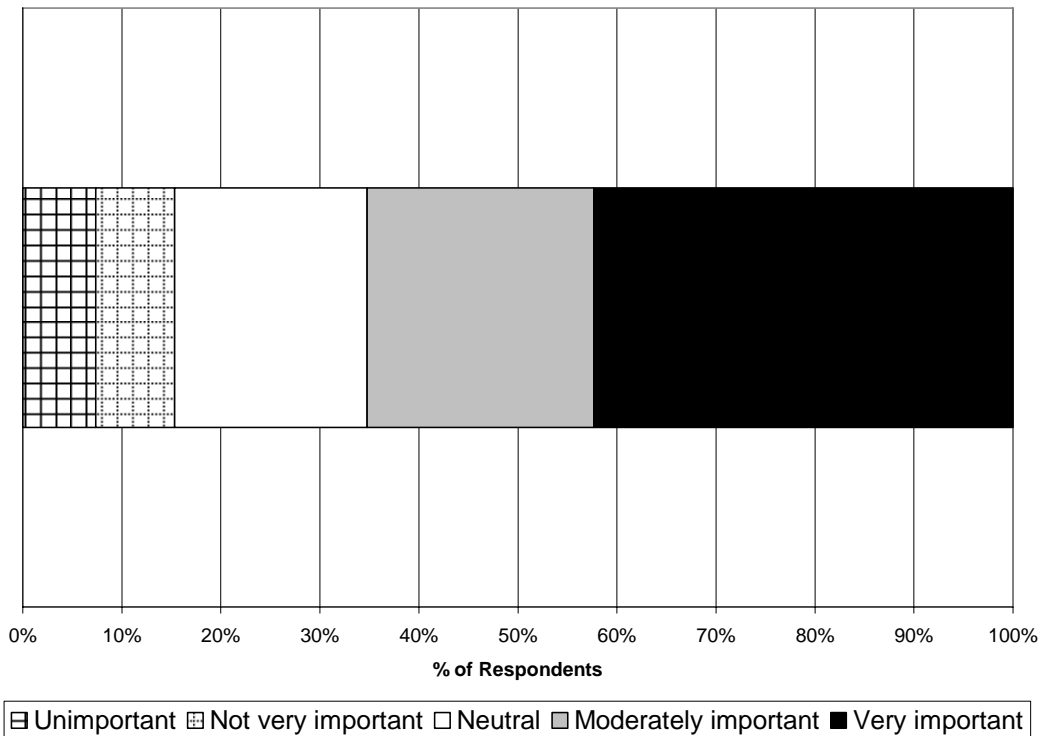
**Village of Elk Rapids Planning Commission
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87. How important is the protection of the following Village quality/facility: Waterfront parks that are free of all structures and buildings?

No. of survey forms returned: 500

No. of responses to this question: 489

<u>Response Scale</u>	<u>Count</u>	<u>Percentage</u>
1. Very important	207	42.3 %
2. Moderately important	112	22.9 %
3. Neutral	95	19.4 %
4. Not very important	39	8.0 %
5. Unimportant	36	7.4 %



Respondents' Comments to Question 87

- Bandshell
- In favor of small bathroom facility
- Need restrooms in park
- Need more toilets
- Need restrooms
- Add permanent toilets
- Get rid of porta-potties and put in an attractive restroom building. It should have a MEN and WOMEN side and be small scale
- Need bathrooms
- Need restrooms
- Need CLEAN restrooms
- Except bathrooms
- Rest rooms? Marina bldg?

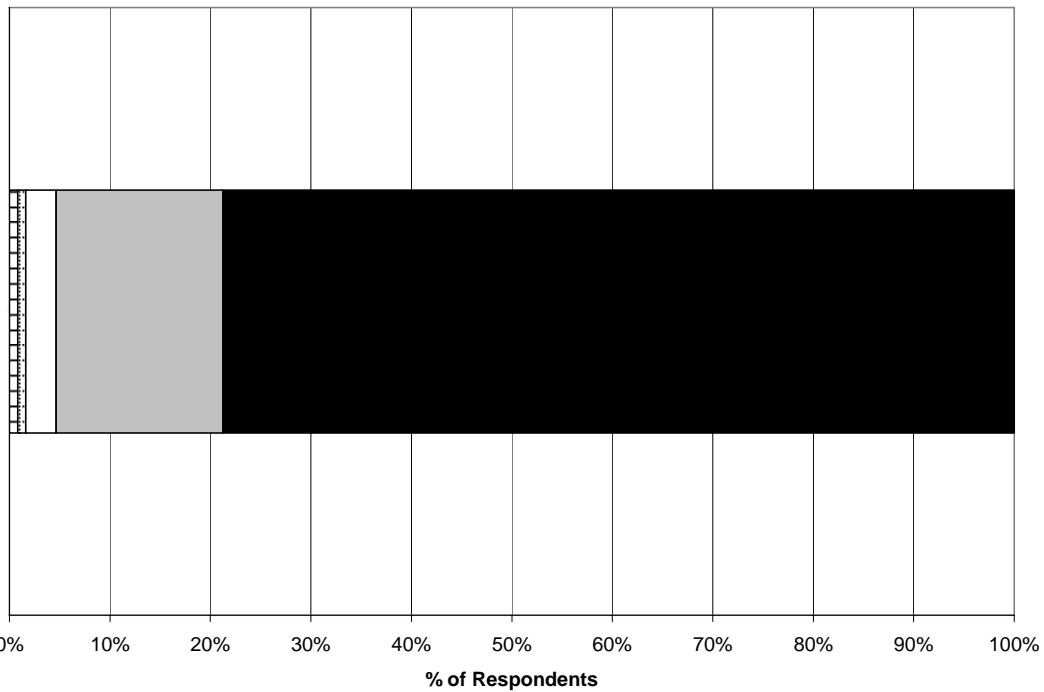
**Village of Elk Rapids Planning Commission
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91. How important is the protection of the following Village quality/facility: Safe walking along residential streets?

No. of survey forms returned: **500**

No. of responses to this question: **494**

<u>Response Scale</u>	<u>Count</u>	<u>Percentage</u>
1. Very important	389	78.7 %
2. Moderately important	82	16.6 %
3. Neutral	15	3.0 %
4. Not very important	4	0.8 %
5. Unimportant	4	0.8 %



Unimportant Not very important Neutral Moderately important Very important

Respondents' Comments to Question 91

- Already exists
- Improve sidewalks. Sidewalks need to be maintained by the Village, not individual property owners, as some property owners do maintain their sidewalks and others do not. It is easier, and safer, to walk in the road than on the sidewalks in the village.

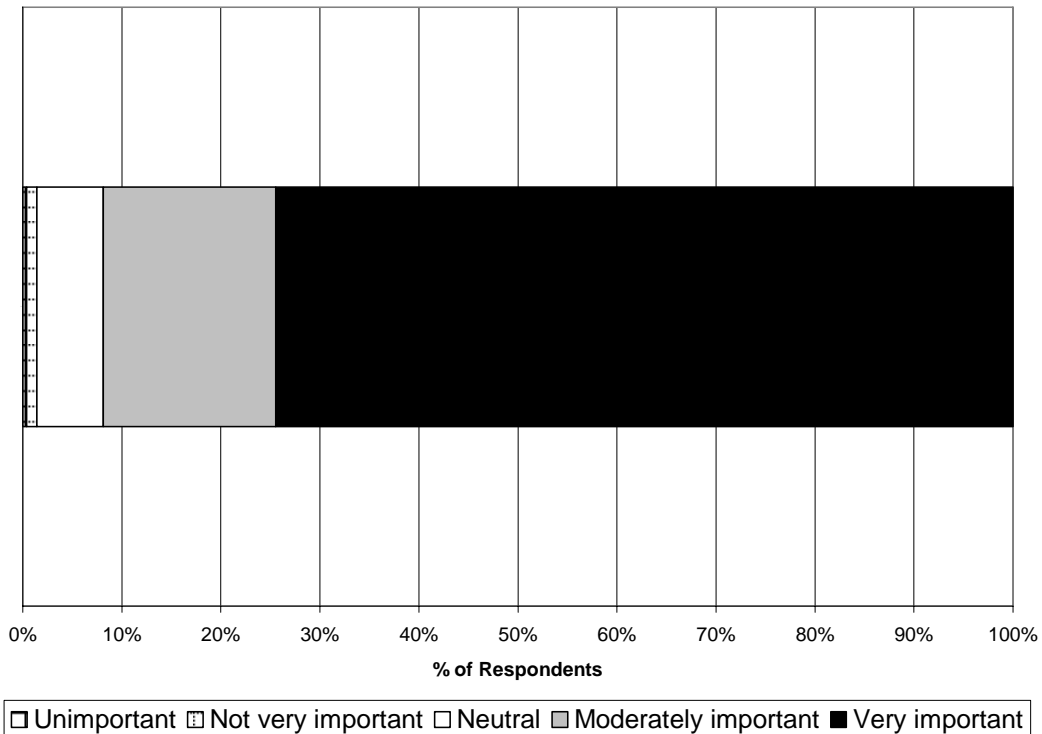
**Village of Elk Rapids Planning Commission
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92. How important is the protection of the following Village quality/facility: Safe biking along streets?

No. of survey forms returned: **500**

No. of responses to this question: **493**

<u>Response Scale</u>	<u>Count</u>	<u>Percentage</u>
1. Very important	367	74.4 %
2. Moderately important	86	17.4 %
3. Neutral	33	6.7 %
4. Not very important	5	1.0 %
5. Unimportant	2	0.4 %



Respondents' Comments to Question 92

- Already exists
- Bicycle lanes are not clearly marked - for safety there should be definite and clear markings.

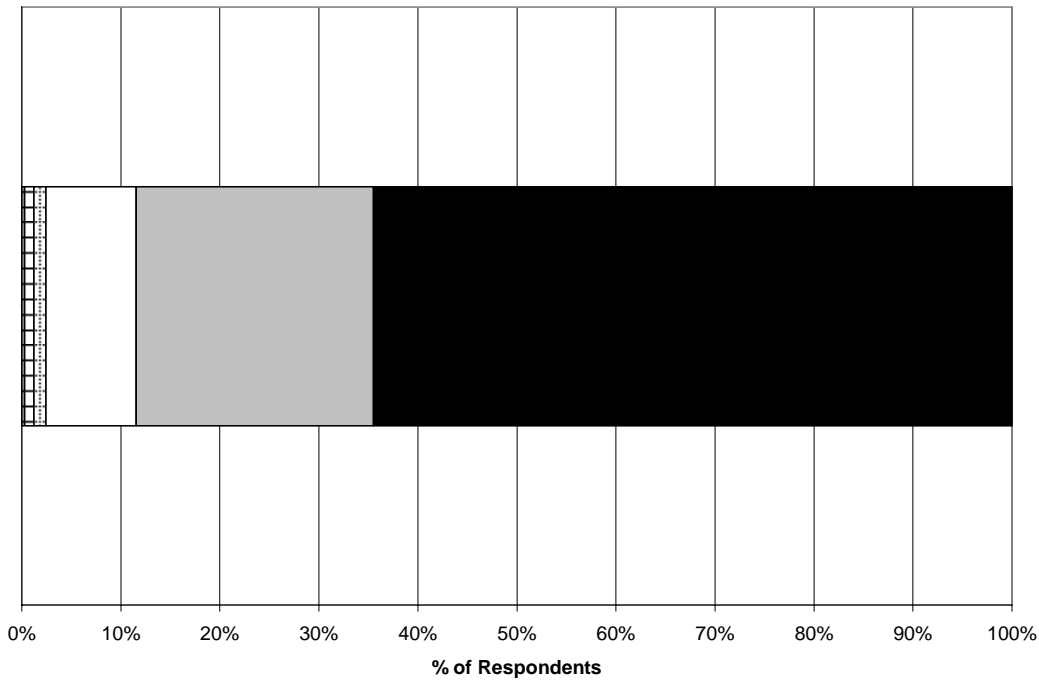
**Village of Elk Rapids Planning Commission
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93. How important is the protection of the following Village quality/facility: Tree-lined streets?

No. of survey forms returned: **500**

No. of responses to this question: **493**

<u>Response Scale</u>	<u>Count</u>	<u>Percentage</u>
1. Very important	318	64.5 %
2. Moderately important	118	23.9 %
3. Neutral	45	9.1 %
4. Not very important	6	1.2 %
5. Unimportant	6	1.2 %



Unimportant
 Not very important
 Neutral
 Moderately important
 Very important

Respondents' Comments to Question 93

- Who cut down the willows along the river?
- The care of existing trees
- Remove old ugly-looking trees and plant more. Plan to plant before they get so bad -- put in a small tree next to one that is looking bad several years before it has to be removed. Sidewalks & tree lined streets --- great.
- Council should renegotiate utility right-of-way authority with Consumers Energy or there won't be any trees in the future.
- Plant new trees among very old trees.
- Very, very important.
- As they are planted now they are a vision obstruction.

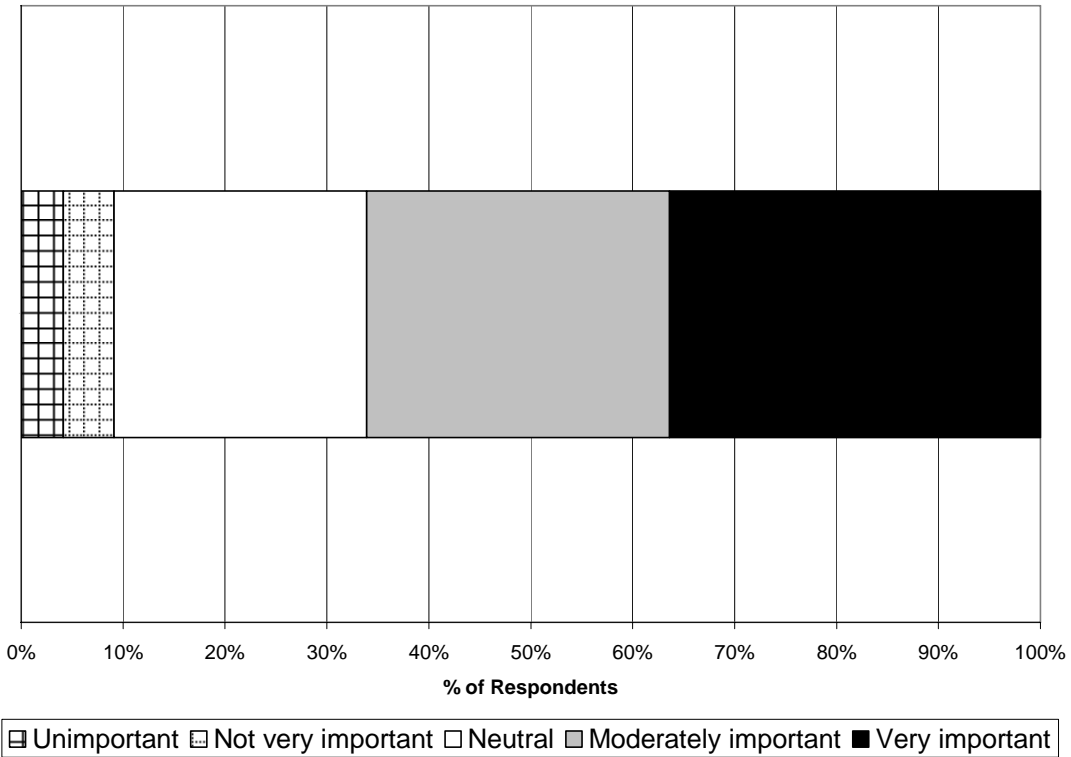
**Village of Elk Rapids Planning Commission
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97. How important is the protection of the following Village quality/facility: Village owned property and public lands?

No. of survey forms returned: **500**

No. of responses to this question: **484**

<u>Response Scale</u>	<u>Count</u>	<u>Percentage</u>
1. Very important	176	36.4 %
2. Moderately important	144	29.8 %
3. Neutral	120	24.8 %
4. Not very important	24	5.0 %
5. Unimportant	20	4.1 %



Respondents' Comments to Question 97

(No comments from Respondents)

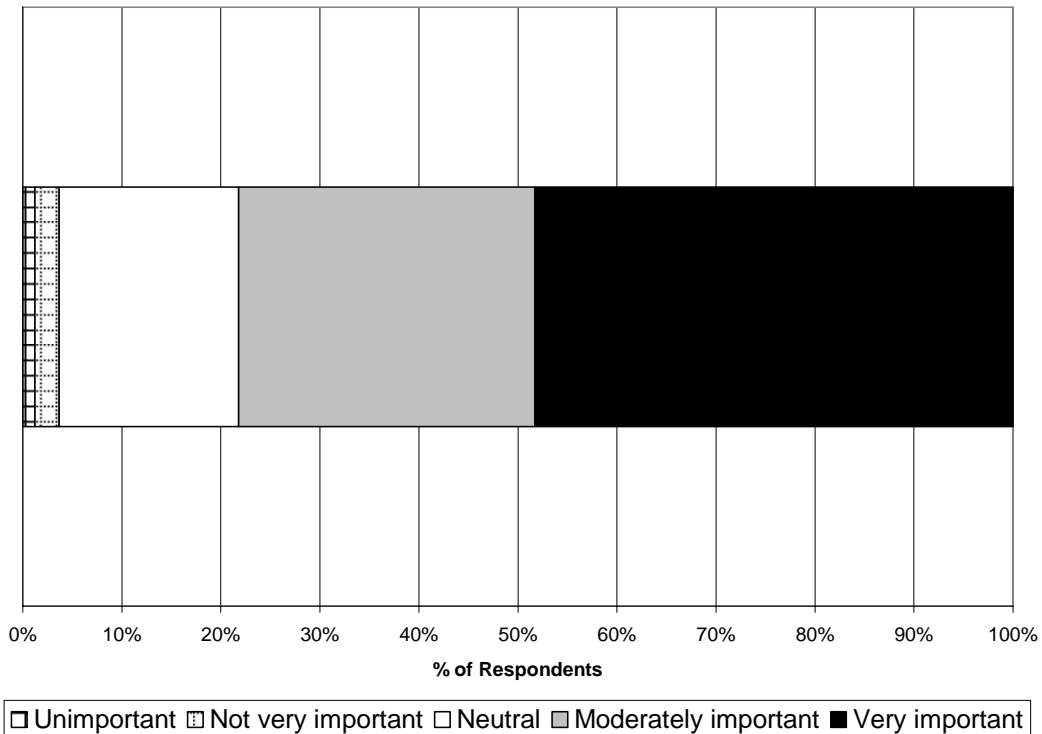
**Village of Elk Rapids Planning Commission
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98. How important is the protection of the following Village quality/facility: Garden areas ?

No. of survey forms returned: **500**

No. of responses to this question: **491**

<u>Response Scale</u>	<u>Count</u>	<u>Percentage</u>
1. Very important	237	48.3 %
2. Moderately important	147	29.9 %
3. Neutral	89	18.1 %
4. Not very important	12	2.4 %
5. Unimportant	6	1.2 %



Respondents' Comments to Question 98

- In gateways to village
- About right - at present

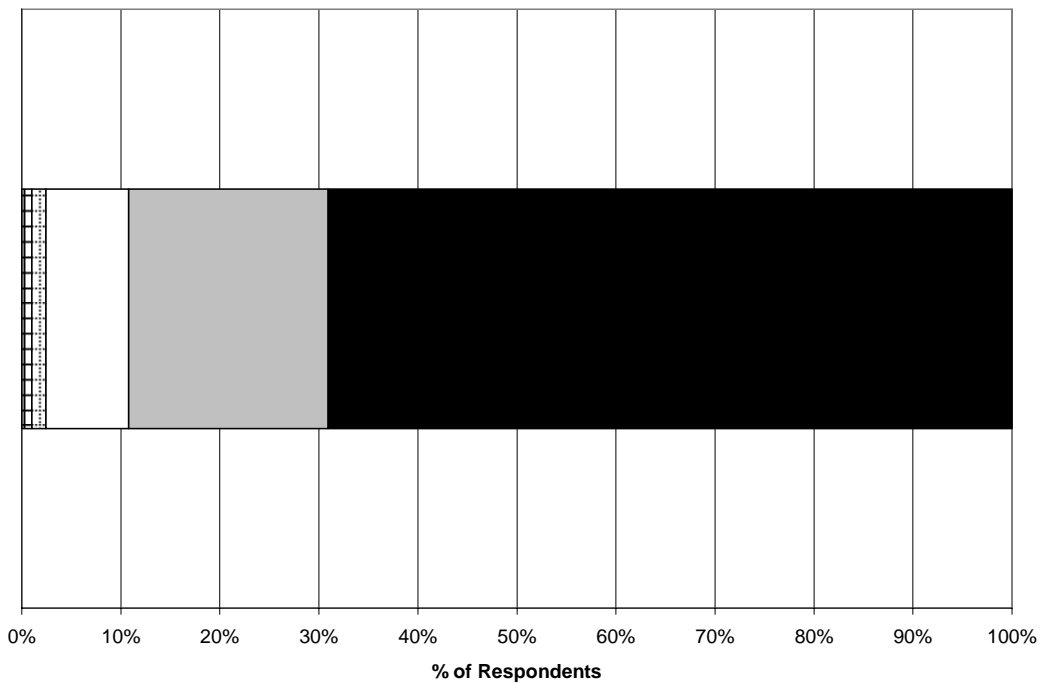
**Village of Elk Rapids Planning Commission
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99. How important is the protection of the following Village quality/facility: Island library and Island bridge?

No. of survey forms returned: **500**

No. of responses to this question: **491**

<u>Response Scale</u>	<u>Count</u>	<u>Percentage</u>
1. Very important	339	69.0 %
2. Moderately important	99	20.2 %
3. Neutral	41	8.4 %
4. Not very important	7	1.4 %
5. Unimportant	5	1.0 %



Unimportant
 Not very important
 Neutral
 Moderately important
 Very important

Respondents' Comments to Question 99

- One of nicest features of village
- We were married there!!! 😊
- Need work at River St garden: cement and drain bad... Needs curb w/drain

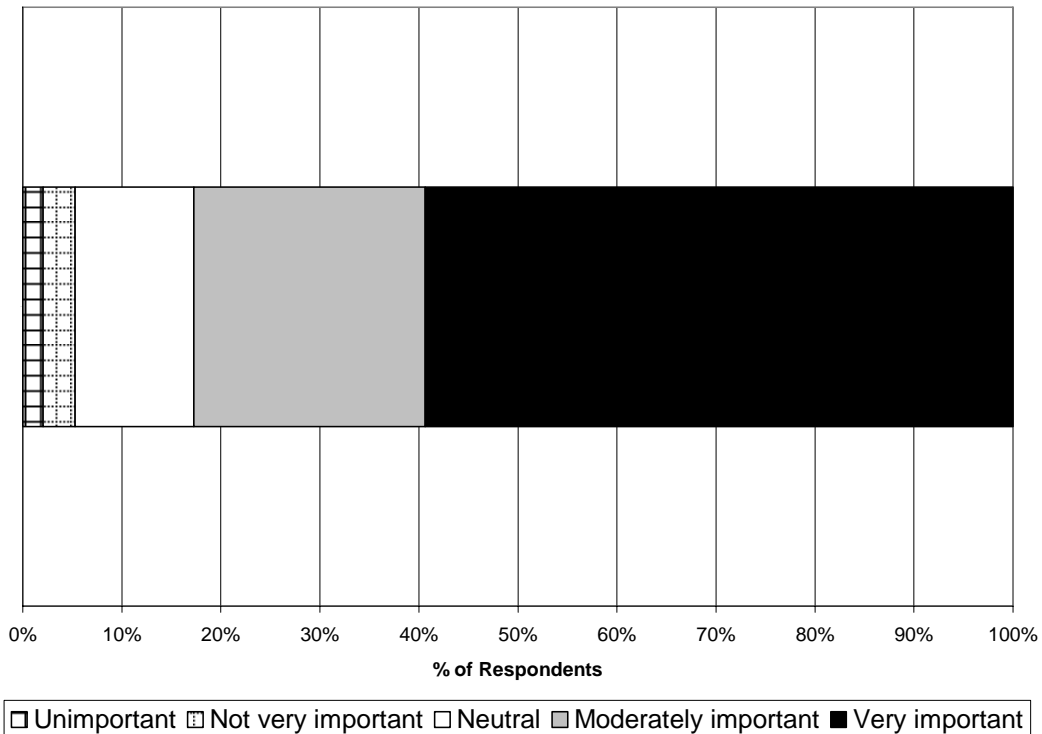
**Village of Elk Rapids Planning Commission
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100. How important is the protection of the following Village quality/facility: Historical homes and structures?

No. of survey forms returned: **500**

No. of responses to this question: **492**

<u>Response Scale</u>	<u>Count</u>	<u>Percentage</u>
1. Very important	292	59.3 %
2. Moderately important	115	23.4 %
3. Neutral	59	12.0 %
4. Not very important	16	3.3 %
5. Unimportant	10	2.0 %



Respondents' Comments to Question 100

- Makes it beautiful here
- Implement historical zoning for historical buildings in the village, not current zoning. If it is implemented it would be more fair for those who own historic homes and choose to add on to their home and/or garage.
- Now let's focus on the residential areas starting with the older west side. We may want to consider giving the Historical Society more authority with older structures and neighborhoods.

Village of Elk Rapids Planning Commission
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A. General Comments for Section V

- Not in favor of curbs and sidewalks, trying to resemble downstate suburb. Expensive to build and maintain. Curbs require storm sewers which require outflow basins or drain areas. Expensive to maintain.
- Children need safe access to schools on sidewalks and streetlights!
- Keep dogs OFF beach sand.
- No snowmobiles in Village limits? Daytime only?
- Village quality is high! This is a tremendous asset and makes ER desirable and unique!
- That's what makes us unique!
- Keep this a self-controlled sweet little village on East GT Bay as long as possible.
- Have a rental home there.
- Elk Rapids needs to have incentives to get new sources of work, all types.
- No more buildings in parks other than what are already present.
- Maple Grove Cemetery needs major work and update. Need irrigation system and paved roads. It is a disgrace to put all our emphasis on tourism (gardens, parks, etc) and neglect our loved ones who made Elk Rapids what it is today. Take a drive to Kalkaska and see the difference. Nothing has been done in Maple Grove in over 50 years and it shows.

Let the Beautification Committee and Garden Club take this on with funds from Village. Regarding my comments on Maple Grove - I realize it is in the hands of the township. However, I feel it should be a top priority with both the village and the township. It is my understanding that access to Elk Rake water has been offered by Leonard Kline - yet no effort has been made for irrigation. The roads are nothing but potholes in the older section. They are too narrow for cars to pass without diving over someone's grave. If we can spend money for a beautification program, why not start where it is needed most? Attracting a tourist to buy another ice cream cone isn't what Elk Rapids should stand for. Let us show respect where respect is due. The natural beauty will bring the tourists. It already has. (signed)

- We love the Victorian styles of homes and structures in Elk Rapids -- one of the MANY great reasons we own a home there.
- ER is a quaint village, please don't lose that!
- NO SIDEWALKS!
- When allowing for new construction downtown commercial/residential, have a plan so that new construction blends with existing buildings. It is beginning to look like Charlevoix here, or Disney World.
- A future goal may be to work to reduce overhead wires.

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General Comments for Section V (cont.)

- Although I appreciate the intent of the survey, the format of the questions and allowable answers does not always convey what we feel.

I am not so naïve as to believe there is not a price to pay for what we desire, that there are not compromises required to maintain affordability. Idealistically, the reason our family chose Elk Rapids was that it WAS NOT a Route 31 drive-through like Charlevoix, nor was it the driving nightmare and tourist trap that Charlevoix has become. Merchants have to survive, and taxes, to remain affordable, must have a base beyond residential. It is my hope that the Planning Commission has a balance between wisdom and conscience to retain the charm of ER, as a small town, while meeting the challenges of sound economic decision making. Speaking as an individual, the day ER becomes a Charlevoix is the day I will move on.
(signed)

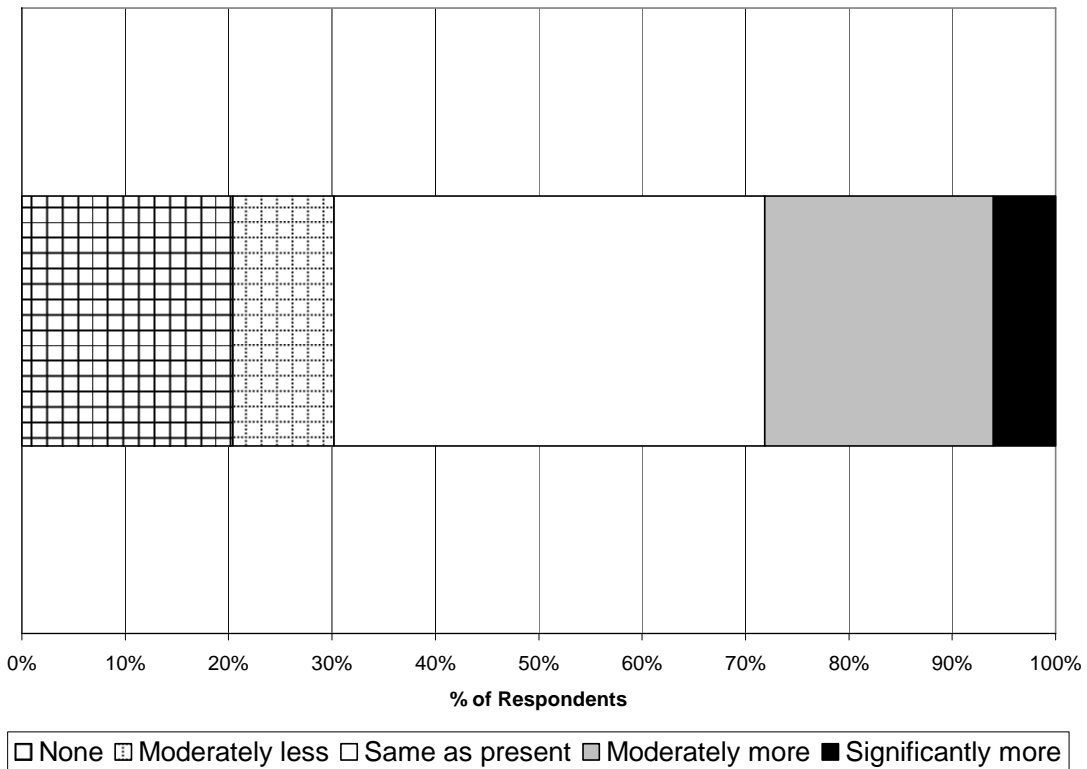
**Village of Elk Rapids Planning Commission
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112. How much residential land and resources would you like to see devoted to: Tourist accommodations in residential areas?

No. of survey forms returned: **500**

No. of responses to this question: **480**

<u>Response Scale</u>	<u>Count</u>	<u>Percentage</u>
1. Significantly more	29	6.0 %
2. Moderately more	106	22.1 %
3. Same as present	200	41.7 %
4. Moderately less	47	9.8 %
5. None	98	20.4 %



Respondents' Comments to Question 112

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------|
| • Bed & Breakfasts | • Bed & breakfasts? |
| • Hotels only | • B & B okay. |
| • Except B & Bs [in] limited number | |

**Village of Elk Rapids Planning Commission
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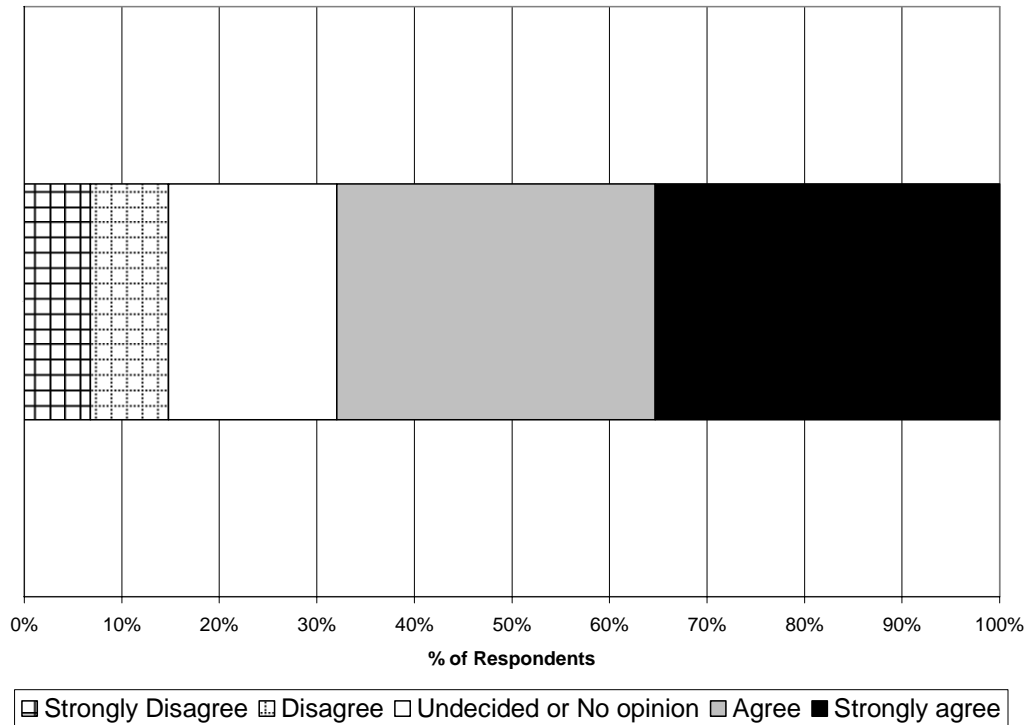
D. Recreational

126. Should ER develop the following additional recreational facilities: Community linking trail system (example: Acme-Elk Rapids-Charlevoix & beyond)?

No. of survey forms returned: **500**

No. of responses to this question: **487**

<u>Response Scale</u>	<u>Count</u>	<u>Percentage</u>
1. Strongly agree	172	35.3 %
2. Agree	159	32.6 %
3. Undecided or no opinion	84	17.2 %
4. Disagree	39	8.0 %
5. Strongly disagree	33	6.8 %



Respondents' Comments to Question 126

- Trail should use unused Railroad area.
- Not through residential areas.

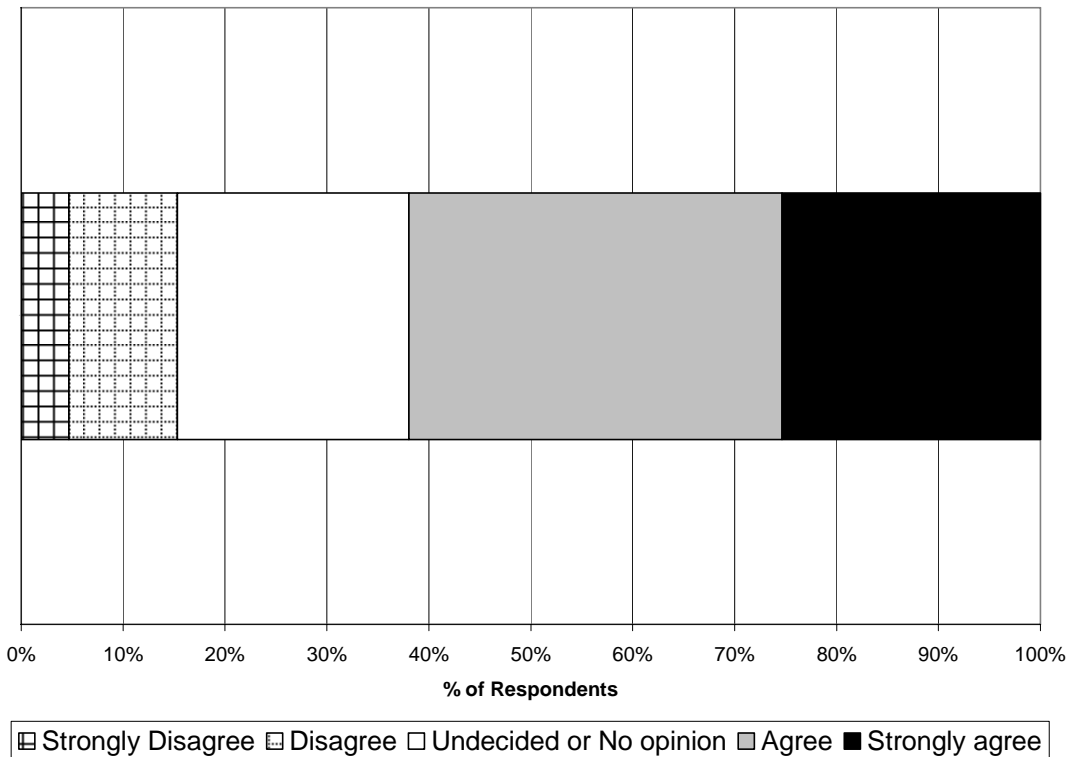
**Village of Elk Rapids Planning Commission
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127. Should ER develop the following additional recreational facilities: Waterfront parks?

No. of survey forms returned: **500**

No. of responses to this question: **489**

<u>Response Scale</u>	<u>Count</u>	<u>Percentage</u>
1. Strongly agree	124	25.4 %
2. Agree	179	36.6 %
3. Undecided or no opinion	111	22.7 %
4. Disagree	52	10.6 %
5. Strongly disagree	23	4.7 %



Respondents' Comments to Question 127

- What kind? Amusement --- no..
- Improve the ones we have
- Maintain (add trees) what we have --- research sand erosion, blowing
- Keep up the ones we have --- i.e., County Park, Veterans, Dam Beach, N Bayshore
- Add ONLY DAM BEACH!

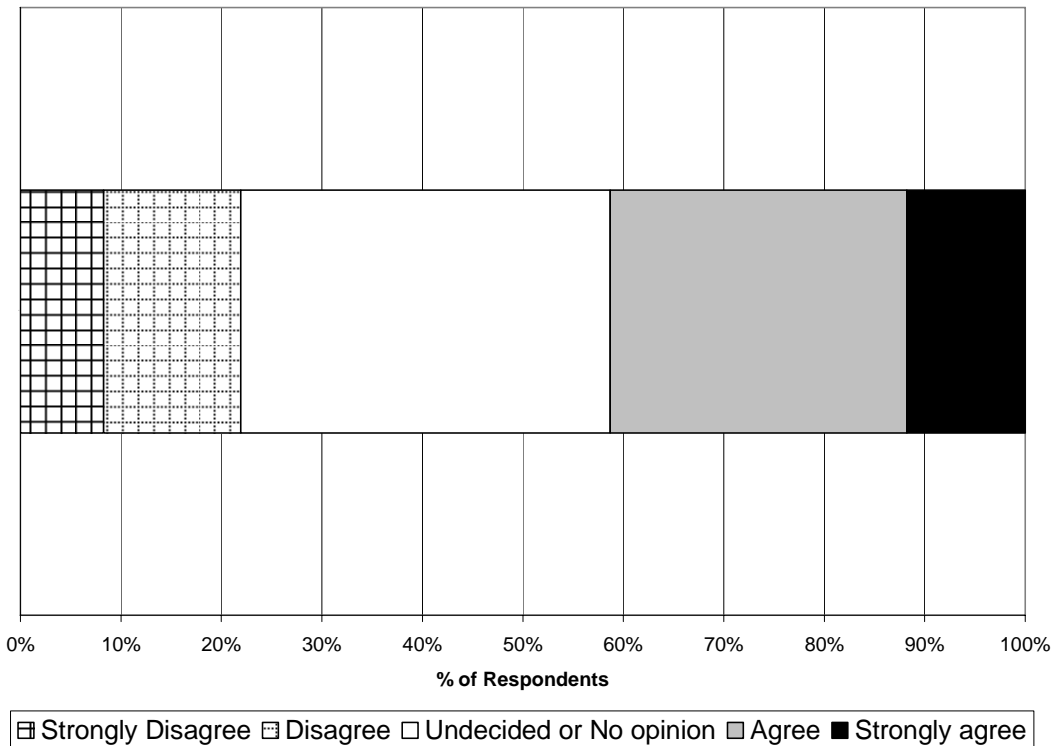
**Village of Elk Rapids Planning Commission
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128. Should ER develop the following additional recreational facilities: Non-waterfront parks?

No. of survey forms returned: **500**

No. of responses to this question: **484**

<u>Response Scale</u>	<u>Count</u>	<u>Percentage</u>
1. Strongly agree	57	11.8 %
2. Agree	143	29.5 %
3. Undecided or no opinion	178	36.8 %
4. Disagree	66	13.6 %
5. Strongly disagree	40	8.3 %



Respondents' Comments to Question 128

- What kind? Amusement --- no.
- Dog park
- Make Sportsman's Club into a Sportsman's Park!

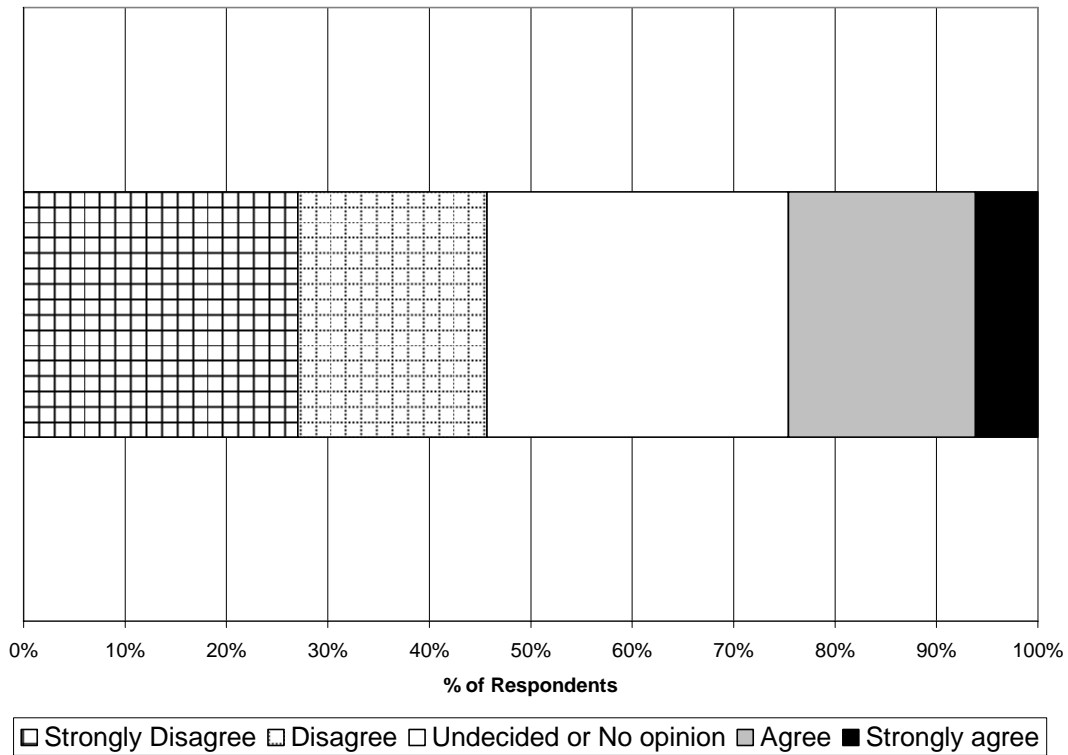
**Village of Elk Rapids Planning Commission
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129. Should ER develop the following additional recreational facilities: Snowmobile trails?

No. of survey forms returned: **500**

No. of responses to this question: **488**

<u>Response Scale</u>	<u>Count</u>	<u>Percentage</u>
1. Strongly agree	30	6.1 %
2. Agree	90	18.4 %
3. Undecided or no opinion	145	29.7 %
4. Disagree	91	18.6 %
5. Strongly disagree	132	27.0 %



Respondents' Comments to Question 129

- No space WITHIN village for this

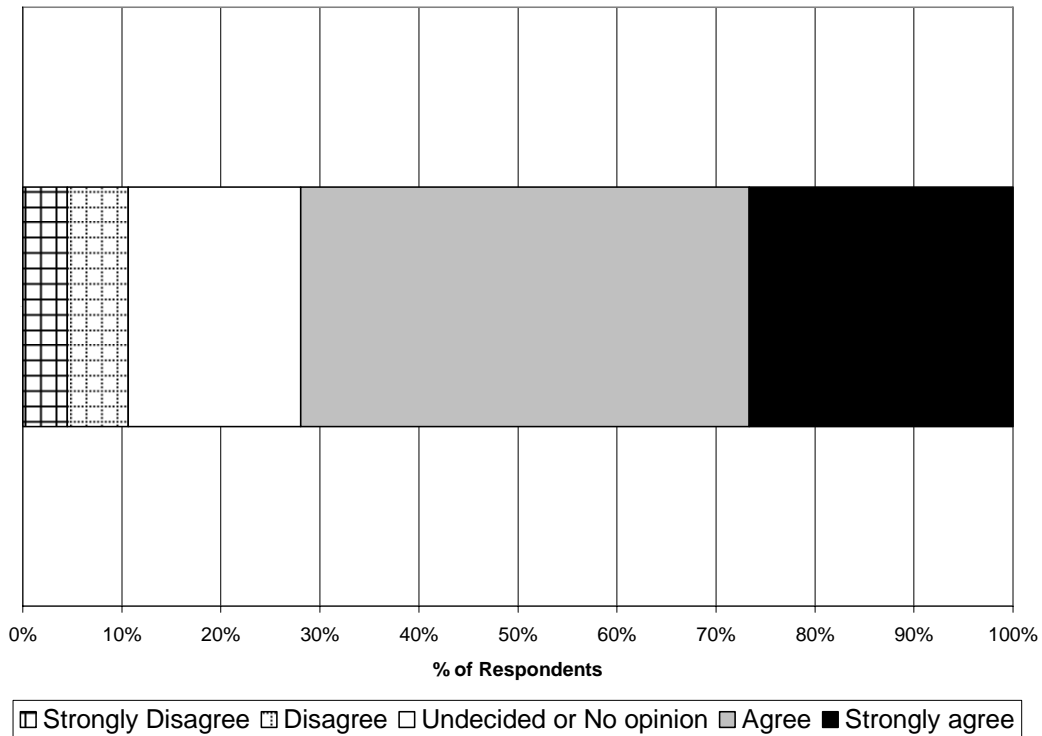
**Village of Elk Rapids Planning Commission
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130. Should ER develop the following additional recreational facilities: Combination bicycle paths and roller blade paths?

No. of survey forms returned: **500**

No. of responses to this question: **488**

<u>Response Scale</u>	<u>Count</u>	<u>Percentage</u>
1. Strongly agree	130	26.6 %
2. Agree	221	45.3 %
3. Undecided or no opinion	85	17.4 %
4. Disagree	30	6.1 %
5. Strongly disagree	22	4.5 %



Respondents' Comments to Question 130

(No comments from Respondents)

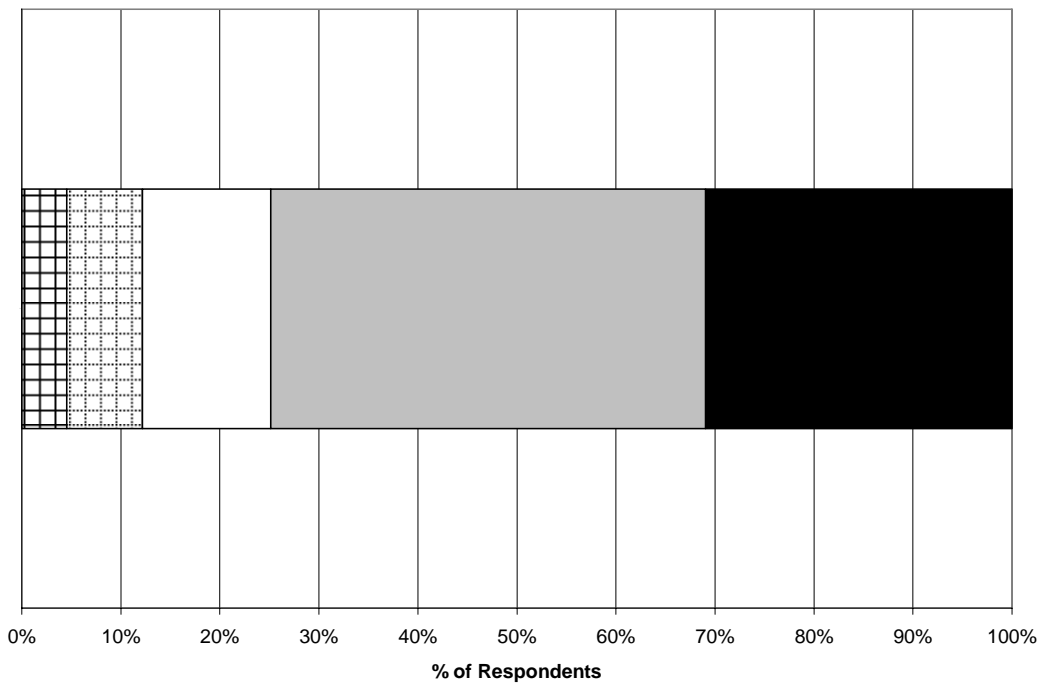
**Village of Elk Rapids Planning Commission
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131. Should ER develop the following additional recreational facilities: Bicycle lanes on or adjacent to roads?

No. of survey forms returned: **500**

No. of responses to this question: **485**

<u>Response Scale</u>	<u>Count</u>	<u>Percentage</u>
1. Strongly agree	150	30.9 %
2. Agree	213	43.9 %
3. Undecided or no opinion	63	13.0 %
4. Disagree	37	7.6 %
5. Strongly disagree	22	4.5 %



Strongly Disagree
 Disagree
 Undecided or No opinion
 Agree
 Strongly agree

Respondents' Comments to Question 131

(No comments from Respondents)

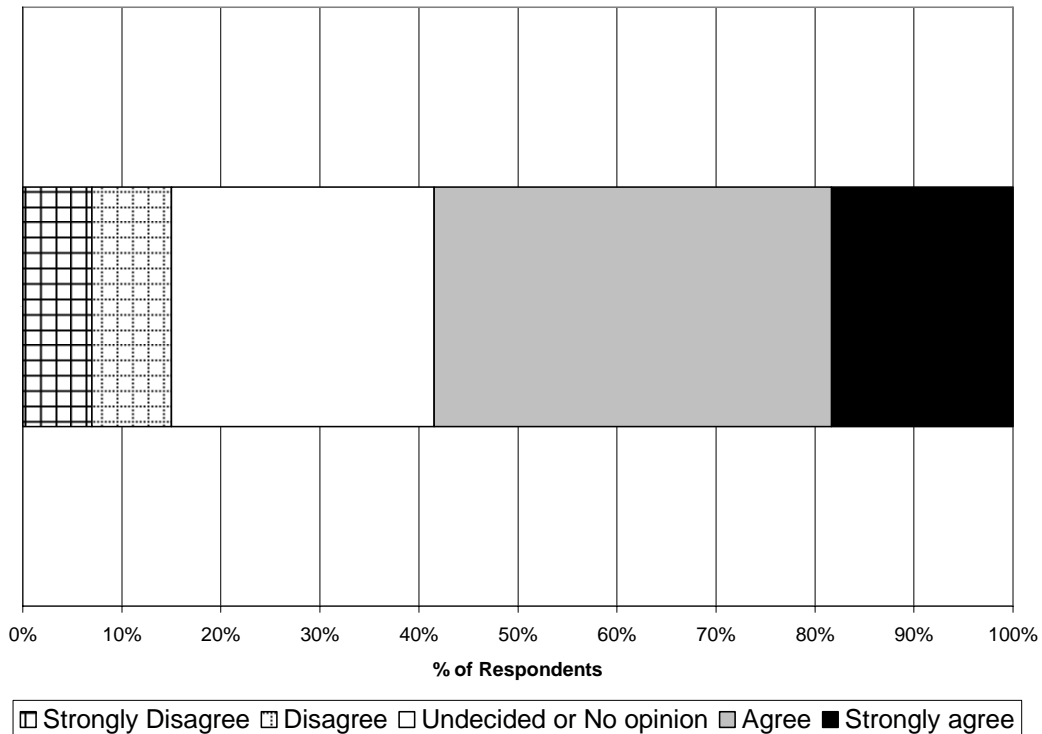
**Village of Elk Rapids Planning Commission
Master Plan Survey 2005 - Data Compilation - **DRAFT****

132. Should ER develop the following additional recreational facilities: Cross-country ski trails?

No. of survey forms returned: **500**

No. of responses to this question: **486**

<u>Response Scale</u>	<u>Count</u>	<u>Percentage</u>
1. Strongly agree	89	18.3 %
2. Agree	195	40.1 %
3. Undecided or no opinion	129	26.5 %
4. Disagree	39	8.0 %
5. Strongly disagree	34	7.0 %



Respondents' Comments to Question 132

- In conjunction with township and county

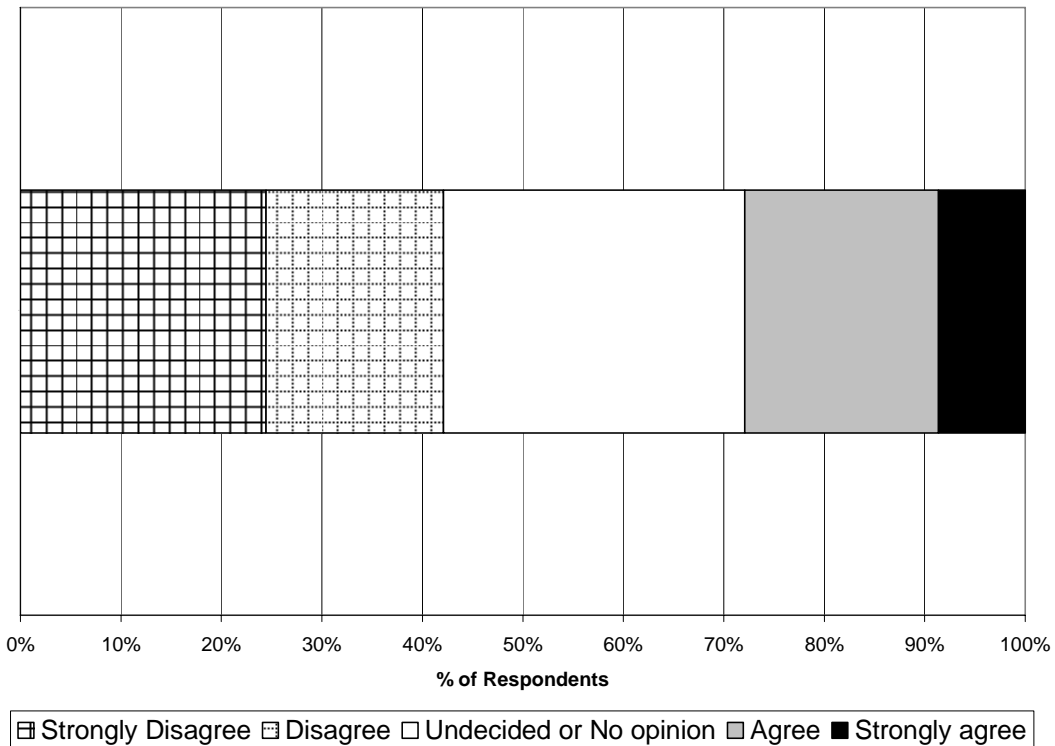
**Village of Elk Rapids Planning Commission
Master Plan Survey 2005 - Data Compilation - DRAFT**

133. Should ER develop the following additional recreational facilities: Skateboard park?

No. of survey forms returned: **500**

No. of responses to this question: **487**

<u>Response Scale</u>	<u>Count</u>	<u>Percentage</u>
1. Strongly agree	42	8.6 %
2. Agree	94	19.3 %
3. Undecided or no opinion	146	30.0 %
4. Disagree	86	17.7 %
5. Strongly disagree	119	24.4 %



Respondents' Comments to Question 133

- Need this for the children.
- Talk to kids. Is this still a focus with kids? Is Milton Park used?
- Skateboard park good idea -- then keep them off the sidewalks, cut down on noise.

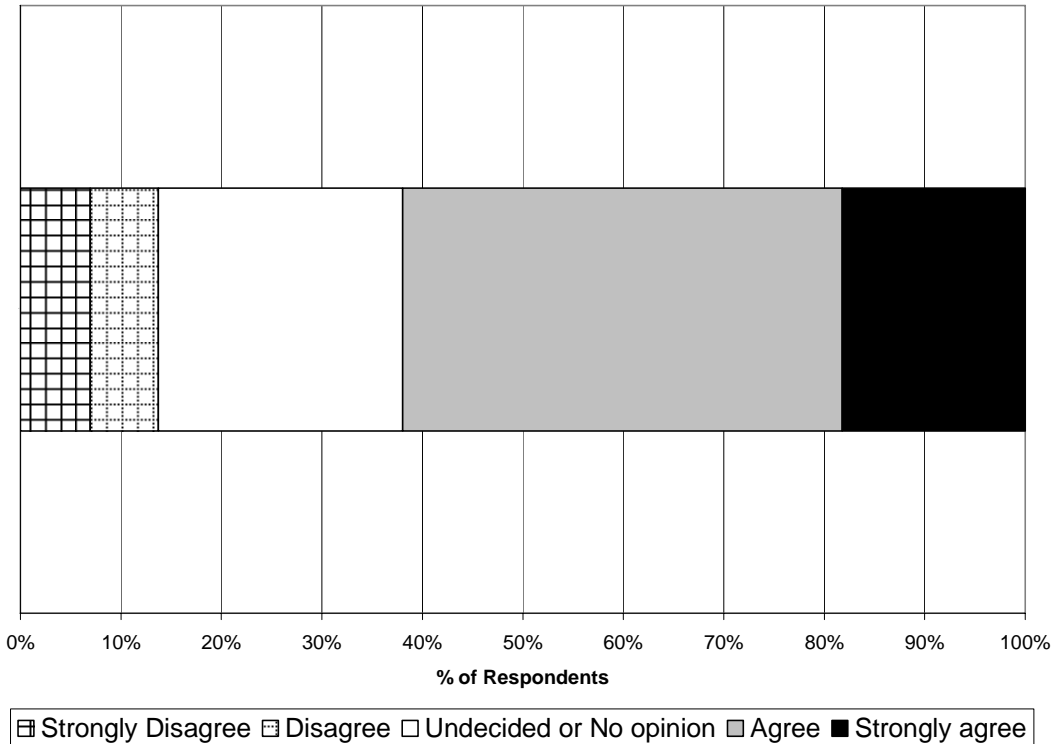
**Village of Elk Rapids Planning Commission
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134. Should ER develop the following additional recreational facilities: Outdoor ice rink?

No. of survey forms returned: **500**

No. of responses to this question: **489**

<u>Response Scale</u>	<u>Count</u>	<u>Percentage</u>
1. Strongly agree	89	18.2 %
2. Agree	214	43.8 %
3. Undecided or no opinion	119	24.3 %
4. Disagree	33	6.7 %
5. Strongly disagree	34	7.0 %



Respondents' Comments to Question 134

- For ice-skating, NOT hockey.
- Get the skating rink & the cross-country ski trails!!

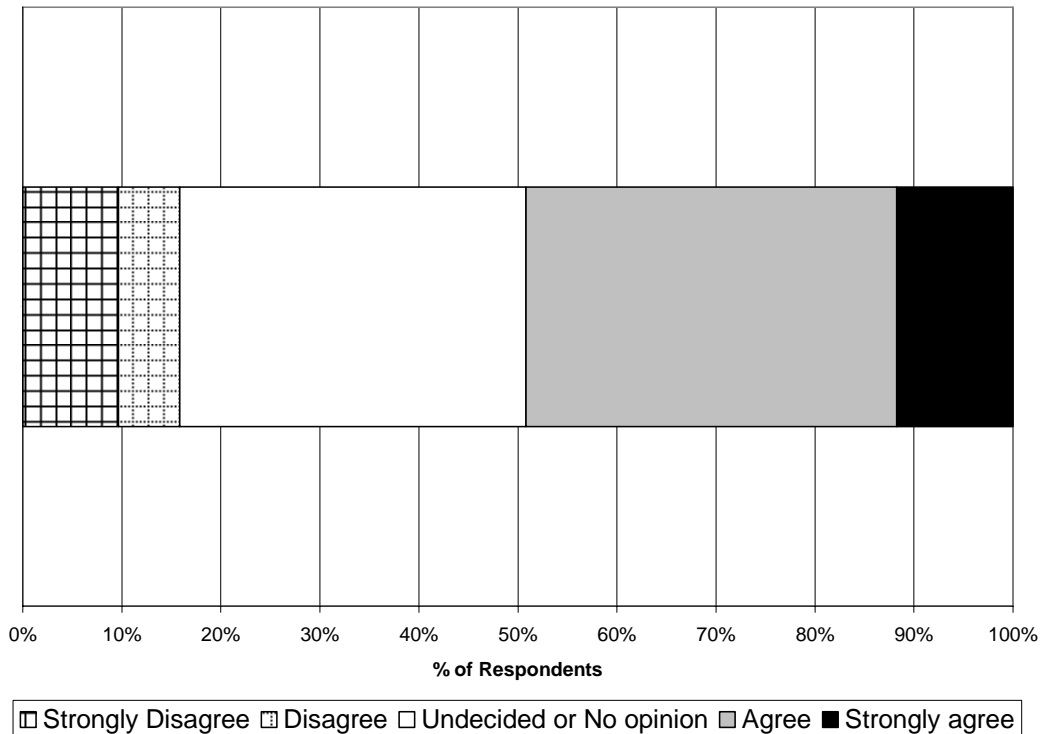
**Village of Elk Rapids Planning Commission
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135. Should ER develop the following additional recreational facilities: Shuffle board court?

No. of survey forms returned: **500**

No. of responses to this question: **486**

<u>Response Scale</u>	<u>Count</u>	<u>Percentage</u>
1. Strongly agree	57	11.7 %
2. Agree	182	37.4 %
3. Undecided or no opinion	170	35.0 %
4. Disagree	30	6.2 %
5. Strongly disagree	47	9.7 %



Respondents' Comments to Question 135

(No comments from Respondents)

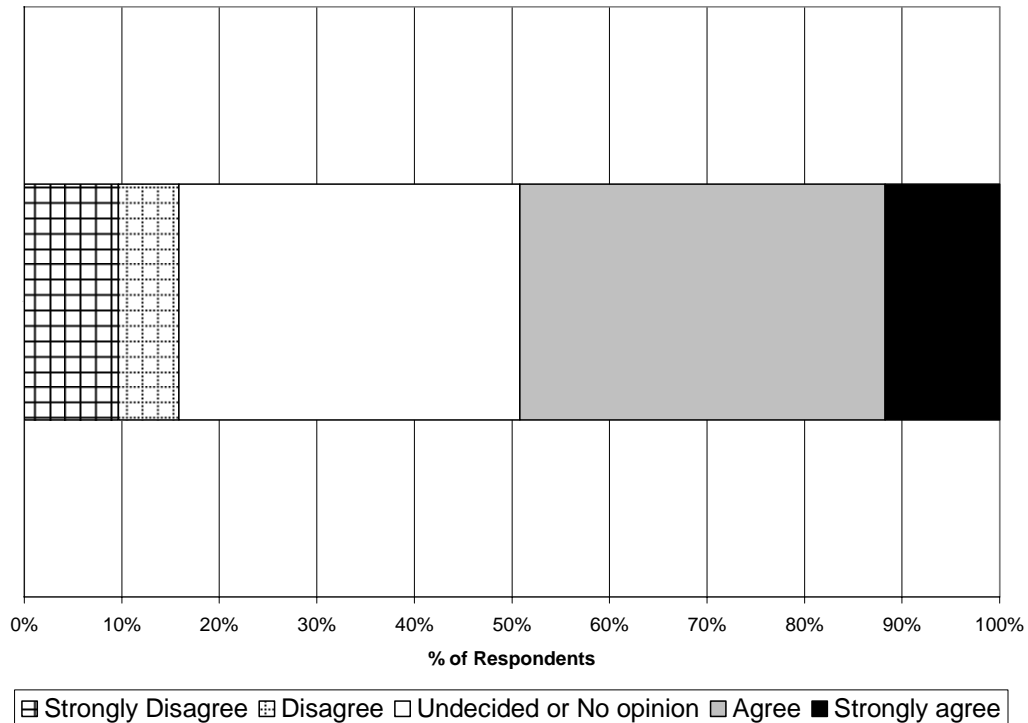
**Village of Elk Rapids Planning Commission
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136. Should ER develop the following additional recreational facilities: Playgrounds for children?

No. of survey forms returned: **500**

No. of responses to this question: **490**

<u>Response Scale</u>	<u>Count</u>	<u>Percentage</u>
1. Strongly agree	116	23.7 %
2. Agree	246	50.2 %
3. Undecided or no opinion	92	18.8 %
4. Disagree	27	5.5 %
5. Strongly disagree	9	1.8 %



Respondents' Comments to Question 136

- New, safer playground structure in Mem. Park.
- Improve what we have now
- Would not need this
- Playground equipment needs to be updated, slide is high, would be nice to have a shorter one for toddlers. Wood structures are not safe with wood splinters.
- We think the beach park needs a NEW play structure for children. The current wooden structure, along with the slide, is dangerous for children. I would be surprised if the current equipment is in code with insurance underwriters. Also, improve broken and dangerous sidewalks.
- However, Memorial Park could use some additional play structures not currently present.
- Playground: need some improvement --- wood structures are not safe with the winters.
- Current ones seem to be sufficient
- Don't we already have?
- With bathroom

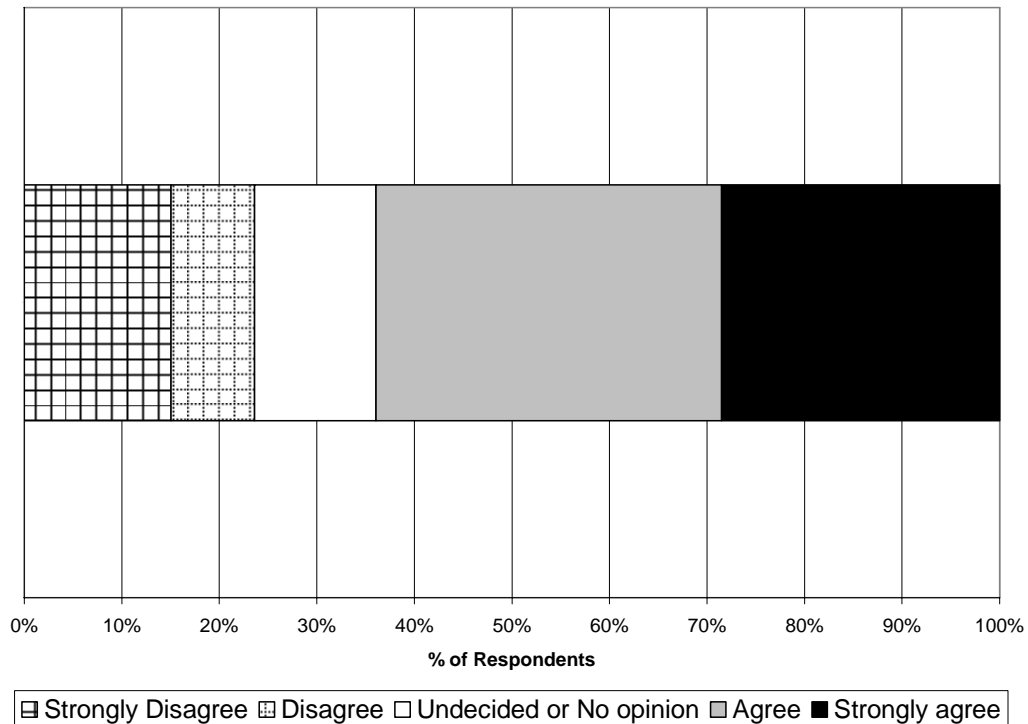
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137. Should ER develop the following additional recreational facilities: Outdoor community arts pavilion (for music performances, art shows, etc.) with toilet facilities in Veterans' Memorial Park?

No. of survey forms returned: **500**

No. of responses to this question: **491**

<u>Response Scale</u>	<u>Count</u>	<u>Percentage</u>
1. Strongly agree	140	28.5 %
2. Agree	174	35.4 %
3. Undecided or no opinion	61	12.4 %
4. Disagree	42	8.6 %
5. Strongly disagree	74	15.1 %



Respondents' Comments to Question 137

- Just do bathrooms
- For small groups
- ABSOLUTELY NOT!
- Toilet facilities: like Charlevoix!
- School auditorium use should be encouraged for various public events (don't need bandshell in the park).
- The right facility in the right place - not as proposed in January 2005. And who will pay for maintenance and vandalism? A 'pavilion' needs to be near parking, out of the wind, on a nice lawn, accessible to move equipment, with adequate electricity and lighting, and not facing the residential neighborhood. How about just west of Library Bridge, backed up to River St. or the river?
- Please NO!
- Toilet only --- use Town Hall
- Great idea!

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Respondents' Comments to Question 137 (cont.)

- Definitely not the place for a pavilion --- keep OPEN SPACE
- This should be built in harbor parking lot area AWAY from neighborhoods and there is already parking there. NO NOT BUILD IN VETERANS PARK!!! TOO MUCH ACTIVITY THERE ALREADY.
- If this was developed in a way that didn't obstruct views of the lake I might feel different. On the other hand pavilions don't get used much so maybe mobile ones are sufficient.
- ALSO, NO Pavilions in Veterans Park. Too much going on there already (check it out any Friday or Saturday all summer OVER RUN! No flush toilets, it will only make it worse. Put public restrooms downtown where they are better monitored and maintained. Put Pavilion in Harbor Parking lot AWAY from neighborhoods. Don't want all the increase traffic & noise it will bring. ONCE AGAIN, stop commercializing a quiet neighborhood, you are destroying it!!!
- Love the thought of going to Veteran's Memorial for entertainment in a permanent structure that could support many residents. (Just look at the number of residents that have attended the outdoor movies during Harbor Days.) This would also help some of our downtown businesses.
- No band shell and/or multiple toilet buildings in Veterans Memorial Park -- quality portable toilet facilities properly maintained and placed near existing trees or evergreens should be provided for the public. There is no 'danger' of fooling around in and significantly less chance of vandalism and graffiti with portable toilets. The view to the bay should remain the 'highlight' of the park - NOT some permanent structure.
- No amphitheatre at park - bathroom only.
- Promotion should be responsibility of individual businesses
- PLEASE -- no pavilions or large-scale structures in Memorial Park.

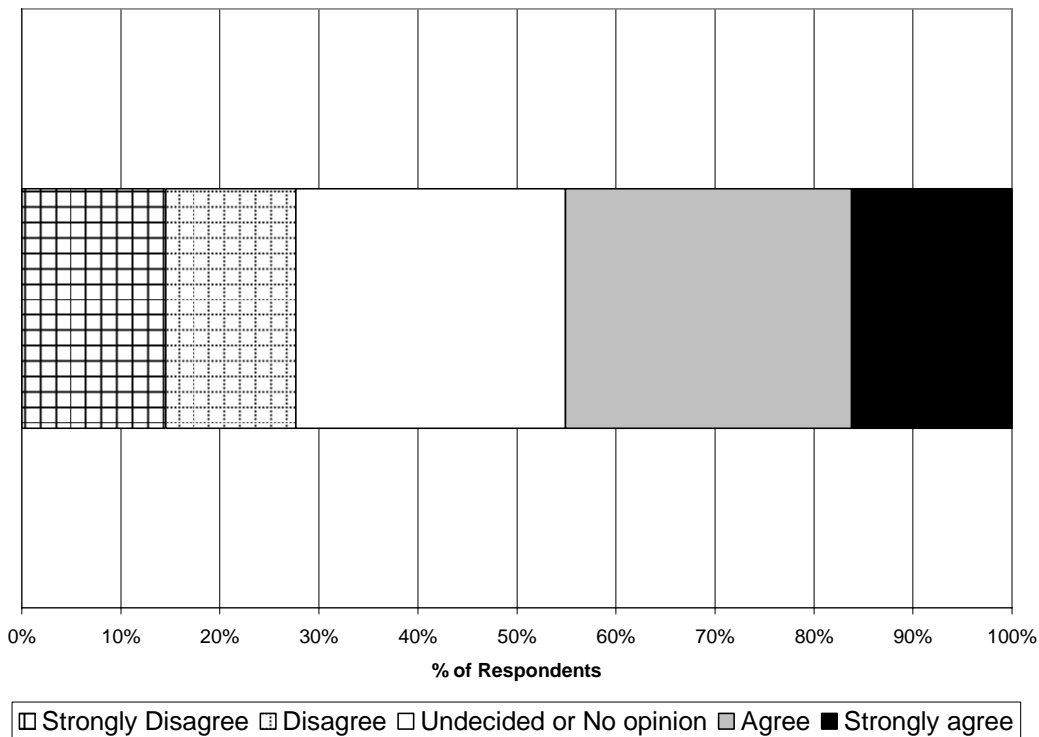
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138. Should ER develop the following additional recreational facilities: Outdoor community arts pavilion (for music performances, art shows, etc.) in an area other than Veterans' Memorial Park?

No. of survey forms returned: **500**

No. of responses to this question: **488**

<u>Response Scale</u>	<u>Count</u>	<u>Percentage</u>
1. Strongly agree	79	16.2 %
2. Agree	141	28.9 %
3. Undecided or no opinion	133	27.3 %
4. Disagree	64	13.1 %
5. Strongly disagree	71	14.5 %



Respondents' Comments to Question 138

- Use school
- Where? We have these already.
- Would be nice --- not a high priority; site of old Palmer's Garage would be ideal.
- School auditorium use should be encouraged for various public events (don't need bandshell in the park).
- State/county should provide access sites IF NEEDED. Village/twp should take over the County Park on South Bayshore Dr.
- Prefer Memorial park

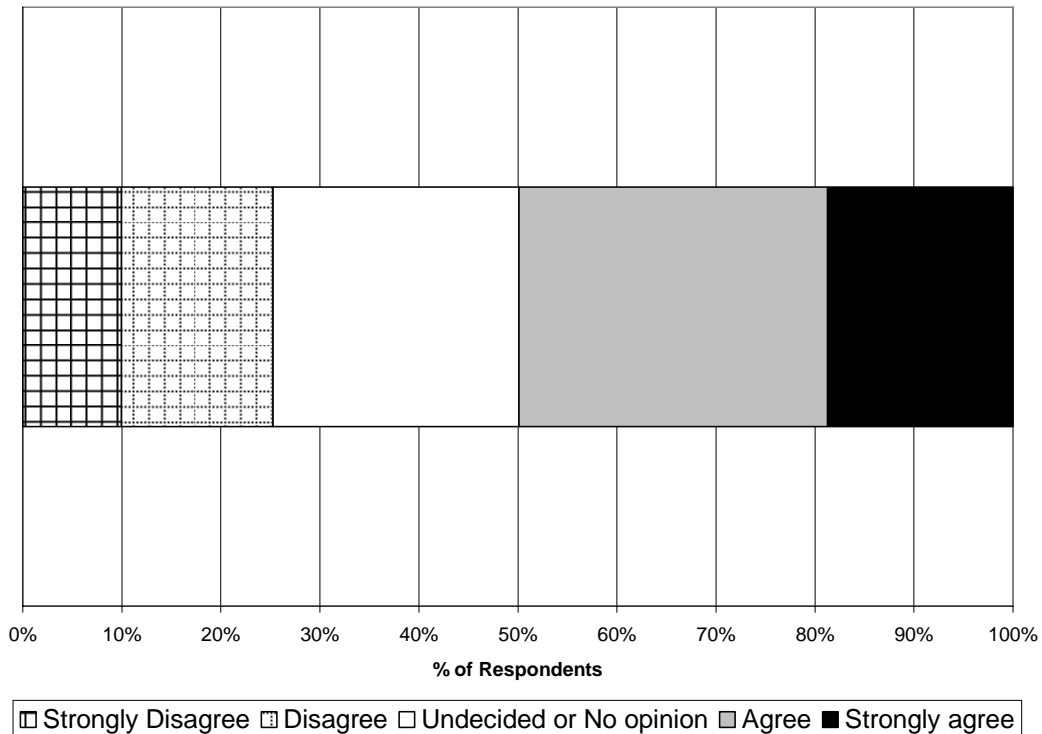
**Village of Elk Rapids Planning Commission
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139. Should ER develop the following additional recreational facilities: Public access sites to waterways?

No. of survey forms returned: **500**

No. of responses to this question: **491**

<u>Response Scale</u>	<u>Count</u>	<u>Percentage</u>
1. Strongly agree	92	18.7 %
2. Agree	153	31.2 %
3. Undecided or no opinion	122	24.8 %
4. Disagree	75	15.3 %
5. Strongly disagree	49	10.0 %



Respondents' Comments to Question 139

- State/county should provide access sites IF NEEDED. Village/twp should take over the County Park on South Bayshore Dr.

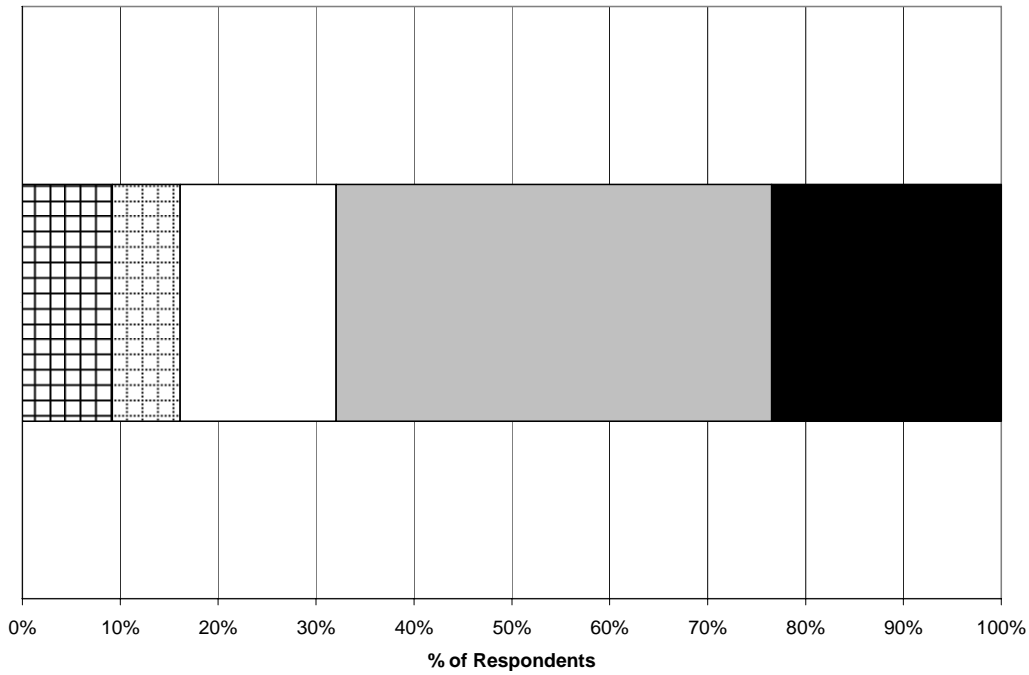
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140. Should ER develop the following additional recreational facilities: Bathroom facilities with multiple stalls etc. in Memorial Park?

No. of survey forms returned: **500**

No. of responses to this question: **490**

<u>Response Scale</u>	<u>Count</u>	<u>Percentage</u>
1. Strongly agree	115	23.5 %
2. Agree	218	44.5 %
3. Undecided or no opinion	78	15.9 %
4. Disagree	34	6.9 %
5. Strongly disagree	45	9.2 %



Strongly Disagree
 Disagree
 Undecided or No opinion
 Agree
 Strongly agree

Respondents' Comments to Question 140

- Wasn't this laid to rest a couple of years ago!
- Please!!!!
- Small and well hidden
- Installing flush toilets in Veterans Park is a **BIG MISTAKE**. They'll be nasty, stinking and potential havens for crime like in other areas (drug deals, rape, etc.). Put them downtown where they are more monitored if you have to have them at all. Pavilion should be located at Marina Parking lot. Way, way too much activity at Veterans' Park already. Ruining the west side neighborhood.
- We have needed restrooms in Veterans Memorial for years now. That could help a lot in the quality of the Bay waters. Residents keep asking but Council is afraid to stand up against the minority of vocal folks that attend the meetings. Please listen to the vote of the Silent Majority.
- Only if they can be maintained immaculately.
- Small bathroom facilities
- No more than 2 each.

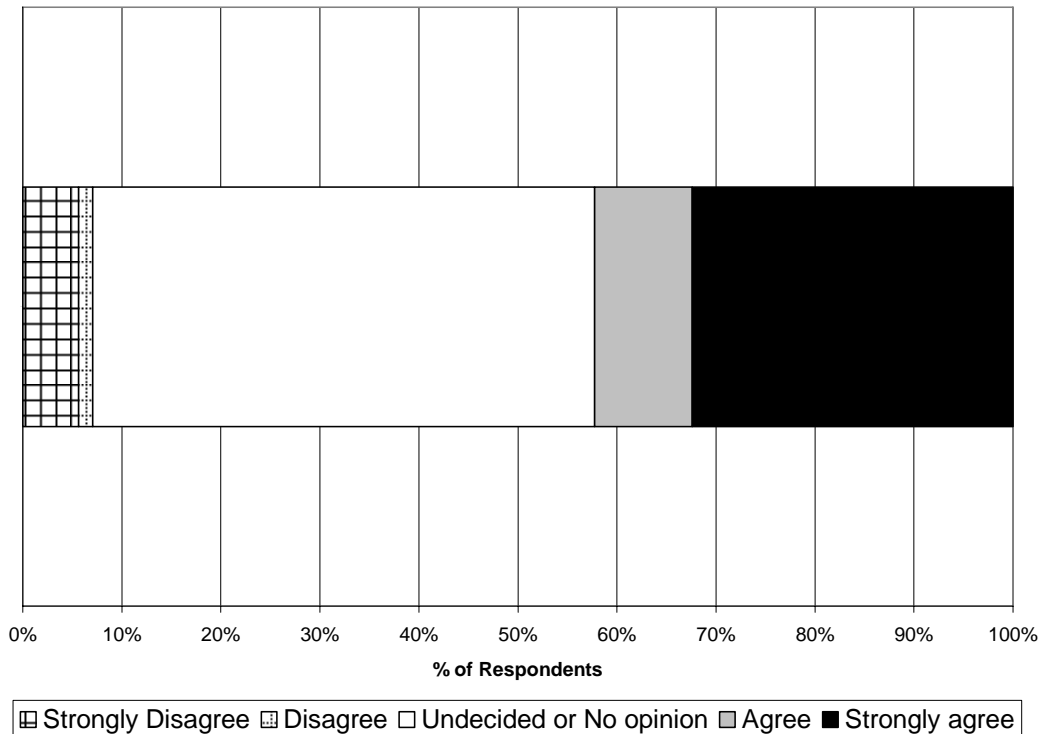
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141. Other (Please list)

No. of survey forms returned: **500**

No. of responses to this question: **71**

<u>Response Scale</u>	<u>Count</u>	<u>Percentage</u>
1. Strongly agree	23	32.4 %
2. Agree	7	9.9 %
3. Undecided or no opinion	36	50.7 %
4. Disagree	1	1.4 %
5. Strongly disagree	4	5.6 %



Respondents' Responses to Question 141

- Parking for above [events in village].
- Do joint planning with all townships in area
- Park w/township - camping, etc.
- Pavilion for picnic use.
- Better signage 'Welcome to Elk Rapids', etc.
- Community Swimming Pool
- Use of bathrooms at bay access.
- Open the restrooms on Cedar Street at night.
- More tennis courts and outdoor ice rinks
- Clearer markings (lines) on roads
- Dog park
- Small pavilion and bathrooms in Park.
- We need a place for teens ALL YEAR LONG, safe and supervised
- Amphitheatre in park is not needed but a nice bathroom is!
- Public access to waterways.
- Boat ramps into Elk Lake

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Respondents' Responses to Question 141 (cont.)

- Continue Elk Rapids Sportsman's Club lease
- 2-stall bathroom --- seasonal
- Tennis courts
- Indoor swimming pool (w/school)
- Tennis & soccer.
- Dedicated walking trails.
- Community/teen center
- Behind power dam: need decent restroom or toilet, also vegetation, general improvement. No excuses that County owns it. We know they would approve improvements..
- Old Power bldg, in back of: bathroom facilities need improvement, also the natural areas.
- Increase of docking facilities in both upper and lower harbors.
- Reasonable bathroom facilities for public gatherings
- Facility for pumping station for boats on chain of lakes
- Connect all homes in Village to sewer!
- Fix boat ramp by the Chamber, get rid of stumps to make path out!
- Definitely add the outdoor ice rink & cross-country ski trails. It'll encourage people to come in the winter, and then the hotels will have good business.
- Nothing. Leave our quaint town alone.
- A fishing dock extending way out into the bay.
- North beach area.
- 1 bathroom = men; 1 bathroom = women
- Continue to improve harbor
- Community indoor pool
- More basketball courts.

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(a) General Comments for Section VI-D

- We added a small ice rink to our community lakeside park downstate (Grosse Pointe, MI) --- no hockey --- and it greatly increased wintertime use and is used by a lot of families. It is a reflecting pool in the summer.
- Get bathroom in VM Park, update playground equipment. No arts pavilion!
- Don't let dam beach look like park in TC. Keep improving what facilities i.e. toilets in Memorial Park so the Bay is not used. Improve with the county Dam Beach toilet facilities so again the Bay will not be used.
- I have looked around as I bike/walk the village. A Community Arts Pavilion in the lot where Palmer's Garage was could be a good choice:
 - access to parking
 - flow back and forth to businesses on River St
 - Pavilion angled to face Kid's Pond --- could be heard in Marina, around Kid's Pond, etc.
 - It is difficult to encourage tourism yet keep our lakes clean and uncongested. I don't want Elk Lake to end up like Torch Lake with diapers floating on the sand bar.
 - Just because boat launches are crowded on holidays doesn't warrant the expense of building more.
 - Bathrooms in Mem Park --- but please DON'T block view. Keep in tree area.

Please do not put a permanent arts pavilion in Mem Park! It will ruin the natural beauty of our pristine park. Would prefer an arts park in area of Bayshore Park or other area in Village.

- Industrial and storage buildings on US31 south of light should be bought by condemnation or otherwise and new "village-like" buildings constructed --- small stores --- village character.
- Small bathroom facilities.

Would be nice to have the arts pavilion in or near the park.

- The Town Hall already has great acoustics for music. Why not fix up the toilets in there for a year-round musical entertainment?
- Make the bathroom bldg small and attractive --- have a men's side and a women's side.
- Year-round bathrooms in downtown business district
- Speaker system to play music in downtown area. Need more year-round public restrooms.
- It is very difficult for me to answer many of these questions as I don't as yet live there. I'm sure once I get actually moved there I would have more definite opinions on some of these questions. Also since I haven't actually lived in a town for 56 years, I probably am out of touch with many things.
- I think we need to do whatever we can to promote tourism to the area.
- Not interested in fast food drive-ins/McDonalds, burger king
- I have often thought the town should buy up the houses on the north side of Traverse Street for more parking downtown --- between Bridge and Cedar Streets.
- We should link Antrim County to TART and Little Traverse Wheelway!
- Bathroom in Memorial Park does not have to be a Taj Mahal. Can be low-impact visually yet highly functional.
- Central location in downtown section of River Street not a few blocks' walk from shops.

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Section VI-D General Comments (cont.)

- Recreational target shooting range, should the Sportsman's Club lose its present property
- More tennis courts

More and better public access sites for Elk Lake

More shoppers docks on Elk Lake and Lake Michigan

- If you build it, they will come. Our problem is that we have a SMALL COMMUNITY park; the park is primarily for our community. In recent years we have witnessed an influx of Traverse City residents using our Memorial Park due to the mismanagement of their own public space along the waterfront.
- We have enough parks! No taxpayer dollars to pay for more!
- This community absolutely needs to stop pandering to the elderly and tourists, and do something for the young marrieds and children. We don't want them to leave because of no jobs or housing. Have you ever tried to use the tennis courts or take children to the beach?
- The village has done a good job with present facilities. Spending excessive taxpayer money on unnecessary recreational facilities plus maintenance costs is not the responsibility of village government. Bike trials, snowmobile trails are best left to county or state governments.
- We need bathroom facilities ASAP
- Seasonal climbing wall

Sand volleyball

Putt putt golf

Clean up the movie theater

- About right
- Veterans Memorial Park: no new equipment, picnic tables. First: Sand control has to be addressed or we will lose pathway, trees, tennis courts, and the park itself.
- Keep sand off tennis courts
- Need facilities for changing into and out of bathing suits.
- Elk Rapids seems to be unable to maintain the recreational areas we currently have. Before expansion to these areas occurs, the current areas must be properly run (for instance, the tennis courts & basketball courts in Memorial Park are ALWAYS in need of sweeping, even during busy times such as Harbor Days). If we want to establish ourselves as a tourist community OR residential community we need to appear desirable. We pay a FAIR amount of taxes and this should reflect in the city upkeep.
- Where are the Memorial Park restrooms we were supposed to get 5 years ago? A performing arts pavilion would be a great asset for E.R.
- Going forward, development along Ames S/B light commercial, i.e., retail, service, food service, etc.
- Elk Rapids is so rich in historic value. This needs to be preserved and developed. What are the schools doing in this regard?

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Section VI-D General Comments (cont.)

- I don't have a problem spending on places where our kids and their parents can recreate. But this should be a lower priority than upgrading/maintaining the structures required for everyday living --- water, streets, sewer. Also, we must harbor (sic) our tax moves carefully. We don't want high taxes to drive residents away.
- We need to provide recreational activities for everybody in the summer - a summer rec program, summer, summer babysitting (?) rec program --- [I?] go swimming once a week in Kalkaska and [do] little league Tee ball - ball tournament --- Park & Rec director Promo to Elk Rapids (sic).
- Where would you get land for more waterfront parks?
- Yes, we should have a public restroom at the park, but keep the size down. The view is great so do not block it with a big concrete building.
- Senior center west side ER near park.
- We need toilet facilities at Veterans Memorial Park.
- Need more places to launch our boats in bay or the river, mostly river.
- No more buildings in Memorial Park!
- Keep the village a village. Don't take away the small town appeal.
- It's awesome we have Joe with the theatre for our youth. He offers great family pricing. Other than that nothing really for our youth, e.g. bowling. I heard a retired State officer had a great plan once and he was rejected, that is a real tragedy! Always need more to occupy kids and deter bad behavior.
- I feel it is very, very important to have sidewalks on ALL residential streets. I sense that the lifelong village residents generally are not concerned about this matter because they grew & raised their families without sidewalks. I have experienced both. In my view --- sidewalks are the only way to go. At the very least, all school bus routes should have sidewalks!
- Add public restrooms at (Bridge St.) end of River St (Gazebo area)
- 3-storey should be allowed on Ames (both sides) just like downtown!
- One of the greatest charms of Memorial Park is its openness and view of the Bay. Any toilet facility should be small, near the cedar trees, and preferably temporary or seasonal.
- New toilets in Mem Pk. sufficient
- The town needs a nice quality hotel.
- I strongly support a performing arts center but DO NOT want it in the Memorial Park because I feel that it is already being encroached upon. I believe that land should be purchased elsewhere within the community for more parks and the art center.
- Do not allow any big box stores (i.e., Wal-mart, K-mart, etc). Also, no McDonalds, Wendy's, etc. Allow upper harbor lessees to have full access to lower harbor facilities.
- River launch improvements. Additional boat launch and parking for the river.
- A possible site for skateboard park might be the Sportsman's Club
- Better park at 31 Swan

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Section VI-D General Comments (cont.)

- A significant part of the attractiveness of Veteran's Park is that anyone walking, driving or biking down River St can enjoy the lake view. Constructing facilities that will interfere with the view seems to detract from the quaintness of the village. A pavilion can easily be located elsewhere (e.g. between Marina and stores in River St). If a 2-stall bathroom could be built adjacent to basketball court and not go more than a few feet above River St, then maybe I would feel different about it.
- Elk Rapids is a quiet, small town. Leave it that way. Folk that want a fast-paced lifestyle can move to a town that embraces such a lifestyle.
- This is exceedingly redundant and the questions are leading... shame on you!
- Developed recreational facilities: baseball, softball, soccer, fitness trail, jogging trail, tennis, etc. Developed in partnership with schools and township utilizing current and new property.

Clean up and organize County Park on S. Bayshore to make it more user-friendly.

- We also need more kid-based programs, activities, centers that are not school officiated (i.e., ice skating, swimming and skateboarding). TC has Civic Center/YMCA etc.
- Toilet at Memorial Park

Dog Park

Light up the Library

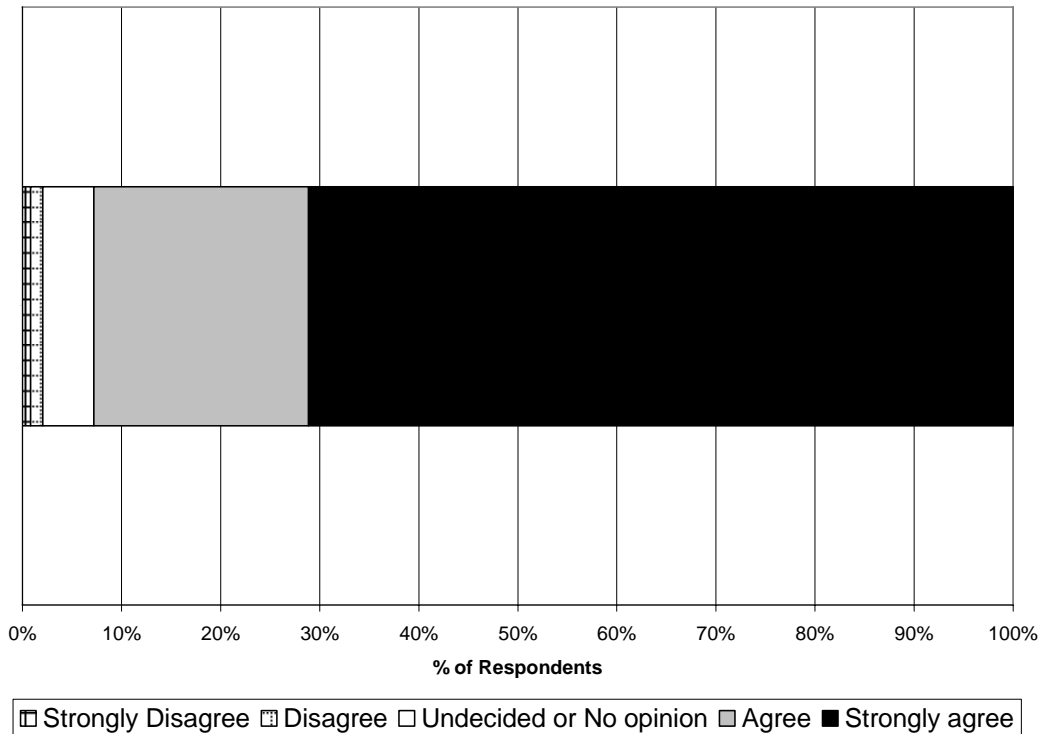
**Village of Elk Rapids Planning Commission
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154. Should ER work on new "image" policies: Preserve the scenic view areas in the village?

No. of survey forms returned: **500**

No. of responses to this question: **485**

<u>Response Scale</u>	<u>Count</u>	<u>Percentage</u>
1. Strongly agree	345	71.1 %
2. Agree	105	21.6 %
3. Undecided or no opinion	25	5.2 %
4. Disagree	6	1.2 %
5. Strongly disagree	4	0.8 %



Respondents' Comments to Question 154

- What does this mean? How would it affect private property owners' rights?

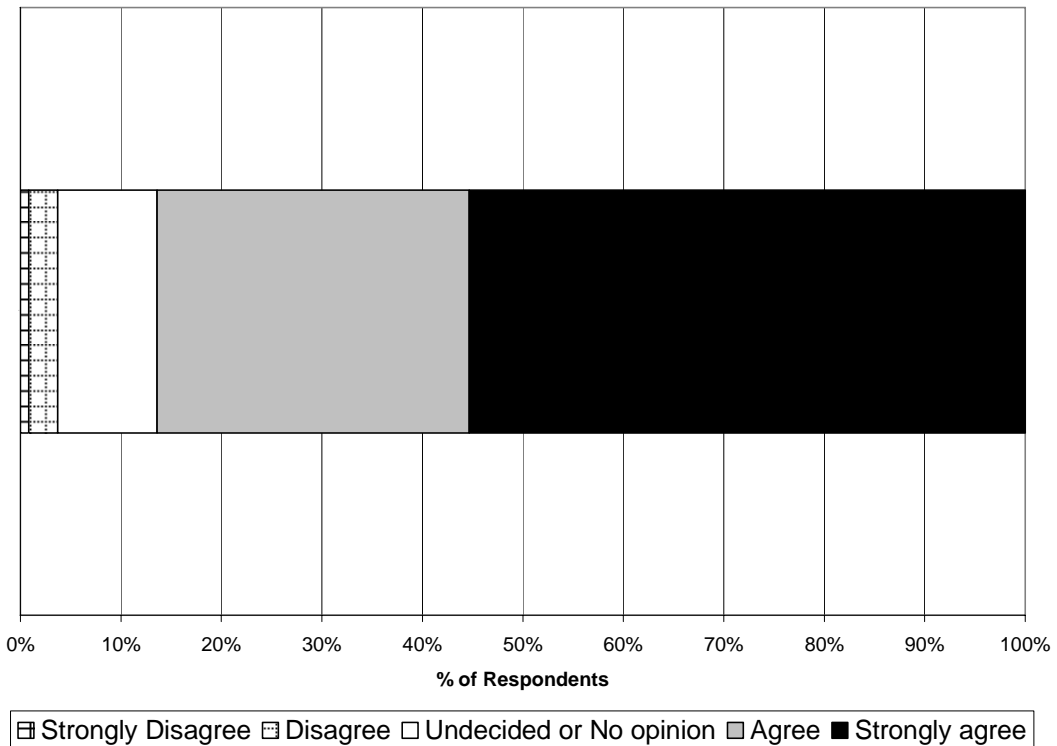
**Village of Elk Rapids Planning Commission
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155. Should ER work on new "image" policies: Preserve historic buildings?

No. of survey forms returned: **500**

No. of responses to this question: **486**

<u>Response Scale</u>	<u>Count</u>	<u>Percentage</u>
1. Strongly agree	269	55.3 %
2. Agree	151	31.1 %
3. Undecided or no opinion	48	9.9 %
4. Disagree	14	2.9 %
5. Strongly disagree	4	0.8 %



Respondents' Comments to Question 155

- Remove facades on businesses over River St to expose the brick Victorian architecture

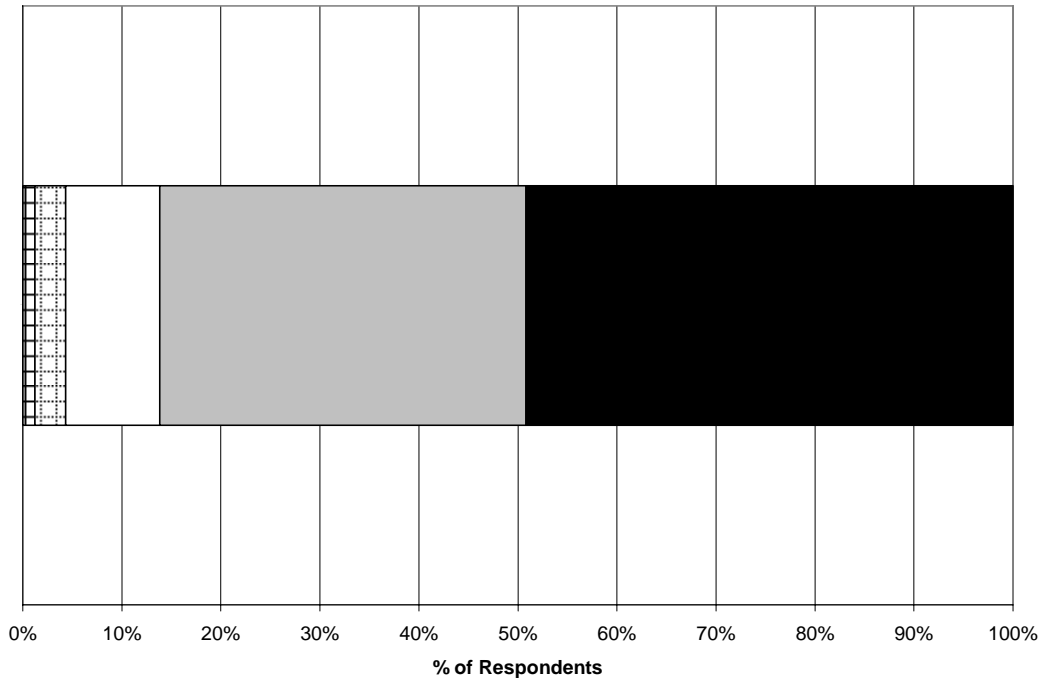
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168. Should ER work on new "environmental/growth management" policies: Engage in joint efforts with surrounding counties and townships for developing zoning regulations that offer more protection to our shorelines?

No. of survey forms returned: **500**

No. of responses to this question: **484**

<u>Response Scale</u>	<u>Count</u>	<u>Percentage</u>
1. Strongly agree	238	49.2 %
2. Agree	179	37.0 %
3. Undecided or no opinion	46	9.5 %
4. Disagree	15	3.1 %
5. Strongly disagree	6	1.2 %



Strongly Disagree
 Disagree
 Undecided or No opinion
 Agree
 Strongly agree

Respondents' Comments to Question 168

- Only for shorelines
- Work with County and State on common ground issues.

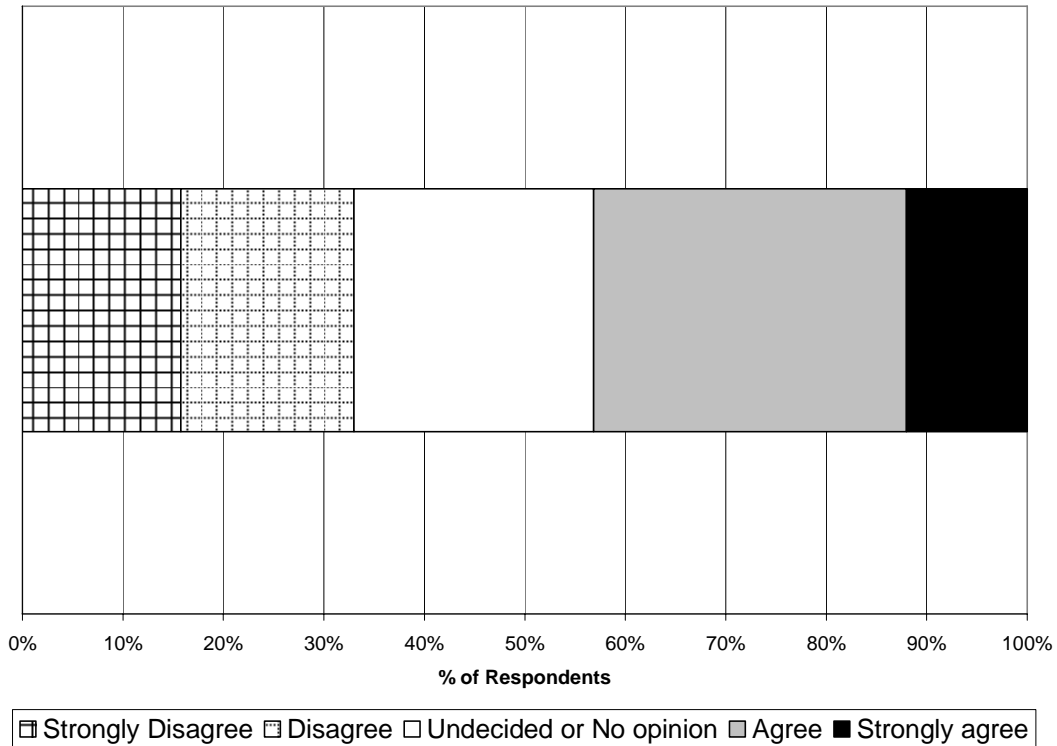
**Village of Elk Rapids Planning Commission
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170. Should ER work on new "environmental/growth management" policies: Levy millage earmarked for land purchases or development right purchases for the benefit of the community as a whole or for public use?

No. of survey forms returned: **500**

No. of responses to this question: **482**

<u>Response Scale</u>	<u>Count</u>	<u>Percentage</u>
1. Strongly agree	58	12.0 %
2. Agree	150	31.1 %
3. Undecided or no opinion	115	23.9 %
4. Disagree	83	17.2 %
5. Strongly disagree	76	15.8 %



Respondents' Comments to Question 170

- Not by condemnation
- Unsure of meaning
- Support farmland preservation efforts.
- Use street zoning for control
- Depends on the purchase

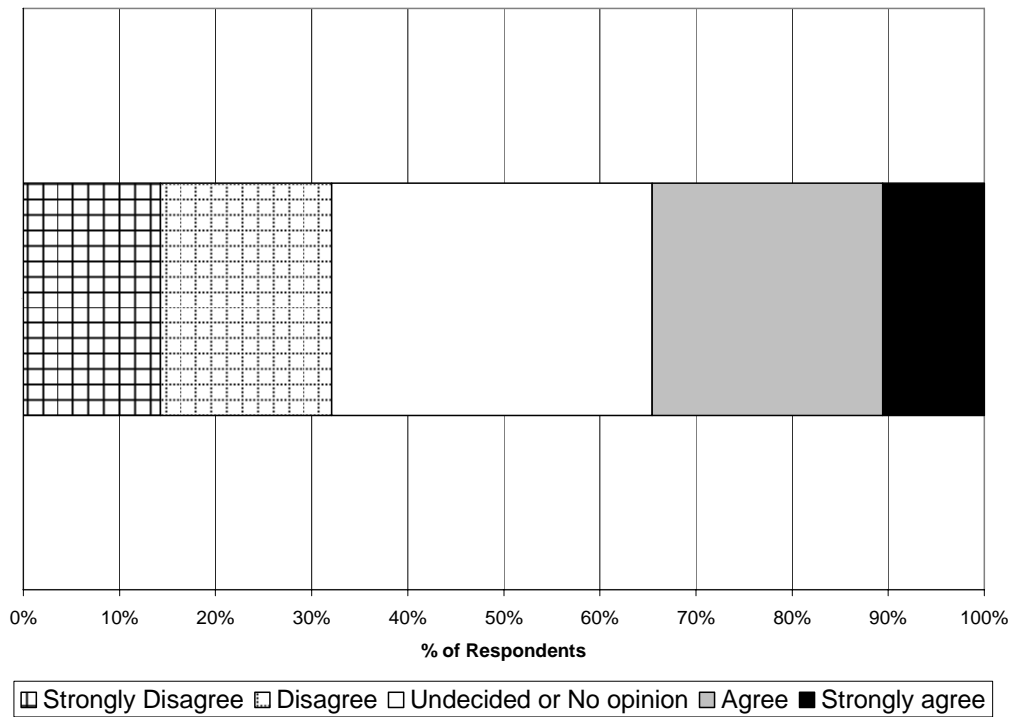
**Village of Elk Rapids Planning Commission
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171. Should ER work on new "environmental/growth management" policies: Expand village boundaries by purchasing property from the adjacent township?

No. of survey forms returned: **500**

No. of responses to this question: **483**

<u>Response Scale</u>	<u>Count</u>	<u>Percentage</u>
1. Strongly agree	51	10.6 %
2. Agree	116	24.0 %
3. Undecided or no opinion	161	33.3 %
4. Disagree	86	17.8 %
5. Strongly disagree	69	14.3 %



Respondents' Comments to Question 171

- Cooperative works
- For recreation or what use?
- To what purpose?

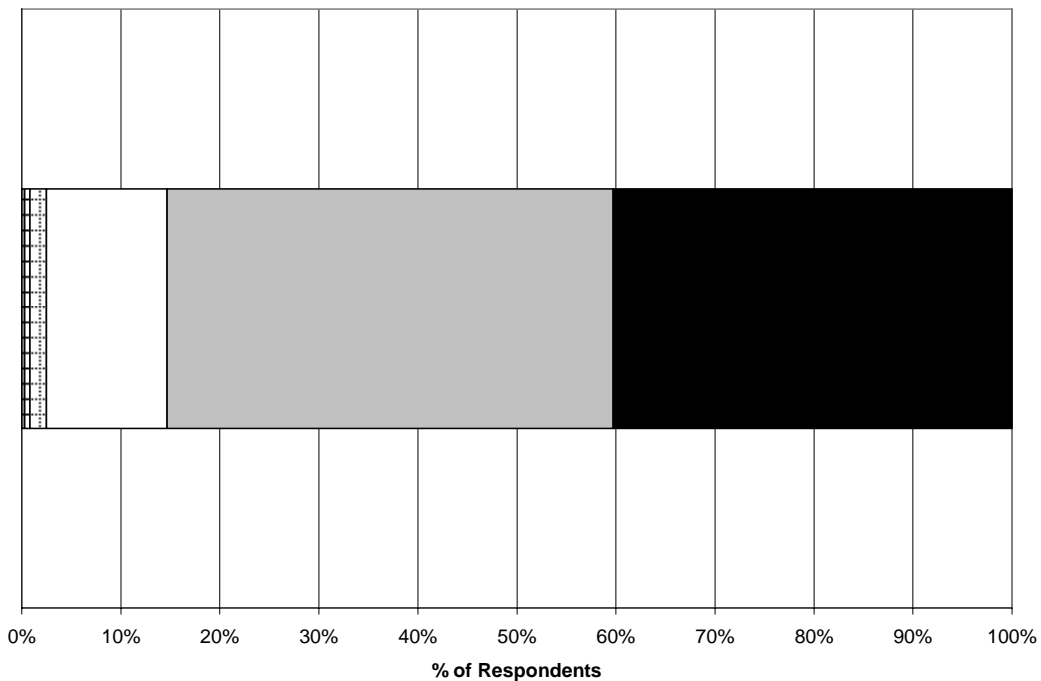
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172. Should ER work on new "environmental/growth management" policies: Work closely with the surrounding township to develop long- and short-term growth strategies?

No. of survey forms returned: **500**

No. of responses to this question: **484**

<u>Response Scale</u>	<u>Count</u>	<u>Percentage</u>
1. Strongly agree	195	40.3 %
2. Agree	218	45.0 %
3. Undecided or no opinion	59	12.2 %
4. Disagree	8	1.7 %
5. Strongly disagree	4	0.8 %



Strongly Disagree
 Disagree
 Undecided or No opinion
 Agree
 Strongly agree

Respondents' Comments to Question 172

- Joint planning- essential
- Work with township on a joint plan.

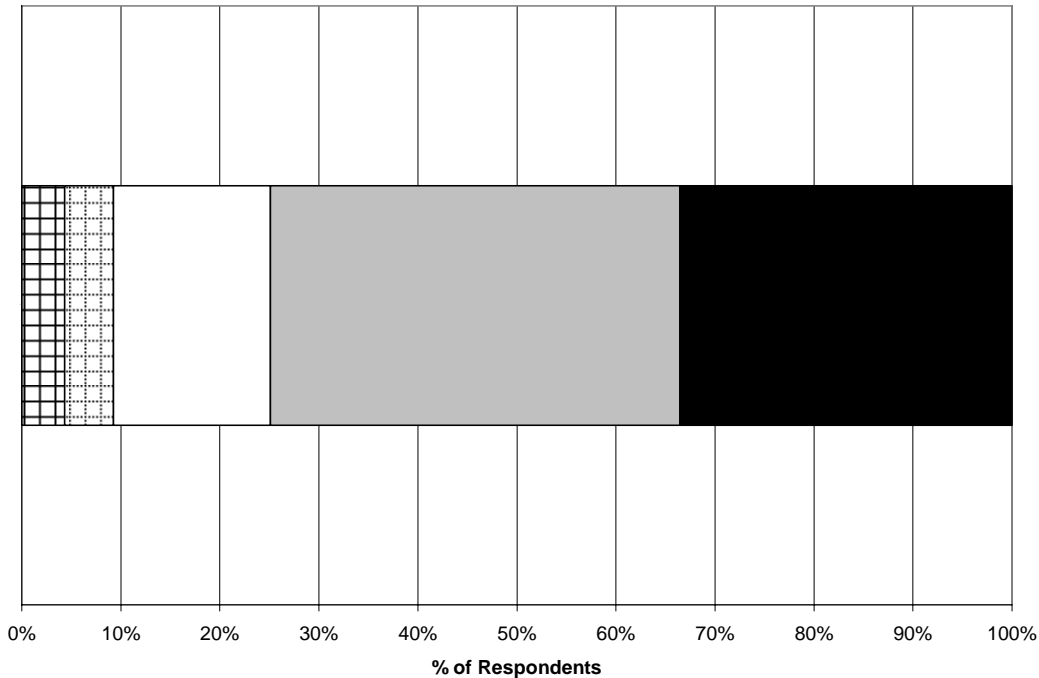
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174. Should ER work on new "environmental/growth management" policies: Raise private funds to create bicycle and walking pathways around the village (like those in the Charlevoix/Petoskey area)?

No. of survey forms returned: **500**

No. of responses to this question: **486**

<u>Response Scale</u>	<u>Count</u>	<u>Percentage</u>
1. Strongly agree	163	33.5 %
2. Agree	201	41.4 %
3. Undecided or no opinion	77	15.8 %
4. Disagree	24	4.9 %
5. Strongly disagree	21	4.3 %



Strongly Disagree
 Disagree
 Undecided or No opinion
 Agree
 Strongly agree

Respondents' Comments to Question 174

- Rotary club might help.
- If you like Charlevoix or Petoskey move there!
- Some combination including "matching" of funds by willing individuals
- 174 & 175: either way, I'm in support, but these are not mutually exclusive. We could do BOTH.
- I am in favor of a bike & walking path. As for funding, I would like to see if there are grants available. If not, I support using tax dollars for this. It makes more sense than wasting our tax money on the dump.
- Are there grants available?

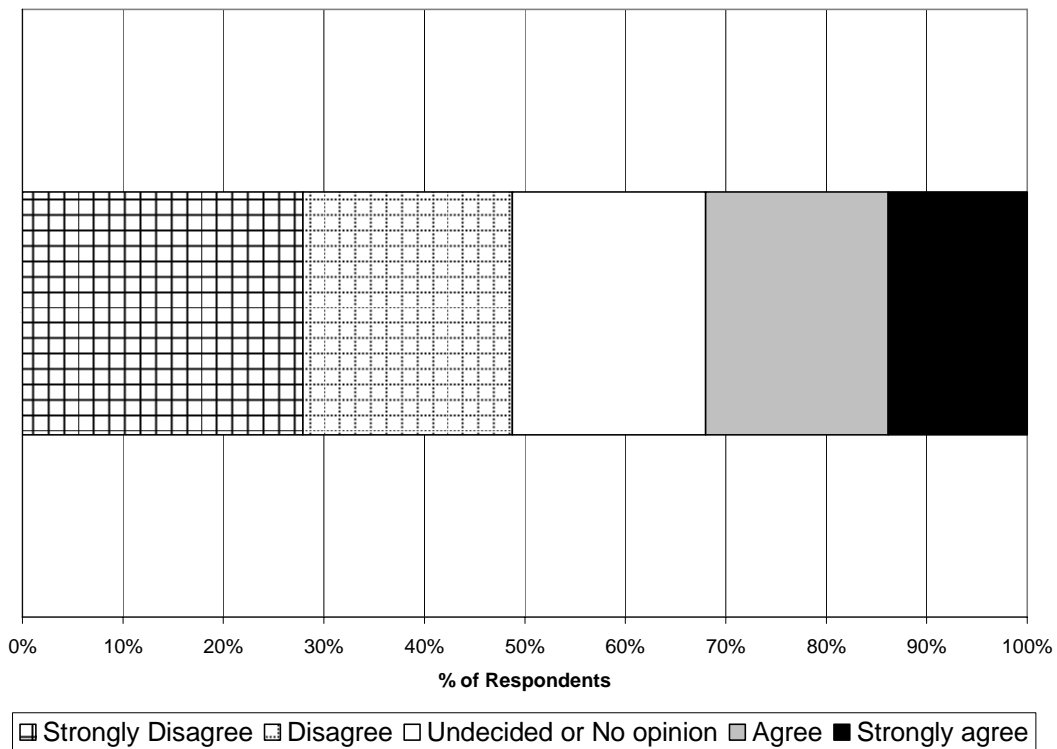
**Village of Elk Rapids Planning Commission
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175. Should ER work on new "environmental/growth management" policies: Levy millage to create bicycle and walking pathways around the village (like those in the Charlevoix/Petoskey area)?

No. of survey forms returned: **500**

No. of responses to this question: **484**

<u>Response Scale</u>	<u>Count</u>	<u>Percentage</u>
1. Strongly agree	67	13.8 %
2. Agree	88	18.2 %
3. Undecided or no opinion	93	19.2 %
4. Disagree	101	20.9 %
5. Strongly disagree	135	27.9 %



Respondents' Comments to Question 175

- NO!
- If you like Charlevoix or Petoskey move there!
- Use existing millage better. New Village/Twp Bldg should have been a multi-purpose bldg and low profile. Why wasn't an outside entrance to bathrooms for tourists, etc. done?
- 174 & 175: either way, I'm in support, but these are not mutually exclusive. We could do BOTH.
- How about grant money?

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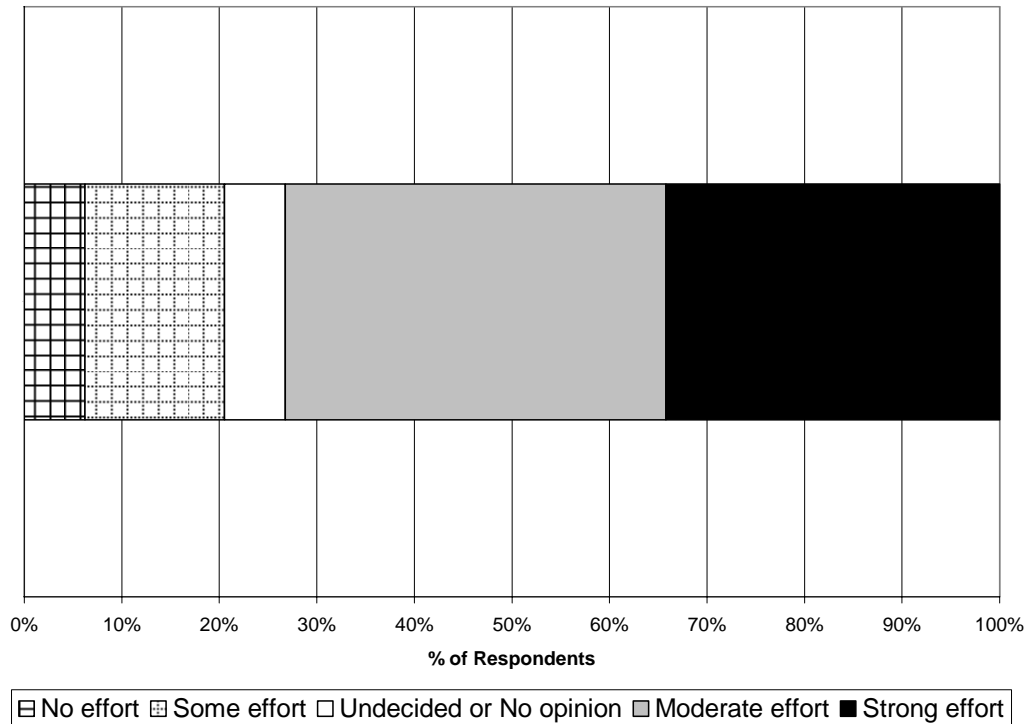
ix. Promoting the Village

**176. How much effort should ER expend on promotion activities:
Tourism events and activities such as Harbor Days, art and
antique fairs, car shows, etc.?**

No. of survey forms returned: **500**

No. of responses to this question: **482**

<u>Response Scale</u>	<u>Count</u>	<u>Percentage</u>
1. Strongly agree	165	34.2 %
2. Agree	188	39.0 %
3. Undecided or no opinion	30	6.2 %
4. Disagree	69	14.3 %
5. Strongly disagree	30	6.2 %



Respondents' Comments to Question 176

- Seems to be OK now ...
- ER Area CC sponsors many of these?
- I really feel the art fairs etc., have greatly deteriorated since they moved to downtown exclusively. The art fairs in the park were so beautiful and unique.
- I believe there needs to be regulations on art shows, car shows, and city activities. These event are not desirable. If we had quality events, we could have better turnouts. I don't know how to change the atmosphere of these events, but it would be worth looking into with a bit of research. There are many local art fairs (Charlevoix) & car shows (Bay Harbor) that do very well. These are the affairs that draw people year after year. Elk Rapids doesn't have 'return' guests
- "Soft" tourism

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Respondents' Comments to Question 176 (cont.)

- 176, 177, and 178: these are all handled by the Chamber of Commerce --- not the Village --- currently

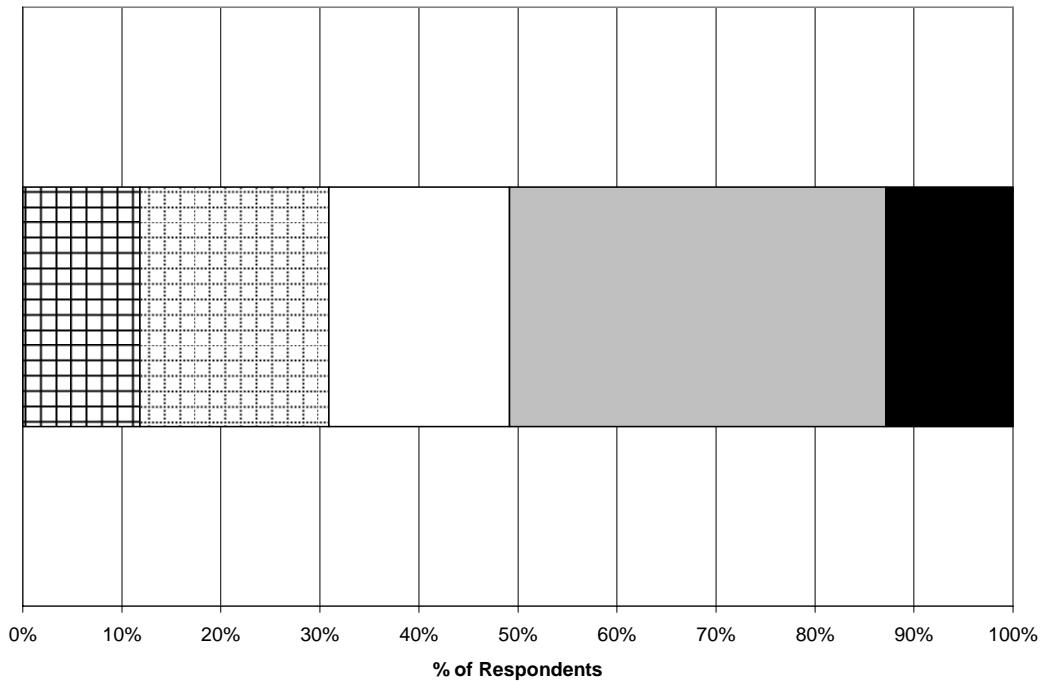
**Village of Elk Rapids Planning Commission
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**177. How much effort should ER expend on promotion activities:
Resort and related business?**

No. of survey forms returned: **500**

No. of responses to this question: **482**

<u>Response Scale</u>	<u>Count</u>	<u>Percentage</u>
1. Strong effort	62	12.9 %
2. Moderate effort	183	38.0 %
3. Undecided or no opinion	88	18.3 %
4. Some effort	92	19.1 %
5. No effort	57	11.8 %



No effort
 Some effort
 Undecided or No opinion
 Moderate effort
 Strong effort

Respondents' Comments to Question 177

- This is an individual matter
- They will come without our tax dollars
- There exists a basic conflict on objectives. Growth & tourism for business interests and environment quality and life style for residents. Let Elk Rapids remain a bedroom community and let industry go elsewhere. We do not need to promote the area as it promotes itself by the quality of the surroundings. People want to come here and by encouraging more tourism you will ruin the area with crowds, traffic, pollution, drive, etc.

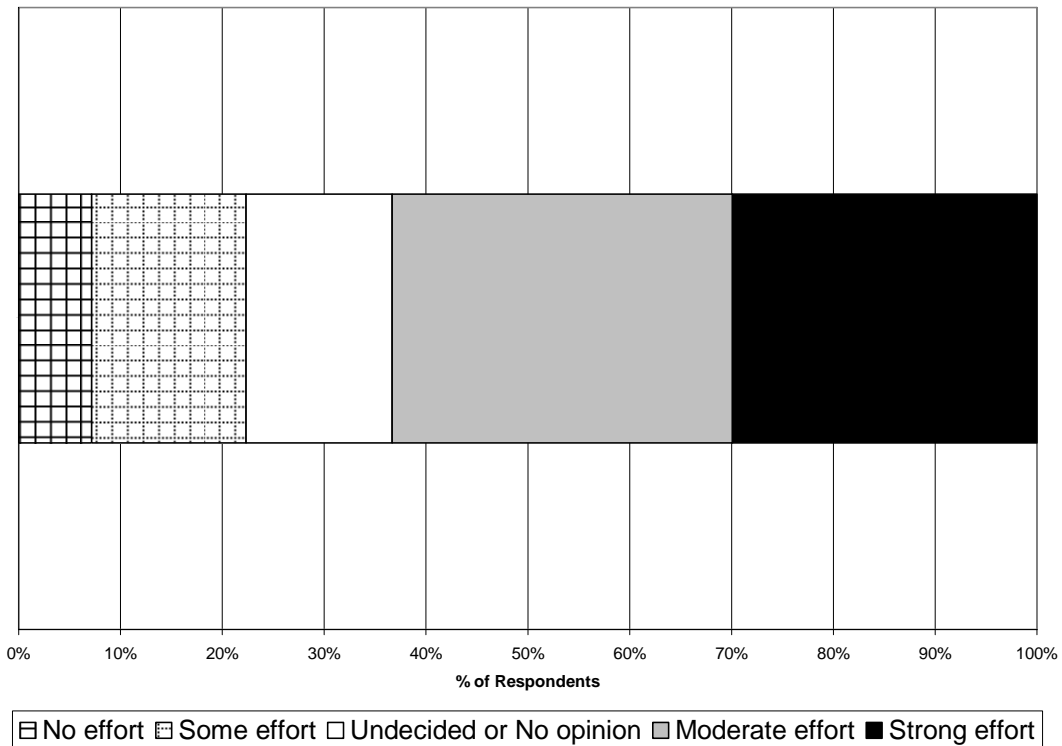
**Village of Elk Rapids Planning Commission
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**183. How much effort should ER expend on promotion activities:
Public access to beaches, parks, recreational amenities?**

No. of survey forms returned: **500**

No. of responses to this question: **488**

<u>Response Scale</u>	<u>Count</u>	<u>Percentage</u>
1. Strong effort	146	29.9 %
2. Moderate effort	163	33.4 %
3. Undecided or no opinion	70	14.3 %
4. Some effort	74	15.2 %
5. No effort	35	7.2 %



Respondents' Comments to Question 183

- Merchandise the Lake --- don't hide them.

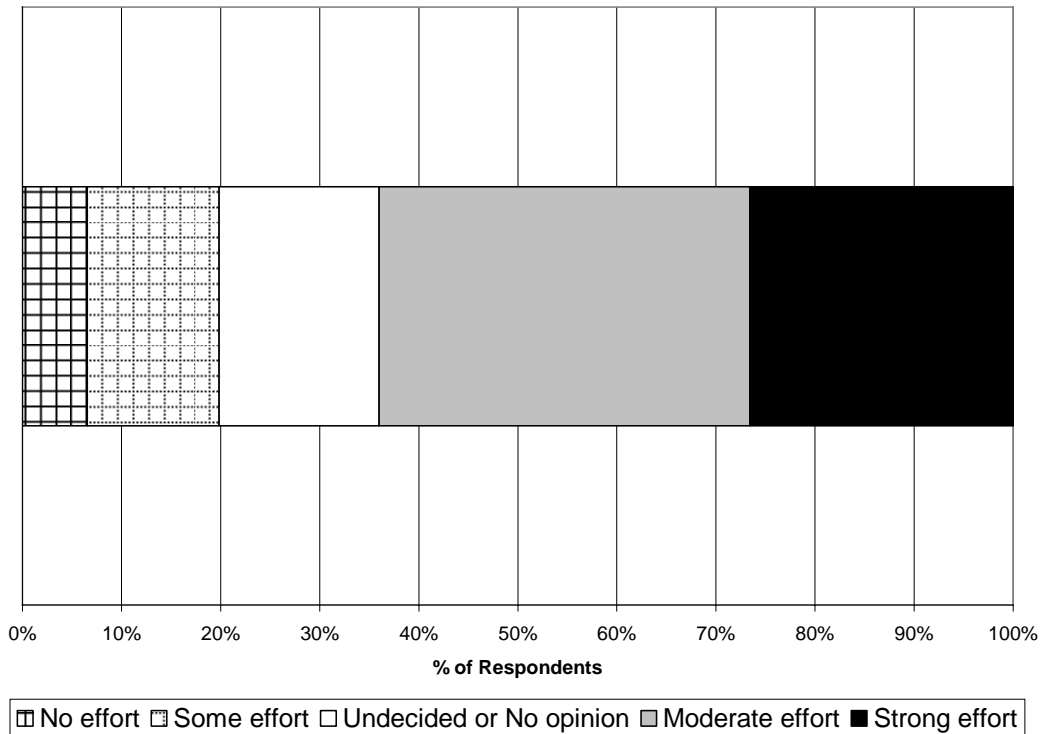
**Village of Elk Rapids Planning Commission
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**184. How much effort should ER expend on promotion activities:
Historical districts?**

No. of survey forms returned: **500**

No. of responses to this question: **489**

<u>Response Scale</u>	<u>Count</u>	<u>Percentage</u>
1. Strong effort	130	26.6 %
2. Moderate effort	183	37.4 %
3. Undecided or no opinion	79	16.2 %
4. Some effort	65	13.3 %
5. No effort	32	6.5 %



Respondents' Comments to Question 184

- Let private groups do this

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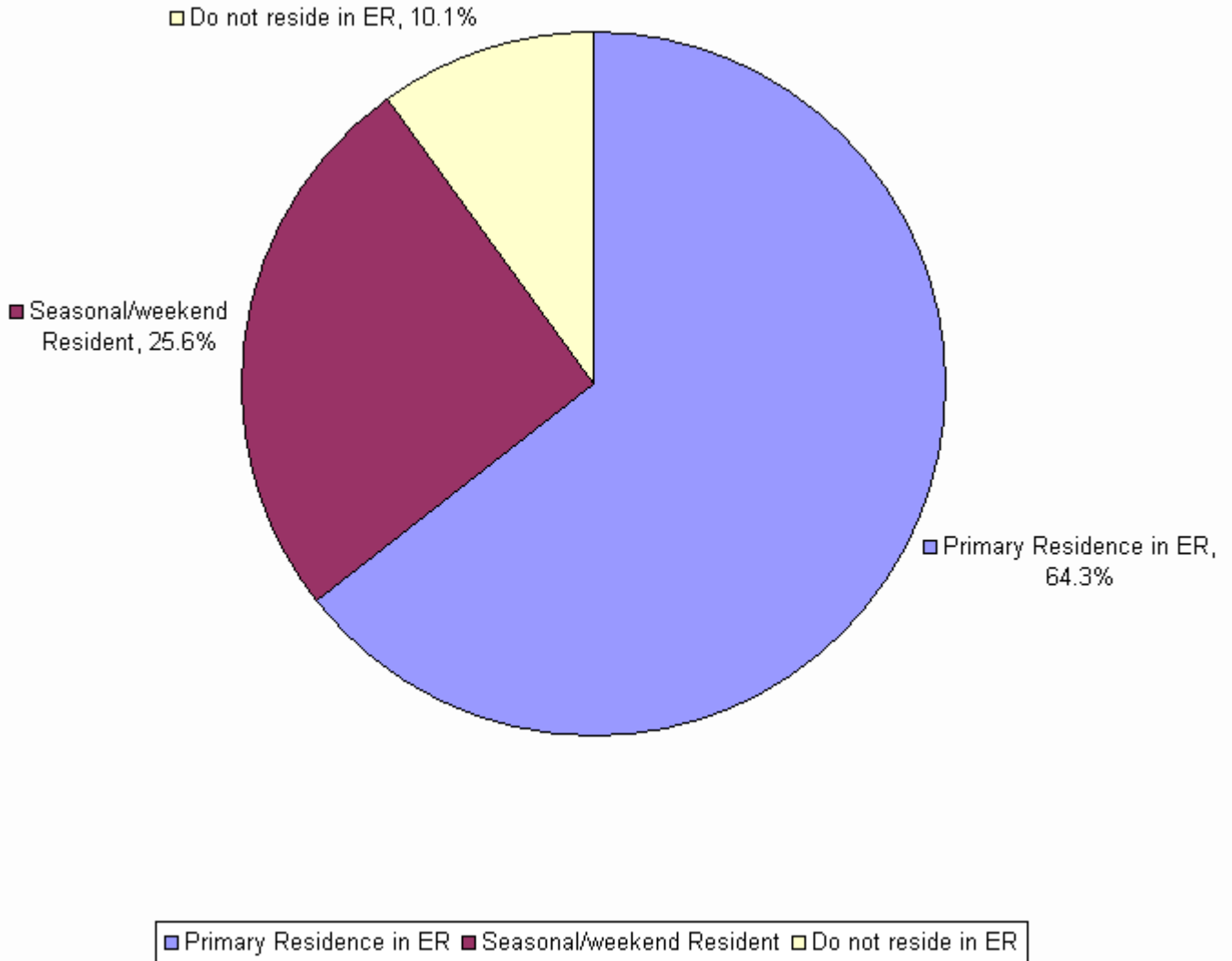
xi. Demographic Information

190. What is your residential status in the Village of Elk Rapids?

No. of survey forms returned: **500**

No. of responses to this question: **496**

<u>Response Scale</u>	<u>Count</u>	<u>Percentage</u>
1. Primary residence is in the Village	319	64.3 %
2. Seasonal or weekend residence in	127	25.6 %
3. Do not reside in the Village of Elk	50	10.1 %



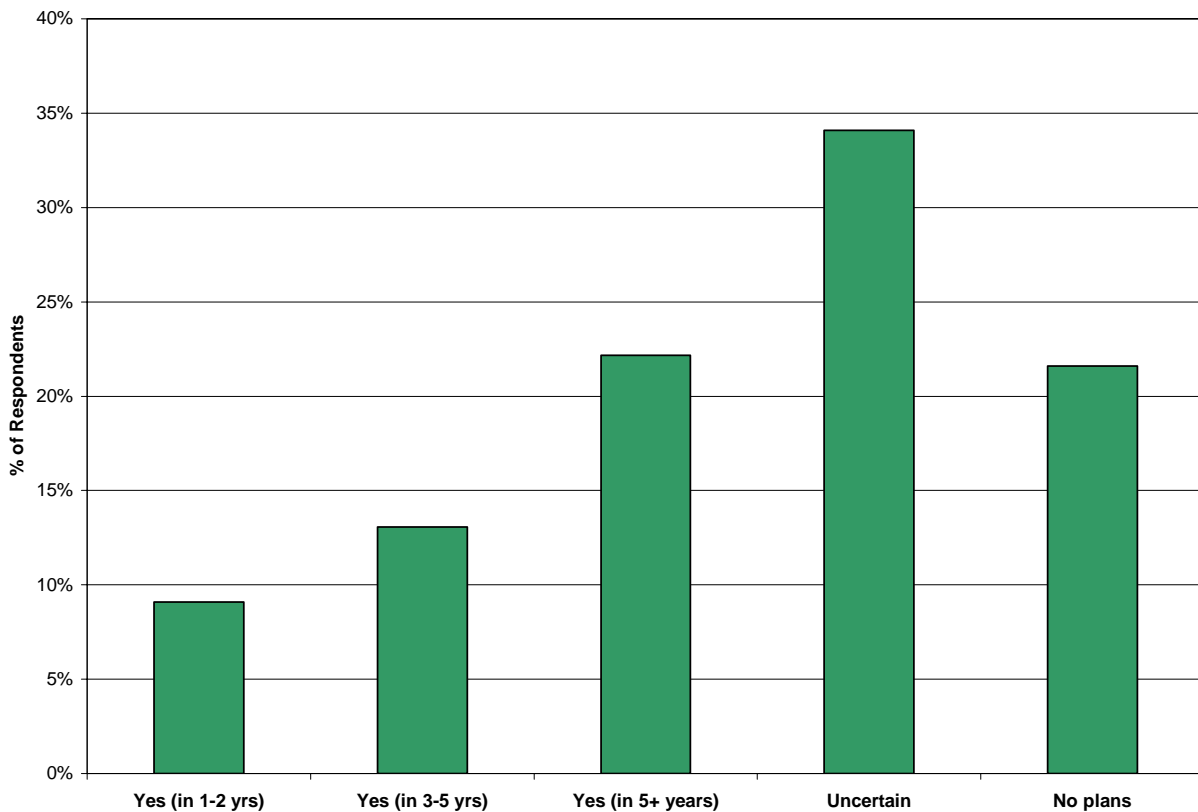
**Village of Elk Rapids Planning Commission
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191. If your primary residence is NOT NOW in the Village of Elk Rapids, do you plan to have your primary residence in the Village in the near future?

No. of survey forms returned: **500**

No. of responses to this question: **176**

<u>Response Scale</u>	<u>Count</u>	<u>Percentage</u>
1. No	38	21.6 %
2. Uncertain	60	34.1 %
3. Yes, in 5 years or more	39	22.2 %
4. Yes, in 3 to 5 years	23	13.1 %
5. Yes, in 1 to 2 years	16	9.1 %

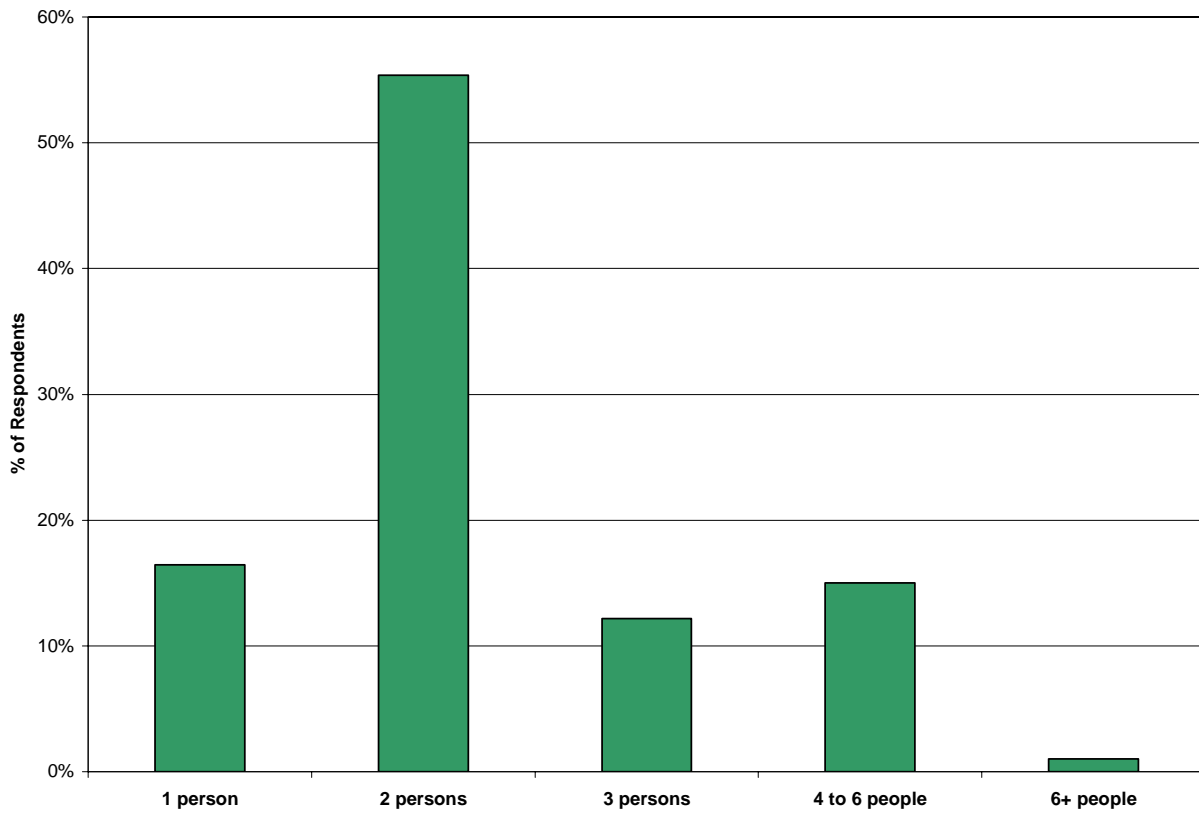


Village of Elk Rapids Planning Commission
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192. How many people live in your household?

No. of survey forms returned: **500**

No. of responses to this question: **493**

<u>Response Scale</u>	<u>Count</u>	<u>Percentage</u>
1. More than 6	5	1.0 %
2. 4-6	74	15.0 %
3. 3	60	12.2 %
4. 2	273	55.4 %
5. 1	81	16.4 %



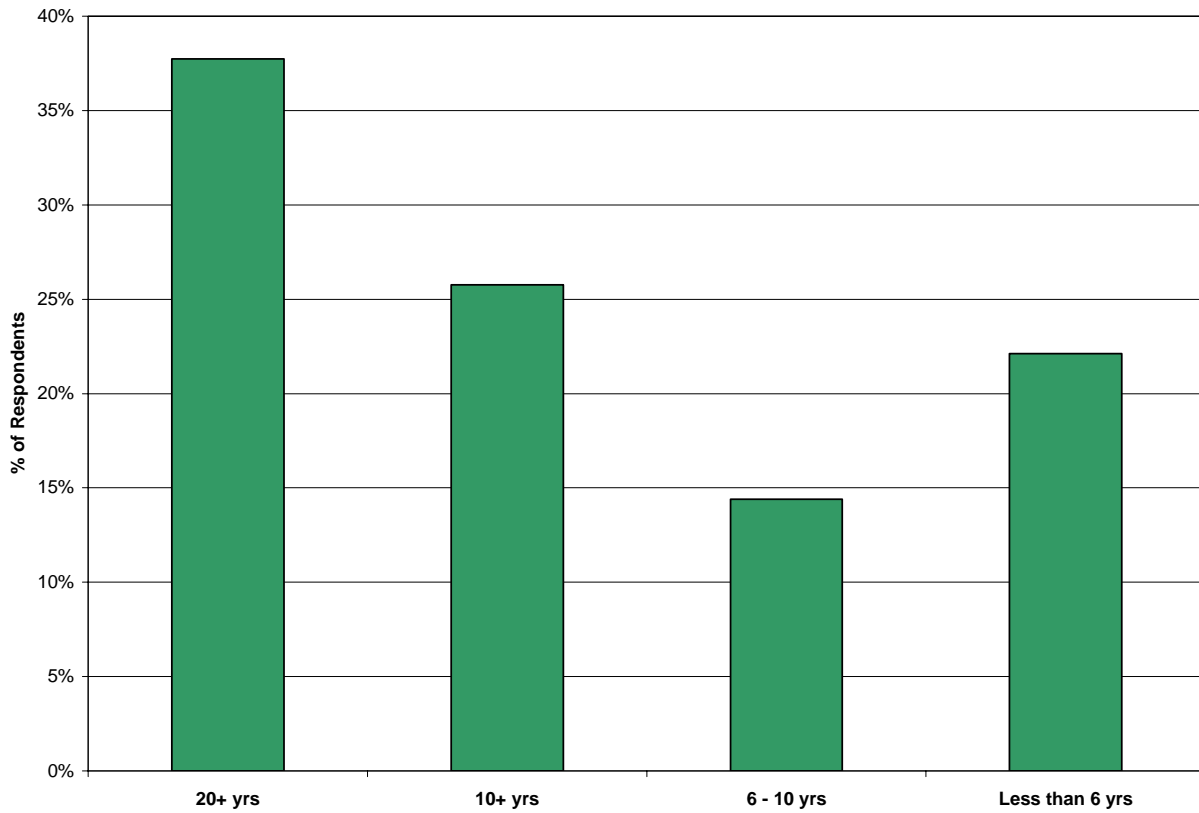
**Village of Elk Rapids Planning Commission
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193. How long have you owned property in the Village of Elk Rapids?

No. of survey forms returned: **500**

No. of responses to this question: **493**

<u>Response Scale</u>	<u>Count</u>	<u>Percentage</u>
1. More than 20 years	186	37.7 %
2. More than 10 years	127	25.8 %
3. 6 to 10 years	71	14.4 %
4. Fewer than 6 years	109	22.1 %



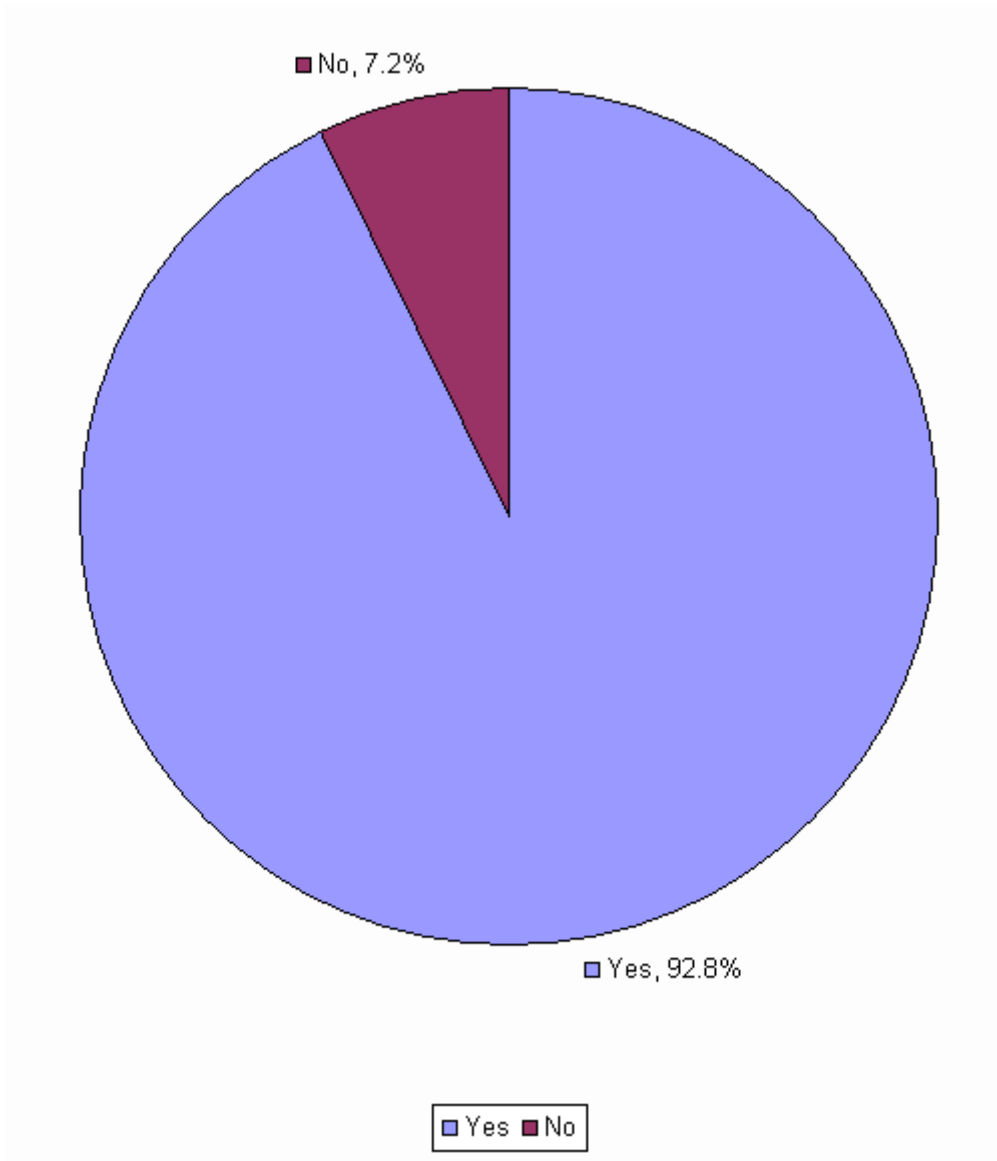
Village of Elk Rapids Planning Commission
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194. Is there a dwelling on your land?

No. of survey forms returned: 500

No. of responses to this question: 487

<u>Response Scale</u>	<u>Count</u>	<u>Percentage</u>
1. Yes	452	92.8 %
2. No	35	7.2 %



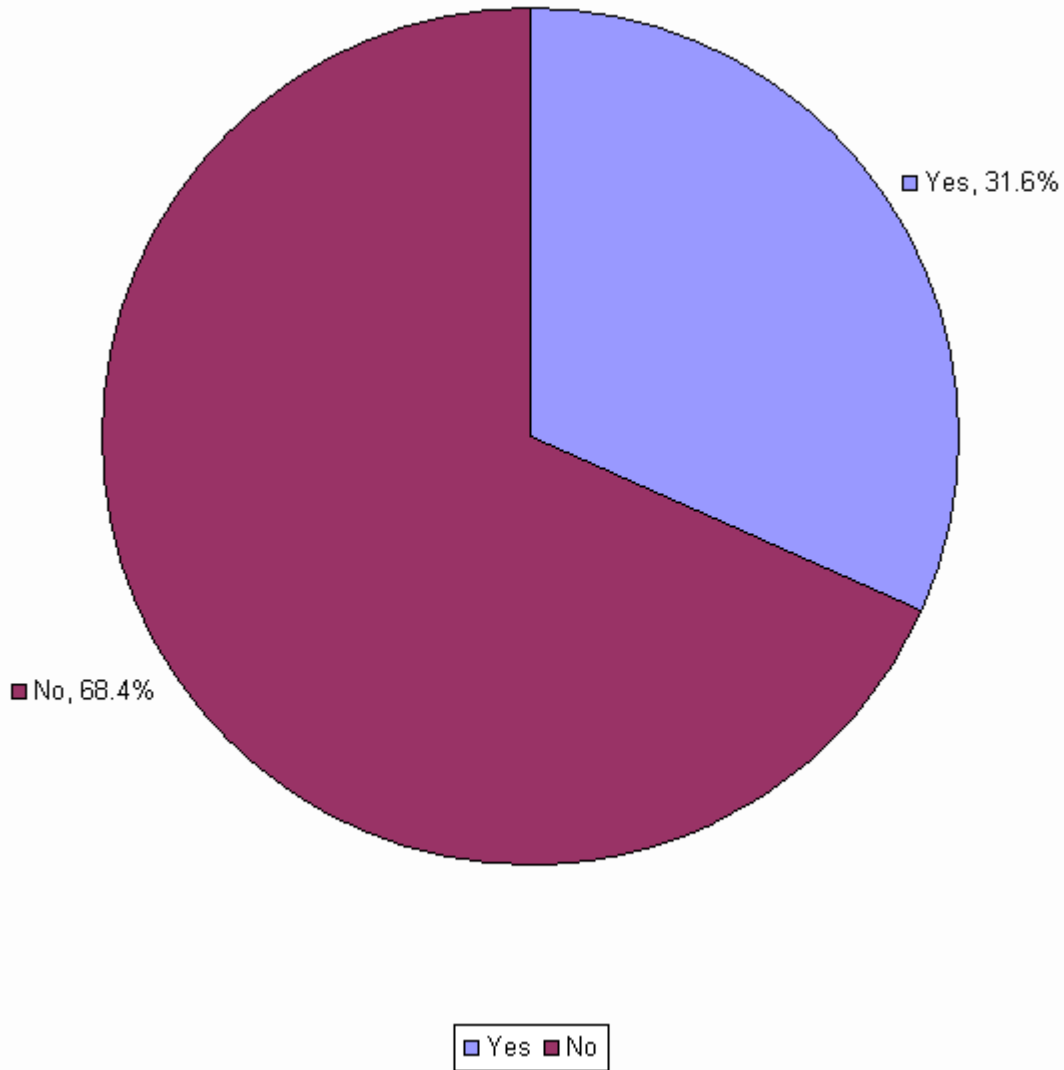
Village of Elk Rapids Planning Commission
Master Plan Survey 2005 - Data Compilation - **DRAFT**

195. Do you own lake front property in the Village of Elk Rapids?

No. of survey forms returned: 500

No. of responses to this question: 494

<u>Response Scale</u>	<u>Count</u>	<u>Percentage</u>
1. Yes	156	31.6 %
2. No	338	68.4 %

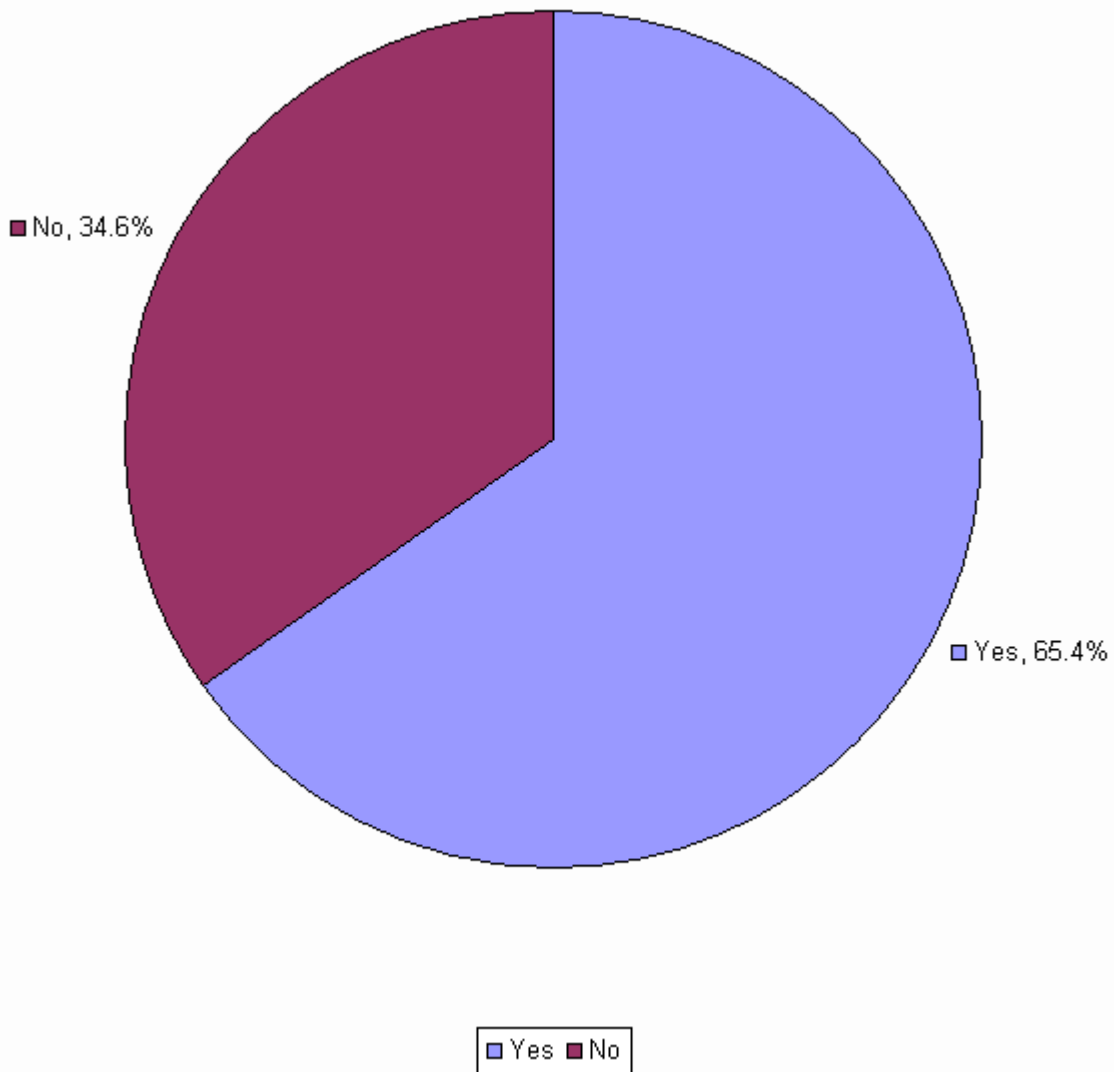


Village of Elk Rapids Planning Commission
Master Plan Survey 2005 - Data Compilation - DRAFT
196. Are you a registered voter in the Village of Elk Rapids?

No. of survey forms returned: 500

No. of responses to this question: 494

<u>Response Scale</u>	<u>Count</u>	<u>Percentage</u>
1. Yes	323	65.4 %
2. No	171	34.6 %



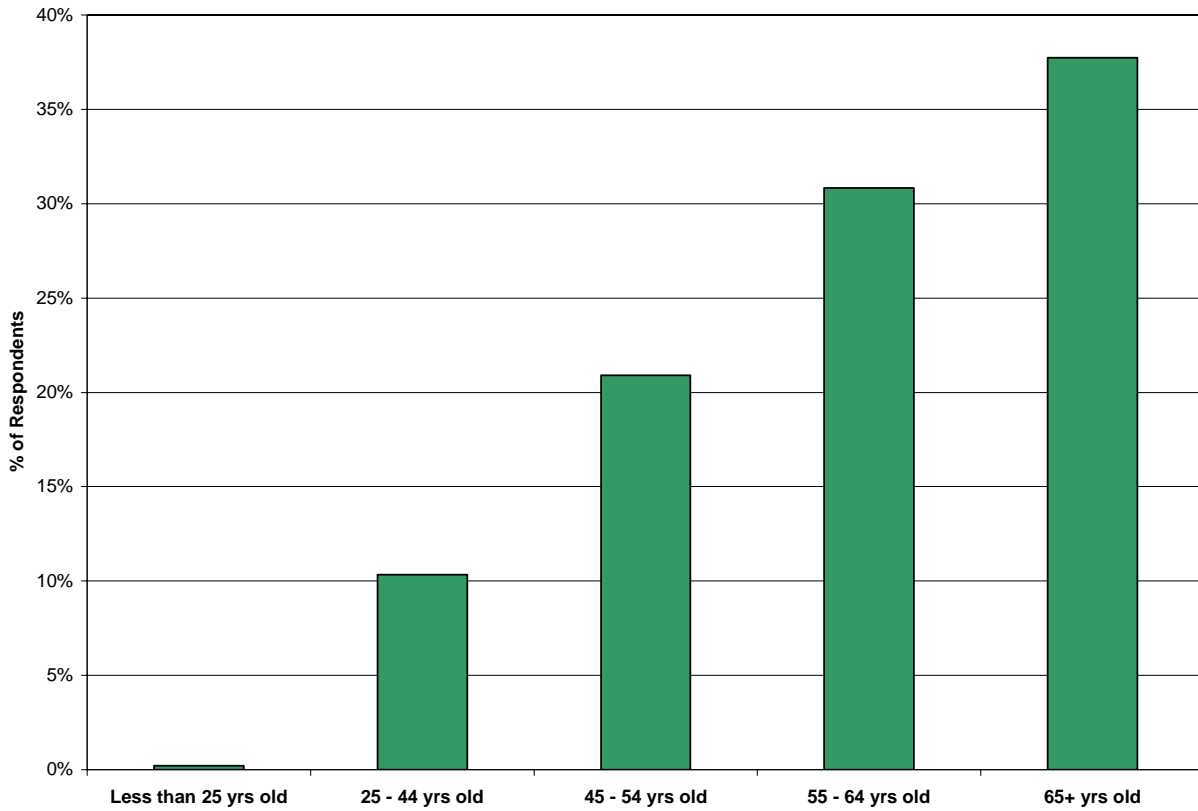
**Village of Elk Rapids Planning Commission
Master Plan Survey 2005 - Data Compilation - DRAFT**

197. What is your age?

No. of survey forms returned: 500

No. of responses to this question: 493

<u>Response Scale</u>	<u>Count</u>	<u>Percentage</u>
1. Younger than 25 years	1	0.2 %
2. 25-44 years	51	10.3 %
3. 45-54 years	103	20.9 %
4. 55-64 years	152	30.8 %
5. 65 years or older	186	37.7 %



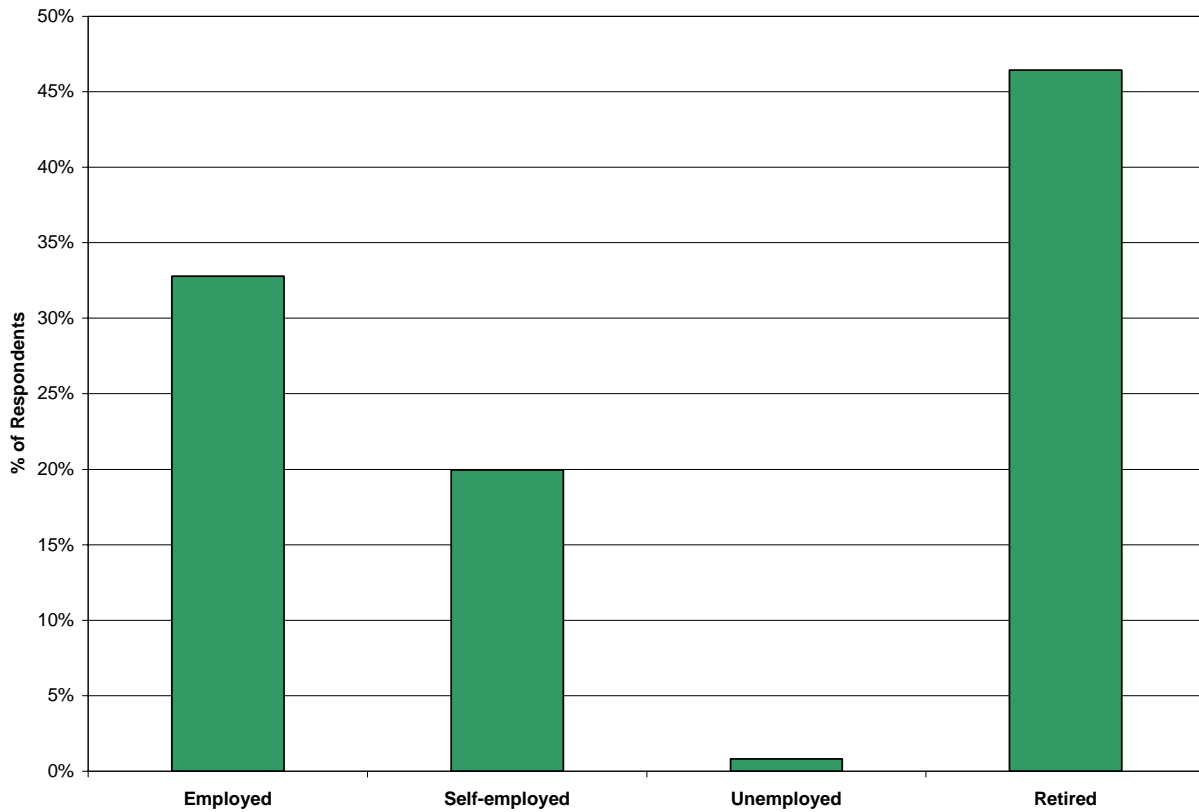
**Village of Elk Rapids Planning Commission
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198. What is your employment status?

No. of survey forms returned: **500**

No. of responses to this question: **491**

<u>Response Scale</u>	<u>Count</u>	<u>Percentage</u>
1. Employed (not self-employed)	161	32.8 %
2. Self-Employed	98	20.0 %
3. Unemployed	4	0.8 %
4. Retired	228	46.4 %

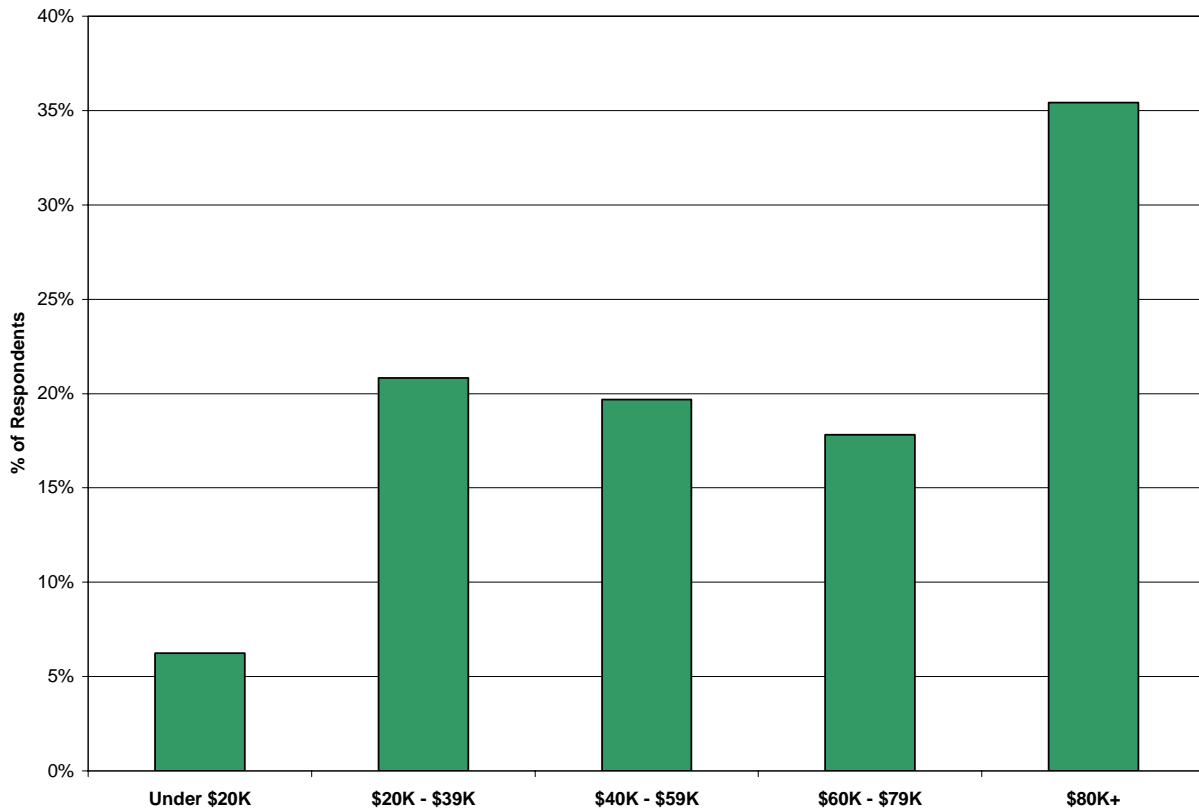


Village of Elk Rapids Planning Commission
Master Plan Survey 2005 - Data Compilation - DRAFT
199. What is your household income?

No. of survey forms returned: **500**

No. of responses to this question: **432**

<u>Response Scale</u>	<u>Count</u>	<u>Percentage</u>
1. Under \$20,000	27	6.3 %
2. \$20,000 to \$39,999	90	20.8 %
3. \$40,000 to \$59,999	85	19.7 %
4. \$60,000 to \$79,000	77	17.8 %
5. \$80,000 or above	153	35.4 %



Parks & Rec – related Comments extracted from:

xii. Additional Comments

NOTE: Each bullet (●) marks the beginning of an “Additional Comment” from a different respondent.

- We love the downtown theater and would like to see some community assistance in restoring it to its original shape! Good job on current improvements. (signed)
- Due to my poor penmanship I decided to save you the strain and stress on your eyes by typing my thoughts about Elk Rapids.

A tremendous amount of credit goes to the Village Council for their dedication and time. The Garden Club is truly an asset to the town. It's obvious they take a lot of pride in maintaining the gardens. The gardens are immaculate and with dedicated members working on them on some very hot days. I have stopped by the Chamber of Commerce many times and the people are always friendly and helpful. The Historical Society, Lions Club, AM VETS, etc.. take a lot of pride in the community. The small businesses take pride in their shops. They have nice displays in their windows and keep their storefronts clean. Wednesday Night on River St. is a highlight of the summer season. The marina is very clean and well kept. It's a great asset to Elk Rapids.

I know the businesses rely heavily on tourism for their living, and they have a few short months to make their money. I give them a lot of credit for `hanging in there' during the long winter months.

I don't support more housing additions, apartments or condos. I DO NOT support campgrounds or trailer parks. We need to keep as much open space as possible. Once it's gone you can never get it back. I DO NOT support campers parked on private property more than one night. Short term rentals (1 to 4 weeks) are ok, but there needs to be some stipulations concerning this. Examples: 1) family atmosphere; 2) no loud parties; 3) possibly 2 vehicles to a rental; 4) Limit number of occupants per rental. (1 to 6).

We need a good public restroom, but it doesn't have to stick out like a sore thumb. Make public services available 7 days a week. WE NEED WEEKLY GARBAGE PICK UP SERVICE.

I am very proud of our little village and the people who work so hard to keep it nice. It's obvious there are a lot of people in Elk Rapids who take pride in this little community. Thank you.

- Please make every effort to retain the charm of ER. Growth is inevitable --- well-thought growth is crucial if ER is to be a desirable town. Every time we return to our lake house, we're a bit disappointed at the way the town is growing. As I previously stated, there seems to be no thought about design/aesthetics. Do the public officials want ER to be more like a Suttons Bay (the charm personality) or Kalkaska (ghost town)??

A master plan needs to be thought out. Travel to other resort areas (even outside of MI) to gain a sense of a successful small town. Thank you for the opportunity to share our opinions. Please make every effort to enhance what ER has to offer. Eliminate/replace the tacky buildings/signs, and highlight the landscape/water views.

- ER needs user-friendly parks (read restrooms), contained growth, and employment opportunities ---- not more pizza shops, antique stores and resort wear! Embrace our history, but look to the future: it's not in catering to wealthy tourists until we can't afford our own homes!

- We don't need cityscapes and sidewalks everywhere. We sure as hell don't need to be paying millage for bicycle and walking paths. We don't need more or higher buildings on River Street, and we sure as hell don't need any more condos in the Village. What's been allowed so far makes a person want to puke. Our Village is being ruined by people who have money to buy anything they want, and so far it seems the Village has just been willing to let it happen. We need to protect the future of this beautiful Village by stopping this destructive trend of over-development. Once we've lost to this trend, we can never get back the beauty and charm of Elk Rapids. There's too much greed at work in this town and unscrupulous developers right there to act on it. Somebody needs to dig in their heels and say "Enough!" Those of us who have lived here all of our lives are perilously close to not being able to afford the tax increases to our homes every year. If you can build sidewalks and streetscapes (where is this money coming from?), why can't you keep the compactor open? Wrong Priorities!!!
- There should be an expiration date on the TIFs. These entities cause a higher tax burden on residential taxpayers. When the DDA completes one project they manufacture another one.

I have yet to see any direct economic benefits to the citizens of the Village from the harbor. Perhaps someone can explain the economics so we can all feel good about this sacred cow.

- Some of these answers seem to contradict one another. I want visible open space, not huge sprawl and am willing to pay some for it.
- We would like to maintain the quiet, quaint beach community that we all love so very much.
- It would be an improvement to asphalt Dam St repair bathrooms --- and make dogs on beach stay out. "Public Beach Ends" sign, between public area and private condos. Clean up the boat slip place at 31 and River St.
- New welcome signs are needed throughout Village. Some you can see.

More boat slips for Harbor (Elk Lake side only)

More benches to sit on in downtown area.

More parking signs in downtown area.

Clean up old beat-up houses along Ames where the furniture is sitting on the grass.

- It would be an improvement to asphalt Dam St repair bathrooms --- and make dogs on beach stay out. "Public Beach Ends" sign, between public area and private condos. Clean up the boat slip place at 31 and River St.
- I was raised in ER and graduated from ERHS. I have returned and own a condo in the Sands. I have totally supported the improvements to the downtown area. Elk Rapids has a tremendous asset in the water and access to the lakes. I object to further compromise to access and in fact urge an increase. No more Sands complexes. I would build more public dockage in the Upper Harbor. The town will exist in the future because tourists love the beauty and serenity of the town. Capitalize on the assets ER has and develop a growth plan that is consistent with those assets. I develop automotive industrial facilities all over the world. My great joy is to come home to ER and enjoy the peaceful atmosphere of the village. Cater to the tourists, the future successes of the village will depend on the commerce that is so associated but in a tasteful way. We cannot tolerate a "trinket" village.
- I love the improvements that have been made in the business district in the last 10-20 years - flower beds, marina improvement, etc. I generally don't like change in Elk Rapids! My mother and grandparents had been in Elk Rapids about every summer since 1927. Every summer we would lament any new building or other change that had popped up since the last summer! That sense of continuity, familiarity, is what makes Elk Rapids so special. I realize I do not make my living in Elk Rapids, so I am biased in that way.

I hope Elk Rapids continues not to allow fast food (McDonalds) and WalMart type places and tall condos. Water (lake) quality is also EXTREMELY important to me. Thank you!

- Some effort should be made to black top road and parking area next to dam (dam road). Suggest SMALL picnic area (a FEW picnic tables) in area between Bay and Upper Harbor north of cut tot (???) Bay. This area currently is somewhat an eyesore.
- We are concerned that ER may become like Petoskey, Charlevoix, and TC which will detract from it safe feeling, small town charm.
- Please give it up re: bathrooms at Memorial Park. What is the cost of this survey and where could the money have done more good? How many 'man hours' went into this?
- I think the current sign ordinance is too strict. Businesses off River St. do not get enough exposure. I heard that Widow's Walk was not allowed to serve breakfast. This is wrong. How can a B&B survive without the second 'B'? Village should more strongly enforce dogs not on leashes. Need better selection of restaurants & more restaurants. Riverwalk Cafe should have handicap bathrooms. Isn't this a law? Should start collections of Harbor Days early in the summer during Evenings on River St. nights.
- Need more boat slips for Public in upper harbor to access merchants.
- | More Of | Less Of | Project |
|--------------------|----------------|------------------|
| * Seasonal Rentals | *Noise | * Water |
| * Bike Paths | * Traffic | * Parks |
| * Pedestrian Paths | *Manufacturing | *Beaches ALWAYS! |
| * Tourism Draws | | |
- For years ER has tried to return to its 1800 industrial status. It isn't going to happen, concentrate on the wonderful waters available. That's the future of ER.
- Sorry this was late. I love the community here. It does bother me there are so many condos going up. It appears to be a tourist area more than geared for regular middle-class families. We need to take care of families and elderly. I don't like to have to travel far to go get our goods and services. Also our youth need not travel far, promoting more youth related accidents and deaths. Create activities here to help keep them safe. Also look at how now the drivers training is no longer free, was when I was a youth. It is a real shame. This world is getting greedier and greedier. What are they going to do for hunter safety now? If the won't have the Sportsman's Club? Hopefully that will be fixed. Maybe someone has a good idea for a new site? Also I don't want everything to be a political issue. Example: Acme township with Wal-mart and Meijer. Sooo stupid. Irritates me bad. Can't disallow growth. We are a free county. Some people shouldn't have the right to speak for everybody if I want to open a legitimate business, e.g. pizzeria or subway... let me! Not hurting anyone!
- Bayshore Dr needs paving. Not just patching. This is a great route for running/biking/walking and needs serious attention.

A few village residents are highly taxed for the benefit of all of the community. If we want a more upscale community, all need to pay. If we want new residents then we can't up the taxes to where these people leave and no one comes in.